

Board meeting of Oct. 6, 2014

SOME HEADLINES

Trustees considered or approved:

- International travel plans by faculty and staff
- Midterm accreditation reports from both colleges
- Student Success and Support Program plans
- Options for the Flint Center Parking Structure

Agenda & backup material: <http://www.boarddocs.com/ca/fhda/Board.nsf/Public>

To access supporting documents for items on the agenda, visit the BoardDocs website using the link above. Under the Meetings tab, click on the meeting of Oct. 6, 2014, then click on "View the Agenda" to find the agenda item and its related documents.

BOARD REPORTS

Audit & Finance Committee

Trustee **Betsy Bechtel** reported on the Sept. 11 meeting of the board's Audit and Finance Committee, which considered a progress report on the audit process, updates on the bond program and a review of the 2014-15 budget.

Community Colleges Trustees Board

Trustee **Laura Casas** reported on the Sept. 19 meeting of California Community College Trustee Board convened by the Community College League of California, on which she serves. She commented on several bills signed by the governor, including Assembly Bill 13, which extends in-state tuition status to military veterans and their dependents, and Senate Bill 850, which establishes a pilot program allowing 15 California community college districts to offer one applied baccalaureate degree each. She described two pieces of proposed legislation: One would bring the cost of auditing a community college class to parity with the cost of taking a class for credit. The other would support earlier disbursement of financial aid, which students often don't receive until after the term has begun. She reported on a financial literacy campaign for students recently launched by the state Chancellor's Office.

INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

International travel

Board Policy 4176 requires that international travel be approved in advance by the chancellor and submitted as an information item to the Board of Trustees. The chancellor approved international travel for the following employees, with no allocation from the General Fund: De Anza mathematics Instructor **Karl Schaffer**, for a conference in Seoul,

South Korea, funded by the Gwacheon National Science Museum and The Bridges Organization for art and mathematics; **Kimberlee Messina**, vice president of instruction at Foothill College, for participation in International Student Program recruitment fairs in Argentina, Uruguay and Chile, funded by the International Student Program, and for an accreditation site visit to American Samoa, funded by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges; **Eric Johnson**, KFJC radio station coordinator, for live broadcast of a music festival from Liverpool, England, funded by the KFJC foundation account; Foothill division Dean **Mark Anderson** for monitoring of the Campus Abroad in London program, funded by the American Institute for Foreign Study; and **Samuel Connell**, Foothill anthropology instructor, for travel to Ireland to set up a summer archaeology project, funded by the anthropology department's foundation account.

College midterm accreditation reports

The board approved submission of midterm reports from Foothill and De Anza to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. Both colleges are on a six-year accreditation cycle and the mid-term reports are due half way through. The reports summarize progress in addressing recommendations made by evaluation teams that visited in 2010 and on the planning agendas outlined in the colleges' self-studies. They also include information about any substantive change approvals or pending proposals.

Student Success & Support Program

Trustees approved the colleges' plans for implementing the Student Success and Support Program for submission to the state Chancellor's Office this month. The result of extensive planning, the plans detail how each college will deliver services to students to increase college access and success, including such core support services as orientation, assessment and placement, and counseling and advising.

Trustee **Joan Barram** said she'd read both the mid-term accreditation reports and 3SP plans and appreciated being reminded of all the good work going on at both campuses. She said the colleges are doing more than they were even two years ago to help students get oriented and on track for success.

Expansion of CalWorks Work-Study Program

The board approved an agreement with Santa Clara County to expand work-study positions for CalWorks participants through the district's Occupational Training Institute at De Anza. The \$109,350 expansion will cover wages for 30 work-study students.

Board conflict-of-interest policy

Board members considered the first reading of a new, legally required board policy addressing the responsibility of trustees to avoid and disclose conflicts of interest. Board Policy 2710 begins by stating, "Board members shall not be financially interested in any contract made by the board or in any contract they make in their capacity as board members."

When the proposed policy first came to them in May, trustees asked for several clarifications, including whether an individual trustee's financial interest could prevent the district from entering a contract. Legal counsel **John Shupe** responded to their questions with a comprehensive overview of what the applicable laws require. The proposed policy also states that board members shall not engage in any employment or activity that is incompatible with their district duties and that trustees must disclose their financial interests.

BOND PROJECTS

District Office/ETS Building renovation

The board approved change orders related to delays caused by unexpected structural problems discovered in the roof of the old District Office Building as well as design and mechanical changes associated with converting the building for use as ETS offices.

Flint Center Parking Structure options

Trustees deferred a decision on a staff recommendation to begin planning for demolition of the Flint Center Parking Structure at De Anza College based on the conclusion that there is no cost-effective alternative for improving the structure's seismic safety.

Associate Vice President for College Operations **Donna Jones-Dulin** and Bond Program Director **Tom Armstrong** made a comprehensive presentation on the considerations that informed the recommendation.

Board members expressed qualms about the potential loss of more than 900 parking spaces if the structure is torn down and replaced with a surface parking lot. Trustees said they're concerned about how it would affect students, the college and the community, and asked for additional information about:

- Availability of off-campus parking locations from which students could park and walk or be shuttled to campus
- Whether the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority might be interested in building a VTA hub at the Flint structure site and how that could help with the loss of parking
- Whether the district could borrow money to cover costs of building a new parking structure or renovating the existing structure
- Whether there are any public-private or joint-venture opportunities for construction of a new garage on campus or close by.

The four-level Flint parking structure was built in 1989 and contains 1,406 parking spaces. It was slated for \$926,000 in largely cosmetic repairs under the district's Measure C bond program approved by district voters in 2006.

Since then, the need for additional repairs and upgrades has become apparent. Most significantly, seismic evaluations in 2012 revealed the need for structural upgrades including the addition of shear walls, new footings and other structural improvements to minimize the possibility of the ramps collapsing in a major earthquake. The garage was fully compliant with seismic safety requirements when it was built, but construction practices have changed since then as a result of damage that occurred in the 1994 Northridge earthquake and ongoing review of building standards across the country.

The district is not legally required to upgrade the garage because it met the building standards that were in place at the time of construction. However, the board's discussion focused on moving forward to address the structural concerns.

With bond funding largely exhausted or otherwise committed, De Anza's available budget for the project is \$5.25 million. Building a new parking structure or renovating the old one cost more than demolition:

- Fully renovating the existing structure to 2010 Building Code standards so it likely would withstand an earthquake with minimal damage, plus other upgrades and repairs, would cost an estimated \$15.5 million to \$18.3 million.
- A “value-engineered” renovation focused on collapse prevention and life safety, but with the likelihood of damage requiring demolition after a major earthquake, is estimated at \$9 million to \$13 million.
- Building a new parking structure would cost an estimated \$45 million or more.
- Cost of demolishing the structure is estimated at \$5 million and replacing it with a surface parking lot of 431 spaces would cost about \$1.25 million.

Board President **Bruce Swenson** noted that the district went into debt using certificates of participation to build the Flint Center garage, and said he believes there’s still about \$10 million in outstanding debt on it. At the time of its construction, limited parking was seen as constraining De Anza’s enrollment growth and putting a strain on community relations as students parked at The Oaks Shopping Center and in nearby neighborhoods when they couldn’t find parking on campus. He said he worries that losing 15 percent of the parking on campus today could hurt enrollment, which has a fiscal impact.

Demolishing the Flint garage and replacing it with a surface lot would result in a projected loss of up to 975 spaces. Staff said some additional spaces could be gained by maximizing parking on the new lot and other lots, and incentives would be offered to students to carpool and use public transportation. About 5,000 students currently use the Eco Pass transit pass.

Associate Vice President Jones-Dulin noted that the campus currently has about 5,600 parking spaces, including the Flint structure. Before De Anza opened the Stelling parking structure in 2004, she said the campus had about 4,800 parking spaces, which is only about 100 more than it would have without the Flint garage, at a time of lower enrollment now.

“It has been my experience in the almost 15 years that I have been here that students come because we provide a great educational program and they will continue to come,” she said. “I can’t say it won’t have an impact on enrollment, but I think we can survive and provide alternatives to our students.”

Several trustees commented that the “valued engineered” renovation would cost only \$3 million to \$7 million more than the recommended demolition alternative, and asked if it would be possible to cover the cost difference using funding from other parts of the bond program and taking on additional debt.

A project costing \$9 million to \$13 million when there’s only a budget of \$5 million “seems like a staggering sum,” President Swenson said, “but when you talk about impacts on enrollment, which I think could be substantial (and) ongoing, year after year, that may not be that huge a sum.”

Trustees asked the staff to come back with information about financing options for alternatives to demolition as well as more concrete details on ways the college could provide additional parking if the Flint structure is demolished.

HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL

Administrator title changes & reclassifications

The board ratified the following title changes at Foothill College: **Mark Anderson** is now division dean of fine arts, communication and kinesiology & athletics; **Judy Baker** is dean of Foothill Online Learning; and **George Beers** is dean of International Student Programs. Trustees approved the reclassification of **Marisa Spatafore** as associate vice president of communications and external relations at De Anza College, effective Nov. 1.

Interim administrative assignments

Trustees ratified the extension of interim assignments for **Robin Latta-Lyssenko** as executive director of the Foothill-De Anza Foundation through Oct. 31; **Mallory Newell** as executive director of Institutional Research & Planning through Nov. 30; and **Elvia Navarro-Herrera** as assistant director of the Family Engagement Institute through Nov. 30.

Classified employment

Trustees ratified employment of **Howard Pomerantz** as planetarium presenter and technical assistant at De Anza and of **Ashley Bowden** as enrollment services specialist, **Jiatong Li** as campus personnel assistant, and **Alida Pjanic** as financial aid coordinator at Foothill.

Professional Growth Awards

The board ratified Professional Growth Awards for the following classified employees: At Foothill, **Brenda Davis** in Adaptive Learning; at De Anza, **Olga Evert** in Academic Services, **Lesley McCortney** in Learning Resources, and **Nina Van** in Student Services; and in Central Services, **Christine Smith** in District Safety & Security.

Classified promotions

Trustees ratified the promotion of **Oudia Mathis** to enrollment services specialist at Foothill College.

REPORTS & HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(Board members cannot discuss items that are not placed in advance on the agenda.)

Presidents' comments

Sitting in for De Anza President **Brian Murphy**, Vice President **Christina Espinosa-Pieb** reported that the fall quarter is off to a good start and De Anza's enrollment is up. She noted that the 4th annual Taste of History event is taking place at De Anza on Saturday, Oct. 18, and invited trustees to attend. All proceeds benefit the California History Center at De Anza and will be used to support student and campus projects to preserve, record and share local history. She requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of **Joan Crandall**, a longtime college employee who worked as administrative assistant to the vice president of instruction and in the Division of Physical Sciences, Mathematics & Engineering.

Foothill President **Judy Miner** reported that Foothill's Physical Sciences & Engineering Center has received an award of excellence from the California Community College Facilities Coalition and that she, **Peter Murray**, **Bernata Slater** and **Art Heinrich** had

accepted the award. She reported on the 50th anniversary celebration of Foothill's dental hygiene program, which included a student from the first class and a slide show highlighting the program over the years.

Chancellor's comments

Chancellor **Linda Thor** reported on a visit by a high-ranking government delegation from Singapore to learn about workforce programs with ties to industry that prepare graduates to enter the workforce directly. Delegation members visited the Manufacturing & CNC program at De Anza and allied health programs at Foothill. The visitors included Singapore's deputy prime minister, secretary of labor, director of workforce development and deputy head of finance.

Trustees' comments

Foothill Student Trustee **Evelynn Chun** introduced audience member **Lara-Shalaine Bergmann**, vice president of Senate with the Associated Students of Foothill College.

Trustee Barram reported on attending an ethics training for elected and appointed officials conducted by Santa Clara County as well as a forum sponsored by the Silicon Valley Leadership Group about California's Career Pathways Trust. The trust was created by the Legislature to fund kindergarten through community college school-to-career pathways with one-time competitive grants. She said the district already is doing many of the things suggested and could further strengthen the career pathways approach by "working backwards" in collaboration with junior high and high schools on things like project-based curriculum.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Monday, Nov. 3, at 6 p.m. in the Toyon Room in the Campus Center at Foothill College. The Toyon Room is the board's new meeting location until further notice.

Agenda: <http://www.boarddocs.com/ca/fhda/Board.nsf/Public>

Agendas generally are posted 72 hours in advance. **Please check the agenda to verify the time and location of the meeting.**

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Board Highlights is designed to communicate board meeting news to faculty and staff across the district. These are not the official minutes, which are available after their approval at a subsequent board meeting. Please contact Becky Bartindale at bartindalebecky@fhda.edu or (650) 949-6107 with comments or questions about *Board Highlights*.

Minutes: <http://www.boarddocs.com/ca/fhda/Board.nsf/Public>

Find approved minutes by date under the "Meetings" tab. Minutes are typically approved at the next board meeting and posted within several days. Draft minutes from a meeting typically can be found on the agenda of the following meeting.