



President's Report to the Board of Trustees

Victoria P. Morrow, Ph.D.
May 13, 2009

SKYLINE SHINES

Student Recognition and Awards ceremony packs the Theater

Those present at the May 7 Student Recognition and Awards ceremony commented upon the fact that this was the largest audience in anyone's memory—the Theater was filled and the crowd was excited and happy as the many students received their recognition. It takes many people to create such a large and complex event involving many dozens of students, plus donors, certificates, and all of the countless details that go into it. Thanks to the Financial Aid Office staff and Regina Morrison whose attention to myriad details are vital; Maria Escobar, Sandy Irber, Golda Gacutan, Amory Cariadus, Lori Adrian, and Caroline Ocampo. Phyllis Taylor was, as usual, the gracious and poised mistress of ceremonies. Here is a glimpse of it.



Photos by Caroline Ocampo

Pister Scholarship winner at Skyline

Skyline student Margarita Raquel Gutierrez has been selected by the University of California at Santa Cruz to receive the Karl S. Pister Leadership Opportunity Award. The scholarship provides \$20,000 over two years, assistance in securing additional funding to cover all additional costs, an individually tailored mentoring program, and assistance in finding paid or volunteer summer work. This scholarship was established to support transfer-eligible community college students who show exceptional achievement despite adverse socio-economic status, have demonstrated commitment to assisting and improving the lives of others, and who would not otherwise be able to attend UC Santa Cruz because of financial need. The Karl S. Pister scholarship is a highly competitive scholarship because only 13 recipients are selected annually.



Photo by Caroline Ocampo

Board of Governors honors Barbara Daley at May 4 meeting

Barbara Daley received the Board of Governors (BOG) first annual Classified Employees Award at the Board's May 4 meeting. She and four other classified people from California Community Colleges were recognized with beautiful trophies and checks, and a room full of beaming supporters. President Morrow was there with Barbara, as were her husband, Library Director Tom Hewitt, SMCCCD Board President Karen Schwarz, and Ulysses Guadamuz, district president of CSEA. Here is how the BOG agenda described the award:

The *Classified Employee of the Year Award* was established through a resolution at the May 2008 Board of Governors meeting. The Award is to be given out annually starting in May 2009 to honor community college classified employees who demonstrate the highest level of commitment to professionalism and community colleges. Recipients are nominated by members of their college/district community and endorsed by their local Board of Trustees. Award recipients are selected by representatives of the Board of Governors for California Community Colleges, the Chancellor's Office, and the Foundation for California Community College and must have a record of outstanding performance of professional activities, as well as a record of active participation on campus and beyond. The *Classified Employee of the Year Award* is supported through a grant from the Foundation for California Community Colleges. Each recipient will receive a \$500 cash award and a commemorative plaque.

Here is a photo of Barbara (front row, fourth from the left) with the other four winners, BOG president Lance Izumi and the other members of the Board of Governors for the California Community Colleges.



Photo by Vicki Morrow

Automotive program's new Building 11 groundbreaking brings out a crowd

About 50 people participated in the groundbreaking ceremony for Building 11. It is slated to be completed by spring 2010. Trustee Dave Mandelkern thanked the voters for their support in passing the bond measure which made this building possible and Rick Escalambre recognized the faculty and staff who have worked hard to plan the new facility. Joining the group were former Skyline presidents Jim Wyatt and Linda Salter and many faculty and staff colleagues from Skyline, the district and beyond.



Photos by Caroline Ocampo and Kanjana Srisupatpongsa

Hermanos program wins Kent Award

Skyline's Hermanos program at South San Francisco High School has been selected to receive a Kent Award for 2009. The San Mateo County School Boards Association initiated the J. Russell Kent Award Program in the 1980-81 school year. The Kent Awards are designed to recognize and publicize outstanding programs that are being implemented in a school district, county office of education, or in the community college district in San Mateo County. The award is named after the past County Superintendent of Schools for San Mateo County, J. Russell Kent. The Hermanos program was created by the Latinos Unidos group at Skyline, including Pablo González, Jacquie Escobar, Félix Pérez, Kenny Gonzalez and Adolfo Leiva. Hermanos, which means "brothers" in Spanish, is a pilot program that addresses the academic, psychological and social needs of Latino males through academic support, mentoring, and family support. The goal of Hermanos is to work with male students to address issues of poor motivation, lack of academic skills, and college readiness; and to enroll these students in college upon high school graduation. In 2008-09, South San Francisco High School and Capuchino High School will offer a Hermanos Program. The program has been funded for three years by the President's Innovation Fund, and Hermanas was added to it in the current year. The coordinator for Hermanos/Hermanas is Daniel Tostado.

2009 Skyline College Classified Council Retreat has a basic skills focus

On April 30 and May 1, 20 classified staff members representing 18 different departments attended the first two days of the highly successful Classified Retreat at Burlingame’s Crowne Plaza. The retreat, designed to explore student challenges, identify resources, and enhance communication between students and staff, has so far featured a wide array of presenters and topics including Phyllis Taylor (On Course Board Game), Pablo González (Creating Inner Space for Maximum Effectiveness), Gerry Frasseti (Bullying in the Workplace: what you can [and can’t] do about it), Carla Campillo (Early Alert) and Elizabeth Llamas (Stress and Stress Management). The last half day of activities for this retreat were held on Friday, May 8, when Phyllis led the group through a Follow-up CSI (College Success Initiative) Exercise. The day concluded with William Watson presenting “Who do you Think You Are.” Those who attended the first two days included Michelle Amaral, Barbara Daley, Donna Elliott, Angelica Gorostiza, Sandra Hatzistratis, Linda Herda, Grace Kong, Nancy Lam, Barbara Lamson, Ellen Lee, Goldie Lee, Adolfo Leiva, Sylvia Martinez, Félix Pérez, Julene Rhoan, Nadia Tariq, Theresa Tentes, Minerva Velasquez, Chris Weidman, and Kennya Zepeda. Special thanks to the Retreat Organizing Task Force: Donna Elliot, Angelica Gorostiza, Linda Herda, Adolfo Leiva, Patty Mendoza, and Kennya Zepeda. This retreat was funded by a contribution from the CSI and the Classified Council in support of serving basic skills students.



Skyline wins two state wide awards

Skyline College received two third place Pro Awards at the CCPRO (Community College Public Relations Organization) statewide conference last week. The 2008/09 Catalog was judged for attractiveness of cover, readability, use and quality of photographs, logical placement and sequence of information, and overall impact. The President’s Breakfast video was judged for scripting, use and quality of video, use and quality of audio, interest-holding ability, creativity, and overall impact. The following people made it happen: for both awards, Sandy Irber, Shelly Hausman; for the catalog, Maria Norris, Theresa Tentes, Mike Bergstrom for graphic design, and Ika Simpson for typesetting; for the video, Bryan Kingston of KM2 Communications. Here are Sandy Irber and Shelly Hausman with the awards.



Photo by Candace Popper Amadei, Casey Printing

Skyline student wins Genentech scholarship

Claudia Briones has won the Genentech Scholars Award and Internship in the amount of \$7,500. Claudia is a first generation college student who is an active member of the MESA (Math, Engineering, Science Achievement program), SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers) and SACNAS (Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science) organizations at Skyline College. As an NIH (National Institute of Health) Scholar with mentor Christine Case, she has conducted and presented her research on antibacterial properties of native herbal medicine at various conferences and symposiums. As a biological engineering major, her future goal is to transfer and obtain a MD/PhD degree.

Skyline's new mural is now dedicated!

Here are a couple of great shots of the event on May 4, taken by Caroline Ocampo: the artists along with Gallery coordinator Paul Bridenbaugh and President Morrow, and the mural replica cake that was enjoyed at the event. The mural is a President's Innovation Fund project developed by Paul and executed by an enthusiastic group of students. The ceramic sculpture below is entitled "Octopus" and was created by student Ramses de Guzman. That evening also marked the opening of the Spring Student Art Show. Swing by and take a look at the excellent work by the students—it will be well worth your time. There are beautiful and intriguing works—paintings, photos, ceramics, sculpture and more. There is also a wonderful time lapse photo display of the creation of the mural which was the work of art student Juan M. Diaz. You can see it at this YouTube link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YzJdoJ2qTVA>.



Photos by Caroline Ocampo



2009 SKYLINE JURIED STUDENT ART EXHIBIT
GALLERY THEATRE APRIL 28 - MAY 14
RECEPTION: APRIL 28, 5:30-7:30 PM

Skyline recognized at the International Phi Theta Kappa convention

Beta Theta Omicron, Skyline's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society earned top honors for 2008. Chapter officers and members worked hard to develop and implement scholarship programs using the Honors Study Topic, Paradox of Affluence, and service programs consistent with the service topic, Keep America Beautiful. The chapter won the Scholarship Hallmark Award and the Service Hallmark Award. The chapter was one of only 10 chapters in the world to earn the Continuing Excellence Award, for being a Distinguished Chapter for three consecutive years. One other California chapter, from Butte College, earned the Continuing Excellence Award. The Distinguished Chapter award is given to the 25 chapters that earn the highest scores for their Leadership, Scholarship, and Service programs. Chapter awards are on display outside room 7106. Skyline students also won the USA Today Case Study Challenge, which involves developing a lesson plan that includes background information, implications for society, and study questions on a current event related to the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Study Topic. From June 2008 through February 2009, Skyline students Kelnia Moloney and Jessica Lau worked on the case study "Sustaining natural capital in an affluent society: will more become less." The case study won the USA Today challenge. Skyline students have won this national competition six out of seven

years. The chapter is indebted to the Skyline Librarians and Library Staff for their ongoing support for the case studies. Recent case studies are on the USA Today website at <http://www.usatoday.com/educate/college/student-home.htm>. All Skyline case studies can be read at http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/boo/case_study.html. Beta Theta Omicron president, Ashley Good, won the Distinguished Chapter President award. Pictured below in the first photo are Skyline students Derrick Hau, Mauricio Flores, Aiyman Hadi, and Jessica Lau holding the chapter's awards in Dallas, April 17-19. In the second photo, Jessica Lau accepts the Case Study Challenge Award.



Photos by Chris Case

PROGRAMS

Skyline staff member speaks at regional meeting

Skyline's EOPS/CARE and CalWORKs staff and students attended the 3rd Annual Region III CARE/CalWORKs Retreat on May 2 in Burlingame. This year's theme was "*Connect The Dots: The Power to Choose to Be All You Imagine*" and featured a former Skyline student speaker, Golda Gacutan, as the keynote. Ms. Gacutan is currently the administrative secretary to the Vice President of Student Services. Her personal story was inspirational and encouraged the participants to "be all you imagine." Here is Golda speaking. The group photo folks are, from left to right: Pablo Gonzalez, Angelica Castellanos (student), Yee Ying Chan (student), Javier Urena, Jan Gotera (student) and Jeff Acidera.



Photos by John Vehikite

Skyline Honors students share their research projects at Stanford University

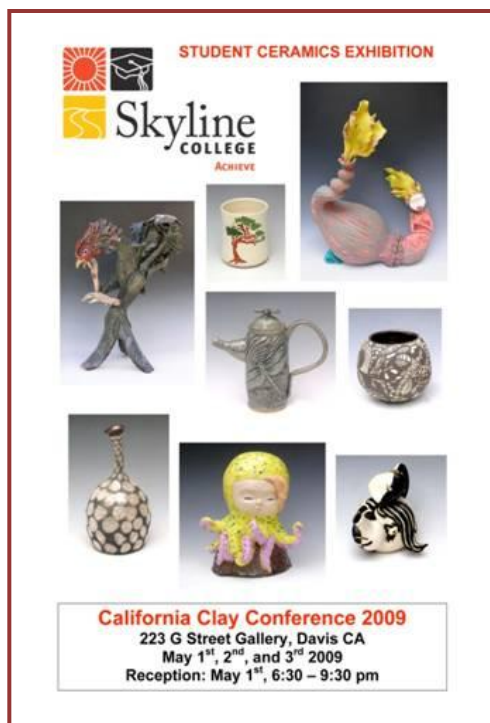
Eleven Skyline Honors Transfer Program students presented their original research projects at Stanford on April 17 at the Second Annual Community College Honors Research Symposium. All in all, more than 200 students and faculty members from 15 colleges, north and south, attended this year and listened to over 60 different presentations -- all by community college honors students! Faculty members Luciana Castro, Nina Floro, Stephen Fredricks and Karen Wong served as moderators. The following Skyline Honors students were selected to present their research:

- Claudia Briones - "Flowers & Weeds: The New Antibiotics; (Mentor: Chris Case)
- Omar Cubillos & Bruce Thompson - "Asexual Mussels and Hermaphroditic Fish"; (Mentor: Cindy Moss)
- Daniel Filous & Melba Madrigal - "The Last Option: An Investigation into the Stigma Associated with Attending a Community College"; (Mentor: Katharine Harer)
- Ashley Good - "Sweat Fetish: an investigation into the existence of human pheromones";
- Pamela Rios - "Tracing an Infectious Disease Outbreak in Saudi Arabia"; (Mentor: Chris Case)
- Mario Roque - "Effects of the Economic Downturn on Homeless Youth in SF"; (Mentor: Rosemary Bell)
- Leo Szeto, Jon Weiner & James Chan - "Creating a Robot Mouse with Electronic Sensory Analysis"

A selection of Skyline's presentations will be shown on the afternoon of Wednesday May 20. The time and room details will be announced soon.

Ceramics students participate in the California Clay Conference

Skyline College students participated for the first time in the annual California Clay Conference on May 1-3 in Davis. Skyline ceramics instructor Tiffany Schmierer organized the Skyline show. Skyline was one of 40 California colleges participating. The conference was hosted by the John Natsoulas Center for the Arts and featured professional ceramic demonstrations, lectures, and exhibitions. Student images (from left to right) include: Xiomara Quevedo, Stephanie Clemmons, Linda Fahey, Sheila Loggan, Jeff Richards, Victoria Vargas, Ramses De Guzman and Barbara Frauman.



Wells Fargo partners with Skyline’s Fashion Merchandising program and local Chambers in neighborhood renovation project

Thanks to a \$10,500 grant from Wells Fargo, Skyline College’s Fashion Merchandising students will be working on a Small Business Neighborhood Renovation Project, supervised by Professors Michael Murphy and Ally Nuschy. The college has partnered with the San Bruno and South San Francisco Chambers of Commerce and Renaissance/Start Up to identify and renovate five small businesses in the cities of San Bruno, South San Francisco, Redwood City and East Palo Alto. Each team will have a \$2,000 budget to design and implement improvements to each business storefront. In mid-May, Small Business Appreciation Month, a team of judges will visit each of the stores, and the winning team of students will be awarded \$500.

Health Fair popular at Skyline and Blood Drive held on May 5

On April 23, the Health Center hosted a Health Fair in the Cafeteria. Twenty-seven health-related businesses and organizations attended including our own Cosmetology and Respiratory Therapy departments. Students and faculty appreciated the event, and took full advantage of the opportunity to get a wealth of information about services that are available; have tests done for blood pressure, HIV, lung capacity; receive acupuncture treatment; get hand massages; and learn about smoke-free resources. A big “thank you” goes to Skyline’s nurse, Emily Risk, for coordinating this wonderful event, and to the Health Center staff—Jan Gersonde, Jan Lindsey, and Donna Elliott—for their support.



WIT luncheon recognizes student success

Wednesday marked the fourth annual Women in Transition (WIT) program luncheon and it was attended by dozens of current and former WIT students, along with Skyline faculty and staff. Program coordinator Lori Slicton was responsible for the event and she brought Skyline grad and former WIT student Akillah Wali back to speak to the WIT students. Here is an excerpt from Akillah’s remarks:

When I began taking classes at Skyline, I was 28, and had already endured an unsuccessful college attempt, abbreviated military service and divorce. “Failure” was something I knew all too well, and it was difficult for me to shake the feelings of inadequacy that I accumulated over the years. When I finally rediscovered my passion for education, I was still unable to fully enjoy the experience, as I was gripped with the fear that I had not learned from my mistakes, and that I was doomed to add another near-miss to my list of shortcomings. My expectations upon my return were filled with visions of being leagues older than my counterparts, and of being left to my own devices by faculty and staff. I thought that this was going to be yet another of those experiences where I would just have to close my eyes and hold on, hoping that the dizzying ride stopped moving before I lost my stomach. I was pleasantly surprised to find the staff in the counseling office were extremely accommodating and sympathetic – and that they were extremely willing to assist in whatever I needed – provided they knew that I was working harder than they were to ensure my success. The classrooms were more of the same. My tenacity and curiosity were welcomed, and the professors were always on hand to answer whatever questions arose, and it didn’t seem to matter whether the questions were course related or not – it was just a matter of never being afraid to ask a question and admitting that I didn’t understand or, more importantly, that I needed help. This experience gave me the confidence – and the ego boost required to transfer to Columbia University, where I would complete a BA in Sociology.

Akillah will enter a graduate program in public policy at the University of Minnesota in the fall.

CITD hosts REEM (Renewable Energy in Emerging Markets) conference

This week, Richard Soyombo, Executive Director of Skyline’s Center for International Trade Development (CITD) and his staff hosted the inaugural Renewable Energy in Emerging Markets (REEM) conference at the Hotel Nikko in San Francisco. More than 27 countries attended this unprecedented networking opportunity for renewable energy technology providers, investors, government officials, public implementers, media and renewable energy enthusiasts. The conference had the overwhelming support of luminaries from across the US, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. The distinguished Host Committee includes Speaker of the United States House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi, Senator Barbara Boxer, Congresswoman Jackie Speier, and Mayor Gavin Newsome among numerous other officials, leaders and experts. Emerging markets are particularly interesting for renewable energy producers because of the ability to leap frog technologies and infrastructure. While there is an immediate need to train the workforce, as indicated by the panelists, the need to expand markets is important to provide for sustainable employment in the long run. Industry representatives who presented at the conference included SunEdison, SunPower, PG&E and other. Among the results of the conference include at least three trips that have been planned by California-based renewable energy technology companies to travel to Honduras, Guatemala and Mozambique. The CITD has planned and had the pleasure to announce the location for REEM 2010, which will be hosted by the governments of Guatemala and Honduras. Here are a few photos that illustrate the thrusts of the conference: a cross section of conference attendees at a solar site visit; Richard Soyombo with World Bank executives,; Mike Williamson, Dean, Math, Science and Technology, Richard Soyombo and Jerome Ringo, CEO, Apollo Alliance; and Richard Soyombo, Jigar Shah, Founder/Former CEO, SunEdison, Timothy Simon, CA Public Utilities Commissioner, Jan Hamrin, CEO, HMV International, Jerome Ringo, CEO, Apollo Alliance, Karl Rabago, Executive Vice President, Austin Energy.



OUTREACH

PEP sessions are a bonus for prospective students and parents

On April 18, Skyline hosted its second Priority Enrollment Program (PEP) session to graduating high school seniors from high schools in the San Mateo County and San Francisco County school districts. The college was able to provide placement testing and orientation to 130 students. Parents were also given an orientation which included a viewing of this year's President's Innovation Fund video. They were very impressed with the many innovative programs and services that are provided at Skyline College. The energy and enthusiasm of the students was evident as many of them responded that "they cannot wait to start classes at Skyline College." Many faculty, staff, and students made this event possible. Jocelyn Vila and her student assistants, Grace Swint, Madeline Stark, and Yesenia Morales, did an exceptional job in preparing the necessary materials for the event. Thank you to the following staff and students who took time on a beautiful sunny day to help out with PEP: Minerva Velasquez, Loretta Davis, Andy Davis, Nadia Tariq, Janelle Tillotson (Counseling Intern), Goldie Lee, and Lillian Hamilton. Even parents graciously helped out with serving lunch. Thank you to Kenny Gonzalez and Nate Nevado for providing leadership for PEP.

Skyline hosts students from Serramonte Del Rey

In an effort to continue activities to reach out to non-traditional educational institutions, the EOPS program hosted more than 60 adult learners from Serramonte Del Rey in Daly City. All students were from the English as a Second Language (ESL) program, most of whom had never visited Skyline College. The visits were scheduled during a two-day span of day and evening sessions. Students were offered information on how to enroll in college, the types of programs available and the variety of student's services that Skyline College offers. Students also had the opportunity to meet with former Serramonte Del Rey students, who are now attending Skyline. Finally, students were treated to a campus tour in which they visited vocational programs such as Automotive Technology and Cosmetology. The feedback from the students and staff that visited Skyline has been very positive. Several of them mentioned how comfortable they were made to feel by staff and students alike. Several would like their children to attend Skyline College, while others expressed their desire to enroll at Skyline College in the near future. A special thanks to Jocelyn Vila and Nate Nevado for providing valuable information to the groups, and to Ambassadors, Nikita Lefiti and Meylin Benavides for helping with the tours.



Photo by Pablo Gonzalez.

Annual “Skyline Day” at Serramonte

Skyline College, in partnership with Serramonte Center, hosted the annual “Skyline Day” event from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 18. There was a variety of informational tables staffed by many faculty, staff and students throughout the mall. The highlight of the day was a Fashion Show presented by Skyline’s Fashion and Cosmetology Departments. Models in the Fashion Show were current Skyline College students. There were also special dance performances by the Kababayan Dance Troupe; as always, the Kababayan Dance Troupe’s performances were vibrant, colorful, energetic and beautiful. The programs and services that participated were Admissions & Records, Counseling Division, Financial Aid Office, EOPS, Transfer and Career Center, CAOT, Cosmetology, Early Childhood Education, Emergency Medical Technician, ESOL/Foreign Languages, Fashion Department, Kababayan Program, Puente, Respiratory Therapy, Surgical Technology and Central Services and The Learning Center. The organizers were Nate Nevado and Jocelyn Vila. Here are some photos from the event:



Photos by Jocelyn Vila and Felix Perez

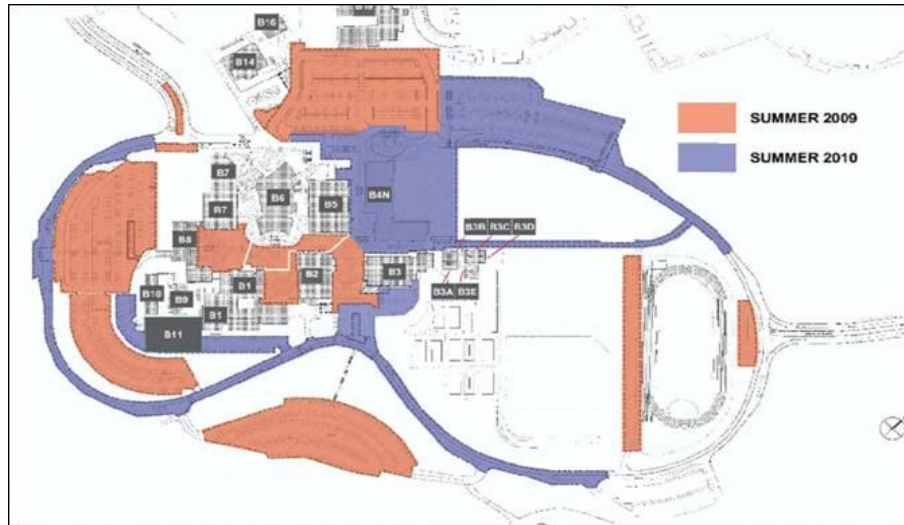
BioBus Tour brings Carlmont High School students to Skyline

On April 29, 24 Carlmont High School students, along with their instructors, Dan Raffa and Dr. Tina Doss, participated in a day-long BioBus experience. Activities began with a State of the Biotechnology Workshop and continued with an Outreach Presentation by Jocelyn Vila, Patty Mendoza, and Nate Nevado. Students were informed about financial aid, Priority Enrollment for High School Seniors (PEP) and general information about Skyline College’s programs and services. After lunch, the tour concluded with a “hands-on” experiment led by Dr. Melissa Michelitsch on creating a kaleidoscope with column chromatography. The same methods are used in the Biotechnology industry to purify drugs by removing contaminants. Coordinated by Adolfo Leiva, the activity is part of a grant managed by Skyline College’s Center for Workforce Development and funded by the Chancellors Office California Community Colleges, to enhance Career and Technical Education connections between high schools and colleges. Special thanks to Dr. Nick Kapp, Dean Michael Williamson and the Biology 415 students for assisting with the BioBus experience.

PLANNING

Open Forum on Landscaping, Parking and Sitework

On April 23, Skyline held an Open Forum that focused upon the work which will begin this summer, and it included an overview of the site plan for the campus, the landscaping plan, the parking plan, the construction logistics plan and there was time for comments, questions and answers along the way. Representatives from Hensel Phelps Construction Company, Gates and Associates Landscape Architects, Swinerton Management Company and the district Construction Planning Department provided the details in each of these areas. Here is an overview of what will be taking place this summer and next summer. The demolition work will be conducted during these periods, and the planting of new vegetation will take place during fall 2009.



The detailed PowerPoint presentation used in the Forum was posted on the President's Office website at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/PresidentsOffice/index.html>. There are nice color depictions of how the landscaping will look both at the beginning, and then about seven years later when the plants are more mature. There are also photos of the plants and shrubs that will be used, as well as the criteria used in selecting them. When the parking lots are renovated, there will be an increase of about 300 spaces. A slide describing the distribution of the various types of parking—student, staff, visitors, handicapped and others is shown. Finally, there is information on construction logistics and the timing for this work. Here are a couple of samples of the central quad.



EVENTS

Budget Open Forum, May 14, Main Theatre

Skyline's College Budget Committee will hold an Open Forum on the Budget on **Thursday, May 14 from 2:10-4:00 p.m. in the Skyline College Main Theatre**. The forum will provide a clear picture of where the college stands in terms of the college budget as the term ends and planning begins for next year. There will be an update on the college's projected revenues and expenditures for next year, the deficit the college is facing for the next three years, the college strategies being utilized to address the deficit and the district level options being considered. The college will be engaged in work on the budget over the summer, so the timing of this forum is critical. Some key district staff will be in attendance, including Jim Keller, Executive Vice Chancellor and Kathy Blackwood, Chief Financial Officer.

Skyline College Commencement, May 29

Skyline College will hold its commencement ceremony beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Building 3 Gymnasium. Following the ceremony, the graduates, families, faculty and staff are invited to enjoy cake in the Building 6 Student and Community Ceremony.