The New Year, New Century, New Millinium begins … and so does our Spring Semester, 2000. This has been a very active month despite the intersession break. I would like to touch upon a few matters, which reflect areas where I have been spending a lot of my time this past month.

First, the state level activity is starting to “heat-up”. I attended the State Board of Governor’s meeting and specifically the Committee on Finance. My purpose was twofold. Primarily, I wanted to acquire first hand knowledge of the Governor’s Budget recommendations for community colleges. Under separate cover I have forwarded to you a brief summary and, as I stated in my communication, that situation will get better.

My second purpose was to continue to network and lobby for the Non-credit funding. This was particularly important because the Funding Formula Task Force (of which I am a member) was scheduled to meet on January 13th, at which time the Executive Vice-Chancellor for Finance (Patrick Lenz) would unveil his version of a Non-credit funding proposal. So, it was important to keep abreast of these developments and lobby key individuals on the Board of Governors and the statewide Consultation Council.

Our Task Force met as planned, and the proposal that was presented was fair and (while different than the one I authored) responsive to our expectations. A copy of the “Proposal for Non-Credit Programmatic and Funding Changes” is attached. The proposal is a simple, straightforward funding augmentation of $320 per FTES for Non-credit. It does include a two-tiered approach to funding that actually serves to benefit City College. If this proposal is ultimately approved and funded by the Board of Governors’, the Legislature, and the Governor, it would represent an additional $4 million in base funding support. There is a lot of work to be done in getting this proposal through the various process and consultation steps but the work we have done already puts us in a strong position to get the desired outcome. I intend to stay very involved in this effort. The payoff for us is enormous, and together with other potential developments regarding COLA,
Growth, and Partnership for Excellence, etc., this could be a good year for City College.

At the local level, I (with the direct support of Phyllis McGuire, our Dean of Applied and Vocational Education and Greg Johnson, one of our Counselors, who has been reassigned to help manage the new One-Stop Center on Mission Avenue) have been working very directly with Mr. Will Lightbourne, head of the City’s Department of Social and Human Services, to help position the City to meet the challenges and requirements of the new Workforce Investment Act (formerly JTPA/Private Industry Council). It has been a “bear” of a problem, complicated by the fact that the Governor has just now appointed the Statewide Workforce Investment Board to oversee the state’s plans for implementation. The Act was passed nearly two-years ago and the State has until June 30, 2000 to get a plan together detailing how it and all of the local districts (including San Francisco) will accommodate the new legislation. City College has a lot riding on these developments. We do receive a sizable amount of contracts and grants currently (and will in the future) at the local and state levels. The Workforce Investment Boards will oversee all Department of labor funding for education and training; all funds previously associated with the Adult Educations and Literacy Act; and in the future it is expected that all Perkins Vocation Education Funds, as well as Welfare-to-Work/CALWORKS dollars, will fall under the authority of this new entity. Therefore, it is imperative that we be “on the bus” and as close to the “drivers’ seat” (if not in it) as possible. I’ll keep you posted on these developments.

I also wanted to give you a “heads-up” on an upcoming event scheduled for 1 p.m. Wednesday, February 2, 2000. The college (along with other agencies) is sponsoring a “Voter Outreach” event at the Phelan campus of City College. Secretary of State Bill Jones has agreed to participate and Governor Davis has also been invited (attendance not confirmed). You may want to participate. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Ann Zinn directly.

We have finished the search process for both the Dean of Counseling and Vice-Chancellor of Student Development positions and I will be coming forward with a recommendation on both at our January meeting.

Also included (important to say) is a copy of the Institutional Self Study for Reaffirmation of Accreditation for City College. Sandra Barbara Cabral, Sandra Handler, and Karen Grant did a “first class” job of finalizing the report. Later, in early February, we will be having a special workshop and executive briefing session for the Board in order to facilitate our preparation and readiness for the Visiting Team’s on-site review scheduled for February 22-24.

Other activities that I have been involved in this month are reflected below.

Attachments
PRDJ: jws