The following is a summary of the Board of Trustees’ May 12, 2008 meeting:

**TENTATIVE 2008-09 BUDGET PREVIEW:** SMC President Dr. Chui L. Tsang and Vic Hanson, interim chief business officer, reported that though state budget information is preliminary and likely to change, the college has made some rough budget projections for 2008-11 and will seek to reduce SMC’s annual operating deficit by $12 million over the next three years. Though the college is projected to end this fiscal year with a healthy level of reserves, the dire outlook for the state budget – which could be facing a $20 billion deficit in 2008-09 – is forcing the college to look at ways to increase income while reducing costs.

**GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP A.A. DEGREE REQUIREMENT:** The Board voted unanimously to approve a three-unit global citizenship requirement for students to get an Associate of Arts degree, beginning this fall. The requirement, which replaces the American cultures requirement, was approved by the Curriculum Committee and the Academic Senate earlier this spring. The requirement can be met by taking a class in one of the following areas: American cultures, ecological literacy, global studies or an SMC Study Abroad experience.


**SUSTAINABILITY:** Genevieve Bertone, sustainability coordination project manager, reported that a year after SMC released a comprehensive environmental audit, the college has made excellent progress in its efforts toward greater sustainability. Among the college’s many accomplishments have been work to develop new “green-collar” vocational programs in such fields as solar technology; SMC President Tsang’s signing of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment; series of workshops, speakers and special events, including the “Focus the Nation” Teach-In on global warming; efforts to conserve water and other energy, use “green” products, and make campus food choices healthier; the new “Any Line, Any Time” program in which students and employees, beginning this fall, will be able to ride any Big Blue Bus line any time for free; and a fast-growing Sustainable Works program, which trains students to live green lives and which trained 600 students the past year, double the program’s target number.

**FACILITY MASTER PLANNING:** The Board voted unanimously to approve a contract with Gensler in an amount not to exceed $90,000, plus expenses, for the first phase of a facility master planning process. This would be the first time that the college is embarking on such a process in a decade, when Gensler, a Santa Monica-based architectural firm, prepared the 1998 Master Plan. The action followed a detailed report given by Senior Director of Government Relations/Institutional Communications Don Girard and others about the need for facilities modernization at SMC and the feasibility of a November 2008 bond measure election. A comprehensive written report is
CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES WEEK: The Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution recognizing and observing Classified Employees Week May 19-23.

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS AWARD: Student Trustee Adel Morad announced the winners of the Spring 2008 Associated Students Award, given for a faculty member, classified staff member and student. They are life science professor Mary Bober; Thelma Hoffman, student services specialist in Admissions & Records; and student Raymundo Reyes.

“ABOVE & BEYOND” AWARD: Management Association President Mona Martin reported that Dean of Student Life Deyna Hearn, who has held several positions during her 20-year tenure with the college, has won the “Above & Beyond” award for May.

DOWNTOWN SANTA MONICA PROPERTY-BASED ASSESSMENT DISTRICT: The Board voted to support the formation of and to authorize participation in a proposed Downtown Santa Monica Property-Based Assessment District. The proposed assessment district would provide enhanced maintenance and increased public safety services to an area that includes SMC’s Emeritus College. The first-year assessment for SMC would be $5,431, based on Emeritus College’s square footage. Annual assessments would be allowed to be increased by a maximum of 5 percent a year.

STUDENT TRUSTEE: The Board voted unanimously to authorize the continuation of privileges for the student trustee for 2008-09, including the making and seconding of motions and casting an advisory vote.

PERSONNEL COMMISSION BUDGET: The Board voted unanimously to acknowledge receipt of the 2008-09 proposed $809,510 budget for the SMC Personnel Commission. This is $109,720 more than the commission’s current budget.

CITIZENS’ BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE: The Board of Trustees voted unanimously to begin the process of filling upcoming vacancies on the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee. The terms of four committee members – Ralph Erickson, Belinda Phillips, Sylvia Rose and Lorraine Sanchez – expire July 1 but are eligible for reappointment for a second-year term. The term of one member, Clarence Chapman, expires July 1 but he is not eligible for reappointment.

2007-08 QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT: The Board voted unanimously to acknowledge receipt of the 2007-08 Quarterly Budget Report for the third quarter, which ended March 31, 2008.

PROPOSITIONS 98 & 99: The Board voted unanimously to oppose Proposition 98 on the state ballot in June and support Proposition 99. Proposition 98 opponents say the measure would eliminate rent control and renter protections, threaten land use planning and jeopardize laws that protect the environment. Proposition 99 is an
eminent domain measure that will constitutionally protect homeowners without the adverse consequences of Proposition 98, supporters say.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: In other items, the Board voted unanimously to accept a grant renewal in the amount of $300,000 for SMC’s Small Business Development Center (SBDC) from the SBDEC Network of the California Community Colleges; and to award bids for the construction of the Corsair Field Renovation and the John Adams Middle School Field Renovation in the amounts of $2,734,455 and $1,307,243 respectively, to Byrom-Davey, Inc., with funding from measure S. The Board also voted unanimously to approve new credit courses in Auto and Cosmetology; a new non-credit course in Parent Education; new distance education courses in Art, Entertainment Technology, Psychology, and Sociology; and new certificates in Cosmetology, Digital Effects, and Game Design. The Board also accepted the resignations of Felicia Springer, Operations, and Jennifer Campos, SMC Foundation; and the retirements of Carment Graham, TRIO; Phillip Daughtry, English; Lyle Larsen, English; and Margaret Leduc, Kinesiology.

ADJOURNMENT: The Board adjourned in the memory of Dorothy “Jewel” Myrow, mother of Associate Dean of Financial Aid/Scholarships Steve Myrow, and Bart Woolcock, parking security officer.

###