





The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

DATE: November 12-13, 2013

SUBJECT: Update on City College of San Francisco		Item Number: 4.1	
		Attachment: No	
CATEGORY:	Executive	TYPE OF BOARD CONSIDERATION:	
Recommended By:	 Erik Skinner, Deputy Chancellor	Consent/Routine	
		First Reading	
Approved for Consideration:	 Brice W. Harris, Chancellor	Action	
		Information	X

ISSUE: As outlined in earlier presentations and updates to the Board of Governors, City College of San Francisco is facing significant challenges related to accreditation.

BACKGROUND: On October 22, 2012, the board appointed Dr. Robert Agrella to serve as Special Trustee at City College of San Francisco, providing oversight and guidance to the local board and exercising stay and rescind power over board actions. On July 3, 2013, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges announced that City College of San Francisco’s accreditation would be revoked effective July 31, 2014, pending completion of appeals. On July 8, 2013, the Board of Governors elevated Special Trustee Agrella’s authority to include extraordinary powers, thereby assuming the duties and authority normally vested in the locally elected board. On October 16, 2013, City College of San Francisco announced the hiring of Dr. Arthur Tyler as permanent chancellor, effective November 1, 2013. At the board meeting, Special Trustee Agrella and Chancellor Tyler will present an update on City College of San Francisco’s current status.

RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for information and discussion.

ANALYSIS: At this time City College of San Francisco is pursuing review of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges ruling related to its accreditation. Concurrently, City College of San Francisco administrators, faculty, staff, and students are working to bring the college into full compliance with all accreditation standards. Below is a listing of key progress made in the 100 days since the Board of Governors elevated Special Trustee Agrella to assume the duties and authority of the local board:

- The hiring of Dr. Arthur Tyler as permanent chancellor effective November 1.
- A clear and transparent “roadmap” that shows progress toward each of the 357 individual tasks that must be completed to keep the college’s accreditation. This document can be found at www.ccsfforward.com, a new website specifically focused on City College of San Francisco accreditation issues.
- Appointment of Ronald Gerhard as vice chancellor of finance and administration.
- With the help of San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee’s office, key positions in payroll and auditing have been filled, strengthening internal fiscal controls at the college.
- A difficult but financially sound decision was made to suspend plans for a performing arts center that was scheduled to cost more than was available in local bond funds.
- The college has entered into a contract with a firm to administer a student payment program that will recoup several million dollars in past unpaid student fees. This process will ensure not only that past fees are recouped, but also that fee collection in the future is done in compliance with state laws.
- Special Trustee Agrella has been actively working with philanthropic, business and community groups that are supportive of City College’s plan to remain accredited.
- Collective bargaining agreements have been reached with department chairs as well as the collective bargaining unit that represents approximately 90 percent of the classified staff.