President’s Report to the Board of Trustees

Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud

Gilman Scholars from Skyline College, the top Gilman Scholarship producing community college in California.
**SKYLINE COLLEGE ANNOUNCED AS THE TOP GILMAN SCHOLARSHIP PRODUCING COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN CALIFORNIA**

The U.S. Department of State announced its list of U.S. higher education institutions that sent the most students overseas on the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program over the 2017-2018 academic year. Skyline College has been announced as the #1 community college in California and the #3 community college (tied with Kirkwood Community College) nationwide for producing Gilman Scholars. The State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, in collaboration with the Institute of International Education, compiles the list of top producing institutions, organized by size and type.

Skyline College was the only community college in California to be recognized as a Gilman Top Producer for Students with Disabilities and First-Generation College Students. It was also recognized for Greatest Growth for Associate’s Colleges, Most Unique Destinations, and Students with Disabilities. This recognition highlights Skyline College’s commitment to making international study and internships more accessible and inclusive for American students. The Gilman Program broadens the U.S. student population that studies and interns abroad by providing scholarships to outstanding undergraduates who, due to financial constraints, might not otherwise participate. Since the program’s establishment in 2001, over 1,300 U.S. institutions have sent 28,000 Gilman scholars to 149 countries around the globe. For a full list of the institutions by category, please visit the Gilman Scholarship website at www.GilmanScholarship.org/TopGilman.

Article and Photo by Stephanie Wells

**PROMISE COUNSELOR IVAN SILVA HONORED BY THE ACADEMIC SENATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Promise Scholarship Counselor Ivan Silva was chosen as one of the winners of the Board of Governors Hayward Award.

This state-wide award in excellence in education honors four faculty members who demonstrated a commitment to the principles of the California Community Colleges. Ivan’s commitment to serving and empowering students from diverse backgrounds and his devotion to community college as an open-access education system was amply evidenced in his application and the support letters from his nominators.

Some of the evidence of educational leadership that earned Ivan the recognition include the group counseling curriculum for the Promise Scholars Program that focused on high-needs students he developed with his team of counselors in spring 2018. Ivan’s contributions
to the College Comprehensive Redesign was also a winning factor, which resulted in the development of a redesigned Counseling “Getting In” process for all new-incoming Skyline College students.

The Counseling Division showed strong support for the nomination of Ivan throughout the selection process. This comes as no surprise when his colleagues describe him as a collaborator, a joy to work with as a colleague and the first listener to his team.

From Skyline College, Jude Navari from the Music Department was nominated by the local Academic Senate as the full-time nominee and Ivan Silva as the part-time nominee.

Article by Rika Yonemura-Fabian | Photo by Zaw Min Khant

**WOW! Women on Writing Event Inspires the Campus Community**

Writers and readers from all over the Bay Area gathered at Skyline College on Saturday, March 2, 2019 for WOW! Voices Now: A Morning of Readings and Refreshments, an annual celebration of creativity during Women’s History Month. An energetic crowd of 70 people braved a morning rainstorm to savor literary work crafted by a wide variety of writers.

Event coordinator Kathleen McClung welcomed the two featured speakers, award-winning authors Aileen Cassinetto and Jacqueline Doyle. Both read from their books and spoke about their dedication to writing over the years. Cassinetto is Poet Laureate of San Mateo County. Doyle teaches at CSU East Bay and specializes in flash fiction.

During a lively question and answer, both authors spoke in depth about their writing process. Cassinetto talked of growing up under martial law in the Philippines and Doyle, who wrote her doctoral dissertation on Edgar Allan Poe, said she tends to explore dark themes in her work. Both emphasized the necessity for community, especially during difficult times nationally and personally.

After a break for book signing, networking and continental breakfast, Professor Katharine Harer presented awards and gift bags to two outstanding Skyline College students, Haley O’Shea and Yvette Estrada, who read their powerful work with poise and passion and received sustained ovations from the audience. The awards memorialize two multi-talented, influential women from the WOW! community, Isabelle Maynard (1929-2007) and Joyce Unger (1942-2016).

12 writers from around the Bay Area shared short poems and prose during the Open Reading, exploring families, cultures, identity, creativity, nature and other themes. Skyline College students Emanie O’Neal and Gwyneth Ochsner were among the Open Readers.

“It’s so important for writers to come together to share experiences, bounce ideas around, and listen to each other deeply,” said Skyline College English professor and author Kathleen McClung. “The WOW! community spans all ages, interests, and backgrounds. The common ingredients are encouragement and support.” The WOW! conference was founded in 2003 by Marijane Datson in collaboration with Skyline College faculty, staff and community members.

Article by Kathleen McClung | Photo by Tom McAninley
Student Receives Hites Scholarship

Michelle Huang has been selected as one of only 10 students to receive Phi Theta Kappa’s 2019 Hites Transfer Scholarship, the Phi Theta Kappa’s most prestigious and largest scholarship offering at $7,500.

Hites Scholars are selected based on outstanding academic achievement, leadership and engagement in college and community activities. They were selected by a panel of independent judges from more than 2,800 applicants.

Michelle Huang is a business administration major. She is president of the Beta Theta Omicron Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and is in the Honors Transfers Program. She is a peer tutor for economics, accounting, and statistics and a peer mentor. Through Phi Theta Kappa, Michelle volunteers at senior centers and middle schools. Also, Michelle did a fog-use study for Skyline College. Michelle aspires to work in finance, then give back to the community by becoming a college professor. Michelle wants to inspire individuals to aim high, believe in their capabilities and act toward their dreams.

Article by Christine Case | Photo by Zaw Min Khant

Championing Voices Through Poetry

Since its inception in October 8, 2018, the Learning Commons Poetry Corner Series continues to be more than a monthly event where an instructor and a few students just gather in Skyline College Library’s lounge area to read classical poetry and engage in boring philosophical discussions. It is an activity where students express their ideas, read their original work, declare their spoken word and engage in challenging discussions.

The Poetry Corner Series kicked off with a reading in honor of African American Heritage Month. Three original paintings by Skyline College student Calvonnia Kelly were on display and Nathan Jones, English Associate Professor, published author and host of the Learning Commons Poetry Corner, facilitated the poetry reading. After reading his response to a poem written by Maya Angelou, the discussion commenced with a question about the parallelism and differences between the African American communities in Oakland, CA and Harlem, NY.

Middle College student Jessica Jacinto also shared her original poems: “What Happened to 1?” was about her desire to pursue political science as a major with an emphasis on social justice, as well as imagining herself in the shoes of victims of systemic racism. “Fake News, Real News” was an ode to journalists who have passed while pointing out the tragedy of suppressing the journalistic voice. The most poignant stanza “as I look out at the ropes of society, fake news becomes our...”
reality while reality is distinguished, causing us to lose our mortality” was a reminder of the damaging effects of fake news.

Sonya Pope, Interim Division Assistant for Global Learning Programs and Services division, shared her original poem, “We Must Speak Her Name.” She wrote this in response to police brutality toward women like Sandra Bland and many others. This spurred more students to share published poems that spoke to the need for empathy and support for the communities that are continually being disenfranchised. Another student shared the chorus line from a Kanye West song called “We Don’t Care.” With over 20 attendees, this successful event sets the precedent for what is to come in the next two months.

Article and Photo by Sherri Wyatt

**Maroon Melodies Reception at the Art Gallery**

Over 200 gallery visitors, which included students, staff, faculty and members of the local community enjoyed viewing visiting artist Christopher Burch’s solo art exhibition, Maroon Melodies: Soliloquies of a Slick Sound, at the reception for the artist on Thursday, February 28, 2019. The reception provided visitors the opportunity to meet and talk with the artist and find out more about his artistic practice (including how he painted two temporary full-wall murals in the gallery). The exhibition features the on-site wall murals, plus many artworks in other mediums that explore and re-invent mythology, folklore and history. Through storytelling, drawing, painting, sculpture and installation, Burch’s works find their greatest strength in his eloquent, thoughtful manner of interpreting and investigating some of humanity’s most disquieting realities.

This exhibition was organized in partnership with the Associated Students of Skyline College.

Article by Paul Bridenbaugh | Photos by Zaw Min Khant

**Model United Nations (MUN) Team at 23rd Annual MUN Conference**

During the weekend of February 28, 2019 through March 3, 2019, the Skyline College Model United Nations (MUN) team participated in UC Berkeley’s 23rd Annual Model United Nations Conference (UCBMUN XXIII) at the Hilton hotel in San Francisco, CA.

Skyline College MUN is a parliamentary debate team that competes against other universities at regional conferences where they attempt to solve global issues in the style of the United Nations. Committees include...
crisis, specialized, general assembly formats and discussion topics range from historical scenarios to the most recent current events.

The UCBMUN XXIII conference featured teams from all over the world, including prestigious universities like UCLA, UC Berkeley, University of Southern California (USC) and Stanford University. Delegations from universities in Russia, Africa and the West Point Military Academy provided unique perspectives on the issues in their committees. The best delegate in each committee is awarded the gavel in the closing ceremony after the final session of debate. While the Skyline College MUN team didn't bring home any gavels from this conference, each member of the delegation had the opportunity to contribute to the flow of debate and to learn from their colleagues from other schools.

For this conference, the Skyline College MUN team also featured eight students from the Skyline College Middle College community, one international student and several Skyline College Promise scholars. Middle College senior, Nicole Liu, said about her experience, “Despite having little experience with Model UN, I gained a lot of confidence over the span of the three days to the point where I voluntarily stepped up to deliver a direct examination in my committee.”

The club’s agenda for the rest of the spring 2019 semester includes preparing for another competitive debate season next year, recruiting new members, as well as hosting a Skyline College Invitational MUN conference at the end of the school year.

Skyline College MUN actively welcomes new members who are interested in participating in debate both locally in weekly meetings at Skyline College, as well as those interested in travelling to participate in regional conferences and competitions. Please e-mail skylinemun@gmail.com for more information.

**Life’s Lessons Learned & Shared: Human Library Advances the Movement to “Unjudge”**

Continuing the theme “don't judge a book by its cover,” the Skyline College Learning Commons concluded its fall semester with a November 29 session of the Human Library. At these events, “human books” — in the form of Skyline College students, faculty and staff — are “loaned out” to readers just as libraries loan physical books to library patrons. Each reader selects or “check outs” a human book and the two engage in one-on-one conversations in the comfort of the Library. The inspiration for this now international movement began in Denmark almost 20 years ago.

November’s event featured five new human titles ready to share their stories: Creating New Bonds, Navigating Life’s Series of Firsts, Never Tell Me the Odds, A Road to Redemption, and The Sunflower Who Grew from Concrete. Readers enjoyed rich discussions, requesting and receiving extra time with their books.

The Human Library returned by popular demand on February 21, 2019. This time 10 readers chose from four human books: Defining First-Generation, Lost in Translation, Success Starts in the Mind: Take Command of Your Life, and When Life Throws You Lemons … Make Cranberry Juice!

Following the event, human books relayed their positive experiences with staff. Lost in Translation explained, “I really liked my third reader. She wanted to learn more...”
about both my [personal] experiences and my cultural experiences.” When Life Throws You Lemons noted, “[I] enjoyed discussing my reasoning for writing a book about my experience.” Success Starts in the Mind enjoyed “informing readers that failing is part of life; you just need to learn how to re-frame problems.”

Information about past books are kept in the Human Library Book Archive. Meanwhile, The Learning Commons is committed to keeping the Human Library momentum going! If you missed previous sessions, please join us at Skyline College Library on April 12, 2019 from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Article by Sherri Wyatt & Jessica Silver-Sharp | Photo by Marisa Thigpen

**THE LEARNING CENTER OPEN HOUSE WELCOMES HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS, STAFF AND FACULTY**

On Wednesday, February 20, 2019, the Skyline College Learning Center (TLC) welcomed hundreds of students for our first bi-annual TLC Open House! Students, staff and faculty were invited to learn more about Learning Center programs and services as well as meet staff, faculty and student representatives. Student groups and classes received personalized tours of the Learning Center offerings and were invited to have a pastry and coffee or tea on us! We were honored to host students from local Bay Area high schools for Skyline College’s Discover ASTEP Day as well as district students from the Silicon Valley Intensive English Program. This event was made possible with financial support from the Honors Transfer Program, Learning Communities and the Academic Support & Learning Technologies Division.

Article by Chelssee De Barra and Marisa Thigpen | Photo by Marisa Thigpen

**THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE (ELI) BECAME ESL CONNECT ON MARCH 25**

To better reflect how we support students, we are excited to announce that the English Language Institute (ELI) has changed its name to ESL Connect.

At the heart of ESL Connect’s service is to link both new and current ESL students to a community of support at Skyline College and beyond.

The English Language Institute was founded in fall 2009 as a service to better facilitate orientation and enrollment of new ESL students in Skyline College. The new ESL students needed more time and personal connection to complete the matriculation steps. Since its inception, the ELI has become a starting place for thousands of students entering college. Staffed by multilingual staff, ELI provides language support and personalized referrals to enable new enrollees to fully understand the complexities of college and the U.S. educational system.

Through program outreach, we met Carlos Acuna, a new immigrant from El Salvador studying ESL in adult school in 2016. He attended the ESL Registration Day and got personalized help with financial aid and a SparkPoint referral. Carlos also got connected to the Career Center who helped him explore his major. He decided on becoming a mechanical engineer.

As an ESOL student, the ELI connected him to the
services at The Learning Center for ESOL tutoring and workshops. Through the ELI program, Carlos became an ESOL Student Liaison to develop his public speaking skills and to be a peer support to his classmates. As Carlos demonstrated increased leadership skills, he got hired as a student assistant at the ELI helping many immigrants access Skyline College. He also became a math tutor at The Learning Center. Carlos is one semester away transferring to a UC School or a CSU School of Engineering. ESL Connect is proud to have supported him in his success!

Article by Mylene Foo & Leigh Anne Shaw | Photo by Mia Coo

**Legacy Celebration in Honor of Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud**

Please join the Skyline College community as we honor and acknowledge President Regina Stanback Stroud’s invaluable contributions and extraordinary achievements at Skyline College! As we celebrate Dr. Stanback Stroud’s retirement, we’ll also be raising funds for the Promise Scholars Program and the Equity Institute!

**Details:**
Thursday, April 25, 2019
3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Mariott SFO, San Mateo

Please [register online](#) to attend this event. We hope to see you there!
**Upcoming Events**

**Middle College Info Night**
- Tuesday, April 9, 2019
- 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Building 4, Multicultural Center Hosting Gallery

**International Student Transfer Fair**
- Wednesday, April 10, 2019
- 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Building 6, Room 6-202

**Community Travel Info Session**
- Wednesday, April 10, 2019
- Tuesday, April 23, 2019
- 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Building 4, Multicultural Center Hosting Gallery

**Day of Silence Forum**
- Thursday, April 11, 2019
- 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Building 4, Multicultural Center Hosting Gallery

**Transfer Seminar**
- Friday, April 12, 2019
- 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Building 6, Room 6-206

**Equity Training Series**
- Friday, April 12, 2019
- Friday, April 26, 2019
- 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Building 6, Room 6-202 - 6-206

**Asian American & Pacific Islander Month Kickoff**
- Tuesday, April 16, 2019
- 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Quad

**College Lecture Series**
- Wednesday, April 17, 2019
- 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Building 6, Room 6-202 - 6-206

**Pilipino Cultural Night**
- Friday, April 19 & 20, 2019
- 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Building 1, Skyline College Theater

**Spring Career Fair**
- Tuesday, April 23, 2019
- 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Building 6, Fireside Dining Room

**Fahrenheit 11/9 Film Screening**
- Wednesday, April 24, 2019
- 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Building 4, Multicultural Center Hosting Gallery

**Disability Resource Center Open House**
- Wednesday, April 24, 2019
- 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Building 4, Multicultural Center Hosting Gallery

**Roundtable of Paralegal Professionals**
- Thursday, April 25, 2019
- 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Building 6, Room 6-202 - 6-206

**Legacy Celebration in Honor of Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud**
- Thursday, April 25, 2019
- 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Mariott SFO, San Mateo
- [REGISTER ONLINE](#)