

Board Watch, 1/30/2017

On Jan. 24, Trustees began their first meeting of 2017 by making a decision to drop items 34, 38, 40, and 41 from the consent calendar, most notably postponing a \$31 million decision on the New Center of Liberal Arts in Alameda.

A number of appointments were on the docket, including two positions at the district, Jason Cole as Vice Chancellor for Information Technology and Osafram Okundaye as Interim Project Manager or Maintenance and Operation. On the Island, Myron Jordan, Dean, stepped in as interim VPI.

Ed Jaramillo, PFT President, told trustees that PFT has yet to receive a serious wage proposal from the administrative negotiation team and that a settlement is long overdue. In addition, Jaramillo argued that the district pay part-time faculty for a fair allotment of office hours, a service most part-timers provide without pay.

Heidi White of Vavrinek, Tine, Day &, LLP presented the June 30, 2016 Annual Audit Report, VC Little presented the Governor's "conservative" budget with an 1.48% COLA, almost triple last year's bump, and a consortium of Oakland Promise players, including David Silver from the City, spoke for nearly 45 minutes. Alice Fellers, Laney student, shared her most recent frustrations with the online enrollment system, and Timothy Bryce, PCS President, argued that better planning would have alleviated a power outage over winter break at Merritt.

In other news:

*The PCCD Benefits Office invites faculty to attend the CALSTRS Educational Workshop on Feb. 1, 3-5 pm at the District Offices. www.calpers.ca.gov.

*Teachable Moment: The limits and consequences of free speech will be on display at UCB on Feb. 1, as provocateur, Milo Yiannopoulos, will speak as a guest of the Berkeley College Republicans. Reports indicate that protests are likely.

Ed Jaramillo

Peralta Federation of Teachers, President

AFT Local 1603