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Staff photo

The Wednesday night Board of Trustees' meeting was swamped by a full house of administrators and faculty members, enough that some had to wait outside. Absent for the moment was Board President Bob Brunton who has been the center of controversy in the last few weeks regarding comments he made in a recent issue of 'The Tri-City Voice' about Ohlone College President Doug Treadway's employment.

Board hears complaints against Brunton

By EMILY BURKETT
Staff writer

Board of Trustee President Robert Brunton was repeatedly asked to resign by faculty, staff, and fellow Trustees Wednesday night, and Brunton repeatedly refused.

The Faculty Senate, College Council, CSEA, and SEIU all stepped forward and reprimanded Brunton for his actions taken during his time on the Board. Trustee Garret Yee, currently serving in Iraq, sent a letter to the Board reprimanding them for their inaction and calling for Brunton's resignation.

His sentiment was later echoed by Trustee Bill McMillin, to raucous applause from the audience, and finally by Trustee Dan Archer.

Community members across the board stepped forward to demand Brunton's resignation. Harry A. Avila, of the Ohlone College Foundation, presented his ideas as a member of the community repeatedly shouted, "Shame on you!" at Brunton and pointed toward the door, and demanded "Out!" Faculty members individually demanded that Brunton resign and requested the Board take action against him.

Jimmy Demsey, of the College

Council and janitorial staff, spoke in support of College President Dr. Doug Treadway, who was recently attacked in print by Brunton. "If you want clean toilets, you better hang with the man," Demsey said.

Two Faculty Senate resolutions supported Treadway and asked for Brunton's resignation. The resolution in support of Treadway collected 124 faculty signatures of the 149 full-time faculty. The resolution asking for the removal of Brunton from the rotational presidency, Board censure of Brunton, and his voluntary resignation collected 112 of the 149.

Brunton, current Board President, was absent for much of the meeting, to the outrage of the crowd. Brunton didn't show until over an hour into the meeting and lurked outside of the door while the public raged against him. Faculty member Bob Bradshaw interrupted proceedings to formally invite Brunton to join the Board, followed shortly by shouts from the audience to "start over."

Dennis Keller then came forward and gave Brunton a summary of the events preceding the president's arrival. "All in all, in short, we want you gone," Keller concluded.

However, if the Ohlone College community hoped for some Board action to be taken that night, they were to be disappointed.

In a move to preserve due process and, in some faculty members' opinions, avoid the issue, Trustee John Weed moved to begin an investigation into the allegations brought against Brunton and was supported by both McMillin and fellow Trustee Ruthe Foster.

The Board moved to transfer all discussion of Brunton's presidency to the next Board meeting on Oct. 3. Brunton said he will not be in attendance.



Photo by Manika Casterline

Chemistry instructor Maru Grant spoke with the Mexican Consul General of San Francisco, Alfonso de Maria y Campos, after Tuesday's World Forum. In the background, the Mexican Political and Community Affairs Consul under Maria y Campos, Carolina Ayala watched.

Mexican Consul General speaks at World Forum

By MANIKA CASTERLINE
Staff writer
and CHEN LIN
Online editor

Mexican Consul General Alfonso de Maria y Campos said Mexico was an integral part of California's economy at Ohlone's World Forum Tuesday.

"Mexico is California's main trading partner," said Campos. Sixty-six percent of U.S. exports go to Mexico while the U.S. receives 90 percent of Mexican exports according to the Consulate General.

"No other two countries in the

world have a more complex or more diverse a relationship," said Maria y Campos on the relationship between the U.S. and Mexico.

The Mexican government supports the Worker Protection Program advocated by the Bush administration, said Maria y Campos.

The benefit of World Forum to students, according to Ohlone President Doug Treadway, is to have someone with direct experience help explore different points of view. Mexico was chosen as the topic because, "they're our number one trading partner in California," and because as an Oxford graduate

and Mexican diplomat, Maria y Campos was an ideal choice to speak this Tuesday, added Treadway.

Maria y Campos will also assist Ohlone in arranging an exchange delegation of nursing students to an unnamed campus in Guadalejara, Mexico, according to Treadway.

Expectations for an above average turnout were met at Tuesday's forum, according to Treadway. Attendances at World Forums vary, depending on the topic and speakers.

Many teachers on Tuesday let out their classes during the Forum or required students to attend.