

District Press Releases - 2011

12/7/11

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 held at the district office.

A veteran board member and higher education advocate, Mrs. Dvorsky takes over as president from Livermore resident Barbara F. Mertes, Ph.D. Elected to the board in 1985 to represent San Leandro, this is Mrs. Dvorsky's sixth turn as president.

In addition to her service as a board member for the college district, Mrs. Dvorsky served as the trustee representative on the board of directors of the American Association of Community Colleges, national president of the Association of Community College Trustees, and as the president of the California Community College Trustees Association and founding member of the Community College League of California.

Her local affiliations include serving as board member and past president of the Davis Street Family Resource Center, board member and past president of the San Leandro Scholarship Foundation, advisory board member of the San Leandro Education Foundation, and founding member and past president of the Political Action Committee for Excellence all located in San Leandro.

A former speech therapist, Mrs. Dvorsky's roots are in education. She has been recognized numerous times for her dedication to community colleges and is the recipient of the prestigious M. Dale Ensign Trustee Award given by the Association of Community College Trustees.

11/22/11

Chabot College President Finalists Selected and Forums Scheduled

(Pleasanton, CA) - On behalf of the Chabot College Advisory Search Committee, Joel L. Kinnamon, Ed.D., Chancellor of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, has announced four finalists have been selected for the President of Chabot College in Hayward.

The finalists will appear at the President Candidate Forums on Monday, November 28, 12:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. in the Community Events Center, Building 700, Room 722, on the Chabot College campus located at 25555 Hesperian Boulevard in Hayward.

Following is the schedule for the public forums:

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Susan Sperling, Ph.D

1:15 - 2:15 p.m. Edward Bush, Ph.D.

2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Pamela Walker, Ed.D.

3:45 - 4:45 p.m. George Railey, Ed.D.

Following is a list of the candidates in alphabetical order:

Edward Bush, Ph.D.

Dr. Edward Bush has over 17 years of experience in higher education with 14 of those years at the Riverside Community College District. Dr. Bush currently serves as the Vice President of Student Services for Riverside City College. He has served as an associate faculty member in student activities, Director of the Educational Talent Search Federal TRIO Grant, and Dean of Student Services. In addition, he has served on numerous college and district-wide committees and has been active with community organizations. Dr. Bush also has worked as an adjunct instructor for the Graduate School of Education at the University of Redlands where he taught courses in student development and organizational theory.

Dr. Bush received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from the University of California Riverside; Master's Degree in Public Administration from California State University, San Bernardino; and his Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Claremont Graduate University. Dr. Bush's academic work includes eight peer-reviewed publications, one forthcoming book, and numerous presentations on issues related to community college student success and equity.

George Railey, Ed.D.

Dr. Railey's career in education spans more than 30 years. He presently serves as Vice President of Academic Services at Chabot College leading a team of academic deans and directors. Before coming to Chabot, Dr. Railey served the Yosemite Community College District for eight years as Dean of Instructional Services at Columbia College, Dean of Instructional Services at Modesto Junior College, and Interim Vice Chancellor of Educational Services at the district. Dr. Railey also served as the Dean of Arts and Social Sciences Division at Cosumnes River College in Elk Grove as part of the Los Rios Community College District. Prior to coming to California, Dr. Railey served for three years as Chairman of the Humanities and Fine Arts Division at Somerset Community and Technical College System, Somerset, Kentucky. He also served as a professor of music for 12 years. Dr. Railey also has eight years of K-12 teaching experience in the Pulaski County School District, Kentucky, where he taught Instrumental Music.

Dr. Railey holds bachelors and masters degrees in music education and a Rank II Teaching Certificate from Eastern Kentucky University. During the past seven years,

he completed a Community College Leadership Certificate from CSU Stanislaus, and an Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration from University of the Pacific. Dr. Railey is a member of the California Joint Special Populations Advisory Committee, was recently appointed to the California Community College Chief Instructional Officers Executive Board, actively works with local philanthropies to raise scholarship funds, and is a professional jazz musician.

Susan Sperling, Ph.D.

Dr. Susan Sperling has been a member of the Chabot College community for 25 years. During her career at the College she has served in a variety of capacities, including faculty member, faculty leader, administrator, and community liaison. Dr. Sperling has successfully negotiated college funding partnerships with both the private and public sector, and developed innovative projects involving the range of diversity in the College's service area. Working with interested stake-holders, Dr. Sperling has developed programs focusing on cultural diversity, social justice, civic engagement, and environmental justice. Dr. Sperling has researched, published widely, and presented nationally on topics ranging from animal rights, the history of evolutionary science, gender and race issues, among many others. Dr. Sperling is the recipient of numerous awards and grants, including the Reed L. Buffington Award for Excellence in Teaching, and major research grants from the National Institutes of Health and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Among the many positions Dr. Sperling has held in the College and District, she has served as district-wide Faculty Association President, Chabot's first grants developer under the college's original Title III grant, and is currently the Dean of Social Sciences.

Dr. Sperling earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree and her Ph.D. in Anthropology from University of California, Berkeley.

Pamela Walker, Ed.D.

Dr. Pam Walker has been an educator for her entire career and is currently the Vice President for Student Services at American River College, a position she has held for the past five years. Dr. Walker has also served American River College in two other positions: the Associate Vice President for Instruction and the Dean for Science/Allied Health. Prior to American River College, Dr. Walker was Dean of Physical Education/Athletics and Dean of Admissions at Cerritos College in Southern California. She also served as the Associate Commissioner of Athletics directing California Community College Athletics from a statewide perspective. Dr. Walker's career includes 15 years as a professor and administrator. Dr. Walker was on the Executive Board for the Chief Student Services Officers and is currently on the California Community College Athletics Association Board.

Dr. Walker received her Bachelor of Science Degree in education from Eastern Oregon State College, La Grande, Oregon; her Master's Degree in Physical Education

from California State University, Sacramento; and her Ed.D., in Organization and Leadership from University of San Francisco.

9/29/11

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Uses IceBank to Achieve Sustainability Goals and Cost Savings

(Pleasanton, CA) - Summer's heat might be gone, but the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District cooling cost savings and benefits to the environment are forever - thanks to the new IceBank energy storage systems made possible by voter approval of Measure B, the general obligation facilities bond.

The IceBank energy storage system by CALMAC creates ice at night when energy is less expensive and renewable energy sources are most abundant. The ice is used the next day to cool buildings, leading to significant annual energy cost savings and lower greenhouse gas emissions associated with peak demand avoidance. The district saved more than \$200,000 and 1.1 megawatts per year in energy costs and consumption.

“Our district has made a strong commitment to reducing our carbon footprint and this project shows how dedicated we are to this goal,” said District Vice Chancellor Jeff Kingston. “The IceBank storage tanks have allowed us to reduce our peak-demand energy consumption, carbon footprint, and operating costs. It has been a great addition to both Chabot and Las Positas college campuses.”

District Chancellor Joel L. Kinnamon joined more than 500 other university and college presidents across the country as a signatory to the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment. The commitment was created by the organization as a pledge to make colleges and universities carbon neutral.

Both colleges in the district affirmed their support of the climate commitment by creating a historic Climate Action Plan and establishing a Sustainability Committee of volunteers to establish sustainability goals that reflect the colleges' missions and values.

To achieve their goals, the colleges also planned high-performance buildings that meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification or higher. LEED is an internationally recognized “green” building certification system and standard for measuring building sustainability.

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5/13/11

Las Positas College President Finalists Selected and Forums Scheduled

(Pleasanton, CA) - On behalf of the Las Positas College Advisory Search Committee, Joel L. Kinnamon, Ed.D., Chancellor of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, has announced that three additional finalists have been selected for the President of Las Positas College in Livermore.

The finalists will appear at the President Candidate Forums on Thursday, May 19, 1-4 p.m. in Building 800, Room 801, on the Las Positas College campus at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

Following is the schedule for the public forums:

1-2 p.m. Kindred Murillo, Ph.D.

2-3 p.m. Kevin Walthers, Ph.D.

3-4 p.m. Barry Russell, Ph.D.

Following is a list of the candidates in alphabetical order:

Kindred Murillo, Ph.D.

Kindred Murillo, Ph.D., currently serves as the Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services for Contra Costa Community College District. She began her higher education experience in 1996 when she was hired as a part-time faculty member, later to become full-time, at the Desert Community College District. She was promoted to Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services when Copper Mountain Community College became a separate district, overseeing fiscal services, budget, facilities, maintenance and operations, and technology services.

Murillo also served as the Vice President of Administrative Services at Pasadena Area Community College District. She has served on six visiting teams for the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

Murillo's experience outside higher education includes 13 years at the electric utility, Southern California Edison, in several management positions including area manager, employee relations manager, and Business Offices regional manager. She also has held public office as the Mayor and Councilmember for the Town of Yucca Valley, and became a field representative from the Third District Supervisor in San Bernardino County.

Murillo is a product of the community college system, graduating from Barstow Community College with a liberal arts degree. She went on to complete her B.S. in Business Administration at Redlands University, and her M.S. in Organization Development at Pepperdine University. She recently completed her doctorate in Organizational Leadership at Pepperdine University.

Barry Russell, Ph.D.

In November 2009, Barry Russell, Ph.D., was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger as the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs for the California

Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. A graduate of the Community College Leadership Program (1991) at the University of Texas at Austin, he also holds degrees in music from Texas A&M University - Commerce (previously East Texas State University).

Prior to becoming Vice Chancellor, Russell served as Vice President of Instruction at College of the Siskiyous in Weed, CA. He also served as the Dean of Fine Arts and Communication at Cerritos College and held the same position at Southwestern College in Chula Vista, CA before moving to Cerritos.

Russell was Director of the Central Texas Tech Prep Consortium and was a faculty member in music and computer science at Paris Junior College in Paris, Texas. He is active in both state and national community college organizations, serving as a member and officer on several boards.

In 2009, Russell was awarded the Instructional Leadership Award from the National Instructional Administrators, an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges. In 2010, he was awarded the Carter Doran Leadership Award from the California Chief Instructional Officers of the California Community Colleges.

Kevin Glen Walthers, Ph.D.

Kevin Glen Walthers, Ph.D., is the Vice Chancellor for Administration for the West Virginia Community and Technical College System and the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission. His duties include responsibility for the state's financial aid program, which includes the Higher Education Grant Program and the PROMISE Scholarship. Walthers also oversees the West Virginia Network for Educational Telecomputing, the state's educational technology provider to K-12 schools, colleges, and universities.

Prior to his time in West Virginia, Walthers served as Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services at the College of Eastern Utah. The College of Eastern Utah has two locations: a main campus in Price, Utah and the other in Blanding, Utah serving the Four Corners Region that includes Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona. Walthers initially went to the College of Eastern Utah as a temporary assignment stemming from his position with the Utah Commissioner of Higher Education. He has an extensive background as an educator with the K-12 system and as a policy leader through his work with the Utah State Legislature.

Walthers attended Eastfield Community College in Mesquite, Texas and holds a B.S. from the University of Texas at Austin, a master's of Educational Administration from Texas A&M University - Commerce, and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy from the University of Utah.

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees Addresses State Budget Cuts with Staff Reductions

(Pleasanton, CA) - As a step toward addressing an anticipated \$10.3 million budget shortfall due to state budget cuts, the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees at its March 8 meeting approved a reduction in staff positions at the district and two colleges, affecting 18 current employees.

Twenty-six positions are affected. Seven management positions, representing more than 9 percent of the district's management, have been affected; two are vacant positions. Nineteen eliminated classified staff positions, six of which are vacant, represent approximately 4 percent of the district's represented classified positions.

The reductions are effective June 30, 2011 except for one position which is effective September 30, 2011.

"These are difficult decisions during difficult times caused by the state budget crisis. We have a fiduciary responsibility to plan and budget within the framework projected by the state and we are exploring all options to address the projected shortfall," said district Chancellor Dr. Joel L. Kinnamon. "In the face of unprecedented state budget cuts, the district priority is to fulfill its mission in maintaining the quality of its academic programs and providing educational access for students and the community," he said.

At its March 8 meeting, the board also adopted a resolution in support of California Community Colleges Budget Priorities and Principles. The resolution recognizes that "California's higher education system is in a crisis situation with insufficient resources at a time of record demand due to high school graduates and unemployed residents seeking retraining..." The resolution includes support for "a balanced approach to budgeting, including the extension of temporary tax revenues to protect vital state programs."

2/17/11

District Announces Las Positas College President Finalists

(Pleasanton, CA) - Dr. Joel L. Kinnamon, Chancellor of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, on behalf of the Las Positas College Advisory Search Committee has announced the four finalists for the President of Las Positas College in Livermore.

These four individuals will appear at the President Candidate Forums on Thursday, February 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. in Building 800, Room #801 on the Las Positas College campus at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

Thursday, February 24, 2011

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., Dr. Kimberly Perry

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m., Dr. Joseph Olson

2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m., Dr. Kevin Trutna

The finalists are listed in alphabetical order:

Dr. Joseph Olson

Dr. Olson currently serves as the Vice President for Military, Community and Economic Development at Copper Mountain College in Joshua Tree, CA. Prior to this position, he served as their Vice President for Finance and Administration. Dr. Olson previously served as the President of the Jefferson Community College, NY.

Dr. Olson earned his Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN with his dissertation on Common Transitional and First-Year Experiences of Newly Appointed Community College Deans. He earned both his Master of Science in Counseling Psychology and Bachelor of Science in Crime and Delinquency from Suffolk University, Boston, MA.

Dr. Kimberly Perry

Dr. Perry currently serves as the Vice President of Academic Affairs at Los Angeles City College. Prior to this position, she served at Reedley College as Vice President of Instruction and also Dean of Instruction.

Dr. Perry earned her Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration and Leadership from the University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA with her doctoral thesis on The Use of Technology in Relation to Community College Faculty Characteristics and Instructional Environments. She earned both her Master of Education and Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education from the University of California, Davis.

Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker

Dr. Schoonmaker currently serves as the Vice President of Instruction at Clatsop Community College, OR. Prior to this position, he served as Vice President of Instruction and Student Services at Southwestern Oregon Community College, OR.

Dr. Schoonmaker earned his Ed.D. in Educational Administration-Community College Leadership from New Mexico State University with his dissertation on Faculty Leadership in the Classroom: Using the Transperceptional Leadership Model to Study the Impact of Student Perception of Faculty Leadership on Instructor Effectiveness. He earned his Master of Science in College Student Personnel Administration from Western Illinois University and Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of Vermont.

Dr. Kevin Trutna

Dr. Trutna currently serves as the Vice President for Academic and Student Services at Yuba College, Marysville, CA. Prior to this position, he was their Dean of Math, Engineering, Science and Health Occupations. He previously served as Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Research, Planning and Grants at Arizona Western College, Yuma, AZ.

Dr. Trutna earned his Ed.D. in Adult and Higher Education from Montana State University, Bozeman, MT with his dissertation on Characteristics of Adult Students in Introductory Calculus. He earned his Master of Science in Mathematics from Montana State University and Bachelor of Science in Mathematics; Minor in Theology from Loyola University of Chicago.