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Subject:	PFT e-Communique, Vol. VII, No. 3
Date:	Tuesday, November 10, 2015 5:53:43 PM

The Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees meets tonight at seven in the boardroom at 333 E. Eighth St. for its lone November get-together. On the agenda is a first reading of several proposed new board policies, including a pair related to ACCJC-related concerns, and consideration for approval of $40K for a district-level independent contractor to handle accreditation matters. Despite the recent call by a state chancellor's office task force to replace ACCJC , the Novato-based outfit remains a demanding—and expensive—taskmaster.

Other General Fund items include $80K for Ferrilli (IT-evaluation services), $24K for Flying A (TV ad campaign), $35K for Jennifer Owen-Blackmon (CoA communications), $45K for SHM (Merritt communications), $11K for Vavrinek Trine Day (auditing), and $50K for Liebert Cassidy Whitmore (legal services). In all, the administration is seeking board approval for more than a quarter-million dollars in independent contractor fees.

Laney is looking to hire an interim VP of Institutional Effectiveness—a move that will make it the second three-veep college in the district after BCC—and two directors (Student Activities and Gateway to College). The district is hoping to bring on a new Budget Director.

Elsewhere:
*Faculty from all over the state took part in the Nov. 7 Part-time Faculty Symposium at Laney College, co-sponsored by PFT and the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges. Part-time advocacy and dealing with unemployment were among the hot topics in the lively conversation. PFT thanks FACCC and Laney for their work in making the event a success.

*PFT's fall membership drive shifts into high gear next week with a trip to Merritt College. Faculty should look for their union sisters and brothers as they spread out across the hills campus to answer questions, hear concerns, and sign up new members. Look for the orange t-shirts!
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