

Board of Trustees Updates (Cont.)

- Board Workshop / October 22
 - Instead of two Board business meetings per month, have shifted second meeting of the month to a workshop format. The workshops have had an accreditation focus; document preparation has included new trustee orientation materials and Board of Trustees "guide".
 - At last workshop (10/22), Board considered various scenarios to further distinguish between operations and policy and appropriate Board involvement.
 - Board will be beginning another round of self-assessment. Evaluating progress from last self-assessment and determining three additional areas for improvement.
 - Considering how to manage the Board's budget, given state crisis.
 - Review of calendar for remainder of academic year.
- Board meeting / November 12
 - Tonight's Board meeting may be attended by visiting accreditation team member.
 - Recognition of outgoing trustees (Brunton & Tahmasbi).
 - Ohlone "good news" on tap for each Board meeting.
 - Consideration of Board stipend increase. College President defending possible Board increase in spite of budget crisis, given how Ohlone's Board stipend compares with other districts state-wide.
 - New member orientation process for new board members. Will consider change in policy for K-12 enrollments.
 - Board will receive LEED certification update regarding Student Services Bldg.
 - Accreditation update also on the agenda.
 - Question regarding accreditation visit and Board recommendations. Reply: Some trustees struggling to understand their role. Mostly positive progress and moving forward. Trustees improving -- and Board dynamic will surely change with two trustees exiting and two new members joining the group.
 - Question (comment) re: Board stipend -- CSEA rep not arguing with increased Board stipend, but would like to hear more about everyone at Ohlone being treated as valuable employees.
- Future Board topics for council input?
 - Budget: Trustees are responsible for fiscal health of our institution. Ohlone is better off than most in the state, but significant cuts are coming. We need to keep Board informed and need to help them understand the State situation as it unfolds. Currently considering how long our reserves will hold up.

3. State Budget Update

- State Budget Update (moved up on agenda since Dr. Browning needs to leave at 4:00)
- VP Calegari reports:
 - State has declared fiscal emergency
 - Special legislation session called
 - Governor's proposal includes:
 - Revenue increases and taxes state-wide
 - Elimination of COLA
 - \$292M reduction of apportionments
 - Districts can redirect categorical funds to general fund, but only after hearings
 - State sales tax will be increased 1.5 cents for three years
 - Other services will be taxed that are not currently taxed
 - \$24B shortfall projected through 2010
 - - Legislature responded to say they agree with shortfall analysis, in most part.
- Education cuts less weighted on mid-year cuts and more weighted in 09/10.
- Increase Credit fee to \$26 for this fiscal year
- 09/10 proposing increase in community college fees to \$30/unit (but money goes to state, not colleges)
- Apply non-credit rates to other courses

- Implications for Ohlone College:
 - We can weather any mid-year cuts up to 5% through use of most reserves. Can handle 7% cut with use of all reserves.
 - 09/10 cuts, all options will have to be analyzed. Hard hiring freeze, volunteered time off, golden handshakes considered, etc.
 - Financial news continues to get worse across the nation and around the world.
 - 2009/10 we would have to reduce our operating budget if additional cuts are a reality. 09/10 cuts will be to our base funding -- not one-time cuts.
 - Question regarding fee increases. No financial benefit to enrolling early. If increases become a reality after students have already enrolled, will students be charged retroactively? Yes. Estimated revenue increases usually offset by students who do not attend. Increase in student fees will only contribute to state deficit, not earmarked for education.
 - In K-12, funded by attendance, but attendance is mandatory. In CSU, they're funded by programs. CC funding is totally dependant on enrollment. If our enrollment goes down, revenue goes down. If student fees go up, enrollment goes down. Have to have money in budget to offer classes. Challenging to manage. To say that certain classes will only receive 1/2 funding, impacts enrollment and our ability to offer variety of classes -- even if they're transferrable. Becomes cycle of downward spin.
 - After last big budget crisis, Ohlone went into enrollment restoration. This situation is going to be faced by all colleges in the state. Troubling, the notion of targeting courses that "someone" determines are not as important or valuable. Regular non-credit funding is half the funding of credit courses. Certain philosophical view of education.
 - Courses that appeal to lifelong learning (arts, music, fitness, language) often appear on "hit lists".
 - Other issue in play is news about CSUs curtailing enrollment which might push students to CCs, but we'd be unable to support. If we have limited revenue, the people who are going to suffer are the students.
 - Still very preliminary. We can be sure there will be cuts, no COLA, no growth funding... but still a moving target. We're analyzing reserves and projecting as much as possible. Ongoing talks and review of options. Start planning, but wait for end result.
4. Looping Feedback / Reporting Out as Standing Item for Future Meetings
- Asking each representative to report out on regular basis
 - Budget and cuts / ask for feedback and report back.
 - Take talking points from League updates to groups and ask for reactions.
 - Co-chairs to send link(s) to council e-mail group so reps have information to convey.
5. January College Council Retreat
- Discussion of suggested topics
 - - Strategic Planning (long-term)
 - - Operational Planning (year-to-year)
 - - Assessment of strategic plan and proposals for revising goals & objectives. Council is strategic body advisory to the President.
 - - Research office working on objectives.
 - - Overall assessment report with recommendations for revisions, as outcome.
 - - January retreat, review report and discussion.
 - - Plan for another college-wide summit in February or early March.
 - - Community forum late March, early April.
 - - New strategic plan to Board for approval May/June. Major review we would do every 3-5 years (off cycle from accreditation cycle).

- Annual process involves budget. More direct feed-in from program review to the budget. Asking every department to create a program review objective based on their most recent review cycle. Planning task force working on pilot group of 10, running through for review and advising.
- Implementing Curricunet Program Review module, being pilot-tested now. Look at priorities of various programs, which will be constrained by budget.
- Inform constituents so departments understand that they'll be asked to submit a program review objective that becomes part of the budget review process and annual planning process. Hoping there will be a group of program review objectives available for Council review at January retreat.
- Operational review of 09/10 budget will consider possible cuts. Would like to promote innovations and improvements that might save money instead of costing money. Priority in this situation.
- College Council Retreat date agreed & confirmed for January 21, 2009 (Wednesday before Flex).

6. Council by-laws Amendment Proposal

Approval of the proposed College Council by-laws to include the Executive Assistant (President's Office) in the annual rotation of Council support. Change to Article 3 "Membership", sub-section "b".

MOTION: Moved/Dodson; Seconded/Feliciano: Passed to approve the amended College Council by-laws.

- Note: Request that future by-laws proposals/changes be made in bold or italic for those who do not have color printers.

7. Suggestions for Future Topics

None

ADJOURNED: 4:10 p.m.

FUTURE MEETINGS / 2008: Fall Schedule / Mondays

(3:00 - 4:30 / Video Conference Room, except as noted):

- Monday, 12/8
- College Council Retreat / Wednesday, January 21, 2009 (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. / Fremont Campus / Room 1402)