The Corporate Power Grab

A new ballot measure has been approved for the November 2012 elections, deceptively entitled “Stop Special Interest Money Now Act.” Unions across the state have taken a stance opposing this measure because it is deceptive, unfair, and unnecessary.

What? What this measure proposes in reality is far from how it is represented.

What it appears to be is a bill written for the people, the so called “public interest”: the “Stop Special Interest Money Now Act” uses specially crafted language to deceive the voter into thinking it equally applies to corporations and labor unions. The opening paragraph begins with “Special interests have too much power over government […] and the public interest is buried beneath the mountain of special interest spending.” Under the umbrella term “special interest” the proponents of this bill include corporations and labor unions, and “public interest” is defined as antonymous to labor unions.

Why? Why is this measure an attack against the labor unions?

Why is this measure called the “Corporate Power Grab” or the “Paycheck Deception Act”?

While labor unions raise money for their PAC activities through payroll deductions, corporations’ contribution to political activities come directly from corporate profits (not payroll deductions). As such, this measure would place additional barriers on labor unions’ ability to collect voluntary contributions, while corporations may continue to legally funnel money from their profits to independent expenditures and ballot measure contributions.

Contributions to individual candidates would be prohibited by both corporations and unions, which may appear to be a fair and equal treatment of all parties. However, corporations generally spend a very low percentage of their political contributions on individual candidates (roughly 5-15%). Unions, on the other hand, would be disallowed from spending voluntary contributions on candidates running for their local school boards. What this ultimately means is that we could no longer contribute to or participate in our Board of Trustees elections.

(Continued on page 2)
Who? Who supports this bill and who doesn’t?  

The bill is initiated by the Orange County Republicans, written by a partner in a law firm representing the California Republican Party, and is supported by the Bay Area GOP and Bay Area Council.

Labor unions across the state oppose this measure. The legislative analyst’s office reported that while “[i]t is possible that a federal or state court would prevent this measure from going into effect because it infringes upon various parties’ constitutionally protected freedom of speech”, if not preempted by the courts, the fiscal impact of implementing and enforcing the provisions would be “in hundreds of thousands.”

How? How would this measure change the playing field?  

Corporations already outspend labor unions on their political contributions 10 to 1; this measure could make the ratio closer to 1,000 to 1. In effect, it would silence the voice of the labor unions in our quest to fight for better wages, hours, and working conditions of the people.

Under current law, no union worker is forced into making contributions that go to political activities, whereas employees, consumers, and shareholders of corporations do not have a say in how much or which political activities the corporations will fund.

The Guild’s political action committee, Professors for Quality Education (PQE), is funded via voluntary contributions authorized by employees and may be set up to be deducted automatically from their paychecks. To authorize a voluntary contribution to the PQE, visit the Guild’s website and click on “PQE” to access the PQE Voluntary Contribution Form <http://www.glendale.edu/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=11741>.

When? What’s the history behind this proposition?  

Similar “paycheck protection” bills failed at the voter box in 1998 and 2005. The 2010 “Paycheck Deception Act” didn’t even make it to the ballot. The 2012 “Corporate Power Grab” is similar to these but more dangerous because of the deceptive rhetoric used in crafting the language. Voter education is critical!

Where? Where can you find additional information?  

Full-text of the proposed bill:  

Publications from:  

(Continued from page 1)

Chaparral  
Printed 3 or 4 times per semester, the Chaparral is published by and for the entire staff of GCC. Primary funding is by the Glendale College Guild, AFT 2276. The newsletter is dedicated to providing timely information on the campus community about any issues that affect our college, higher education, and/or professional lives. Prose, poetry, art work and opinion as well as expository reporting are welcome. The pages of Chaparral are open to all faculty, staff, students and administrators. Submissions for publication should be word processed in IBM-compatible Word Perfect, MS Word or ASCII file format. No anonymous submissions will be published. Please e-mail articles to Piper Rooney (piper). If you have announcements you wish printed or any questions, contact Piper Rooney at x5342 or e-mail piper.

The Chaparral Editorial Board is composed of volunteers and is open to any college staff members. The current board includes Piper Rooney (editor-in-chief), Susan Cisco (managing editor), Patricia Chamroonrat (production manager) and Phillip Kazanjian. Columnists are Guild President Isabelle Saber (Guild News), Academic Senate President Mike Scott (Speaking of the Senate), CSEA President Hoover Zariani (CSEA Connection), Classified Council President Jenny McMahon (Classified Council Corner), Guild 2nd Vice President Phyllis Eckler (Adjunct Junction), and Marcia Walenstein-Sibony (Garfield Gleanings).

Disclaimer  
The editors reserve the right to edit for length, clarity and/or relevance; to publish editorial commentaries; to omit materials which in their good-faith judgment is believed to be libelous, obscene and/or offensive, or an invasion of privacy. Questions regarding this editorial policy may be directed to the editor-in-chief.

The views expressed in the articles of the Chaparral are solely those of the contributing authors. They do not represent the views of Glendale College or the Guild.

(Continued on page 7)
The Academic Senate finished a productive academic year. Below you will find the highlights of the Senate’s actions.

- Motion 2011-21  The use of publisher supplemental materials in a course offering is voluntary and may be used solely at the discretion of the instructor. These support materials, whether in printed or electronic format may not be mandated or prohibited by the administration, division chairs or department coordinators. Academic freedom and instructor prerogative is to be respected.
- Motion 2011-22 The Senate amends the Senate bylaws to add the Curriculum and Instruction Committee as a new Senate committee.
- Motion 2011-25 The Senate approves the revised job description for the new Associate Dean, Curriculum Management.
- Motion 2011-26 The Senate approves the revised IHAC/CHAC/SSHAC proposed changes.
- Motion 2011-27 The President of the Senate shall report on master planning on at least a per-semester basis.
- Motion 2011-28 The Senate approves the revised job description for the Articulation Officer.
  Note: Administration to be informed of Senate view that this is faculty employee, not released time position, and specific hours should be allocated to articulation duties.
- Motion 2011-29 The Senate accepts AR 4100 Graduation Requirements For Degrees and Certificates of Achievement.
- Motion 2011-31 The Senate accepts AR 4228 Course Repetition – Significant Lapse of Time.
- Motion 2011-32 The Senate accepts AR 4255 Dismissal and Reinstatement as amended with the following changes.
  ◇ Last two sentences under Dismissal will be struck.
  ◇ After two consecutive terms that a student is on academic or progress probation or a combination of both, the student shall not be able to register in a subsequent short session until the student’s probationary status is removed.
- Motion 2011-33 The Senate requests that the yearly Ancillary Adjunct Stipend be increased to $15,000.
- Motion 2011-34 The Senate refers the task of developing an E-Materials policy addressing the appropriate uses, restrictions, regulations and liabilities of instructional e-materials to the Distance Education Committee.
- Motion 2011-36 The Senate creates a taskforce to respond to the Student Success Task Force Recommendations.
- Motion 2011-37 The Senate requests the Administration conduct studies on IT Infrastructure, building maintenance, furniture replacement, and other bond-fundable needs for the entire District in anticipation of a future bond measure.
- Motion 2012-01 The Senate accepts a score of 3 on the psychology AP exam as satisfying the Psychology 101 requirement.
- Motion 2012-02 The Senate adds a Librarian to the C & I committee as a voting member.
- Motion 2012-04 The Senate creates a taskforce to revise the IHAC policy, rejects the hiring priorities table circulated by the administration, accepts the ranking recommendations in the IHAC committee’s email, and directs the Senate President to take a request to the Board that, if hiring is going to take place, Non-Credit ESL be at the top of the list.
- Motion 2012-06 The President of the Senate will inquire with the bookstore with regard to why textbooks are being under-ordered.
- Motion 2012-08 The Senate approves a change to the minimum qualifications of the Math discipline to a Master’s in mathematics or applied mathematics OR Bachelor’s in either of the above AND Master’s in statistics, physics, or mathematics education AND a minimum of 12 semester units in graduate level coursework in pure or applied mathematics OR the equivalent.
- Motion 2012-10 The Senate amends the bylaws to include the faculty C & I co-chair to be an official resource member of the Academic Senate.

Motions added to agenda at Senate and passed:
- When Senate budget line items are being considered, the college shall adhere to its budgetary procedures.
- The Senate directs the IHAC committee to follow academic year 2010-2011 criteria, including those with respect to SLOs, in ranking hiring priorities.
Creating Ripples

Change comes in many ways, shapes, and forms, and this year (as well as next year), it is coming at us in a fast and furious way! Sometimes, we feel as if we don’t matter and have no impact on our surroundings as individuals, but this is not completely true.

As we close the current academic and fiscal year and begin a new one, many challenges are coming our way. The major challenges include: hiring a new Superintendent/President, implementing the Student Success Task Force recommendations and legislation, dealing with the current budget situation, and working to save community colleges by supporting the temporary tax increase initiative. These are not minor.

The only way to deal with them is by being involved and informing ourselves about the issues. This is why your CSEA Executive Board and Negotiation Team instituted our Update Meetings. The first set of these meetings held May 1 went very well, with over 50 staff members participating and providing input. You gave us many good suggestions and ideas which we will work to implement. Please continue attending and look for more updates to come.

Additionally, as we began conducting focus groups to find an interim Superintendent/President, you participated and had great ideas and suggestions for what we need from a new leader. We are definitely excited that so many of you chose to attend the focus group. It is important for our voice to be heard.

Many of you (about 25 members) also participated in helping to gather signatures for the temporary tax initiative to be placed on the ballot. As of the writing of this article, we do not yet know whether this measure has qualified to be placed on the ballot, but the state CSEA goal of gathering 25,000 signatures by the deadline was far exceeded. Over 40,000 signatures were collected by CSEA members statewide. This was in part thanks to your efforts at our chapter. However, we are not done. We must get every friend, relative, family member, acquaintance, and neighbor to vote for the initiative in November if it qualifies for the ballot. At this time, it seems the deceptive paycheck ballot initiative has also qualified with enough signatures to be placed on the November ballot; more information about this will be forthcoming.

Even amongst all these issues and challenges, we must still take time to celebrate our hard work and acknowledge our contribution to the campus community and to our students. In fact, it is more important than ever to do this in tough times. We will end the year with a celebration! May 20-26 is our Classified School Employees Week and we will, as usual, celebrate with our BBQ and other activities for the week. We hope you will participate in different ways during this celebration.

No one person creates change alone, so thank you for all you’ve done this past year, and we hope you will continue your involvement in the coming year. ☺

“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.” —Mother Teresa

Save the Date: November 2

The Patrons Club of Glendale Community College will now be known as Patrons Club of Glendale College Foundation.

This year's Fashion Show Fundraiser will be held on Friday, November 2, 2012, at the Castaway Restaurant in Burbank. The theme for the event will be "Education Through The Years." All proceeds go towards scholarships, grants-in-aid and emergency funds for deserving students.

Save the date and reserve early. Price of the Fundraiser Luncheon will be $45. Tickets will be available on campus in October from Aida Avanousian.

Flora Corsini, Patrons Club Publicity Committee
Classified Council Corner
by Jenny McMahon, Classified Council President

Thank you for your continuous support and participation in all things Classified. Classified Council would like to thank everyone who supported our See’s Easter Candy fundraiser. Thanks to successful fundraising, Classified Council will award three scholarships to three worthy students. Our scholarship committee, chaired by Wendy Grove, will evaluate applications and select winners. The recipients will be recognized at the Classified End-of-the-Year Picnic on June 6. Be sure to submit your student workers’ applications to the Scholarship Committee right away.

Classified Employee Week is the week of May 21. There will be a BBQ hosted by CSEA, and bingo and our annual basketball tournament hosted by Classified Council. Look for the emails giving you further information about the festivities.

May 16 is the Recognition/Retirement Luncheon to be held in the J. Walter Smith Student Center (SC 212) from 12 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. Please try to attend this event to show support and congratulate our colleagues.

The Classified Council End-of-Year Picnic will be in the Los Robles building on Wednesday, June 6 from 11:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. The Picnic is free to members and $10 for non-members. Picnic invitations will be distributed, and RSVPs are required. All RSVPs must be placed in the Classified Council mailbox by May 31.

Have a great summer!

The Senate shall review and update IHAC and SSHAC policies, including their alignment with current planning processes and accreditation standards.

The Senate urges the Board to hire an internal candidate for the position of Interim President of the College.

The Senate has deep reservations with regard to the dormitory project without appropriate research being carried out to determine its feasibility and impact on the college.

Next Year’s Senate and Senate Executive

At the time of this writing, the Senate is holding elections for three senators-at-large. The candidates are Greg Perkins, Piper Rooney, John Queen, and Murray Stach. Divisions re-elected Michael Scott, Yvette Ybarra and Bob Gellert to the Senate.

The Senate will elect new officers on May 17. Nominees are Nancy Getty for 1st Vice President, Cindy Pollack 2nd Vice President, Andy Young Treasurer, and Roger Dickies Secretary. The Senate Executive Committee will be saying good-bye to Alice Mecom. Alice has served as 1st Vice President and Secretary for many years. She will be missed, and we wish her success as the new chair of Noncredit ESL.

(Continued from page 3)

SPEAKING OF THE SENATE...

Save 20 percent off the best available rate at more than 6,400 participating hotels worldwide. This offer is available at participating locations for these brands: Wyndham Hotels and Resorts, Days Inn, Super 8, Ramada Worldwide, Wingate by Wyndham, Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham, Baymont Inns and Suites, Microtel Inns and Suites, Howard Johnson, Travelodge and Knights Inn.

For more details and benefits, go to: aft.org/members

AFT is your advocate. For information on all AFT programs, call 800-238-1133, ext. 8643, or e-mail afplus@aft.org. The AFT has an expense reimbursement and/or endorsement arrangement for marketing this program. For more information, please contact AFT Financial Services at 800-238-1133, ext. 4493; send an e-mail to disclosureinfo@aft.org; or visit www.aft.org/benefits/disclosure.
In the latest round of negotiations for a new three-year contract, the district has suggested ending adjunct office hours for students. Adjunct office hours have been a part of our contract at Glendale College for over ten years, allowing faculty to follow up with students who have missed classes or fallen behind. Yet now, pay for adjunct faculty to provide conferencing time to students may go the way of the dinosaur in this district. I believe that this is a short-sighted and harmful way to balance the budget.

The State Chancellor’s Office Student Success Task Force (SSTF) report recently pointed out that more counseling is needed for students to find their footing in the college environment. It states that for students to succeed in college, districts need to “Design a centralized assessment system that includes...an assessment of 'college knowledge' and the extent to which a student understands and exhibits key academic behaviors and habits of mind necessary for success in college.” Even if such an assessment matrix were available for counselors to use, as faculty, we all know that students may be ready in some areas to tackle college material but may be struggling with behaviors and/or skills necessary in a particular discipline. A student who has never worked cooperatively in a team or never performed a hands-on lab experiment sometimes needs direct intervention and help from a faculty member who can analyze the problem area and work with the student outside of class time.

Counselors and assessment professionals can glean only a generalized profile of a student’s weaknesses and then provide generalized support to these struggling students. It’s only in the classroom through direct contact with student work that problems can be assessed, and it’s only during office hours with individualized instruction and attention that faculty can follow up in a respectful, private way with each student. Office hours have always been a requirement for full-time contract faculty for these very reasons. As our college continues using adjunct faculty to fill the vacancies left by retiring full-timers, are we going to pull back on this important remedial teaching time for students, simply because the state has given districts that option?

A current piece of legislation, AB1456 (Lowenthal), arising from the SSTF report, requires that students make adequate academic progress (ostensibly towards a career, transfer or degree goal) in order to be eligible for a Board of Governors fee waiver. The state of California wants to make sure that students who are being educated for free, using tax dollars, are heading toward a job or career that will one day provide them with a livelihood so that these citizens are not taking from tax coffers but rather are contributing to state revenues. In this respect adjunct faculty are perfectly poised to fulfill such an advisory role, during office hours. Overburdened college counselors may not have the experience, knowledge or time to provide adequate career counseling in a particular field. Adjunct faculty are often out there in the real world working in the profession for which they are also providing

(Continued on page 7)
PeopleSoft: Has it Really Been Three Years?

by Marcia Hanford and Rosemarie Shamieh

PeopleSoft has been GCC’s student online registration system now for three years. My how time flies…

SO WHAT IS PEOPLESOFT?

PeopleSoft is an integrated software package that allows all administrative functions of the college to operate seamlessly. It provides for interconnectivity between human resources, admissions, finance and records. In essence, this complex information system is designed to provide the entire campus community with college-wide data integration and the ability to enhance reporting and data analysis capabilities.

HOW DOES PEOPLESOFT AFFECT NONCREDIT CLASSES?

It was known that the intricacies of PeopleSoft would require time to fine tune. Now that we’re concluding our seventh term since PeopleSoft was implemented, we took the opportunity to review where we’ve been and what lies ahead. With the understanding that the project team is still working on resolving system bugs that affect continuing education students, a status update has been compiled for our administration.

Here are two of the issues and our temporary fixes:

• When completing the GCC online application, students are told that an ID number will be assigned, after which they can register. This can take days, so anyone planning to register for a class with an imminent start date is derailed. To counteract this major obstacle, we have announcements on multiple web-pages telling students to “Go to the first class no matter what” and “Come to the Garfield Campus for registration assistance.” Staff members then resolve each individual challenge—one student at a time.

• Registration contains an additional set of problems. The system is not designed for nontraditional, open-entry/open-exit classes that allow for overlapping enrollment. Hence, students are denied access to classes because of a “time conflict.” Again, if students come to the first class or come to the Garfield campus, staff members override these barriers and enroll each student.

We are grateful to those at Garfield who willingly implement these interim measures to serve our students on a daily basis.

HOW DO I GET HELP WITH USING PEOPLESOFT?

For assistance with PeopleSoft problems, contact the help desk at ext. 4357 (HELP).

(Continued from page 6)

ADJUNCT JUNCTION

training to students. Who better to provide real-world advice and guidance to students who approach them for help in choosing a career path?

Glendale College needs to think long and hard on what makes our student outcomes and matriculation among the best among California’s community colleges. To ignore the contribution of countless office hours toward the successes we see in our students is a tremendously shortsighted mistake. 

(Continued from page 2)

Guild News


Fresno, Madera, Tulare, Kings Central Labor Council—http://myunionworks.com/home/75-november-ballot-initiative-you-must-be-aware-of


MILESTONES

Sarah Bederman will run the Mayor’s Half Marathon on June 23 in Anchorage, Alaska.

Victor Castellanos (Technology & Aviation Division) graduated from Woodbury University on May 4, 2012, receiving his Master’s in Organizational Leadership.

The Chaparral won three CFT Communications Awards at the CFT Convention this year.

The GCC Concert Singers under the direction of Dr. Peter Green has been asked to sing at the Nokia Theatre at LA Live for the E3 Video Games live concert on June 6. This is a prestigious event, for an audience of thousands. The group will sing with a full orchestra. The GCC Concert Singers performance will be the second night of the Video Game convention, which is taking place at the Los Angeles Convention Center. It will be a great advertisement of GCC to thousands of young people in the area.

Kathy Holmes’s son, Jason Holmes, earned a M.S. degree in computer science from UCLA in December, 2011. Jason graduated from GCC in 2007, completing the entire math, physics, and computer science course sequences. He transferred to UCLA, where he graduated with honors and received his B.S. degree from UCLA’s Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science in 2010. Jason’s academic excellence was recognized by lifetime membership in both Tau Beta Pi and Upsilon Pi Epsilon, elite honor societies for engineers and computer scientists. In February 2012 he accepted a position as a Software Development Engineer at Microsoft Corporation and has relocated to the Seattle area.

Nalini Lasiewicz (GCC Kids Page volunteer editor) graduated Summa Cum Laude and received her B.A. in Organizational Leadership from Woodbury University in May. She is a former GCC student, earning a music certificate and providing support services as science exhibit coordinator in the Science Center.

Kate Martin-Rowe and her husband Scott welcomed a baby boy into their family, Oscar Romel Martin-Rowe, born November 2, 2011, weighing 5 pounds 5 ounces.

Lynne McGrath (Library) performed with Yesteryears’ Dancers at the Homestead Museum’s Victorian Faire on Saturday, May 5. She is also acting in the Caltech Play Readers’ production of Sheila Stephenson’s play An Experiment With an Airpump on Tuesday, May 8, at Caltech’s Athenaeum Club. The play takes place in the 18th and 20th centuries and is concerned with science and ethical issues, and Lynne’s double roles place her in both centuries.

Angela Morales has three essays out, “The Girls in My Town,” in the spring 2012 issue of The Southwest Review; “Nine Days of Ruth,” in the spring 2012 issue of Arts and Letters; and "Gunslinging" in the spring issue of The Baltimore Review.

Ellen Oppenberg's oldest daughter, Ashley, is graduating from CSUN on May 23 with a B.A. in psychology and is being awarded honors for her campus and community leadership.

Robert Vadman’s daughter, Kara, a sophomore geology major at Colgate University, spent five weeks in Antarctica aboard the Nathaniel B. Palmer research vessel, on the LARissa (LARsen Ice Shelf System, Antarctica) Research Expedition 2012. The interdisciplinary research team worked 24 hours a day, in 12 hour shifts, collecting marine sediment and ice cores, deploying and recovering instruments, recovering devices left on previous expeditions, sampling mud cores, and recording data. Now back on campus, Kara is spending a second summer interning in the geology lab, where she looks at types and number of diatoms in Antarctic marine sediment core samples, some of which date back 10,000 years or more.

Isman Salas (Instructional Services) and her husband, Will, are the happy parents of a baby girl. Their daughter Sky was born on May 7, and was 22 inches long and weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces. Congratulations to Isman and Will!

David Yamamoto's photographic images, documenting the recession, have been published in Planning Los Angeles, edited by David C. Sloane, published by APA Planners (2012). The book is a comprehensive look at how Los Angeles has been shaped by urban planning.