

Thursday,
December 18, 2003

Ohlone Community College District



The President's Briefing

Ohlone College

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the Fall Semester draws to a close I want to briefly report on recent developments of importance to our District as well as to wish one and all the very best in this Holiday Season

Newark Facility Planning

The Board of Trustees has approved a revised educational plan for the Newark Center. Jim Wright prepared this plan with assistance from several faculty, staff and administrators. It is a more realistic and focused plan and it now serves as the reference document for a revised master site and facilities plan for what we are calling the Ohlone College Center for Technology and Health Sciences. The decision on the approved title of the Center will be held over until next semester.

The facilities master plan for Newark received board approval on Wednesday, December 17. A public forum was held on December 16, at the Silliman Center in Newark. Like the education master plan, the revised facilities plan is scaled back by 17-20% for a more realistic and achievable plan with emphasis upon technology and health programs. Even though there are increased construction costs estimates and a set-aside for energy development at the site, we will have a surplus of about \$5 million, which I am recommending be applied to refurbishment projects on the main campus.

Budget Issues Continue

We are preparing for a mid-year cut from this year's budget when the Legislature meets in January. We also anticipate a deficit for 2004-05. There continues to be a great deal of uncertainty regarding the California economy in general and the education budgets in particular.

I plan to work with the College Council in the formation of a District Task Force on Budget Planning which will assist me in looking for reductions in the current as well

Budget Issues, ct'd.

as next fiscal years. If we all pull together I am confident that we can navigate our way through the storms on the horizon without laying off any more full-time employees. Please do everything within your ability to reduce expenditures for this year—save energy, reduce consumption, and look for efficiencies and savings suggestions.

New Foundation Director Appointed

The Board has appointed Robin Koekelbeck as the new Director of the Ohlone College Foundation. Robin has served as Development Director for Miracosta Community College since 1997. He was formerly the Executive Director of the Cerritos Community College Foundation and before that position he was Executive Vice President of the Moorpark College Foundation. Prior to his career in higher education Robin had an impressive record of service to the United Way and the American Red Cross as a fund raising campaign professional.

A graduate of Modesto Junior College, Dr. Koekelbeck earned his bachelors degree from Oregon State, masters from CSU Northridge and Ph.D. from Fielding Institute. Of special significance for his new assignment, Robin received the award as Fundraiser of the Year 2003 from the Network of California Community College Foundations. He will report to the President's Office and will assume his new duties on January 19, 2004.