

# THE TELESCOPE

FOCUSED ON  
PALOMAR

## Elections on the horizon for board

MELISSA RAYMOND  
THE TELESCOPE

Palomar official Darrell McMullen has been helping run Palomar College for the last eight years and is hoping to spend another decade at the helm so he can see the work he started be completed.

McMullen is the current president of the Palomar Community College District Governing Board, administrative bodies of five elected trustees that have the final say for Palomar College proposals. They control teacher employment, curriculum, fund allocation, and what programs are offered at Palomar. McMullen, a trustee of the Board since 2000, is one of



Darrell McMullen  
Governing Board President

three members up for re-election this year along with Nancy Chadwick and Ruth Larson.

"I intend on running for a third term," McMullen said. "I plan on staying 'till the work is done."

The work he wants to see completed is Prop M, a proposition approved by voters in November 2006 to maintain and modernize Palomar College. The bond proposition was created based on the boards' Master Plan 2022, a plan to prepare Palomar College for the future.

McMullen's short-term plan is to work with the state to provide community colleges with a level-funding formula. There is

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ELLIOT DE LISSER | THE TELESCOPE

Palomar College students will pay \$5 more in parking permit fees in the fall semester if they decide to park on campus.

## Parking permit to be raised \$5

CRYSTAL EVANS  
THE TELESCOPE

Palomar College parking permit fees will increase \$5 for the fall semester, meaning it will cost students \$40 to park their vehicles on campus.

In order to keep up with rising costs, Palomar is increasing the parking fees. They need the added revenue to help keep the parking lots up to par for the coming semesters according to Palomar president Robert Deegan.

"This is the first increase in the last five years," Deegan said. "We use the extra money to keep up with the cost of maintenance and security of the parking lots. We don't have any state funds that can be used for the parking lots so we need local funds to maintain them."

The campus has tried to increase the fees two times in the past three years.

Students interviewed recently said that the fee is well worth it if the extra cost to park will help alleviate some of the parking problems.

"I don't really care about the increase in cost," Palomar student Natalie Macmillan said.

"I can see why they are doing it. I think it's kind of good because the parking lots suck. I had a class at noon last semester and I could never find a parking spot. Most of the time I had to park by the houses even though I had purchased a parking permit."

One of the uses for the extra money will be adding additional student and faculty parking spaces.

"We are going to be putting relocatables in the faculty staff lot 16 because we will be demolishing the life and earth science building," Deegan said. "We will be adding more than the number of spaces that we'll displace. There will be an increase in parking spaces for both students and faculty for the fall semester and the price increase will allow us to add the spaces."

The new parking spots will be added to parking lot 9 by the soccer fields and to parking lot 12.

MiraCosta College is currently in the process of trying to raise its parking to \$40 as well. Palomar's increase will place them in the upper range of parking fees charged by other

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## State budget cuts to affect Palomar

MONIQUE GARCIA  
THE TELESCOPE

To make up for an anticipated \$1.4 million shortfall this semester, Palomar College has enacted a hiring freeze and is looking for other ways to save money, school officials said last week.

In February, Palomar received notice of the huge deficit affecting community colleges throughout California. Because of this, community colleges as a whole received about a \$126.4 million cut in this year's 2007-2008 budget.

"Community colleges just found out that there was a shortfall in 2007-2008 budget," said Palomar Vice President

Bonnie Dowd. School officials are usually about six months into the budget's year when they find out what revenue they will receive.

To make up for Palomar's \$1.4 million in lost revenue this year, Palomar has implemented a modified hiring freeze. On March 19 President Robert Deegan released a memo stating the freeze was effective immediately.

"This decision has been carefully considered, and was not easily arrived at. At such time as the state budget situation improves, this decision will be revisited," Deegan wrote.

However, full-time faculty

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