

## President's Report to the Governing Board April 17, 2007

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### **COLLEGE NOTEWORTHY NEWS**

- **Senior High Math Field Day**

The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior High Math Field Day was recently held at Cuyamaca College. Teams from numerous local high schools involving over 90 students, coaches and volunteers, participated in a fun, rewarding, and challenging morning.

Competitive events included mathematics, computer programming and engineering. More than 30 medals were awarded to individual students and trophies were awarded to the top three schools at the end of the day's competition. Canyon Crest Academy High School was the proud recipient of the perpetual trophy that lists 32 years of winners, awarded to the school that ranks first place overall. Scripps Ranch High School placed second and La Jolla High School placed third.

Cuyamaca College, Grossmont College and Mesa College sponsored the events. Trophies and awards were made possible by the generous and continued funding and support of the Greater San Diego Math Council and the California Mathematics League. In addition, thanks go out to Texas Instruments, who provided electronic prizes for the events. The math department at Cuyamaca College looks forward to sponsoring this event again next year on Saturday, March 8, 2008, and coordinators Eric Preibisius and Tammi Marshall hope to involve even more of the area high schools.

- **New Record for Nursery Sales for OH Department**

Thanks in part to the ongoing grant support of the Rice Family Foundation and the Morgan Rice Internship Program, Cuyamaca College's Ornamental Horticulture Department's nursery sales had an unprecedented 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and helped set a new record for annual sales with a total for the year of \$58,806.

The Rice Family Foundation provides support to the Ornamental Horticulture Department to help integrate classroom training with practical work experiences, and to increase the OH Department's contact with industry and the community. The Morgan Rice Internship Program provides financial support to six (6) interns.

- **Ornamental Horticulture Program Receives Donated Truck**

On Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> John Mohns, President of Benchmark Landscape, presented the Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture Program with a 2000 Ford F350 stake bed truck having an estimated value of \$7,500 to support the operations of the Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture Program.

The donation is the result of Brad Monroe, Ornamental Horticulture Program Coordinator, asking Mr. Mohns if he thought anyone in the industry might be interested in donating a used truck to the program. Mr. Monroe explained that the program had never had a truck but often needed one to support the lab activity classes. Without hesitation, Craig Mohns said he thought the company might be able to help and within a week, his brother, John Mohns, President of Benchmark Landscape, called to say they would like to make the donation. John Mohns and his brother, Craig Mohns, Vice President of Benchmark Landscaping, have been longtime supporters of the Ornamental Horticulture Program and were recently featured in an article in *Landscape Contractor Magazine* which told of their success in the growing the business over the past 22 years.

- **Shopping on Campus**

Peggy Harris of Fashion Images, set up shop in the One Stop at the end March to sell her latest designer fashions and accessories. This was a fundraiser event that supported the Cuyamaca College Scholarship Fund, with 10% of the sales going towards the Scholarship Trust Fund. The event, sponsored by Special Funded Programs, included the latest styles in career and casual chic. Participants also were eligible to receive free personal fashion stylist assistance.

- **College Counselors' Luncheon**

Cuyamaca College hosted a joint meeting and luncheon of Grossmont College and Cuyamaca College Counselors and Cuyamaca College's Workforce Development Committee for the purpose of providing all counselors with information about Cuyamaca College vocational and technical programs: Ornamental Horticulture, Water and Wastewater Technology, Environmental Technology, Computer and Information Systems, Graphic Design, Automotive Technology, CADD Technology, Surveying, Engineering, and Community Learning. Tours of the Ornamental Horticulture Facility, Automotive Technology Complex, and Science and Technology Center were also provided followed by lunch. Approximately 40 counselors, program faculty, and administrators participated in what is hoped will be an annual event alternating between Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges.

- **Classified Appreciation Day – "The Spirit of Classified"**

The Classified Appreciation Day for 2007 was quite a day and well attended with over 150 classified staff from Cuyamaca and Grossmont Colleges participating in the various exciting events throughout the day. Tom Piergrossi from Channel 24's Emmy Award winning "Down to Earth" show, was the event's most delightful emcee! He was funny, engaging and is quite knowledgeable in the field of landscaping. Ten children from the Child Development Center walked through the audience with a sign saying thanks and carrying flowers! Richard Bugbee, an instructor from the Kumeyaay Community College at Sycuan, brought Jane Dumas, a tribal elder and renowned Kumeyaay historian, and shared their wisdom and knowledge of local plants and local Indian facts and folklore. The softball game was energetic and attended by over 40 players and cheerleaders! The dance classes were enjoyed by no less than 25 per class. At the end of the day raffle, the I-Pod grand prize, donated by GAFCON, was won by Sheryl Eaves, Cuyamaca's CalWork Specialist. The front of the gym created a very casual and comfortable picnic type atmosphere for the catered breakfast and lunch. The music for the afternoon was provided by the musical group "Footloose". A thoroughly wonderful time was had by all.

- **Email Management Workshop**

The Email Management Workshop was presented by Debbi Smith, Network Specialist at District Information Systems in the Teaching and Learning Center in the LRC. Debbi covered topics that will assist our managers in utilizing many more of the tools that are available to them in Outlook, and also controlling their storage allocation. This was a hands-on workshop where those in attendance could work directly with their Outlook accounts on the computers in the TLC.

- **College Hour – Health Fair**

The annual Health and Wellness Fair entitled “*Sound Mind, Strong Body*” was held on April 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the Grand Lawn. Designed to promote confidence in one’s body, mind and spirit, an eclectic array of information was available to participants, such as holistic health, nutrition, support groups, child care, lifelong health, community resources, and public safety. Massages and aroma therapy was also available to those in attendance. Health care providers, chiropractors and members of public safety were there to answer questions. The San Diego Bloodmobile was on campus to receive donations in support of the San Diego Blood Bank. This event was co-sponsored by Peter Hanna, M.D. and Priscilla Bartholomew, R.N. staff members from the Health and Wellness Center, and Sharon Barrett, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs.

- **Enrollment Celebration**

Victory Cake was served at the recent Enrollment Celebration, recognizing those who were part of the Calling Campaign and to celebrate the results of the hard work of so many who helped bring Cuyamaca College’s enrollment up by 7%. Prizes were presented by Dr. Perri to the Calling Campaign winners, those whose group reached the most prospective students by phone during the evenings of the Calling Campaign.

- **College Hour – Successful Job interviews**

The Successful Job Interview workshop will be held on Monday April 9<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. in room R-400, located near the gymnasium. The workshop will teach participants the ten top questions asked in an interview and how best to reply to those questions. This workshop is being sponsored by Cuyamaca College’s Career Center.

- **ASGCC Elections**

Associated Student Government of Cuyamaca College kicked off their 2007-2008 student election efforts on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 1:00 p.m. on the Grand Lawn.

## **NEW STAFF AT CUYAMACA COLLEGE**

- **Dr. Kenneth Gonzalez, Interim Associate Dean for Special Funded Programs**

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Kenneth Gonzalez, our Interim Associate Dean for Special Funded Programs. Prior to accepting this assignment, Dr. Gonzalez served for four years as a tenured Professor, as well as Program Coordinator for College Counseling and Student Development, at the University of San Diego. While at USD, he coordinated admissions and advising of graduate students in the community college administration program and taught graduate-level courses in counseling, leadership, and community college student services. During this time he also conducted, presented, and published his research on community college student retention, development, and access.

From May 2004 to the present, Dr. Gonzalez also served as an Organizational Development Consultant for the “Achieving the Dream: Community Colleges Count” program, which is sponsored by the Lumina Foundation for Education. His duties for this organization included facilitating the vision and planning of institutional reform efforts for three community colleges to improve the persistence, transfer, and graduation rates for low-income and underrepresented community college students. In this capacity he has consulted with numerous community college administrators regarding institutional reforms. He has also provided guidance and direction for collecting, analyzing, and disseminating data regarding institutional reform efforts for community colleges in Texas, New Mexico, and Ohio. He is a wonderful asset to our College.

- **Acting Dean of Division III**

I am very happy to announce that Ms. Jennifer Lewis, Project Specialist of the Professional Development Academy, has accepted the assignment as Acting Dean of Division III at Cuyamaca College. We are exceedingly grateful and confident that Jennifer’s expertise and experience in community outreach and programs will be a wonderful addition to our Community Education Program. Ms. Lewis joins a very committed team in community learning and we have great expectations for her and the Division.

- **New Computer Lab Assistant**

Please join me in welcoming DeMarquet (Marq) Davis to the CIS/GD Department in Division I, as a new Computer Lab Assistant. Some of you may know Marq from Cuyamaca College’s Title III Project, where he has worked since May 2005. The CIS Department knew Marq and his great qualities because he received his AS degree in Electronic Media from Cuyamaca College in 2004. Prior to Title III, he worked as an hourly lab Assistant in the CIS Department and for IS as a Computer Repair Technician. Marq has the people skills and the positive work ethic that will serve both our faculty and our students well. We are certainly happy to have Marq join our CIS team as we move into our new Science and Technology Center.

- **New CalWORKs Program Specialist**

We also welcome Sheryl Eaves to campus as the new CalWORKs Program Specialist. Prior to coming to Cuyamaca College, Sheryl worked for 12 years at the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau as the Executive Assistant to the President. Sheryl has worked for several years in numerous counseling and administrative positions at the YWCA, the East County Career Center, Mesa College, and various Mental Health organizations. Sheryl is a welcomed addition to the counseling staff.

- **Automotive Technology Program Coordinator attends Career Technical Education Summit**

Mr. Jim Custeau, the Program Coordinator for Cuyamaca College’s noted Automotive Technology Program, attended an all-day summit on Career Technical Education that was attended by the Governor, his Chief of Staff and other Cabinet members, the Lt. Governor, numerous Senators and Assembly members, Chancellor Drummond, Superintendents of schools, and various business leaders in aerospace, manufacturing, construction and high tech industries. The summit was to bring more attention and focus on the great need for career

technical education programs in the State. There is no one better to have represented Cuyamaca College at this very important meeting.

### **COLLEGE UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Research & Planning Roadshow**

Dr. Bob Hertel, Interim Associated Vice Chancellor, Academic, Student, Planning and Research, along with his team, will be taking their “show on the road” as they come to Cuyamaca College. They will be presenting a workshop to Administrative Council and the entire college community on who they are, what they do, and how they can best serve the college community. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in room D101.

- **Science and Technology Center Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening**

The Grand Opening of the new Science and Technology Center will take place on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The day’s celebrations will begin at 10:00 a.m. with the formal ribbon cutting followed by the internment of the CIS time capsule. Tours of the new facility will follow.

That same evening, beginning at 6:00 p.m., the formal Open House will feature keynote speaker Dr. Risa Levitt Kohn, the Curator of the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit at the San Diego Natural History Museum. Dr. Kohn’s topic will be “The Science of the Dead Sea Scrolls”. Numerous interactive activities and workshops such as “Learning in Your Jammies”, “MySpace for Parents”, “Harry Potter Potions Class: Potions 101”, “Robotics 101”, and “Kitchen Biochemistry”, and many more, will be offered throughout the evening in the various labs. We look forward to seeing everyone (and their families and friends) there!

- **Professional Development Week**

Plans are already underway for this Fall semester’s Professional Development Week, scheduled for August 13<sup>th</sup> to August 17<sup>th</sup>. A call for presentations was sent out by David Detwiler, Professional Development Coordinator, and due by April 13.

- **13<sup>th</sup> Annual Career Fair May 1st**

Cuyamaca College’s 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Career Fair is set for May 1<sup>st</sup>. There is an increase in the number of employers who will be attending the event for the first time this year. We are at a record high of 76 employers attending this year’s event, which is well above our average of 50. This is great news for our students!

The Career Fair is an integral part of our students’ educational experience at Cuyamaca College and allows students an opportunity to clarify their career goals and majors, as well as provide them a forum to meet directly with potential employers. The event has been advertised with several internet job search sites such as SignonSanDiego.com, Jobbing.com, as well as the *Union Tribune*. Invitations have also been sent to local high schools. Our counseling staff will also be available at the Fair to discuss Cuyamaca’s various programs

- **Spring Garden Festival**

Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> is the date for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Garden Festival. An event that started as an open house for the Horticulture Program is now produced in conjunction with the Water Conservation Garden and the Heritage of Americans Museum, and has grown to be one of the largest events on campus bring in over 5,000 people! Each year more programs and departments on campus become involved including Child Development, American Sign Language, ASCC, Counseling and the Outreach program. The event provides an opportunity to

recruit students to the campus and show the community what we do here at Cuyamaca College. All campus departments are invited to take part in the Spring Garden Festival and showcase their department by having their own information table at the event. We look forward to seeing you at this event as well!