A Message from the Chancellor

It is now 3:30 p.m. on my fourth day as Interim Chancellor. Maybe it is time to take stock. It has been an inspiring beginning with many of you offering me a sincere welcome as I move about the colleges and District office, and then there was the first Board of Trustees meeting—a well-run one, indeed.

This assignment—short term Interim Chancellor of the Coast CCD—calls for a bit of self-examination. How can I best make a positive contribution, offering leadership to benefit our students and colleges during a work period that likely will last only a few months? You may wish to tell me. I perceive myself as a learner, looking for ways to do things and then do them better. Some may consider this a bit idealistic because the routine requirements of the position will themselves demand considerable energy and effort. Nevertheless, I shall try reaching beyond that.

It is not that I have little knowledge or experience at serving interim assignments. In fact, this one is my 13th interim position. Six interims ago, I had the opportunity of being the chancellor of your neighbor, the South Orange County CCD, but that was for 14 months, sufficient time to move forward a positive agenda. Without printing out a resume, it is at least important to me that you know I did spend 14 years teaching at a number of schools and colleges, including San Jose City, Bakersfield, Cerro Coso, Fullerton, and Clark Colleges.

Clearly, we are in time of change, but, in many ways, is that not true of every time? My hope is that you soon will bring on board an able, committed, potentially long-term chancellor who will give this position the depth of understanding and leadership it so clearly deserves.

Meanwhile, I expect to progress positively, working closely with the Board of Trustees. But, also, I expect to work effectively with the faculty, staff, administrators, and constituency leaders. During the next few weeks, it is my intention to tour the colleges and meet many of you. This includes sitting down with leaders of your various constituency groups while seeking ways to continue working together cooperatively. To achieve this, openness and flexibility are required of all. To emphasize this point, I turn to the waterfront to quote Eric Hoffer, “In a time of drastic change, it is the learners that survive. The learned find themselves fully equipped to live in a world that no longer exists.”

Chancellor Search Update

As you may know, the Coast Community College District will be continuing the search for the next permanent Chancellor. The existing search committee and search services firm will be used to accelerate the process in order to help lead to a suitable candidate before or by July 1. I would like to thank everyone involved in the search process for their help thus far and appreciate their willingness to continue with these efforts as we move forward with the search.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Jones

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This Week at the District

Board Meeting Reminders

March 18, 2015 – Regular Meeting/Study Session
April 1, 2015 – Regular Meeting

Chancellor’s Schedule

Week of March 9
Monday – Friday
In the District

College Highlights

To view the Coastline President’s Bulletin, please visit the following link: www.coastline.edu/bulletins

To view the Golden West College News Room, please visit the following link: http://gwcnews.com/

To view Orange Coast College news, please visit the following link: http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/about_occ/news/Pages/default.aspx.