

# Board Digest

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## **Regular Meeting October 21, 2002**

Tony Hildebrandt of the Auburn Hills Applied and Engineering Technology faculty introduced six students currently registered in the automotive program who explained why they have enrolled, and the benefits they are deriving by taking classes. The students' motives range from personal interest in learning how cars function, to career or educational advancement. All praised their learning experiences at OCC.

### **Chancellor's Comments**

Chancellor Thompson made the following observations and comments:

- The next Business and Community Alliance meeting will take place October 28 at the Kingsley Inn. Among the session's highlights will be a panel discussion on business ethics featuring representatives from higher education, business and the legal profession.
- A board planning session to review implications of state budget cuts is scheduled for November 11. A five-to-seven percent reduction in state funding can be expected this year, and a five-to-ten percent cut next year. The session will cover budget issues and strategies, including the matter of tuition increases.
- Staff reports this evening will include presentations by Dr. David Adams on the cablecasting of board meetings; Dr. Ernest Harrison on the chancellor search; Andrew Hillberry on Datatel developments; and Clarence Brantley on preventative maintenance procedures.
- The student presenter will be Auburn Hills Phi Theta Kappa chapter officer Elizabeth Clements.
- Two new employees will be introduced to the board.
- The board will enter closed session to discuss labor negotiations.

In response to a board request for information regarding cablecasting of trustee meetings, Executive Director of Marketing David Adams noted that public access networks will accept such programs, and Oakland Schools is willing to distribute the programs to the county's school districts for broadcast on the educational access channels. Costs for equipment, wages and training associated with the project are estimated at \$38,000.

Chancellor Thompson noted a possible alternative; Lansing Community College is forming a TV consortium which plans to produce twelve half-hour programs, based

on CareerFocus magazine (including OCC components), which could be distributed to the cable outlets. Production costs are estimated at \$30,000 per year.

Dr. Ernest Harrison provided an update of the chancellor search process. Both the focus group and the advisory committee have held their first open meetings, and a variety of ideas have been passed on to the search consultants. The advisory group is in the process of developing a prospective chancellor profile, and its work will be completed within four to six months.

The board approved a motion to confirm the membership of the chancellor search advisory committee presented at the September business meeting.

Chief Information Officer Andrew Hillberry reported that the data management team has begun detail planning for the Datatel upgrade. College employees are continuing training, both through the Information Technology department and via outside consultants.

Vice Chancellor Clarence Brantley provided a handout prepared in response to board questions regarding the percentage of OCC contractors based in Oakland County. Since 1995 a total of 282 contracts have been awarded by the college, 108 of which (38 percent) went to Oakland County firms. This fiscal year 79 contracts have been awarded, of which 32 (41 percent) have gone to Oakland County firms. In response to another board inquiry Mr. Brantley provided an overview of the process employed by the college to implement major equipment replacements.

Presidents Sharon Blackman and Edward Callaghan introduced new employees Jack Peeples and Angel Ziolek.

### **College Resources**

The exempt administrative appointment of Catherine Rush, chief human resources officer (DO) was approved, as was the administrative appointment of Stephen Linden, director of student services (RO, AH and HL).

The management staff appointments of Suzanne Adams, BTC program coordinator (OR); Karen Johnson, child care coordinator (AH) and Sue Work, program director of respiratory therapy (SF) were also approved, as were the classified appointments of Tonisha Scott (part-time) nursing secretary (SF); Karen Greiwe, communications specialist (DO); Elizabeth Semaan, student services specialist (DO); and Karen Riley, financial aid assistant (AH).

The following contracts and purchases were approved by the board via consent agenda procedure: conversion of the building energy management systems at the Auburn Hills Campus, \$3,032,900; Building T roof replacement, \$205,000, Auburn Hills Campus; boiler and chiller replacements, Royal Oak Campus, \$2,240,400; Levinson Hall roof replacement, Highland Lakes Campus, \$205,000; boiler and chiller replacements, Southfield Campus, \$1,655,200; exterior curtain wall flashing and metal panel replacements, Southfield Campus, \$260,700; furniture for the CREST Training Center, awarded to the low bidder, NBS of Rochester Hills, \$42,226.24; an

affiliation agreement with the Milford YMCA to provide on-site training experiences for students in the exercise science and technology program.

The following workforce development contacts with third party providers were also approved by the board via consent agenda procedure: S.T.E.P.S., Inc., to provide facilitation, training and services at the G.M. Orion Assembly Plant in the amount of \$61,870; Star Cutter, to provide specialized ATG operator training to DaimlerChrysler employees in the amount of \$26,000; Hane Training, to provide HVAC training and materials to DaimlerChrysler employees in the amount of \$100,000; Ford Motor Company, to provide training and materials to Akebono Corporation employees in the amount of \$55,000; RDR Group, to provide change management training to Kmart employees in the amount of \$30,000.

College Academic Senate Chair Gerald Faye expressed the senate leadership's concern regarding the selection process for members of the chancellor search advisory committee.

Auburn Hills student Elizabeth Clements provided an overview of Phi Theta Kappa's recent activities and noted that the chapter will induct 23 new members this Friday.

#### **Reports**

Vice Chair John Wangler commented favorably on the recent dinner meeting attended by trustees, new presidents Sharon Blackman and Gordon May, and new human resources officer Catherine Rush. Dr. Wangler characterized the meeting as "most informative...with good give and take", and indicated his wish for more such sessions.

Board Secretary Anne Scott noted that fiscal experts speaking at the MCCA meeting of October 2-3 in Ludington envision a drastic 20 percent cut in state funding to community colleges this year, and a further 15-20 percent cut next year. This will seriously affect small schools, which are far more dependent on state money than the large colleges.

Chairperson Janice Simmons provided a report on the ACCT meeting she attended last month and thanked the board for the opportunity to participate. Mrs. Simmons also noted that she has been elected to a one-year term on the ACCT Central Region Nominating Committee.

Faculty Association President Mary Ston stated that while the board has the right to select members of the chancellor search committee, the faculty members chosen do not represent the faculty as a whole.

The board entered closed session to discuss labor negotiations.

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