



# President's Report to the Board of Trustees

**Victoria P. Morrow, Ph.D.**  
**August 19, 2009**

## **SKYLINE SHINES**

### **Baseball Trojans snare post-season kudos**

As awarded by the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA), Taylor Heon was chosen as one of 3 infielders in the western region of the United States to make the Rawlings Defensive Gold Glove Team. Taylor, a two year starter at Skyline as a shortstop, was one of only nine players from over 140 community and junior colleges. This is a great honor and the first time a Skyline player has been chosen for this award. The ABCA also named Marcus Pointer to the All Pacific Division (All American Team) 3rd Team for the western region. Marcus was the eighth pitcher selected from over 140 community and junior colleges in the western region of the United States. Again, this is the first time that a Skyline player was chosen for this award. In addition, the following sophomores won scholarships to 4-year colleges and universities: Greg Gonzalez to USC, Marcus Pointer to the University of the Pacific, Tony Loeffler to new Mexico State, Ben Ruder to San Jose State, Taylor Heon to South East Missouri, Mik Jurardo to Missouri Western, Sergio Contreras to Hawaii Pacific and Jesse Orozco to Oklahoma Baptist.

### **Skyline's GSA marches in the Pride Parade**

Skyline's Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) club joined the other two colleges and the district at this year's Pride Parade in San Francisco on June 28. Here are some terrific photos including club advisor AJ Bates, members of the club and Chancellor Ron Galatolo.



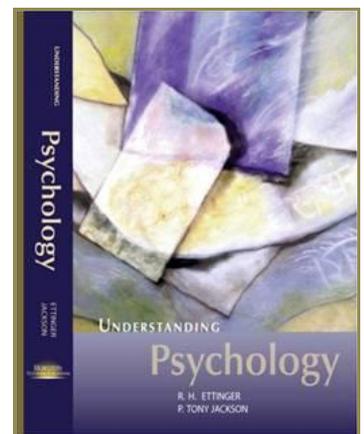
### **Three Skyline students win Chicana/Latina Scholarship Fund awards**

The Chicana/Latina Scholarship Fund awards merit-based scholarships valued at \$1,500. The purpose of the Fund is to assist Latina students in completing their undergraduate and graduate college education. These scholarships are available on a competitive basis to continuing undergraduate and graduate female college students of Latino background. Three Skyline students were recently awarded these scholarships: Virginia Rosales, Margarita Gutierrez and Denisse Gonzalez.

- Ms. Rosales, currently the student trustee for the district, was born the youngest of five daughters in a family of eight children. Her mother was a farm worker with an elementary school education and her father served two terms in the US Army. At 15 years old, due to a traumatic event, she became pregnant and was not able to attend high school. Her children have now married and started their own families and Virginia decided to get the education she had longed for and started at Skyline in the spring of 2005. She has maintained a Dean's List GPA, and is serving her 2<sup>nd</sup> term as the SMCCCD Student Trustee elect on the Board of Trustees. Her plan is to attain an A.A. at Skyline College, with a goal of transferring to San Francisco State University and eventually receiving a masters degree in counseling. She hopes to give back to the community that has done so much for her.
- Ms. Gutierrez has known since she was a child that she wanted to be involved in the health care system. Because of her Latino background and seeing what her family dealt with in having to utilize free clinics and Medicare, she saw first-hand the struggles of having language and ethnicity as a barrier to health care access. She intends to combine her public health and medical degrees in order not only to be a bi-lingual physician but also to be a proactive health services researcher with focus on questions of healthcare inequalities. Specifically, she would like to work with the US Department of Health and Human Services in the Office of Public Health and Science. She will be transferring to UC Santa Cruz this fall. Her major is Biochemistry/Health Sciences and she aspires to get her medical degree along with obtaining a Masters in Public Health.
- Ms. Gonzalez came to the US from Mexico as a young child with dreams of one day meeting Mickey and Minnie Mouse. She and her family moved to LA where she became very proud to be in America. One day, her mother picked her up from school visibly distraught, and she arrived at her house to find all their belonging on the front lawn; they had been evicted. After living in motels she and her family moved to San Francisco with her aunt, got her first job at age 14 and dropped out of high school to help support her family. Through motivation from her sisters, she decided to further her education by going to college. She was on the Dean's list in 2008, became a Senator for ASSC, served as chairman of the Budget Crisis Committee, and is now the President of the Associated Students of Skyline College.

### **Professor Jackson authors new textbook**

Dr. Tony Jackson, a faculty member in the Psychology Department, co-authored a recently published new textbook for General Psychology called *Understanding Psychology*. Dr. Jackson says, "After years of searching for a text book that would offer credible information on the complex history and origins of psychology and not finding it, I decided to create one. My participation in the writing of this text helps place culture, perception and perspective in a psychological context that speaks to real world issues and the socio-political nature of the field. I'm proud of what this text might achieve in the classroom." Dr. Jackson teaches General Psychology and provides leadership in the ASTEP Learning Community in collaboration with the ASTEP Coordinators, Professors Pat Deamer and Phyllis Taylor.



### **Regina Stanback Stroud earns doctorate**

Dr. Stroud has completed her third graduate degree, an Ed.D. in Higher Education from Mills College. She also earned her second Master's degree from Mills College in the same discipline. Her first master's degree was an MS from Golden Gate University in Human Relations. Her BS is from Howard University in Nursing Sciences.

### **Another Skyline Honors student heads for Columbia University**

Mario Roque, a Skyline Honors student and presenter at the 2nd annual Community College Honors Research Symposium at Stanford last spring, has been accepted to Columbia University for the fall. He will major in political science. This success is particularly sweet in view of the road he took to achieve it. Here is how he tells it: "I actually was kicked out of my high school because of lack of motivation and was forced to take my GED. I was on academic probation at Skyline up to 2 years ago and had only fleeting moments of success. It took a lot of effort to get to this point, but teachers never gave up on me and were always there when I needed them. I'm just very fortunate to have had the classes I had and to have the teachers I did."

## **PROGRAMS**

### **Skyline attends UMOJA Summer Retreat**

On July 13-17 several members of the Skyline ASTEP Learning Community attended the UMOJA Summer Retreat at Sequoia Retreat Center in Ben Lomond, California. UMOJA is the statewide African American student learning community consortium and Skyline is one of the community colleges with the longest standing and most established African American learning communities in the state. The photo includes attendees Donna Bestock, Dean of Creative Arts/Social Sciences; Phyllis Taylor, Speech; Pat Deamer, Math; Maya Watson, English; Pauline Wethington, Counselor and Jocelyn Mouton, former Skyline Counselor and founding member of ASTEP at Skyline.



### **Beyond Economic Self-Sufficiency Tools (BESST) Program comes to Skyline**

In collaboration with the San Mateo County Human Services Agency, Skyline College will launch a new program this fall to serve students who qualify for supplemental nutrition assistance. Students can receive employment training by enrolling in career technical education courses and programs. BESST will connect qualified students to food assistance, fee waivers, money for books, transportation assistance and more. The program draws upon federal funding, and has the potential to bring additional resources to the college while not creating additional costs to be borne by the college. Though Skyline expects to start off serving a modest number of students, as the program grows and the college is successful in helping students access their public benefits, Skyline anticipates serving hundreds of students. Thanks to Regina Stanback Stroud for her leadership in identifying this excellent program and working with the county to bring it to the college. Thanks also to William Watson and Adolfo Leiva for their work in developing the implementation plan for it. For more information, visit [http://www.skylinecollege.edu/combiz/cwd/pro\\_besst.html](http://www.skylinecollege.edu/combiz/cwd/pro_besst.html). Students who are interested in this program should contact Adolfo Leiva at 650-738-7035 in the Center for Workforce Development.

### **Skyline MESA students present at SFSU**

On August 5, three Skyline MESA students presented their research at the San Francisco State University (SFSU) Undergraduate Summer Research Symposium. These students were in their NIH/SFSU Bridges to Baccalaureate Program. Overall, there were 34 presentations by students doing independent research, most of them working in labs at SFSU. These three Skyline students spent their summer in labs at Skyline College developing and implementing research projects with Professors Chris Case and Nick Kapp. Throughout the summer, Biology Laboratory Technician Pat Carter provided support for the projects.

- Ashley Priscilla Good –Case Lab, Skyline College. “The antimicrobial activity of kombucha tea.”
- Mathew Anthony Garza –Kapp Lab, Skyline College. “A search for an inexpensive method to purify proteins through affinity chromatography using the starch binding domain of  $\alpha$ -amylase from *B. subtilis*.”
- Pamela Rios –Case Lab, Skyline College. “Investigation of antibacterial activity of the American cockroach (*Periplaneta americana*).”

In the photo from left are Pamela Rios, Ashley Good, Pamela’s lab partner An-Chi Tseng, and Matt Garza.



*Photo by Chris Case*

## **PLANNING**

### **The campus has seen big changes over the summer**

Those who have been away for the summer will see some dramatic changes when they return. The central quad areas, walkways and stairs will be largely in place. The redesigned parking will be in service, increasing the number of spaces just when they are needed most. The walls of the new Auto Tech building are starting to take shape, and new Building 4 is also progressing visibly. The landscaping will follow in the fall, along with the fountain in the main quad and the new gateway monument signs at both road entrances to the college. In addition, Skyline’s new Smoke Free Campus policy takes effect this fall, and there are ten designated smoking areas distributed around the perimeter of the campus at the inner edges of the parking lots. How will it look when it is all finished? Here are a couple of glimpses.

The first artist's rendering shows the view from the central quad toward Building 8, with the amphitheater on the left and then the fountain. The amphitheater is installed; the fountain will come this fall. The second one is an aerial view of the same part of the campus, and includes some of the quad between buildings 1 and 2. The paving of the quad was completed before Opening Day, though the landscaping will await the fall.



**Plans for Skyline’s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary are under way**

The college opened its doors in the fall of 1969 and held its first Commencement in the spring of 1970. During the 2009-10 academic year, the college will be recognizing this landmark throughout the year, with special exhibits and recognitions tied to numerous events. The month of October will include a number of events oriented toward this landmark, and there will be a “My 40 Favorite Things about Skyline” contest.

