



**Victoria P. Morrow, President**

October 30, 2009

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

The monthly report I gave to the board Wednesday night is available at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/PresidentsOffice/boardreports.html>.

### **LASO to celebrate el Dia de los Muertos**

Next Thursday, November 3, the Latin American Student Organization (LASO) will celebrate Dia de los Muertos from 10:00 am-2:00 pm. Their goals are to raise social and cultural awareness regarding Dia de los Muertos and to raise funds for a scholarship that will go to an AB 540 student/s at Skyline College.

They would also like to ask the student body and faculty to participate by sharing a memento of a passed loved one to place on an altar in the lobby of the Theater. There will be a club member to take care of the altar at all times. Everyone will be given their mementos back. Free hot chocolate and sweet bread will be provided in the lobby of the Theater and they will be showing a film that portrays one Latin American country's traditional celebration of the holiday. A panel of speakers will be at the event that will share their experiences and answer general questions about the holiday. Here is the schedule:

10:00am-12:00pm : Pan dulce & hot chocolate; jar available for donations for AB 540

scholarships; Luciana Castro's students will speak somewhere between 11:00 and 12:00.

12:00pm-1:00pm : Panel of faculty and staff speaking about "What does 'Dia de los Muertos' mean to me?"

1:00pm-2:00pm : Film "La Ofrenda" (The Offering)

See you there!

### **ASSC leadership learns at the Leadership Conference**

Our student government leadership attended the California Community College Student Affairs Association (CCCCAA), 2009 Leadership Conference, the theme for which was "Get up, Stand up, Lead." The conference consisted of various interactive workshops revolving around strong leadership.

They were challenged to actively participate and keep an open mind, with the purpose of making a positive social change at their colleges and their communities. Here is a picture of the group with Keynote Speaker Victor Lewis, one of the principal cast members of "The Color of Fear," a film about race relations in the U.S. today. Victor Lewis and Hugh Vasquez presented on the role race and ethnicity play in our lives. The dynamic duo provided perspective on the social challenges we face due to intolerance of diversity. Most importantly, the tag-team offered solutions as to what we can do to challenge racial hatred.



**Talisman celebrates Skyline's 40<sup>th</sup> and invites submissions of student original writing and artwork**

Talisman Magazine, Skyline's annual anthology of poetry, fiction and art, celebrated its 40th Anniversary along with the college on Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, with a reading by seven featured student writers: Jamie Ball, Charity Walden, Danni Lee, Steve Perotti, Stephanie Lee, Kelly Ann Conway and Dante Casuga. Katharine Harer moderated and organized the event which took place in the Gallery surrounded by colorful abstract landscape paintings. Dante read his Poetry Manifesto, "We Want You", calling all creative writers to join him in expressing themselves. Talisman will be calling for submissions of original writing and artwork by Skyline students next semester for the 40th Anniversary edition of the magazine, which could be the longest running continuous high quality student anthology published by a community college. Here are Kelly Ann Conway, Dante Casuga, Charity Walden and the audience.



Photos by Caroline Ocampo

**Kaugnayan means connection**

The Kababayan Program presented an afternoon of Philippine folk dance and music featuring the Kababayan Dance Troupe of Skyline College and Barangay Dance Company, under the direction of artistic and dance directors Bonifacio Valera and Vickie Hafalia, at the Skyline Theater on October 24. Appropriately entitled "Kaugnayan," which means connection or unity, the show reflected the interrelationship between the participants of this event, coming together to achieve the common goal of preserving and promoting the Filipino cultural heritage through the arts, folk dancing, and music. The two groups presented various regional dances of the Philippines, from the dances of the lowland Christian groups to the dances of the Cordillera and Mindanao tribes. They were joined by the St. Thomas More 8 pm Choir who performed popular songs and tribal chants from the Philippines. Tenor Leon Palad and soprano Tracy Sarmiento performed *kundimans* or classic songs of the Philippines. This is the first full folk dance concert co-produced by the Kababayan Program and was sponsored in part by the President's Innovation Fund.



### MESA students give presentations at professional conference

Earlier this month students from Skyline's MESA Program attended the 2009 Annual SACNAS conference in Dallas, Texas. SACNAS is the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science. Students, staff and faculty from many schools across the country were represented at this meeting. Skyline MESA students presented their original research alongside 700 upper division students from four-year schools. Our students had the chance to meet peers and future colleagues from universities and colleges from the East Coast to the West Coast, and in between. Skyline MESA students also participated in professional development talks, networking workshops and research presentations. The scientific research completed by Skyline students was made possible by funding from Skyline MESA, and the seemingly unending volunteered support of Biology Lab Technician Pat Carter, Biology Professor Nick Kapp, and Biology Professor Christine Case. The students spent their summer doing research in Case's and Kapp's labs. The Skyline research group is pictured below; insets are Rebecca Beloso (from the Case lab) and Matt Garza (from the Kapp lab). All of the Skyline students' presentations can be viewed at <http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/case/biol690/students09.html>.

- Antibacterial Activity of Herbal Extracts Used in Native American Traditional Medicine. Jonathan Tolentino. (Case lab)
- Antibacterial Activity Of The Spice *Elettaria cardamomum*. Shervin Afghani and Imad Mugatash. (Case lab)
- Antibacterial Properties in *Helix aspersa*. Jessica Lau. (Case lab)
- Antimicrobial Activity of *Baccharis pilularis* (Asteraceae), A Traditional American Herbal Medicine. Bardo A. Castro. (Case lab)
- Antimicrobial Activity of Kombucha Tea. Ashley Good and Navdeep Grewal. (Case lab)
- Development of an inexpensive method to purify proteins through affinity chromatography using the starch binding domain of alpha-amylase from *B. subtilis*. Matthew Garza. (Kapp lab)
- Effect of Treated Sewage and  $(\text{NH}_4)\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4$  on *Chlorella* Growth and Oil Composition. Bassam Esmail and James Thu. (Case lab)
- Ethnobotany: The Antimicrobial Properties of *Sambucus mexicana* (Elderberry), A Native American Medicinal Plant. Rebecca Beloso. (Case lab)
- Evaluation of the Antibacterial Activity of *Fortunella margarita*. Derrick Hau. (Case lab)
- Innate and Acquired Immunity in *Ilex* spp. Bryan Robertson. (Case lab)
- The Antibacterial Properties of the Brazilian Plant *Euterpe oleracea*. Isaiah Lan, Shwasha Govil, and Victor Diniz. (Case lab)
- The Effect of Triclosan on An Aquatic Food Chain. Pearl Lee and Eric Hong. (Case lab)



Photos by Christine Case

**ASSC sponsors a Unity Day focused on awareness against violence**

Unity Day gave students an opportunity to visit the various club tables and get to know students that are making a positive impact in our Skyline community. The students enjoyed the newly renovated quad in a worthy effort to unite against violence. As Denisse Gonzalez, President of the Associated Students said, "Between our beautiful quad, the lovely weather, and delicious snacks, we had the perfect setting to engage in a rich discussion on what we as students can do to promote peace and alternative avenues for students in need." This ASSC sponsored event was made possible thanks to the participation of clubs, learning communities, outside community groups, and the student body. Here are a few shots of the event: the Black Student Union; the Cosmetology Club; members of the ASSC Oscar Diaz, Hanna Azar, President Denisse Gonzalez and Raydan Al-hubaishy; the final shot is of all the participants.



### **Business Information Night co-hosted by Skyline's Transfer Center and DeVry University**

Last Thursday, October 22, the Transfer Center in collaboration with DeVry University hosted a Business Information Networking Night for students interested in the different areas of business. Over 40 students attended this informative and interactive event where they learned the different fields of business, types of educational training, internships, and the "must have" skills necessary to get into these fields. The panel was comprised of dynamic and engaging presenters from companies such as Old Navy, aho, Oracle, Hewlett Packard, and Genentech. Also on the panel were two students majoring in Business Administration and Small Business Management and Entrepreneurship. They provided the attendees a valuable student perspective on their educational pursuit. The evening ended with students networking with the panelists to learn more about how to be competitive in the field. Special thanks to Will Minnich, Randy Lapitan, and Joe Tolod for organizing the event. Also special thanks to Jacquie Escobar and her Transfer Center staff, Nate Nevado, and Kent Gomez for their work in making this dynamic event happen. The speakers are pictured in the second photo.



*Photos by Nate Nevado*

### **Living with reduced facilities maintenance staff**

One important effect of the state's budget crisis upon the college is the reduction in the number of facilities maintenance staff available to clean restrooms and classrooms. That means we will all need to change our practices to ensure that our campus looks as sharp and inviting as possible. Requesting that students take all of their trash with them at the end of class and dump it in a large trash bin will help prevent the overflowing of waste baskets in classroom, for example. Thanks!

### **College Council update**

- 1. ACCJC October 2009 Follow up Report:** Vicki reported that the college's Follow-up Report had been approved by the Council via email vote, approved by the Board, submitted to the Accrediting Commission and is scheduled for action at their January meeting. The college's Midterm Report is due next fall, at the three year point since the team visit. She noted that the team's recommendations to the college have all been addressed and the college's own planning agendas are well under way.
- 2. District Shared Governance Committee update:** The Council reviewed the feedback to date from the constituency groups concerning the proposed revisions to the Board's Rules and Regulations. Fermin Irigoyen, Vice President of the Academic Senate, described the Academic Senate discussion on a few of the items and Rakefet Avramovitz, President of the Classified Council reported that classified staff are submitting their feedback to Linda Allen, their representative to the District Shared Governance Council.
- 3. Budget update:** Fermin Irigoyen, member of the Program Improvement and Viability (PIV) Committee, provided an update on their work. He indicated that Regina Stanback Stroud, Vice President of Instruction, would be meeting with Harry Joel, Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, to discuss HR issues (Vicki noted that this meeting has now taken place) and then Harry Joel will brief the board. Regina will talk next week to faculty whose programs are going into the PIV

process and Harry will be present as well to answer questions from the faculty. There are four programs identified: two are low load and two are non-degree requirements or major requirements. Harry will present the retirement incentive, the faculty's FSAs and their bumping rights. Then the PIV Committee will start working on the programs. The programs will be ranked and the committee will present a recommendation to the President relative to the ranking. The College Budget Committee will focus upon the financial implications of the prospective program cuts and also make a recommendation to the President, who will make the final decision. The PIV Committee also discussed the reduction of 85 sections for spring 2010. This equates to 200 FTES, which represents 14.3 full-time equivalent faculty (FTEF). One full-time faculty member is retiring. It is possible that some of the people in the programs going through the PIV process would take advantage of the retirement incentives.

**4. Next meeting:** November 17

**College Budget Committee (CBC) update**

The College Budget Committee met on October 29, 2009 with Academic Senate President Ray Hernandez and Director of Business Services Eloisa Briones serving as Co-Chairs.

1. **District Committee on Budget & Finance (DCBF) report:** Professor Linda Whitten reported back from the Oct. 20 DCBF meeting. California's actual revenues are lagging so the state might be looking at another \$2 billion shortage in projected revenues. SMCCCD budgeted for 2.5% midyear cuts so the district should be able to weather further cuts up to this amount. The district is at the cusp of becoming basic aid. As soon as that happens, the district will be relying on enrollment fees and property taxes instead of state apportionment. SMCCCD will receive one-time federal stimulus funding (ARRA funds) which, although unrestricted, can be used to backfill categorical cuts. Representatives from each of the campuses and the district office described the cuts they have identified at their respective sites. Everyone agreed that next year's cuts will be extremely difficult and that there are no easy cuts left to make.
2. **Reduction Strategies--review and discussion:** The committee continued its discussion of the Fund 1 Budget Reduction Strategies for FY 2010-11. Dean Margie Meadows and Judy Heldberg, Child Center coordinator, presented additional information regarding the Children's Center operations. Dean Joe Morello spoke about the strategy to reduce summer offerings by 50%. The committee voted to include the reduction of summer offerings by 50% and the reduction of summer hourly counseling on its list of proposed budget reductions. CBC will continue its evaluation of the remaining strategies at its next meeting with the goal of completing its list of strategies that will be recommended to the President to meet the college's budget reduction target at the 10% level.
3. **Next meeting:** The Committee agreed to hold additional meetings to continue its budget discussions. CBC will meet again next week on Thursday, Nov. 5.

**Coming up...**

**Friday, October 30**

- Women's Soccer vs. Ohlone College, 2pm
- Landscape Derivations, Art Exhibition, until Dec. 2, Gallery

**Wednesday, November 4**

- Holiday Job Fair, Cafeteria, 9:30am-1pm

**Do you have a suggestion?**

One way to submit it is through our general **e-Suggestion Box**, via the hyperlink in the box below, or via the same box on the front page of our website at

<http://www.skylinecollege.edu/general/surveys/index.html>



Here is the **Website Redesign Project e-Suggestion Box**, for feedback on the new website,



For suggestions specific to the **budget**, here is the link:



And for ideas about Skyline's **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** celebration next year, here is the link:



**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/facstaff/PresidentsOffice/skyshines/>

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