



President's Report to the Board of Trustees

Victoria P. Morrow, Ph.D.
February 27, 2008

SKYLINE SHINES

Accrediting Commission action confirms that Skyline shines

Skyline's accreditation has been reaffirmed. The accrediting commission's action letter is available on Skyline's website at <http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/skyaccred/index.html>. The final report from the visiting team is also there (*Visiting Team Final Evaluation Report [2007]*), including the team's commendations and their recommendations to Skyline.

Skyline Women's Basketball in state playoffs

Skyline College's Women's Basketball team, in its second season, has captured a berth in the state playoffs. The Trojans will play the Lassen College Cougars at 7PM on Wednesday, February 27th at Skyline College. Skyline was seeded 15th in Northern California based on an 18-12 overall record and a 4th place finish in the Coast Conference North Division.

Lassen was seeded 18th in Northern California based on a 20-13 overall record and a 4th place finish in the Golden Valley



Skyline's Marie Colon (left) and Esmeralda Lopez-Rivas (right) led the Trojans in scoring this season.

Conference. The teams met earlier this season with the Trojans defeating the Cougars on December 7th by a score of 76-68. The winner of this game will advance to play the 2nd seed Fresno City College Rams in Fresno on Saturday, March 1st. Skyline was led this season by Sophomores Marie Colon and Esmeralda Lopez-Rivas, along with Freshman Adele Faataui. Colon was a first team Coast Conference selection and earned third team honors as an all-state selection. Lopez-Rivas and Faataui both were honorable mention selections to the Coast Conference All-Conference team.

Alumni Mixer draws old friends to Skyline

About 50 alumni attended Skyline's first Alumni Mixer on February 21. There were many stories from them of their great experiences at Skyline, favorite teachers and comments from those who went on to transfer that their Skyline educational experience was the very best they had. Thanks to Sandy Irber, and Shelly Hausman for the arrangements for this event; to alumna and Chair of



Photos by Shelly Hausman

the event Roxanne Cruz, from the President's Council; to the whole President's Council for their enthusiasm and participation in the event as well as for their commitment to the college; to President's Council members Roxanne Cruz, Cherie Napier, Laura Baughman, Carol Tanzi, and Skyline's Bookstore Manager Kevin Chak for donating gift baskets; to David Ratto for printing the invitation and program; to Jamie Fong for event signage; to caterers Nico Martin Presents, Pacific Dining, and El Capitan Espresso for the delicious food and beverages; to PIO office assistants Joanne Truong and Nikki Santiago for help with logistics; to Roxanne Brewer for her work on the guest list; to Kevin Chak and students for help with coat checking; to Kamla Bucceri and Jose Perez for setting up the music and create just the right atmosphere; and to Amory Cariadus and the students who assisted with welcoming the alums and showing them around: Wendy Smith, Raydan Al-Hubaishi, Andrew Lee, Brittney Piccolotti, Vanessa Alias, Virginia Rosales and Leo Rosales.

Tipton's "Annette Vallon" makes the best seller list

In the November President's Report to the Board of Trustees, it was mentioned that adjunct English faculty member James Tipton had just had his historical novel, "Annette Vallon: A Novel of the French Revolution," published by HarperCollins. Now it has appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle* Book Review section as the #10 book on the Best Seller list for the Bay Area. Skyline wishes to congratulate Professor Tipton on this recognition.

Skyline Sociology students shone in a national conference presentation

Last December, Sociology Professor Mike Moynihan and his students made a presentation at the national Foundations of Excellence in the First Year Experience conference in San Francisco on February 15, 2008. President Vicki Morrow attended the presentation and reported that they did a tremendous, highly professional job. The audience was fascinated with their findings and the students handled audience questions with aplomb. The following students were part of the presentation: Frances Gilfillan, Elizabeth Demartini, and Anthony Yup. One other student, Yajaira Barba, was part of the research as well. The presentation summarized the findings of a survey the students conducted with first year students at Skyline. It focused on how well first year students thought they were prepared for college-

level work, how these students utilized campus counselors, how aware and informed these students are about Skyline's programs and services, how frequently they used and how satisfied they were with the various programs and services, and whether these students would be interested in a required "orientation to college" program.

Two Skyline College students selected for the 2008 Phi Theta Kappa All-California Academic Team

The recipients are Richard Chiang and Kahee "Joanne" Jo. The All-USA Academic Team program annually recognizes 60 outstanding two-year college students. Phi Theta Kappa, *USA TODAY*, and the American Association of Community Colleges sponsor the All-USA Academic Team program annually. To be eligible, a student must post a minimum 3.25 cumulative GPA and be eligible to graduate with an associate's degree. Richard Chiang has earned a 3.93 GPA in business at Skyline College. He has served as president of Skyline's Phi Theta Kappa Chapter, Beta Theta Omicron. Through his work with Phi Theta Kappa, he brought several community service programs to campus such as feeding the homeless in San Francisco, a project he has been involved with since 2006. He is a strong sponsor of environmental causes and supports PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals). His goal is to earn a degree in business.



Kahee "Joanne" Jo, 24, from San Francisco, has earned a 3.84 GPA in the Microbiology program at Skyline College. She plans to transfer to the University of California Berkley in Fall 2008 to study microbiology/pre-medicine. In addition to being Vice President of Communications for the Beta Theta Omicron chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, she is an active member of MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, and Science Achievement), the Honors Transfer Club and the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. She has done research on antimicrobial compounds and presented her findings on the use of a traditional Asian herb as a food preservative at the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native



Americans in Science convention and SFSU Bridges program. She co-authored a published paper on antimicrobials. She has been listed on both the National Dean's List and the Skyline Dean's List. In addition to being named to the All-California Academic Team, Joanne has also been selected as this year's Genentech Scholar. The Genentech Scholars is a prestigious scholarship program that includes a \$7500 scholarship, a research mentor, and a summer position at the Biotechnology facility in South San Francisco. Joanne, a tutor for the Mathematics Engineering and Science Achievement Program (MESA) and Vice President for Phi Theta Kappa, plans to transfer to UC Berkeley this fall to study microbiology.

Men's Basketball hosted #1 team in season finale

Skyline faced off against San Francisco City College, the #1 ranked team in California on Wednesday, Feb. 20. At stake was a berth in the state tournament for the Trojans. The Trojans played valiantly, but lost 104-82. Skyline is currently in 4th place in the highest

ranked conference in Northern California. The game marked the final appearance for five Skyline players (Darren Morrison, Mario Flaherty, Bryan Ngo, James Whitley, and Randall Young). The players, all on track to receive their Associate Degree at the conclusion of the semester, and were honored in a brief ceremony before tip-off.

EOPS Valentine’s Day breakfast open house wins the hearts of the students

The EOPS program held its fifth annual Valentine’s Day Breakfast Open House on Thursday, February 14. Over 50 EOPS students were served breakfast, and had the opportunity to interact with fellow EOPS students, program staff, and over 20 students from the South San Francisco Adult School. Students in attendance were also reminded of the need to complete their financial aid applications for the 2008-09 academic year as soon as possible.



Skyline ceramics students shine

Skyline ceramics students’ artwork was on display at the first ever Coastside Student Invitational, titled “Ceramics and Mosaics”, at the Sanchez Art Center Gallery in Pacifica. The exhibition features the selected works of college, high school and elementary school students from San Mateo County. Participating in this year’s exhibition were the College of San Mateo, Skyline College, Hillsdale High School, Terra Nova High School, Westmoor High School, Ingrid B. Lacy Middle School, and Ocean Shore Elementary School. This student show was held in conjunction with the solo exhibition of accomplished Bay Area ceramic sculptor Jon Toki. The show ran from January 11th through February 23rd, 2008. Pictured below are Erika Peterson, Stephanie Clemons and Linda Fahey with their work. Thanks to instructor Tiffany Schmierer, Skyline Ceramics Instructor, for the photos.



ASSC to be recognized by Second Harvest Food Bank

This fall, Skyline's ASSC undertook a project to help provide food to people in need. Their work will be recognized at the Second Harvest Food Bank Annual Awards Event in March. The ASSC collected 1565 pounds of donated food and nearly \$500 as well.

Former Skyline basketball player named national player of the week

Marques Benjamin (Skyline '06) was named National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Player of the Week for Jan. 21-27. Benjamin, a 6' senior point guard from San Francisco, CA, helped Mayville State to two wins over Top 25 opponents last week and the top spot in the Dakota Athletic Conference standings. In a 103-93 win over #23 Jamestown College, Benjamin scored 23 points and recorded 11 assists. He also went a perfect 12-12 from the free throw line. One day later in a 84-80 win over #16 Valley City State Univ., he netted 24 points, 7 assists and 4 rebounds. Marques is currently averaging 7.3 assists per game, which is 2nd in the nation.

PROGRAM AND SERVICES NEWS

“A Celebration of Music: Africa’s Gift to the World”

Skyline celebrated African American History Month with a series of music and film presentations and lectures throughout the month of February.



Ed "Mohmar Polk" Ngoma

Calendar of Events:

- **2/4** Lecture/Performance
Ed "Mohmar Polk Ngoma
12:30 pm room 6202-6204
- **2/11** Film Presentation
Beyond Beats & Rhymes
12:30 pm room 6202-6204
- **2/13** American Blackout
Film Presentation
12:30 pm Main Theater
- **2/20** R&B Jazz Performance
The Tone & New Management
12:30 pm Main Theater
- **2/27** HAIRDOO;
Business Life Arts Culture Kids
BLACK A.P.E.S.
12:30 pm Main Theater
- **2/29** *S. Kwaku Daddy*
12:30 pm room 6202-6204

Contact: Tony Jackson * 650.738.4156 * jackson@smccd.edu

The series, entitled “A Celebration of Music: Africa’s Gift to the World” was sponsored by the Black Student Union. The series of events began with a lecture on February 4 by Ed “Mohmar Polk” Ngoma. It was followed by two film presentations: *Beyond Beats & Rhymes* on February 11 and *American Blackout* on February 13. On February 20, Skyline Psychology Professor and ASTEP Coordinator Tony Jackson performed along with his R&B Jazz Band, *The Tone & New Management*, in the Main Theatre. The series concludes on Friday, February 29 with a presentation by S. Kwaku Daddy, internationally known master drummer and folklorist, in the Student and Community Center, Room 6202-6204 at 12:30 p.m.

Skyline Hosts San Mateo High School BIOBus Tour

Skyline hosted The San Mateo High School BIOBus Tour on Friday, February 8, 2008. The Tour travelled throughout the biotech industry in South San Francisco and received a guided tour of Cell Genesys before completing their tour at Skyline College. The tour included 19 students from San Mateo HS, Hillsdale High School and Mills High School. Skyline professor Nick Kapp was joined by Skyline Biomanufacturing Certificate Program graduates. Together they treated the students to a biotech lab experience in Skyline's new science facilities. The Skyline graduates brought their industry expertise back to the campus to serve as mentors for the day for the visiting high school students. The mentors and students enjoyed lunch and held a structured Q and A that gave the students a direct contact with biotechnology professionals. Mentors included: Ophelia Sampang, Steven Casmer, James Eli, Peter Lee and Glen Lanoza. The mentors helped the students identify skills for being a successful employee as well as key lab skills. The students' faculty included Ellyn Daugherty who has been honored as the national Biotechnology Teacher of the Year. Thanks to Skyline Center for Workforce Development's Adolfo Leiva and Skyline's SMT faculty, Nick Kapp, and Dean, Mike Williamson for coordinating the event. BIOBus is funded by a grant from the Chancellor's Office, California Community Colleges.



Biology Professor Nick Kapp and Mentor Ophelia Sampang assist San Mateo High School students with biotechnology experiments.

Automotive Department renews T-TEN Program

The Skyline Automotive Program has just renewed its annual agreement with Toyota Corporation which enables them to continue offering to students the Toyota T-TEN Program. This program has been a part of Skyline College Automotive Department for the past 20 years. The Automotive Department is awaiting delivery of four 2007 KIA vehicles for the Automotive Training program. On April 25 and 26, the Department will host the California Automotive Teachers (CAT) Conference which draws 150 to 180 automotive instructors from the state of California.

MESA Program presents *Science in Action* Spring Speakers Series

On January 31, Skyline's MESA program (Math, Engineering, Science Achievement) held the first in a series of speakers in their spring series. It was entitled "Life or Death in the Immune System" and the lecture was given by Dr. Steve Weinstein, Biology professor at San Francisco State University. He also is the Director of the Bridges to Baccalaureate Program which funds undergraduate research for community college students. Thanks to Tiffany Reardon for arranging the series. Watch for the next event in *Science in Action*.

Cash for College event alerts students to opportunities

Skyline held a *Cash for College* event on Tuesday, February 26 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Attendees received an overview of what financial aid is and what may be available to them, along with receiving individualized assistance in completing the FAFSA (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*). FAFSA applicants in attendance also had an opportunity to receive a \$1000 scholarship. Attendees were encouraged to bring their 2007 tax information to get the ball rolling.

PLANNING AND RESEARCH

Survey of Student Engagement to be conducted this spring

Skyline College students will be asked to participate in the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) this spring. The college will randomly select 70 courses and ask students in these courses to take the survey. Faculty of these courses will be asked to administer the survey during one class period any time between March 24 and April 7. The sample will be selected at the beginning of March and faculty will be notified at this time.

Web Site Redesign project is clicking along

During the week of February 4, the college kicked off the next step of the Fresh Look Project; the Web Site Redesign. The Web Site Redesign Advisory Group and others met with Interact Communications, the redesign consultant, to begin the process. The redesign will draw on Skyline's existing research as well as new research done in spring 2008 to determine the structure of the new site. The web site will be organized to tailor information to Skyline's external audiences (current students, high school students, prospective students, and community/business members). A "soft launch", which introduces newly-designed web pages for a time while some of the former web pages are still active, is slated for November 2008. The Fresh Look Web Site Redesign Advisory Group, composed of representatives from faculty, staff, administrators and students, and the Office of College Development, Marketing and Public Relations will lead the effort. During this process, faculty and staff are encouraged to log their ideas, suggestions and concerns in the "Web Site Redesign Project eSuggestion Box" found on www.SkylineCollege.edu. Skyline wishes to thank the faculty, staff, administrators and students who attended the meetings, talked with Interact, as well as to District ITS for their invaluable support.

Transfer Leadership Study interviewers come to Skyline

Skyline College was selected as one of seven colleges in the state to participate in a grant-funded project that is focused on best practices of transfer programs and services at California community colleges. Skyline was identified as having better than expected transfer rates according to a study that was conducted in 2005/06 by the California Community College Chancellor's Office. The purpose of the Transfer Leadership Study is to better understand the range of factors that positively impact transfer and to identify best practices. In mid-February, many faculty, staff and students were interviewed and/or participated in focus groups that were led by two external researchers from the Transfer Leadership Study project. The project will wrap up toward the end of the year with a comprehensive report of the findings and recommendations for best practices in transfer. Skyline is proud to be a part of this study and looks forward to the final report.

Study on reducing campus environmental smoke exposure to be conducted at Skyline

Skyline students and employees will participate in some very important research on the college's smoking policy. As part of his San Francisco State University program for a master's degree in Public Health, Respiratory Therapy Instructor Ray Hernandez is conducting a study on reducing campus environmental smoke exposure. The purpose of the study is to "better understand the prevalence and perceptions of smoking among students and employees at Skyline College and to identify components of an effective policy aimed at reducing exposure to environmental tobacco smoke on campus." Recommendations derived

from this assessment will be used by Skyline’s Health and Safety Committee and the College Council to assist with the college’s work on its campus smoking policy. The research project has been approved by Skyline’s Research Committee and includes an electronic survey of students and of employees. The survey questions will be about smoking at Skyline and policies for reducing the amount of smoking and exposure to environmental tobacco smoke. There will also be interviews conducted.

FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE

Great new facility now underway for “Facilities”

On February 1, a Groundbreaking Ceremony was held to commemorate the construction start on a new Facilities Maintenance center (FMC) for our Facilities Department. Most members of the college never saw the old facility, perched on the hill behind the trees just east of Parking Lot 2. President Vicki Morrow emceed the ceremony and in her speech mentioned what this new Facilities Maintenance Center will do for the college: ultimately it will support Skyline’s students, because it will support the essential people who make the buildings and grounds beautiful, functional and effective. Skyline is very glad that they will finally have a facility of their own. These people work miracles at Skyline all the time—it is so second nature to them that they probably don’t even know that they are miracles. In Skyline’s rough climate, there are always special challenges layered on top of the routine challenges. And they rise to the occasion over, and over, and over—flood, fire, trash dumping, vandalism, power outages, graffiti—they handle it all. Their pride in the institution and their commitment to Skyline’s mission is apparent in everything they do. Scheduled completion will be January 2009 and will include three LEED certified buildings. They’ve waited a long time for this landmark occasion and they were glad to see the old 1940s-vintage buildings disappear.



Daytime staff, front row (L to R): Seini Mateialona, Richard Inokuchi, Vinnie Samujh, Giao Van Bui, Jimmy Louie, Phill Fong. Middle row (L to R): Tony Vassalle, Dave McCargar, Sheikh Hussain, Manny Granillo, Diego Zarco. Back row (L to R): Martin Morales, Tony Gulli, Bob Spacher



Evening staff: L to R: Jimmy Chan, Wendy Huang, King Lau, Millie Fields, Buu Khuu, Giao Van Bui, Richard Inokuchi, Allan Chan, Linda Liu, Dien Huynh, Harold Turner, Hugh Wong, (absent Tao Liu)

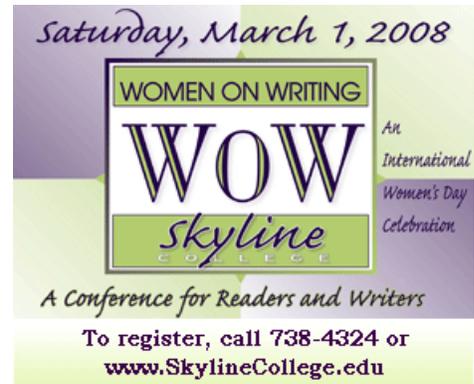
EVENTS

Science in Action Spring Speakers Series presents “Medicine Hunting”, February 28

Skyline’s MESA program is presenting the second in its Spring Speakers Series *Science in Action* with a presentation by Biology Professor Christine Case. Her presentation, “Medicine Hunting,” addresses the rise in antibiotic-resistance bacteria which has made the need for new antibiotics to treat bacterial infections critical. The next “miracle drugs” may be found by using hints from nature, folklore and indigenous people. The presentation is on Thursday, Feb.28 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in Building 1, Room 1107. Refreshments will be served.

WOW! Women on Writing is coming —March 1

This weekend, Skyline College will hold WOW! Women on Writing, a full-day literary conference featuring national and regional writers, and editors, on Saturday, March 1, 2008, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the College. 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. WOW! admission is \$85 by February 22, \$100 at the door, and \$25 for students. Registration may be made by calling 650-738-4324 or by downloading a form from <http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/skywow>



President’s Breakfast, April 1

The Eighth Annual President’s Breakfast, hosted by President Vicki Morrow, will be held on April 1 at 7:30 a.m. at the South San Francisco Conference Center. Each year the President’s Council raises funds for the President’s Innovation Fund through the breakfast. About 300 people attended last year and enjoyed seeing the annual video of our Innovation Projects, hearing a couple of students speak and sharing breakfast. College faculty and staff are welcome to join the many community members who come to support the college.



Coats for Comedy, April 2

Dean Austin, Ace Rodriguez and Jimmy Turner will be the featured comedians at Skyline’s Coats for Comedy event on Friday, April 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Theatre. All contributed coats will be donated to One Warm Coat. The event is sponsored by Skyline’s ASSC.