El Camino CCD Board Approved MOU with Compton CCD

El Camino Community College District’s Board of Trustees approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Monday to provide educational and necessary support services to residents of the Compton Community College District commencing this fall semester which begins Aug. 26.

The immediate goal of the plan is to provide the students and residents of Compton with access to accredited community college programs and services without interruption and in a way that minimizes disruption to students.

Following a discussion outlining the agreement the Board voted 4 to 1 to accept the neighboring campus as an educational center. The motion included three amendments: item #16, move the date up for completing negotiations for a comprehensive agreement from March 1, 2007 to December 31, 2006; #17, change the period of time for notice of termination of the MOU from 180 days to 90 days; and item #20, delete terminology where the El Camino CCD indemnifies the Compton CCD.

A copy of the original MOU is posted on the ECC website at http://www.elcamino.edu/administration/board/meetingagendas.asp

Trustee Jackson supported the MOU, but voted no because he preferred that the exit clause notification period remain at 180 days instead of the shorter 90 days notice amended in the motion.

Tonight the Special Trustee for the Compton CCD will vote on the amended version of the MOU at the Compton CCD Board meeting. If the amended version is approved an updated version will be posted on the web later this week.

El Camino College Compton Center will offer fully accredited El Camino College courses on the Compton campus. The overall goal of the plan is to assist the Compton campus with recovery and full accreditation as a two-year public college within the next five to eight years.

The Compton Center offers a full range of credit and non-credit offerings, as well as financial aid, and related student support services. Compton Center will also maintain its own Associated Student Body organization, independent and separate from the El Camino College campus. In addition, pending approval from the Commission on Athletics of the Community College League of California, Compton Center will field its own intercollegiate athletic teams as it has in the past.

As for financial issues, Compton Center’s budget will be jointly developed and approved by El Camino College and Compton. Compton will continue to provide fiscal and administrative oversight of programs separate from the Center, such as Compton’s bond program.

Board of Trustees

Mr. William Beverly – President Trustee Area Three, Mrs. Mary E. Combs – Vice President Trustee Area Two, Dr. Nathaniel Jackson – Secretary Trustee Area One, Dr. Ray Gen – Trustee Area Four, Miss Maureen O’Donnell – Trustee Area Five, Mr. Julian Peters – Student Member, Dr. Thomas Fallo – Superintendent/President El Camino Community College District

August 21, 2006
The plan also outlines the role of Dr. Doris Givens, the newly named provost of the El Camino College Compton Center. As provost, Givens will oversee daily operations of the Compton campus and report to El Camino College Superintendent/President Thomas M. Fallo for these operations.

This plan is the culmination of much work by both campuses, which began in late June, when the Legislature approved and the Governor signed legislation that outlines the parameters for a community college district to enter into an agreement with the Compton Community College District to provide accredited instructional programs to students residing in the Compton district.

El Camino College is in good standing with the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), and has successfully completed the accreditation cycle to secure accreditation until 2008.

Substantive Change Approval
The ACCJC Substantive Change Committee has granted provisional approval to El Camino College to establish the El Camino College/Compton Community Educational Center. Additionally, the Committee acted to refer the substantive change proposal to the full Accrediting Commission for its review and discussion. Federal guidelines require a six month visit after approval of a new location.

The Committee requests that ECC submit a revised proposal, as well as a status report about the Center which will provide the purpose and context for the visit. The revised proposal, status and visit reports will be reviewed by the Commission at its January 2007 meeting.

The ACCJC commended ECC for its efforts in meeting the educational needs of students in the area.

Compton Center Provost Introduced
El Camino College Compton Center’s new Provost was introduced to the Board of Trustees. Dr. Doris Givens begin her tenure with the Compton Center on Tuesday, August 15, 2006. A more formal introduction of Dr. Givens will be included in next week’s president’s Newsletter.

Budget Allocation
President Fallo discussed with the Board his desire to begin allocating resources from the proposed revenues relative to the Compton partnership to areas in need of backfilling for staff members who are assisting with the transition of Compton to an ECC Center.

Board Policies Approved
The El Camino CCD Board approved the following policies:

4240 – Academic Renewal
4228 – Independent Study
4030 – Academic Freedom

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