

# OCC chancellor gets good report card

By Tim Richard  
staff writer

Chancellor R. Stephen Nicholson is likely to get top marks from six of the seven trustees when they com-

plete his evaluation next month. Several board members, however, want more attention given to the college's marketing plan. Trustees see a real need for OCC to attract more students and do a better job of re-

taining those it attracts.

The evaluation committee "recommends that the board extend Dr. Nicholson's contract for one more year to provide him with the job security necessary to allow him to implement and accomplish the goals and plans that have been approved by the board for the college," said a summary written by trustee Edward Pappas, a Bloomfield Hills attorney.

Pappas said the board majority's feeling was summed up by the trustee who wrote that Nicholson's "leadership is exactly right for OCC at this time, and he has my full confidence and support."

NICHOLSON JOINED OCC in November of 1985 after serving as president of Mount Hood (Ore.) Community College. Earlier he had headed several other colleges across the country.

His OCC contract was renewed in September 1986 for three years end-

ing in October 1989. A renewal would extend him to Oct. 31, 1990. Current salary is \$91,785.

Pappas compiled the report from individual evaluations written by the trustees. No names were revealed. While there was a pattern of one trustee dissenting on many questions, it was impossible to tell whether it was the same trustee.

Trustee Judith Wiser of West Bloomfield asked to see all the original reports. "What happened to our evaluations of the chancellor? I can't get them. . . Aren't these public under the Freedom of Information Act?" she said, asking an attorney's opinion on her request.

The report represented seven individual trustees' views, not the final report of the board. "The individual sheets no longer exist," said Pappas. "I took every answer and put it in the report, but not by name of trustee. This is a (committee) recommendation to the board."

TRUSTEE Douglas Wakefield of Southfield said the chancellor "should be very pleased" at the evaluation.

But the discussion made Nicholson visibly uncomfortable. "It comes with the territory, but never without some measure of apprehension. Boards do not evaluate their CEOs easily. It's never without tension. It's never without anxiety," he said.

OCC has about 28,000 students in associate degree programs in five campus locations and several extension centers.

Trustees could give four performance ratings — superior, good, below expectations and substantially below expectations — or "no opportunity to evaluate."

TWO RATED him below and one substantially below on the college marketing plan. Two rated him below expectations in renovation and construction plans, faculty-staff re-

lationships and collective bargaining.

Nicholson got unanimous high marks on administrative ability, communication skills, reliability and relationship with the board.

Other unanimous high marks came in advocating the needs of the college to the state Legislature, outreach to business and industry, and commitment to affirmative action.

He had all but one high mark on professional demeanor, relationship with the community, respect for shared governance.

On the college's work plan, Nicholson was rated superior or good by everyone in 13 major areas, including a mission-goals statement, information systems plan, energy savings plan, fine arts task force report, human resources plan and leadership training.

He received five out of six high marks for the physical facilities master plan, capital resources analysis and the 1987-88 budget.

## Women to explore high-tech careers

Meligan's representative in the "teacher in space" sweepstakes will be the featured speaker at the Saturday, Feb. 13, "Women in Tech/High Tech" careers conference at Oakland Community College.

Sharon Newman, a teacher at Bloomfield Hills West Hills Middle School, will speak on "inner space" (stress management), "outer space" (careers) and "global space" (high tech). The conference runs from 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. at OCC's Auburn Hills campus, 2900

Featherstone, east of the Pontiac Silverdome.

Women professionals in the fields of engineering, health technologies, auto mechanics, skilled trades and computer-aided design will also address the conference.

The conference is designed to bring together women of all ages and occupations with other women who have reached career goals.

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