

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 28, 2002

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Philip R. Day, Jr., Chancellor

SUBJECT: Chancellor's Monthly Report – February 2002

This has been a challenging month for a variety of reasons. On a personal level, the passing of my mother on 2/02/02 (the woman was always big on symbols) was a very trying period for Val and I and the rest of the family. True to their tradition, the City College family --- everyone from the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and students have provided us with tremendous support and relief. We have received hundreds and hundreds of cards, e-mails, prayers and mass cards that have represented a major outpouring of sympathy and support. We thank you all.

On another level, I (and our governmental relations team) have been actively engaged at the state level in rallying support for a statewide bond that provides a solid basis of support and an equitable share for the community colleges. The state is now definitely talking about two different bonds – one in November 2002 and the other in November 2004. The issues being debated (for higher education only) are the size of the upcoming bond, \$2.0 billion versus \$2.3 billion). The second major issue is K-12's share of the total bond that goes on the ballot. They want more than they are entitled to and the LAUSD is fighting very hard for most of those resources going to the L.A. school district. We are pushing for the \$2.3 billion bond, which would give the community colleges \$460M per year for two years, versus \$395M under the \$2 Billion dollar scenario. The good news for community colleges is that our push to have a higher proportional share for our segment given our share of the enrollment pie for post-secondary education, is finally being recognized and pushed by key legislative committee staff and the Speaker's Office. The share we would get under the \$2.3B scenario would equate to 40% rather than the standard 33 1/3% (which, by the way we never actually got). The situation will remain fluid but it is expected to be settled in the very near future. **It is important to note that in either scenario, all of City College's projects will be funded, if the voters pass the Bond given our position on the approved priority list for the State Community Colleges.**

One remaining issue that needs to be settled in regards to this matter is the issue of a setaside for **"Joint Use Facilities."** While there is widespread support for the concept, there is a strong fear in the minds of key legislative staffers that are directly involved with the

negotiations, that should a special pot of funds be established, the UC system will use its full power and influence to grab the "lion's share" of the resources to establish joint facilities up and

down the Central Valley. So the idea of a large pot to support same appears to be dead.

Two optional approaches are being pursued. One calls for a very small setaside to support districts that are “ready to go” as pilot demonstration projects. If this fails, the second strategy being pursued, and this depends on the ultimate size of the bond that is approved, is to establish a small setaside within the community college “pot” to support a limited number of districts who have agreements in place; have done their preliminary and final plans; and have some local dollars to put on the table. Clearly and in either case, City College would be at the top of the list and we do have strong support within both the Chancellor’s Office for the CSU system and the Board of Governors for Community Colleges. I’ll keep you posted as this drama unfolds.

In terms of the statewide budget and our operational budget, you may have read the report by the Legislative Analyst in yesterday’s S.F. Chronicle. A copy of the full report and the article is included as an attachment to my report. As I have stated previously, the LAO traditionally comes forward with the most pessimistic and conservative estimate of resources available (or not) to the state. In this particular case, not only did they fulfill our expectations but the LAO offered up a range of ideas that could theoretically close the gap between available revenues and budget expenditures. A good number of the ideas border on the absurd and some of the early responses to the report suggest they have only served to undermine their forecast and credibility. If there was some hope for a lot of people listening seriously to the message being delivered, that was lost when the LAO put forth its ideas on how to fix the problem.

Clearly, this next year will be a challenge for us all but we do think from City College’s perspective that we can get through next year without major problems. But I predict it will be an extremely tight budget that will be recommended for your consideration “down the road” and one quite different than those presented over the last three to four years when we had more dollars with which to work. We are hoping that the May Revise Budget will reflect a more optimistic budget than what is currently on the table for community colleges but we definitely won’t get the significant “kick-up” in our budgets that we have gotten in previous years. We’ll be happy if the COLA and Growth stays at the level that was recommended in the Governor’s conservative budget presentation in January and if the Matriculation and CalWorks cuts are restored. The early forecasts suggest that Matriculation may have a better chance than CalWorks.

It is important to stress that the statewide community colleges don’t intend to back off from their original budget request. All of the key constituent organizations that are represented in the Consultation Council have agreed that we need to build on our successful advocacy efforts of this past year when we got the Governor to restore the vast majority of the \$98M reduction, and push very hard to get our fair share. It’s never over until it’s over so the work is just beginning, and hopefully will yield some positive results which would improve our current position/predicament.

As a follow-up to my previous communication to you regarding the Student Governance Task Force, the group is hard at work and is following up on responding to my request for further work on the issue of finance and budgets. Additionally, they have developed a draft proposal (with the direct involvement of the Executive Council of AS) for a new set of by-laws. The next step is to sunshine these throughout the district with a variety of constituent groups for feedback,

reaction, and ideas for improvement. It is expected that by sometime in mid-to late-spring, a new draft will emerge, which will effectively restructure AS district-wide and insure more effective and broadbased participation of students in the governance agenda throughout the District and all of its campuses. I'll keep you posted on this matter.

Finally, and very importantly, given the fact that February is Black History month, I wanted to acknowledge a few things and some very special people. I've been here now for almost 4 years and during that time, have witnessed some very positive improvements in our programming for Black History month. The Board and the Chancellor have definitely supported this effort at a higher level but it is through the efforts of the faculty and staff that the real work has been done. The efforts of folks like Prof. Glen Nance, Dr. Henry Augustine, Elizabeth Brent, Bernice Brown, Debra Stewart, Carol Bell-Thomas, and many more, including many classified and student volunteers, have been truly exemplary. I'm proud of what we have been able to get done this year (to date) and pledge our continued commitment to keep getting better. But without the active support, leadership and involvement of some of the folks referenced above (and many, many more), it just wouldn't happen the way we would like. I thank them for their hard work, support, and leadership.

The following represent other activities I have been engaged in during the month of February:

- 1) Met with Lou Schubert's political science students to discuss the bond issue.
- 2) Interviewed by KRON Radio regarding new developments at City College and future trends.
- 3) Met with Frances Lee, Peter Goldstein, and Don Griffin regarding the fall schedule and enrollment development objectives and strategies.
- 4) Attended the Executive Committee meeting of the Workforce Investment Board of San Francisco.
- 5) Met with AS President Rick Cantora for monthly meeting to discuss developments and plans for the college.
- 6) Met with Steve Glick and architects to review final plans for the signage at Downtown Campus.
- 7) Interviewed finalists for the position of Director of Small Business Development Center.
- 8) Attended Board meeting of the City College Foundation.
- 9) Hosted a banquet at Educated Palate to to celebrate Black History Month.
- 10) Met with members of the San Francisco Organizing Project (SFOP) to discuss their new affordable housing initiative.

- 11) Met with Romanus Wolter and Don Griffin regarding Enrollment Development plans and strategies.
- 12) Attended the HBCU luncheon at Pierre Coste Restaurant, hosted by Dr. Henry Augustine.
- 13) Attended the reception celebrating the 30th Anniversary of Mission Hiring Hall.
- 14) Attended the National Football Association's Awards Dinner honoring George Rush as California's Amature Sportserson of the Year.
- 15) Met with officers of AFT 2121 to discuss issues and future plans.
- 16) Attended the swearing in of Board President Rodel Rodis and Board Vice President Johnnie Carter by Mayor Willie Brown at City Hall. George Rush was also honored at a reception hosted by the mayor, and the football team as National Champions.
- 17) Met with Leadership Council of Local 790 to discuss current issues and plans.
- 18) Met with campus deans regarding Student Governance issues currently being worked on by a special Student Governance Task Force.
- 19) Met with members of the Administrators' Council to discuss current plans and future issues.
- 20) Attended meeting of the First Source Hiring Task Force at City Hall

If there are any questions on the above schedule or activities, please don't hesitate to contact me directly. Thanks for your continuing support.

Attachments

PRDJ:jcd

