The following is a summary of the highlights of the SMC Board of Trustees meeting of May 4, 2010. The Board summaries are posted at http://www.smc.edu/apps/docs.asp?Q=586.

In addition, the meeting minutes, which provide all the official actions of the Board, are posted at http://www.smc.edu/apps/Pub.asp?Q=544.

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

**BASIC SKILLS:** The Board heard a report from the Basic Skills Initiative leaders on efforts at the college to increase the success rates of students at the pre-college level. Initiative leaders have developed strategies in the areas of professional development, instructional support and counseling. In addition, they have developed preliminary student success data for programs funded by the initiative. The full report is Appendix A in the Board agenda at http://www.smc.edu/Projects/32/Trustees_Meeting_Information/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2010/5-4-10_Agenda.pdf.

**BUDGET:** Vice President of Business & Administration Bob Isomoto reported that officials in Sacramento are warning community colleges to expect funding cuts of 3 percent to 5 percent in 2010-11, despite Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's recent announcement that he would not sign a budget that did not include additional funding for higher education. Isomoto said the college, meanwhile, "has done a great job in saving money and keeping within the adopted budget," but that SMC's projected operating deficit for next year will be at least $4 million, which will bring the college's reserves down to $9 million, or 7 percent of the 2010-11 budget.

**ENROLLMENT CYCLE:** Vice President of Enrollment Development Teresita Rodriguez and Vice President of Academic Affairs Jeff Shimizu reported that as SMC gears up for the summer and fall enrollment cycle, applications for SMC are up 28 percent this year compared to the same time last year.

**ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES – PERFORMING ARTS COMPLEX EAST WING:** The Board voted unanimously to approve a $1.08 million contract with DLR GROUP WWCOT for the programming, planning, design and construction administration of the Performing Arts Campus East Wing project. The east wing has been closed for years because seismic upgrading has been needed, and the college has determined it would be more cost effective to replace the wing. The proposal calls for a new two-story facility that would include a new multi-purpose room, additional instructional space for the Music Department, offices for the Broad Stage, and offices for technical staff on site. The project, including architectural services, is to be funded by Measure AA, the bond passed by Santa Monica-Malibu voters in 2008.

**STUDENT TRUSTEE:** The Board presented a certificate of appreciation to 2009-10 Student Trustee Seth Smith, whose one-year term expires June 1, for his service to the Board. Smith will be succeeded by Michael Song.

**BIG BLUE BUS:** Senior Director of Government Relations & Institutional Communications Don Girard reported that the Big Blue Bus has agreed to scrap its proposal to increase in
2010-11 the amount of money it charges SMC for the “Any Line, Any Time” program, which provides free rides to SMC students and employees.

ASIAN AMERICAN & AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENT PROJECTS: Vice President of Student Services Michael Tuitasi reported that SMC’s federally funded Asian American/Pacific Islander Achievement Project was started seven months ago and has so far accomplished a number of projects, including establishment of a new digital learning studio, an agreement with UCLA to organize a two-year collaborative on retention and transfer, and establishment of an alumni program. In addition, Tuitasi reported that the recent SMC 5th annual Black Student Conference was a success, attracting 145 students.

“ECOHERO” AWARD TO BOARD: President Dr. Chui L. Tsang presented the “EcoHero” plaque to the Board on behalf of the SMC Center for Environmental & Urban Studies. The center has honored the Board for its “visionary leadership” by including an environmental commitment in the Measure AA bond language, approving the Solar Photovoltaic installers training program, allocating funds for energy efficiency and solar energy projects, and more.

FACULTY ASSOCIATION CONTRACT: The Board voted unanimously to adopt the college’s initial proposal for a successor contract with the SMC Faculty Association, effective Aug. 1, 2010.

CITIZENS BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE: The Board voted unanimously to begin the process to fill two vacancies on the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee.

BOARD POLICIES: The Board voted unanimously to give final approval to four revised and new policies having to do with managers and the Management Association.

PERSONNEL COMMISSION BUDGET: The Board voted unanimously to acknowledge receipt of the proposed Personnel Commission’s 2010-11 budget of $890,644. The commission budget will be discussed as part of the college’s regular budget process.

QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT: The Board voted unanimously to acknowledge receipt of the 2009-10 Quarterly Budget Report, as of March 31, 2010.

CLOSED SESSION ACTION: The Board voted to affirm an administrative decision that had been made in connection with an unlawful discrimination complaint.

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