

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING**

**December 9, 2015**

**Public Session 6:00 pm**

**West Los Angeles College**

**Fine Arts Building, Room 100**

Board President Svonkin called the open session of the regular meeting to order at 6:24 pm and Trustee Moreno led the pledge of allegiance. Svonkin announced that the Board voted to approve a settlement with Morillo Construction, copies of the agreement could be obtained from the Interim General Counsel's Office, and no further actions were taken during the preceding closed session that required being reported. Svonkin noted the recent shooting at the Regional Center in San Bernardino and asked to adjourn the meeting in memory of two of the victims: Yvette Velasco, niece of Valley Security Officer Gerardo Morales, and Harbor student Aurora Godoy, the mother of a two-year old son. Trustee Eng also moved to adjourn in memory of Nohemy Gonzalez, the only American killed in the November Paris terrorist attacks. She was a student at California State University Long Beach and was laid to rest last Friday. Svonkin then moved to have Chancellor Rodriguez direct the college presidents to lower the flags to half-mast on Thursday and Friday.

Interim West Los Angeles College President Robert Sprague welcomed those in attendance and introduced members of the college leadership. He announced this was the Year of the Student at West and described an online project to archive and celebrate student experiences. Sprague then introduced several students and each spoke briefly about their time at West. The first speaker was Associated Student Organization President Juan Sebastian Rodriguez, a science major who enrolled at West at the age of 16 after finishing high school in Colombia. He talked about his plans to transfer to the University of California. Other student speakers included Jocelyn Perez, Jairo Martinez, and Larry Young. The Board then approved its meeting minutes from 10/21/15 and 11/4/15.

### **Reports from Representatives of Employee Organizations at Resource Table**

**AFT Faculty Guild President Joanne Waddell** thanked the Chancellor and Trustees for their comments about the San Bernardino tragedy, adding that the Guild leadership welcomed the opportunity to partner with them in efforts to increase safety. She stated she looked forward to the upcoming publication of the report from the District's Blue Ribbon Committee on Safety and the implementation of its recommendations. She cited language in Article 9 (Section D.3.a.) of the AFT collective bargaining agreement, which states "*Earthquake, fire, active shooter, and threat assessment operational plans shall be updated annually. [and that] Appropriate training... be provided consistent with the plans.*" She added that unfortunately, that language had yet to be implemented on all campuses. Waddell concluded her remarks by urging the District and campuses to take concrete steps to fully implement the above contract language.

**DAS President Don Gauthier** made a statement on behalf of the AFT's John McDowell. He noted that while the Board was renewing the contract of Holland and Knight and Dakota Communications to provide federal lobbying services for the District for the next four years (at a cost of \$17,500 a month), there was no service agreement for a state advocate on the agenda. He emphasized that most of the LACCD's funding comes from the state and added that the coalition the District had been a part of for a decade had its 2016 legislative plan ready for the State Capitol in January, while we had nothing. He asked where the District's voice was in the statewide discussion on budget, bond, and legislation. He stressed that the District's success over 18 years had been the result of working with the McCallum Group and argued the LACCD would be weakened by striking out on its own. He

concluded his remarks by urging the Board to learn from the District's past successful legislative history and to renew McCallum's contract at this critical time.

**Former Student Trustee Lamar Jackson** objected to the lack of consultation with students in the approval of a contract with Higher One to manage student financial aid disbursements. He also questioned why it was so difficult to hire a full-time faculty member to serve as ASO advisor.

### **Announcements from the College Presidents**

- **Valley:** President Erika Endrijonas announced that a Valley student had been selected as one of 50 recipients of the California Blueprint Young Scholars award. She added that Valley's football team had recently hosted and won the Golden State Bowl Championship for the first time in 19 years.
- **City:** President Rene Martinez announced that three City students received scholarships from the Southern California Chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists and were also recognized by the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts and Entertainment Journalism Awards. Eleven City students participated and three won awards at the Pacific Southwest Collegiate Forensic Association. She also mentioned a foundation fundraiser with Mark Hamill (Luke Skywalker in Star Wars), which earned over \$10,000 to benefit Theater Academy students.
- **Harbor:** President Otto Lee acknowledged the passing of Aurora Godoy, who had been a student at Harbor for several years and had completed approximately 60 units. Counseling and support was made available to the campus community and a collection was started to assist her family. He thanked Trustee Svonkin and Chancellor Rodriguez for their words of condolence to the campus.
- **Mission:** President Monte Perez announced that Mission's Culinary Arts Building had recently received LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) Gold Certification.
- **Trade:** President Larry Frank announced Trade was recently awarded state Local Education Administrator (LEA) for two new apprenticeships (in Child Care Development and Health Care).
- **West:** President Sprague announced that West had been selected by the Mexican Consulate and an organization called *Juntos Podemos* to grant scholarships to students of Mexican descent and/or those interested in Mexican Studies. He also acknowledged AFT Chapter President Olga Schewfelt for her leadership in creating a new program in service learning with a social justice theme.

**AFT 1521A President Velma Butler** thanked the trustees for their remarks about the San Bernardino massacre, adding that 10 out of the 14 victims were SEIU members. She stressed the importance of proper safety training for public employees. She stated that many classified staff members had requested that the sheriffs evaluate their work areas to develop drills and training.

Svonkin then asked the trustees to approve the following three agenda items out of order:

- Receipt of General Obligation Bond Financial Audit (BF2)
- Receipt of Annual Audit (BF3)
- Annual Receipt of Program Performance Audit for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015 (FPD2)

Trustee Kamlager reported that the Budget and Finance Committee had a very thorough discussion and had recommended approval of the audit findings at its meeting on 12/2/15. The Board then unanimously approved the three audit reports.

### **Public Agenda Requests**

There were an unusually large number of public speakers at this meeting.

Jason Ma stated he was an author and public speaker, and spoke about a textbook he had written.

Jared and Christopher Kale made complaints alleging unequal student treatment and discrimination by an instructor at Valley College.

A large and vocal group of teachers, staff, and students from the Los Angeles Unified School District spoke about their concerns regarding the future of the Adult Education programs and their perception that the LACCD was not willing to collaborate with them as partners in the Los Angeles Regional Adult Education Consortium (LARAEC). Speakers included Sergio Hernandez, Michelle Cohen, John Mears, Quinn Harmon, Robert Yrgason, Dr. Maggi Michel, and Angelo Sosa. Most of them expressed their belief that the LACCD’s lack of cooperation was threatening students who need educational services and urged the Board members to work with LARAEC members to overcome the impasse.

Joanne Waddell thanked the speakers, stating she was a member of the Adult Ed Labor Coalition, which includes teachers from Burbank, Montebello, Culver City, LAUSD, and LACCD. She urged them to update their information about the LARAEC process, adding that some of their comments and conclusions, while passionate, were incorrect. She stated it was imperative to address the needs of the adult learning population and that the mediation process was their opportunity to move forward. She urged that faculty become true partners in the decision-making process, beginning with the next mediation meeting on Tuesday. After her remarks, Waddell, Gauthier, and President Frank met outside the auditorium with the LAUSD speakers to further discuss their concerns.

	
<p>Student Presentation at West Los Angeles College Board Meeting</p>	<p>Discussion among President Frank (Trade), DAS President Gauthier, AFT President Waddell and LAUSD group on Adult Education</p>

West Senate President Adrienne Foster addressed the recent hiring process for the president, which did not end in the selection of a permanent president. She stated that the college leadership agreed to an expedited timeline to select a president by October, but instead will have an interim through June 2016. She asked that in the future, the Board improve consultation with the college community on what they want in a college president and not set such rigid timelines.

AFT Chapter Chair Olga Shewfelt spoke about repercussions of the decision to not select a permanent president at West. She praised the job the selection committee did under the leadership of President Burke and stated the college community wanted a better explanation about why the process did not end in the selection of a permanent president. She reported that the college was short-staffed in Academic Affairs and that as a result, the seniority and priority lists had not been posted. She urged the Board to expand its communication and shared governance with the colleges.

Lamarck Clark talked about LACCD's Sustainability Institute, climate change, and the need to become less dependent on oil and gas.

Former Student Trustee Lamar Jackson spoke about a study abroad program in Cuba at Peralta Community College. He stated that Lovebird Café at West Los Angeles College did not offer adequate food service and questioned why the Café did not pay the College money for two years.

### **Reports Recommendations from Board**

The Board then voted to approve several resolutions, including one honoring retiring classified employees (BT1), another in support of SB 258-Gender Wage Differential Bill (BT3), and one on El Nino Preparedness throughout the LACCD (BT4). Pearlman inquired about the rule that prevented more than three trustees from adding their names to Board resolutions. Svonkin replied he would consult with Legal Counsel and the Chancellor and send her a memo.

### **Consent Calendar**

The Board then proceeded to discuss and question several items on the consent calendar. Eng asked to sequester an agenda item on the Energy Infrastructure Improvements project at Valley (FPD3). Trustee Hoffman had several questions about Personnel Commission Actions (PC1) and the establishment of a new classification for the General Counsel position. Trustees Moreno and Svonkin asked about the process to award a \$10,000 contract to Dr. Albert Solano at Mission. Moreno and Eng and Pearlman asked about a \$20,000 contract between West and Bluechip Education for recruitment in Sweden. Pearlman asked why the recruiting was not being done for the entire district. Moreno stated that Santa Monica College was earning \$20 Million from international students and argued the LACCD should recruit more international students from the Pacific Rim. Moreno asked several questions about an IT contract at Pierce and questioned why the District's IT Department couldn't fix it. President Burke replied that Pierce had weak WiFi connectivity, its system had failed a couple of times, and the campus needed an external view to assess their system. Velma Butler reported that the staff guild (AFT 1521a) had filed a grievance over this contract because they were doing their units group and not letting their employees shadow them. Moreno and Pearlman questioned the need for equipment donations from the foundations at Valley and City colleges. Presidents Endrijonas and Martinez replied these were endowments earmarked for low asset equipment, small items and printing for student handouts. Another trustee asked for a report on diversity of hiring and training for management (HRD1). The chancellor stated he would follow up on that request. There were also several questions about the proposed salary schedule for the Vice Presidents of Administrative Affairs. The consent calendar also included the approval of new educational programs at Mission (Associate in Science in Computer Science for Transfer Degree) and West (Noncredit Certificates of Completion for Police Orientation Bootcamp and Police Orientation Preparation). After a lengthy discussion, all items on the consent calendar were approved, with the exception of the establishment of a new classification for the position of General Counsel.

### **Recommendations from the Chancellor**

**Approval of College ACCJC Institutional Self-Evaluation Reports (CH1)** Chancellor Rodriguez stated that the accreditation reports for all nine colleges had been reviewed by the Board's Institutional Effectiveness and Student Success Committee (IESS), which had recommended their approval. Some of the trustees expressed concerns about the level of accuracy, presentation, and grammar of the documents. Moreno stated that some of the schools had done very good jobs, but there were some who turned in a poor quality product, which could be a source of embarrassment

for the District. Svonkin added that after spending millions of dollars on consultants to help with the reports, some of them did not represent the best they could do. Chancellor Rodriguez replied that before the final reports were sent to the ACCJC, he and the presidents would ensure they were presented in the best possible manner. Svonkin replied that in the future the Board members would like to receive a final product. Hoffman and Fong thanked all the colleges for their hard work in writing the reports, acknowledging that everyone worked a fulltime job in addition to getting these reports done. Svonkin replied accreditation was part of their jobs and hoped for a successful effort. After the discussion, the trustees voted unanimously to approve all nine accreditation reports.

### **Authorize Contract with County of Los Angeles for General Law Enforcement (CH2)**

The Board then discussed the approval of a contract with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department for police, law enforcement, and security services from January 1, 2016 through the end of 2020 (cost for the first year not to exceed \$18'929,638). College Bureau Captain Cheryl Newman-Tarwater reported that due to increased safety concerns, they were adding a lieutenant and four deputies to City, East, Trade, and Pierce, as well as an emergency sergeant, whose primary job would be safety training. She reported that the North team would also add a clinical psychologist and social worker. They currently employ 105 security officers with basic certification from the State of California, but are not increasing these numbers. She stated that the LACCD colleges average between 0.2 to 0.6 sworn officers per 1000 students/staff; adding that the average campus typically has 1.2 to 1.8 sworn officers per 1000 students. Svonkin stated every campus would have a minimum of 2 deputies during peak hours. Moreno asked about the role of security officers. She replied they had no police powers (cannot arrest, write citations or crime reports), but are armed and can detain, secure, and stand watch. She added that peak crime period on the campuses was Tuesdays-Thursdays middays and evenings. Other enhancements to the contract are to provide increased crime statistics reporting to the Board, which is consistent with what patrol captains do at a station. Svonkin stated he had been an employee of the Sheriff's Department and asked about the timeline for conflict of interest. General Counsel Kevin Jetter replied that timeline for the conflict of interest was a period of 12 months, which had already transpired in Svonkin's case.

### **Committee of the Whole**

Chair Eng called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 10:00 pm. Interim Vice Chancellor Bobbi Kimble and Associate Vice Chancellor Maury Pearl gave a presentation on the District Strategic Plan. After the presentation, Trustee Eng expressed concern that that plan contained no specific targets. He argued they could not know if the District was succeeding or failing without specific goals. Moreno agreed that there were no targets and that identifiable measurable goals were necessary. Svonkin added he would like the Board's IESS Committee and Committee of the Whole to set some targets sooner than later. Eng stated he would like to have a robust discussion and wanted to know if anyone had objections to the Board setting measures. He added he would like all stakeholders to participate in the discussion and examine best practices at other districts. The Committee of the Whole adjourned at 10:21 pm.

### **Reconvened the regular meeting**

After reconvening, the Board approved two additional items, the First Quarter Financial Status report and Notification of Student of Out of State Student Travel. Meeting adjourned at 10:23 pm.

### **Report submitted respectfully by DAS 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Angela Echeverri**