The Board of Trustees met for their winter meeting on Friday, February 5 in the Howell Board Room.

Following brief introductions, they opened their meeting with a tribute to Myrna Wheeler. Myrna, who passed away on January 9, 2010, graduated from La Verne in 1960 and served on the Board of Trustees for twenty-five years. Myrna exemplified the values of her alma mater in her career, in her family life, and in her service to others. Peggy Redman recalled Myrna’s life in a tribute to her friend of more than fifty years. Members of the Board expressed their appreciation for Myrna’s many contributions and their admiration for her life of service and achievement. She will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Trustee Emmett Terrell paid tribute to Harvel Lewis who also passed away on January 9. Harvel was a much beloved member of the La Verne community, having filled a variety of positions over the past twenty years. Harvel served as an administrative assistant, the first Director of Multicultural Affairs and, most recently, as a part-time faculty member. She touched the lives of hundreds of students, faculty and staff in very meaningful ways. She was a coach, a mentor and a wonderful teacher.

Following approval of the minutes of the last meeting, the Board heard an update from Noor Wahba, President of the Associated Students of the University of La Verne. Noor reported on the Welcome Week activities and a new program sponsored by ASULV to award scholarships for leadership service. Student leaders will meet with the WASC team during its review visit. Noor outlined a few of ASULV’s upcoming events for the spring semester.

Faculty representative Professor Jack Meek reported on faculty accomplishments in the areas of publishing, research and presentations, and summarized faculty service on several committees, such as the BATF (Budget Advisory Task Force) and President’s Workgroup on Diversity. Jack introduced Associate Professor of Law, Kevin Marshall, who discussed his classroom experiences and recently published book.

Provost Greg Dewey’s Academic Affairs Report included a WASC update from Al Clark and Jack Meek, co-chairs of the WASC CPR Committee. They outlined the format for the upcoming WASC Team visit which will take place from February 9 through 12. They reported that a team of ten will review our capacity to fulfill our mission. The Team will prepare a written report that will be submitted to the Accrediting Commission for action at their June meeting.
Associate Dean of the College of Law, John Linarelli, reported on the visit by the American Bar Association accrediting team that took place from February 1 through 3. John informed the Trustees that the visit had gone well, the exit interview was very positive, but that we would not know the results of the ABA action before late summer. Provost Dewey reported that funds will be provided by the University from the Initiatives Fund to establish an Office of Sponsored Research. The purpose of the office will be to assist faculty members, departments and colleges in the identification of funding sources, the preparation of proposals for funding, and the management of grants in support of the University’s academic programs and services, scholarship, and research. Sponsored Research will partner closely with University Advancement.

Greg introduced Dr. Kent Badger who described a proposed program in Community Health that would be offered jointly by La Verne and Claremont Graduate University. Dr. Badger described the breadth of conversations that have taken place and the faculty approval process and accreditation steps that will be required for implementation. The Trustees expressed their support for the proposal.

Dr. Homa Shabahang, vice President for Enrollment Management, reported current enrollment information, projected enrollments for 2010-2011 and tuition rate proposals for graduate and adult programs for 2010-2011. Please refer to the attached report below for a full report. Homa introduced Chris Krzak, Dean, Admissions, who spoke regarding new recruitment tools: You-niversity, a 5-minute video located on the Admissions webpage and MyCollege-i, which provides for on-line interviews that will be added to the student’s application packet.

Executive Vice President Phil Hawkey reported that the Budget Advisory Task Force will soon receive preliminary revenue and expenditure projections and will begin the process of developing recommendations for priority items in next year’s operating budget. Phil stated that we continue to identify and address deferred maintenance items and that the newly organized Division of Facility and Technology Services, led by Clive Houston-Brown, Vice President, Facility and Technology Services & CIO, is exploring ways to improve services in several areas.

Phil updated the Board regarding the proposed Water Campus. The Metropolitan Water District has received the joint proposal from La Verne and the Lewis Company to develop the MWD property adjacent to La Verne’s property, south of Arrow Highway, as a water research facility. Action has not yet been taken by MWD on the proposal.

Associate Vice President of Finance, Lori Gordien Case, informed the Trustees that the information required by the Internal Revenue Service for Form 990 has been expanded and they have received new questionnaires as a result of those additional requirements. She also said the 990 will be reviewed by the Trustee Audit Committee at their upcoming meeting.
Phil Hawkey reviewed the updated plans for the refurbishing of Founders Auditorium and presented the revised budget. Construction should begin in early spring and be completed by October or November 2010. Trustee Ben Harris, Chair of the Development Committee, reported that $813,000 has been raised for the auditorium project. Eleven Trustees have pledged $583,000 of the total. The fundraising goal for the renovation is $1.25 million. Ben also announced that the Trustees have approved renaming Founders Auditorium the Ann & Steve Morgan Auditorium in recognition of Steve’s twenty-five years as President and Ann’s many contributions to La Verne’s success.

Steve Morgan recommended that the University fund the following projects from the 2008-2009 fiscal year fund balance:

- Office of Sponsored Research ($200,000)
- La Verne Prominence Fund ($100,000)
- On-line Program Development Fund ($200,000)
- Undergraduate Recruiting Supplement (($150,000)

The Trustees approved the proposed recommendations. The meeting concluded with the announcement that the spring meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Friday, April 30 in the Howell Board Room.

Enrollment Management reported on the enrollment of different population of students in the current year as well as projections for student enrollments for 2010-2011. Dean Krzak reported that the traditional undergraduate program has surpassed its enrollment targets for fall and spring of the current year. He also informed the Board that the number of applications received for fall 2011 has broken historical levels and are up by more than 130% over last year. However, estimating next year’s enrollment of traditional undergraduate students is still difficult due to the impact of the downturn in the economy as well as possible cuts in Cal Grants.

It is projected that the enrollment for doctoral and masters program in psychology will remain at their current level with no increases projected for next year. The College of Business and Public Management is scheduled to increase its student headcount and semester credit hours by a significant margin over their current enrollments. The College of Education and Organizational Leadership faces declining enrollment this year and is expected to face the same challenge next year due to the impact of the California budgetary situation. Regional Campus Administration has met its enrollment goal for the current year. However, the projections call for a decrease in enrollment at Regional Campuses next year. This enrollment remission is due to the launch of a new calendar
that will go into effect next August for this population. As a result, the Regional campuses will lose more than five weeks of recruitment time for the first time. In addition, it is expected that the education programs offered through the regional campuses will face the same challenges as their counterparts on the main campus.

Enrollment management proposed tuition levels for doctoral, graduate, and adult programs offered on the main and regional campuses. The proposed increases range from 0% to 4.2%. It was explained that these tuition recommendations were based on the competitive analysis with consultation with the appropriate academic deans and the Provost. The proposed tuition rates were approved by the Board.

The members of the Board discussed the impact of the economy and California budget on the enrollments at the College of Education and Organizational Leadership. They advised Enrollment Management to increase its recruitment efforts for these programs especially in new markets. The Board advocated increasing the level of marketing, recruitment, and advertising to remain competitive in a difficult market.