OCC Recycling Center Officially Opens

Orange Coast College’s new Recycling Center officially opened its doors on Thursday, Sept. 14. A ribbon-cutting ceremony took place in front of the Recycling Center's administrative offices and a reception and tours of the facility followed.

Costa Mesa Mayor Katrina Foley, local elected officials, supportive community members, Measure M Board Members, students, and staff joined the festivities to celebrate the momentous occasion. Many thanks to Board President David A. Grant, Vice President Mary Hornbuckle, Board Clerk Lorraine Prinsky, and Trustee Jerry Patterson for attending and for the continuous support of the Recycling Center expansion. Funding for the new center came from a variety of sources, including Measure M bond funds and CR&R Environmental Services.

OCC President Dennis Harkins supported the sentiments of many, by stating that the recycling center is an economic driver for the entire community. He said it represents “decades of commitment” to the community and has provided thousands of jobs, mostly for students, for decades.
Coastline Fall All College FLEX Day

The Fall 2017 All-College Meeting/ Flex day took place Friday, August 25, at the Rose Center in Westminster. Introductions by Dr. Adrian were followed by welcome remarks by Dr. Andy Dunn on behalf of Chancellor Weispfenning.

Constituent leaders, the Vice Presidents, and the Executive Dean provided highlights of key accomplishments of 2016/17 and priorities for 2017/18.

The Keynote speaker, Dr. Rob Johnstone, Founder & President of National Center for Inquiry & Improvement, presented a session on Guided pathways.

After lunch, the Guided Pathways Steering Committee joined Johnstone again in room 210 of the Le Jao Campus and further discussed the implementation of guided pathways at Coastline. The other attendees remained in the ballroom for the faculty and classified working sessions led by Ed Bowling, Executive Director of Completion by Design for North Carolina Community College.

Faculty members were then invited to stay for a presentation on student learning outcomes, led by Faculty Coordinator, Joshua Levenshus. The afternoon concluded with a Classified Senate meeting, a union meeting, and a management meeting.

Thank you to Trustees David Grant, Mary Hornbuckle, Dr. Lorraine Prinsky and Vice Chancellor Andy Dunn for their support in attending the event. Thanks also to the Flex Committee and the All-College Planning Committee comprised of the President's Office, District IT, Marketing Department, and Maintenance and Operations.

GWC Floral Students Take Top Honors at National Design Competition

Terri Tae Hwa Kang, Gina Wright and Tracey Duncan, Golden West College floral students, won honors in the American Institute of Floral Designers' (AIFD) 2017 Student Floral Design Competition held in Seattle, Washington. The competition was held in July as part of the Institute’s 2017 National Symposium “X”. These three students were part of the college design team that brought home a total of four awards in the competitions four categories: Interpretive, Fashion Flowers, Wedding and Sympathy.

Kang took home first place in the Sympathy category, second place in the Interpretive category and 3rd in the Overall Student Highest Score. Duncan won second place in the Sympathy category and Wright tied for third place in the Interpretive category. The GWC Floral team was led by advisors Gail Call AIFD, CFD and Miriam Somoano AIFD, CFD.
Facilities Committee Provides an Update on Student Union, Dorms, and More

Updates on the planning processes, and status of new construction and existing projects on OCC's campus were presented to faculty and staff on Sept. 7 at a Facilities Planning Committee meeting. The following projects were addressed:

1. Kinesiology & Aquatic Center, Phase I: This facility will include two pools and support spaces, in addition to locker rooms, faculty and staff offices, equipment storage, and classrooms. Architecture consulting firm LITTLE has met with multiple constituency groups to gain insight into what students, faculty, coaches, staff, and others would like to see included in the facility. The next phase will be design development, followed by construction documents. The anticipated opening date for the Kinesiology and Aquatic Center is Fall 2020.

2. Student Union: Construction documents are 50 percent complete for OCC’s new Student Union. Architecture firm tBP discussed recent changes to their design, including relocating some offices and programs from the first to the second floor of the building, as well as ideas for making up for lost parking spaces due to an expanded footprint. The firm also discussed some cost saving measures, including reduction in landscaping and alternative building materials. The projected date of completion for the Student Union is January 2021.

3. Student Housing: The College's student dormitories are still in the Design Development phase, with affordability, accessibility, sustainability, and efficiency being some key drivers for the project. The facility will house approximately 800 beds and 300 parking spaces, and will include alternative transportation options, including bike trails. The project will be a public/private partnership, and program management company Brailsford & Dunlavey currently is seeking financing from private investors. An estimated completion date of Summer 2020 is expected.

4. Language Arts & Social Science Building: In its final project proposal phase, the Facilities Committee and its subcommittees are in the process of selecting an architect to head phase II of the College's IDC project (phase I was the construction of the Math, Business and Computing Center).

5. Current Project Updates: construction updates were given for the College's dock renovations at the OCC School of Sailing and Seamanship in Newport Beach, the OCC Planetarium, the OCC Recycling Center, and Legacy Hall and Garrison Honors Center. Some projects are scheduled to finish this semester, such as the Recycling Center which opens this week and the Garrison Honors Center which will open in the coming weeks. Others currently are underway or will be soon, such as the Planetarium, for which a concrete dome has been poured — and the dock renovations, which are slated to begin later this semester and will be completed in 12 months. Some smaller projects being undertaken by OCC's Maintenance and Operations department include the remodel of the Astronomy building, an HVAC upgrade for the College's Faculty House, turf replacement on the soccer and baseball fields, and a seat replacement in the Fine Arts lecture hall.

The next Facilities Planning Committee meeting will take place on Thursday, Oct. 5 at 2:30 p.m. in the Administration Building, room 108.
On Thursday, September 14, I was honored to attend the Orange Coast College Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the new Recycling Center.

This exciting partnership between dedicated OCC Staff, OCC Students, local businesses, environmental advocates, and vested community members will serve as an economic driver to support student led initiatives on campus and local families with extra revenue.

In addition, the Recycling Center supports local economic development by returning approximately $1 million annually to our local community for redemption of their recycled materials. The new OCC Recycling Center facility will expand the current operations by 50% and will give the community a space to learn about socially responsible living.

Thank you to the Board of Trustees, Measure M Board, support staff, and committed students for your contributions to this meaningful project.

John Weisphfenning, Ph.D.
Chancellor