The following is a summary of the Board of Trustees’ June 9, 2008 meeting:

**TENTATIVE 2008-09 BUDGET:** The Board voted unanimously to adopt a 2008-09 tentative budget of $284.1 million. The final budget is scheduled to be adopted in September. The budget includes $176.5 million in general unrestricted and restricted funds; $88.9 million in capital funds; $13.9 million for student financial aid; and $4.8 million for auxiliary operations. The action came after SMC’s lobbyist in Sacramento, Dale Shimasaki of Strategic Education Services, reported there is still great uncertainty about the state budget situation. However, college officials have said that SMC is projected to end this fiscal year with a healthy level of reserves. At the same time, the college is seeking to close the ongoing operating deficit, projected at $8.0 million for the budget year, with actions to be taken over the next three years.

**FIVE-YEAR CONSTRUCTION PLAN:** The Board voted unanimously to approve the filing of the Five-Year Construction Plan with the California Community Colleges’ Chancellor’s Office. The plan identifies all potential future projects, especially those that may be eligible for state matching funds. Topping the list of priority projects are the Student Services & Administration Building, Replacement Math & Science Building, Early Childhood Education Center, Madison Site East Wing Seismic Upgrade, and Replacement Health, Fitness & P.E. Building.

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:** The Board heard a report that SMC is working to expand and enhance SMC’s vocational course offerings, using federal and other funding sources. Representatives from the Office of Workforce and Economic Development and Eve Adler, chair of the Occupational Education Committee, said the committee has focused on several strategies, including setting aside resources to support the creation of new vocational courses that align with the trends of business and industry.

**SOLAR POWER:** Greg Brown, director of facilities planning, reported that the college is taking a three-pronged approach to studying the feasibility of the use of solar power at SMC. He said the college has completed one study that has concluded that in the short term the best site for installing solar power on campus is Parking Structure C. The college is seeking state and private funds for a solar retrograde project for the parking structure. In addition, the college is cooperating with the City of Santa Monica on its comprehensive solar feasibility study that will provide a long-term view for the main campus and SMC’s satellite sites. Finally, Brown said that the college examines solar power feasibility when planning all new buildings.

**NEW COURSES, CERTIFICATES, AND DEGREES:** The Board voted unanimously to ratify new courses in Arabic, Chinese, Counseling, English, Music, Office Technology, and Spanish; new online courses in Biology, Business, Communication, English, History, Office Technology, and Photo; new certificates for Legal Administration Assistant and for Medical Records Clerk/Receptionist; new AA degrees in Environmental Studies, in Environmental Sciences, and in Ethnic Studies; and new courses in Biology, English, and Speech to meet the Global Citizenship AA degree requirement. These courses, certificates, and degrees, were approved by the Curriculum Committee and the Academic Senate in Spring 2008.
STUDENT TRUSTEE: Newly elected 2008-09 Student Trustee Cameron Henton was sworn into office. His term as student trustee officially began June 1.

PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW WINNERS: Photography professor Larry Jones presented to the Board the winners of the 29th Annual Student Photography Show. The students also showed their winning images to the Board. The awardees are Bob Friedman, Best of Show; Jamin Mathis, Best of Color; Hojin Yun, Best Black and White; Chris Straus, Best Wildlife; Emily Eisen, Best People; Anna Gesslinger, Best Photo 1 (introductory class); and Mary Schwinn, Alex Vacca and Molly Robinson, all honorable mentions.

MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION: Board Chair Rob Rader presented a gift to Management Association President Mona Martin, who ends her one-year term as president on June 30. She reported that Kiersten Elliott, associate dean of enrollment services, will take over July 1 as president for 2008-09; Erica LeBlanc, dean of academic affairs, is president-elect; Lisa Rose, executive coordinator of District/Board of Trustees office, continues on as secretary; and Regina Jennings, project manager for CAHSEE, will serve as treasurer. Martin also reported that the association’s “Above and Beyond” award went in May to Lin Caldwell, administrative assistant in the SMC President’s Office.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: In other actions, the Board unanimously voted to approve a resolution for the establishment of a 457 deferred compensation plan and the adoption of the CalSTRS and CalPERS 457 programs, the award of bid for the Parking Structure A Improvements to Trimax Construction Corp. in the amount of $858,300 with funding from Measure S; and the retirement of Leland Finch, Counseling.

ADJOURNMENT: The Board adjourned in the memory of Jessica Downey-Fiorino, sister of communications professor Nancy Grass Hemmert; Humberto Malpartida, father-in-law of Senior Director of Government Relations/Internal Communications Don Girard; Joe Miko, a long-time supporter of SMC and former president of the General Advisory Board; and Norma Ring, a long-time Emeritus College student and major Emeritus donor.

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