

## Board Watch, 3/14/2017

On Mar. 14, Trustees started their evening on a high note, honoring newly tenured faculty with a reception at the Laney Field House.

Trustees approved two administrative appointments, Royl Roberts, Risk and Safety Programs Manager, and Osafran Okunaye, interim Project Manager of Maintenance and Operations at the District Office.

Michael Mills, former PFT President and current chair of the Citizens' Oversight Counsel, gave a brief report on [Measure A](#). The bond measure, about \$390 million, financed the Hon. Barbara Lee Center at Merritt, and will eventually support the liberal arts center at CoA, the purchase of a building in Berkeley, and the construction of the Best Center at Laney. Mills mentioned the opening of Laney's cafeteria but not the leaks.

Led by Trustee Gonzalez Yuen, the Board pressed the Chancellor for more details and less urgency for the \$400k "Piggyback Contract" to improve the wireless network at CoA, and followed that with a spirited discussion on the third amendment to the emergency blue phone project, now at \$188k for planning and administrative costs. Three trustees abstained from voting on the "Piggyback" while all voted in favor of the emergency blue phones.

Chancellor Laguerre highlighted a pending agreement to appropriately pay PT faculty for office hours. He optimistically declared that these hours might raise student outcomes. Trustee Bonilla asked for a "drill down" to better understand the data while Weinstein asked for additional input from the college presidents.

Trustee Withrow shared that Merritt's Nursing Program has been ranked #1 in the state, interim Pres. Levy announced that the City of Oakland donated \$80k for two tiny houses built by Laney students, and the Trustees looked quite comfortable sitting at floor level in the Field House.

In other news:

\*TODAY: Join us for the annual PRO/PFT Retirement Workshop on Wednesday, March 22 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM at the PFT Office, 500 East 8th Street, Suite B in Oakland.

RSVP to [union@pft1603.org](mailto:union@pft1603.org)

\*Labor Resists: AFT released a curriculum workbook, "Protecting Our Students," <https://goo.gl/Fjs4pY> with slides for trainers here: <https://goo.gl/gZielc>, and the CA Labor Federation will be hosting a Bay Area "Know Your Rights" workshop, Sat., Apr. 9. Times and location, TBA.

\*BCC will hold a Chapter meeting Wed., Mar., 29, 12 - 1:20 pm, room 341.

RSVP: <https://goo.gl/forms/MvufNjB5iGJT4gUQ2>

\***DATE CORRECTION:** All faculty are welcome to attend our next GMM, **Wed., Apr. 19** at College of Alameda in room D-237, 3-5 pm. PFT Executive Council nominations will close at this meeting.

\*PFT Exec. elections will be coming soon, so please consider running for office! Look for a nomination form in your faculty mailbox or [download a form](#) on our website. Nominations close Wed., Apr. 19.

Ed Jaramillo  
PFT President