

The following is a summary of the regular SMC Board of Trustees meeting of Dec. 4, 2012. Board minutes, which provide all official actions of the Board, and these Board summaries are posted at <http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Pages/Trustees-Meeting-Information.aspx>.

Podcasts of the meeting are available at <http://www.smc.edu/itunes>.

NEW BOARD CHAIR & VICE CHAIR: Trustees voted unanimously to elect Dr. Nancy Greenstein chair of the Board and Dr. Susan Aminoff as vice chair. Greenstein, who was first elected in 2002 and served as chair in 2006, succeeds Dr. Margaret R. Quiñones-Perez as chair, a post that rotates annually. Aminoff succeeds Greenstein.

DONATION TO SMC FOUNDATION: Board Chair Nancy Greenstein presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Santa Monica attorneys Sonya and Bruce Sultan, who facilitated an \$807,500 gift from the Estate of Peggy Bergmann, who died in December 2011. The funds will be used for scholarships.

PRIVATE DONATIONS TO OPERATE WINTER SESSION: President Dr. Chui L. Tsang announced that the college has received several private donations to help fund the Winter 2013 session. Donors include the SMC Associated Students, \$200,000; Lionel and Elza Ruhman, \$10,000; and the SMC Associates, \$5,000. Also stepping forward with donations are Campus Counsel Bob Myers and Debra Cooper.

TRANSFER: The Board heard a report from Transfer Center Faculty Leader Dan Nannini that SMC continues to be the No. 1 transfer institution to the University of California, the UC-Cal State systems combined, and USC. He reported that despite severe budget cuts in public higher education in California the past several years, the UC system has been increasing its transfer numbers for the last three years. However, transfer admission numbers at the Cal State system have vacillated since 2008-09. A more detailed report is available on Pages 12-13 of the Dec. 4 Board Agenda at http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Documents/Board%20of%20Trustees%20Meetings/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2012/BT%20Meeting%20Agenda%2012-4-2012.pdf.

WINTER & SPRING 2013 ENROLLMENT: Vice President of Academic Affairs Jeff Shimizu reported that the Winter 2013 session enrollment began Monday after college officials worked quickly to pull together a schedule in less than a week after SMC announced shortly before Thanksgiving that it would restore winter classes. As of Tuesday, the 235 classes posted so far had a 20 percent fill rate, but classes are expected to fill quickly and a few more classes may be added, depending on demand. Shimizu said the college is offering high-demand general education courses, courses for completion of degrees and certificates, and English and math basic skills classes. Some self-funded classes for international students have also been scheduled, and UCLA Extension will be conducting 12-15 courses at SMC in the winter, he said. No athletics, performing arts, noncredit or community service classes are being offered. All winter classes are being offered on the main campus only from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Shimizu said enrollment for spring classes also started Monday, but it is too early to predict fill rates at this time.

ISSUANCE OF 2012-13 TAX & REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTES: The Board voted unanimously to authorize the issuance of up to \$20 million in Tax & Revenue Anticipation Notes to address a possible cash flow shortage in spring 2013 that could result from delays in state funding allocations to the college. Officials said that repayment of the notes will include interest that “is believed to be negligible given the historically low interest rates in the market.”

STUDENT SERVICES & ADMINISTRATION BUILDING: The Board voted unanimously to increase the “construction cost retention” on the Student Services & Administration Building project from 5 percent to 10 percent, as permitted by state law. SMC officials say the action will ensure that the contractor and subcontractor comply with requirements of the project contract. Retention is the amount withheld from payments under the construction contract to cover claims, which could include payments due to a subcontractor or for unfinished work. The college will soon be going out to bid for a contract to complete the project, of which only the space for an underground parking garage has been excavated. The 365,000-square-foot building will include approximately 88,000 square feet of classrooms, lecture halls, administrative offices and meeting rooms, as well as underground parking for roughly 500 vehicles. Construction is expected to take about 32 months.

SMC’S FACULTY OF THE YEAR: Academic Senate President Janet Harclerode announced that political science professor Eric Oifer has been named SMC’s 2012 Faculty of the Year. In naming the winner, Harclerode also announced that Oifer would be nominated for the statewide Hayward Award, which honors outstanding community college faculty who have a track record of excellence in teaching and professional activities. Oifer is the immediate past president of the SMC Academic Senate and has long been active in college governance activities.

SABBATICALS: The Board voted unanimously to approve sabbaticals in fall 2013 for English professor Gordon Dossett and political science professor Eric Oifer.

PERSONNEL COMMISSION: The Board voted unanimously to reappoint Deborah Jansen to a three-year term on the SMC Personnel Commission, beginning Dec. 1, 2012. State law requires the Board to appoint two of the five commission members and appoint two based on selection by classified employees, with the fifth appointed by the other commissioners. CSEA Chapter 36 unanimously elected Jansen for the commission’s three-year term beginning Dec. 1, 2012.

“CRADLE TO CAREER” INITIATIVE: The Board heard a report from Julie Rusk, City of Santa Monica’s Human Resources Division Manager, on the “Cradle to Career” Initiative on Santa Monica’s First Youth Wellbeing Report Card. The initiative seeks to address youth violence and mental health-related incidents in the community. In October, the Cradle to Career (C2C) Working Group – which includes representatives from SMC – produced a Youth Wellbeing Report Card to assess the community youth’s physical development, learning, mental health and social skills. A more detailed report is available on page 10 of the Dec. 4 Board Agenda at http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Documents/Board%20of%20Trustees%20Meetings/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2012/BT%20Meeting%20Agenda%2012-4-2012.pdf.

HOLIDAY DESSERT & COFFEE: SMC President Dr. Chui L. Tsang reported that he will be hosting a Holiday “Dessert and Coffee” for all SMC employees Dec. 13 and 14.