

# Palmer keeps Cabrillo seat

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Cabrillo College Trustee Helen Palmer was re-elected yesterday, defeating challenger Leonard Greenberg.

Palmer received 61 percent of the votes, with a total of 14,433 votes in the entire Cabrillo College District, which takes in all of Santa Cruz County and parts of San Benito and Monterey counties. Greenberg received a total of 9,125 votes.

Palmer was first elected to the Cabrillo board in 1983, just one year after she and her husband moved here from Stockton. There, she was a teacher and academic dean at San Joaquin Delta College.

Obviously pleased with the election results this morning, Palmer said she felt good about the support she received during the campaign.

"I was very impressed with the number of people who I didn't even know who came forward to support me," she said. Now, she's hoping to get

on with business, saying she hoped the "divisiveness of the campaign is behind us."

Greenberg accused Palmer of failing to address the real issues facing the college, such as financing, during the campaign.

"She was stressing a kind of fear tactic ... this business of being a captive of 'special interests,'" Greenberg said today. He was referring, at least in part, to the support he had received from the union representing Cabrillo faculty. This led to charges that the faculty was trying to stack the board with its hand-picked representatives.

During the course of the campaign, Greenberg denied he was a spokesman for the faculty.

Palmer also said that although she did not receive the support of the faculty, that she does work on their behalf.

"I'm for the faculty," she said. "If they feel I'm not for them, it's their perception, not mine."

On a personal note, Palmer, 67, said she was proud to have her grandchildren watch the campaign and the election.

"I'm not used to politics and I never dreamed at my age I'd be playing a political game," she said. "It's important for them to see that you do stay active and do stay involved in the community."

Greenberg commented that he believed the Cabrillo election was affected by the short ballot in yesterday's election, which led to a very low voter turnout. He thought it was interesting that Measure C, which asked voters to pay a fee to support the sheriff, was defeated by almost the same margin as he was.

"There's a clear indication the people who came out primarily came out for Measure C," he said, "and that pattern followed through to the Cabrillo race."

He declined, however, to draw any conclusions from the similarity of the votes.