

**COMMENTS ON THE LANEY EDUCATIONAL  
MASTER PLAN** 27 APRIL 2010

First of all, I want to commend “all hands” that participated in the development and production of this Educational Master Plan. I consider it to be an outstanding effort and a tremendous foundation for strategic and technical planning, resource allocation and the entire decision making process. It is, indeed, a significant product resulting from the Strategic Planning Process that started in March of 2005. It is a beautiful meld of the various elements of this production line process that we call “post secondary education”. It accommodates and portrays the interaction of the very abstract “big picture” with the high level of specificity of the ground level operations.

As with all types of planning, we must recognize that it is a work in process. As we go through the “ebb and flow” of resources that the citizens of this state are able to provide, we must make adjustments. Some of those adjustments will be major and some will be very severe. Some will be viewed as negative and some will be viewed as very positive. This document allows for the ability to prioritize and accommodate the needs of our citizenry with the generous resources that they provide. It sets forth the framework for us to focus our time, energy and intellect. To me, it vividly portrays some of the advantages of our technical age. This document can be updated and accessed by our leadership on a real time basis. It can be maintained with current data. The significant time delays and enormous printing costs have been neutralized.

The document is only 176 pages long and I would recommend that all of my colleagues on the Board and the

entire management structure and internal, leadership team read and digest it. It flows well and therefore it is a fast read.

Just some quick observations with respect to the data content:

- 76% of the students at Laney live in The Peralta Colleges service area. That obviously means that 24% do not, which is a more meaningful figure to me. I would hope that we can make that figure come alive in the not too distant future.
- Page 66 of the document addresses, inter alia, the issue and status of Student Learning Outcomes (SLO's). This is a major priority for us, as mandated from on high. The target goal for successful completion of this project is December of this year. I do recognize that data is dated, but when input into the document SLO's at Laney were completed for 59% of the courses and only 19% of the degrees. What is substantially more alarming to me is that the Assessment process is on track for only 7% of the courses and 1% of the degrees. **Mr. President, I strongly recommend that we include a status report on the progress of these initiatives in the agendas for this Board at the first meeting of each month.**
- Page 115 of the Master Plan addresses the initiative for a Five Year Financial

Campaign. OUTSTANDING! Mr. President, I would like to have a regular, quarterly status briefing on the Board agenda for this campaign. For the Chancellor, I would recommend that this initiative be replicated at each of the colleges and their status included at each of the quarterly briefings to the Board.

- Appendix N beginning on page 173 covers a very important challenge for this institution.
- How do we structure the make-up of our faculty for the coming years? To do that in a prioritized fashion, it would seem to me, that we must have a reasonably good idea of what we are going to look like in two years, five years, ten years, twenty years, etc. Adding of contract faculty must necessarily involve a very long term decision focus. It is obviously a very long term commitment. It is a very significant investment decision, in terms of resource allocation, that should be a very high priority for this Board.
- **For a near and intermediate term focus, how do we incorporate the directive from our State Chancellor that we significantly downsize our scope of operations?**
  - **What adjustments are we going to have to make to our array of course offerings?**
  - **What programs will be added?**

- **What programs will be deleted?**
- **What programs will be significant expanded?**
- **What programs will be severely contracted or consolidated?**
- **When will we begin offering bachelor degrees to our students?**
- **Which of our current course offerings will be converted to Fee Based?**
- **How and when will we incorporate US Department of Labor statistics into our program review and what modifications to our structure will be necessary?**
- **How will we incorporate the needs and desires of our major regional employers into our program review process?**
- **How will we modify our programs to accommodate what the Universities that we feed to see as necessary modifications?**

Again, Kudos to all who have been involved in the development, production and maintenance of the Laney Educational Master Plan.

