

## **Progress Report on the Board's Goals – President's Report**

February 5, 2008

In July 2007, the Board set four goals, and each month the President reports on the College's progress toward those goals:

- 1. Accreditation – to meet and exceed all requirements and deadlines** – the letter that placed the college on probation in July 2007 stipulated two reports – one October 15 and the other March 15. The Accreditation Commission meets twice a year – January and June – to consider and then issue a decision based on the reports, the visits, and the team's findings and recommendations. The Commission did meet in January and I am proud to announce that they faxed us a letter informing us that our status has moved up from "probation" to "warning"! And, while I am excited to tell you that, I am also frightened because the second report is due in only five weeks – March 15<sup>th</sup>. In that report we **must** provide evidence that **all** concerns and recommendations have been remediated. Further, the letter quotes federal regulations as requiring that any college that fails to remove all deficiencies within two years **must** have their accreditation terminated by the Commission. Therefore, Hartnell must achieve an unqualified accreditation before June 2009 or lose it.

We have made great progress – thanks to the faculty and staff who have worked tirelessly and with determination! I thank them, but also thank the Board of Trustees for their leadership, for their support, for the time they have devoted to their own growth and development, and for their desire to function as a Board to meet the needs of the District.

- 2. Finance – to balance the budget, restore the reserves, and invest in new programs through growth and increased efficiencies** – This month the college achieved an unheard of 23% growth in enrollment. That is almost 1700 more students than we had one year ago. We are "paid" based on units or credit hours, so, I am especially proud that we are up 14%-- or almost 8000 units--over last spring. This is great news, and we have lots of people to thank: students, faculty, and staff involved in the Registration Rally, which ran for 18 hours straight on the main campus and then 12 hours on our King City Campus. King City, by the way, grew more than the main campus when you consider the difference in the population base. The Rally and the fact that the bookstore and the offices stayed open until seven every evening made a big difference. But so did the guaranteed course schedule – offering the classes students need and not canceling classes works! And credit should be given to the new or renewed energy and spirit of cooperation on campus! Faculty added students to their classes all last week – people are happy – we are becoming a better college!
- 3. Communication – amongst the Board, between the Board and the College, and between the Board and the community** – The Board has revised its shared governance policy with regard to the faculty senate and tonight will consider for

first reading the revision of the shared governance policy as it impacts the classified union. Additionally, a college-wide leadership group is completing its shared governance processes and procedures. These efforts have improved communication internally. Meanwhile, the Board has engaged in numerous workshops and Board members continue to improve communication amongst themselves and with the community.

- 4. Presidential Search – to identify and hire a new president** – The search committee has been identified and the brochure has been developed. And, as requested in December, I have agreed to be a candidate – to give the college and the Board an “insurance plan” because Title V regulations indicate that, if the search should fail, the Board would not be able to extend my interim role beyond 12 months, nor would they be able to appoint me to the position unless I were a candidate. So, my “hat is in the ring.”