

Board Digest

George A. Bee Administration Center

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Regular Meeting

January 28, 2002

Introduced by President Martha Smydra and Director Caroline Nacy, four students enrolled in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Radiologic Technology programs presented a PowerPoint demonstration on their disciplines, and discussed their backgrounds, classes and internship experiences.

Chancellor's Comments

Chancellor Thompson made the following observations and comments:

- Many useful contacts were made at a CREST fundraiser sponsored by County Executive L. Brooks Patterson at his offices on January 15.
- A large number of specifications packets have been distributed to potential vendors bidding on the next four CREST structures to be built this spring.
- The annual Martin Luther King, Jr. breakfast held at the Highland Lakes Campus on January 18 was very well attended, and judged the best, so far.
- A 2 + 2 agreement with the Wayne State University School of Business was signed last week.
- On January 25, GM Truck accepted 500 applications to its apprentice program at the Auburn Hills Campus. Some of the applicants slept over at the site the previous night, and TV2 covered the event.
- The MCCA will meet at Mott College this weekend. President Smydra will participate.
- The annual AACC-ACCT Joint Legislative Seminar will take place in Washington, DC, February 10, 11 and 12.
- OR English faculty member Peter Stine has been cited in Community College Week for his work as editor of the college's acclaimed literacy magazine, Witness.

New employees David Mathews (dean, SF) and Linda Martin (CIS paraprofessional, HL) were introduced by presidents Smydra and Keith, respectively.

College Resources

The classified appointments of Susan DeGeorge-Henke, student services specialist (counseling – HL), and Kristine Hawkins, secretary (workforce development, AH) were approved, as was the temporary management staff appointment of Barbara

Savkovich (child care coordinator, SF). An unpaid leave of absence was also approved for HL counselor Nicole Kassab.

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

The following purchases and contracts were approved by the board via consent agenda procedure: boiler repairs, Orchard Ridge Campus, to the low bidder, Purvis & Foster, Inc., \$27,909; three Cushman 720 Haulsters, to the lowest bidder, Industrial Vehicle & Turf, Inc., \$49,845; a one-year agreement with Software Express enabling faculty and staff members to access the Microsoft suite of productivity software, \$59,590.

An agreement with third party provider Learning Designs, Inc., to provide professional skills training to Denso International America, Inc., employees was also approved.

Academic and Student Affairs

College Academic Senate Chair noted that during the month of February the senate will be considering course and program changes in order to meet deadlines for next year's catalog.

Vice Chancellor Carol Brown gave an update on distance learning at the college and provided the board with materials on the subject. This semester, Ms. Brown noted, 147 sections involving distance learning technology are being offered. Of these, 23 are fully on line, while the balance, so-called "augmented" classes, use the technology in varying degrees. Next fall will see a 25% increase in offerings, and the dental assistant program will be offered entirely on line, except for the clinical component. Assessments reveal that OCC's courses demonstrate a retention rate of 55% - higher than the national average, Ms. Brown noted.

Old Business

The board passed a motion requesting the chancellor to provide recommendations for an independent auditor qualified to evaluate the college's information technology operations.

Comments

Chair Towar offered congratulations to Trustee Anne Scott who was recently named a Life Trustee of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Southeast Oakland County in recognition for a lifetime of service.

Trustee Simmons urged an aggressive campaign to counter new attempts to downgrade the nursing associate degree. The board passed a resolution to inform the public of the value of ADN programs.

AFSCME Local 2042 President Debbie Schmidt announced that the unit has gained 20 new members: the child care coordinators voted to join the union two weeks ago. Discussions are underway to develop terms of employment and pay scales for the group.

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