Community College League of California 2008 Annual Convention Report

By Bill McMillin

Session Strands & Topics - Summary of presentations available at the convention. I have copies of the presentation materials for the highlighted sessions and there is a link below to some of the presentation materials which are available online. If you would like to review or have copies made of any of the materials, let me know.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Defining and Assessing Student Learning Outcomes
Accreditation standards require colleges to establish and measure student learning outcomes at the course, program and degree level. This session will explore the standards and describe how districts and board’s might respond.

PowerPoint Presentation by Greg Gilbert, Copper Mountain CCD (31 Slides)

Board Accountability for Educational Quality
How do boards define success? How can success be measured? Explore the information needed for local, state, and federal accountability, and learn to evaluate the cost and resource implications.

What Trustees Should Know about Accreditation
Governing boards both provide leadership for the accreditation process and are evaluated against standards of effectiveness. Explore the board’s responsibility for assuring institutional effectiveness and to have and uphold practices that assure board excellence and avoid problems with accreditation.

An ACCJC PowerPoint Presentation (21 Slides)
Accreditation Standards Annotated for Continuous Quality Improvement and SLOs (29 pg)

FISCAL/FIDUCIARY

50% Law
The 50% law has a extensive impact on how district’s examine their budgets and funds are allocated. Listen while a legal expert, a chief business officer and those with years of experience in the college system discuss how the 50% law impacts districts budgets, particularly in years where budgets are being cut.

Calculation of Compliance with the 50 Percent Law by Warren S Kinsler, (26 pg)

Funding Retiree Health Benefits
GASB 45 requires districts to have a plan to fund retiree health benefits, estimated to be a $2.5 billion challenge. Discuss issues, opportunities and challenges in developing and implementing such plans.

Preparing for Negotiations: Collective Bargaining Values and Strategies
Boards set the parameters and tone for contract negotiations with employee groups and approve the final contract. Learn the ins and outs of bargaining, and how to create an environment where set standards ensure a fair, equitable contract within the resources available to the district.
Public Private Partnerships
Districts partnering with other entities, whether public or private, has resulted in innovative ways for solutions at minimal cost to the district while allowing for flexible partnerships.

Bonds 101
Colleges financing options are many and complicated. A panel of industry experts will discuss what options are available to districts, how they differ from one another and the impact of bond decisions.

PowerPoint Presentation by Catherine Bando, JPMorgan, and Donald Field Esq., Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, LLP (42 Slides)

General Obligation (GO) Bonds
Given the current political and economic market conditions, the complex world of college financing becomes more complicated. Long Beach Community College District’s successful February 2008 passage of a $440 million dollar general obligation bond is a prime example of how to market and structure a bond in today’s market.

PowerPoint Presentation by David Casnocha, Esq, Ann-Marie Gable VP Long Beach CCD, Bonnie Moss, Tramutola LLC, and Ryan Vollmer, RBC Capital Markets (32 Slides)

Private Money for Public Good: Exploring the Possibilities
Local fund raising for endowment, capital campaigns, academic chairs, scholarships and student aid will rapidly grow in importance for your college. The vital role of the CEO, trustees, fundraising staff and community solicitation must expand and be more creative. The business community, the statewide Foundation, Network of California Foundations and even the Governor’s office are critical partners for our local foundations. Your college’s future destiny will be in your fundraising hands!

Agenda and Fact Sheets for presentation by representatives from The Foundation for Community Colleges, NCCCF, and LACCD (4 pg)

Trustee Responsibilities in Governing the College’s Finances
What are the board’s fiduciary responsibilities? Board policy standards, adoption of the annual budget, monitoring strategies, and the audit are all important tools for boards. This session covers “best practices” for trustees to ensure their district’s expenditures support their mission and, as important, that their district stay financially sound.

COMMUNITY, STATE AND NATIONAL TRENDS

Partnering with Businesses Benefits All
Building strong coalitions with businesses fosters strong educational programs that meet community needs. Leadership and support from the Board of Trustees ensures that a variety of strategies will be implemented, including an effective foundation and fund-raising program, many business partnerships, and ongoing marketing and outreach to community and students.

Changing Demand Fosters Public Private Partnerships
The demand for and costs of modern facilities is at an all-time high. Learn how public-private ventures can help colleges meet their facilities needs, benefit the community, and strengthen college and community ties. This session explores strategies, benefits and challenges, and resources related to fostering partnerships.

Economic Impact of Colleges
The session will focus on the development and use of an economic impact report to indicate to the local community the financial impact of community colleges. The San Diego CCD has found
this to be an invaluable tool with community and business leaders, legislators, and others. The session will provide the methodology for the report, handouts and strategies for utilizing this approach.

The Economic Impact of Colleges by David Chapel, Trustee Rancho Santiago CCD (3 pg)

EFFECTIVE TRUSTEESHIP

Building Board Effectiveness and Development Accountability through Protocols and Norms
Establishing governing board norms and protocols for open and closed session made the member accountability to each other. Following these protocols has created more productive and congenial meetings and provided an immediate remedy for violations of board policy. The presentation will demonstrate how norms were developed and how they work.

PowerPoint Presentation (12 pg), Pasadena Area CCD Board Norms & Protocols (3pg)

Board and CEO Evaluation
Best practices in board and CEO evaluation involve setting clear criteria, annual priorities and goals, open communication, and respect. This session provides an opportunity for boards and CEOs to share what works and compare their approaches with those from other districts.

Board’s Role in Preparing for Transition in the CEO
Advice from the field on how to identify and retain a peak-performing CEO. This session touches on effective CEO search processes, and the board’s roles in supporting an environment for effective CEO leadership.

Board Ethics, Standards of practice, and Conflicts of Interest
Discuss key ethical issues that Board members are likely to confront. These include Brown Act compliance, the meaning and scope of a trustee’s fiduciary duty, ethical issues in elections, and conflict of interest issues, including compliance with the Political Reform Act, Government Code section 1090 concerning contracts, and common law conflict of interest requirements. Hypotheticals will be used to identify issues and sources of information to determine the appropriate approach to each.

Acting Ethically: Trustees as Public Officers by Marilyn Cleveland, Miller Brown Dannis - 40 pages

ROUNDTABLE TOPICS

- K-12 Partnerships - Barstow Education Collaborative (2 pg)
- State Issues
- Immigration Issues
- Local Decision-Making and the Board’s Role
- Working with Your New CEO - Marin CCD (4 pg)
- Emergency Preparedness
- CEO Contracts
Speaker Materials for the Concurrent, Special & Roundtable sessions listed below are online at [http://www.ccleague.org/i4a/pages/Index.cfm?pageID=3635](http://www.ccleague.org/i4a/pages/Index.cfm?pageID=3635)

Concurrent and Special Sessions

- **Trustee Responsibilities in Governing the College’s Finances**
- **Bonds 101**
- **Board Accountability for Educational Quality**
- **Changing Demand Fosters Public Private Partnerships**
- **Defining and Assessing Student Learning Outcomes**
- **Funding Retiree Health Benefits**

Roundtable Sessions

- **Troops to College**
- **State Budget Roundtable**

Additional Materials from Conference:

**Competencies for Community College Leaders** – American Association of Community Colleges (8 pg brochure)

**Trusteeship – Tasks Knowledge & Skills** – Community College League of California (6 pg brochure)

**Court of Appeal Upholds Bond Measure and Establishes a Practical “Type of Project” Standard for Meeting Proposition 39 Specific Project List Requirement** – Legal review of Foothill-De Anza CCD case by Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth

**HIGHLIGHT OF THE CONFERENCE FOR ME:**

The California Community College Trustees (CCCT) Business Meeting where I was introduced as the only new member to be elected to the CCCT board was my highlight. There were 20 trustees, including 9 incumbents, running for 10 board seats. The 9 incumbents were re-elected and I was the only one of the 11 non-incumbents that was elected.

I appreciate the Ohlone Board nominating me several times to run for the CCCT Board and for their support at Community College League of California events. I am looking forward to representing Ohlone College on the CCCT board.