

Board Digest

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Regular Meeting February 16, 2009

Public Comments

Mark Fellows read a statement describing events that occurred while he was enrolled in the OCC Nursing Program. Chair Shirley Bryant advised Mr. Fellows that the board has been briefed on his case.

Chancellor's Report

Chancellor Tim Meyer informed the board that the OCC Forensics Team, under the guidance of faculty member Carole Bennett, placed second in the state at the February 7 Novice State Competition held at Wayne State University.

Dr. Meyer noted that OCC's partnership with S3 Entertainment to train workers for the film industry garnered a lengthy article in the February 9 edition of the New York Times demonstrating the college's leadership in workforce development.

Dr. Meyer also showed video clips from ABC's "Good Morning America" that profiled Project Bold student Charles Howard and his participation in the Winter Special Olympics snowboarding competition. Mr. Howard recently lit the Olympic torch and won a silver medal for Team USA in Boise, Idaho.

Academic and Student Affairs

College Academic Senate Chair Mary Ann McGee noted that the group is making a major effort to approve new programs prior to the catalog deadline. She also outlined findings of a recent community college study pointing to (1) the enrollment of increasing numbers of traditional students, (2) the trend toward reducing the budget percentages earmarked for classroom instruction, and (3) the negative impact on students of using increasing numbers of adjunct faculty.

College Resources

The management staff (exempt) appointments of information technologies administrative assistant Margaret Warack (DO) and human resources specialist Vanessa Belcher (DO) were approved.

The board authorized the college's construction managers, the Auch Company, to complete a construction contract for emergency underground pipe repair on the Orchard Ridge swimming pool for \$29,212.

The monthly report on the progress of millage-funded renovation projects was submitted.

Consent Agenda – Contracts and Purchases

The following contracts and purchases were approved via consent agenda procedure: purchase of COGNEX machine vision systems from McNaughton & McKay Electrical for \$33,222; replacement human anatomy models for the Orchard Ridge Life Sciences Department from Ward's Natural Science of Rochester, Michigan for \$43,010; college-wide internet access through Global Crossings for \$6,161 monthly; printing services for the schedule of classes and

the college catalog from the lowest Michigan bidder, Data Reproduction of Auburn Hills for \$184,474.

Unfinished Business

Changes to board policies lodged at the January meeting were approved. The policies are: 0.0.4; 1.1.1-1.1.6; 1.2.1; 1.2.2; 1.4.1; 1.4.5; 1.5.3; 1.5.5; 1.61.; 1.6.4; 1.6.7; 1.6.9; and 1.7.3.

The board approved a motion requesting the administration to issue Requests for Proposals asking interested companies to make presentations for evaluating OCC's investment practices and maximizing returns.

The board selected Growth Management Consulting of East Lansing (Eric Craymer) to serve as the college's Higher Learning Commission Action Plan consultant.

The instrument for evaluating the chancellor's performance for 2008-09 was approved. Individual trustee evaluations are due by May 15 and tabulations are to be completed by May 20. Acting Chief Strategic Development Officer Cheryl Kozell provided an overview, history, and timelines for the development of the 2008-2012 College Strategic Plan. The plan will be finalized by the College Planning Council in March, presented to the College Academic Senate in April and forwarded to the board for acceptance in May.

Board Member Reports

Vice Chair Anna Zimmerman stated that with five trustees participating, OCC had good board representation at the ACCT Community College National Legislative Summit in Washington, DC February 9-11. Ms. Zimmerman thanked Cheryl Kozell for coordinating the trip and for supplying background information. The delegation talked to a number of legislators and their staffs on OCC and the community college agenda; the new Stimulus legislation contains provisions for increased Pell Grant funding and infrastructure improvements.

Chair Bryant noted that this trip, her first, was a fascinating learning experience.

For further information on this session, contact College Communications (248) 341-2122.