

Board Digest

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Regular Meeting April 19, 2004

Orchard Ridge IIC faculty member Jim Berry introduced Jeff Wallace, a student study group leader who described how the program operates and provided his personal assessment of its effectiveness. Mr. Wallace noted that participating students earn better grades, drop out of classes less frequently, and are more likely to enroll in subsequent semesters.

Chancellor's Comments

Dr. Mary Spangler reported the following:

- The college's Diversity Week (March 29 April 3) saw a wide variety of well-attended activities at DO and all campuses. Dr. Spangler thanked Diversity Committee Chair Dr. Sharon Blackman and all who were involved in planning the events.
- Dr. Spangler, Vice Chancellor Clarence Brantley and Presidents Edward Callaghan and Gordon May appeared before the Michigan Legislature's Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee to present two OCC projects for review. Both were approved, and the college is now in complete compliance. Other community colleges were equally unaware of the state requirements – 120 projects were submitted to the subcommittee.
- Fifty participants, including Chair Simmons, Secretary Scott, Vice Chair Wangler and Trustee Wiser, attended the Business and Community Alliance meeting at Orchard Ridge, April 12. The OCC Strategic Plan was among the topics covered.
- On April 16 Chancellor Spangler took part in a roundtable discussion of "No Child Left Behind" legislation with Secretary of Education Rod Paige.
- Dr. Spangler has been elected to the board of the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce; she takes office in June.
- An OCC team consisting of George Keith, Clarence Brantley, Martha Smydra, Sharon Blackman, Cathey Maze and Gerald Faye participated in a three-day workshop on new accreditation criteria presented by the Higher Learning Commission in Chicago.
- A special board meeting will take place on May 10 to conclude discussion on the strategic plan; a closed session on the chancellor's performance evaluation will follow.
- The college's annual Excellence Day celebration is scheduled for April 30 and the dedication of CREST on May 12.

Vice Chancellor Clarence Brantley conducted the Public Hearing on the 2004-05 General Fund Budget. The proposed budget totals \$136,300,000, a 5.67 percent increase over 2003-04. Tuition rates will be raised by 2.3 percent this fall, matching the rate of inflation, as authorized by the board's 2002 Tuition Guarantee Plan.

College Resources

A recommendation for sabbatical leave for the fall 2004 semester was approved for AH science faculty member David Becker.

Recommendations for continuing contracts were approved for the following faculty members: Marvin Pelot (AH); Teresa Garcia (HL); Renee Fox (HL); Jane Lloyd (HL); Beverly Stanbrough (OR); Douglas Ganhs (OR); Lisa Durak (OR); Michael Vollbach (RO) and Leonard Cole (RO). The administrative (non-exempt) appointments of Thomas Boozer, dean of academic and student services (AH), and Lloyd Crews, dean of academic and student services (RO) were approved, as was the management staff (exempt) appointment of Heather Gibbons, administrative assistant to the vice chancellor for administrative services (DO).

The classified appointments of Muriel Gray, faculty secretary (RO); Susan Appelt, culinary secretary (OR); and Sylvia Neal-Dixson, biology paraprofessional (OR) were also approved. Authority was granted to the Auch Company to enter a construction contract for the emergency underground heating replacement, Levinson Hall to Highland Hall, at the Highland Lakes Campus in the amount of \$80,000.

The monthly progress report on millage-funded construction projects was presented. The following contracts and agreements were approved by the board via consent agenda procedure: a one-year contract to purchase electricity from Strategic Energy of Livonia; printing services for the 2004-05 college catalog from the low bidder, Von Hoffman Graphics of Owensville, Missouri, \$48,250; hardware and software for the touchtone system from EPOS Corporation, \$33,000; nine Minolta readers/printers from Graphic Sciences, \$59,000; renewal of a one-year contract with Michigan State University to provide accident investigation courses, \$58,225; three hoists from Allied Incorporated for the Automotive Servicing program, \$27,985; five robots from FANUC Robotics, \$162,922; a patient training simulator from KAVO America Corporation, \$28,978; a contract with Fox IT to provide training for EDS employees, \$50,000; a contract with RMC Project Management to provide training to EDS employees, \$75,000; extension of a current partnership agreement with HAAS Automation through December 31, 2004.

Academic and Student Affairs

Student Lynn Levick, vice president of the Orchard Ridge chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, provided an update of the group's recent activities, as well as its future plans.

Old Business

The board approved the appointment of Plante & Moran as the college auditor for 2003-04. Continuation of the appointment may not exceed five years. The chancellor's performance evaluations are to be forwarded to the board chair.

New Business

Trustee Wiser suggested that CREST be marketed as a training site for military robotic equipment. Dr. Spangler noted that a meeting on such opportunities is scheduled for June 15 in Washington, DC, and expressed her willingness to participate.

Reports

Secretary Scott reported that the recent Michigan Community College Association meeting in Dowagiac centered around possible reconsideration of the community college funding formula by the state legislature. Ms. Scott warned that such action could lead to serious conflict among the state's community colleges.

Referring to earlier discussion among board members, Faculty Association President Mary Ston noted that adjunct faculty numbers are governed by the Faculty Master Labor Agreement. Ms. Ston also announced that the association will sponsor an open candidates' forum at the Royal Oak Campus, June 2 at 6:30 p.m.

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