

The following is a summary of the regular SMC Board of Trustees meeting of March 6, 2012. Board minutes, which provide all official actions of the Board, and these Board summaries are posted at <http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Pages/Trustees-Meeting-Information.aspx>.

Podcasts of the meeting are available at <http://www.smc.edu/itunes>.

OPEN-ENROLLMENT CONTRACT EDUCATION PROGRAMS: The Board voted to direct staff to implement open-enrollment contract education programs based on a set of guiding principles. Included are principles that such programs would supplement course offerings funded by the state, that revenues from these programs would increase access to SMC's regular education programs and services and maintain their quality, and that scholarship opportunities will be developed and financial aid promoted to help students in the these programs. Board Chair Dr. Margaret Quiñones-Perez and Student Trustee Joshua Scuteri voted against the item. A second item that also directed the administration to proceed with plans to develop open-enrollment contract education, without guiding principles, was tabled.

BUDGET UPDATE: Vice President of Business & Administration Bob Isomoto reported that the latest state revenue forecasts by the Legislative Analyst for 2011-12 and 2012-13 are down by as much as \$6.5 billion compared to Gov. Jerry Brown's January estimates. Over the longer term, the trend may improve, as economic confidence is rising, corporate profits are robust, particularly in the technology sector, and there is job growth in some regions.

What this means for Santa Monica College, he said, is a continued erosion of SMC's reserves. SMC began the year with \$23.1 million in general fund reserves, but expects to end the year within a range of \$10.5 million to \$13 million in reserves, depending on SMC's success in reducing expenditures between now and the end of the year.

If this large operating deficit of about \$10 million is carried forward into the budget plans for 2012-13, the college will end 2012-13 with a razor-thin reserve. As a result, if proposed tax initiatives on the statewide November 2012 ballot fail, the college will be faced with the prospect of a negative fund balance. In summary, Isomoto said, actions to reduce expenditures and generate new funds must be taken now.

SPRING SEMESTER OPENING WEEK: Vice President of Student Affairs Mike Tuitasi reported that the opening of the spring semester in mid-February went well as the college implemented new strategies to make it as smooth as possible. He said the college embarked on a campaign urging students to park in satellite lots or use sustainable transportation, installed additional ID card "swiping" stations that allow students to validate their student cards to take the Big Blue Bus for free, and implemented a new class wait list system that appeared to be helpful in handling the crush of students trying to get into courses.

GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED INITIATIVE TO INCREASE TAXES: The Board voted to support Gov. Jerry Brown's proposed statewide initiative for the November ballot that will raise income tax on the wealthy and the state sales tax to fund education and public safety. Brown's "Temporary Taxes to Fund Education. Guaranteed Local Public Safety

Funding” will limit the cuts that would otherwise be made to community colleges and Kindergarten-through-12th grade schools, while providing budget stability for four years. Trustees Susan Aminoff and David Finkel voted no on the item.

FACILITIES RELOCATIONS, 2012-14: The Board voted unanimously to approve two agreements – one for architectural services and one for a building renovation – that are tied to a series of SMC facilities relocations that are planned to occur over the next two years. The first is an agreement with Gwynne Pugh Urban Studio for architectural services for the renovation of the building at 919 Santa Monica Blvd. that SMC recently purchased. The facility, located next door to the SMC Performing Arts Center, will be used for offices. Funding for the agreement with the architect, not to exceed \$433,000 plus reimbursable expenses, will come from Measure AA, a bond measure passed by Santa Monica and Malibu voters in 2008. The second is an award of a \$219,250 bid to REC+S, Inc. to renovate the building at 1510 Pico Blvd. for use as college offices, also to be funded by Measure AA. Formerly housing WISE & Healthy Aging, which provides services for seniors and their families and caregivers, the building was purchased recently by SMC.

COLLABORATION WITH SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT: The Board heard an update on SMC’s extensive collaborations with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. The program includes a Pre-K-14 Collaborative to ensure articulation in English and math, with other disciplines being developed; offerings of SMC courses at the college and in the high schools; summer school for high school students through concurrent and dual enrollment programs; shared use of facilities; articulation of career and technical educational programs; and development and anticipated implementation of the High School Transfer Academy and Early College High School Program, which would provide high school students college class offerings that will meet high school graduation requirements as well as the transfer curriculum at SMC. New programs include SMC Pledge, which began this semester and which was developed to help graduating high school students to transition to SMC. Also planned is a project to develop an assessment app – for smart phones, personal computers, tablets and laptops – that will help incoming SMC students with their assessment tests. The full written report is on pages 15-18 in the Board agenda at http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Documents/Board%20of%20Trustees%20Meetings/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2012/BT%20Mtg%203-6-2012%20Agenda.pdf.

COMMUNITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: The Board heard an update from Community Relations Director Judy Neveau and Senior Director of Government Relations and Institutional Communications Don Girard on some of the activities in their areas. In a written report, Neveau talks about various programs underwritten by the SMC Associates, a private organization that funds speakers and special programs on campus, including art history lectures, master classes at The Broad Stage, lecture series and more. She also addresses SMC involvement in such community activities as the Unity Resource Festival at Virginia Avenue Park and the Santa Monica Airport Art Walk. In the area of government relations, Girard addresses legislation, joint projects with the cities of Santa Monica and Malibu such as the Early Childhood Education Center and Malibu campus, and more. The full written report is on pages 19-21 in the Board Agenda at

http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Documents/Board%20of%20Trustees%20Meetings/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2012/BT%20Mtg%203-6-2012%20Agenda.pdf.

CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE: The Board voted unanimously to appoint Heather Anderson to represent Malibu on the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee for a two-year term.

KENNEDY CENTER/AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL: The Board presented certificates of appreciation to SMC students Anthony Cloyd and Alycia Perez for having been selected for acting and stage managing scholarship competitions in the prestigious Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival's national competition in April in Washington, D.C. Cloyd and Perez are the first SMC students to make it to the national competition in those particular categories.

CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS: The Board voted in closed session to release one academic administrator and authorized the Superintendent/President or his designee to provide the academic administrator with notice on or before March 15, 2012 that the administrator will not be reemployed by appointment or contract upon the conclusion of the 2011-12 fiscal year. Trustee Rob Rader abstained. In a separate closed session action, the Board voted to accept a recommendation from the Superintendent/President to suspend without pay for a period of 18 days (144 hours) one classified employee. This suspension will be implemented beginning March 7, 2012. Board Chair Margaret Quiñones-Perez voted no and Trustee David Finkel abstained.