

Board meeting of Nov. 4, 2013

SOME HEADLINES

Trustees reviewed or approved:

- A resolution honoring Bill and Gay Krause
- Eco Pass exemptions for some students
- New associate degrees for transfer
- The possibility of increasing the budget reserve
- New positions, new hires, appointments, and retirements

To see background information for any of the items that appear below, go to <http://www.boarddocs.com/ca/fhda/Board.nsf/Public>. Click on the meeting of Nov. 4, 2013, and then click on "View the Agenda" to access all supporting documents.

INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

Resolution honoring Bill and Gay Krause: Trustees honored the Los Altos Hills couple with a resolution recognizing their longtime support of the district and their efforts to improve teacher professional development through the Krause Center for Innovation. **Gay Krause**, a former middle school principal, is the Krause Center's founding director. Since opening the center in 2000, she has built it into a nationally and internationally recognized training organization for transforming teaching practices through the use of technology. **Bill Krause** has shared his expertise as a top Silicon Valley executive in support of that vision. He also serves on the Chancellor's Business & Industry Advisory Council. Earlier this year, they committed \$3.5 million to the Foothill-De Anza Foundation for the center's continuing support.

Board President **Betsy Bechtel** thanked the Krauses for their support on behalf of the board. Harkening back to his time as a Foothill vice president and dean, Trustee **Bruce Swenson** spoke about Gay Krause's ability to pursue a big vision while also managing the many operational details of running a program. Trustee **Joan Barram** expressed appreciation for the Krauses' contributions to many other community organizations. The Krauses thanked the board for its ongoing support.

Foundation board report: Trustee **Pearl Cheng** said she's pleased that Robin Latta-Lyssenko has agreed to serve as interim executive director of the Foothill-De Anza Foundation. She said the foundation plans to hire an associate director to focus on development at De Anza and a development associate to handle alumni relations and donor stewardship. She noted that Art Swift is returning to the foundation board and that board members are holding a "thank-a-thon" to express appreciation to foundation donors.

President **Brian Murphy** expressed appreciation that the foundation board recently voted to divest from fossil fuels at the request of De Anza students after research led by treasurer **Martin Neiman** suggested that wouldn't result in losses to the portfolio.

Eco Pass fee exemptions: The board approved exemptions from the Eco Pass transportation fee, now in place at both colleges, for HOPE students, Middle College students, military veterans receiving college fee waivers, apprenticeship students, students who take all classes online and live outside Santa Clara County, concurrent enrollment students at Foothill College and students enrolled at both campuses, who need to pay the fee at only one campus.

New Associate Degrees for Transfer: Trustees approved four new associate degrees for transfer at Foothill College – in computer science, studio arts, physics and geography. These degrees meet the requirements set by the state Chancellor's Office in response to Senate Bill 1440 to create a clear path for transfer to the California State University system. Students who complete these degrees receive preferential transfer status to local CSU campuses in their major or a related discipline.

General Fund reserve review: On behalf of the board's Audit & Finance Committee, which he chairs, Trustee Swenson engaged the board in a discussion of whether the district should consider a policy of setting aside a budget reserve greater than 5 percent to protect against future revenue decline or unexpected required expenditures. He noted that when Proposition 30 expires in 2017-18, there is no assurance that its funding for community colleges will be replaced, which could mean a reduction of about \$8 million a year for the district. He said Foothill-De Anza weathered the recent downturn better than most other districts because it had enough money in the bank to buy time to plan wisely, align reductions with institutional priorities, spread layoffs over several years and let attrition take its course. Given the volatility of California's economy, he suggested that now is the time to begin financial planning for the next downturn, possibly by establishing a higher budget reserve.

From a staff perspective, Vice Chancellor of Business Services **Kevin McElroy** said the district tends to budget conservatively to ensure there are ample assets to cover expenses from year to year. He said the district is engaged in multi-year budget planning and budgets for the stability fund based on any projected deficits. He said that formally establishing a higher reserve potentially could tie the district's hands and reduce flexibility. Unlike private industry, which likes to maintain a large capital reserve to cope with volatility, De Anza President Murphy noted that community colleges have some core financial stability in the form of state apportionment funding for enrollment.

Faculty Association President **Rich Hansen** said employee cooperation played an important part in helping the district come through the budget crisis as well as it did. He noted that the district often ends the year with a balance that is larger than expected and observed that districts with the largest reserves often are the most fractious. He said discussions already are under way about what to do about extending Proposition 30. Rather than formally requiring higher reserves, he suggested working toward lowering the threshold to 55 percent voter approval for community college parcel taxes.

Reduction in classified service: The board approved elimination of one vacant position for an admissions and records assistant as part of a reorganization of De Anza's Student Services Division.

Opening of negotiations with ACE: The board held a public hearing to open negotiations between the district and the Association of Classified Employees on the contract provision dealing with the Professional Growth Award.

Police dispatching contract: The board approved a contract with San Jose State University, the only bidder, for after-hours law enforcement dispatching services. Vice Chancellor McElroy said that few law enforcement agencies want to assume additional responsibilities at the times the district needs assistance because it would mean hiring additional staff. He said the district has generally been satisfied with San Jose State's service and the cost is not significantly greater than the district has been paying.

HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL

Administrator appointments: Trustees ratified the appointment of **Robin Latta-Lyssenko** as interim director of the Foothill-De Anza Foundation.

New administrator positions: Responding to questions from Trustee Swenson, Foothill President **Judy Miner** explained the thinking behind creation of three new administrator positions that the board subsequently approved – associate vice president of instruction; director of international student recruitment and marketing; and director of international student recruitment and partner relations.

President Miner said the two new international program administrator positions plus one additional classified position are part of a reorganization that will be funded from proceeds of the international program that serves both Foothill and De Anza. She said the reorganization is needed to keep up with new immigration tracking requirements as well as an increase in applications from international students, particularly at De Anza. She said the new administrator positions reflect the appropriate classification for the high level of responsibility and authority involved in marketing, partner relationships and recruiting. **Blanche Monary**, president of the Association of Classified Employees, agreed with there is a need for the new administrator positions because she said classified employees should not be expected to perform work such as traveling to different counties for weeks at a time and working seven days a week without additional compensation.

President Miner attributed the need for an associate vice president of instruction to expanded supervision responsibilities for the vice president of instruction, growth in regulations involving instruction and an upswing in instructional initiatives. She said the college has not yet determined how to fund the instructional position and will not move forward with recruiting until funding is identified.

Faculty employment: Trustees ratified temporary employment for **Erick Aragon** as an IMPACT AAPI counselor at De Anza, retroactive to Nov. 1, and for **XiaoSu Zhang** as director of clinical education in respiratory therapy at Foothill from Jan. 6-June 27, 2014.

Professional Achievement Awards: Trustees ratified PAAs for Foothill history instructor **Bill Ziegenhorn** and De Anza faculty members **Truly Hunter**, assistant director of EOPs, and **Ben Kline**, California History Program instructor.

Faculty retirement: The board approved the retirement effective Dec. 13 of Foothill psychology instructor **Rosemarie Menager** after 22 years under Article 19 of the agreement with the Faculty Association.

Classified employment: Trustees ratified employment for **Gary Valentine** as financial aid coordinator at De Anza College.

Classified retirements: The board approved the retirements of De Anza's **Joy Lu**, instructional associate in Business & Computer Systems, after 23 years, and **Jane Swanson**, academic scheduling coordinator, after 38 years, both effective Dec. 30, and Central Services' **Jeffrey Stefanini**, community services officer, after 25 years, effective Dec. 23.

New classified position: The board approved a new position of counseling services specialist at Foothill College.

Professional Growth Awards: The board approved Professional Growth Awards for the following classified employees – at Foothill, **Leslye Noone**, **Denise Perez**, and **Michelle Schukraft**; at De Anza, **Virginia Marquez** and **Kevin Metcalf**; and in Central Services, **Gina Bailey**, **Joseph Coelho** and **Terrance Rowe**.

REPORTS & HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Student comments: **Stacie Rowe**, president of the De Anza Associated Student Body, introduced herself and reported on students' sustainability efforts at the campus.

Staff comments: Foothill dental hygiene instructor **Ken Horowitz** spoke about the importance of improving compensation to attract and retain the brightest faculty and staff. Foothill Academic Senate President **Dolores Davison** reported on an upcoming plenary session of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges that she and De Anza Academic Senate President Mayra Cruz planned to attend. She noted that the statewide Online Education Initiative to be led by Foothill-De Anza is a subject of great interest to faculty throughout the state.

Vice Chancellor McElroy introduced **Pam Gray**, the district's new director of purchasing services, whose purchasing experience includes top positions with the Alameda County Office of Education and the U.S. Mint.

Presidents' comments: De Anza President Murphy reported on U.S. Rep. **Mike Honda's** participation in the Public Policy School being sponsored this fall by De Anza's Institute of Civic and Community Engagement and the Political Science Department (See <http://www.deanza.edu/communityengagement/publicpolicyschool.html>). He also reported on plans for De Anza's Veterans Day celebration.

Foothill President Miner reported that Congressman Honda also spoke at Foothill the previous weekend on Connecting Innovation and STEM in the Classroom, sponsored by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at the Krause Center for Innovation. She said he inquired about Foothill hosting his STEM conference next year.

Chancellor's comments: Chancellor **Linda Thor** reported that the district was the highest scoring applicant for a \$16.9 million grant to develop and implement a statewide Online Education Initiative (see [http://www.fhda.edu/stories/storyReader\\$305](http://www.fhda.edu/stories/storyReader$305)). The grant award begins Dec. 1. She thanked Vice Chancellor **Joe Moreau** for his work coordinating a 165-page grant application as well as the dozens of faculty and staff who helped conceptualize and develop the details of the proposal. She also congratulated Foothill Vice President **Denise Swett** for her leadership in putting together another highly successful statewide Technology Conference at Foothill in partnership with Innovative Educators. She commented on several successful fundraising events at De Anza including a concert for music scholarships and the De Anza Commission's Taste of History event, which supports the California History Center.

Trustees' comments: Trustee **Laura Casas** reported on the success of several students –

an anesthesiologist, a social worker and a teacher – who took part in the Puente program at De Anza and are now serving as mentors to current Puente students. Trustee Barram spoke about recent articles in the Wall Street Journal on the nation’s need for STEM workers and how many of these high-demand technical positions don’t require four-year degrees.

De Anza Student Trustee **Anita Adams** reported on attending the general assembly of the Student Senate for California Community Colleges and said that students throughout the state were aware that Foothill-De Anza is the first community college foundation in the nation to divest from fossil fuels. She said that the DASB Environmental Sustainability Committee is asking Cupertino to file an amicus brief in a case involving the Lehigh Southwest Cement Co.

President Bechtel reported that Assembly member **Rich Gordon** recently spoke to an overflow crowd of students at Foothill College. She said the students asked good questions and that his answers were supportive of community colleges.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Dec. 9 in the Toyon Room at Foothill College. This is the new meeting location for the next year while the District Office Building is being renovated. Agendas generally are posted 72 hours in advance at http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/agenda/. Please check the agenda to verify time and location of the meeting.

Board Highlights is designed to communicate board meeting news to faculty and staff across the district. This publication is not the official minutes. The official minutes are available at http://www.fhda.edu/about_us/board/minutes 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*.