

Board Digest

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Regular Meeting March 17, 2003

Paralegal Program Director Douglas Kolly introduced recent graduates Sylvia Ross and Kristin Wernette who described their learning experiences, and noted how well the program prepared them for entry into their profession. The paralegal program, Mr. Kolly reported, was recently reaccredited by the American Bar Association, and enrollments have increased.

Chancellor's Comments

Mr. Thompson made the following comments and observations:

- A CREST training exercise involving handling of hazardous materials will take place tomorrow morning. The board is invited to observe.
- The North Central Association Focus visit will take place on March 24 and 25. Three areas are under study: student outcomes assessment; institutional stability; planning. The NCA exit interview will be held at 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 25.
- The next Business and Community Alliance meeting is scheduled at the Orchard Ridge Campus, Room J305, on March 31. The event's theme is employee development.
- The next OCC Legislators' Luncheon will be held in the Lansing offices of Karoub and Associates on April 2.
- Four OCC students received honors at the Phi Theta Kappa All-Michigan Academic Awards Luncheon held in Lansing March 11. PTK has named Mr. Thompson a recipient of the organization's William Bennett Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Chief Information Officer Andrew Hillberry will present a Datatel update this evening, and Vice Chancellor Brantley will report on the chancellor search.
- The board will be called upon to take action on the revised 2002-2003 budget. The most recent executive order from the governor's office cut state funding 6.5 percent, less than anticipated, but the college will continue to construct the budget around the 15 percent cut originally expected.
- The board will be asked to take action on two resolutions for the levy and collection of taxes for 2003-04.
- Providing an update on Bill 4228 (a measure that permits portions of community college districts to secede), the chancellor noted that if adopted, such a law "would destroy community colleges as we know them." Mr. Thompson has written state legislators to protest the measure and has received positive responses. Although hearings have not yet been scheduled, he will be called upon to testify when they are held.

Chief Information Officer Andrew Hillberry reported that the first week of Touch*Tone registration has proceeded very smoothly with 7,700 incoming calls being logged.

Vice Chancellor Clarence Brantley noted that Dr. Harrison has received 19 applications for the chancellor's position. The search committee met last week to review the applicants, but the process could not be completed in one day, so arrangements have been made to extend it. Applications will be available on-site between 2 and 5 p.m. each day. Mornings can also be arranged. The consultant, Dr. David Ponitz, will be in town on April 14 to narrow the field to five applicants for presentation to the board of

trustees. Dr. Ponitz may have additional applications. If so, he will be asked to send them. Trustee Abraham noted that the search process is “right on schedule.”

College Resources

The exempt administrative staff appointment of Margaret Carroll, director of personnel services (DO) was approved, as was the transfer of Pamela Dorris to director of training activities (DO @ PP).

The teamsters administrative staff appointment of Nancy Showers, director of institutional research (DO @ PP) was approved, as was the exempt management staff transfer of Charisse Neal to IT administrative assistant (DO @ PP) and the public safety appointment of David Ceci, public safety officer (CW). The classified appointment of Cheong Ng, CIS paraprofessional (HL), was approved, as was the maintenance appointment of Crystal Matthews (OR).

A downward revision was approved for the 2002-03 general fund budget from \$126,834,000 to \$126,212,140. The reduction is necessitated by the executive budget cuts ordered by the governor.

Two annual tax resolutions, the first setting the millage rate for the 2003-04 fiscal year, the second requiring collection of taxes on the college’s behalf by the cities and townships, were approved.

Authority was granted to the college’s construction managers, the Auch Company, to enter a \$293,300 contract for replacement/upgrade of the fire alarm system at the Royal Oak Campus, and to install evacuation plan signage.

The monthly progress report on millage-funded construction projects was presented.

The following agreements were approved by the board via consent agenda procedure: purchase of the computer IMAGE Alignment system from the low bidder, Superior Automotive Lifts & Equipment for \$45,956; purchase of a patient simulator from the sole manufacturer, Medical Plastics Laboratory, for \$48,405; purchase of a plant growth chamber from Environmental Growth Chambers for \$27,710; epoxy resin counter tops from Farnell Equipment Company for \$46,810; a partnership with HAAS Automation, Inc., to establish a demonstration site at the Auburn Hills Campus and provide machine tool equipment at no cost to the college; a partnership with Flow Software Technologies providing robotics software at reduced fees.

The following workforce development agreements with third party providers were also approved via consent agenda procedure: with Valentine Robotics for training of DaimlerChrysler employees, \$48,000; with Aerotek for Unigraphics training of GM employees, \$40,000; with Bartech, Inc., for Unigraphics training of GM employees, \$30,000; with Computer & Engineering Services, for Unigraphics training of GM employees, \$30,000; with Gilbar Engineering, for Unigraphics training of GM employees, \$30,000; with Global Technology, for Unigraphics training of GM employees, \$50,000; with New Dimension, LLC, for Unigraphics training of GM employees, \$50,000; with HANE Training, Inc., for training of DaimlerChrysler employees, \$40,000.

Academic and Student Affairs

Azadeh Toofanajed, vice president of the Orchard Ridge Campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, reported that her group has been cited as one of Michigan’s top three chapters for the last three years, and has received the coveted Pinnacle Award. The chapter will host PTK’s Michigan Convention in May.

New Business

A motion to reflect the re-titling of the Telecommunications Systems Department to “Information Technologies”, as well as new regulations governing appropriate use of information technology resources in the Board Policy 3.8 was lodged for action at the April board meeting.

The 2003-2004 schedule of regular board meetings and conferences was approved.

A motion to provide a new employment agreement for Richard Thompson to serve as interim chancellor for the period August 1 – October 31, 2003 was approved.

Reports

Trustee Anne Scott reported on the PTK All-Michigan Academic Award Luncheon and requested the board to send letters of congratulations to the four OCC student winners.

Chairperson Janice Simmons reported that \$1,075 was raised in the Oakland Human Services’ “Walk for Warmth” on February 22. Mrs. Simmons thanked presidents Sharon Blackman, Gordon May, and the OCC families who walked with her.

Comments

Students and community members involved in the Orchard Ridge Theater Program expressed their concerns regarding the fact that instructor Carol King's contract has not been renewed.

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