

# Chancellor

front page

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**THE BOOK ZAR**

Of her critics, only Carol Crew attended the hour-long session. Crew didn't join the audience in applause, left the meeting the instant it was over and couldn't be contacted for comment.

"Patsy, that was wonderful," said trustee Anne Scott, a supporter.

"I commend you for a job well done," added board chair Simmons.

Calkins' \$49 million report said her administration had cut \$24 million from what expenses would have been and led last June's successful millage campaign that raised \$25 million in new property tax revenue. OCC's current budget now is \$97 million.

The OCC Foundation this year raised \$1.655 million in contributions, in-kind gifts and pledges, she said — more than double last year's \$630,000 and 20 times the 1987-88 level.

And she has helped put the two-year, 30,000-student college on the civic and political map through her activities in the Oakland Business Roundtable, two chambers of commerce and a hospital.

Calkins, a business educator from Dallas who has headed OCC since 1991, then turned to the criticisms that Ritter's group has leveled at her since July.

Communication — Now the disident trustees say Calkins doesn't keep them informed. But the past board complaint, she said, was "too much communication." Calkins pointed to a stack of 71 memos — far more than her goal of two a month — keeping trustees informed of developments. The stack, ironically, was placed in front of Ritter's empty chair.

Personal services agreements — Her long practice of hiring retired administrators for part-time work during vacancies has cut costs "by half of what we would have paid. It was never questioned," Calkins said, asking rhetorically, "Why now?"

Audits — "Once it is complete, we go over it with the board," she said, adding the current Internal Revenue Service audit is concerning IRS is challenging OCC's — and other organizations' nationwide — practice of treating personal services contractors as non-em-

ployees. "It's the same problem others face. It's the first time we've ever had an IRS audit," she said.

Trustees are four months over due in evaluating Calkins' performance. She has 30 months left on her contract. If forced out without cause, she is likely to ask, or sue for, \$200,000 in severance pay — much like the settlement the University of Michigan gave coach Gary Moeller when it fired him as football coach.

Calkins said that her 60-70-hour work weeks have resulted in 1.5 to two times as much news coverage as OCC had previously received. Besides luring more major corporate gifts to the college, Calkins said she has personally donated \$13,677.

Union grievances are down. "We have a few disgruntled union people. Their voices are loud, but union leadership consistently tells me these voices are clearly the minority," she said.

On campus, two of her major thrusts have been international contacts and an increase in diversity.

"Ten percent of Oakland Coun-

ty's population consists of minorities. OCC's student enrollment exceeds this percentage, with our diversity statistics being 18 percent in 1991 and growing to 18 percent this fall. I am proud of this statistic," she said.

"I have also promoted diversity of staff. When I arrived, we had very little diversity. We have updated our affirmative action plan, and one merely has to look at the chancellor's council to see the diversity — three women, three African-American males, and four white males.

"One of my dreams, after realizing the large international population at OCC, was to reach that population with a program — to begin with a credit ESL (English as a second language) program and then to develop multi-cultural modules within courses."

Results: collaboration with an English college, exchange of visits with a Korean college and initial contacts with a Mexican college.

The OCC board is scheduled to do its performance evaluation of the chancellor at 7 p.m. next Monday, Oct. 18, in the Royal Oak Campus building.

## OCC board expected to change its rules

The dumping of the board chair and chancellor came a step closer Tuesday as Oakland Community College trustees started a rules change cutting short the officers' terms.

The disident faction gave 5-1 approval to a new rule allowing officers to serve two years "or such shorter time as the board shall at any time determine."

That will allow the majority to replace Janice Simmons of Pontiac

as chair at the next board meeting 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 16.

Gerald Fisher, Farmington Hills attorney for Sandra Ritter and Judith Wiser, said that a court hearing scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Wednesday would not have an impact on Monday night's action unless the judge assigned (unknown as of Wednesday) to the case finds a violation.

Attorney for trustee Anne Scott was unable to be reached for comment.

At that time, the board also is scheduled to evaluate the past 15 months' performance of Chancellor Patsy Calkins. The five who already have let it be known they want to oust her are Sandra Ritter and Carol Crew of Waterford, Judith Wiser of West Bloomfield, Douglas Wakefield of Southfield and Pamela Davis of Madison Heights. All five voted for the rules change.

Voting against the rules change was trustee Anne Scott of Royal Oak. Missing the meeting because of a prior commitment was chairperson Simmons. Wiser, currently vice chair, presided at the half-hour meeting.

Monday's meeting will be in the usual place — the George A. Bee Administration Center in Bloomfield Hills. Earlier OCC announcements said it would be in the Royal Oak Campus building.



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