

BOARD ACTION

A Report of the FCCJ District Board of Trustees Meeting

July 12, 1989

YATES CONTINUES AS CHAIRMAN: The District Board of Trustees unanimously voted Alton W. Yates to a second term as board chairman for 1989-90. Don Zell was elected vice chairman of Duval County, and John Carr was elected vice chairman of Nassau County, succeeding Betty Cook whose term expired.

SALARY INCREASE APPROVED: The Board approved a six-step increase for all full-time employees instead of the current five-step increase. At the same time, the Board voted not to increase the sick leave payout until the Legislature provides funding for it.

NEW OPERATING BUDGET PASSED: The Board gave approval of the FY90 operating budget of approximately \$63 million. Included in that budget are nine new faculty positions. It was pointed out that the College is serving more students without a workload adjustment. "This budget is a wonderful reflection of a careful monitoring of resources," said President Spence.

MINORITY ENROLLMENT ON THE UPSWING: President Spence praised the success of the national conference held July 10-13 at the Omni Jacksonville Hotel. The "National Conference on Enhancing Black Student Participation and Success in the Community College" was co-sponsored by FCCJ and Gulf Coast Community College (Panama City, Fla.). FCCJ and the nation have experienced declining numbers of black students in higher education over the last ten years. Spence was proud to announce to the Board, "We saw for the first time this academic year, an increase in minority enrollment. The decade of decline has ended." He attributed this increase to special efforts to recruit minority students, specialized support programs and increased availability of scholarships.

Donald D. Zell
Vice Chairman
Duval County

Alton W. Yates
Chairman

Betty P. Cook
Vice Chairman
Nassau County

John M. Carr

H. Davis Collier

Ruth H. Corbitt

Joy M. Jones

Nathan H. Wilson

CLAST STANDARDS TO INCREASE: President Spence reported to the Board of Trustees that the state Board of Education will make a decision in the next few weeks in regard to the CLAST scores. The College Level Academic Skills Test is required of all sophomores before they can receive an associate degree. Concern has been voiced from various educators and citizens about the impact of the 1989 scores on students, particularly minority students and students whose first language is not English. A compromise proposal to the original scores is expected to take effect August 1. If the compromised proposal takes effect, the net result for FCCJ students failing one or more of the CLAST subtests is estimated to be 32 percent on the first attempt, as opposed to 15 percent at current levels.

PRESIDENT'S ASSISTANT BIDS ADIEU: Jeanne Jones bid a fond farewell to the Board after working at FCCJ for 17 years, most recently as administrative assistant to the president. She noted she has worked with 27 of the College's 31 board members during her tenure.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 16, 4pm, College Administration Building Board Room.