



Governing Board Highlights:

- The board meeting began with a moment of silence for former GC president, Erv Metzgar who died on July 15, 2014.
- Board members also recognized the deaths of Michele Tarbet (CEO of Sharp Grossmont Hospital), Carrie Valdez (CC financial aid staff member), and Orlando Sandoval (representative from the Kumeyaay nation) All were big supporters of our students and our colleges.
- Student Trustees shared information about the wonderful student leader retreat led by both our GC and CC Student Affairs Associate Deans (Vicky Kerba-Miller and Lauren Vaknin). Student trustee Zack Gianino also positively commented on the usefulness of the degree audit system as introduced to him by counselor, Wendy Cruzado.
- Trustees expressed excitement about the upcoming convocations!

Student Access, Diversity

EOPS Summer Institute Program

The EOPS Summer Institute Program welcomed 50 students to campus this summer. The students are broken into two cohorts, with one focusing on building English skills and the other on mathematics. The program is designed to welcome low-income, first-generation college students to campus and assist them on their transition to Grossmont College. Research shows that Summer Institute Program participants from 2003 to 2009 were almost twice as likely to graduate or transfer within six years (42.3 percent compared to 23.8 percent). Additionally, 96 percent of students who participate in the Summer Institute Program persist year-to-year as compared to those who do not participate (72 percent persistence rate, 2011 – 2012). The EOPS Summer Institute Program was featured in a July 14 UT San Diego article that compared it to similar programs offered at other community colleges and universities in the region.

U.S. Secretary of Labor Visit

The U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez visited the San Diego Welcome Back Center on campus to visit with program participants and administrators. The Welcome Back Center assists recent immigrants who have international training in health care fields, such as nurses, pharmacists and doctors, in obtaining California licensure. Program participants include legal immigrants who received training and license in health care fields in their home countries, and



many are also recent refugees of conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan and Bosnia, among others. Helping these professionals obtain California licensure meets a critical need for cultural and linguistic diversity in the workplace.

Student Success

Student Showcase Competition at San Diego County Fair

Dozens of Grossmont College students entered creative projects into the 2014 San Diego County Fair Student Showcase competition. Many Grossmont College students were recognized with first- through third-place ribbons, and four students were recognized with Best in Class awards for their categories, including Jessica Kowalski for ceramics, Rachele Scavingelli for photo restoration, Jamessa Guillory for cell phone photography and Robert Wells for music video.

Fiscal and Physical Resources

Fine Arts Complex Taskforce

Grossmont College is moving forward on assembling its Fine Arts Complex (200 buildings) task force as part of Prop. V bond-funded construction. The task force, led by Vice President of Administrative Services Tim Flood, will work to provide feedback on the planned construction of a new teaching/performance theater, and the renovation and construction of the arts and communications complex. Task force members include Grossmont College faculty, staff, students, LPA architects and Gafcon (the Prop. V program manager).

Value and Support of Employees

Transitions in Academic Leadership

Several planned transitions in academic leadership are underway, from department chairs to new coordinators. The new Chair of Chairs and Coordinators Council is Evan Wirig, chair of the Media Communications Department. New coordinators include Sandi Meschoulam, Child Development Center coordinator, and Paul Vincent, Spanish, Chinese and Japanese coordinator, as well as World Languages Department chair. Other new chairs include Scott Therkalsen, Earth Sciences Department; Gareth Davies-Morris, Visual Arts/Humanities Department; and Craig Everett, Theatre Arts Department (fall only, due to Beth Duggan's sabbatical).

Anthony Cutietta, Collaborator on "Out My Window"

Anthony Cutietta, music technician, is a collaborator on "Out My Window," a children's book accompanied by music. Along with local author, Amanda Keeton, and artist Ken Reif, the book is the first in a series that follows the adventures of Woofy, a dog, through his neighborhood. Cutietta and Keeton partnered with the San Diego Music Studio to locally debut the book through assemblies at three elementary schools. Their efforts were also recently recognized by the National Association of Music



Merchants with a Top 100 Award for musical outreach and advocacy during its national convention in Nashville, Tenn.

Francis Parker School's Summer Jazz Workshop

This month, Derek Cannon, music instructor, is taking part in the fourth annual Francis Parker School's Summer Jazz Workshop. The workshop exposes local middle and high school musicians to jazz music by teaching jazz history and theory, and playing alongside some of the best professionals in the industry – including Cannon.

Economic and Community Development

Student Showcase banner

Throughout the San Diego County Fair, Ivy Crocker, a Grossmont College art student, painted the Student Showcase banner alongside Al Ventura, ceramics technician. The banner was based on this year's fair theme, "The Fab Fair," and Crocker's involvement included painting and answering art-based questions from visitors. Crocker has participated in the showcase for the past 12 years and was a Best in Class winner in 2006.



The Three Musketeers

The Theatre Arts Department presents its first-ever summer conservatory, which features local high school and college students in acting and technical roles in *The Three Musketeers*, July 24 – 26, 30, 31, at the Stagehouse Theatre. The conservatory is entirely self-funded, thanks to generous donations made to the Foundation for Grossmont & Cuyamaca Colleges on behalf of the Theatre Arts Department throughout the 2013-14 academic year. All students participating in the program take college credit courses specific to their responsibility in the production of the show.

