MINUTES

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SANTA BARBARA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

November 5, 2009

SPECIAL MEETING/STUDY SESSION
Room A-218
4:00 pm

MacDougall Administration Center
Santa Barbara City College
721 Cliff Drive

The Office of the Superintendent/President, Room A 110 in the MacDougall Administration Center is the location where documents that are public records relating to any item under discussion on a Board agenda (including documents distributed with the agenda and those distributed to all or a majority of the members of the Board within 72 hours prior to a regular Board meeting or within 24 hours prior to a special or committee meeting) are available for public inspection.

Board agendas and supporting documents are also posted on the College website at http://www.sbcc.edu/boardoftrustees/.

1. GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.1 CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Dobbs called the meeting to order.

1.2 ROLL CALL

Members present:
Dr. Joe Dobbs, Vice President
Mrs. Sally Green
Mr. Morris Jurkowitz
Ms. Joan Livingston
Mr. Des O'Neill
Mr. Luis Villegas
Nicole Ridgell, Student Trustee

Members absent:
Dr. Kathryn Alexander, President

Others present for all or some of the meeting:
Dr. Andreea M. Serban, Supt/President and Secretary Clerk to the Board of Trustees
Liz Auchincloss, President CSEA
Dr. Paul Bishop, VP Info Technology
Ron Christie, Dean Continuing Ed
Sue Ehrlich, VP Human Resources
Dr. Jack Friedlander, Exec VP Ed Prgms
Joan Galvan, PIO
Dr. Diane Hollems, Dean Ed Prgms
Dr. Alice Scharper, Dean Ed Prgms
Dr. Lynne Stark, President IA
Joe Sullivan, VP Business Services
1.3 WELCOME

Vice President Dobbs extended a cordial welcome to all.

1.4 MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION OF OCTOBER 8, 2009

Mr. Villegas requested that the minutes be amended to reflect the following: The Board would also be making a commitment for Mr. Villegas to serve on this committee and to pay for his travel to attend two meetings, one is the National Legislative Summit in Washington, DC in February and the other is the National Congress in 2010 which will be held on the East Coast, location has not been determined.

Upon motion by Ms. Livingston, seconded by Mr. Jurkowitz, the Board approved the amended minutes of the study session of October 8, 2009. Mr. Villegas abstained.

1.5 HEARING OF CITIZENS

No citizen expressed a wish to address the Board

Upon motion by Mrs. Green, seconded by Mr. O’Neill, the Board approved adjourning to study session.

2. STUDY SESSION

2.1 Accreditation Visit Wrap-up

Superintendent/President Serban provided a wrap-up to the accreditation visit. As noted in her campus wide e-mail, it was a very positive visit. Superintendent/President Serban received the draft report, she is only allowed to check it for factual accuracy and it needs to be returned to the team chair by tomorrow morning. In a few weeks we will received the final report and so at that time everyone will see that it is a very positive report. In the report, the team talked about the Board and gave them kudos for many things that were not apparent during the exit report. The report was actually very complimentary to the Board.

The accreditation team will make a recommendation to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) and ACCJC has the ultimate authority of what the final decision will be on the re-affirmation of accreditation for the college. Superintendent/President Serban reported that once the report is received, the Board will review it and we will be schedule time at a future study session to discuss it. Mr. O’Neill also requested that the Board review its current evaluation instrument, to see if it can be made more comprehensive. Dr. Dobbs requested that Mr. O’Neill begin the process by reviewing the current instrument and putting together a draft of a revised evaluation instrument that the Board can discuss at a future meeting.

2.2 Career Choices Program – presentation by Dr. Diane Hollems, Dean, Educational Programs

Superintendent/President Serban reported that she had acknowledged Dr. Hollems at the last Board meeting for initiating this Career Choices Program in our area with the local high schools. Superintendent/President Serban noted that because it is such a good initiative she wanted the Board members to hear about it from Dr. Hollems.

Dr. Hollems provided a power point presentation on the Career Choices Program. This course is geared towards 9th graders that will be offered as a SBCC Dual Enrollment course in the spring. This program has been around for over 20 years, is used nationally by many school districts, is very well known and has received many awards. Dr. Hollems presented this one semester curriculum to
both the teachers and administrators from our districts and four schools have decided to do a pilot of this curriculum this fall semester. Carpinteria High school is actually providing this curriculum currently to all ninth graders and is working really well. Dos Pueblos has 90 students, Santa Barbara high school has about 25 students, and La Cuesta has a class of about 25 students that will be participating in the program. The course provides students with assistance to focus on their career choice and help them become informed on their choice. The course helps guide the students over the course of a semester into real research and investigation about three focused career paths that they have identified. In addition to working with the local high schools, the program is interested in several things at the college level; they want the student to come to college better prepared and want them to stay focused so that they can complete a certificate or degree. Dr. Hollems reported that students are more likely to apply themselves if they have a vision of their future and understand that what they are doing in school today means to their future. SBCC will be the first community college in the country to actually have students bring with them their ten year plans and the career counselors will continue working with the students and help keep them focused on their plan. The benefits of this initiative are expected to be reduced dropout rates for both high school and college and increased matriculation into post-secondary programs. SBCC will be the trendsetter with this curriculum, as whole states have adopted the curriculum; we are the only community college that is working closely with high school districts.

2.3 Results of a Recent Survey Regarding Budget Actions Taken by California Community Colleges

Superintendent/President Serban reported that at a previous study session the Board had asked what other colleges were doing regarding handling budget cuts. The information provided was the results of a recent survey regarding budget actions taken by community colleges and it was noted that some of the results reported have already taken place on our campus. Regarding categorical funding, Superintendent/President Serban reported on information she had received from other CEOs and from Vice President Sullivan, who attend a meeting in Sacramento where this was discussed. The consensus seems to be that the state cuts to categorical programs should not be fully backfilled by colleges for the following reasons:

- First, many colleges don’t have the reserves for full backfill.
- Second, this is at least a three year problem; colleges should bite the bullet and deal with it.
- Third, every time colleges receive categorical funding cuts, they continue to provide categorical services at the same level as before the cuts and this sends the message that colleges don’t need this funding. How about for once colleges show how these cuts actually affect the services?

2.4 Annual Institutional Effectiveness Report 2008-09 – Discussion of Student Access and Achievement Indicators

Superintendent/President Serban reported that Dr. Jack Friedlander would cover the credit part of the report and Mr. Ron Christie would cover the Continuing Education part of the report.

Dr. Friedlander reported that there are a lot of measures that are indicators of institutional effectiveness and the first set of measures are from our statewide accountability ARCC. The good news is that the college is above the statewide average for each of the ARCC indicators and we have made progress among our peer averages. This is very positive data on persistence rates and outcomes. Dr. Friedlander feels that the data will continue to improve and a lot of this is because of our student success initiatives which have made a difference and it be reflected in data later on as our data goes forward and those students get into the tracking systems the state uses. Dr. Friedlander noted that we are moving in a positive direction in those areas where we need improvement, we know what those areas are and are working to increase the transfer rates, and getting students to pass required math classes.
Superintendent/President Serban introduced Ron Christie, the new Dean of Continuing Education who started on July 1, 2009. Mr. Christie reported that he was here representing Dr. Ofelia Arellano and would be reporting on statistics for the continuing education program. It was noted that the college serves 28% of the entire adult population in this district, 1 out of every 4 adults makes use of the program to some degree. Mr. Christie noted that the accreditation team had given the continuing education program a commendation for their service to the older adults, because this is who they primarily serve. It was noted that this is an area that can be looked at to perhaps segmenting the population and try to identify the needs of the other age groups, other than the 45+ age group. Continuing Education is doing a good job of meeting the needs of that group. A number of Continuing Education sections had to be cut in fall due to the reduction in state funding and, unfortunately, this took place after the schedule had been printed. For the winter schedule, eight week non-enhanced FTES generated courses will be offered instead of ten weeks. Low enrolled classes will be reviewed and those that do not have the required students will be cut and the threshold for these classes has been raised to 20, instead of the 17 that was used in the past. Staff is currently looking at potentially having to shorten the term for the spring classes, as well as cutting low enrolled classes. Another option that is being reviewed is to convert some of the classes to fee based and keeping in mind the required 1,000 FTES per Center in order to get the funding from the State and to maintain the centers’ status. Staggered enrollment will be offered for the Winter registration so that, hopefully, the registration system won’t be overloaded again. Mr. Christie provided a copy of the handout that was provided at the community open forum that was held on October 27 to clarify some of the misinformation that has been circulated by some members in the community.

2.5 Board Travel and Service in Statewide and National Organizations

Superintendent/President Serban noted that organizational membership fees are excluded from the travel budget for the Board as those are paid from an institutional membership account. Dr. Dobbs noted that at the last study session discussion took place on the number of meetings attended and the out-of-state meetings attended and how the Board’s travel funding is being spent. Mr. Luis Villegas noted that there seems to be some confusion and concerns expressed that are not valid. Mr. Villegas also noted that he actually holds two state positions: one as state coordinator under ACCT and another as a member of the ACCT nominating committee.

Mr. Villegas reported that the ACCT membership is a Board decision because it is a Board association, with a recommendation from College Administration. The Board can accept the recommendation or not whether to have a Board member occupy a position or not and if the Board agrees with the recommendation that we don’t pay the organization fee. If the Board agrees to not pay the annual ACCT membership fee, then Mr. Villegas would resign from the two positions he currently holds and that would reduce the travel required by two trips. Mr. Villegas also reported that at a conference he attended, the message from Department of Education Under Secretary Martha Kanter was the need to continue to get support from ACCA and ACCT to drive the agenda of community colleges forward, especially now that community colleges are at the forefront of the current administration and are garnering support. Mr. Villegas feels that the efforts of ACCT are valuable and an organization like this needs Board support.

With regards to Board travel, the Board takes the recommendation of the administration and they can decide whether to accept the recommendation or not. Mr. Villegas was surprised by the minutes from the last meeting with regards to his travel and he noted that he was the one that stepped up and decided to participate and was encouraged by the two last presidents to become involved. Ms. Livingston noted that her concern was with Mr. Villegas continuing with the even more expensive position at a national level and that the Board’s travel budget would be depleted. Mr. Villegas returned to the point he had made which was that the Board makes the decision whether they want to join a trustee association or not. Mr. O’Neill asked “What
benefits do we derive from membership and having Mr. Villegas there at a national level?" Mr. Villegas responded that by paying the ACCT membership, the Board would continue to support an organization that is advocating for community colleges across the nation, of which we are a part of and 100+ trustees from California participate in the national legislative summit to lobby and to move the agenda forward for community colleges, that does not happen by itself. Ms. Livingston noted that the Board should do either or, either do ACCT or do state. All Board members agreed that they should continue to do state, and Ms. Livingston felt that the travel funding should be spread out across all Board members and that the Board should start thinking of an equitable allocation so that all Board members who want to become more involved can do so. Mr. Villegas noted that he will be termed out in May 2010, perhaps another Board member would wanted to consider becoming involved at the state level. Board members concurred that this discussion was not going to be completed at this meeting.

Ms. Livingston asked that the Board discuss the following; what Board travel is the Board willing to fund? Should Board members accept positions that will have an effect on Board travel without the prior approval of the Board?

Superintendent/President Serban suggested that the Board may want to put together some procedures for Board travel so that there are no misunderstandings by Board members. Ms Livingston suggested providing travel for three trustees to attend two conferences each per year. Mr. O'Neill noted that there are currently funds in the travel budget and his suggestion would be that the budget remains as is. However, Board members would need to keep within that budget for the rest of the year and if the budget goes over, Board members would need to cover their own expenses. Dr. Dobbs said there will be procedures that will be developed and brought back for discussion and reviewed at a future study session.

2.6 Discussion of Proposed Items for Future Agendas of Board Meetings (regular meetings, study sessions, or committee meetings)

The accreditation team report will be put on the agenda for discussion once the official report is received.

Upon motion by Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Jurkowitz, the Board approved adjourning to regular session.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Mrs. Green, the Board approved adjourning the regular session.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, November 19, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. in A211.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON January 21, 2010

[Signatures]

President, Board of Trustees

Superintendent/President
Secretary/Clerk of the Board