

District Press Releases - 2001

12/13/01

San Leandro Resident Elected Board President

(Pleasanton, CA) – Mrs. Isobel Dvorsky, a long-time member of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, was elected president of the Board at its latest meeting at Chabot College.

A veteran board member and higher education advocate, Mrs. Dvorsky takes over as president from Hayward resident Gary Craig. Elected to the board in 1985 to represent San Leandro, this is Mrs. Dvorsky fourth turn as president.

“I am excited to lead the Board during such a pivotal time in our district's history. We are on the verge of hiring new leadership at both colleges and moving forward with many new and innovative projects. Enrollment is up and we are serving a tremendous number of students and community members,” said Mrs. Dvorsky.

In addition to her service as a board member for the college district, Mrs. Dvorsky serves as the trustee representative on the board of directors of the American Association of Community Colleges. She has served as national president of the Association of Community College Trustees, and as the president of the California Community College Trustees Association and the Community College League of California. Her local affiliations include serving as board member of the Davis Street Community Center and board member of the San Leandro Scholarship Foundation both located in San Leandro.

A former speech therapist, Mrs. Dvorsky's roots are in education. A tireless advocate for students, she has been recognized numerous times for her dedication to community colleges.

10/16/01

Governor Authorizes Funds for Phase One of Las Positas College Gymnasium

(Pleasanton, CA) – At midnight on Sunday, October 14, Governor Gray Davis signed legislation authorizing capital outlay funds for 34 community college construction projects, one of those being the gymnasium at Las Positas College in Livermore. College officials were pleased to hear of the Governor's actions. “The gymnasium has been on the State Chancellor's Office project list for more than 12 years. We are excited that the Governor has made funds available to us. This facility is desperately needed at the college and in the community,” said District Chancellor Susan Cota,

former president at the college.

The college district will receive \$461,000 for preliminary plans for phase 1 of the gymnasium project. The funds will pay for all of the design development and a portion of the work to develop the actual working drawings in preparation for bidding out the project. The total cost for the preliminary plans and working drawings phase of the project is \$926,911. The district expects to receive the funds before the end of the year.

Construction and equipment dollars for the gymnasium will be included in the next higher education bond initiative on the California ballot tentatively scheduled for March 2002. If the voters of California do not pass the bond then the college will not receive the construction and equipment funds needed to complete the gymnasium. If the bond passes then it is anticipated that construction would begin in spring 2004 with the gymnasium to be completed by fall 2005.

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5/16/01

Board of Trustees Selects New Chancellor

(Pleasanton, CA) – The Board of Trustees of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District has named Dr. Susan A. Cota to the position of chancellor. This announcement follows a six month national search in which Cota was one of three finalists.

Cota, 54, has been president of Las Positas College in Livermore for eight years. As chancellor she will fill the top vacancy in the district which operates Chabot College in Hayward and Las Positas College. The two colleges together serve more than 21,000 students in the East Bay area. Cota will become the first Hispanic female chancellor in the district's 40-year history. In addition, she will be the only female Hispanic chancellor in the California Community College system.

“Dr. Cota has demonstrated her excellent leadership skills through all she has accomplished at Las Positas College. Through her tenure in the district she has developed a keen sense of the colleges and the directions in which they need to move. The Board feels strongly that she will maintain the district's reputation as a leader in higher education,” said Gary Craig, board president.

Prior to serving as president, Cota served as dean of students at Las Positas. Before joining the district she was the Dean of Students at College of Alameda, and has served in the State Chancellor's Office as the director of the disability services program for the state's 107 community colleges.

Dr. Cota received her doctorate from the University of San Francisco in

Organizational Leadership in Higher Education, her master's degree in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling from San Francisco State University and a bachelor's degree in English from Immaculate Heart College in Los Angeles. She is also a graduate of the Harvard Seminar for New Presidents.

She has served on the boards of several state and national organizations. She is currently a member of the Pleasanton Rotary Club and the Tri-Valley Education Council.

Cota replaces Ronald Kong who is retiring after five years as chancellor and 35 years in higher education.

5/3/01

Board to Hold Chancellor Candidate Forums

(Pleasanton, CA) – The Board of Trustees of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District met on Tuesday, May 1 and interviewed two candidates for the position of district chancellor. Following the interviews, one candidate withdrew their application from the hiring process.

District employees and members of the community are invited to meet the final candidate, Dr. Susan Cota, during the following public forums:

District Office in Pleasanton on Friday, May 4 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Lunch Room

Las Positas College on Monday, May 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Center

Chabot College on Tuesday, May 8 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 1908

Forum participants will have the opportunity to provide written comments in regards to the candidate. These comments will then be shared with the Board of Trustees during their closed session meeting on Tuesday, May 8.