Marin Community College District
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

Minutes

March 11, 2014

Indian Valley Campus
Building 5, Room 188
1800 Ignacio Boulevard, Novato, California

A. Open Session

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Closed Session Agenda
   The Board of Trustees met for a Board Study Session in Building 5, Room 188 on the Indian
   Valley Campus, all members having received notice as required. Board President O’Brien
called the meeting to order at 3:13 p.m. Trustees O’Brien, Kranenburg, Bevis, Conti and
Treanor were present. Also present were Superintendent/President Coon, Vice President
Eldridge and Executive Director Combs. **M/s (Conti/Bevis) to adopt the closed session agenda.**
Motion carried 5-0-1. Trustee Long was not present for the vote. **Trustee Long arrived at 3:35 p.m.**

2. Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda (3 minutes per speaker)
   There was no public comment on the Closed Session Agenda

3. Study Session - Affordable Care Act / Employee Benefit Advisory Group
   Dr. Coon introduced Kristina Combs, Executive Director of Human Resources and Labor
   Relations who briefed the Board on the Employee Benefit Advisory Group. She noted that
   the advisory group consists of representatives from all college constituencies and that
   meetings have been informative and positive. The group has been working with the District
   to assure that employee benefit needs are considered while discussing options to mitigate
   insurance premium costs and compliance with the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Ms. Combs
   introduced Mr. Tom Sher with Alliant Employee Benefits to discuss the impact of the ACA as
   well as current health plan options and consideration of other plan options moving forward.
   A copy of Mr. Sher’s presentation has been posted to the College website (www.marin.edu)
   under the Board of Trustees tab for this meeting.
Mr. Sher reviewed the employer requirements of the ACA noting the significant impact on employers to provide benefits for full-time employees (defined as 30 hours per week). He further noted if the District is found out of compliance for even one employee, it will face severe monetary penalties. With the significant premium increases this year, the District must offer affordable options to employees that meet the guidelines of the ACA. The District must also carefully consider all full-time hires for which benefits are required. Some options the District may consider include; 1) keeping current carrier contracts, but offering more affordable plans; 2) joining a purchasing pool such as SISC or CalPERS which levels out risk and lowers costs; or 3) offering only Kaiser. There has also been discussion about Account Based Health Plans with Health Savings accounts. There was significant discussion and Trustees asked questions and offered suggestions. The timeline is tight and decisions will have to be made soon to procure and offer the plans to employees. The District will have a recommendation for Trustees in April.

Trustees took a short break. Trustee Conti left the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

4. **Adjourn to Closed Session** – Meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 5:10 p.m.

**B. Closed Session**

1. **Call to Order**
2. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR(S) (Govt. Code Section 54957.6)**
   - Agency Representatives: Kristina Combs/Greg Nelson
   - Employee Organizations: United Professors of Marin (UPM/AFT)
3. **PUBLIC EMPLOYEES DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE (Govt. Code sec. 54957)**
4. **CONSIDERATION OF EXPULSION OF A STUDENT (Education Code §72122)**
5. **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Govt. Code Sect. – 54957)**
   - Title: Superintendent/President
6. **Adjourn to Regular Meeting Open Session**

**C. Open Session**

1. **Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda**
   Board President O’Brien called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Trustees O’Brien, Long, Bevis, Treanor and Kranenburg were present. Also present were Student Trustee Reyes, Superintendent/President Coon and Vice Presidents Nelson, Torres and Eldridge. Trustee Conti was not present. Dr. Coon noted revisions to agenda items C.11. E & F, provided on blue paper for Trustees, and that item C.11.F.1. has been pulled from the agenda. Trustee Treanor requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Betty Wilson who passed away about two weeks ago. She was a dear friend and long-time faculty member of the College of Marin. Trustee Treanor requested we send a letter to Ms. Wilson’s domestic partner. **M/s (Long/Bevis) to approve the agenda as amended.**
Motion carried 5-0-1, plus an advisory aye vote by Student Trustee Reyes. Trustee Conti was not present.

2. Report from Closed Session
Clerk Kranenburg reported the following action from closed session: In Closed Session the Board took action to eliminate the Maintenance Supervisor, Grounds Supervisor, Director of Financial Aid and Assistant Director of Financial Aid positions. The vote to eliminate the positions was unanimous, 5-0-1. Trustee Conti was not present.

3. Public Comment on Open Session Agenda (3 minutes per speaker)
A. Comments regarding items not on the Agenda
   Laurie Ordin commented on AB 2087 noting that it would prohibit the Board of Governors from creating a special trustee that circumvents the powers of the locally elected Trustee Boards. UPM is supporting the bill and hopes the Board of Trustees will support it as well.
   Gloria Kopshever thanked Trustees for their help getting the hot water in the showers at the IVC Pool repaired. She also requested that the College better inform the North Marin community when Board meetings will be held at the Indian Valley Campus and the meeting location on campus. Dr. Coon thanked Ms. Kopshever and noted that he would work with staff to get the information out to the community.
   Aimee Benedict, student, spoke to a problem she is having with the Campus Police on the Kentfield campus and requested a solution that would enable her to complete her courses. Vice President Eldridge will review this matter with the Chief of Police.
B. Comments regarding items on the Agenda – to be heard immediately before the Board of Trustees’ consideration of the item

4. Board Reports/or Requests (15 minutes)
A. Committee Chair Reports – There were no Committee Chair Reports
B. Governance Calendar Review – Board President O’Brien noted that the calendar will be in the Board packet every month for review and as a reminder of important topics that will be coming up for discussion. Dr. Coon noted that he has tried to anticipate and project out the topics of discussion for the next six months and the calendar is up to date as we know it.
C. Individual Reports/or Requests
   Trustee Bevis provided a Legislative Report, attached to the minutes and posted on the College’s website (www.marin.edu) under the Board of Trustees tab for this meeting. She hoped that Trustees would review some of the upcoming legislation and will include local initiatives in her next report.
   Board President O’Brien requested that the next meeting agenda include an action item to consider eliminating the July meeting, or making it a less formal or shorter.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes (2 minutes)
A. **M/s (Treanor/Bevis) to approve the Minutes of February 18, 2014 Board Meeting.**
   Motion carried 5-0-1, plus an advisory aye vote by Student Trustee Reyes. Trustee Conti was not present.

6. **Chief Executive Officer Report**
   Vice President Eldridge introduced and welcomed Patrick Ekoue-Totou, the new Chief Information Officer and Director of IT.
   
   A. **Citizen’s Oversight Committee Annual Report, John Hanley - This item was postponed until the April 15 Board Meeting.**
   
   B. **Drama Department 50th Anniversary, Lisa Morse**
   Dr. Lisa Morse, Coordinator of the Drama Program, updated the Board on recent activities within the department and shared plans for upcoming events to mark the 50th anniversary of the Drama Department. A copy of Dr. Morse’s comments are attached to the minutes and posted on the College’s website (www.marin.edu) under the Board of Trustees Tab for this meeting.

   Vice President Nelson provided an update on items C, D and E below. A copy of his [presentation](www.marin.edu) has been posted to the College’s website under the Board of Trustees Tab for this meeting.

C. **OPEB Investment Update, Greg Nelson**
   The investment strategy chosen by the Board last year has been doing very well and is exceeding expectations, with the initial investment of $2.1 million having grown to $2.3 million as of the end of December 2013. The current year to date growth rate is 16.1% which exceeds the anticipated 9% and lessens the burden on the unrestricted budget. Updates will be provided on a bi-annual basis.

D. **50% Law Update, Greg Nelson**
   The District was one of three State colleges that filed for an exemption from the 50% Law for 2012/13. When two of the three colleges withdrew their requests for exemption, the College of Marin did the same. As a result, Reserve funds in the amount of $443,000 will be set aside into a one-time District trust fund to be used for direct instruction costs. The District will continue to monitor compliance with the 50% Law and will provide the Board with an update in April or May. Dr. Coon noted that we felt it was futile to go ahead with the exemption request without the Chancellor’s support. Vice President Nelson answered trustee questions about the fund and gave examples of what is considered “direct instruction.”

E. **Fee Schedule, Greg Nelson**
   Vice President Nelson noted that the College fee schedule is outdated and in some instances not compliant with Education Code. Facilities fees have not been updated in ten years and there are a number of buildings on the fee schedule that no longer exist. We are not covering basic costs to rent the facilities, especially with non-profit rates.
Staff is in the process of reviewing and updating the fee schedule to bring fees into compliance with code and college policy and procedure. There will also be updates and added fees/fines to coincide with local jurisdictions. An update will be provided in April to give the Board an idea of what the fee schedule will look like. Trustees questioned and discussed the types of additional fines, asked how parking fees are used, and offered suggestions to include fees such as parking in total rental cost. It was also noted that we must assure that the impact of these increases are well vetted through our governance process and that we must educate the community that there is no “free use.” This may also be a potential donor opportunity to offset the cost of fees for those who cannot afford them.

7. Study Session
   A. Board Vacancy
      Board President O’Brien announced we received 14 applications for the vacant Board seat. It is recommended the Board screen the applications and come up with a short list of six candidates to interview. Trustees Long and Treanor have been asked to serve as an Ad Hoc committee to screen the applications. Ms. O’Brien shared a draft schedule and rubric for criteria, noting she is also gathering input on interview questions. The Ad Hoc Committee will complete their work between now and March 25 and communicate their recommendations to the Board at a Special Meeting on March 25. Candidates will be notified of the result of the meeting on March 26 and the Board will meet again on April 1 to finalize questions, hold interviews, vote, and swear in the new Trustee. In response to President O’Brien’s request, Trustees discussed the rubric and scoring, giving their input and recommendations. There was a suggestion to have the candidates complete a 200-word ballot statement. As a result of the discussion, it was determined that “years of” would be replaced by “prior” for Criteria 1, 2 and 3 and that the scoring for Criteria 4 would increase to 0-15. M/s (Bevis/Treanor) to accept the screening criteria as revised. Motion carried 5-0-1. Trustee Conti was not present. Student Trustee Reyes abstained.
      The document will be updated and forwarded to Trustees Long and Treanor for their use in reviewing the applications. It was requested that the recommendation of candidates be listed alphabetically.
   
   B. Board Membership
      Dr. Coon reported that while we have a legal obligation to fill the existing vacancy by April 4, he had been asked to do some initial research on what actions would be required should the Board decide to make a change from 7 to 5 members. California Code 5019 defines the process to change the number of trustees. He provided Trustees with a high level description of the process (attached), noting that he had discussions with Bob Henry, School and College Legal Services, and Mary Jane Burke, Marin County Office of Education, and found that when initiated by a Board, it is fairly straightforward. He also provided an accounting of the number of trustees at the Bay 10 Area colleges (attached). Dr. Coon has asked Vice President Nelson to research election costs to see if
there would be any impact should a change to a 5-member board be implemented. The last election cost $201,000 and the election prior was approximately $80,000. Trustees requested additional information including cost analysis, annual cost to pay trustees, a statewide view of the size of Boards, the benefit of District election vs. county-wide election, and the effect on campaign costs, the value or detriment to the District if we reduce the number of trustees and what challenges there may have been to boards that reduced from 7 to 5. Trustees commented that they would hate to lose what we have and asked why we are considering it at all. There was another question about how we would phase this change in.

*Trustee Conti re-joined the meeting at 7:45 p.m.*

Other comments included the importance of a fully engaged board that works well together, no matter the size; that the timing seems good since we have just had one resignation and could have another should Trustee Conti be successful in her bid for the Assembly; that there are a number of well-run 5-member boards; whether it made sense to take the time to study this given the priorities we already have and how important is this right now. There were comments that we will lose diversity of thought, individual ideas and experience at the table.

**Public Comment:** There was a late public comment allowed on a non-agenda item. John Rodriguez spoke on behalf of SEIU noting they had just signed a new contract with the District and though the insurance was not resolved, there is guidance that the premiums will soon be reduced through the efforts of the Health Benefits Committee. SEIU petitions the Board to continue to pay the Kaiser Family rate as per historical practice at least until the work of the Health Benefits Committee is completed. They would like to thank the HR team and Kristina Combs.

8. **Academic Senate Report (5 minutes)**

Sara McKinnon welcomed Patrick Ekoue-Totou on behalf of the Academic Senate. She reported on the Board Policy and Administrative Procedures for auditing courses in the Board packet developed primarily to address issues in the performing arts area, to assure they are able to assemble casts, choirs, ensembles, etc. Once a student has exhausted all repeatability options, they would be allowed to audit courses. The procedure defines the parameters for auditing courses. Enrollment priority is given to students taking the courses for credit. Auditors would only be allowed if there is space and only if the student has exhausted all other repeat possibilities as a regular student in class. The individual disciplines decide which courses may be audited with the ultimate decision made by the instructor. A request was made in College Council to consider allowing auditing of lower level courses, so students can better prepare and succeed in the course they place in but may not feel they are ready for. The Senate will be looking at this and may come back with changes at a later date. The other procedure on the agenda this evening addresses outlining the parameters of creating a recency procedure for disciplines this would affect, currently...
Chemistry and Biology. The Senate has asked the disciplines to come back with data on how this is working.

9. **Classified Senate Report (5 minutes)**
   The Senate is pleased to announce that three Classified Professionals were chosen by their colleagues to be recognized at the annual Golden Bell event sponsored by the County Office of Education to be held on the evening of May 22, 2014. The names of those staff members will be announced and recognized at our own Faculty and Staff Recognition Luncheon on the same day. The awards committee received over 20 nominations from staff members that complimented their colleagues for their quality of work, extra effort, positive attitude, dependability, collaboration, and commitment to supporting our students.

10. **Student Association Report (5 minutes)**
    Student Trustee Reyes reported there will be a Masquerade Dance and Social taking place on March 14 and Veterans’ Recognition Day is scheduled for April 29.

11. **M/s (Treanor/Long) to approve the consent calendar items as revised.** It was noted that we have added a meeting on April 1, 2014. The minutes will reflect the additional meeting as part of the discussion under item C.7.A. Board Vacancy. **Motion carried 6-0 by a Roll Call Vote. Student Trustee Reyes cast an advisory aye vote.**

A. **Upcoming Board Meetings**
   - March 25, 2014 Special Meeting, Kentfield Campus
   - April 15, 2014, Kentfield Campus
   - April 25, 2014 Board Retreat, Indian Valley Campus

B. **Approve Classified Personnel Recommendations**
   1. Appointment of Hourly Personnel
   2. Temporary Increase/Decrease in Assignment for Classified Personnel
   3. Resignation/Termination of Classified Personnel

C. **Approve Classified Position Recommendations**

D. **Approve Academic Personnel Recommendations**
   1. Approval of Continued Employment of Academic Contract Faculty

E. **Approve Classified Administrators and Management Personnel Recommendations**
   1. Appointment/Terms for Continued Employment of Classified Administrators and Management Personnel - Revised

F. **Approve Educational Administrators and Management Personnel Appointments - Revised**
   1. Appointment of Educational Management Personnel – Pulled
   2. Appointment/Terms of Continued Employment for Educational Administrators/Management Personnel
   3. Resignation of Educational Management Personnel
G. Approve Short-Term Hourly Positions

H. Declaration of Surplus Property - Miscellaneous Equipment

I. Approve A.A. and A.S. Degree Revisions

J. Approve Certificate of Achievement Revisions

K. Approve Skills Certificate Revisions and Addition

L. Approve Credit Course Additions

M. Approve Credit Course Revisions

N. Approve Credit Course Deletions

O. Modernization (Measure C)
   1. Ratify/Approve Modernization Contracts, Changes, Amendments ($94,651.50)

P. Second Reading and Approval of Board Policies (None)

12. Other Action Items

   M/s (Treanor/Long) to waive the readings of Resolutions 2014-5 and 2014-6. Motion carried 6-0 plus an advisory aye vote.

   A. M/s (Treanor/Long) to approve Resolution #2014-5 in Support of Women’s History Month. Motion carried 6-0 by a roll call vote. Student Trustee Reyes cast an advisory aye vote.

   B. M/s (Bevis/Treanor) to approve Resolution #2014-6 to Compensate Trustee Kranenburg for Excused Absence. Motion carried 5-0-1 by roll call vote, with Trustee Kranenburg abstaining. Student Trustee Reyes cast an advisory aye vote.

   C. M/s (Bevis/Treanor) to approve Revision to Academic Calendar 2014/15. Motion carried 6-0, plus an advisory aye vote by Student Trustee Reyes.

   D. M/s (Treanor/Long) to approve Contract with Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. for Health Benefit Broker Services. Motion carried 6-0, plus an advisory aye vote by Student Trustee Reyes.

   E. M/s (Kranenburg/Treanor) to approve Contract with U.S. Bank for Debit Card Refunds. Motion carried 6-0, plus an advisory aye vote by Student Trustee Reyes.

   F. M/s (Bevis/Treanor) to accept of Non-Cash Gifts. Motion carried 6-0, plus an advisory aye vote by Student Trustee Reyes.

   G. Modernization (Measure C)
      1. M/s (Kranenburg/Treanor) to approve Authorization to Bid and Pre Authorization to Award Construction Contract for ADA Upgrades KTD (309A). Motion carried 6-0, plus an advisory aye vote by Student Trustee Reyes.

   H. M/s (Treanor/Long) to approve Final Action on Superintendent/President’s Recommendation re: Student Expulsion. Motion carried 6-0. Student Trustee Reyes abstained.
13. Board Policy Review (1st Reading)
   1. BP 4070 Auditing (Courses)
      It was clarified that the College does not currently allow auditing of courses and this changes policy to allow it.

14. Board Meeting Evaluation
   Trustees thought the meeting was run very effectively and covered a lot of information. The study session and presentations were excellent, informative and easy to understand. Trustees commended staff for their professionalism noting that the meeting went very smoothly given the information that was covered. It was noted that having the study session early, when minds are fresh, was a good idea and the new agenda format was also beneficial to the public with Board reports early in the meeting. There was a request to update the calendar so the Board is aware of the upcoming activities in April and May. The Board worked well as a team, was respectful, calm and asked thoughtful questions. There was good participation from the audience. Both Board President O’Brien and Superintendent/President Coon were commended for their collaborative styles and for staying on track. These are difficult situations and decisions will be well-informed. Good to see the Board work together and be receptive of all recommendations and opinions. Board President O’Brien thanked Trustees for stepping up to make the meetings professional and productive and for making the effort to really understand what we are trying to accomplish.

15. Future Agenda Items
   A. California Community College Trustees (CCCT) Election – 2014 (April)
      Board President O’Brien asked Trustees Bevis and Kranenburg to work together and provide a recommendation to the Board on the voting for the CCCT election.
   B. Board Professional Development
      Board President O’Brien and Trustee Long will work on Professional Development and report back at the next meeting.
   C. Indian Valley Campus Master Plan (April)
      There will be an update on the IVC Assessment plan in April.

16. Information Items (see written reports)
   A. Warrants, Budget Transfers and Contracts and Agreement for Services for February 2014
   B. Modernization Update
      1. Director’s Report
      2. Program Schedule
      3. Milestones Report
   C. Administrative Procedures
      1. AP 4070 Auditing (Courses)
      2. AP 4260 Prerequisites, Co-Requisites, and Advisories
   D. Calendar of Special Events
      - Bay 10 Trustees & CEO Meeting, April 14, 2014, Ohlone College

Board Agenda Minutes March 11, 2014
Approved April 15, 2014
17. Correspondence

18. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m. in memory of Betty Wilson, former instructor and chair of the Art Department at the College of Marin.
Federal:
Appropriations and Budget -
The news for community colleges is mixed. Funding for SEOG, Federal Work Study, TRIO, and GEAR UP was all restored to pre-sequester levels. Most funding for Title III and V programs restored, and Perkins CTE and WIA were partially restored. Adult Basic Education and Literacy state grants were frozen at post-sequester 2013 levels. The automatic (CPI) increase in the maximum grant for AY 2014-15 brought total to $5,780 – an $85 increase.

FAFSA (although our High Schools administer these tests for college financial aid eligibility, we obviously have a stake in how thoroughly they get all students to participate): New announcement re FAFSA, March 7th – “Obama will announce that the U.S. Department of Ed. is partnering with states to identify students who haven’t filled out the (FAFSA) form, starting this Fall. The department will also update the existing FAFSA completion tool. The online tool allows anyone to track how many students have filled out the FAFSA at our individual local schools in order to target communities and schools.”
(http://www.miamiherald.com/2014/03/07/3979874/president-obama-to-unveil-fafsa.)

Pell Grants: The Pell Grant program has a surplus for FY 2014, and a relatively small shortfall in FY 2015. Beyond 2015 the program is slated to have significant shortfalls—“cliff effect.” The program is expected to then have a $5 - $6 billion shortfall each year.
(There's a Legislative proposal to give Colleges a bonus based on number of Pell Grants.)

“The White House has introduced a proposal aimed at college affordability and student debt. Some items can be achieved through executive authority while others will need to be accomplished via HEA reauthorization (expiring 2014 & renewal to be multiyear process).

In January, the White House held a national summit on higher education - “dedicated to launching a plan of action for increasing college access and success for low-income and disadvantaged students.” Near-term actions include:
Creating a new system to rate institutions; Promoting income based repayment; Waiving financial aid rules for innovative programs such as competency based learning; Tightening standards of satisfactory academic progress. (There is a legislative proposal to tie College ratings, to ability to get student loans and grants, with “higher performing colleges getting larger grants and cheaper student loans.” (Source: AACC Leg Update Oct ’13)

In view of a lot of bad press lately, the Ed. Department is still working on stricter regulations for for-profit colleges (with possible effect on COM if we gain any of those students).
The General Ed Panel

“The GE panel met this fall, and discussed items ranging from modified eligibility metrics for GE metrics, to additional requirements for adding new GE programs. While the community college negotiators indicated they could support the final GE draft (with modifications), consensus was not met. The final GE regulations are expected soon.

DREAM Act

Last summer, the Senate passed comprehensive immigration reform (Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act). Senate bill provides DREAMers expedited path to citizenship, & lifts the federal ban on in-state tuition for DREAM students.

Individual states would have the prerogative to decide whether or not to allow DREAM students to receive in-state tuition. DREAMers who spend five years in “residential provisional immigrant” (RPI) status would be eligible to apply for long-term permanent resident status. (Source: extracted and edited from presentation of Jee Hang Lee, Pres. For Public Policy, Assoc. of Community College Trustees, Jan. 2014) (Also, CA SB 141, approved in Oct., 2013, allows a student to pay resident tuition when their parent(s) been deported, according to CA Leg Information.)"

Obama’s newly unveiled budget request includes making the American Opportunity Tax Credit permanent (currently scheduled to expire in 2017), which gives a tax credit up to $2,500 for necessary expenses while attending college for degree or certificate. Obama’s proposal also would exclude all Student Loan forgiveness from taxation. (For more info, see IRS “Tax Benefits for Education” http://www.irs.gov/uac/Tax-Benefits-for-Education)

WARREN, WEINGARTEN LAUNCH DEBT CAMPAIGN:
March 6, 2014, Sen. Elizabeth Warren and AFT President Randi Weingarten launched a new student debt campaign, "Higher Ed, Not Debt," at the Center for American Progress. The campaign will push policies that encourage students to enroll in income-based repayment, making debt dischargeable in bankruptcy, boosting state funding for higher ed and pushing for-profit providers out of higher education. The push will be one of AFT's "main campaigns going forward," Weingarten said. "Everyone is telling our young people that college is really important, and yet all the rungs of the ladder of opportunity are pulled out from under them."  (Politico March 6, 2014)

The 2013-14 academic year marks a half-decade since the economic recession hit, but concerns about the costs of attending college are influencing incoming freshmen more than ever, a new survey shows. While more than three-quarters of this year’s freshmen were admitted to their first-choice institution, an all-time low of 56.9 percent chose to attend it. Nearly 48% – an all-time high -- said price and financial aid were "very important" in their decision about which institution to attend. The survey also finds that while most high school students use online ed. websites on their own time, very few see fully online courses in their
higher ed. Future. Among students who were accepted but didn’t enroll at their first-choice institution, about a quarter said lack of financial aid from that college was a very important factor in their decision, and 60% said the same of about financial aid from the institution they chose to attend.([http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2014/03/06/incoming-freshmen](http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2014/03/06/incoming-freshmen))

While up-front price was not the most-cited reason why students chose the college they did -- those are still the institution’s "very good" academic reputation (which 64 % of students said was "very important"), and its graduates' job placement rates ("very important" to 53.1% percent of students) -- the importance of costs should outpace those other factors within five years or so if it keeps rising at the current rates. Read more: [http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2014/03/06/incoming-freshmen-more-driven-money-ever-survey-shows#ixzz2vCqdHlYU](http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2014/03/06/incoming-freshmen-more-driven-money-ever-survey-shows#ixzz2vCqdHlYU)  
(Source: Inside Higher Ed )

Interesting National Survey, and a nationwide opportunity: 

Interesting 2012 CIRP survey, which found that while the number of students who identified as liberal was actually declining, students were more liberal-leaning on issue-by-issue basis. “In the months following the U.S. Supreme Court's striking down part of the Defense of Marriage Act, more than 83% of students -- said they support the right of gay and lesbian couples to adopt children. Only about 40% of students said undocumented immigrants should be denied access to higher education. That figure is 15.6% lower than at its 1996 peak. The % of freshman support for raising taxes to reduce the federal deficit also peaked, at 36.9%, and 68.1% said wealthier people should pay more taxes.

However, in a year in which a school shooting occurred every two weeks, students actually reported less tolerance for gun control. Nearly 64%-- 20% points less than 1989, when the figure hit its high -- said they support stronger gun control by the federal government.”


The Digital Public Libraries of America” is one year old this month – with help of the Library Assoc. of America (including College libraries), is urging every library to hook up to their incredible CONTENT – funded by Gates, Sloan, Knight, etc., foundations, 40 libraries, academia, and technology projects agreed to work together to create “an open, distributed network of comprehensive online resources that would draw on the nation’s living heritage from libraries, universities, archives, and museums in order to educate, inform, and empower everyone....” This is FREE, open source material for use in research, development, and interdisciplinary education. (Source: CENIC presentation at SSU, March 10, '14)

California State:

California Community Colleges - The chief budget highlights as they may pertain to COM:

- As you know, SB1456 - “Student Success” - $200 million to support student success programs and strengthen support for underrepresented students. This includes $100 million for Student Success & Support and $100 million to close gaps in access and achievement for underrepresented students, as identified in Student Equity Plans. NOW - Out of the funds for Student Success, $16 Million was for the technology necessary for implementation. The Comm. College Chancellor's Office has announced this week a new Board Policy that “We need to adopt Security Standards to protect student’s records” since at least one state has already suffered a substantial breach that compromised over 2million students confidential records.

- Deferred Maintenance and Instructional Equipment - $175 million to be evenly split between deferred maintenance and instructional equipment.

- Proposition 39 - $39 million in funds owing to Proposition 39 to address energy efficiency projects and workforce development.

- Improving Statewide Performance – $2.5 M is provided to provide local technical assistance for implementation of effective practices in all districts, with priority placed on underperforming districts. Additionally, the Chancellor’s Office, will receive $1.1M and 9 new positions to develop indicators of student success & monitor performance.

- Flexibility - The Governor proposes to allow districts to reallocate up to 25% of funds from select categorical programs to other federal, state, or local programs to meet the needs of underrepresented student groups as identified in Student Equity Plans.

- Adult Education - The Governor reiterates his commitment to provide funding in the 2015-16 budget to implement plans being developed by regional adult ed consortia.

- Innovative Models of Higher Education – $50 million in one-time funding (non-Proposition 98) proposed for incentive awards that recognize models of innovation in higher ed that 1) increase the number of students earning bachelor’s degrees, 2) increase the number of bachelor’s degrees earned within four years, and 3) ease transfer throughout the state’s education system.”

SB 967 (De Leon) Student Safety: Sexual Assault. This bill was just proposed last month that “Requires the governing boards of each comm. college district, the Trustees of CSU, and the Regents of the University of California to adopt policies concerning campus sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking, incl. an affirmative consent standard in determining whether consent was given by a complainant. Requires boards to adopt sexual assault policies and protocols. (Source: CCC State Leg. Update 2-20-14)
“UC and CSU - The Governor continues the four-year investment plan begun in 2013-14 by funding 5% increases in general fund support for UC and CSU. This equates to an increase of $142.2 million each for the UC Regents and the CSU Board of Trustees. The universities are expected to adopt three-year sustainability plans that set targets for key measures. Further, the Administration reiterates its expectation that current tuition and fee levels are maintained through 2016-17. Revenues will be revised in May, which sets the table for the passage and approval of a final budget by the end of June.” (Source: Dan Troy, Vice Chancellor, College Finance and Facilities Planning, CCC Chancellor’s Office)

Re Office of Governmental Relations, CCLC, March 2014 -
“Currently, the California Legislature is focused on three major issues that have been under discussion within the community college system in recent months:

• Accreditation and related issues
• The Applied Baccalaureate Degree
• Dual/Concurrent Enrollment

A brief description of the bills in each of these three categories follows. Further information on them, including League’s position and the pros and cons of each, as well as an analysis of other legislation can be found at the CCLC website.

Accreditation: Apparently, the SF City College crisis spurred the Legislature to propose legislation to retain stability when under accreditation warnings, e.g.:

• AB 1199 (Fong) would provide three-year stability funding for colleges on “show cause” accreditation warnings;

• SB 965 (Leno), sponsored by the Chancellor’s Office, would provide partial stability based on the level of resources provided to a district in 2013-14 if the institution meets specific criteria. City College of S. F. meets the criteria of the bill, and a stability mechanism is outlined for the district through the 2017-18 fiscal year;

• AB 2087 (Ammiano) would prohibit the Board of Governors (BOG) from appointing a special trustee with power to overrule a locally-elected board of trustees.’ (Source: Comm. Coll. League of CA, March 6, 2014)
Baccalaureate Degrees -

• SB 850 (Block), currently in the Ed. Committee, would authorize Chancellor's Office to establish one applied baccalaureate degree pilot program per campus, on a limited number of campuses. Of possible interest to COM, this bill also would authorize the governing board of the district to enter into agreements with local businesses and agencies to for educational services to students participating in this baccalaureate degree pilot.

Dual/Concurrent Enrollment -

• AB 1451 (Holden) would allow the board of a community college district to enter into partnerships with school districts to set terms and conditions for dual enrollment of high school students. The bill would authorize community college districts to be funded for dually-enrolled students unless the school district has already received reimbursement for that instruction. This currently requires a recommendation from a community college dean of a career technical education department and with parental consent. (This was introduced Jan. 2014) - CCCC supports.

• AB 1540 (Hagman) would authorize our Board to enter into formal partnerships with school districts within Marin to allow secondary school pupils to enroll in one or more courses of computer science at our college if those pupils have “exhausted all opportunities to enroll in an equivalent computer science course at the high school of attendance”. This bill also would add computer science courses to the list of courses exempted from the 5% summer school limitation.

• AB 2352 (Chesbro) would exempt students attending an early college high school from the current Education Code mandate that all dual enrollment students be given lowest registration priority;
  (For further information re 2014 Dual Enrollment bills, see: presentation of Vince Stewart, Vice-Chancellor Govt Rel. CCChancellor’s Office)

Assembly Select Committee on Comm. Colleges met re Community Colleges: February 18, the Assembly Select Comm. on Community Colleges, chaired by Assembly member Steve Fox, with members Bonilla, Cooley, Garcia, Gomez, Hall, Holden, Mullin, Salas, Wagner, and Wilk, held a hearing to consider 3 sets of questions: How is student success being tracked? How are community colleges preparing students for the future? How are funds in the current-year budget used to help support our community college students achieve success?
Responses of both Assembly members and other panelists were very positive, noting the Scorecard is “a significant improvement over earlier accountability measures.” Additional suggestions were inclusion of the student/counselor ratio, & more in-depth analyses to break down gender within race. The Scorecard was called “the most transparent accountability measure in the country.” Other comments re additional data needs were: need for a statewide data system from preschool through grad school; more work improving the pathway from comm. colleges to the 4-year systems and for certs; need for statewide goals & updating Master Plan eligibility for CSU and UC; determining statewide transfer and cert. goals, & a higher ed coordinating body.

Members also cited the implementation of similar programs elsewhere; work with veterans on campuses; the work of “Doing What Matters” and the braiding of economic development resources; partnerships to align Workforce Investment Bds with comm. colleges and 4-year institutions; that career tech education needs continued investment and improvement, and dual enrollment leg. is essential for better links between high schools and comm. colleges.

With one half of students entering two-year colleges and one in five entering four-year universities needing remedial classes, college readiness will remain a top state education policy issue this year. Efforts to ensure that high school graduates are college & career ready, and also to better align K-12 and post secondary curriculum and establish consistent education standards across states will play an active role in states’ policy and political spheres in 2014. The primary issue is successful implementation of Common Core State Standards in math and English, already adopted by 45 states and set to go into effect this fall. Politically-motivated debates continue about the standards’ efficacy. As such, much of the action in the state legislative arena will involve advocating how the Common Core State Standards will increase postsecondary preparedness, reduce remediation rates and ultimately improve college completion.” (Source: AASCU, “Policy Matters” January 2014)

Jarhid Keller, CIO for State Library System, noted this week the tremendous surge in connectivity due to now getting eRate discounts Statewide for schools and libraries. Some of our Marin Schools are just joining the Marin network as a result, e.g. Hamilton School.  (Q: Is COM fully connected to our local schools?)

**Next Issue will include overview of upcoming measures headed for the ballot!**

*This report is solely the responsibility of Brady Bevis as an internal document, and in no way represents the opinions of the College of Marin Board or Administration.*
I’d like to begin by saying thank you to Dr. Coon for giving me some of his time this evening and to the Board for their time and attention. I am here today to introduce myself and to share with you some of the recent activity in the Drama Program as well as our plans for the coming year. The 2014-2015 season marks the 50th Anniversary of the Drama Department and in honor of this momentous occasion, we are taking stock in our past, present and future.

We start 2014 by looking at the wonderfully successful and talented students who emerged from our program. What better way to rekindle our connection with our past alumni than to re-stage one of the most successful productions performed here at the college: the Wild West version of Taming of the Shrew? Shrew was performed in the small Studio Theatre as an experiment in 1970 and went on to play a command performance for Princess Margaret at the famed Edinburg festival in Scotland in 1971. We wondered if we re-staged this unique production, would we be able to attract some of the earliest drama students back to the James Dunn Theatre. With the use of social media and the help of a team of local alumni, we reached out to the original cast members and to our surprise we heard back from almost all of them! We had over 20 Shrew alumni fly in from all over the United States to attend our opening night. In fact, one performer from the original production reprised his role and is the actual age of the character in our show which runs for one more weekend. Combined with a post-show party for 300, it was truly a homecoming and a warm celebration.

Coupled with the production and party was the launch of our 50th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign. We are asking patrons to donate $50 or more, and the first 90 people to do so will receive this fabulous Anniversary Tote Bag. It has been a tremendous undertaking to initiate a Fundraising Campaign along with our usual duties in the classroom and the department but we, and I mean students, staff, and faculty, recognize the budgetary constraints effecting the state and have stepped forward to aide our own program in ensuring the next 50 years are as strong as the first 50. Students volunteer their time as Student Ambassadors at parties and meet with donors and patrons. Staff and faculty meet on the weekends to work with Alumni in the orchestration of outside events and sit at a Donor table every evening during the run of Shrew to connect with our audience. We are working very hard at a grassroots level, to build our future.

On an Academic Level, we are awaiting final approval on our Associate in Arts Transfer degree in Theatre which should come on line in the Fall of 2014 and will soon provide a second degree option for students which is certainly something to celebrate!

So what are we planning for the future? We have received great interest from alumni willing to participate in a Professional Speakers Series on campus where they can discuss their transition into the professional world and giving sound advice to our students. We are organizing panelists of 3 working professionals once a month.
in the various Production and Performance areas of theatre beginning in April and will continue this throughout the following year.

We have included two Family Friendly productions to our 2014-2015 season (Little Women and Comedy of Errors) to broaden our audience base. We are coordinating with Anna Pilloton in the Outreach Office to connect with Middle schools and High Schools in the local area, offering free Friday morning matinees. The Drama Department works closely with Outreach on a number of other projects as well, recognizing the importance of engaging with and preparing students for the college experience. Our main stage and studio theatres are frequent stops for school tours. In fact, our students often volunteer to meet with middle school and high school groups to play improvisation games and talk about their experience at College of Marin.

One other important event I would like to mention is our current collaboration with the Art Department on a 50 Year Retrospective Exhibit which will be on display during the run of Comedy of Errors. No, we did not realize the irony of that when we chose the play... Please save the date of March 6th which is the opening night of the exhibit and the production, followed by an informal reception. In this exhibit we will feature photos, programs, reviews, production models, sketches, audio and video media from the last 50 years. Set Designer Ron Krempetz will lead the charge on this massive undertaking which requires consultation with digital archivists and the literal transferring of 50 year old pictures into digital format. Some of our fundraising will no doubt be absorbed by this undertaking, but we feel it is critical that we preserve our archive, and do it quickly, as much of the material is currently stored in either metal cabinets or Rubbermaid tubs in a garage. It would truly be a shame to lose such an important part of our history. If you would like to learn more about the Theatre Archive Project and how you might be able to help, I would be happy to speak with you about it at another time.

Let me wrap up my time by inviting you to be a participant in our 50th year. Become a subscriber, a donor, a patron of the arts! Tell your family and friends to come! Join us for our Kick-off party at the beginning of the year with Little Women or our Gallery Opening in the Spring. If you attend only two Drama Events next year, please make it our season kick-off party on September 26th and the gallery exhibit March 6th to celebrate with us after our opening night performances where you can meet the faculty and students whose hard work and dedication have added so greatly to the reputation of the College of Marin.

Thank you.
High Level Description of Process for Change in Board Membership

Pursuant to California Code 5019
(Same process used for changing numbers of Trustees and establishing or abolishing Trustee areas)

Marin Community College Board of Trustees votes – Simple majority required for change

Recommendation goes to Marin County Committee on School District Organization

County Committee reviews and holds public hearing on proposal

Proposal shall be presented to the electors of the District not later than the next succeeding election for members of the governing board*

*County Committee of School District Organization has the prerogative to waive the required election
### Bay Area Community College Districts

#### Comparative Head Count & Board of Trustees size

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<th>Community College District</th>
<th>Head Count</th>
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