

The following is a summary of the highlights of the SMC Board of Trustees meeting of Sept. 6, 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>.

2012-13 BUDGET: The Board of Trustees voted unanimously to adopt a \$447.6 million budget for 2012-13, which includes \$181.7 million in general unrestricted funds and the remainder in funds that are restricted for a variety of purposes, including bond projects, student financial aid and more. The written budget narrative notes that the SMC budget comes during a period of unprecedented state funding reductions and warns of an additional \$7.8 million in mid-year cuts if Proposition 30, Gov. Jerry Brown's statewide tax initiative, is not approved by voters Nov. 6.

"Despite ending 2011-12 with an operating deficit of \$8.84 million, the College has managed to develop a recommended Adopted Budget that reduces the operating deficit to \$4 million and still does not negatively impact permanent employees," the budget narrative says. "Given the cumulative state revenue reductions over the past several years, this is a truly impressive accomplishment for the entire college community. While recommending this highly optimistic Adopted Budget that assumes passage of Proposition 30, the District continues to act responsibly by simultaneously planning how to deal with the devastating mid-year reductions it will suffer if Proposition 30 fails. The magnitude of these mid-year reductions is such that the College would need to permanently restructure its operations and would no longer be able to avoid impacting permanent employment."

The budget contains no funding for a 2013 winter session.

The full budget narrative, along with a detailed breakdown of line items, is Appendix A in the Board agenda (pages 38-61) at http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Documents/Board%20of%20Trustees%20Meetings/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2012/BT%20Meeting%209-6-2012%20Agenda.pdf

PROPOSITION 30: The Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution supporting Proposition 30, Gov. Jerry Brown's statewide tax initiative on the Nov. 6 ballot. Proposition 30 would temporarily increase the state sales tax by 0.25 percent and the marginal personal income tax rate for individuals earning more than \$250,000 and households earning more than \$500,000 and dedicate the funds to K-12 schools and community colleges. The Board was also informed that the SMC Management Association and SMC Faculty Association have both endorsed Prop. 30.

START OF FALL 2012 SEMESTER: Vice President of Student Affairs Mike Tuitasi reported that the fall semester, which began Aug. 27, is off to a good start, with enrollment in line with what has been planned and a 98 percent class fill rate. The first day of classes opened smoothly with minimal traffic and parking impacts, thanks to high student ridership on the Big Blue Bus, he said, and lines on campus are shorter because students are taking care of many transactions online. Meanwhile, the SMC Associated Students has launched a voter registration drive to get students to vote in the crucial November election, and the college will send out voter registration information to employees, he said. VIP Welcome

Day on Aug. 24 was a success, he said, with the college welcoming 2,400 freshmen and an additional 1,300 freshman family members and friends.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER: The Board voted unanimously to approve a \$1.07 million contract with Carde Ten Architects to design the joint SMC-City of Santa Monica Early Childhood Education Center project. In addition, it voted unanimously to approve a \$148,500 contract with Eric Nelson to provide advice and expert guidance to SMC and city staff on best practices to be incorporated into the design of the center. The proposed center will be a childcare teaching facility that will accommodate up to 100 infant, toddler and pre-school children and will include classroom and observation facilities, as well as office and meeting spaces for parenting workshops and early childhood research and development. The 16,000-square-foot facility, to be constructed in the Santa Monica Civic Center, will be partially funded (\$7 million) by Measure S, the SMC bond measure approved by Santa Monica and Malibu voters in 2004, with the remainder of funding (\$5.5 million) coming from the city, for a total of \$12.5 million.

STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING: The Board heard a report that the Student Services Building project – which had been delayed by a lengthy Department of State Architect review – is back on track with bids scheduled to go out in mid-October and the award of a construction contract expected in November. David Hart of Steinberg Architects, the project's architectural firm, said the building is now scheduled to be completed in June 2015.

ENERGY SERVICES AGREEMENT: The Board voted unanimously to enter into a \$3.07 million agreement with Compass Energy Solutions for several energy-efficient projects that are estimated to save the college more than \$310,000 a year. Specifically, the projects are a heating boiler retrofit with new generation high-efficiency condensing boilers that use less natural gas and produce fewer emissions; a campuswide exterior and interior high-efficiency lighting retrofit that will enhance safety and provide more consistent and better lighting on campus and in the parking lots; and various energy efficiency projects for the SMC Center for Environmental and Urban Studies.

DISTANCE (ONLINE) EDUCATION UPDATE: The Board received a written report that SMC's online education program continues to grow. With more than 23,000 course enrollment seats, online education represents close to 12 percent of SMC total credit enrollment for 2011-12. In addition, 30 percent of SMC's credit students enrolled in at least one online course last year. The full report is Appendix B (pages 64-70) in the Board agenda at http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Documents/Board%20of%20Trustees%20Meetings/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2012/BT%20Meeting%209-6-2012%20Agenda.pdf.

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS: The Board received a written report that the SMC Financial Aid Office has seen an explosion of federal aid applicants over the past five years. Driven by the nation's economic downturn, the number of federal aid applicants has more than doubled – from 16,171 students in 2007-08 to 39,206 students in 2011-12, the written report says. The trend is expected to continue in 2012-13 with SMC receiving federal aid applications for more than 38,000 students by the first day of the fall semester. Financial Aid and Scholarships will provide more than \$45 million in assistance this year, the report says. The full report is Appendix C (pages 71-75) in the Board agenda at

http://www.smc.edu/ACG/Documents/Board%20of%20Trustees%20Meetings/Board_of_Trustees_Meetings/2012/BT%20Meeting%209-6-2012%20Agenda.pdf.

MEASURE ES: The Board voted unanimously to support the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's Measure ES, a \$385 million bond measure on the Nov. 6 ballot that would upgrade aging schools, protect student safety, offset state budget cuts through increased efficiency, and more.

REVISED PROPOSAL TO CSEA CHAPTER 36: The Board voted to make several revisions in a successor collective bargaining agreement that is extended to June 30, 2013. The Board also scheduled a public hearing on the proposal for its Oct. 2 meeting. Board Chair Margaret Quiñones-Perez voted no and Trustee Andrew Walzer abstained.

QUARTERLY REPORT: The Board voted unanimously to acknowledge submittal of the college's quarterly report as of June 30, 2012 to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.