Mr. Joseph Mitchell, President of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in Fir 2. Trustees then convened to closed session for the purpose of discussion pursuant to G. C. Section 54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release and G. C. Section 54956.9: Anticipated Litigation.

At 3:30 the Board of Trustees recessed to public session in Juniper 1 for a Strategic Conversation, where Columbia leadership facilitated an interactive dialogue with trustees and staff on the subject of our “Excellence Initiative.”

Trustees reconvened to public session at 5:00 p.m. in the Dogwood Forum.

Board Members Present
Allister Allen
Linda Flores
Tom Hallinan
Joseph Mitchell
Paul Neumann
Abe Rojas
Delsie Schrimp
Dorlayn Foletti (Student Trustee)

Others Present

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag preceded formal Board action.

14,476 Approval of the Minutes
A motion was made by Mr. Neumann, seconded by Mr. Allen, that the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 5, 2002.

The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

14,477 Student Activity Report
Chelsea Rustrum, Associated Students Vice President of Publicity at Columbia College, reported that fundraising efforts during the past month included a Valentine’s Day flower sale and a dinner. In March they plan a concert and various activities honoring...
Women’s History Month. Ms. Rustrum said that student clubs have been very active. She also reported that they have student government vacancies for the Vice President for Clubs and Secretary.

Bryan Justin Marks, ASMJC President, reported on a busy month. He said they held spring political forums, a successful Valentine’s Day flower sale, activities honoring Black History Month, and a break dance competition. Relative to upcoming activities, Mr. Marks said plans include activities commemorating Women’s History Month, Earth Day, Asian Awareness Day, the Hispanic Education Conference featuring Edward James Olmos, Lobby Day and a trip to the Museum of Tolerance.

Trustees thanked Ms. Rustrum and Mr. Marks for their reports.

14,478
Academic Senate Reports

Dr. David Baggett, MJC Academic Senate President, commended the Strategic Conversation on the Excellence Initiative at Columbia College and reemphasized the importance of communication on our campuses.

Mr. Ted Hamilton, Columbia College Academic Senate President, reported on a curriculum pilot program which will make it easier for faculty to bring forward curriculum proposals.

He also expressed the Senate’s continued concern with the Accrediting Commission’s process and speed in developing the new accreditation standards.

He thanked the Board of Trustees for their participation in the Strategic Conversation held prior to this meeting and said that he also looks forward to working with the District to complete the Board Policy review process.

14,479
INFORMATION ITEMS

New Columbia College Campus Map

Columbia staff produced a new comprehensive 3-dimensional map, showing different elevations and pathways between buildings. The outside back cover includes details about essential information. Dr. Riggs thanked Dr. Kathryn Jeffery, Vice President of Student Services, and Mr. Andy Maurer, Graphic Artist Coordinator, for this exceptional product.
Children’s Concert at Columbia College  
On March 12 over 2,000 Tuolumne and Calaveras County students from grades 4 through 8 will attend a Children’s Concert at the Oak Pavilion. Columbia College’s 45-piece Symphony of the Sierra Orchestra will present two performances for the children. The Central Sierra and Calaveras Arts Councils are co-sponsoring the event.

Columbia College Hosts Occupational Olympics  
For the second year, Columbia College will host the Occupational Olympics for Tuolumne and Calaveras County high school students. Dr. Riggs said that on March 21 the event will involve over 200 competitors in nine different vocational subjects.

Horizon Line Production  
Funded by a grant from Tuolumne County, Columbia College will present the production “Horizon Line” by the National Conference for Community and Justice. The play informs and educates about hate crime recognition and prevention. On March 18, an evening performance will be open to the public. On March 19, three performances will be held for high school and college students. There is no fee but admission will be by ticket only, due to the limited seating in the Dogwood Theater.

Staff Recognition Dinner  
Chancellor Fisher reported that the annual YCCD Staff Recognition Dinner is set for Friday, May 10. The event will be held at Johnathan’s at the Elks Lodge in Modesto. Trustees, staff and guests are welcome and are encouraged to save that date on their calendars.

Dr. Jim Williams reported on the following three MJC events:

Hispanic Education Conference  
MJC will host its 18th Annual Hispanic Education Conference on Saturday, March 16 on East Campus. This daylong event features speakers, discussions and workshops that will highlight career opportunities and the benefits of obtaining a higher education. Keynote speakers will be actor/community activist Edward James Olmos and Lt. Colonel Consuelo Castillo Kickbush (retired), U. S. Army.

Edward James Olmos  
On the evening of March 16, Mr. Olmos will speak in the gymnasium on the topic of “We're All in the Same Gang.” Dr. Williams stated that the event is open to the public and tickets ($25 and $10) are available through the MJC Auditorium Box Office Monday through Friday from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Celebrate MJC Gourmet Food, Wine Tasting & Silent Auction

The annual “Celebrate MJC Gourmet Food, Wine Tasting & Silent Auction” is scheduled for Friday, March 22, 6-9 p.m. at the SOS Club. Tickets are $25 and are available through the MJC Foundation, 575-6068, or through Physical Education, 575-6269. All proceeds support the Pirates’ athletic program and the 21 intercollegiate sports offered at MJC.

Federal Legislation

YCCD Board of Trustees President Joe Mitchell, Trustee Allister Allen and Chancellor Fisher participated in the ACCT’s National Legislative Seminar in mid-February. Contacts were made in each congressional office regarding issues of concern to community colleges. President Mitchell and trustee Allen explained that of special importance are Pell grants, reauthorization of the welfare reform act and several serious challenges to the associate degree in nursing, teacher education, and expanding the definition for the Hope Scholarship Tax Credit.

The Chancellor facilitated a general session featuring U. S. Department of Education, Assistant Secretary of Education for Vocational and Adult Education, Carol D’Amico and U. S. Department of Labor, Assistant Secretary of Employment and Training Administration, Emily DeRocco.

State and Local Fiscal Update

The Chancellor provided an update of YCCD’s fiscal status. She stated that the fiscal prognosis for the state of California generally, and community colleges specifically, continues to be grim. As reported widely in the press, the state’s revenue shortfall had been projected to be $12 - $14 billion. The Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO) has stated that the shortfall may be as much as $5 billion more than predicted by the Governor. The LAO also has stated that the COLA is likely to drop to 1.8% and that there may be a new charge to districts for contributions to the PERS fund. The LAO also recommends several dramatic changes for funding of categorical programs, including the elimination of the Partnership for Excellence program. As always, these predictions and recommendations will be the topic of numerous intense debates over the next four or more months.

Dr. Fisher reported that locally, YCCD has been planning carefully for funding of increases in staff salaries, increases in health benefits rates, and pressing technology and capital construction needs. Reduction in expected state funding this year and next made it more difficult to meet these needs, but plans
are in place nonetheless. The Chancellor pointed out that of major concern now is that MJC’s enrollment projections for this year are significantly below their target. First indications of a problem in this area appeared in mid fall and have been the focus of much attention ever since. Despite many staff’s efforts, the numbers have not improved. In fact, it now appears that MJC’s 2001-2002 FTES may be equivalent to last year, and not the desired 4% growth. A portion of that 500 FTES loss will be picked up by Columbia (approximately 100 FTES) and plans call for a large MJC first summer session that could help somewhat. However, the Chancellor said it is not possible to make up the entire loss. Thus, as budgets are adjusted for this year, and developed for next year, a significant drop in revenue has to be assumed.

Chancellor Fisher said that to account for the expected revenue shortfall, work is proceeding in two directions. One focus is to implement and manage significant enrollment growth for 2002-2003 and 2003-2004. The other focus is to identify ways and funds to cover the shortfalls for the next two years until the state’s economy and community college funding improves. Dr. Fisher said that strategies and solutions to this major task will be found, but it will require all constituencies to work collaboratively to identify and implement them. However, she said there is no reason for our colleges not to continue to be excellent with the resources we do have.

14,480
CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Ms. Schrimp, that the Board of Trustees take the following action on the Consent Agenda:

Purchase Orders

Approve the purchase orders issued from January 1, 2002 to January 31, 2002.

Ms. Janice Walker, public member from Orange, CA, asked for clarification regarding a purchase order pertaining to a state project. Ms. Teresa Scott, Vice Chancellor for Fiscal Services, explained that YCCD is the fiscal agent for some state projects funds. These are not district funds.

Gifts

Accept with appreciation the following gifts:

a. Donation of $25,000 from Diane Gagos to be used for student intern housing in the Ag and Environmental Sciences Division at Modesto Junior College.
b. Donation of $5,000 from Diamond Walnut Growers, Inc., to be used in the development of a 12-acre demonstration walnut orchard at the Beckwith Road demonstration farm laboratory at Modesto Junior College.

c. Two Audiovox 14-channel UHF radios from Myrna Gervasoni to be used in Health Services at Modesto Junior College.

d. Dental chair from Michael Gerber to be used in the Dental Assisting program at Modesto Junior College.

e. A Compaq Presario 5726 Computer with monitor from Max Norton to be used by the MJC Forensics Team at Modesto Junior College.

f. Delivery, set-up, skirting and steps from Duppa Villa Mobile Home Sales, to be used for the new mobile home for West Campus housing for Agriculture student interns at Modesto Junior College.

g. Various books of assorted titles from Chris Vaughn to be used in the Library at Modesto Junior College.

Special Appointment - Peralta

Approve the appointment of Richard Peralta as president of the Schools Employee Benefits Association (SEBA). SEBA is the District’s self-funded health insurance plan and includes the Sylvan and Riverbank School Districts. Mr. Peralta has served as Board President since SEBA’s inception in 1989.

Acceptance of Claim

Accept the claim filed by Terry P. Lyle and direct staff to process the appropriate paperwork to Accounts Payable so payment can be made on this claim.

Project Applications/Amendments

Authorize the Yosemite Community College District to submit the following project applications/amendments and to enter into a contract with the appropriate donor agencies when the projects are selected for funding:

a. EIP Job Profile - Seal Fill Operator - MJC
   Submitted to Del Monte Foods - Plant #1
   Agency share: $5,999.25; Proposer share: $0
b. EIP Job Profile - Tray Pack Operator - MJC
Submitted to Del Monte Foods - Plant #1
Agency share: $10,297.75; Proposer share: $0

c. Fundamentals of Electricity - MJC
Submitted to Modesto, Merced and Turlock Irrigation Districts
Agency share: $4,400; Proposer share: $0

d. AmeriCorps: Foster Youth Mentor Program Endowment Grant - MJC
Submitted to California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office
Agency share: $30,000; Proposer share: $0

e. SB 551 Funding for the Promotion of Tolerance - CC
Submitted to Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors
Agency share: $13,736; Proposer share: $0

f. Columbia College Child Development Contract for Facilities Revolving Fund
Submitted to California Department of Education
Agency share: $150,000; Proposer share: $0

Adopt Resolution No. 01-02/08

g. Columbia College Mother Lode Scholars Program-CC
Submitted to National Science Foundation
Agency share: $205,356; Proposer share: $0

h. Child Development Permit Project YCCD
Submitted to California Children and Families Commission
Agency share: $442,000; Proposer share: $0

i. Child Development Training Consortium - MJC
Submitted to California Department of Education, Child Development Division
Agency share: $3,707,740; Proposer share: $0

j. Funds for Enrollment Growth, Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Program - MJC
Submitted to the Chancellor’s Office of the California Community Colleges
Agency share: $147,302; Proposer share: $0
k. Agriculture Education, Marketing and Outreach - MJC
Submitted to U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agency share: $40,000
Matching required: $40,000

l. Instruction Materials - MJC/CC
Submitted to California Department of Education
Agency share: $3,000; Proposer share: $0

m. Columbia College Child Care Center Permanent Facility - CC
Submitted to the Orfalea Family Foundation
Agency share: $3,000,000; Proposer share: $0

n. General Child Care & Development Program Funding - CC
Submitted to Child Development Division/California Department of Education
Agency share: $297,300; Proposer share: $0
(This grant summary was previously approved by the Board on 7/12/01 - it now requires adoption of Resolution No. 01-02/10)

The Consent Agenda carried by a vote of 7-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS
14,481
Columbia College Physics Program

Columbia College Physics Program is an outstanding example of creative teaching. Dr. Riggs reported that for the past eight years, Dr. Dennis Albers, Professor of Physics and Math, has been developing a number of innovative student projects and classroom exercises that have improved student retention and transfer success into the Sciences at universities. In 1994, Dr. Albers redesigned the Introductory Physics curriculum and, as a result, both success rates and FCI scores (a national standardized test for understanding of Physics course material) nearly doubled, and enrollment has increased by 50 percent. After a brief introduction by Dr. George Railey, Dean of Instructional Services at Columbia, Dr. Albers presented slides and brief descriptions of some of the measures taken that turned this course around and answered trustees’ questions. Chancellor Fisher stated that the innovations that Dr. Albers initiated are examples of the fine quality of teaching and learning at Columbia College and are representative of the “Excellence Initiative.”
The Board of Trustees thanked and commended Dr. Albers for his work and presentation.

MJC sought Board approval of a Shakespeare Semester in London for Spring 2003. Dr. Peter Raleigh, MJC Professor, reported that this unique activity will bring national and statewide recognition to MJC and the District. He said they hope to attract 45 students to this program, although current plans are for 25. These students will take courses in transfer level English and theatre classes taught by Dr. Peter Raleigh. Students will be housed in the facilities of Westminster Kingsway College, a well-established institution.

Ms. Janice Walker, public member from Orange, CA, asked how this program was being funded. Dr. Raleigh explained that students will pay their own expenses and fees. The program does not cost the college anything and generates FTES.

A motion was made by Mr. Rojas, seconded by Mr. Hallinan, that the Board of Trustees approve MJC’s Shakespeare Semester in London for Spring 2003.

The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The voting period for the California Community College Trustees Board of Directors ends April 25. There are 19 candidates for ten two-year vacancies and one one-year vacancy on the Board. Biographical sketches were distributed previously to the trustees. Trustees agreed to each complete a ballot indicating their preferences for the CCCT Board of Directors. These ballots will be forwarded to the Chancellor for compilation and the completion of a single Board ballot.

Mr. Richard Peralta, Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, presented 17 personnel items for trustees’ approval. He made two corrections - one related to the effective date of Mr. Ramsaran’s retirement and the other to the omission of the effective month of the change in salary placement for TRIO Program Directors.

Mr. Mitchell recognized the retirement of Mr. Allan Ramsaran and commended him for his valuable service to the District.
A motion was made by Mr. Neumann, seconded by Mr. Allen, that the Board of Trustees approve the following personnel items as corrected:

Allan Ramsaran
Grant retirement emeritus status to Allan Ramsaran, Counselor at Columbia College, effective June 30, May 17, 2002, and officially commend him for thirteen and one-half years of valuable service to the District.

Martha Robles
Approve the appointment of Martha Robles to the position of Director of Student Success & Special Projects, Student Services, Modesto Junior College, effective February 12, 2002.

Kathleen Hairston
Approve the probationary appointment of Kathleen Hairston to Instructional Assistant - Health Education Telecourse (.025%), Physical, Recreation and Health Education, Modesto Junior College, effective January 31, 2002 (9-month work year).

Letitia Senechal
Approve the probationary appointment of Letitia Senechal to Student Outreach Recruiter, Matriculation/Admissions & Records, Modesto Junior College, effective February 1, 2002.

Rosanne Faughn
Approve the probationary appointment of Rosanne Faughn to Program Representative I, Planning & Budget, Modesto Junior College, effective February 11, 2002, contingent upon funding.

Martin Almarez
Approve the probationary appointment of Martin Almarez, Custodian, Facilities Planning and Operations, YCCD, effective February 11, 2002.

Ascencion Macias
Approve the probationary appointment of Ascencion Macias to the position of Custodian (50%), Facilities Planning and Operations, YCCD, effective February 25, 2002.

George Yeager
Approve the probationary appointment of George Yeager, Maintenance III Painter, Facilities Operations, YCCD, effective March 4, 2002.

Ljiljana Kekic
Approve the probationary appointment of Ljiljana Kekic, custodian, Facilities Planning and Operations, YCCD, effective February 25, 2002.

Homer Evins Approve the promotional appointment of Homer Evins, Custodial Supervisor, Facilities Planning and Operations, MJC, effective February 7, 2002.

Gail Damas Approve the promotional appointment of Gail Damas to Reprographic Operator II (75%), Duplicating, Modesto Junior College, effective February 19, 2002, contingent upon funding.

Debra Tavernier Approve the temporary appointment (interim - sabbatical leave replacement) of Debra Tavernier to the position of Nursing Instructor, Allied Health Division, Modesto Junior College, for Spring 2002.

John Chappell Approve a 60 percent temporary out-of-class classified management position for John Chappell as Interim Director of Technology and Media Services at Columbia College, effective March 1, 2002 through December 31, 2002.

Lisa Schut Approve the voluntary reduction in assignment from 100% to 75% for Lisa Schut, Child Development Center Site Supervisor, Allied Health/Family & Consumer Science, Modesto Junior College, effective February 4, 2002 through December 31, 2002.

Francisco Banuelos, Martha Robles, and Roberto Mendez Approve a change in salary placement for the following TRIO Program Directors from Leadership Team salary schedule range 20 to range 21, effective January 1, 2002: Francisco Banuelos, Martha Robles and Roberto Mendez.

Michael Akard Approve the temporary appointment (interim) of Michael Akard to the position of Computer Laboratory Instructor/Coordinator, Instruction, Modesto Junior College, effective December 31, 2001 until on or before May 17, 2002 (until full-time position is filled).

Mr. Mitchell congratulated Mr. Peralta on his appointment as President of the SEBA Board of Directors.

The motion for approval of the personnel items carried by a vote of 7-0.
Mr. Mitchell reported that during the closed session the Board of Trustees acted on two items.

1. The Board of Trustees acted in closed session not to re-employ an educational administrator whose contract is expiring on June 30, 2002, and inform him of this decision on or before March 15, 2002.

2. The Board of Trustees acted in closed session not to re-employ a probationary academic employee whose contract is expiring at the end of the 2001-2002 academic year, and to inform her of this decision on or before March 15, 2002.

Requests to address the Board of Trustees were submitted by Mr. Don Clark and Ms. Janice Walker.

Ms. Walker, public member from Orange, CA, made a presentation to the Board of a comparative study she prepared on how YCCD compares to other California multi-college districts in the number of administrators per campus and the number of students per administrator. She claimed that the Yosemite Community College District has a proportionately high number of administrators.

Ms. Walker also stated that this would be the last time she comes before the Board of Trustees concerning the California Public Records Act and trying to access information from YCCD. She acknowledged that the Board had revised the procedures for requesting copies of public documents. However, she claimed that the procedures are still not in compliance. She added that if the law is not followed, her next action will be to seek legal redress. She asked the Board of Trustees to instruct YCCD to furnish her with the information she requests within the law.

Mr. Don Clark, retired MJC instructor, brought up several issues:

- He questioned City of Modesto Police Chief Wasden’s statement to the Board of Trustees in October that all permits for the new firing range were in place.
- He asked why community service class instructors are allowed to sell class materials to students.
• He complained of being denied placement on the agenda.
• He complained about YCCD’s legal counsel.
• He claimed YCCD is the most administrator heavy multi-college district in the state of California.

Mr. Mitchell thanked Ms. Walker and Mr. Clark for their comments.

14,487

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, April 11, 2002, in Modesto. Closed session will be at 3:00 p.m. A Strategic Conversation on the topic of the “Excellence Initiative” will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the MJC Staff Dining Room. Open session will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Joseph K. Mitchell, President
YCCD Board of Trustees

Pamila J. Fisher, Secretary
YCCD Board of Trustees