

**Board of Trustees-Regular Meeting  
Educational Services Center  
Wednesday, August 5, 2015**

President Svonkin called the meeting to order; all trustees were present. The first action item of the meeting was the appointment of an interim Student Trustee. In response to election complaints filed by a candidate in May, Chancellor Rodriguez recommended that the election for this position be re-held across the District and that the Student Affairs Committee select an interim Student Trustee. The Student Affairs Committee voted to appoint Mr. Gerson Liahut – Sanchez as Interim Student Trustee until a permanent trustee is elected. District-wide elections for a permanent Student Trustee will be held during the third week of the Fall 2015 semester.

Mr. Gerson A. Liahut-Sanchez was then given the Oath of Office by Chancellor Rodriguez. Trustee Svonkin welcomed the newly sworn-in Interim Student Trustee to the Board and invited him to take his seat at the dais. Mr. Liahut-Sanchez thanked all of the students who supported him and Ms. Sandra Lopez, his advisor from East Los Angeles College.

After approval of the minutes, several employee representatives from the Resource Table addressed the board and welcomed the new trustees.

- Mary Van Ginkle from AFT 1521A announced the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Labor Day parade and rally on September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Kathleen Becket (SEIU Local 99), Bryant Wood (ASG President at City), Luis Dorado (Teamsters 911), and I introduced ourselves and welcomed the new Board members. I mentioned DAS President Gauthier and I would be writing regular Board reports for LACCD's approximately 5,000 full and part-time faculty.
- Sandra Lepore from the AFT Staff Guild/Trades welcomed the new trustees and then expressed her concern about Build LACCD hiring three IT staff members and a manager to design a network. She stated this was the work of data communication specialists in her bargaining unit and complained this was a contract violation. Svonkin thanked Ms. Lepore for her remarks and replied that the Board would discuss the matter in closed session.

The remarks from the Resource Table representatives were followed by announcements from the College Presidents

- **East:** President Marvin Martinez announced a campus-wide event on August 18<sup>th</sup>, in which academic departments representatives would greet students.
- **Trade:** President Larry Frank announced an upcoming Classified Convocation and the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Food Truck Entrepreneurship Expo on August 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.
- **Harbor:** President Otto Lee reported that Harbor had partnered with Congresswoman Janice Hahn to offer a symposium on stroke on August 20<sup>th</sup>.
- **Valley:** President Erika Endrijonas announced that Valley had held an Accreditation workshop in July and would host a Classified Appreciation picnic on August 18<sup>th</sup>.
- **West:** President Bob Sprague reported that West received a five-year TRIO grant for \$1.25 million. He announced a partnership with Stanford Project for Education Research, in which a Growth Mindset workshop would be used with 15 Math faculty sections to determine how this training enhances student success and engagement. He added they would like to have additional study participants among the other eight LACCD colleges. He also mentioned a

proposal on the Board's agenda for an agreement with Sullivan International to offer specialized training in three programs in the hospitality field (Front Desk Representative Certification, Certified Restaurant Server, and Retail Sales Associate) at West.

Pearlman suggested having a central calendar to keep track of events throughout the District. Svonkin replied he would work with the Chancellor to provide this information.

### **Reports of Standing Committees:**

There were no reports since appointments to these committees have not been made yet.

**Proposed Actions:** Svonkin requested the following item be considered out of order because several guests wanted to speak to the resolution.

**Resolution-50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Voting Rights Act and Immigration and Nationality Act:** Pastor William Smart (President and CEO of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference), Betty Hung (Policy Director of Advancing Justice), and Jim Smith (Teamsters Local 396) spoke passionately and eloquently in favor of the resolution. The speakers cited recent challenges to the 1975 Voting Rights Act and advocated removing obstacles to political participation. Svonkin pledged his support to ensure all LACCD students were registered to vote and engaged in the political process. The resolution by Svonkin, Fong, and Kamlager, was approved unanimously.

### **Public Agenda Requests**

Svonkin informed speakers that they had three minutes to address the Board. He added that the Board could not debate items that were not on the agenda.

- **Elizabeth Randall:** Expressed concern about the process in which the District identifies and selects office supply contracts.
- **Ryan Navarrete (Trade):** Stated that he had won the 2015 Student Trustee election fairly and objected to the Election Committee's decision to overturn the results. He also asked who would pay for the new election, ending his remarks with a quote from Martin Luther King.
- **Larry Young (West):** Expressed concerns about the decision to re-hold the Student Trustee election. He added that the Election Committee should have districtwide representation, but four colleges were not present at the meeting that made this decision. He argued in favor of stopping the new election and having Mr. Navarrete take his place as Student Trustee.
- **Tierra Gibson (West):** Objected to the new election for Student Trustee and complained about administrators ignoring student concerns about election violations.

### **Reports and Recommendations from the Board**

The Board voted to approve several resolutions including one honoring retiring classified employees and another titled *America's College Promise Act: Tuition-Free Community College for responsible Students*. The Board voted down a resolution (6 to 1) by Trustee Pearlman to establish a Board Standing Committee for Environmental Stewardship (BT5). Pearlman argued that environmental programs, such as green purchasing and the recycling program (introduced in 2001), were not solely facilities or academic issues, but instead issues that affected overall operations. Trustees Eng and Hoffman expressed support for Pearlman's perspective, stating they looked forward to having further discussions on the matter. Eng stated that he would like to clarify when Board committees should become permanent or eliminated, adding that ad hoc committees on recruitment and Adult Education had recently been dissolved.

### **Chancellor's Report**

Chancellor Rodriguez stated that he expected a strong fall semester and announced a marketing ad campaign for the District on KPPC (89.3 FM). He also reported the Board would hold its retreat on August 19<sup>th</sup> to advance a very robust agenda for the upcoming year. He announced that the 2016 accreditation visits would take place from March 7-10, adding that the Board would have a meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>. He mentioned that LACCD's Budget Director Vinh Nguyen, would be retiring in a few weeks, thanked him for his service and announced that his replacement had been selected. He reported that the California legislature would be on recess until August 13 and that he was closely monitoring AB 288 on concurrent enrollment. He also announced the establishment of California's newest community college, Clovis Community College, from State Center District.

### **Trustee Travel Report**

Trustees Fong, Eng, and Svonkin reported that they travelled to Washington D.C. in July to meet with Senator Diane Feinstein, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, and other California elected representatives. They discussed many issues including the Pell Grant program and possible grant opportunities. Eng argued for the need to set up a mechanism to find grants and determine when they should be accepted or rejected. The officials offered assistance to reach out to business to help LACCD students obtain apprenticeships in several nontraditional areas (e.g.: health care and insurance) to provide pathways and training for students going into these careers. Svonkin added they would be working on a long-term plan to ensure students had access to a free community college education in California.

Kamlager stated she attended a conference called *The Road Ahead*, at the Pat Brown Institute on Higher Education. She reported that her takeaways were having more conversations around enrollment management, curriculum, relevance, and integration of support services. She added she would be asking for additional data and audits to make sure we are taking care of our students and being as conscientious and robust as possible.

### **Consent Calendar**

The Board then turned to the consent calendar. Several trustees asked questions about specific matters. Eng asked about the settlement of various claims totaling \$70,000 and the LACCD's policy on confidentiality for these items. LACCD Counsel Jetter replied that personnel actions were confidential, but other items or damages were not. Deputy Chancellor Barrera clarified that the settlements were outlined in the confidential section of the Board letter and were decided under delegated authority if they were under \$50,000. Svonkin asked the Board members to hold approval of the settlement of these claims for further discussion.

Trustees Moreno and Pearlman had questions about recommended changes to Board Rule 6700 on Academic Standards. Vice Chancellor Kimble replied these were primarily due to Title 5 changes. I added that these changes had been approved by the District Academic Senate and explained that they included the addition of a military withdrawal grade (MW) for students serving in the armed forces.

Pearlman expressed concern that some companies were getting too many construction contracts, mentioning the 25<sup>th</sup> contract awarded to one company. She also asked whether the three campus culinary programs had been offered the opportunity to compete for catering

contracts and whether the Board should have a policy on this. Chancellor Rodriguez replied he would make note of this request. Pearlman stated that the nine LACCD colleges held comprehensive and inclusive graduation ceremonies and her opinion that special graduation ceremonies should be funded independently. Svonkin replied the Board could pull the item and agendize a change in the policy, but could not set policy at the moment. After a lengthy discussion, the Consent Calendar (with pulled settlements) was unanimously approved

**Recommendations from the Chancellor Requiring a Super Majority  
Authorize Use of \$3,291,010 from Contingency Reserve to Restore Debt Repayment for  
Los Angeles Harbor College and Fund Additional Over-Cap Growth for the Colleges.**

Jeanette Gordon explained that the Executive Committee of DBC had voted to approve a payment to Harbor for restoration of \$923,010 paid by the College for its 2014-15 Debt Repayment and the request then went to the Chancellor. Svonkin suggested Item A should go to the Budget and Finance Committee before being approved by the Board.

Item B authorizing \$2,368,000 in additional over-cap funding for several colleges at \$4,000 per FTES was approved unanimously as follows:

- East                    165 FTES      \$660,000
- Harbor                15 FTES        \$60,000
- Mission              100 FTES      \$400,000
- Pierce                150 FTES      \$600,000
- Trade                125 FTES      \$500,000
- West                  37 FTES        \$148,000

**Development Agreement and Ground Lease for Permanent Facilities for the Harbor**

**Teacher Preparation Academy (HTPA):** The LAUSD has operated HTPA in temporary facilities at Harbor College for over 10 years and is paying for the construction of a 38,540 square foot building to permanently house the program. The item was approved unanimously. Svonkin announced the project would break ground soon and its students would be able to graduate with two diplomas (High school and Associate degree) simultaneously.

**The meeting was recessed in memory of three individuals:**

- Trustee Moreno asked to adjourn in memory of **Anthony (Tony) Fairclough**, a consulting engineer on the District's energy projects, who passed away on July 5<sup>th</sup>. Moreno stated that Tony had three passions in life: his wife, energy, and the LACCD. Moreno added that Mr. Fairclough was an expert in renewable technology, who greatly helped the LACCD Building program and would be missed very much.
- Svonkin announced that longtime resident and Board meeting regular, **Duke Russell** passed away July 20<sup>th</sup>. He was best known for a two-year long streak of agenda requests in which he urged the Board to tear down City's golf driving range. Today a student center stands at the site of the former golf range.
- Svonkin also announced the unexpected passing of **Richard Nieblas**, who was the parking attendant in the ESC garage. He was a very polite man and was only 31 years old.

Svonkin stated the Board would recess in their memory and send condolence letters to their families.

Report submitted by 1<sup>st</sup> DAS VP Angela Echeverri