Looking to the future: Sustainability

Proposition R is moving forward, and all that remains for DeVore stadium is the interior decorating.

Last year, overcoming obstacles through collaboration was the theme of the annual report. With those issues behind us, a new DeVore stadium will soon be opened for the 2014 fall semester – making this year’s theme sustainability.

Carved out of a hill, the fieldhouse fits perfectly into existing infrastructure and only required the removal of a single row of parking from lot J.

Built with sustainability in mind, construction leads spent years researching similar bond measure projects and probing them to implement best practices in the new building. One of the most repeated regrets other colleges shared was not putting classrooms into new athletic building construction. Southwestern did not follow their lead. Students can take advantage of the 78 new classes that will be offered in the new fieldhouse – which contains four classrooms and a 150-seat lecture hall. The new building was built to last half a century. Smart technology used in the classrooms and the lecture hall is state of the art. When classes begin in the fall, the rooms will be among some of the more technologically advanced classrooms in the county.

Environmental sustainability drove fieldhouse construction. Originally slated for LEED Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, the fieldhouse reached Gold certification instead. Contractors diverted 89 percent of construction waste from landfills and the new stadium and practice turf fields will lower Southwestern’s water consumption by 1 million gallons annually. Large windows and heat-reflecting pillars stifle the fieldhouse’s energy usage and allow for a naturally maintained building environment. Soon-to-be built solar arrays will also lessen college energy consumption.

The choice to build the fieldhouse entirely out of metal – using no wood – also contributed to Gold certification. Green friendliness will continue to drive all Proposition R projects, including the wellness center, Math, Science and Engineering building, theater complex and two-story National City laboratory /science building.

Southwestern College thanks students and the community for bearing with us during our renovation. The renovated stadium – which will host Jaguar and Bonita Vista High School football games – and the wellness center are here to serve the residents of South County for decades to come.

None of it would have been possible without your support.
Message from the Chair

Spreading the news of what’s happening with construction on campus was a major goal of college leadership this year.

Through presentations before city councils, community leaders, service organizations and college stakeholders, Proposition R staff shared construction progress on the fieldhouse classroom building and on future projects. The presentations were also an opportunity for community members, faculty, staff and students to voice their opinions and suggestions on new building designs.

Members of the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee were active participants in several of the community presentations and saw the engaging conversations among those in attendance. Community and college stakeholders’ voices are evident in the designs for the new Math, Science and Engineering building on the Chula Vista campus and on the new two-story building at the Higher Education Center in National City. When completed, both buildings will help Southwestern College meet the growing demand for graduates in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

Both buildings will help Southwestern College meet the growing demand for graduates in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.
Many exciting DeVore stadium renovation projects have been completed. In May, new stadium lighting was installed and the artificial turf field was rolled onto its new permanent home. The Central Plant—which provides heating and cooling throughout campus—is in full operation and piping is being laid across the college to connect the plant to existing buildings. Interior work for the fieldhouse classrooms has also been completed. The stadium will be opened in August, 2014.

Solar panel construction has begun throughout the Chula Vista main campus. When completed, it will be the largest single solar array at any educational institution in San Diego Gas & Electric’s service area.

The realigned H Street entrance has re-opened. Previously, it forked when drivers arrived on campus and people leaving Southwestern had to drive through stadium construction. The road is now two-way.

The first projects for the corner lot—the wellness center and the performing arts center—are all entering planning stages. (The corner lot plan was approved by the Governing Board in October, 2013.) Planning and designs for a new Math, Science and Engineering building on the Chula Vista campus and the two-story building project at the High Education Center in National City entered their final stages.
Annual Performance and Financial Audits

The independent auditing firm of Pun & McGeady conducted an audit of the internal controls, finances and performance of Proposition R. In a report provided to the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee and the Southwestern College Governing Board, the auditing firm has found the district's internal financial controls to be in compliance with Government Auditing Standards.

The objectives of the performance audit are to review Proposition R expenditures, determine if the Proposition R funds were used for the purposes set forth in the ballot measure and to comply with the California Constitution and Proposition 39. The auditing firm found Southwestern College to be in compliance of all material respects and in compliance with the performance requirements of Proposition 39.

Furthermore, there are no findings or questioned costs related to the performance audit of the Bond Fund for the year ended June 30, 2014.
Year-in-Review

“The new stadium facility is designed to accommodate a variety of sports and activities.”

July 16, 2013
- Addressed an issue with broken links on the CBOC webpage.
- Welcomed new board members Robert Clark, Lou Ferraro, Michael Govea and Bob Muff.
- Matt Kriz was elected board chair. Nicholas Segura was elected vice-chair.
- Reviewed Committee bylaws.

September 17, 2013
- Received training in CBOC bylaws from the board’s counsel.
- Requested a preliminary Proposition R audit and yearly report by the December meeting.
- Discussed positive comments they had received from staff members about construction progress and the securing of architects for major projects.
- Encouraged sustainability to be a major factor in project consideration moving forward.

December 17, 2013
- Previewed the Proposition R audit.
- Received a draft of the Proposition R annual report.
- Discussed how the project labor agreement would affect Proposition R costs.

March 18, 2014
- Held a moment of silence for former CBOC member Tom Davis.
- Reviewed and approved the Proposition R annual report.
- Discussed the feasibility of putting an indoor soccer field on the corner lot.
- Extended thanks to board members who were able to attend South Bay community forums.
- Received information on the Proposition R contractor bidding process. Asked that all bids awarded by the Governing Board be placed on the Proposition R website.
- Discussed whether construction projects would allow for offering additional sports. The new facility is designed to accommodate a variety of sports, but it was unknown if any new sports would be added by the Dean.

June 17, 2014
- Received information on bond financing.
- Received a link to the updated Proposition R bid results webpage.
- Received copies of the annual report.
- Thanked outgoing member Adela Garcia for her service on the committee. Her replacement will be chosen in July.
- Encouraged to participate in Proposition R outreach opportunities in the South Bay.
- Were invited to the rededication of DeVore stadium scheduled for August 15.
ABOUT SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE
Established in 1961, Southwestern College is the only public institution of higher education in southern San Diego County, serving approximately 400,000 residents of communities including Bonita, Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, National City, Nestor, Otay Mesa, Palm City, San Ysidro, Sunnyside and Coronado. The College District offers more than 300 associate degree and certificate options. More information at swccd.edu.

ABOUT PROP R
The $389 million general obligation bond was approved by South County voters in 2008. Proceeds from the bonds are to be used for construction, reconstruction and/or rehabilitation of facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of its facilities, acquisition, or lease of real property for its facilities and construction management by District personnel.

All projects identified in Phase I are proceeding as planned. The Corner Lot, and all future Proposition R projects, are encompassed in the updated Educational Master Plan (EMP) and Facilities Master Plan (FMP). The EMP and FMP were completed in fiscal year 2012-2013.

“Southwestern College thanks students and the community for bearing with us during our renovation.”
Citizens Bond Oversight Committee Members

Lucas Rathe,  
*Business Representative*  
Lou Ferraro,  
*Senior Citizen Representative*  
Matt Kriz,  
*Taxpayer Organization Member*  
Bob Muff,  
*At-Large Community Member*  
Michael Govea,  
*Advisory or Foundation*  
Nicholas J. Segura, Jr.,  
*At-Large Community Member*  
Robert Clark,  
*Student Member*

Governing Board

Norma L. Hernandez  
Tim Nader  
Humberto Peraza, Jr.  
Terri Valladolid  
Nora E. Vargas  
Sayaka Ridley,  
*Student Governing Board Member*  
Dr. Melinda Nish,  
*Superintendent/President*