1. **Public Session Call to Order**
   In the absence of Trustee de Long, the Board Vice President, Jim Glidden, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Duran led the Pledge of Allegiance.

   **Members Present:** Jim Glidden (Vice President), Les McCabe, Gene Vierra, Robert Haden, Jinet Troost, Lew Braxton, Mary Lewis
   **Members Absent:** Eva de Long
   **Others Present:** Benjamin T. Duran, John Spevak, Allan Grimsby, Larry Johnson, Cheri Carlson (Reporter, Merced Sun Star)

2. **Hearing of the Public**
   An opportunity was provided for members of the public to address the Board. There were no comments or questions.

3. **For Discussion and/or Action**
   a. **Student Representation on the Board of Trustees**
      Trustee Haden explained that during his time on the Board, it has been his observation that perhaps expecting the ASMC President to also serve as the student trustee may be too much for one person to be responsible for. He did not feel he was getting input on student issues or concerns; he pointed out that this has been the case during his entire time on the Board. He had asked the item be placed on the workshop agenda because he was interested in hearing what other colleges did at their campuses and to hear from the current student trustee her thoughts on the subject. A biennial survey conducted by CCLC was shared with board members; it outlined practices at other CCDs relative to the student trustee. Discussion followed.
      Trustee Lewis commented on some of the problems she faces trying to responsibly carry out the role of student trustee, as well as that of ASMC President. She briefly highlighted some of the positive changes that have been made during her term of office and discussed some of the activities the students have been involved in this past year. She also felt two separate positions might be in the best interest of students.

      Because student elections will be held in May, it was the consensus of the Board that a question(s) be placed on the May ballot polling students for their feelings regarding the creation of a separate position to fill the role of student trustee.

      Trustee Lewis raised a question regarding Board Policy 2015 and the
number of units required to hold the office of ASMC President/student trustee. Dr. Grimsby indicated he would research the Education Code for clarification of her question and board policy.

a. **Delegation of Authority to the Superintendent/President, Board Policy 2430**

Trustee McCabe raised a question at a previous meeting regarding language in the sample policy provided to subscribers of CCLC’s Policy and Procedure Service; specifically, the next to the last paragraph in Board Policy 2430. He felt trustees, like any member of the public, should be able to obtain information without having the burden fall on the CEO as to whether the request is burdensome or disruptive to District operations. It was pointed out that the policy is suggested by CCLC as a good practice and is not legally required. Discussion followed and trustees shared their thoughts on the policy as presently worded. **MSCU (Haden/Vierra) to delete the next to the last paragraph in Board Policy 2430; the student advisory vote was aye.**

b. **Board of Trustees’ Operating Budget for 2003-04**

Dr. Duran explained that for the 2003-04 budget year, members of the college community will be asked to again make a 5% cut in their operating budgets. A proposed 5% cut in the Board’s operating budget was presented for review and discussion.

Several trustees indicated they did not wish to receive the mileage reimbursement and/or the stipend for attending meetings. Discussion followed. It was agreed both of these items would be left to the individual trustee to decide and that the Board as a whole would not take a position on either item.

Following a review of the proposed cuts in the Board’s operating budget, it was **MSC (Haden/Vierra) to approve the cuts for 2003-04 as presented; the student advisory vote was aye. Trustees McCabe and Troost voted no.** Trustee McCabe felt the Board’s budget cuts should be larger.

c. **Board Memberships**

Dr. Duran said the administration is reviewing all memberships for the District to determine which, if any, could be eliminated. Dollars saved would revert to the General Fund. He asked if the Board had any changes it wished to make in board memberships.

Discussion followed with varying opinions expressed regarding the validity of continuing some of the memberships. A motion was made by Trustee McCabe to retain only the membership in the Merced County School
Boards Association; the motion died for lack of a second. **MSC (Vierra/Troost)** to eliminate membership in African Americans in California Community Colleges (AACCC) and The College Board for a savings of $850; the student advisory vote was aye. A no vote was cast by Trustees Braxton and Haden.

d. **Board Member Compensation**
   Trustees briefly discussed Board Policy 1612 (Compensation - Board of Trustees) and asked that a copy of the Board Policy pertaining to their health benefits be mailed to them.

e. **Board Travel**
   It was generally agreed that it had been some time since Board Policy 3105 had been reviewed. Per diem allowances had not been revised since 1989. A revision not reflected in the policy which needs to be corrected is the mileage reimbursement rate which should coincide with the current government rate. Trustee Braxton asked that at some time in the future the Board discuss the establishment of a travel policy pertaining solely to the Board of Trustees. It was the consensus of the Board that it continue its review and updating of Board Policies and Procedures.

The Friday evening session concluded at 7:15 p.m.

***

The meeting reconvened Saturday morning, April 26, at 8:40 a.m. in the Board Room, Merced College Tri-College Center.

**Members Present:** Jim Glidden, Les McCabe, Gene Vierra, Robert Haden, Jinet Troost, Lew Braxton, Mary Lewis*

*Due to illness, Trustee Lewis was unable to stay for the entire morning session.

**Members Absent:** Eva de Long

**Others Present:** Benjamin T. Duran, John Spevak*, Allan Grimsby, Larry Johnson, Harry Gossett, Dee Near*, Cheri Carlson

*John Spevak and Dee Near arrived late to the meeting.

4. **For Discussion and/or Action**

   a. **Income from Lease of the Krafft Property**

       Trustee Glidden shared with board members his understanding of how the District came to own the Krafft Ranch and commented on the terms surrounding the use of the land. His concern was that two employees were hired several years ago specifically for the purpose of managing and working on the property. The property is now leased out and the two employees have been given other assignments in the Ag Division. He felt the revenue from the lease of the property should be used to help offset
the cost of these employees= salaries and health benefits rather than being given to the Ag Management Board (AMB) to budget at their discretion. Trustee Glidden felt the Ag Division was being treated different from the other divisions on campus.

Trustee McCabe had a different understanding regarding the terms of the donation, which he felt had always been to provide supplemental opportunities and/or income to the Ag Division. Dr. Duran referenced a Board Resolution adopted in 1989 which authorized the lease of the property and for the revenues to be deposited with the AMB. He stated further that if this Board chose to make a change regarding the revenue from the lease, then District dollars would still be needed but for something other than salaries. Considerable discussion followed with no general consensus being reached.

a. CCLC Update
Dr. Duran shared with the board information provided by CCLC which reflected changes in law, regulation, and accreditation standards that affect board practice. The changes have been incorporated into the Leagues=s Policy and Procedure Service Update #4.

A handout was distributed regarding SB 6 (Alpert), which contains implementation language for the State=s Educational Master Plan. Although there are some positive aspects in the bill, the overriding intent of the bill significantly lessens local control by reducing the authority and control of local boards to only a few areas not explicitly assigned to the Board of Governors. CCCT and CEOCCC boards are opposing the legislation and are encouraging Districts to send letters and/or resolutions to legislators and the Senate Education Committee strongly voicing their opposition to SB 6. The legislation will be heard in committee on April 30; letters/resolutions should be sent ASAP. The legislation is also being opposed by the BOG, CSU system, UC system, and K-12. MSCU (Haden/McCabe) that the Board go on record in the form of a letter and resolution strongly opposing SB 6. Because K-12 is also going to be affected, it was suggested opposition to SB 6 be placed on the Merced County School Board Association=s agenda. Dr. Duran will contact appropriate staff at the Merced County Office of Education to ask that the item be placed on their next agenda.

Trustee Lewis asked to be excused and left the meeting not feeling well. Dr. Spevak arrived at this time, followed shortly thereafter by Dee Near. The Board took a ten minute break and resumed its session at 9:50 a.m.

MSCU (Haden/Braxton) to move the accreditation item ahead of the budget item on the agenda.
b. New Accreditation Standards and Student Learning Outcomes

The upcoming accreditation will be done using the new standards which stress student learning outcomes. Dee Near, Faculty Senate President, will serve as the overall faculty person for accreditation. A student learning outcomes task force has already been named by the Senate; members have been busy attending various workshops acquainting themselves with the new standards, in particular, what will be required for ensuring that college resources and processes support student learning and its assessment. Four chairpersons for the standards committees have been named; they are Vince Piro, Marc Nicoll Johnson, Tom McCall, and Sue Chappell. Dee explained that a key element of the accreditation will involve a collective discussion among the segments of the college community, including the Board, regarding student success and assessment.

c. Update on the State and District Budgets

Dr. Duran distributed copies of the latest information received from CCLC regarding the state budget. The good news is that there is acknowledgment that community colleges were dealt a disproportionate share of cuts when the budget language was first revealed. CCC cuts will now be more in line with the cuts proposed for the UC and CSU systems. CCC and student advocacy has paid off and will continue to be important.

Dr. Duran stated further that negotiations during this next year (03-04) will determine whether MC has any layoffs or cuts the following year (04-05). Given the college community=s willingness to work together, he feels comfortable that MC will be able to meet the challenge. CBRR will meet in May to develop a tentative budget which will meet state statute. Prop 98 funding is still unresolved and the latest news regarding student fee increases is that fees will increase to $25 over the next three years. By the time the final budget must be adopted (September 15), there is no guarantee that California will have a State Budget.

At the May meeting the administration will present for the Board=s approval a recommendation to send forward to the Board of Governors a request for deferral of the full-time faculty obligation for Fall 2003. This represents a deferral of six growth positions. It was noted that MC=s faculty senate and faculty association support this request.

e. Update on Facilities Planning

Dr. Johnson discussed the item that will be brought to the Board at their May meeting to approve the submission of the Five Year Plan, the Allied Health IPP, and the Lesher Building Remodel FPP. He briefly reviewed the projects included in the Five Year Plan and commented on the funding
stream for each project. Also on the May agenda will be a request to approve the resolutions for SFID1 and SFID2 which puts into motion the process for the issuance and sale of bonds to fund district projects. A copy of the draft resolutions were distributed.

Trustee Troost stated she would not be at the May meeting, and therefore, wanted to share her feelings with regard to continued encroachment on the college’s open land. She strongly urged that consideration be given to going up when new buildings are considered or the campus will soon outgrow available land. Dr. Johnson responded this has already been a subject of discussion through the years and the district’s acknowledgment of this fact is evidenced in the two story IAC building currently under construction.

a. Student Demographics

Dr. Grimsby discussed some of the findings contained in the Fall 2002 Fact Book developed primarily by Bob Bauer in the Research & Development Office. It was noted that there are a number of corrections that need to be made before the document receives further distribution. Trustees found the information quite valuable; Dr. Grimsby agreed to provide an annual update. If possible, trustees asked that information be included in future publications regarding how well MC students do after transferring to a four-year institution.

1. From the Administration for Action

a. Proposed Naming of Donated Property

A request was presented to name the property (160 acres) donated in Mid Pines by Reno Ferrero ARancho Coyote. @ MSCU (Braxton/McCabe) to name the property ARancho Coyote, An Educational Facility of Merced College. @ After reviewing the proposed signage, it was MSCU (Vierra/Troost) to approve the top, right sign for placement on the property. Dr. Duran indicated Mr. Ferrero would be present at the May Board meeting when an official announcement of the naming will be made.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Approved______________________________
Secretary to the Board of Trustees