



## President's Report to the Board of Trustees

**Victoria P. Morrow, Ph.D.**  
**December 12, 2007**

### **SKYLINE SHINES**

#### **Basic Skills Initiative reaches a critical benchmark**

Thanks to the excellent leadership of Skyline's co-coordinators, Rachel Bell, Jacquie Escobar and Rick Hough, the college's Basic Skills Initiative took a giant step toward identifying the specifics of the plan to strengthen the college's approach to developmental education. They are leading the effort, and they designed a terrific approach that brings in expertise from all across the college. About 75 people have been involved so far, and they developed about 155 ideas for ways to improve what Skyline does in terms of curriculum, counseling approaches, services and more. On December 3, 50 of those people met for 4 hours to cull through the ideas and identify the highest priorities. New state funding targeted for basic skills will help Skyline implement these ideas. Skyline wishes to thank the many people who have been involved working with Rachel, Jacquie and Rick: Jeff Acidera, Lori Adrian, AJ Bates, Connie Beringer, Don Biederman, Donna Bestock, Kate Browne, Carla Campillo, Amory Cariadus, John Chavez, Nohel Corral, Andy Davis, Pat Deamer, Tim Dupree, Liza Erpelo, Maria Escobar, Kathleen Feinblum, Murrell Green, Kathy Fitzpatrick, Greg Fraunfelder, Steven Fredericks, Jon Freedman, Elaine Francisco, Stanlee Garriott, Pablo Gonzalez, Katharine Harer, Cathy Hasson, David Hasson, Shelly Hausman, Imelda Hermosillo, Fermin Irigoyan, Nancy Kaplan-Biegel, Melissa Komadina, Lucia Lachmayr, Chuck Leach, Joyce Lee, Betty Lindgren-Young, John Mc Daniels, Margie Meadows, Jennifer Merrill, Joe Morello, Regina Morrison, Vicki Morrow, Mike Moynihan, Nate Nevado, Garry Nicol, Vanson Nguyen, Virginia Padron, Manny Peix, Felix Perez, Tiffany Reardon, Christine Roumbanis, Leslie Shelton, Leigh Anne Sippel, Regina Stanback-Stroud, Arthur Takayama, Phyllis Taylor, Theresa Tentes, Dina Valdelomar, Linda Van Sciver, Linda Vogel, Rick Wallace, William Watson, Jeff Westfall, Mike Williamson, Dennis Wolbers, James Wong, Karen Wong, George Wright, Jennifer Yen, and Soodi Zamani. The Basic Skills Steering committee will work further to develop the draft plan and recommend it to the president for submission to the state chancellor's office.



*Basic Skills co-coordinators Rachel Bell, Rick Hough and Jacquie Escobar.*

### **ASSC Food Drive a success**

The Associated Students of Skyline College (ASSC) conducted a food drive for the Second Harvest Food Bank of San Mateo County on Wednesday, November 21. Clubs competed for a \$500 grant from the ASSC. The goal was to collect the most items to donate to the food bank. A total of 918 pounds of food was collected and an additional \$495 was donated to Second Harvest. The Photography club was awarded the \$500 grant, MESA/SHPE received \$250 for second place and Honors Transfer Club received \$125 for third place.



*ASSC members at the food drive are from left to right (seated) Bob Alberts, Anastasia Kuzina, and Wendy Smith,, and (standing) Raydan Al-hubaihy and Vanessa Allas.*

### **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 averaged 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.

### **Skyline artists shine at Visions Seen & Unseen Student Art exhibit**

The of this fall's student art exhibition, including photography, ceramics and sculpture was very successful. It was juried and curated by Skyline photography instructor Arthur Takayama. The exhibition was sponsored by the ASSC and hosted by the Skyline Photography Club.



*Photo courtesy of Virginia Medrano Rosales.*

### **Skyline women's basketball wins tournament**

The Skyline women's basketball team won the Merritt Tournament beating Lassen College 76-68, Napa Valley College 80-59 and Butte College 66-54. This tournament victory is the first in the history of Skyline's women's basketball program. Lassen was rated 8th in Northern California and the victory was Skyline's first against a ranked opponent. The team is 10-2 and plays against Santa Rosa Junior College on Friday, December 14th at Skyline at 6:00 p.m. The team is coached by Tricia Hosley.



### **Skyline faculty member's book is published**

Skyline adjunct faculty Jessica "J.L." Powers, recently published her first book, a fiction work for teens called *The Confessional*. Ms. Powers teaches English 110 (Composition, Literature and Critical Thinking) and will be teaching Skyline's first English 110 online courses in the spring.

### **Skyline offers workshops at the Community College League of California (CCLC) Annual Convention**

Skyline was well represented at the annual meeting of the CCLC in mid-November. The League included three Skyline presentations on its program, with these people and topics:

- "A Framework for the SLO and Assessment Cycle": Karen Wong, Christine Roumbanis and Cathy Hasson shared Skyline's excellent work in this area.
- "Ensuring Student Success in the First Year: The Foundations of Excellence Model": Vicki Morrow joined a group of the leaders of our First Year Experience (FYE) project in this workshop—Lori Adrian, Cathy Hasson, Jacquie Escobar and Lucia Lachmayr. The other two leaders of the FYE project are Regina Stanback-Stroud and Rachel Bell.
- "Maximizing Enrollment: Attendance Accounting 101": Sherry Hancock joined colleagues from the statewide association of registrars and admissions officers in this workshop.

## **PROGRAM AND SERVICES NEWS**

### **Holiday Job Fair brings employers to Skyline**

The Career Center hosted the Holiday Job Fair 2007 on Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> 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 Main Theater to capacity**

Dr. Nina Jablonski's lecture entitled "Living in Our Skin: the Biological and Social Meaning of Skin Color" was everything that Skyline hoped and the theatre was jam-packed. Thanks to the President's Innovation Fund for the resources and to Common Ground. The lecture was videotaped and archived on the district's iTunesU website at <http://www.smccd.edu/itunesu/> for Skyline. Click on "Take me to SMCCCD on iTunes U" and scroll down to the Skyline College section and select "Skyline Events."



*Nina Jablonski presented to a packed Main Theatre. (Photos by Shelly Hausman.)*



The following people 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.

### **Community mentors meet with Puente students**

Puente students had a picnic in November to meet their new mentors. Mentors went through a special Puente Mentor training the Wednesday before the picnic.

Our mentors met their mentees, played some "get to know you" ice-breaker type games and enjoyed pizza and basketball in the gym. Many thanks to all the mentors, especially faculty members Jacquie Escobar, Felix Perez, Hilda Fernandez, Pablo



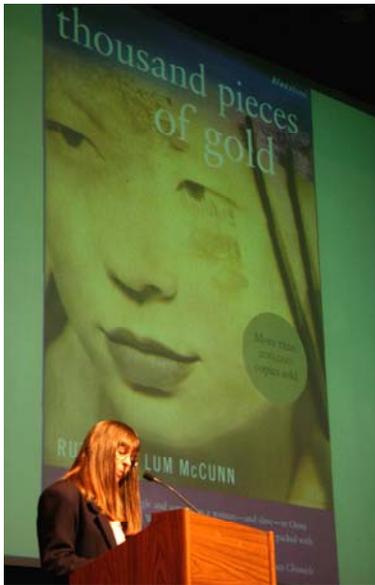
Gonzalez and Kathleen Azevedo-Feinblum, who contributed their time and energy to make this a successful event. Special thanks to Skyline's Puente Counselor, Luis Escobar, for recruiting a wonderfully vast array of community members to mentor students.

### Skyline's "Other 49ers" series

Thanks to a group of Library faculty and staff, Skyline has been enjoying a tremendous series of lectures and performances concerning the many different groups who were part of California's Gold Rush history. This President's Innovation Fund project was created by Barbara Daley, Eric Brenner, Dennis Wolbers, Carol Driscoll and Tom Hewitt. On November 26, Skyline instructors George Wright and Masao Suzuki



Masao Suzuki and George Wright (in miner's garb fielded questions from the audience. (Photo courtesy of Shelly Hausman)



Ruthanne Lum McCunn. (Photo courtesy of Virginia Medrano Rosales.)

spoke about the roles of African Americans, Chinese, and Latinos in the Main Theatre.

The series concluded on December 5 with a presentation by Ruthanne Lum McCunn, author of "Thousand Pieces of Gold." Her topic addressed the subject of the women of the Gold Rush. The Other 49ers was a rich and fascinating series that will long be remembered. The presentations were consistently well-attended by students who had a memorable educational experience of excellent speakers and performers and opportunities for getting answers to their very sophisticated and penetrating questions.

### Skyline participates in the Great American Smoke Out

The Skyline Health Center and Respiratory Therapy (RT) Program collaboratively conducted their annual Great American Smoke Out event on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Nurse Jan Gersonde and Health Center Assistant Donna Elliott distributed literature on the effects of smoking and smoking cessation support. Respiratory therapy students conducted mini pulmonary function screenings which included respiratory rate, heart rate, blood pressure and oxygen



Skyline student Anna Dneprov (left) gets a pulmonary screening from Respiratory Therapy Program student Josephine Valdes. (Photo courtesy of Shelly Hausman)

saturation measurements. They also conducted peak expiratory flow rate maneuvers which help identify signs of obstructive lung disease, most often caused by smoking. RT students were able to practice their skills and conduct these pulmonary screenings on over 120 Skyline community members.

### **Skyline students shine at PTK Induction**

With friends and family in attendance, 56 Skyline students and 36 Cañada students were inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society for the Fall 2007 semester. On November 16, Skyline's PTK Chapter, Beta Theta Omicron, hosted the induction ceremony for new members of Phi Theta Kappa from Skyline and Cañada Colleges. It is the tradition of the two college's chapters that Beta Theta Omicron hosts the Fall Induction and Cañada's Beta Zeta Nu hosts the Spring induction. San Mateo County Supervisor Mark Church commended the members on their academic achievement and their commitment to service. Everyone enjoyed and appreciated his talk on leadership and civic engagement.



*Supervisor Mark Church (second from right) is pictured with the new Skyline Phi Theta Kappans.*

### **Skyline College's Associated Students hosts a national student leadership conference**

Skyline College was the venue for the National Association of Student Clubs and Organizations's (NASCO) second annual conference on November 16-18. In addition to more than 60 students from various community college systems and four-year universities across the United States, members of the Associated Students of Skyline College (ASSC) and the Skyline Organization and Club Council (SOCC) attended the conference. Chancellor



*Photo by Virginia Medrano Rosales*

Ron Galatolo, who was introduced by ASSC President Lauren Hernandez, served as the opening keynote speaker. The conference focused on the critical role of student clubs and organizations in enriching the college experience of students. Conference workshops included leadership development, diversity, communication, liability, marketing, club structures, campus collaboration, funding

structures, conflict resolution, campus conferences and training. Kevin Chak, Skyline College Bookstore manager presented on the District's book rental program. Special thanks to Amory Cariadus, Coordinator of Student Activities, for facilitating local arrangements in collaboration with ASSC.

### **Congratulations to the North San Mateo County Leadership Forum Class of 2007**

Twenty one graduates celebrated completion of the North San Mateo County Leadership (NSMCLF) Forum in banquet ceremonies held November 28. The twelve week leadership development program is coordinated by the Colma-Daly City Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with Chambers of Commerce from Brisbane, Half Moon Bay, Millbrae, Pacifica, San Bruno and South San Francisco. NSMCLF provides students with the opportunity for interaction with experts and decision makers throughout the county to learn key operations of industry, government, education and community based organizations. The class is offered for credit through the Business Division at Skyline. Several community leaders attended the event in support of the graduates including Adrienne Tissier, San Mateo County Supervisor; Gina Papan, Millbrae City Council Member; Mario C. Panoringan, CEO - Daly City-Colma Chamber of Commerce; Georgette Sarles, President - Daly City-Colma Chamber of Commerce; C.R. "Larry" Formalejo, Vice Mayor, Colma; Helen Fisicaro, Colma Council Member; Joanne F. del Rosario, Colma Council Member. Key Program Coordinators from the Colma-Daly City Chamber include Greg Cochran, John Hui, and Adrienne Gonzalez.



*The North San Mateo County Leadership Forum Class of 2007 pictured with community leaders*

## **MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS**

### **What becomes of e-Suggestion Box submissions?**

This fall semester was the first time that Skyline has used an electronic Suggestion Box open to students, employees and the community. The E-Suggestion Box is posted on the college's homepage and provides an on-going way in which to communicate valuable suggestions to college administrators. There have been 149 interested visitors to the E-Suggestion Box and 30 who made suggestions. Of those who made suggestions, 31% were from faculty, 38% were from students, 17% were from classified staff, 3% were from administrators and 11% preferred not to respond. Many of the suggestions were consistent with feedback received from students and employees over the past two years via focus groups and surveys (i.e., Campus Climate Survey, Employee Voice Survey, and the Marketing and Communication Focus Group Study). The suggestions fell into seven broad categories including, Campus

Safety, the College Website, Facilities Maintenance, Facility Needs, Signage, Service Quality and Communication. Here is what became of them all:

- Suggestions that were made about the need for improved signage including inside the Student and Community Center, at Pacific Heights, on Building 5 and the slogan on the front of Building 6, as well as the need for expanded facilities (e.g., parking) will be addressed through the college's Capital Improvement Program.
- Suggestions that were made about the need to improve the college's website are being addressed with the Fresh Look Project major website redesign slated for Spring 2008.
- Suggestions made regarding the facility maintenance including the cleanliness of the cafeteria/student lounge area, the building windows have been referred to the Facilities Office. The Facilities Office also addresses concerns and requests in an ongoing way through their Facilities Help Center which may be accessed on-line at: <http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/portal/>
- Finally, suggestions for improving our service and communication to students including services and facilities available during evening class hours, redoing the outgoing messages on college telephone system so that they are clearer, and provide more information about college activities and events via e-newsletters and electronic calendars are being considered through the Fresh Look Project and by the President's Cabinet.

## **PLANNING AND RESEARCH**

### **Survey of Student Engagement to be conducted in the Spring Semester**

This semester the Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Cycle (SLOAC) Committee along with the Basic Skills Initiative Committee identified the need for a student survey to help assess student and institutional learning outcomes. The two Committees selected the *Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE)*, which is a nationally benchmarked survey developed and managed by the University of Texas at Austin under the direction of George Kuh, Peter Ewell and John Roueche. The CCSSE focuses on student behavior as opposed to student perception or satisfaction. The survey instrument along with a survey plan were reviewed this semester by the Academic Senate, the Academic Senate Research Committee, Cabinet and the Institutional Planning Committee. The survey will be administered in mid-March, 2008 during one class period to a random stratified sample of courses (approximately 70), and will take approximately 45 minutes to complete. Notices will be sent in February to those faculty whose courses were selected for the survey sample. The survey, as always, will be voluntary for students. More information is available about the CCSSE at <http://www.ccsse.org/index.cfm>

### **Design/Build Project Proposals – Open Forum on December 14, 1-4 pm, Room 2306**

On Friday, December 14, Skyline faculty, staff and students will hear the Design/Build Project proposals and see graphic depictions of the two buildings and some of the site work and landscaping. The two buildings will be the combination Multicultural Center, Administration, Cosmetology and Wellness Building (Bldg 4N), and the Automotive Transmission Building (Bldg. 11). There will be three different ways that feedback on the proposals can be made:

- The **Open Forum** on December 14.

- Materials will be posted in the **Student Center** on Monday, December 17 through Friday, December 21, along with feedback sheets and a drop box for them. They will be posted again after the holiday break, and available from January 22-February 1.
- The same information will be provided on Skyline’s **website** along with a link for electronic feedback.

The president’s briefing on the background for this project and its current status, including what the project will include is archived on Skyline’s website at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skynotes/> under “Other Messages from the President.”

### Updated 2006 Skyline Facilities Master Plan Map



### EVENTS

#### WOW! Women on Writing Conference, March 1, 2008

Skyline College’s signature full-day literary conference, WOW! Women on Writing, featuring national and regional writers, and editors will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2008, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Keynote speaker Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D., author of “Kitchen Table Wisdom” and “My Grandfather’s Blessing,” will discuss “Becoming a Blessing: Remembering the Way We Change the World.” Other featured authors are: Samina Ali, “Madras on Rainy Days”; Tess Uriza Holthe, “When the Elephants Dance” and “The Five-Forty-Five to Cannes”; and Carol Lem, “Shadow of the Plum,” “Shadow of the Bamboo (CD),” “The Hermit,” and “Don’t Ask Why.” The conference includes 17 workshops ranging from fiction, script-writing, and poetry as slam performance.