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June 9, 2009

For immediate release

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Terra Trustees Say Farewell to Two Fellow Board Members

The Terra Community College Board of Trustees said farewell to two of its members at the regular monthly meeting May 27.

Ron Billow and Fred Recktenwald were honored for their service to Terra. Billow received a gift of appreciation from the board while Recktenwald asked that the board make a donation to his Terra College Foundation scholarship fund in lieu of a personal gift.

Helene Horvath Zielinski, who served as the board chair when both men joined the board in 2003, spoke of their service to the college.

"It has been a privilege to work with Ron over the years," she said of Billow. "His common sense and practicality were so important. He's always been positive and collaborative, and his devotion to Terra has always been apparent."

Zielinski recalled working with Recktenwald while he was the chair of the Terra College Foundation board prior to his appointment to the board of trustees.

"His knowledge of finances and his historical perspective of Terra were invaluable," she said. "He has a very common-sense approach. And while he's a man of few words, he always shared his thoughts and viewpoints. His dedication to the college was also very apparent."

Terra president Dr. Marsha S. Bordner also praised Billow and Recktenwald.

"I appreciated Ron's open-minded attitude and his willingness to weigh all sides of an issue before making a decision," she said. "And Fred was a financial mentor for me."

Zielinski was elected chairperson of the board for the remainder of the year. Susan Starr serves as vice chair.