



Victoria P. Morrow, President

November 16, 2007

President's Report to the Board of Trustees

You can see the report I gave to the Board last Tuesday night at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skynotes/>.

Concurrent Enrollment Night draws high school students and parents to Skyline

On November 7, over 150 students and their parents attended an informational session about the Concurrent Enrollment Program. Kenny Gonzalez and Sherri Hancock provided an overview on how high school students can get an "early start" on their college experience while still enrolled in high school. The students and parents who attended were highly engaged and asked a lot of questions. This event is just one of the ways in which Skyline is working with high school students to facilitate a seamless transition into higher education. Special thanks to Kenny Gonzalez, Sherri Hancock, Rick Wallace, Sue Lorenzo, Minerva Velasquez, and Patty Mendoza for organizing the event.

Holiday Job Fair brings employers to Skyline

The Career Center hosted the Holiday Job Fair 2007 on Wednesday, November 7th in the Student Center. The Holiday Job Fair provided local industry representatives, Skyline students and faculty an opportunity to share information and become more familiar with existing employment and training opportunities in our community. The fair attracted 30 Bay Area companies and over 60 employment representatives. In addition to gaining information, students were recruited for available part-time and full-time employment. Special thanks to Career Center's Coordinator Virginia Padron for providing overall leadership for this event, supported by Goldie Lee, Andy Davis, Gunilla Harshman, Blake Respini, Patti Mendoza, Jackie Escobar, Nate Nevado, all from Counseling; Adolfo Leiva, from the Workforce Development Center; and Jose Perez and Kamla Bucceri from Media, as well as an amazing student crew including: Nyo Hla, Shana Ho, Dina Puente, Luis Hermanos, and Lori Betioco.

Nina Jablonski lecture fills the Theater to capacity

Dr. Nina Jablonski's lecture was everything we hoped, and the Theater was jam-packed. Thanks to the President's Innovation Fund for the resources and to Common Ground. Here are the folks helped make it run so well: Bridget Fischer, Mary Anne Leary, Jennifer Merrill, Lori Slicton, Priscilla Schwartz, Phyllis Taylor, Roxanne Brewer, Shelly Hausman, Sandy Irber, Rich Tidd, Barbara Daley. The hardworking ushers who worked hard to get the huge crowd seated were Brenda Smith, Connie Spearing, Stephanie Nale, Jen McDaniel, and Melody Pilotte. If you missed the lecture, it was videotaped and will soon be archived on the district's iTunesU website at <http://www.smccd.edu/itunesu/> for Skyline.

Lori Slicton, who invited Dr. Jablonski, was unable to attend the event herself because she was at home awaiting the imminent birth of her baby. She and George Buckingham are now thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Carmen Olivia Malaika Slicton Buckingham on Monday, November 12th. Carmen weighed in at 9.5 lbs and is 21 3/4 inches long. All are doing well. Please join me in congratulating them all! At least Lori will ultimately be able to see the lecture via podcast.



Photos by Shelly Hausman

Skyline basketball player named Northern California Player of the Week

Skyline point guard, Bryan Ngo, was named Northern California Player of the Week for November 4-10. Bryan led the Trojans to a 3-1 record and the consolation championship at the San Jose City College Tip-off Tournament. Over the first four games of the season Bryan is averaging 21 points, 4 rebounds, and 4 assists per game. Bryan also hit a game-winning shot at the buzzer in Skyline's victory over Monterey Peninsula College on Sunday. The Trojans host San Jose City College in its home opener Saturday, November 17th at 3pm.

Student Art Exhibition is coming

This fall's Student Art Exhibition is entitled "Visions: Seen and Unseen." The exhibit will include photography, ceramics and sculpture. The opening reception for the artists will be on November 28 at 6 pm in the Gallery Theater. The exhibit runs from November 20-December 7.



PTK uses November 9 for civic engagement

On November 9th, our Phi Theta Kappans used their holiday to volunteer in the community. They taught third graders at Sunset Ridge Elementary School about recycling. The children are showing the terrariums they made from plastic water bottles. Pictured are, in the back row, from left: Elizabeth Parr, Anna Dneprov, Anastasia Kuzina, Richard Chiang. In the front row center with the kids is Duncan Girvan.



Photo by the Sunset Ridge teacher, Missy Zywojtko

Other 49ers events continue

Skyline's speaker series titled "The Other 49ers: Untold Stories from the California Gold Rush" this fall is a free series of programs is funded by the college's President's Innovation Fund. Here are the remaining two events:

New date *Wednesday, Dec. 5, Noon:** "Women of the Gold Rush." Author Ruthanne Lum McCunn will read passages from *Thousand Pieces of Gold* and speak about the role of women in the Gold Rush and beyond, as well as about Chinese immigration to California. The talk will be accompanied by a visual presentation of the Chinese in early California. A book signing in the lobby will conclude the program.



Monday, November 26, 11 a.m.: Skyline professors Dr. George Wright and Dr. Masao Suzuki will discuss the impact of the Gold Rush on African Americans, Latinos and Chinese. Dr. Wright will speak on “African Americans, Slavery and the Gold Rush” and Dr. Suzuki will describe “The Foreign Miner’s Tax: Anti-Latino and Anti-Chinese Legislation”.



For information, see www.SkylineCollege.edu or call (650) 738-4311.

College Budget Committee (CBC) update

The CBC met on November 8 and discussed these topics:

1. **Retiree health benefits and categoricals:** Kathy Blackwood reviewed a PowerPoint on GASB 45 and OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) to explain the need to recognize the district’s liability for future benefit payments to current and future retirees. Currently Fund 1 carries the total retirement benefit costs. Since Federal rules say that retirement benefits can only be charged to federal grants if it is charged the same way across the district, Kathy is proposing to charge all funds approximately 4% to cover the current cost for all regular employees. During the phase in period, Fund 1 will give subsidies to grants and categoricals to cover these unbudgeted costs. CBC shared concerns and made recommendations on how to address this need without further causing a strain on these programs.
2. **Budget balancing scenarios and hiring plans:** The committee had a lively exchange of ideas around the budget balancing strategies. Kathy explained the impact of collection efforts of delinquent student fees on the bad debt allowance. Eloisa changed the load assumption on the scenarios presented at the last CBC. These show slightly lower deficits from the current year to 2009-2010. Based on these projections, it does not seem feasible to make any hires next year.

The option of a hiring freeze (hard or soft) was discussed. While recognizing the amounts of the estimated deficits, some members expressed concern that programs suffer and existing faculty will burn out if no new faculty are hired. CBC members were requested to submit new strategies that will help reduce the deficit. Before a recommendation to the President can be developed, Eloisa was requested to run scenarios assuming 1 to 5 new faculty and 1 classified are hired next year. The next meeting is scheduled on Nov. 29, 2007.

Institutional Planning Committee (IPC) update

The IPC met on Wednesday, Nov. 14th from 2:00-3:15 for their monthly meeting. The following topics were discussed:

1. **Research protocol:** Michael Moynihan, professor of Psychology and Chair of the Academic Senate Research Council shared with the IPC the new College Research Protocol. The Protocol provides a systematic way in which the college can respond to external research requests. The Academic Senate will review the Protocol and decide on approval this Friday.
2. **Institutional SLOs:** Karen Wong, professor of English and Chair of the SLOAC Committee shared with the IPC the newly adopted institutional SLOs and their connection to the college, vision, mission and values statements.
3. **Student survey for spring:** Cathy Hasson shared with the IPC the survey plan for implementing the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) in the spring 2008.

Next edition of *Skyline Shines*

The next edition will be published after the Thanksgiving holiday, on Friday, November 30.

Coming Up ...

Friday, Nov. 16

- Wrestling vs. San Jose State at Skyline, 7 p.m.
- Women's Basketball at Hartnell, 5:30 p.m.
- LD Specialist Regional III Conference
- Food Drive sponsored by ASSC through Nov. 21.

Saturday, Nov. 17

- Men's Basketball vs. San Jose City at Skyline, 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 20

- Last Day to Withdraw from semester length class
- Visions Seen & Unseen: Exhibit Opens, Through Dec. 7, Gallery Theatre

Wednesday, Nov. 21

- Declared recess for evening classes only
- Men's Basketball at Merritt College, 4 p.m.

Thursday Nov. 22 through Sunday, Nov. 25

- Thanksgiving holiday/declared recess

You can see the event calendar at www.smccd.net/accounts/skypio/calendar.html

To add events to the calendar, visit www.smccd.net/accounts/skypio/events.html

Do you have an item for *Skyline Shines*?

If you do, just email me about it. Thanks.

Do you have a suggestion?

You may want to try our new e-Suggestion Box, via the hyperlink in the box below, or on the front page of our website at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/>.



For state level information on community colleges, see these websites:

- The Chancellor's Office in Sacramento: <http://www.cccco.edu/>
- The Community College League of California: <http://www.ccleague.org/>
- The Research and Planning Group: <http://www.rpgroup.org/>

Skyline Shines is archived at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skynotes/>.

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