

# Board Digest

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## **Regular Meeting September 15, 2003**

President Sharon Blackman introduced Mark Lawry, a graduate both of OCC's Fire Institute and EMT program, who described his learning experiences. Mr. Lawry was highly complimentary of both programs and their staffs.

### **Chancellor's Comments**

Chancellor Mary Spangler made the following observations and comments:

- Now beginning her third week on the job, Dr. Spangler finds herself comfortable in her new position, having received a warm welcome from all whom she has encountered. Early on, she distributed a letter (accessible on the college website) introducing herself and sketching out her plans for the next three months. Yesterday she issued a note soliciting input from all members of the college community, which she will summarize in a report in December.
- The college witnessed a successful fall registration; student credit hours have increased by six percent compared to last year, and headcount is up by 6.3 percent
- The OCC Nursing Program will receive an award for implementation of approved N3 language at the October meeting of the Michigan Nursing Association.
- The chancellor will meet tomorrow with State Representative Bruce Caswell to discuss the community college funding formula and the future of Adult Basic Education. While in Lansing she will also meet with the Advisory Committee on Workforce Development Strategies, and use the opportunity to drop in on several other legislators, including Senators Jacobs, Cherry and Switalski.
- The annual United Way drive will run October 1-15 under the chairmanship of Chief Human Resources Officer Cathy Rush.
- A board planning session to discuss possible relocation of the District Offices and related matters will be scheduled soon.
- A dinner is planned for the chancellor selection committee to thank the members for their excellent work.
- The federal government has granted OCC a FIPSE award of \$248,375 to develop a curriculum for the CREST project.
- The Automation Alley Banquet held last Friday was well attended. Chancellor Spangler was able to meet Senator Debbie Stabenow, Representative Joe Knollenberg, former Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer, and County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, among others. Trustees Scott, Wangler, Wisner, Ritter and Vice Chancellor Keith were also present.
- Chancellor Spangler distributed copies of an eight-point personal pledge to the board of trustees designed to foster positive and open relationships.

Vice Chancellor Clarence Brantley provided an update on the cost reduction measures submitted by the college community. Items thus far adopted have resulted in savings of \$400,000. All suggestions have

been assigned to various members of the chancellor's council, and work is progressing on items not yet implemented.

President Sharon Blackman provided an update on the status of the CREST project. Tours of the site have been introduced this year to encourage outside funding. Six hundred and fifty persons have visited, four media events have been staged, and Simunition training has begun. Testing of the technology in the fire training structure is expected to begin by the end of the year.

Vice Chancellor Brantley introduced the new manager of environmental health and safety, Michael Schmidt.

### **College Resources**

The management staff (exempt) appointment of Calvin Boylston, public safety sergeant (CW) was approved, as was the non-exempt appointment of Richard Zahodnik, director of clinical education/respiratory therapy (SF).

The grant-funded appointments of Janene Erne, applied engineering technologies apprentice coordinator (AH), and Eileen Ranke, PASS specialist (OR) were approved.

The classified (part-time) appointments of child care assistants Suzanne Browne-Plummer (SF), Annis Howell (AH), and Julie Ronquillo (AH) were also approved.

Authority for the Auch Company to enter into a construction contract to replace/upgrade the fire alarm system and install evacuation plan signage at the Auburn Hills Campus was approved in the amount of \$1,182,000.

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

The following agreements and purchases were approved by the board via consent agenda procedure: an affiliation agreement with MiddlebeltHealthcare Center of Livonia to provide on-site learning experiences for healthcare administration students; purchase of software upgrades from Autodisk, Inc. at a cost of \$35,300; a contract with Professional Communications Services, Inc., to provide changes in the phone and data wiring infrastructure at a cost of \$100,000.

The following workforce development contracts with third party providers were also approved via consent agenda procedure: agreements with Perception to provide robot guidance and electrical maintenance training for GM employees for \$55,000; with Rockwell Automation to provide PLC and robotics training to GM Orion Assembly Plant employees for \$224,000; with Tech Team Global, Inc., to provide IT training for DaimlerChrysler employees for \$80,000; with K-R Automation Corporation to provide equipment for training GM Orion Plant employees for \$32,000; and with MSC Software Corporation to provide CATIA training for \$75,000.

### **Academic and Student Affairs**

College Academic Senate Chair Gerald Faye noted that the group's first meeting of the new academic year takes place Thursday, September 25. The chief topic for the session will be the academic master plan.

Royal Oak/Southfield Phi Theta Kappa member Gianna Carrera provided an overview of recent activities. The RO/SF chapter, which is in the process of reactivating, has elected officers, presented speakers and engaged in fundraisers, notably on behalf of the American Lung Association as part of its community service mission.

Vice Chancellor George Keith noted that the recently published North Central report generally gives the college favorable reviews. Work is now under way to further implement the assessment objectives required by the NCA. The College Academic Senate's Student Outcomes Assessment Committee will take the lead role in developing such mechanisms as program plans, arrangements for archiving information, General Education assessment and the development of a software tracking system.

### **Old Business**

The chancellor evaluation committee, made up of trustees Scott and Wangler, Chancellor Spangler and CHRO Catherine Rush, has developed guidelines for the evaluation process. Dr. Spangler is to submit three to five objectives at the October board meeting; an informal evaluation will be conducted at the

February meeting, followed by the development of an evaluation instrument in May. A formal evaluation of the chancellor will take place in June.

**New Business**

Board Secretary Scott and Chair Simmons were appointed OCC's delegates to the annual ACCT convention which will take place later this month.

**Comments**

Chair Simmons thanked vice chancellors Brantley and Keith for their excellent service as interim chancellors over the summer. She also proposed that a letter of commendation be sent to the nursing program for the award it will receive at the October meeting of the Michigan Nursing Association.

Trustee Scott praised the spirit of teamwork exhibited by the members of the OCC community who participated in the Pontiac Scholarship Breakfast, September 13.

Trustee Judith Wisner alerted the chancellor to the impact of the possible dismantling of the Oakland Intermediate School District.

OCCFA President Mary Ston noted that the faculty has held its first meeting with the chancellor and that all feedback has been positive. On behalf of the faculty, Ms. Ston welcomed Dr. Spangler to the college.

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