

NEWS RELEASE

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Fall semester tuition increase at Glen Oaks Community College

CENTREVILLE---The Glen Oaks Community College Board of Trustees voted Wednesday, February 11, to increase tuition beginning with the fall 2009 semester. The increase was less than seven percent for resident, in-district and service area students. "This modest increase of \$5.00 keeps the tuition at a lower rate than many similar-sized community colleges. The increases assure that Glen Oaks will be able to continue with sound business operations and have the resources to provide needed programs and services," said Dr. Gary Wheeler, president.

Resident, in-district rate per contact hour increases from \$72.00 to \$77.00. The service area rate per contact hour increases from \$108.00 to \$115.00 and out-of-district/international student rate remains unchanged at \$144.00. The Board also increased the student support fee from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per contact hour and the technology fee from \$7.00 to \$8.00 per contact hour. Other costs including student I.D. card fee, parking fee, and student activities fee remain the same.

The Board also greeted Marilyn Wieschowski, CPA, and Interim Chief Operations Officer. Wieschowski reported total revenues year-to-date were \$5.4 million, which represents 51% of the annual budget. Expenses year-to-date were also \$5.4 million, representing 52% of the annual budget. The spending rate was about 1% higher than last year's rate at this time. The net decrease in net assets as of January 31, 2009 was \$36,000, approximately \$215,000 behind last year's Net Increase at this time. The budgeted increase in net assets at June 30, 2009 is \$88,000.

Wieschowski said tuition revenue was \$2.3 million through January and exceeded last year's figure at the same time by about \$287,000. The increase is due to a 2.9% rate increase coupled with enrollment increases for the fall and winter semesters. Payroll expenses were 4% higher than last year as a percentage of budget spent. Fringe benefits expense also increased by 2% over this time last year, mainly due to insurance rate increases and the additional pay period in January this year compared to last year. Utilities and insurance increased by 3% over this time last year, though maintenance and repairs dropped by 19% compared to the same time last year.

"Our long-term strategy ensures that revenue streams support our budget forecasts, strategic goals, and offsets the shift from (former levels) of state and local funding. We lost \$4.1 million from 2001 to 2008 in state support in spite of legislative intent, so our actual appropriations did not keep up with inflation," said Wieschowski.

In other action, the Board approved final provisions of a Consumers Energy General Educational Institution (GEI) contract directing the firm to furnish electric service to the College for the coming year.