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President search: then there were three

■ Committee narrows pool to three finalists

By **BARRY KEARNS**
Features editor

After months of searching for and interviewing 37 candidates, the choice for the next President of Ohlone College has been narrowed down to three finalists. They are Dr. Laurence Spraggs, Dr. Cecilia Cervantes and Dr. Gari Browning.

Currently, Cervantes is the president of the College of Alameda, Spraggs is the president of Broome Community College and Browning is the vice president of Instruction at College of the Desert.

The search for a new president began last semester and is led by consultant Pamela Fisher. Current President Doug Treadway took the position in Spring 2003, and will retire in June.

Browning received her master's and Ph.D. from UCLA and has traveled and taught in the Dominican Republic and Hawaii. She is bilingual - fluent in Spanish and English. Browning has a variety of experience from teaching at almost every level with a focus on community colleges. While Associate



Gari Browning
Vice President, College of the Desert

Director at the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges Western Association of Schools and Colleges, she was involved in developing the current standards, including Student Learning Outcomes.

Cervantes received her master's in Education at the University of Texas at El Paso and her Ph.D. from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Cervantes has served as a director, dean, associate vice president and vice presi-



Laurence Spraggs
President, Broome College

dent for the past 25 years. Cervantes has been appointed to the Public Arts Commission, and was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges Hispanic Council.

Spraggs earned his master's in biology from Wayne State University and his Ph.D. at Idaho State University. Spraggs has experience teaching from high school to university. Spraggs has served as president of the Titus-



Cecilia Cervantes
President, College of Alameda

ville Campus of Brevard Community College and from 1996 to 2001, he was vice president at Red Rocks Community College.

The finalists are scheduled to appear at an open forum on Monday, April 14 from 1 to 5 p.m. The forums will be held at the Fremont campus, in Room 2133, and the Newark campus, in Room NC1100. The forum will be streamed live over the web for 24 hours following the event.

Board can't agree about report of divisiveness

By **ANDREW LE**
Staff writer

The Board of Trustees addressed the findings of last month's accreditation review at yesterday's Board Meeting.

Out of the seven recommendations listed in the accreditation report for improvement, four dealt directly with the Board. The response issued by Board President Garrett Yee was presented initially on behalf of the entire Board.

"During the workshop, the Board as a whole did some soul-searching and concluded that we could not disagree with the recommendations presented in the Accreditation Team Exit Report," said Yee.

Following Yee's statement acknowledging the accreditation recommendations, several Board members voiced disagreements. A few Board members raised concerns that the statement was spoken primarily from Yee's perspective, and as a result did not represent the

collective feelings of the board.

In addition, certain board members, such as Trisha Tahmasbi, voiced reservations concerning the accreditation team's, *Monitor's* and *Argus's* unfair portrayal of the Board as a team divided. After the Board concluded they were divided on Yee's acknowledgement of the accreditation review, they elected to postpone their collective acknowledgement of the recommendations until July, when the full accreditation report will be available.

Another topic of discussion involved the condition of the fields, which have been a 15-year problem for Ohlone. Although the baseball field has now been restored to a working state after being closed for a short period of time last fall, the problems causing its closure still exist. These problems have to do with drainage, as well as the way the fields were constructed.

Of particular concern is the clay under the grass that saturates with water and becomes soft. As a result,

it takes five to seven days after a rain for the fields to dry. The fields also suffer from water from the hillsides.

Along with the ongoing maintenance costs that go along with any grass field, the proposed solution is the installation of artificial turf that would remedy most of these problems. The board subsequently adjourned their session to investigate the condition of the fields. More discussion on the subject will follow at the next Board meeting.

New clubs for ping-pong, Polynesians and photos

By **BARRY KEARNS**
Features editor

Plans for the future of the cafeteria and the upcoming elections were discussed at the Associated Students of Ohlone College (ASOC) meeting Tuesday.

ASOC Vice President Jackie McCulley announced that the Inter-Club Council has approved three new clubs: the Photo club, the Table Tennis Club and the Polynesian Club.

Math Instructor Geoffrey Hirsch spoke during the public comments portion of the ASOC meeting, thanking its members for their financial support of the Math Club and announcing that in the last competition, Ohlone College ranked seventh in the nation. Hirsch also

mentioned that there is an upcoming math competition in Monterey and requested additional funds for transportation costs and fees.

ASOC Advisor Renee Gonzales announced the arrival of the Chinese Students visiting Ohlone and said there would be a meeting between the visiting students and the ASOC in the Cafeteria at 7 p.m.

Election Committee Chair Maria Louise Javier announced that there are some restrictions to campaigning for students running for executive positions; while campaigns are allowed to use paper, word of mouth and instant messages, the use of Facebook and other websites are not allowed and could result in disqualification. The ASOC elections day is April 29. The ASOC approved the \$500 money request for the visiting

Chinese students from the Zhejiang Vocational Academy of Art.

Zuhah Bahaduri of the ASOC Awareness Committee announced that there would be a tabling event next week where students can come to fill out surveys regarding Ohlone and campus activities. The ASOC is also looking for a new chair for the Marketing Committee. The Marketing Committee is responsible for publicizing the ASOC. The Curriculum Committee reported that the Deaf Studies class which has been offered in catalogs but has never actually had a class due to lack of enrollment has been deactivated.

Student Member, Board of Trustees Ken Steadman announced that there will be a Rock the Hill event featuring hip-hop performances

and break dancers. Steadman also announced that there would be an open-dance contest preceding the event, and that all are welcome to compete for a prize of \$100.

Newark Facilities Committee Chair Dan Zhou announced that the microwaves at the main campus cafeteria are due for replacement and that there will be a money request for this coming shortly. Zhou also spoke about the meeting that he had with Director of Purchasing, Contracts and Auxiliary Services Mark Robbins and Fresh Choice representative Alex Castro, where they discussed price discrepancies between the two campuses and the future of the cafeterias. Zhou concluded by saying that he plans to arrange a "face lift" for the cafeteria, and putting together a dollar

menu in the hopes of attracting more students. The ASOC receives 7 percent of the profits made by the cafeteria.

The ASOC also heard the money request made by Journalism Instructor Bill Parks for the printing costs of *Midnight* magazine. Parks mentioned that the magazine had recently won seven awards from the Journalism Association of Community Colleges.

Parks said that funding for the magazine this semester would come from the Ohlone Foundation but that he was looking for a more stable source of funding. He added that his plan for funding would require \$5,000 from the ASOC, \$3,000 from the college district and the remaining \$2,000 from annual advertising.