

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE DEL MAR COLLEGE DISTRICT

May 9, 2006

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents of the Del Mar College District convened in the Isensee Board Room, Harvin Student Center, Del Mar College East Campus, Baldwin and Ayers, Corpus Christi, Texas, at 1:08 p.m. on Tuesday, May 9, 2006, with the following present:

From the Board:

Mr. Gabriel Rivas III, President; Mrs. Chris Adler, Mr. Bill Chriss, Dr. Haysam Dawod, Mrs. Olga Gonzales, Mr. Bill Martin, Mr. Trey McCampbell, and Mr. Guy Watts (left the meeting at 3:44 p.m.). Mrs. Minerva Arriaga was absent.

From the College:

Dr. Carlos A. Garcia, College President; Mr. Joe Alaniz, Vice President, Business and Finance; Mr. José Rivera, Vice President of Student Development; Dr. Blanca "Rosie" Garcia, Interim Vice President of Instruction; Mr. Mike Westergren, In-house Counsel; Ms. Betty Flores, Executive Secretary to the President; and other administrators, faculty, and staff.

From the Attorney's Office:

Mr. Augustin Rivera, Jr.

Others:

Ms. Paige Dinn.

CALL TO ORDER/QUORUM CALL/MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Gabriel Rivas, Board President, called the meeting to order. With a quorum present, he requested a moment of silence followed by recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION/AWARDS AND INNOVATION

Program of Excellence and Innovation

Dr. Lee Sloan, Dean of the Division of Occupational Education and Technology, introduced Ms. Paige Dinn, Ms. Pat Townsend, and Ms. Linda Ard. Ms. Ard announced that the 2006 Book Festival brought in 2,000 parents and children, totaling more than 11,000 attendants in the event's six-year history. Ms. Dinn spoke to the collaborate effort of the festival, with HEB providing the main funding, and the public library being the major partner. She thanked everyone at Del Mar College who made the festival possible, including Pat Townsend, Executive Director of Development and the other departments that support the event. Pat Townsend also thanked all who contributed to the success of the Book Festival.

Dr. Sloan reported that the popular program, which is also supported by the “Success by Six” Early Learning Opportunity Grant through the United Way, has expanded to Odem, Beeville, Alice, and Ingleside.

PUBLIC COMMENTS –3- or 5-Minute Time Limit

Ms. Raquel Tapia, faculty member, spoke on behalf of the Radiologic Technology students in support of naming the new West Campus radiology lab for Ms. Patricia Paris.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee

Mr. McCampbell, chair, reported that the committee had approved the hiring of the external auditor for the 2006 audit and heard an update on the internal audit services. He stated that three proposals had been submitted, an evaluation will be initiated, and a recommendation to the Board probably at the next regular meeting.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Mr. Martin, chair, reported that the committee had allocated \$388,000 in addition to a \$4.6 million contract for the Richardson Auditorium. The allocation will provide for renovation of upstairs restrooms, replacing dark paneling downstairs and other projects. Mr. Martin reported that all projects are on track.

REGENTS’ REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Watts complimented the efficiency study prepared by Ms. Lupe Rangel

STAFF REPORTS

Media Survey Results

Ms. Claudia Jackson discussed a marketing survey report prepared for the College by Marshall & Company.

Disaster Recovery Planning/Information Technology/Distance Learning

Mr. Alaniz discussed the College’s disaster recovery plan, including technological element, and referred the Board to a explanatory handout for more detailed information

Dr. Rosie García reported on the instructional aspect in the event of disaster. She stated that 22% of the current enrollment of approximately 11,300 are enrolled in distance learning classes. She explained that there are no “magic theories” that can transfer courses from face-to-face to distance learning. She asked the Board to consider that in an emergency, the best the College can do is maintain the distance learning online.

Mr. Jeff Getchell, Distance Learning Director, acknowledged the College's twenty-year history in distance learning. He discussed institutional issues, including the principles of good practice for electronically delivered courses. He explained that those principles will be incorporated in the course development process to be implemented in Fall 2006. Mr. Getchell further explained the relationship with SACS in regard to substantive changes in program delivery. He reported that the College is significantly enhancing the number of faculty development initiatives. Mr. Getchell then responded to questions by the Board.

Dr. Carlos Garcia reported that discussions with officials of community colleges affected by last years' hurricanes revealed the initial concern was basic human needs, providing for their families (receiving paychecks) and re-establishing communication.

College officials answered questions regarding the future of distance learning.

Dr. Carlos Garcia projected that the College will continue to expand its distance learning offerings but will also maintain its traditional instructional delivery to students who thrive best in a face-to-face classroom environment.

COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Dr. Carlos Garcia reported that the Commissioner of the Texas Higher Education Board had made history by recommending, and the Board accepting, an initiative in which community colleges would receive full formula funding, with the rate being based on the 2005 report on fundable operating expenses minus tuition. If funded, the College will receive \$57.5 million, as opposed to the \$37.3 million currently appropriated for 2006-7. The caveat is that the Legislature will probably request tax relief or tuition relief.

There are also recommendations that the Legislature (1) fund at 10% beyond the formula in of critical-need disciplines and (2) assign \$3.2 million to the Coordinating Board to fund Alternative Teacher Certification.

Dr. Garcia reported that the recent efficiency study report is being assessed by teams charged with reviewing the recommendations, determining feasibility based on data, and making recommendations for implementation. He projected that the end result will be an administrative structure that reflects an effective and efficient 21st-century community college. He anticipates the teams will host informative sessions during Fall Convocation.

PENDING BUSINESS

Mr. McCampbell requested that "Report on Disaster Recovery Plan / Information Technology / Distance Learning" remain on in "Pending Business" for another month to provide further opportunity for questions.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of Minutes – Regular Board Meeting – April 11, 2006

Mrs. Gonzales made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCampbell, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on April 11, 2006. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Discussion and possible action related to naming of Radiology Classroom/Lab in Allied Health Building, West Campus.

Dr. Carlos Garcia reported on concerns regarding parity and equity in view of the number of retirees.

Other options included providing emeritus status or establishing a scholarship endowment in honor of a particular individual.

Dr. Dawod made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Gonzales and Mr. Watts, to name the lab in honor of Ms. Patricia Paris for her exemplary service and dedication to her students and their education. Following discussion, a roll-call vote was taken. The motion passed with Regents Adler, Chriss, Dawod, Gonzales, Martin, Rivas and Watts in favor; Regent McCampbell opposed.

3. Discussion and possible action related to updating the signage for Richardson Auditorium.

Ms. Claudia Jackson presented suggested names for the renovated building, including “Richardson Center for the Performing Arts,” “Richardson/Del Mar College Center for the Arts,” “Richardson Center for the Arts,” “Richardson Hall,” and “Richardson Center.”

Mrs. Adler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Chriss, to update the name of Richardson Auditorium to “Richardson Performance Hall.” The motion carried unanimously.

4. Discussion and possible action related to recommendation for faculty sabbaticals.

Dr. Carlos Garcia recommended approval of faculty sabbaticals for Ms. Eva Muñiz, Associate Professor of English (one semester), and Ms. Alene Burch, Professor of Music (one year).

Mr. Watts made a motion, seconded by Dr. Dawod, to approve faculty sabbaticals for Eva Muñiz and Alene Burch. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Watts left the meeting at 3:44 p.m.

5. Acceptance of Investments for April 2006.

Mr. Alaniz presented the Investments for April 2006.

Dr. Dawod made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCampbell, to accept the Investments for April 2006. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Acceptance of Financial Statement for March 2006.

Mr. Alaniz presented the Financial Statement for March 2006 and responded to questions of the Board.

Mr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCampbell, to accept the Financial Statement for March 2006. The motion carried unanimously.

7. CLOSED SESSION pursuant to a.) **Tex. Gov't Code** § 551.071 (Consultation with legal counsel), regarding pending or contemplated litigation, with possible discussion and action in open session.

The Board entered into closed session at 2:55 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 3:35 p.m. No action was taken.

8. Calendar: Discussion and possible action related to calendaring dates.

Dr. Garcia reminded the Board of Spring Commencement at 7:00 p.m., May 11, 2006.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Rivas adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m.