



## **Skyline Shines**

Victoria P. Morrow, President

May 18, 2007

### **Summer Outreach Initiative and a virtual tour of Skyline on our website**

You know from Ron Galatolo's recent message to us all and from my message about the budget, that we are engaged in a district wide effort to get out the word about our terrific colleges, particularly to high school juniors and seniors. That effort involves a brochure mailed to their homes, a special focused website for them (called "Futures"), and expedited procedures to get them involved in the college of their choice. As part of that effort, we have created a "virtual tour" of Skyline College, thanks to Shelly Hausman. Thanks also to Fermin Irigoyen for the narration on it. You can see it on our website now at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/>.

**President's Innovation Fund projects selected for 2007-08:** I am pleased to announce this round of successful proposals that will receive support from the President's Innovation Fund (PIF); they are listed in the attachment. Skyline College's annual President's Breakfast raises the financial support for the President's Innovation Fund, as does the San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation. The goal of the PIF is to provide start-up funding to faculty and staff developing innovative programs and services. With limited funds, the challenge is always to support as many of the innovative proposals as possible. New this year will be a second round of funding available in the fall semester. This will enable projects and programs to be planned during next spring semester and presented in the Fall 2008 semester.

### **Outreach to new students through our Guaranteed Enrollment Priority Program brings nearly 200 students on campus**

Skyline College's Guaranteed Enrollment Priority Program (GEPP) has achieved tremendous success this year. GEPP provides a streamlined assessment, orientation, counseling process for graduating high school seniors and, as a result, provides participating students with a registration date that is earlier than the open registration for new students. This year, GEPP has attracted almost 200 students to participate in the events held on April 21 and May 5. Another one-day GEPP is scheduled on June 9. The Student Services Division looks forward to being able to continue their work with GEPP students as they move through their program at Skyline College. Thanks to the following Skyline faculty and staff for their work in making this year's GEPP highly successful: Coordinators: Sherri Hancock, Kenny Gonzalez, Mandy Liang, Sue Lorenzo, Linda Van Sciver, Sheila Claxton, Carlene Gibson, Maria Escobar; A & R staff: Kennya Zepeda, Cass Christianson, Sylvia Martinez, Stephanie Haro, Terry Stats; Testing Staff: Chris Weidman, Angelica Gorostiza, Andy Smith, Minerva Velasquez, Nadia T.; Campus Ambassadors: Stephanie Nale (SN), Dan Radovich, Lucy Alvarez, Nikita Lefiti, Luis Padilla, Elisabeth Osai, Eileen Wong, Vanessa Allas, Kristi Parenti-Kurtilla; Counselors: Nate Nevado, Tim Dupre, Murrell Green; Outreach: Pablo Gonzalez; Hospitality: Amory Cariadus.

### **Puentistas celebrate the end of the year**

Thanks to Karen Wong for the important background on this event:

About seventy-five Puente students (a.k.a. Puentistas), family, friends, and mentors came together on the evening of Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, to celebrate their accomplishments in Skyline's festively decorated student center while feasting on steaming chicken tacos and traditional Nicaraguan food. The theme of the evening was the landmark court case, "Westminister vs. Mendez," for which the US Postal Service plans to create a commemorative stamp this fall. This court case was filed on behalf of Mexican American families in southern California and succeeded in desegregating schools in 1947, setting an important legal precedent for 1954's "Brown vs. Board of Education." Puentistas today take their nod from these earlier activists, playing an active role in campus governance, high school mentoring and tutoring, as well as volunteering or working in community agencies. In addition to setting a record for Puente by securing about \$42,000 in scholarships, 17 Puentistas are to receive their AA/AS degrees, and 11 Puentistas are readying themselves to transfer.

And thanks to Connie Beringer for her eloquent description of the event:

The Puente End-of-Year Celebration & Graduation Ceremony on Friday was about as emotional an event as there is, as the graduating Puentistas took the microphone, one after the other, and affirmed their gratitude and, yes, love for the dynamite Puente team—our Karen Wong and her counselor-partner, Jacqueline Escobar. It was a wonderful sendoff for this team, as they will pass the torch to the new team in the fall—Lucia Lachmayr and Luis Escobar, who also have the makings of a TNT duo. There were many eloquent speeches to honor Karen and Jacquie, but one that captured the essence of this team's lasting impression on students was spoken by graduating Puentista, Ivan Martinez: "You gave us what we needed to spread our wings so we could fly...I will always be grateful to both of you for that."

Thanks to Karen and Jacquie! And welcome aboard to Lucia and Luis!



### **Elementary school students learn biology from Skyline's Phi Theta Kappans**

During the semester, Skyline Phi Theta Kappans led Bottle Biology workshops for students at Sunset Ridge Elementary School. The workshops provide teachers with hands-on laboratory experiments, using inexpensive plastic bottles--and recycle the plastic bottles. This third grade class made mother's day terraria at the last Spring workshop. Skyline students in the back row are Anastasia Kuzina, Eugene Bible, Denise Owen, Paige Fulmer, Emi Matsuura and Richard Chiang. Thanks to Chris Case for the information and for passing along the photo.



### **Third annual Skyline Stars: Transfer Student Hall of Fame induction**

Last Monday night we witnessed the induction of seven former Skyline grads and transfer students into our Transfer Student Hall of Fame. The President's Innovation Fund provided the means for this new event for the past three years, through the tremendous support of our President's Council, a group of community leaders and Skyline boosters who are our angels and who sponsor the President's Breakfast every year. The "stars" who were inducted into the Hall of Fame were supported in their success at Skyline by the tremendous faculty and staff who work so hard to serve our students well, people who truly put students first. Each inductee told a gripping story of what Skyline meant to them and how their experiences here laid the foundation for their subsequent success. It was a deeply rewarding event for all of us who attended and saw the faculty nominators of the inductees speak about their memories of the students when they were at Skyline. Here are this year's inductees:

Gilda Guerrero, B.A.  
Alexander Khalfin, B.A.  
Leticia Silva, M.S.

Hisashi Imura, B.A., B.S.  
Dr. Lisa Law, M.D.  
Ramona Mitchell, M.S.  
Dolores Victor, J.D.

The new inductees will appear on the website shortly, along with those from 2005 and 2006 at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/sts/transferCenter/awards.html>.

Linda Rosa Corazon, our Transfer Center Director provided the leadership for this innovation at Skyline. Her enthusiasm has been critical to the development of our Transfer Center since its inception and to the creation of our new Transfer Student Hall of Fame. Thanks also to Gunilla Harshman for her support. The Transfer Center and the Office of Student Activities assisted with the funding.



*Photo by Sandy Irber*

### **Skyline's Gateway Program looks to the future**

Skyline College and the San Mateo County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) hosted a Gateway Program Recruitment Strategy Luncheon on Monday, May 14, 2007. Gateway offers math, English, reading and career development in a specially designed format of intensive support to get students ready for college and careers. With funding from the Bay Area Workforce Funding Collaborative, Skyline and the WIB will deliver a Gateway Program in the Fall of 2007 and the Spring of 2008. The first of the Gateway Information sessions will be offered during the last week of June and will continue during the month of July. These sessions will be offered in partnership with San Mateo County Workforce Development here at Skyline so that a person attending these sessions can: 1) learn about the program, 2) enroll in services through the federal Workforce Investment Act, 3) complete Skyline placement testing and 4) apply for admission to Skyline all in one stop. The Gateway Luncheon featured attendees from Skyline, San Mateo County (SMC) Workforce Development Unit, SMC Adolescent Services, SMC Jobs for Youth, San Mateo Adult School, The Career Ladders Project, and Opportunities Industrial Centers West - Youth Program. Thanks to William Watson and Adolfo Leiva for their work on this important program, and to Regina Stanback Stroud for her early and continuing leadership on it.

### **EOPS and DSPS have moved!**

Just in case you missed Maria Escobar's alert earlier this week, we have retooled the parts of the second and third floors of Building 2 to accommodate EOPS and DSPS. EOPS has moved to the bank of offices on the second floor of building 2 ranging from 2206 – 2212, within the One Stop, and DSPS has moved to the third floor of building 2. Your support in referring students to the correct location is appreciated. Also, the phone extensions remain the same for telephone communication.

### **New Chief of Security: Mike Celeste**

Please join me in welcoming Mike Celeste as Chief of Security beginning Monday, July 2, 2007. Mike has an extensive background in law enforcement, having served as a Police Officer, Field Training Officer, Acting Shift Supervisor, and Sergeant for the Colma Police Department from 1991-2002. Since 2002, Mike has also served as a part-time Assistant to the Chief of Police of the Colma Police Department. During his eleven years of full-time service in the department, Mike was involved in various aspects of law enforcement, including the hiring, training, and supervision of staff. Currently, Mike serves as the Program Coordinator of the Basic Police Academy, a South Bay Regional Public Safety Training Consortium that is officially under the auspices of the San Jose-Evergreen Community College District. The program is housed at the College of San Mateo. As such, Mike is not new to working in a community college setting, including working in a collegial environment with faculty, staff, and students. His responsibilities as Program Coordinator of the Police Academy also keeps him current in

various aspects of training related to law enforcement, emergency preparedness, and public safety. We will let everyone know the details about his welcoming reception in early July.

### **New e-Suggestion Box to be pilot tested starting next week**

Over the summer we will be pilot testing an online suggestion box, with a button on the front page of our website. It will be an additional way for members of the college and members of the community to give us feedback and offer ideas about ways we might improved our programs and services. Cathy Hasson will send you an email next week alerting you when it is available out there. The relatively lower traffic during summer will allow us to try it out, work out the kinks, and get feedback both on the e-Suggestion Box itself as well as on other topics. There will be a menu of topics (which can be changed as new topics emerge) as well as an "Other topics" button.

### **College Council Draft Agenda for May 23**

1. Review of Skyline Shines Award nominations and selection of the winner, to be announced on Skyline's Opening Day
2. ASSC update
3. Accreditation update
4. District Shared Governance Committee update
5. Tentative Budget recommendation from CBC
6. Fresh Look Project: update on the website redesign project
7. Update from constituent groups on College Hour discussion
8. Health and Safety Committee: update on designated smoking areas
9. Summer Outreach Initiative

### **Do you have an item for *Skyline Shines*?**

If you do, just email me about it. Thanks.

### **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/skynotes/>.

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