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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the end of the Fall 2007 semester approaches, it is appropriate to reflect back upon our accomplishments and challenges so far this academic year and to look forward to what we will anticipate as a district in the coming semester.

First, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the warm welcome I have received from our college community, as well as the community at large, since my arrival in July.

It is my honor and pleasure to serve Rio Hondo College and to work with the talented and dedicated faculty, staff, and administrators at our college. On a daily basis, I am impressed with the commitment to students that is such a hallmark of our tradition.

Since July, 2007, we have marked a number of significant events and accomplishments. This is a sample of our many accomplishments:

- Hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony marking the opening of the newly remodeled Rio Hondo College Regional Fire Academy.
- Unveiling a wireless network, meaning that students and faculty can access the internet from anywhere on the campus.
- Developing new short-term certificate programs in information system development, website development, software development, information security, and PC maintenance.
- Approving 99 course revisions and 27 new courses.



- Creating a Program Review Committee to oversee the District's program review process.
- Hosting the inaugural Family Day/Dia de la Familia Orientation that was attended by 200 students and parents.
- Launching the second year of the Go Rio program with two new transit partners: Montebello Bus Lines and LA County Sunshine Shuttle serving over 1000 students.
- Planning and hosting an Environmental Symposium entitled "Education Pathways to Green Jobs" focused on five potential training areas: water and wastewater management, solid waste management, environment health and safety, alternative/efficient energies, and land use planning and restoration.
- Increasing enrollment and meeting budget requirements in the RHC Child Development Center.
- Winning conference championships in Men's soccer and wrestling, including two athletes qualifying to compete in the state tournament.
- Providing safety and emergency training for faculty and staff.
- Implementing an on-line work management system and preventative maintenance scheduling program.

All of these accomplishments are as a result of the collective work of faculty and staff working toward our common goal of student success.

There is so much that we have been able to do together, and I am very grateful as we head into this holiday season. I extend my very best wishes to all of you and your families for a safe, happy, and prosperous holiday season and look forward to seeing you again in the new year.

The San Gabriel/ Foothill Association Of Community Colleges Puts Focus On Nursing

On Thursday, December 6, 2007 Rio Hondo College hosted the San Gabriel Foothill Association of Community Colleges' (SanFACC) first meeting. The meeting focused on Nursing and the intensive efforts of the community colleges to answer the desperate need throughout the state for highly qualified nursing personnel.

"SanFACC will provide numerous opportunities to each of the six districts to benefit from collective work, said Angela Acosta-Salazar, Vice President of the Rio Hondo College board of Trustees. "Each district will be able to maximize resources that will directly facilitate the offering of well-balanced, highly-relevant curriculum for our students."



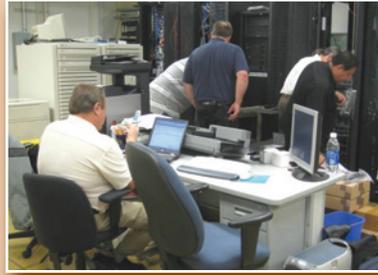
Dr. Michael Viera, President of Citrus College provided some history on SanFACC and some of the items that the group will focus on in the future.

Dean of Nursing at Rio Hondo College, Connie Austin led a discussion about how each college can work collectively to address their common challenges including: clinical rotations, faculty recruitment, hiring and compensation, simulation labs and legislation involving grants from the Chancellor's Office.

"I am pleased that Rio Hondo College is hosting the first SanFACC meeting on our campus," said Ted Martinez, Jr., Ph.D., Superintendent/President of Rio Hondo College. "As a collective, community colleges have more strength together than any one of us has alone."

Rio Hondo College Information Technology Transformed

AccessRio Project Update



In July, after an extensive search, the college purchased a new enterprise-wide information system (EIS) from Sungard High Education (SGHE) to replace our existing Human Resources (excluding payroll which will continue to be processed at the L.A. County Superintendent of Schools offices) and Student systems. The new EIS system, Banner, named *Access Rio* within Rio Hondo, will allow us to move forward with new technology and business processes to better service our students and college community.

Since the beginning of the project, staff and faculty have participated in start-up activities. These include participation on the search committee and membership on the Banner Implementation Group (BIG). My thanks go to each member involved in these important endeavors. BIG is now in place, working on planning and business process review.

In August we welcomed Ted Fauce as the SGHE project manager. Ted's responsibilities include project planning, SGHE resource allocation, product delivery, scheduling and quality control. Ted has over twenty years experience working with EIS and Banner. He has recently served as the project manager at Citrus College and North Orange County Community College District during their Banner implementation projects. Ted's experience with community colleges and Banner will help bring us the best consultants possible for the project.

In October we hired Raubolt Consulting Services to lead the project as our internal project management team. David Bell partnered with Jack Raubolt to provide the best coverage to the college for the project. David is the primary contact and is designated as the Project Manager. David provides project scheduling, committee leadership, college resource allocation, vendor and budget controls. Jack will provide oversight, issue resolution and back up for David. Both David and Jack have over 30 years experience in the California Community Colleges system and have been involved in implementing several EIS systems including Banner, Datatel and PeopleSoft. David can be reached at (562) 692-0921 ext 4851 or djbell@riohondo.edu. Jack can be reached at (714) 328-6931 or jraubolt@riohondo.edu.

As you can see we are off and running with this important, high priority project. Over the next several semesters, you may be called upon to offer your expertise and time to the project. I support your efforts and look forward to a successful conclusion to the project. We are setting the stage for future technology and business processes to serve our students and the college community.

Meeting with District Superintendents

On November 7, 2007, Rio Hondo College and Superintendent/ President Ted Martinez, Jr., Ph.D. hosted the area's Superintendents for a breakfast to discuss the issues in education and possible partnership opportunities. Mr. Terrance Willet, the Director of California Partnership for Achieving Student Success (Cal-PASS) gave a presentation on Cal-PASS data sharing, Dr. Martinez shared with the group the concept of a Middle College High School, and finally the attendees reviewed current partnerships between the College and the area school districts.

Cal-PASS can be a vital resource to help educators improve student achievement by identifying and reducing barriers to successful student transition in all levels of education, from kindergarten through college. The power of Cal-PASS rests in two aspects: the data the system collects; and bringing K-16 groups and faculty together from different educational segments to use the data to identify barriers, empower educators to make changes and build best practices. Working together, educators use the Cal-PASS data to equip students with the tools they need to make the successful transition to higher education.

Dr. Martinez spoke to the group about the idea of a Middle College High School that would allow 11th and 12th grade students to simultaneously complete their high school requirements and start earning college credits on the Rio Hondo College campus.

Finally, Dr. Martinez highlighted the college's current partnerships with El Rancho Unified School and the auto technology course that is being taught at Salazar High School, while Henry Gee, Vice President of Student Services, spoke about the GEAR UP program, a partnership that began at Madrid Middle School and now has moved to Mountain View High School.

All who attended found the meeting very helpful and will continue to work together to make sure that the students throughout the District have the opportunities that they need to succeed.

BOARD REPORT

for Meeting November 21, 2007

Consultant Services: The Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees approved the consultant services of Jesus Guerra to provide various transit specific certifications. The Board also approved Bruce Noble to present "Advanced Transportation Technology Responsive Training Fund" for incumbent workers.

Bus Pass Purchase – City of Norwalk: The Board of Trustees authorized a contract with the City of Norwalk for Fall Semester 2007 and the Spring Semester 2008 to purchase discounted bus passes for Rio Hondo College full-time students for one year through the Metropolitan Transit Agency, City of Norwalk ("Norwalk Transit") and Foothill Transit.

Consultant Agreement: Fabiani & Company - Legislative Advocate: The Board of Trustees approved a new six month contract with Fabiani & Company, they are the College's federal lobbyist.

Donation of Surplus Property – Lincoln Arc Welders: The Board of Trustees approved the declaration of surplus for 10 arc welders.

Annual Bond Audit Report: The Board of Trustees accepted the Bond financial and performance audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2007.

Approve Facility Use Agreement with the City of Santa Fe Springs: The Board of Trustees approved a Facility Use Agreement with the City of Santa Fe Springs to offer classes of community interest at sites within the City of Santa Fe Springs. The City of Santa Fe Springs will provide access to its facilities for the purpose of providing classes and programs to the greater community for educational preparedness and public interest.

Ratification of Change Order's #1, #2, & #3: Bid #1110 Santa Fe Springs Regional Public Safety Training Center: The Board of Trustees approved Bid #1110 Change Orders #1, 2 and 3.

Approve Instructional Services Agreement: The Board of Trustees approved an Instructional Service Agreement which will allow the Department of Public Safety to make Fire and Police Training available to local agencies.

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Rio Hondo College Hosts Prop. 92 Campus Forum

On Wednesday, November 28, 2007 Rio Hondo College hosted a forum on Proposition 92. This measure proposes major changes to the State Constitution and state laws relating to the California Community Colleges (CCC). The measure affects CCC funding requirements, fee levels, and system governance. Proposition 92 would change the current minimum education funding requirement into two separate requirements: one for K-12 schools and one for community colleges.



The measure would lower community college education fees from \$20 per unit to \$15 per unit, while significantly limiting the state's authority to increase fee levels in future years. The measure also formally establishes the community colleges in the State Constitution and increases the size of the community colleges' state governing board and the board's administrative authority.

Scott Lay, President and Chief Executive Officer of the *Community College League of California* spoke to an audience of students, faculty, staff, and administrators to raise awareness of Proposition 92 and its potential impact on California Community College students. The event was open to the entire campus and open to the public.

Rio Hondo College Welcomes New Faces



Dr. D. Paul Parnell

It is always a pleasure to add new faces to our community at Rio Hondo College, and I am very pleased to be able to share with you a little about the three new administrators that will begin work in January 2008. I also want to thank all of you that served on the hiring committees for these positions, I know that is very hard work and I think that you have done a wonderful job.

Joining the College as Vice President of Academic Affairs is Dr. D. Paul Parnell. Paul comes to Rio Hondo College from Chaffey College in Rancho Cucamonga where he served as Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences. In that position he supervised 35 full-time and over 100 adjunct faculty teaching at the Rancho Cucamonga campus and centers in Chino and Fontana. He handled budget and resource allocation responsibilities for a payroll in the millions of dollars. The academic policies under his review included: curriculum development, program review and technology upgrades.

Paul earned his Ph.D. in Education, Psychology and Community College Studies from Oregon State University, his M.A. in Guidance and Counseling from Ball State University and a B.S. in International Affairs at the United States Air Force Academy.

As the College prepares for accreditation, reviews the curricular needs of the community, and finishes our Educational Master Plan, Paul's experience of over 20 years in higher education will serve us well.

The College has also hired our full-time Director of the GEAR UP Program. Michael Munoz comes to Rio Hondo College from the City of Santa Ana where he has been working for the last two years as a Planning Commissioner. Michael has extensive experience with both the implementation and coordination of a GEAR UP program and worked as the Program Coordinator of GEAR UP at the University of California Irvine as well as the Higher Education Center Coordinator/ Puente Counselor at Saddleback High School.

Michael has extensive experience as an educational consultant working with University of California at Los Angeles, Conquist America Education Foundation and the City of Santa Ana. He earned his M.S. in Counseling from California State University, Long Beach and B.A. in Psychology and Social Behavior at the University of California, Irvine. He is eager to work as the Director of the GEAR UP program and brings both experience and proven success to the program.

Finally, Rio Hondo College welcomes Dianne Martinez as the Coordinator/Counselor for the Transfer Center. Dianne has been working as a Transfer Advisor at El Camino College where she provided academic and transfer advisement to prospective students, information related to transfer options, and plans for students that emphasized the transfer process.

Dianne has a Master's degree in Counseling from California State University, Los Angeles and a B.S. in Business Administration from California State University, Los Angeles. She also works as an instructor for the Division of Special Education & Counseling, at California State University, Los Angeles.



Dianne Martinez

We have a wonderful group of people joining us and I look forward to their contributions to Rio Hondo College.

Student Fee Assessment for GO RIO Program:

The Board of Trustees authorized an ASB Student Election Ballot Measure to vote on a student assessment fee per semester for the GO RIO PASS beginning Fall 2008.

BOARD REPORT

for the Board Meeting

December 12, 2007

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance led by the Rio Hondo College Color Guard. Newly elected Board members, Maria Elena Martinez, and Gary Mendez were sworn in front of a large audience of supporters. At this the final meeting of the Board of Trustees in 2007, both the Rio Hondo College Men's Soccer and Men's Wrestling athletes received commendations from the Board, followed by the Rio Hondo College Choral Group performance of holiday songs.



Annual Audit Report: The Board of Trustees accepted the audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007.

Faculty Wage Increase for Fiscal Year 2007/2008:

The Board of Trustees approved a salary increase of 4.53% for all Faculty employees, retroactive from July 1, 2007 for fiscal year 2007/2008, subject to Faculty Association ratification of tentative agreement.

The Trustees also approved several other agenda items including:

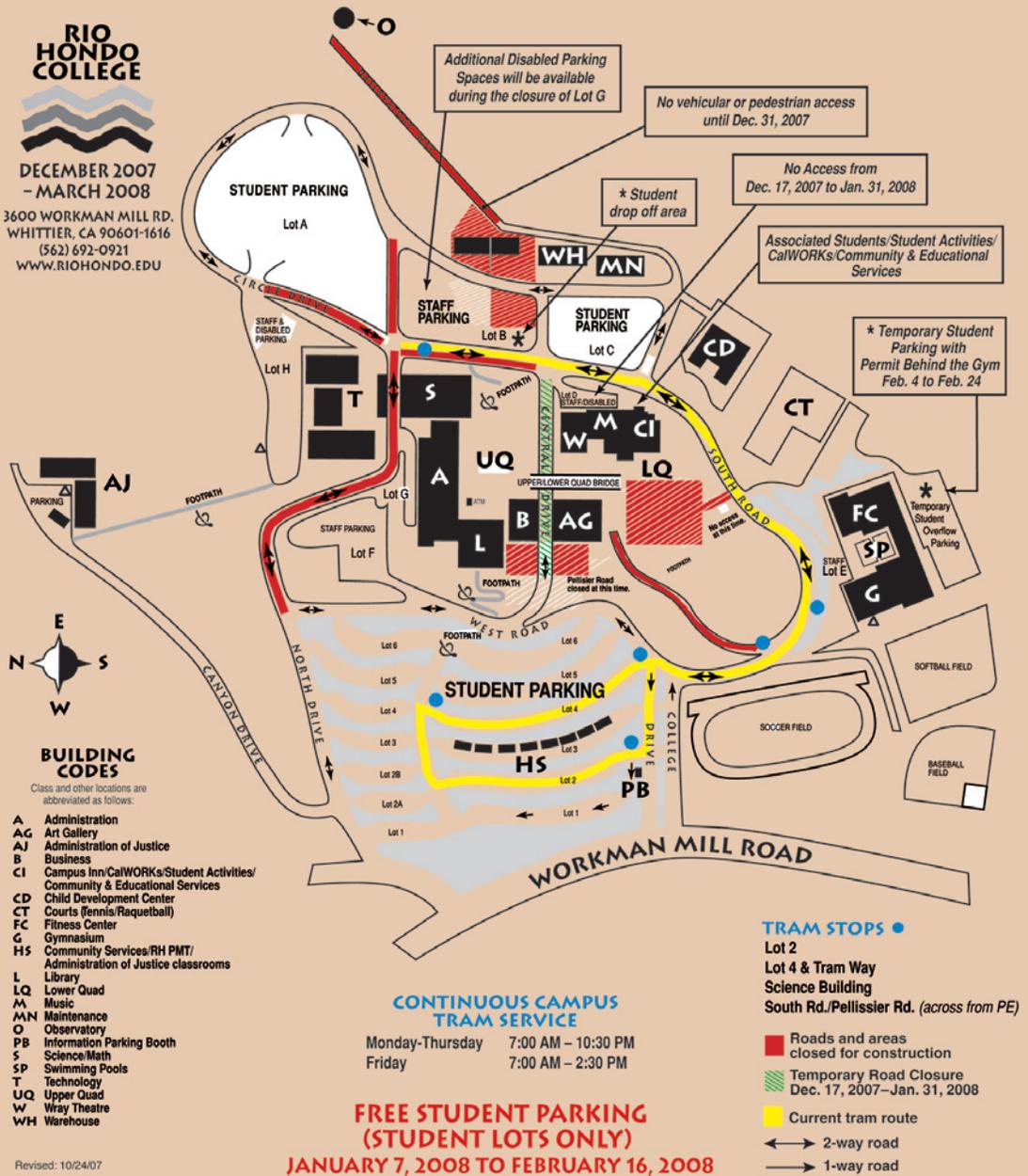
■ **Consultant Services** for Foster and Kinship Care, Curriculum for non credit ESL programs, GEAR UP grant writing and website design and management.

■ **Vehicle Donations:** The Board of Trustees accepted donations of two model year 2000 Ford Crown Victoria 4 door sedans from the City of Huntington Park Police Department for use by Public Safety.

Temporary Road Closure While Rio Hondo College Builds Access And Excellence

Rio Hondo College is reaching out to the students, faculty, staff, and community throughout the construction process. *The Building Access and Excellence* building program has several projects under construction on the campus right now, including the Learning Resource Center, the Central Plant, and infrastructure projects. A portion of North Road will be closed beginning in December to allow for the installation of infrastructure, which includes hot and chilled water piping to support the heating and cooling buildings, data lines to support information technology upgrades, as well as the installation of piping for gas and electrical service.

The college has sent out over 12,000 postcards to all registered students and has posted the newest road closures on both the Rio Hondo College website at www.riohondo.edu and the Rio Hondo College Building Programs website at www.riohondocollege.info. Maps will be made available throughout the community at libraries and city halls and on the campus. A hugh effort is being made to make the road closures as hassle-free as possible.



Center Based Child Care CCTR-7191 and State Preschool CPRE-7176: The Board of Trustees approved a. #CCTR7191, Amendment #01.

Reject Bid #1123 – Theater Lighting Controls: The Board of Trustees approved the rejection of Bid #1123 because bidders failed to complete bid documents as required.

Constructability Review Services – Administration of Justice Building and Student Services Building: The Board of Trustees awarded a contract to O'Connor Construction Management Inc. for Constructability Review Services for the Administration of Justice Building.

Award of Bid #1131 Outdoor Painting for Door/Window Assemblies: The Board of Trustees approved and awarded Bid #1131 – Outdoor Painting for Door/Window Assemblies to California Building Evaluation and Construction, Inc.

Student Fee Assessment for GO Rio Program – Part II: The Board of Trustees authorized the ASB approved \$3.00 fee per semester to be included on the Spring, 2008 ASB election ballot.

Ratification of Change Order #1 to Bid# 1117- IT Electrical Upgrade: The Board of Trustees ratified Change Order #1 to Bid #1117.



Happy Holidays!

Rio Hondo College Golf Tournament a Smashing Success

The 3rd Annual Rio Hondo College Foundation Golf Tournament was a great success in both fundraising and “friendraising.” Credit goes to the terrific work of Debbie Wade and the Golf Committee. They did an outstanding job!

The mission of the Rio Hondo College Foundation is to secure financial and community resources to support Rio Hondo College programs and services. In an era of increasingly uncertain funding from the state, the Foundation is playing a critical role in providing support for student scholarships, equipment, and innovative college programs.



Rio Hondo College Athletic Teams Are Champions Again

The Rio Hondo College Men's Soccer Team has won the Foothill Athletic Conference for 2007. This is not the first championship for the Roadrunners—they earned conference championships in 1997, 1998, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005. The team is currently seeded 4th in the Southern California Regional Tournament. The team was honored by the Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees at their December 12, 2007 meeting.



Soccer is not the only sport that Rio Hondo College is excelling in. Rio Hondo College placed 8th out of 21 colleges participating in the San Francisco State wrestling tournament. The Roadrunners also had two wrestlers place: Rick Bernal at 125lbs placed 2nd and Diego Martinez at 149lbs also placed 2nd. It was a very good showing for the team in such a tough tournament.

Rio Hondo wrestlers traveled to Bakersfield for their final conference match. Rio Hondo College's heavy-weight started the comeback with an overtime win. Team captain Rick Bernal then beat his opponent by a score of 9-7, pulling the Roadrunners within a point at 13-12. Rio lost the next match by a point in overtime making the score 16-12. Freshman Bernardo Flores majored his opponent with a score of 17-4, tying the score



Roadrunners Wrestling Team



Roadrunners Soccer Team

at 16-16. Rio's other captain Diego Martinez pinned the Bakersfield wrestler giving Rio its first lead 22-16. Bakersfield won the final match of the night 7-4, giving Rio Hondo the victory 21-19 and the conference championship for the second consecutive year.

The Wrestling team is also proud to report that three wrestlers from the 2006-2007 year that have a 3.0 or greater were named California Community College Wrestling Academic All Americans. Rio Hondo College Athletics believes in the scholar-athlete and praises these men for their excellent accomplishment.

The Rio Hondo College Cross Country team went to Fresno in November with some wonderful results. Ervin Romo ran his personal best of 21:28 for 41st place and Ulises Lorenzo ran his personal best of 21:35 for 49th place. That gives Rio Hondo two of the top 50 runners in the state of California. Both freshman that will be returning to help make a tradition grow.