



Harper College  
1200 West Algonquin Road  
Palatine, Illinois

## Regular Board Meeting Agenda

December 11, 2007  
7:00 p.m.

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Approval of Agenda**
- IV. Presentations**
  - Judy Thorson
    - Carl Rabenaldt of 3D/I: Facility Assessment
- V. Student Trustee Report**
- VI. President's Report**
- VII. Harper Employee Comments**
- VIII. Citizen Comments**
- IX. Consent Agenda\* (Roll Call Vote)**
  - A. For Approval**
    1. Minutes - November 13, 2007 Regular Board Meeting Exhibit IX-A.1
    2. Bills Payable, Payroll for November 9, 2007 and November 23, 2007; Estimated Payroll for December 7, 2007 Exhibit IX-A.2
    3. Bid Awards Exhibit IX-A.3
    4. Requests for Proposals Exhibit IX-A.4
    5. Purchase Orders Exhibit IX-A.5
    6. Personnel Action Sheets Exhibit IX-A.6
  - B. For Information**
    1. Financial Statements Exhibit IX-B.1
    2. Committee and Liaison Reports Exhibit IX-B.2
    3. Grants and Gifts Status Report Exhibit IX-B.3
    4. Summary of Items Purchased from State Contracts, Consortiums or Cooperatives Exhibit IX-B.4

\* At the request of a Board member or the President, an item may be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion. In addition, certain recurring recommendations may be included in the Consent Agenda at the discretion of the College President.

**X. New Business**

- A. RECOMMENDATION: Tax Hearing for Calendar Year 2007 Levy      Exhibit X-A
  - A.1: Adoption of Levy Resolution      Exhibit X-A.1
- B. RECOMMENDATION: Abatement of Taxes      Exhibit X-B
- C. RECOMMENDATION: Approval of Temporary Program      Exhibit X-C
  - Cosmetology Certificate
- D. RECOMMENDATION: Affiliation Agreement Between Harper      Exhibit X-D
  - College and Centegra Health System for the
  - Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program(s)
- E. RECOMMENDATION: Addendum to Educational Service Providers      Exhibit X-E
- F. RECOMMENDATION: Authorization to Approve the Revised Bylaws      Exhibit X-F
  - of the Illinois Community College Risk
  - Management Consortium
- G. RECOMMENDATION: Information Technology Employment      Exhibit X-G
  - Services Contractors List
- H. RECOMMENDATION: Recommendation for Renewal of Workers      Exhibit X-H
  - Compensation Insurance
- I. RECOMMENDATION: Authorization to Approve Depositories and      Exhibit X-I
  - Investment Brokers for College Funds

**XI. Announcements by the Chair**

- A. Communications
- B. Calendar Dates

**On-Campus Events**

(Note: \* = Required)

- December 22 -      **Holiday Break - the College will be closed.**  
January 1
- \*January 22      7:00 p.m. - Regular Board Meeting - W214-215
- February 6      5:30 p.m. - Arlington Heights Community Night - Wojcik Conference Center  
Dining Room
- February 12      **Holiday - Abraham Lincoln's Birthday - the College will be closed.**
- \*February 26      7:00 p.m. - Regular Board Meeting - W214-215

**Off-Campus Events**

**XII. Other Business** (including closed session, if necessary)

**XIII. Adjournment**

**Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, November 13, 2007**

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WILLIAM RAINEY HARPER COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT #512  
COUNTIES OF COOK, KANE, LAKE AND McHENRY, STATE OF ILLINOIS

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, November 13, 2007

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 512 was called to order by Chair Stone on Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at 7:06 p.m. in the Wojcik Conference Center (Room W214), 1200 W. Algonquin Road, Palatine, Illinois.

ROLL CALL: Present: Members Botterman, Canning, Graft, Hoffman, Kelley and Stone; Student Member Borro  
Absent: Member Hill

Also present: Catherine Brod, V.P. for Development; Phil Burdick, Assistant V.P. for Communications and Legislative Relations; Joan Kindle, V.P. Student Affairs and Assistant to the President; Cheryl Kisunzu, Associate V.P. Diversity/Organizational Development; David McShane, V.P. Information Technology; Sheila Quirk Bailey, Associate V.P. for Strategic Planning and Alliances; Margaret Skold, V.P. Academic Affairs; Judy Thorson, V.P. Administrative Services; Mike Alsup; Carol Blotteaux; Orlando Cabrera; Revyie Chaney; Maria Coons; Laura Crane; Joan Damascus; Ken Fetgatler; Joyce Grattoni; Sally Griffith; Michael Harkins; Mia Igyarto; Bob Kastner; Adam Keppel; Justin LeBreck; Karen Lustig; Jim Ma; Fredia Martin; Kathi Nevels; Chet Ryndak; Ilona Sala; Margie Sedano; Keith Siesma; John Smith; Mark Stephan; Craig Stettner and Deanna White. Students: Lynn Aldrich; Andrzej Baklazec; Matthew Brandt; Sharon Cohen; Jennifer Coladarci; Cory Cosman; Karissa Cullen; Elizabeth Czarkowski; Cyndi Duda; Gayle Gillmann; Tim Harrison; Kevin Hebert; Robert Kaempfe; Barbara Koch; Ann Libner; Sarah Loew; Victoria McClellan; Erik Ringstrand; Tim Samson; Jane Schumacher; Reid Seidner; Todov Stefano; Darius Voss; John Walsh and Louisa Walsh.

Guests: Maureen Scheitz, Jim Schwantz, Acres Group; Mike Scheitz, Goodmark Nursery; Dicie Hansen, The Dicie Edge; Sue Walton, Palatine Township Democratic Organization; Mark Utendorf, Emerald Lawn Care; Sarah Hileman, FCAE-ISBE; Kathleen Quinn, ProQuest/2020; Chris Mest, Illinois Arborist Association; Cassandra Rigden, Elk Grove Park District; Leo Kelly, ILCA and citizen; Alex

Grattoni, Sue Kowall, Carol Sokulski and Tom Walsh, citizens

Vice President Joan Kindle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Stone noted that there would be a closed session following the Regular meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. There will be no votes taken following closed session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Member Kelley moved, Member Graft seconded, approval of the Agenda.

In a voice vote, the motion carried.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

Student Member Borro explained that the Higher Learning Commission visit was a huge event last week. Many students participated from Campus Activities Board (CAB), Ambassadors, Speech Team and Multicultural Center. Student Member Borro noted that, when the students were asked interesting and difficult questions, he was very impressed with the clarity with which they explained things; they were very professional, open and insightful in their answers.

Student Member Borro noted that, in addition to hiring Kent McDill as the new adviser for *The Harbinger*, they interviewed and chose a new editor, Antonette Brotman. They look forward to having the first publication out December 7. He distributed a copy of the *Point of View*, Harper's annual literary magazine. The magazine showcases the talented work of top creative writers – students whose work went in front of faculty judges.

Harper College received the Illinois Community College Student Activities Association (ICCSAA) Student Government Merit Award for the eighth consecutive year. CAB won a Creative Marketing Award related to the Holocaust project from last year. They previously won the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) Outstanding Educational Event for Holocaust Remembrance Project, where they competed against four-year schools and two-year colleges. The Men's Cross Country Team took fourth place in Nationals. Student Member Borro stated that he is impressed with the dedication, hard work and

involvement of these Harper students. This is an enormous, vibrant campus, and he is happy to be a part of it.

Student Member Borro listed upcoming events/programs. Online Safety Week will feature free programs for students on how to protect themselves online. He encouraged Board members to attend a performance of *Cabaret* which will be held November 9, 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18 in the Performing Arts Center. The cast is made up of current students and members of the community. Chair Stone stated that she attended Friday's performance of *Cabaret*, and it was outstanding. The Educational Foundation event was one of the official 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. She thanked the entire department that worked so hard to put that together.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Chair Stone stated that Dr. Breuder was not present this evening to give his report. She noted that this is Deanna White's last Board meeting; she is leaving Harper for another position. She thanked Ms. White for all she has done with Harper's public relations, getting the message out into the community. On behalf of the Board, she wished Ms. White well in her new venture. Ms. White stated that it was a pleasure to promote all the wonderful things that happened at Harper.

#### HARPER EMPLOYEE COMMENTS

Chair Stone noted that there are many people who have signed the sheets indicating their desire to speak to the Board this evening. In an effort for the Board to hear everyone, she asked that they keep their remarks to no more than two minutes. It is their practice not to comment directly when remarks are made to the Board, but they will pay very close attention. Chair Stone added that the Board and the administration do not take actions lightly, but with a great deal of consideration. Programs are studied for a long time before any decisions are made with respect to discontinuing a particular program.

Joyce Grattoni

Ms. Grattoni stated that she has been a full-time faculty member at Harper College for the past 17 years and an adjunct for 10 years prior. As the Program Coordinator for the Plant Science and Park and Golf Maintenance Programs, she feels it is her responsibility that the Board has all the facts before deciding to terminate the program.

**Enrollment History** - In FY 02, FTE was 63; in FY 03, FTE was 88; in FY 04, FTE was 103 (highest FTE in the history of the program); in FY 05, FTE was 99; and in FY 06, FTE was 63. The average FTE from 1995 to 2002 was 66. She

asked why Plant Science would be on a Watch List in 2005, as Phil Burdick told the *Daily Herald*, with the enrollment at its second highest point in the history of the program. Harper's drop in enrollment between FY 04 and FY 06 is cyclical and is not unique among colleges. University of Illinois is down 73 percent from FY 05 to FY 07; College of DuPage is down 33 percent; Kishwaukee is down 30 percent. Triton and College of Lake County are also down. Ms. Grattoni noted that those community colleges are not contemplating closing their program.

**Marketing** – Ms. Grattoni stated that, despite the fact that she has been requesting help in this area for a number of years, no marketing has been done for the program. She suggested that the Board ask for evidence of marketing.

**Fiscal Responsibility** – It was previously stated that Plant Science experienced a loss of \$42,000 in FY 06. It was not mentioned that Plant Science was up \$4,000 in FY 03; up \$31,000 in FY 04 and down \$973 in FY 05. She asked why Plant Science is being singled out, when 14 other programs are experiencing a significantly higher deficit. Adult Education lost \$829,000. She asked if the College would close Chemistry, Geology, Engineering or Music, because they are not making a profit. Harper's Strategic Long-Range Plan shows anticipated growth of 20-26 percent in the landscape industry in the next five years.

Ms. Grattoni explained that the Board will hear from industry leaders about the importance of this program, the growth of the green industry and the need for educated individuals. Chair Stone noted that her time was up. Ms. Grattoni distributed a binder of green industry documentation which will support the growth just mentioned. She asked that the Board please read it.

Mark Stephan

Mr. Stephan explained that he has been an instructor at Harper College for almost 10 years. He is a member of the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America (GCSAA), a member of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, and Owner/ President of Irrigation Rx, Inc. After meeting with an advisor, he enrolled as a student at Harper College in 1991 and completed his degree in three years. He has been employed by Hoffman Estates Park District/ Poplar Creek Country Club as Assistant Golf Course Superintendent and River Trails Park District/ Rob Roy Golf Course as Golf Course Superintendent. He listed several colleagues who have come through the program and

promoted the industry. He noted that he occasionally receives letters from former students. Mr. Stephan read portions of a letter he recently received from former student Matthew Sporletter. In the letter, Mr. Sporletter stated that Mr. Stephan had made the greatest impact any educator has ever made on him. If not for the turf class that Mr. Stephan taught, Mr. Sporletter would not be doing what he is doing now, and he loves it. He appreciates the fact that, despite the fact that Mr. Stephan was being paid to teach at half-pay (in some instances), Mr. Sporletter went out of his way to give the students every opportunity to learn things in the context of real world situations. The hands-on learning was absolutely irreplaceable. In his letter, Mr. Sporletter stated that he hopes the College will continue to give these opportunities to students. It was noted that Mr. Sporletter went on to Michigan State University and is doing well. After reading the former student's letter, Mr. Stephan asked the Board if canceling a program is the kind of response they want to give to a community of taxpaying citizens.

Chair Stone noted that the Board wants to hear everyone who has signed up to speak; however, the last two speakers have gone considerably over the time limit. She asked the rest of the speakers to please keep within the two minute time limit, because she has a responsibility to keep the meeting on track.

Chet Ryndak

Mr. Ryndak explained that he has been an adjunct Plant Science Professor at Harper College for over 28 years, teaching plant pathology, soil science, horticulture and plant ID. He has also been with the Forest Preserve District of Cook County for over 30 years as the Superintendent of Conservation. He noted that students who come from Harper's program make quite a difference in the community. He has hired students directly from the program and students who have furthered their education beyond Harper. He has seen others graduate from Harper's program and become superintendents of golf courses, owners and staff of garden centers, nurseries, landscape businesses and floral shops. Mr. Ryndak noted that students have become more interested in renewable energy resources. They are recommending students continue their education in this area through University of Illinois, which has received a huge endowment from BP to do research in this field. These skills cannot be taught as on-the-job-training, as it was suggested at the October Board meeting. The program is highly educational and technical. He asked the Board to continue



the wonderful Plant Science program that is important to many facets of their community.

CITIZEN  
COMMENTS

The following 18 people addressed the Board in support of the Plant Science program at Harper College. After sharing personal experience, each individual asked the Board to reconsider their decision to discontinue the program.

Maureen Scheitz

Ms. Scheitz noted that she is the Vice President of Human Resources for the Acres Group, which is a \$43 million company located in Wauconda, Roselle and Plainfield. Harper College is a central location to their company. Having been in business for 24 years, the Acres Group has approximately 700 employees. With the two biggest challenges for their company being recruiting and training, they look to programs like Harper's to recruit people into their company. They have approximately 24 people in sales, 21 people in management; they are looking for six to ten people in skilled/ trained areas of sales and management each year. It is a struggle to get enough people to do the work in this growing industry. As a company, they grow approximately 10 percent each year. Ms. Scheitz noted that the green industry in Illinois is a \$4.72 billion industry, the fastest growing part of agriculture in the country (this data was taken from a University of Illinois study done in 2003 and 1999). There has been a 20 percent increase in the industry over that time period. She distributed a handout to Board members which outlines multiple career paths within the company in sales and management, with entry level positions starting at \$35,000 to \$40,000 per year. There is a career path progression of approximately 45 positions, with salaries up to the \$100,000 level. There is a lucrative living to be made in the landscape industry. She added that, at one time, people went into this field solely because of passion; it has now become a lucrative career.

Mike Scheitz

Mr. Scheitz explained that he is the Director of a nursery in northern Illinois that has over 475 acres of trees, generating over \$3 million of sales each year. He graduated from Harper College in 1983, and continued his education at Illinois State University, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1985. The career path has changed drastically from 22 years ago. When he graduated with his four-year degree, he entered the market and got a job for \$6 per hour. It was definitely for the love of the industry. Right now, students are making \$35,000 per year after graduation, and they can make a good living in this industry. Mr. Scheitz

praised his Harper instructors, especially Chet Ryndak who has a passion for this industry. Mr. Ryndak inspired him as a student to continue his education. He added that Mr. Ryndak was one of his best instructors, including the ones he had at the four-year university. As a manager/director of the nursery, he needs to hire people who know botany, who can identify plants, who understand soil structures, soil science and fertility. It is a very technical industry. They are experiencing an extreme shortage in manpower right now.

Dicie Hansen

Ms. Hansen stated that, in May 2005, she was awarded certificates in Landscape Design and Plant Propagation from Harper College. According to a survey published by the Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign in 2007, "access to applicable, high quality undergraduate and continuing education continues to be a key concern to green industry employers." As a midlife career-changer and a subsequent small business owner, she knows firsthand the value of an affordable, flexible and accessible horticulture program. In today's world, where just about everyone and everything is going green, where there is a burgeoning interest in changing how we manage the landscape, she finds it astounding that the Trustees of Harper College would seriously consider disbanding the College's Plant Science Technology and Park and Golf Maintenance Program. Harper has aggressively marketed itself on billboards, on direct mail and on its website, as a place to advance - to "go forward." Ms. Hansen noted that the decision to close this program slams shut the door to advancement and to moving forward for individuals interested in a career in the green industry. The decision to close the program also sends a very clear message to in-district green industry companies that says, "We will happily take your tax dollars, but don't expect any support in return." She asked if closing the program moves Harper forward or backward.

Jim Schwantz

Mr. Schwantz, owner of Acres Group, noted that his is a \$40 million revenue company in the Chicagoland area. They have a full-time person who visits colleges to recruit, which is very important because their business grows in double digits every year. They need to find good people to do those jobs. On a personal note, Mr. Schwantz stated that his 16-year-old son desires to work in the family business and was planning on attending Harper College in this field.

Lynn Aldrich

Ms. Aldrich has been a resident in this district all her life, even before there was a Harper College. Harper College is

the local means by which many area students can further their academic and non-academic lifelong goals. Her goal has been to obtain a Landscape Design certificate to complement her Bachelor of Arts degree from DePaul University. She shared her anger and frustration regarding the discontinuation of the Plant Science and Park and Golf Management programs.

This decision was unwise for two reasons:

- The courses of study are important programs that need to be promoted and marketed, rather than cut. With the environmental problems affecting the earth, global warming, deforestation of rainforests, erosion and pollution, it is abundantly clear that the world needs more dedicated and passionate people who can help correct the wrongs, and educate everyone on how to prevent further devastation.
- It shows callous disregard for the hard work and efforts expended by the students. There have been no publicly addressed alternatives to allow the students an opportunity to finish their requirements for graduation after spring 2008 semester. She would expect to see academic counseling regarding choices for attending other institutions, explaining what credits will transfer and how to do so.

Ms. Aldrich read a note that Dr. Breuder recently sent to Joyce Grattoni, thanking her, her students and alumni for the flower arrangements they prepared for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala event. He wrote, "The flowers on Saturday evening at the Gala were spectacular. I have seen many floral arrangements at many black-tie events, and none were more impressive than what you created." Ms. Aldrich noted that, without Joyce Grattoni and her staff of educators sharing their talents with students at Harper College and the community, each of us will experience a huge loss and a great personal disservice.

Robert Kaempfe

Mr. Kaempfe stated he is a former Plant Science student at Harper College and is a candidate for the 64<sup>th</sup> District of the General Assembly in Springfield. Instead of canceling the horticulture program, he urged them to expand it to include a two-year degree in renewable energy resources. In a world of rising oil prices, pollution and global warming, the field of research in bio fuels is not the future, it is here today. Harper College is in the position to make itself a leader among two-year colleges. If the Board has the foresight to implement a program, think of the number of students who

would be interested in a field that has almost unlimited possibilities for the future. Harper could state its intention to the community as “preparing students to be leaders in the bio fuel industry.” This type of program would generate a great deal of publicity, and, in turn, attract more students. Mr. Kaempfe added that this is the green thing to do - when being green is not only popular, it is the globally responsible thing to do. Harper has a fine horticulture program already in place; it would be a perfect foundation for such a program. He distributed a handout to Board members.

Sue Walton

Ms. Walton asked the Board, “What is your legacy in global warming? What is your legacy in climate change?” She asked the Board to consider the timing of the program closing. Politically, the partisanship has diminished; in U.S. Congress they are introducing laws and legislation that will begin to change the way the world is viewed and its policies. Everyone is looking at gas per mile and how to refuel – so many things are happening now, and Harper can be a part of that. She asked the Board to help Harper expand the program, rather than close it. The time is right. Several municipalities have signed on to the Cool Cities Agreement and the Mayor’s Climate Agreement - Schaumburg, Elgin and Rolling Meadows are set to do that. She asked the Board to also think about the large park districts in the area.

Mark Utendorf

Mr. Utendorf, owner of Emerald Lawn Care, stated that he is a former Harper student. He speaks on behalf of himself and his partner, Dave Rooney, owner of Rooney Landscape. Harper College has a terrific horticulture program. He has taken courses to fill in the gaps of his knowledge. The program at Harper enabled him to make the decision to get into the business and become a small business owner. Harper has become a resource for him with regard to recruiting. He found out that the program was possibly closing when he called Joyce Grattoni about employing some of her students. They are all very proud of Harper College, and he is personally proud of being part of the horticulture program.

Cassandra Rigden

Ms. Rigden stated that she is a former Harper student, graduating with an associate degree and 11 certificates in the horticulture program. As a Horticulture Crew Leader for the Elk Grove Park District, she knows there is a great demand for these students. She needs people who are educated in this field to help her, not just anybody. Ms. Rigden thanked Joyce Grattoni for taking a vested interest in her education, in who she is and what she is doing. As

educators, Mark, Chet and Keith gave not only their information, but they gave their heart and soul to the students. It would be terrible to see this department close. Ms. Rigden stated that she was looking forward to doing an internship with Harper students and recruiting people from the department. They need people with knowledge of how to plant a tree the correct way; where they are planted and how they are planted makes a difference.

Sarah Hileman

Ms. Hileman stated that she was hired by the State Board of Education one and one-half years ago in the area of horticulture and agriculture. Her organization wants to focus specifically on the Chicagoland area and support the horticulture programs at the high school level that they have in place; currently there are 22 programs. She works with them and visits all of the programs. She also works with the K-8 groups, doing something called "Agriculture in the Classroom." Horticulture is the largest, most growing component in the agriculture industry. She is concerned about the horticulture program, its viability and its continuance. In the high school, horticulture is an important part of learning by doing. Horticulture is something students can touch; it is an important part of the hands-on learning experience. It is important to have a program at the community college level, so high school administrations will be able to say, "This is something we need to support."

Cyndi Duda

Ms. Duda explained that she has been a taxpayer of the community for over 15 years. She moved to the area partly because there was a community college nearby and she knew she would be changing careers. She currently works full-time as an Environmental Education Specialist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She does not have the ability to take classes full-time at Harper College. Although Harper offered all classes in the program this fall and will continue to do so next spring, she cannot take advantage of that, because she works full-time.

Ms. Duda explained that the federal government manages approximately 30 percent of the land in the United States; the other 70 percent of the land is in private ownership. She noted that her colleagues in the room (professors and fellow students) are going to be working with those private land owners to educate them. She added that they are not going to battle global climate change or alternative fuel issues without the assistance of private land owners in this country. She believes the program should expand. Harper College could be a leader in this arena. She works with a lot of junior

high and high school kids in the Chicago Metro area, many of whom are concerned about the environment; they will be looking for this kind of program in college.

Cory Cosman

Ms. Cosman explained that she is a graduate of Harper College. It took her five years of night courses to get her associate degree. The classes have had a great impact on her life. She helps people with their gardens every spring and their landscape design in the fall. She was looking forward to completing her Landscape Design certificate at Harper, but it will not be possible. She cannot accomplish this in two semesters, because she works full-time. This department is important to so many people. Ms. Cosman stated that she lives in Algonquin and works in Schaumburg; therefore, she cannot go to another college – it is too far.

Louisa Walsh

Ms. Walsh stated that she originally graduated in the 1970's from Southern Illinois University with a degree in Computer Science, which served her well for many years. In her mid-forties, she decided to go into something that she loves, and something that has always been an interest to her. She is close to graduating with degrees in Plant Science and Park and Grounds. Ms. Walsh's son is currently working at Morton Arboretum and is attending Harper College, working toward a degree in Plant Science Technology. She feels that Morton Arboretum hired her son because he came from Harper. She spoke highly of the instructors and courses that she has had at Harper. One reason she entered this program is that she is inheriting a 200-acre farm in Wisconsin and wants to start a nursery. She does not want to go into it blindly; she wants to gain the necessary knowledge so that she will be able to leave something for her children and their children. She feels it will be a mistake for Harper to cancel this program. It could serve them well for years.

Tom Walsh

Mr. Walsh explained that his wife and two sons are students at Harper College. He stated that he has heard that soil and sand erosion are major problems in this country and abroad. He has heard that the addition of plants would alleviate the problem. He has heard global warming is an issue, there is a climate crisis. Supposedly, global warming is largely caused by carbon in the air. He has heard and he has read that plants or trees, in particular, sequester that carbon; they grab it out of the air and essentially clean the air. He has known for years that leaves produce oxygen during the summer. He has heard that global warming issues can be solved by the proper planting of plants and propagation of

plants. He has “heard” these things, but he does not “know” these things. It would be nice if he and others would have a place to learn these things – an affordable place like Harper College. He feels there may not be enough interest in the program because not enough people know how important it is. Harper College is an educational institution – Harper should teach the importance of the program!

Chris Mest

Mr. Mest is a certified arborist, representing a small company with eight employees. He stated that everyone knows how important trees are and how important the environment is. In his company, they need people who are educated in plant healthcare. There are jobs in the green industry all over the world. On the International Society of Horticulture website, there are three pages of job listings. People who have training in this can travel the world and do many things.

Gayle Gillmann

Ms. Gillmann is a voting citizen of Palatine, a taxpayer and a current part-time student. She has a four-year degree in Business Accounting from Elmhurst College. Recently, she discovered her love and passion for horticulture and all aspects of learning about trees, plants, flowers and landscaping. It was a gift to have a great Plant Science program only ten minutes from her house. She loved attending classes for the past three semesters, and looked forward to finishing her associate degree by the end of 2008 or spring 2009. Now, it will be very difficult for her to finish her degree, because she has three kids at home and a job. Attending classes somewhere else is not feasible for her or her family, with best estimates being an hour commute.

Sue Kowall

Ms. Kowall is a science teacher for High School District 214, teaching ecology, biology and environmental science. Her credentials date back to the 70s and 80s. At one time, she taught horticulture for District 214, and in the last six years of the program, she was able to teach at the Harper College Greenhouse. She worked closely with the Harper program and saw the excellence of the education. Ms. Kowall stated that it is great to see former students and realize the success they have found in this field as adults. Students desperately need hands-on education - kids need to be shown what it is to work; they need to learn how to do some skills. She read an article today which discussed the idea of bringing back agriculture programs in the high schools. She asked the Board, if they do bring the agriculture/horticulture programs back, and if the State starts supporting those programs, where are the high school students going to go to further

their education. With the park districts, golf courses and nurseries around here, one cannot walk into these businesses and find kids that are going to learn on the job. They need to have turf management and soils background. They will not even let someone water in the greenhouse when they walk in, because they want the person to know what is involved in the plants and in the soils. She really does not want to see another program close, because it fills a good niche in this area.

Ann Libner

Ms. Libner explained that she recently decided to go back to school and heard that the University of Illinois (U of I), Department of Natural Resources, was offering a bachelor degree completion. Since she already had a bachelor degree in English, she figured she had the general education requirements out of the way and would go straight to the horticulture part. When she contacted U of I, they told her that, rather than having two bachelor degrees, she should earn an associate degree from Harper College; U of I would then accept her in their master's degree program. She did that and is currently enrolled in the U of I master's degree program in the Department of Natural Resources. She noted that it would be a shame to close that door and not allow anyone else that opportunity. U of I is in the area with the program, and Illinois Institute of Technology is looking to expand their horticulture program. She urged them to let the program live and thrive and expand.

Chair Stone thanked everyone who took the time to speak to the Board. In response to an individual from the audience who had not signed in to speak, Chair Stone explained that the Board has heard approximately 20 speakers who signed in to speak to the Board this evening. The Board must follow a certain process, especially with a group this large. Although she would like to give him an opportunity to speak, there could be many more people to follow. She suggested that the gentleman speak to the Board next month. She thanked everyone for their comments.

Member Kelley expressed gratitude for everyone who came to share their comments. They were insightful, powerful arguments.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Member Canning moved, Member Botterman seconded, approval of the minutes of the October 23, 2007 regular Board meeting; bills payable; payrolls for October 12, 2007 and October 26, 2007; estimated payroll for November 9, 2007; bid awards; requests for proposals; purchase orders;



personnel action sheets; career advisory appointments; financial statements, committee and liaison reports, grants and gifts status report, summary of items purchased from state contracts, consortiums or cooperatives, as outlined in Exhibits IX-A.1 through IX-B.4, (attached to the minutes in the Board of Trustees' Official Book of Minutes).

Accounts Payable & Tuition Refunds                      \$3,697,372.79

The payroll of October 12, 2007 in the amount of \$1,744,191.14; and October 26, 2007 in the amount of \$1,777,334.62; and estimated payroll of November 09, 2007 in the amount of \$1,760,762.88.

#### Bid Awards

Ex. IX-A.3.a                      Award bid request Q00539 to Midwest Asbestos Abatement Corporation, the low bidder for asbestos abatement on the first and second floors of Building J in the amount of \$121,000 and for consulting fees to United Analytical in an amount not to exceed \$13,375, for a total award of \$134,375.

Ex. IX-A.3.b                      Award bid request Q00541 for bulk road salt for campus roads and parking lots to Barge Terminal Trucking, Inc., the low bidder in the amount of \$29,680.

Ex. IX-A.3.c                      Award bid request Q00542 to Tab Service Company, the low bidder for the production and mailing of Forms 1098-T, in the amount of \$13,920 for calendar year 2007 and approve the option, subject to the discretion of the administration, to renew the agreement at the same or lower cost for an additional two years through 2009.

Requests for Proposals                      There are no requests for proposals.

Purchase Orders and  
Adjustments                      There are no purchase orders and adjustments this month.

Personnel Actions                      Administrator Appointments  
Victoria Atkinson, Director, New Student Programs and  
Retention, STU DEV, 11/14/07, \$81,000/year

Sheryl Otto, Associate Vice President, Student Affairs and Dean, Student Development, STU DEV, 07/01/07, \$124,202/year

Professional/Technical Appointments

Terrance Bird, Programmer/Analyst II, IT/ES, 11/01/07, \$49,000/year

Jill Izumikawa, International Student Coordinator, AE/LS-ESL, 12/10/07, \$52,000/year

Supervisory/Confidential Appointments

Krista Jeskey, Credentials Analyst, p/t, REG OFF, 10/29/07, \$27,352/year

Robert Passaglia, Kitchen Manager, DIN SER, 10/30/07, \$52,000/year

Classified Staff Appointments

Melissa Behzad, Records Assistant, REG OFF, 11/05/07, \$27,612/year

Darlett Bernard, Lead Server, p/t, DIN SER, 10/22/07, \$18,109/year

Margaret Dahl, Receptionist/Office Assistant, STU DEV, 11/14/07, \$29,250/year

Jennifer Mina, Financial Aid Assistant, OSFA, 10/29/07, \$35,510/year

Winona Patterson, Library Assistant II, LIB SER, 11/01/07, \$32,175/year

Deborah Sipola, Laboratory Assistant, Diagnostic Medical Imaging, p/t, HLT CAR, 10/22/07, \$11,328/year

Classified Staff – Limited Term Employment

Virginia Reid, Customer Service Associate, BKST, 10/22/07, \$21,840/year

Harper #512 IEA-NEA Appointment

Carolina Morales, Custodian, PHY PLT, 10/22/07, \$23,192/year

Classified Staff Retirement

Pamela Toomey, Administrative Assistant, LIB ARTS, 10/31/07, 27 years

Harper #512 IEA-NEA Resignation

Isael Perez, Maintenance Helper, PHY PLT, 10/18/07, 6 years 10 months

- Career Advisory Committee Appointments Approval of the Career Advisory Appointments for the 2007-2008 Academic Year.
- In a voice vote, the motion carried on the Consent Agenda.
- Foundation Report Member Canning called attention to the Educational Foundation's Fundraising Report in the Board packet. To date, they have raised over \$2 million. Member Canning will be sending a letter to each Board member, asking for their annual donation to the Pacesetters Campaign. She noted that this will greatly support the Foundation, which is such an asset to this College.
- Legislative Report Member Kelley noted that the City of Danville has made a recent proposal to obtain another license for a riverboat casino. They are looking to earmark some of the proceeds for capital projects and infrastructure projects at community colleges, hoping to generate between \$30 million and \$45 million per year and possibly funding \$350 million to \$400 million dollars of capital projects. They asked the Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA) at the meeting last Saturday to consider forming a task force to explore this and possibly draft legislation. That task force has been formed. Member Kelley will provide the Board with further updates as they develop.

NEW BUSINESS: There are no new business exhibits this month.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHAIR

Communications Chair Stone thanked everyone who was involved with the Higher Learning Commission visit. Through the efforts of co-chairs Sheila Bailey and Maria Coons, and many dedicated individuals across campus, the College earned a wonderful report from the Higher Learning Commission. On behalf of the Board, she commended them for a job well done.

Calendar Dates Calendar dates are printed on the Agenda for Board information. The College will be closed November 22 - 25 for Thanksgiving. The next Regular Board meeting is December 11, 2007, which is earlier because of the holiday season. Chair Stone encouraged Board members to mark their calendars for Palatine Community Night (December 5) and Arlington Heights Community Night (February 6).

OTHER BUSINESS There was no other business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Member Kelley moved, Student Member Borro seconded, that the meeting adjourn into closed session to discuss personnel matters.

In a voice vote, the motion carried at 8:11 p.m. Member Hill entered the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Following a short break, the closed session began at 8:23 p.m.

Member Graft moved, Member Hill seconded, to end the closed session. The Regular meeting reconvened at 9:59 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Graft moved, Member Hill seconded, to adjourn the meeting. No action was taken.

In a voice vote, the motion carried at 10:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

**BOARD REQUESTS**

**NOVEMBER 13, 2007 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**