The Board of Trustees met in the Campus Center on Friday, November 13. They worked through a full agenda of business that opened with Daryl Brandt '52 accepting on behalf of the La Verne Athletic Associates, a commendation recognizing their 26 years of support for our athletic programs. Since their founding, they have raised more than $300,000 and volunteered to construct such facilities as the Hanawalt Fitness Center and the Ortmayer Stadium bleachers. The Trustees then recognized the 35th anniversary of the Masters of Public Administration program and the 30th anniversary of the Health Management program. Chairman Luis Faura welcomed Trustee Myrna Wheeler and Trustees Emeriti Marvin Belcher and Jerry Davis.

Chris Kaelberer, ASULV President, highlighted the efforts and successes of ASULV during the fall term, which includes Homecoming and over 60 other additional events. Noting that ASULV members also serve on several campus-wide committees, Chris described a few of ASULV’s many service activities that raise funds or gifts in kind for outside community organizations. Faculty Representative Jack Meek provided a brief overview of the work of the Faculty Senate. Dr. Meek then displayed and navigated through The Faculty Commons, a new website created by Erin Gratz, Assistant Librarian and Assistant Professor, which provides up-to-date information on faculty scholarship, teaching and service. As a part of the faculty report, Lisa Rodriguez, Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, reviewed the certification process available to faculty who wish to teach in on-line and hybrid delivery programs.

Chris Frazier, Web Designer, provided an orientation for the use of the University website and the newly established Board of Trustees webpage. Trustees will now be able to access reports, calendars, minutes, rosters, up-to-date blogs and quick links to information on La Verne’s web (i.e., Faculty Commons) via the new webpage, which includes both public and password protected information. Lisa Rodriguez returned to demonstrate how Blackboard can be used by the Trustees to review documents and facilitate on-line discussions. Chris Frazier concluded the technology presentations with a demonstration of the expanded reach of Alumni Relations on Facebook. Many alumni, faculty, staff and Trustees have already registered and are networking and receiving updates.

The Academic Affairs reports began with Greg Dewey, Provost, presenting a resolution requesting approval to immediately implement an increase in the number of units covered by undergraduate tuition from 12-17 to 12-18. The Board approved the resolution as presented. Provost Dewey reported that the University has received more than $9 million in Title V grants and that more proposals are under consideration. Following Provost Dewey, Allen Easley, Dean of the College of Law, communicated that a team from the American Bar Association (ABA) will visit the Law campus in March in response to the College’s application...
for full ABA approval. Dean Easley reported that the College will be well prepared for this important visit. Next, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Al Clark, gave the Trustees a review of the preparations being made for the upcoming WASC visit in February. Dr. Clark discussed the nature of the Capacity and Preparatory Review process and presented a copy of the draft report.

Trustee Don Wilson, Chair of the Trustee Audit Committee, reported that PriceWaterhouseCoopers had submitted the 2008-2009 Audit report to the committee. Trustee Wilson stated that it was a clean audit and there were no recommendations to management. The Financial Aid audit was without concern for the second year in a row. Chairman Wilson commended both the Finance and the Financial Aid teams for their outstanding work. The Audit Committee recommended that the year-end balance of $2 million be transferred to the quasi-endowment. The Board approved the motion.

Homa Shabahang, Vice President for Enrollment Management, reported that while some projections came in higher or lower than projected, the total fall enrollment has met our enrollment and budget projections. Following Dr. Shabahang’s presentation of comparison information from other schools, the Board of Trustees authorized the 2010-2011 academic year tuition, fees and discount rates for traditional-age undergraduates and the College of Law as proposed. Additional recommendations for other programs will be brought forward at the February 5 meeting.

Avo Kechichian, Treasurer and Associate Vice President, reported that the Budget Advisory Task Force (BATF) has been enlarged and includes representation from faculty, administration and classified personnel. The BATF will continue to advise the President regarding budget decisions for the 2010-2011 academic year. The BATF meets regularly each month and will continue to do so at least until the budget is finalized in April.

In another action item, the Board of Trustees approved a proposal I presented to allocate an amount up to $2 million from the quasi endowment to fund one-time expenditures for initiatives that could increase enrollment, generate new streams of revenue, enhance the image of the University, or create efficiencies that will either save money or better serve the La Verne community. Chairman Faura will appoint several Trustees to serve as an advisory group to the initiative selection process.

Executive Vice President Phil Hawkey presented a summary of physical plant improvements completed since the April Board meeting. Introducing and reviewing plans for the refurbishing of Founders Auditorium, EVP Hawkey requested that the Board authorize an agreement with KAR Construction, Inc. to complete the project. Construction on Founders Auditorium should begin in early spring and plans call for the project to be completed by the opening of the fall semester.

Trustee Ivan Misner, a member of the Trustee Development Committee, reported that funding for the Founders Auditorium project would come from two sources. The first phase, which includes basic work such as carpet, paint, seats, windows, doors and improved
access, will come from bond proceeds totaling $2.5 million. The succeeding three phases, which will provide HVAC and enhance acoustics, lighting and stage rigging, will require a fundraising initiative totaling $2.75 million. The Trustees approved the fundraising initiative and Trustee Misner announced that verbal commitments in excess of $160,000 have already been received.

I reported to the Trustees that the Board Affairs and Nominating Committee will soon develop a plan for a Board Assessment program. The Committee will present its plan at a future meeting.

The Board meeting concluded with a luncheon and Campus Center art tour led by Dion Johnson, Director, University Art Galleries. Dion expressed his gratitude for the Trustees’ commitment to providing additional venues for the display of artwork across the campus.