



Victoria P. Morrow, President

September 4, 2009

Aftermath of the shooting incident on campus this Wednesday

As you know from my emails and the news media, the police believe that the 1:30 pm shooting on campus Wednesday afternoon resulted from a confrontation between two groups and that this was not a random incident (that is, the people involved knew each other and the shooting was connected to their relationship, not to the college). One individual was sent to the hospital with a non-life threatening gunshot wound, and later released.

The campus quickly went into lockdown in order to protect the safety of our students and staff, and the police went through the building-by-building process of clearing the offices and classrooms and escorting people off campus. During that process there was still a great deal unknown about exactly what we were dealing with, and so the police had to assume the worst case and be extremely disciplined and directive and were, at the same time, looking for additional suspects.. We utilized a number of means to communicate with everyone: our public address system, emergency text messaging, emails to students and staff, and messages on the front page of our website.

Our Emergency Response Plan stood us in good stead, as did the two live drills we have conducted in recent years. Those experiences strengthened our ability to deal with both the complexity and the uncertainty of the situation we faced on Wednesday. I want to give a hearty thanks to the faculty, staff and students of Skyline, as well as district staff who have been assisting us, all of whom responded with calmness and professionalism in the face of our crisis, readily stepping up to help as needed. San Bruno Police Department was on campus within a few minutes of the shooting and quickly assumed command of the incident. They were assisted by police from 19 agencies, along with our own Public Safety officers from across the district. There were ultimately over 65 officers on campus assisting with management of the crisis. The police were able to evacuate everyone safely and there were no further injuries after the initial incident. I am grateful to all of the officers from the many jurisdictions for their swift and professional handling of it all. You may have seen news indicating that several arrests have been made. The investigation is continuing and there are other suspects being sought. The San Bruno Police Department and our district wide Public Safety departments will be helping to raise the visibility of officers on campus in the coming days.

Here are a few key points of information about what will be happening on campus today, and next week, in relation to this incident:

- There will be additional **police and Public Safety presence** on campus today and next week, and with additional escort service to the parking lots in the evenings next week. We will notify students about this via email and our website.
- Beginning today, we have expanded **counseling services** available for students. We are notifying students of this service via email and our website and, with faculty help, announcements in classes. Counselors will also be walking about and available to visit classes. If you would like them to do that, call the Counseling division at 738-4270 or the Health Center at 738-4318.

- Claremont **Employee Assistance Program (EAP)** offers free and confidential counseling services to all permanent employees of the District. If you would like to speak to a counselor, you can make an appointment by calling (800) 834-3773. Counselors are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- If you are not currently on the **emergency text messaging system**, you can readily sign up by logging on to WebSMART and looking under Employee Services where it says “Emergency Text Message Contact Information.” There are 9,375 Skyline people who are already signed up (8979 students and 396 staff—the great majority in both groups). Most, but not all, of those people received our text messages in a timely way, and the district is moving immediately to a different service which is expected to ensure speedy delivery.

We have begun debriefing on the incident so that we can learn from it. Many things went very well; at the same time some did not and we want to identify those so that we can make improvements. If you have thoughts about that, please feel free to email me directly. We are also going to hold a college-wide **Debriefing Forum next Tuesday, September 8, from 2:10-4:00 pm in the Theater**. Chief Telford of the San Bruno Police Department will be with us for the Forum. It will be an opportunity for **students, faculty and staff** to get an information update, ask questions and provide feedback on how our handling of the incident went. Please help us get the word to students. We will be notifying them in a variety of other ways too.

Now, have there been other things going on at Skyline? You bet! Read on...

Two Skyline people win statewide awards

Both Karen Wong, Professor of English and Skyline’s SLOAC Coordinator, and Rob Johnstone, Dean of Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness, were selected for statewide awards by the ASCCC/RP (Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges/Research and Planning Group) Collaborative on SLO Assessment. Karen will receive the POWER Award (Promising Outcomes Work and Exemplary Research Awards) in the category of SLO Coordinator of the Year. Rob Johnstone will receive the award in the category of Best Researcher-Teacher. In informing the winners of this award, the committee said, “This prestigious award recognizes the hard work you have done to increase faculty and researcher understanding of student success and improve educational practices.” The awards will be given at the Student Success Conference in San Francisco in October. Please join me in congratulating both of them on this richly deserved recognition!



Photos by Caroline Ocampo

College Hour begins this fall

Last year the College Council established a new College Hour policy. Effective fall 2009, College Hour was established on Wednesday, from 2:00-3:30 pm. There is a limited number of classes meeting at that time. The Council considers this to be an experiment and will assess it at the end of the year.

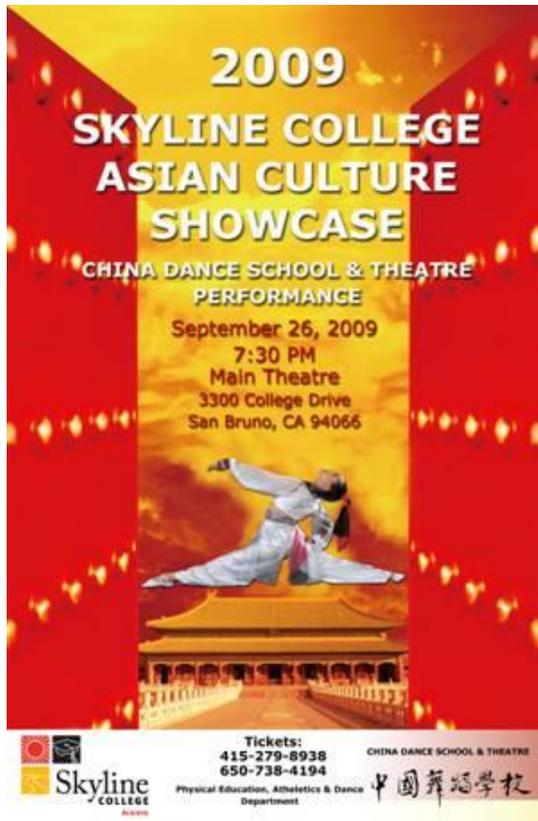
Former Skyline student studies medicine in Cuba

Wednesday, August 26th the ASTEP Learning Community sponsored a presentation by former Skyline student and current medical school student, Pasha Jackson. Pasha is enrolled in the tuition free program for medical students from the US in Cuba. He offered insightful, humorous and helpful information to the 130 very interested students who attended that were inspired about moving forward with their education. Here is Pasha, in the second row on the far left, with his fellow medical students.



China Dance School returns to Skyline with a display of traditional dance

The China Dance School will be at Skyline for the second year in a row with their dramatic and beautiful program of traditional Chinese dance and exquisite costumes. If you are interested in tickets for the September 26 performance, please call 415-279-8938 or 650-738-4194.



Coming up...

Friday, September , 2009

- Women's Soccer vs. Foothill College, Foothill College, 3:30 pm

Saturday – Sunday, September 5 & 6

- Declared Recess

Monday, September 7

- Labor Day Holiday

Tuesday, September 8

- Census Day
- **Debriefing Forum, Theater, 2:10 pm—students, faculty and staff are all invited**
- Women's Soccer vs. Modesto Jr. College, Skyline, 2:30 pm

Thursday, September 10

- Opening Reception for Technopia Art Exhibit, Gallery, 5:30 – 8:00 pm
- Women's Soccer vs. West Hills, Skyline

Friday, September 11

- Last Day to drop semester length classes without appearing on record

Do you have a suggestion?

One way to submit it is through our general **e-Suggestion Box**, via the hyperlink in the box below, or via the same box on the front page of our website at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/general/surveys/index.html>



Here is the **Website Redesign Project e-Suggestion Box**, for feedback on the new website,



For suggestions specific to the **budget**, here is the link:



And for ideas about Skyline's **40th Anniversary** celebration next year, here is the link:



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/facstaff/PresidentsOffice/skyshines/>

Victoria P. Morrow, Ph.D.
President

Skyline College

3300 College Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066
650-738-4111

www.SkylineCollege.edu
morrowv@smccd.edu

