



Victoria P. Morrow, President  
August 3, 2007

#### **President's Report to the Board of Trustees**

My monthly report to the Board is available at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skynotes/>. Thanks to Eloisa Briones for presenting in my place last week while I was on vacation.

#### **Accreditation Self Study update**

The Board of Trustees approved our accreditation self study at its July 25 meeting. The final touches are now being put on the document in preparation for sending it to the printer. Copies will be available online by the beginning of the fall semester and in hard copy around the beginning of September.

#### **10<sup>th</sup> Year for Getting a Jump Start to College**

What happens to high school students who are bright and capable but surrounded by the clouds of school failure, poor grades and hopelessness? Few see college as a realistic option and have no goals for the future, yet Skyline's innovative six-week Jump Start program has been turning doubt into possibility and failure into success for the past 10 years. Participants are selected from a pool of juniors and seniors nominated by counselors and teachers from area high schools and must have a GPA less than 2.0 but demonstrate potential to succeed. They participate in an integrated Math, English and College Success curriculum in which they conduct research and write essays on social issues, create short documentaries on how to address these problems, master new approaches to math, and learn strategies to succeed in college and future careers. Most apply because they are motivated by the chance to gain enough high school credits to graduate with their peers. But many also stumble upon the hidden treasures of renewed motivation, concrete goals, and the experience of college as a real possibility. Here is this year's class, along with the Skyline staff who worked with them: Leslie Shelton, Tiffany Reardon, Georgia Gero, Vanson Nguyen, Amy Leonard, Kelly Hagen, David Hasson, Bonnie Cagno, Kamla Bucceri, Felix Perez and Jose Perez.



Photo by Jose Perez

#### **Case presents at Phi Theta Kappa Honors Institute**

Christine Case, professor of biology, gave a talk on "Gold, Gods, Glory and Microbial Power" at the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Institute, held July 27-29 at Notre Dame de Namur University. Skyline students attending were Anna Dneprov, Marcia Soares (with the flower in the photo below), Richard Chiang, and Stephen Chan (not shown). Students participated in British Debates on the feasibility of biofuels. Students were on teams with participants from other California and Nevada community colleges. Marcia Soares' team won the debate.

Dr. Case was also invited to author an article on Fermentation for Grolier encyclopedia and she edited a special edition of Scientific American entitled "Current Issues in Microbiology, v. 2."



#### **Skyline's new Assessment Handbook published**

The Assessment Office is pleased to announce that the new *Assessment Handbook* is now available. The *Assessment Handbook* includes detailed information about all assessment guidelines and services, and it is designed to be a desk reference for faculty and staff. An *Assessment Handbook for Students* will be available in print and online shortly. As you may

know, the Assessment Center has changed a number of policies and guidelines, such as retest policy and Ability-to-Benefit tests. A new Proctor Services Program, which provides proctor services to distance learning students, will also be available in the near future. The handbook provides important updates to help us better understand the operation of and services at the Assessment Center. If you would like to receive a copy, please call extension 4164 or stop by in Room 2233. Special thanks to all current and former assessment staff, Mandy Liang, Andy Davis, Nadia Tariq, Minerva Velasquez, Jenn Palladino, and Alex Lim, for their team work on the handbook, and to Don Biederman, Pablo Gonzalez, and Jacquie Escobar for their valuable feedback and suggestions.

#### **Skyline student wins Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation scholarship**

Juan-Miguel Mendoza is among 400 recipients nationwide from two-year colleges who will receive a \$1000 scholarship from the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. Recipients have demonstrated academic success and participated in community service within the past 12 months.

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

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

#### **Do you have a suggestion?**

You may want to try our new e-Suggestion Box, via the hyperlink in the box below, or on the front page of our website at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/>. We are pilot testing it over the summer.

### News

E-Suggest - An Electronic  
Suggestion Box  
for the Skyline College  
Community



#### **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/>.