

**Minutes of the Study Session of the Board of Trustees  
San Mateo County Community College District  
November 18, 2009  
San Mateo, CA**

**The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.**

**Board Members Present:** President Karen Schwarz, Vice President Patricia Miljanich (arrived at 6:12 p.m.), Trustees Helen Hausman, Richard Holoher and Dave Mandelkern, and Student Trustee Virginia Medrano Rosales

**Others Present:** Chancellor Ron Galatolo, Executive Vice Chancellor Jim Keller, Skyline College President Victoria Morrow, College of San Mateo President Michael Claire, Cañada College President Tom Mohr and District Academic Senate President Patty Dilko

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**DISCUSSION OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA**

President Schwarz announced that in order to accommodate the presenter of item 09-11-1C, Update on KCSM, there was a request to move that item to be heard after item 09-11-1A, Approval of Personnel Actions. There were no objections.

Trustee Mandelkern requested that "Statements from Board Members" be added to the agenda, to be heard before recessing to Closed Session. There were no objections.

**MINUTES**

It was moved by Trustee Hausman and seconded by Trustee Holoher to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2009 meeting of the Board. President Schwarz asked that the minutes reflect that she arrived at the meeting just before "Discussion of the Order of the Agenda." Vice President Miljanich called the meeting to order and ran the meeting until that time. The motion to approve the minutes as amended carried, all members voting "Aye."

**STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

The following people spoke in support of the Ethnic Studies program at College of San Mateo:

Joe Fong, Instructor of Asian American Culture, said 50% of CSM students are minority and the fastest growing group is Asian. He said certain classes should reflect the population and their interests. He said cuts should be spread out more and that the issue of overload should be discussed with the union. He suggested that the model used by City College of San Francisco is one that might be followed. Dr. Fong presented data to the Board as evidence of the need to preserve the program.

Professor Karoline Naufahu, who teaches Polynesian Studies, asked the Board to allow the Ethnic Studies program to continue in order to fulfill the pledge of equal rights promised in the Constitution. She said the decision will impact not only students, including many football players in her class, but also the countries of Polynesia. Professor Naufahu said she has asked the BBC to cover this story because she wants the world to know what the Governor is doing to the education system in California.

President Claire said there is not a recommendation to eliminate the Ethnic Studies program; there are 16 sections of Ethnic Studies offered per semester and, working with the Academic Senate, the College is looking at a reduction of two sections per semester.

Shawn McGriff, a CSM student currently enrolled in Ethnic Studies, said the United States is a diverse country and Americans should learn about people with different backgrounds; he said that the Ethnic Studies program provides education on different aspects of various cultures.

CSM student Karla Valenzuela said she has learned much about her own culture through Ethnic Studies and that the classes help keep students connected to their roots.

CSM student Anthony Palavi said he is a former student of Professor Moya. He said students need to understand other cultures in order to respect others. He said that students greatly respect those who teach in the Ethnic Studies program, including Jesus Moya, Joe Fong, Rudy Ramirez and Karoline Naufahu. Mr. Palavi added that students understand that the budget situation is not the fault of administrators or the Board.

CSM student Jeanine Robertson said that even if only a few sections of Ethnic Studies are cut, faculty and adjunct faculty would be affected; she specifically mentioned Professor Zelte Crawford who has made a great difference in her life. Ms. Robertson said Ethnic Studies benefits all students. She said people feel left out if their histories and cultures are not addressed. She said that multicultural faculty members and students enrich campus life for everyone.

Tony Gonzales, speaking on behalf of the American Indian community, urged the Board to continue to provide opportunities for students through the Ethnic Studies program. He said he has been invited to the campus for the last 15 years by different programs and classes, particularly to speak to Professor Moya's class. Mr. Gonzales is a consultant to the United Nations and has traveled to United Nations bodies around the world. He said he brings back information to students about colonization and the process of decolonization, racism and the plurality in today's society.

CSM student Jose Ortega said that all of his life he has been told that knowledge is power. He said Ethnic Studies enriches everyone who takes the classes. He said that ignorance produces hatred; Ethnic Studies provides understanding of others and shows how to make America a country of success and democracy.

CSM student Mike DeGroot said he grew up in a small, predominantly white, town. He said that Professor Moya's class taught him to broaden his knowledge and understanding and to be a better person.

A CSM student from American Samoa said he is currently taking an Asian American Culture class. He said the Ethnic Studies program is important not only because students should learn about different cultures, but also because it allows students to meet requirements to transfer to UC.

A CSM student named Steven, who said he is homeless, said there is much economic, social and cultural diversity in the Bay Area and if Ethnic Studies and language classes are cut, it will make it more difficult to compete in the international community. He added that it is not right to eliminate good adjunct teachers.

A freshman at CSM named Daniela said that when she came to the United States from Chile, she did not speak English and had a difficult time. She said she has learned much from Professor Moya's class and was pleased to see so many different faces of people who wanted to learn.

Professor Jesus Moya said he has taught Ethnic Studies at CSM for 15 years. He said the program serves as a support system for many minority students and many students have made it through the College because of that support. He said that more than 50% of the population in the community and at CSM is minority and they have a right to learn about where they came from. He asked the Board to help the program survive during this hard time and to provide people the right they have to their cultures. Professor Moya said that even if only four sections per year are cut, it will mean getting rid of minority teachers with years of experience and he said this is tantamount to "cultural genocide." Professor Moya said the issue is diversity and equality in education.

Another student in Professor Moya's class said Ethnic Studies has helped him to survive at the College.

A student in Dr. Fong's class quoted President Obama as saying "we are our brothers' keepers and our sisters' keepers." He said that if the Ethnic Studies program is cut, people will not understand each other and will remain ignorant.

The following people spoke in support of the Chinese Language program at CSM:

Rebecca Zeren, a teacher and librarian in a San Mateo County school, said she is currently enrolled in the Mandarin program. She said there has been an increase in the number of Asian students in the schools. The school

at which she teaches has added Mandarin to its program. A partnership has also been formed with a school in rural China through the Rural China Foundation and she was part of the team that went to the school in 2008 and she will return in 2010. Ms. Zeren said she believes it is mandatory that she learn Mandarin in order to be effective in her work.

CSM student Zach Sit said loss of the Chinese program would affect his ability to transfer. He said that students who are midway through the program would no longer be able to finish and would have to start learning a new language, wasting time and money. Mr. Sit presented a petition signed by students enrolled in Chinese classes.

Cheryl Blalock is enrolled in the Mandarin program and works in Silicon Valley. She said it is forward-thinking to have a certification program and professional people find it useful in their careers. She added that high school and college students constitute a large number of people in the program and the community would not be served if the program is lost.

Another speaker said the Chinese program at CSM has served the community for more than 20 years and is the only program on the mid-Peninsula to offer a full transfer program. She said that 53% of students in Chinese language classes are transfer students and there are also students who are already enrolled in four-year institutions who are taking the classes online. She said that many people taking the classes are also working professionals. She urged the Board to consider the large Chinese-American community being served and the importance of the Chinese language in today's global world.

Grace Barteau, CEO of Decus Biomedical, said she is also a student in the Chinese program. She recently returned from China where she is working on developing business. She also spoke as the mother of a high school student who is taking Chinese classes so that she, like many other Bay Area residents, can learn to speak with her grandparents in their language.

Frank Briski, a student in the Mandarin Chinese program, said his research found that there were three languages being taught at the College as early as 1935. He said that maintaining the Chinese language program would continue the fine tradition and is particularly important in the changing world.

A student named Carl, who is enrolled in the Chinese program, said he comes to the College because it is affordable and close to home. He said he is attempting to increase his job skills and his ability to keep his job. He also said that he wants to be able to read his father's autobiography which is written in Chinese.

Erick Ong said he is a student and also a working professional. He said CSM provides a great opportunity to work and attend classes. He is working to increase his job skills and marketability and also to learn language skills as a third generation Chinese-American.

Chris Birch said he is a local city government worker, welcoming people in and out of the country at San Francisco International Airport. He started taking Chinese this year and said that saving only one Chinese class would be akin to a bookstore selling one volume of a trilogy and then sending patrons to another bookstore to find the others.

Another speaker said he has lived in several different countries and has studied different languages. He said that being able to speak another person's language is a powerful tool as an ambassador of our country and causes others to look at Americans more favorably. He added that students learn about their own culture by studying other cultures.

The following people spoke in support of the Child Development Center (CDC) at Skyline College:

Michelle Amaral spoke on behalf of classified staff at Skyline and parents at the CDC. She said the CDC is an asset to the College and to the greater community as it serves a population of students who seek to better their and those of their families. Ms. Amaral said that 50% of the parents are single parents and of this group, 80% have incomes below the state poverty level. She said the CDC offers a head start in the early lives of the children, with

a multicultural staff and an accessible location for students to learn about childhood development. Ms. Amaral asked the Board to explore ways to keep the facility open.

Gameleh Gubari said she is a full-time mother and student at Skyline. She said her daughter has benefitted from learning about many cultures at the CDC.

Michelle Araica, a Skyline student and parent of four children, said she was a victim of domestic abuse and came to Skyline with nothing. She did not have family to turn to and had no money for child care, but knew she needed to go to school to better herself. She said she found healing at Skyline and that child care is vital for those who are struggling to survive. She said she is speaking for others like her.

Kim Do is a Skyline student with a child at the CDC. She also works as a caregiver and said the CDC gives her the opportunity to both work and go to school, with a goal of going into nursing. She said the availability of the CDC has a domino effect; it allows her mother to work as a counselor which benefits the community and will in turn permit her to help the community through nursing.

Emyn Dweik said she fled Palestine in 2000 because of the Intifada and the bombing of her daughter's school. She is the mother of five children, ranging in age from 4 to 18, and she relies on the CDC for care of her young daughter. She is on a full scholarship through the Yavapai-Apache Nation. She urged the Board to keep the CDC open not only for the sake of her daughter, but for all Native Americans.

President Schwarz thanked all speakers for their time and courage to tell their stories. She said the Board is here to listen and learn. President Schwarz called a five minute recess to allow time for guests who wish to leave to exit the room.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS: CHANGES IN ASSIGNMENT, COMPENSATION, PLACEMENT, LEAVES, STAFF ALLOCATIONS AND CLASSIFICATION OF ACADEMIC AND CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL (09-11-1A)**

It was moved by Trustee Holoher and seconded by Trustee Mandelkern to approve the actions in Board Report No. 09-11-1A. The motion carried, all members voting "Aye."

## **INFORMATION REPORTS**

### **UPDATE ON KCSM (09-11-1C)**

KCSM General Manager Marilyn Lawrence provided a recap of previous presentations to the Board:

KCSM-TV and Radio are community assets and the Board expressed a desire to retain the licenses. Because of the District's financial situation, KCSM can no longer be subsidized and alternative plans for TV operations must be found. KCSM-FM is not under consideration as long as it stays financially strong. In 2009, District support to KCSM TV was approximately \$2 million. Expense controls of \$800,000 are put in place for Fiscal Year 2010; the financial shortfall, if all else remains the same, will be \$1.2 million.

Ms. Lawrence discussed three options for economic viability.

1. Sell the station. Public Radio Capital (PRC) and Daystar are still the only parties that have expressed interest in purchasing KCSM-TV. If the decision is made to sell the station, it must be put out to bid and the District must accept the highest bid.

2. Contract for outside management. A memorandum of understanding is in hand for a management contract with PRC which is currently being reviewed by an FCC attorney. The contract must include both radio and television or PRC is not interested. The District must be in control of the station with some financial responsibility, but most of the costs are reimbursed. Promotion and other District requirements must be determined up front along with space and facility needs. The radio and TV format would be in PRC's hands. PRC's requirements must fall within

the Education Code. Executive Vice Chancellor Keller said reading the contract is very complicated and it is necessary to understand FCC rules. He said there seem to be conflicts between what has been proposed vs. what was said regarding expenses and control. Ms. Lawrence said that while this option should not be ruled out, it is problematic at this point. She said that if outside management is considered, a bid document should be prepared to garner any and all bids.

3. Lease spectrum.

1) Link TV – Link has the largest audience of any independent media outlet in the United States. More than five million adults watch Link on satellite TV and Link's website receives approximately 6.5 million visits per month. Those who regularly watch Link are younger than PBS viewers, ethnically diverse, politically diverse and active, and very heavy users of online videos, podcasts and IM. Link TV is interested in a non-commercial presence in the Bay Area and a letter of interest was delivered on November 17, 2009. Cable carriage would be required and would force KCSM to abandon the analog tier on Comcast, meaning 10 percent of Cable TV viewers would have no access to KCSM-TV. There is a risk that programs with a political point of view would be aired. Technical requirements are still to be determined.

2) Daystar Television Network – Daystar is the fastest-growing and one of the two largest Christian television networks in the world. Daystar's mission is to reach souls with the good news of Jesus Christ and to seek out every available means of distribution to the world. Daystar has an extensive blend of interdenominational and multicultural programming. Daystar is interested in a non-commercial presence in the Bay Area and verbally expressed interest in KCSM-TV on November 18, 2009. KCSM would have to abandon the analog tier on Comcast and there would be a risk of airing programs with a political point of view. Technical requirements are still to be determined.

3) Friend of KCSM – has expressed interest in a non-commercial presence in the Bay Area but is not yet prepared to commit. KCSM would be forced to abandon the analog tier on Comcast and there would be a risk of airing programs selected by others. The technical requirements are currently unclear.

4) Sezmi – Sezmi is a startup company; product release is scheduled in Los Angeles in January 2010 with a product launch in the San Francisco Bay Area in the second quarter of 2010. Sezmi is an alternative for cable and satellite and includes traditional TV, movies and internet. It would require 6 Mb of dedicated bandwidth plus ancillary bandwidth as available. It is optimized for on-demand viewing and personalized for the individual viewer, offering what it believes is a premium experience at lower cost. It combines broadcast and broadband networks and works with existing DSL and 4G broadband infrastructure. Sezmi will be distributed through broadband service providers and national retailers. In the San Francisco Bay Area, distribution will be through Best Buy only. The KCSM revenue model, based on 6 Mbps of dedicated spectrum and 4 Mbps of opportunistic spectrum, shows the total spectrum and advertising revenue at \$112,161 in year 1, progressing each year to a total of \$1,228,344 in year 5. Trustee Holober asked if Sezmi is a for-profit company and if the District's status allows it to do business with Sezmi. Ms. Lawrence said it is a for-profit company. She checked with the FCC and confirmed that the District may do business with Sezmi.

Ms. Lawrence provided the following recommendation regarding KCSM-TV:

- Pursue a combination of lease agreements with possible leases (Link, Daystar, Friend of KCSM) and Sezmi TV that ensures KCSM-TV's financial independence from the District by 2014 if a lease is signed in 2010.
- If the lease agreements cannot be completed and ready for the January 2010 Board of Trustees meetings, the management contract should be pursued.
- If neither of these options can be completed and ready for the March 2010 Board meeting, a bid document should be prepared for the sale of the station.

Trustee Holober asked what can be done to bring the \$1.2 million shortfall to zero, e.g. running the minimal permitted programming required to keep the license. Ms. Lawrence said there are discussions about removing the service called MHz Worldview, which is currently run on the second channel, and putting part of it on the main channel; this would save \$5,000 per year. The station can continue to run PBS-like programming so that

programming costs are fairly minimal. There are also grant opportunities, such as the grant application submitted to the Knight Foundation to create a Peninsula newscast. Executive Vice Chancellor Keller said Sezmi is the first option he has seen that uses new technology and seems to have potential for growth.

Trustee Mandelkern asked whether, if a lease is pursued, a clarification could be included in the top of the hour announcement that KCSM is leasing the channel and is not responsible for content. Ms. Lawrence said she does not believe this is possible but will check. Trustee Mandelkern asked if the lease agreement could require that such an announcement be made immediately after the top of the hour announcement. Ms. Lawrence will check on this also. Trustee Mandelkern asked if the level of responsibility or control over content varies depending on whether there is a management contract or a lease. Ms. Lawrence said she does not believe there is a difference.

Trustee Mandelkern, noting that PRC would control both radio and TV under a management contract, asked if there is an indication about whether they would continue the jazz format. Ms. Lawrence said they would maintain the format at first, but their ultimate goal is take all of the media outlets they have to create something new and different.

Trustee Mandelkern asked if there is a sense from Daystar and Link about the dollar figures they are thinking of. Ms. Lawrence said she mentioned a fee of \$300,000 to \$500,000 per year and it did not scare them away. She said she believes Daystar would come in with the highest bid. Ms. Lawrence emphasized that if a lease proposal goes out to bid, she will need guidance from the Board. If the proposal specifies that only CPB qualified entities can bid, Daystar would not be eligible because they are a religious organization.

Trustee Mandelkern asked if there is an option to do a combination of leases for two channels. Ms. Lawrence said any combination could be done but she believes Sezmi will garner more revenue long-term than any of the others. Therefore, her proposal is to go out to bid for one television stream and accept the highest bidder and to also include Sezmi. Trustee Mandelkern asked Ms. Lawrence if she thinks Sezmi would give a minimum guarantee. Ms. Lawrence said she is very confident she could secure such a guarantee.

Vice President Miljanich asked if the bid process could enable the District to get more feedback about how potential lessees are accepted in other communities. Jan Roecks, Director of General Services, said the bid specifications could call for references. Trustee Mandelkern said it could also ask for information on any complaints, lawsuits and FCC actions against them.

President Schwarz asked how KCSM would be identified if Daystar leases the station. Ms. Lawrence said there would be a slide of the call letters and name of the city of license (San Mateo) at the top of the hour. President Schwarz said she personally has a problem combining church and state and emphasized that she would feel the same whether it was a Christian, Jewish or other religious affiliation. Trustee Mandelkern said he shares these concerns; however, these are unusual times and he also cares about sections being cut and the dilution of the District's educational mission. Trustee Mandelkern said he does not want to impose rules that are more stringent than necessary and believes Daystar should be included for consideration if it could bring in needed revenue.

Vice President Miljanich said she would not want to exclude Daystar from bidding and does not see its inclusion as an endorsement. She said that since there is not a technical violation of the separation of church and state, she would like the Board to have the opportunity to evaluate the possibility. However, she said that if people are uncomfortable with Daystar, it might be a waste of time to entertain the possibility. Chancellor Galatolo said it is important to maintain a competitive environment and evaluate all bids.

Trustee Hausman said Link should be looked at in the same way in terms of political bias. Ms. Lawrence said KCSM-TV has always tried to follow up a story with another one showing the other side of an issue. This would not be possible with a news channel and a story might seem one-sided, particularly during a time of political upheaval. Ms. Lawrence said the station could develop a standard answer explaining that it tries to bring a global viewpoint through the agreement with the lessee. Trustee Holober asked if Link focuses primarily on the Middle East. Ms. Lawrence said that was the case in the past but their coverage is now more international.



Trustee Holober said the speakers at this and previous meetings remind him of the unique financial situation of the District. He said the District can no longer offer subsidies to programs that the Board wants to support but which are more peripheral to the core mission of an educational institution. Trustee Holober said he cannot support cutting classes without bringing the subsidy to KCSM to zero and his goal is that when a new budget is adopted, the subsidy must be brought to zero. Trustee Holober said that like President Schwarz, he is uncomfortable with religious programming and is leaning toward saying he is not interested in it. However, if there is a way to explore it and then back away if the Board is ultimately uncomfortable with the bid, he could support including Daystar in the bidding process.

Chancellor Galatolo said the Board would receive the bid proposals and would have the right to reject all bids if they were not satisfied with the proposals. He said that no reason would have to be given for rejecting all bids. Chancellor Galatolo said it also might be possible to negotiate with the bidders to resolve issues the Board is uncomfortable with. He said it is important to test the market without placing limits.

President Schwarz thanked Ms. Lawrence for her presentation. Ms. Lawrence said she will come back with a follow-up report in January. President Schwarz called a two minute recess to allow time for other guests wishing to leave to exit to room.

### **Other Recommendations**

#### **APPROVAL OF COMMUNITY EDUCATION CLASSES, SPRING/SUMMER 2010 (09-11-1B)**

It was moved by Trustee Holober and seconded by Vice President Miljanich to approve the classes as presented. The motion carried, all members voting "Aye."

#### **REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF 2009 REAFFIRMATION OF CORE VALUES AND PRINCIPLES (09-11-2B)**

It was moved by Trustee Mandelkern and seconded by Trustee Hausman to adopt the document as presented.

Trustee Holober said he appreciates the work done on the document and believes it captures the Board's values and the dilemma it faces. Trustee Holober said he has a few comments and suggestions:

- Replace the section of the opening statement which reads "budget and political experts are predicting that additional budget cuts may be required in 2011-12" with actual State budget shortfall figures.
- Under "Student-Centered Mission," there is no mention of lifelong learning and personal enrichment courses. While today these are the most expendable, there should at least be an acknowledgment that they exist.
- The final sentence in the second paragraph under "Student-Centered Mission" discusses consolidation of underperforming classes. Replace the word "underperforming" with "under-enrolled" or a similar concept to avoid the potential misunderstanding that the quality of instruction is being questioned.
- Add a paragraph regarding the need to evaluate programs at the District and College level which are more peripheral to the academic mission; look for reductions or elimination of general fund subsidies for these programs that are not self-funded or do not have a clear, realistic plan to become self-funded in the future.
- Add a statement that the Board should evaluate line item expenditures in the budgets for reduction in expenses that do not directly improve delivery of instruction. An example might be bringing meeting and travel budgets as close to zero as possible, possibly saving a core section.

Vice President Miljanich said she has been approached regarding preserving programs which are supported through partnerships. She suggested that the "Support for Innovation" section, which currently states that the Board will pursue innovative efforts, should state that involvement by campus and community members is encouraged. Trustee Mandelkern suggested changing the wording to state "the Board will encourage the pursuit of innovative efforts. . ."

Trustee Hausman said the document is a general, overall statement on the Board's principles and core values and adding evaluation of line item expenditures and other detailed suggestions changes the nature of the document. Barbara Christensen, Director of Community/Government Relations, suggested that the document say the Board

will evaluate every aspect of the budget to find those areas that are peripheral in order to save classes. The Board unanimously agreed with this suggestion.

Regarding the "Student-Centered Mission," Chancellor Galatolo said the statute concerning the mission of a community college specifies transfer education and workforce training as the top priorities and then drills down to other areas. Chancellor Galatolo said he is concerned that simply reaffirming the entire objective might not reflect clearly what the Board's intentions are. For example, basket weaving could be seen to have the same merit as English 100. Trustee Holober agreed and said the statement should make clear that we are at a point where this is about survival of the core mission which is transfer and vocational education. Then, if there is any money left over, the next function is remedial and the next is lifelong learning. Trustee Mandelkern said it is important to be clear on where the Board stands on lifelong learning and clarify that when possible, classes will be moved to Community Education. Chancellor Galatolo said this is stated under "Support for Innovation" and agreed that it should instead be included under "Student-Centered Mission." Ms. Christensen suggested it be stated that lifelong learning has long been an important part of the community college mission but that these classes must now take a back seat to transfer education and workforce training; however, whenever possible, the classes will be shifted to Community Education in order to continue delivery in a different mode.

President Schwarz said a condensed version of the document would be helpful in formulating a response to questions presented to Board members. Chancellor Galatolo said a condensed version, along with the revised document, will be brought back to the Board at the December meeting.

### **INFORMATION REPORTS, CONTINUED**

#### **PLANNING UPDATE (09-11-2C)**

Chancellor Galatolo said the purpose of this update is to provide the Board with information on how the Colleges arrived at their preliminary recommendations for budget reductions, to make sure they are in alignment with core values, and to engage the College Presidents in discussion.

Presidents Mohr, Claire and Morrow presented summaries of their reports, copies of which are attached to the official minutes of record.

Trustee Holober asked if College of San Mateo and Skyline College are proposing reductions in counseling at a level similar to that at Cañada College. President Claire said College of San Mateo has eliminated most adjunct counseling. Going forward, all of the Colleges will have to decide what the model will be and what the proper staffing will be within that model. President Morrow said that between the cuts taken this year and the cuts slated for next year, Skyline College will have a reduction of three FTES in counseling. The College's mission for the last two years has been to move to a triage model in which there is more intense use of whichever counselors are available when students drop in. President Morrow said increases in use of online services and group counseling are essential.

Trustee Holober asked if the Colleges are looking at eliminating athletic programs that are not self-funded. President Morrow said there are eight sports at Skyline, four of which are men's and four women's. She said there are some very small athletic programs and the cost of these may be reduced simply by adjusting how they are scheduled. President Morrow said that in the next budget cycle, athletics will likely be on the table. She said that if this occurs, it is very important to Skyline to maintain the gender balance. President Mohr said that Cañada College will also consider athletic programs if more reductions are necessary. He said it is a very difficult decision because all athletes are full-time students and many would not be at the Colleges if their sports were not offered. President Claire said the athletic directors have already discussed making reductions in a way that would allow athletes can play a sport at one of the Colleges even if it is not their home College. He added that the Commission on Athletics is examining strategies to deal with the situation at a Statewide level.

Trustee Hausman asked to what extent the Colleges have examined consolidating specific sports and other programs so that they are offered at only one of the Colleges. President Claire said that all of the Colleges must continue to work collaboratively. President Morrow said that of the eight Skyline programs in the PIV process, one is being concentrated at College of San Mateo and Skyline will no longer offer the discipline.



Trustee Holober said he understands that the Presidents are under tremendous pressure from all affected groups. He said it is the job of the Board to take the heat and to do what is best for the greatest number. He said he will be using the principle stated in the Reaffirmation: "The Board recognizes that low-enrolled courses; classes and programs that are outside of the core mission of transfer and workforce training; and courses and programs that no longer meet student or employment demand will have to be reduced or eliminated." Trustee Holober said that expenditures that do not fit into these three categories are ones that need to be examined and cut or eliminated. However, if lifelong learning programs bring in excess revenue, even if they are not part of the core mission, they can allow the retention of another core course.

Vice President Miljanich said that as a community college, we must be mindful of the fact that we are serving a different population than those who are able to be at a UC or CSU and some supportive programs should be maintained as long as possible. President Mohr agreed, noting that areas such Basic Skills can make it possible for students to enter the mainstream of college.

Trustee Mandelkern said there are two items in the Presidents' reports that are high on his "gutwrenching" scale:

1. The Half Moon Bay campus. Trustee Mandelkern said this goes to the core of the District's mission to serve the entire community of San Mateo County. He questioned whether some of the other cuts that are being saved for the next cycle could be traded in order to save the Half Moon Bay campus. President Claire said the Half Moon Bay campus has lifelong learning students and lifelong learning is far down on the list of programs to save.
2. The Child Development Center at Skyline College. Trustee Mandelkern said he is aware that this program does not serve a huge number but makes a tremendous difference in the lives of those it does serve. He asked if there might be a way to reach out for funding assistance to other school districts and/or cities which benefit from the Child Care Center. President Morrow said that if she were forced to make a decision about the CDC at this time, she would keep the program because of the value it brings to the College as part of the array of services provided to students. She said she expects the College Budget Committee to be divided on the issue and said that students' feelings depend on who they are and where they are coming from.

President Schwarz said she attended budget committee hearings at College of San Mateo and Cañada College. She was impressed to hear discussion at both hearings about communication among the three Colleges. President Schwarz said it is important to keep open dialogue among the Colleges because people on each campus are asking many questions about what the other Colleges are doing.

Regarding the objective in President Morrow's report to reduce summer school, in part by offering "courses that primarily serve the Skyline College service area," President Schwarz asked what the boundaries of that area are. President Morrow said that with regard to summer school, Skyline found that some courses were being taken by students who were not from the North County, which probably helped City College of San Francisco offset their section cuts.

Vice President Miljanich asked if the Presidents have been approached with ideas for partnerships. President Claire said that a professor in the Chinese program has come to him with a possibility for some funding. Also in the conceptual stage is a partnership with Notre Dame de Namur University to work out an exchange program whereby some District students fill empty seats in math and English classes at Notre Dame. President Claire said there are also many faculty, staff and students who have direct connections with people who are well-off and he has been approached by some with potential contacts. He said the College would not proceed with any of these sources without Board guidance. President Mohr said he has begun talks with the Chamber of Commerce about businesses that might be willing to sponsor a section or class. President Morrow said another opportunity is to expand the international student population. President Schwarz said people are asking what the District is doing to bring in more revenue and it is important to have these conversations.

Trustee Hausman commended all involved in presenting the information. President Schwarz agreed and asked that the Presidents let all who are working at the Colleges know of the Board's appreciation.

### **STATEMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Trustee Holober said that while the Board is being prevailed upon to preserve specific programs, there is relatively little conversation about how to change the hand we have been dealt. He said the entire system of higher education is being dismantled in the State. He said the solution is Statewide and will not happen fast. Trustee Holober said that locally, he believes the Board should consider putting a parcel tax measure on the ballot even though it is difficult to pass with the required two-thirds majority. He would like the Board to have a serious discussion about this between now and next June. Chancellor Galatolo said the issue will be put on the December 9 meeting agenda for discussion. He recommended that the Board engage a company such as Godbe & Associates to test the market to see if the electorate would be willing to support a parcel tax or other revenue measures. Vice President Miljanich asked how other parcel tax measures fared on the last ballot. Chancellor Galatolo said all except San Carlos did well. Trustee Holober said the District has an advantage because it is Countywide and the cost is more spread out.

Trustee Hausman attended the Skyline Facilities Maintenance Center ribbon cutting ceremony. She said two officials from Sacramento commented that they understand the District has a very good Board and is a good operating District. Chancellor Galatolo noted that Vice Chancellor José Nuñez deserves much of the credit. Trustee Hausman attended the Foundation meeting and said the Foundation elected new officers and has new directors. She said that for the first time, the Foundation is considering a major gala as a fundraiser. The Foundation has also changed its allocation model so that a larger amount will go to each College for innovation and a little less for scholarships.

Trustee Mandelkern thanked Chancellor Galatolo and the College Presidents for conducting a process during these challenging times in which there is polite and respectful conversation. Trustee Mandelkern said that every class section has passionate supporters and it is important that the Board remember this for those who are not here. Trustee Mandelkern said he wishes the Governor could hear the intelligent and compassionate comments made tonight.

Trustee Mandelkern encouraged the three Colleges to examine the duplication of courses and to consolidate in order to preserve some of the unique courses at each College. He also encouraged the Colleges to share the best practices learned at each College.

Regarding categoricals such as EOPS and DSPS, Trustee Mandelkern asked if reducing each program across the board is the right approach or if it would be better to keep some programs in their entirety. President Morrow said Skyline has looked at categoricals on a program by program basis. President Mohr said categoricals at Canada have been reduced because the only other choice was to make cuts in Fund I.

Trustee Mandelkern said that in addition to exploring opportunities to convert some sections into Community Ed and looking for additional revenue sources such as grants, other possibilities might include:

- Look at rental opportunities of District assets such as athletic facilities and other resources
- As suggested by Trustee Miljanich, reach out to cities and other colleges to share resources
- Spend capital dollars to reduce expenditures and therefore preserve funds in the general fund, such as the solar project at the high school district

Trustee Mandelkern said he appreciates the reports from the College presidents and asked if there is a report from the District as well. Chancellor Galatolo said he sent an email outlining District cuts and will re-send it.

Student Trustee Medrano Rosales said that with the information presented tonight, she will be better able to answer the many questions and concerns she is hearing from students. Student Trustee Medrano Rosales attended a meeting for students in San Francisco and participated in a candlelight vigil. She also reported that the Skyline College food drive for Second Harvest went well.

President Schwarz said that each Trustee received a letter regarding nominations for a Soroptimist Club award; the deadline for submissions is December 4.

**RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

President Schwarz said that during Closed Session, the Board will consider the personnel items listed as 1B on the printed agenda.

The Board recessed to Closed Session at 10:25 p.m.

The Board reconvened to Open Session at 11:44 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS TAKEN**

President Schwarz reported that at the Closed Session just concluded, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the personnel items listed as 1B on the printed agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Vice President Miljanich and seconded by Trustee Hausman to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried, all members voting "Aye." The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

Submitted by



Ron Galatolo  
Secretary

Approved and entered into the proceedings of the December 9, 2009 meeting.



Patricia Miljanich  
Vice President-Clerk