

# Monday Morning Memo



Lake Tahoe Community College

November 19, 2007

## The Votes are In!

by Guy Lease

Our congratulations to Dr. Frederick (Fritz) Wenck and Dr. Karen Borges for their success in the November 2007 election. Karen Borges received the most votes (2,465, 38.28%) with Fritz Wenck at second (1,742, 27.05%). The two candidates who received the highest number of votes are declared the winners and will take office at the December 11 Board of Trustees meeting. Ken Rollston, an incumbent with over 25 years of public service on the Board of Trustees, came in third and Bill Burns, a former college employee in Computer Services, garnered 992 votes despite having withdrawn from the race in September.

Dr. Wenck has served on the Board of Trustees since April 1974, including several terms as president of the Board. He also served on the Board of Directors for the California Community College Trustee (CCCT) Association and served as the president of that organization in 1999. CCCT is a part of the Community College League of California and Dr. Wenck also led that organization for one year as the president of the Board of Directors for the League. Fritz is a practicing dentist in South Lake Tahoe and is retired from the Navy Reserves as a Captain. He and his wife, Patience, who is a physician's assistant and a Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, have seven children between them.

Dr. Borges is a practicing chiropractor along with her husband David in South Lake Tahoe. David grew up on the south shore, attended South Tahoe High School and has taught the history of Lake Tahoe at Lake Tahoe Community College for many years. Karen and David have two children, Lisa and Brooke. She is a long-time resident of South Lake Tahoe and well known in the community. She indicated that she ran for the college Board because she was looking for a means of giving something back to the community and felt the college was the ideal place based on her interests and her appreciation for the college's service to the community.

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Ken Rollston who holds a B.A. and law degree from Columbia University in New York City. He has been a steady, guiding hand on the Board for many years and

he will be missed. Despite his loss the Board and I welcome Dr. Borges to the Board with complete confidence that she will be a great asset to the Board and to the college.

## YOU ARE INVITED

**to the Lake Tahoe Community College  
Open Forums  
with CEO Search Consultant,  
Dr. Pamila Fisher  
to get information on the process for hiring  
the new Superintendent/President  
and to give your input on the challenges &  
opportunities facing the college and  
the qualifications for the new president**

**Two forums will be held:**

**Monday, December 3, at 3:00 p.m.  
In the LTCC Board Room**

**Tuesday, December 4, at 8:00 a.m.  
In the Aspen Room**

## LTCC's Student Success Initiative

*(also known as the Basic Skills Initiative)*

by Lori Gaskin

Recent reports, research, accountability measures, and a statewide strengthening of the academic standards for our A.A. degree have all focused attention toward a large subset of our California community college student population—that is, those students who are in need of academic strengthening in basic skills. Basic skills are those foundation skills in reading, writing, mathematics, and ESL as well as learning skills and study skills, which are necessary for students to succeed in college-level work. Approximately 70% of the students in our statewide community college system need to address one or several aspects of basic skills. As educators, we all care deeply about the success of our students and work relentlessly to remove barriers which impede a student's attainment of their educational goals. Lacking in certain areas of basic

skills presents a formidable challenge for students—hence the new Student Success (a.k.a. Basic Skills) Initiative!

Last year, the state allocated resources to each college toward this initiative and the goal of transforming basic skills and enhancing students' success. The funding increased this year (to \$100,000 for our college) and has become part of our base funding for subsequent years. At LTCC, a broad-based committee of interested faculty and administrators has come together this fall to formulate a plan to utilize this funding resource to improve the academic success of our basic skills students across the curriculum. It's important to note that basic skills students are not simply taking math, English, or ESL classes. They can be found in every department and every course and we want to help them be successful! **Jane Ellis**, as our Basic Skills Coordinator, is spearheading this effort. While many people across campus are very involved in this initiative, the following individuals are taking the lead within their respective departments: **Suzanne Roberts** (English), **Maxine Alper** (ESL), **Tracy Thomas** (counseling), and **Jane Ellis** (math).

LTCC's efforts to enhance the success of our basic skills students' center around the following areas:

- Strengthen instructional support for students in the form of academic coaching and tutoring
- Provide faculty training in effective teaching practices in the content area as well as ways to address the needs of basic skills students across the disciplines
- Provide targeted counseling to basic skills students and integrate counseling/student services into the classroom as a support mechanism for basic skills students
- Overhaul and reinvent our approach to orientation for new students and
- Provide partial support for a researcher to allow for the identification, tracking, and assessment of basic skills students

This initiative has sparked incredible dialog on campus about ways in which we can help our students succeed. We now have some targeted resources to experiment to see if we really can make a difference!

## Board of Trustees Actions

The LTCCD Board of Trustees took the following actions at its meeting on November 13, 2007:

- Approved a contract with Professional Personnel Leasing, Inc. for CEO Consulting Services
- Appointed **Lori Gaskin** Acting Superintendent/President beginning December 1, 2007 until a new Superintendent/President is employed
- Approved an Instructional Services Agreement with Heavenly Ski Patrol
- Approved an additional fee for Fall Quarter 2007
- Employed Adjunct Instructors for Fall Quarter 2007 and Winter Quarter 2008
- Employed **Helen Shen**, full-time, temporary Math Instructor
- Employed **Justin Nickell**, part-time Groundskeeper/Custodian
- Approved revisions to *Board Policy Manual*, Chapters III, IV and VI
- Re-adopted *Board Policy Manual*, Chapters II and V without change
- Approved revision to *Board Policy Manual*, Chapter I, to keep Regular Board meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 p.m.
- Set a Special Board Meeting on December 3 at 6:00 p.m. to meet with the CEO Search Consultant
- Established new Classified Position—Admissions & Records Document Imaging Technician, at Salary Range 18, and approved the job description effective December 1, 2007
- Approved awarding an honorary Associate in Arts degree to David Krumholtz (star of the TV show *Numb3rs*)
- Appointed the Superintendent/President Hiring Committee

## KOKANEE CAFÉ MENU

Menu for the week of November 19 through November 21 is as follows:

**Monday:** Gyros, falafel and/or hummus wraps with fixings bar – pay by the pound.

**Tuesday:** Veggie, beef and/or refried beans tacos with fixings bar \$1.25 per taco or fill your plate and pay by the pound.

**Wednesday:** Veggie or beef and sausage lasagna with garlic bread \$3.50 or penne, cheese tortellini or fettuccine pasta with your choice of pesto, alfredo or marinara with a side of garlic bread, pay by the pound.

**Thursday:** Closed for Thanksgiving.

**Have a wonderful Turkey Day from all the Kokanee Café and Coffee Cart staff.**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 22-Dec. 1	Winners Exhibition presented in the Student Gallery,
Sept. 22-Dec. 1	Patty Gilbertson, Photographer, presented in the Foyer Gallery
November 22-25	Thanksgiving Holiday
November 27	LTCCD Board of Trustees meeting, 6:00 p.m., Board Room
December 3	Open Forum with CEO Search Consultant, Dr. Pamela Fisher, 3:00 p.m. Board Room
December 4	Open Forum with CEO Search Consultant, Dr. Pamela Fisher, 8:00 a.m. Aspen Room