

President's Report to the Governing Board April 15, 2008



COLLEGE NOTEWORTHY NEWS

- **Inaugural Concert in Communication Arts**

The first of three fundraising piano concerts was held on Friday, March 29th, in the new Communication Arts theatre. Jazz piano prodigy Chase Morrin, and his band, Minor Groove, performed before approximately 120 guests. The band members are only 13 and 14 years old but brought the crowd to their feet with a standing ovation! Chase played many of his own compositions, including his award-winning piece, *Free Fall*. He is the son of Cindy Morrin, our faculty member who coordinates the Professional Development Courses.



- **Rock the Beat**

The Cuyamaca College Chorus, directed by Ruth Lopez-Yanez, performed *One World, Many People*, and the college's Rock, Pop and Soul Ensemble, directed by Aaron Irwin, performed *Celebrate the Sixties*, on April 12th in the new Communication Arts theatre. The evening was attended by students, faculty, staff and numerous music lovers from throughout our community.

- **Health and Wellness Fair**



April's College Hour, held on April 9th on the Grand Lawn, featured the annual Health and Wellness Fair - "**Sound Mind, Strong Body**". Designed to promote confidence in body, mind and spirit, an eclectic array of information and services on various topics such as holistic health and nutrition, support group, child care, and lifelong health information, and community resources, were available to participants at the fair. Massages, blood sugar and blood pressure testing were available to those in attendance.

- **College Awarded \$1.6 million in Grants**

The College has been awarded a 5-year Center of Excellence (COE) grant of \$1,025,000, and a 2-year Industry Driven Regional Collaborative (IDRC) grant worth \$586,392.



Both the COE and IDRC initiatives will serve the entire Region X area. The primary goal of the COE is to produce environmental scans on future workforce trends so that the data can be used by Region X colleges to help them determine which career technical education programs to phase out and/or develop. The IDRC grant expands the current vocational English at Work initiative (currently serving the health care and hospitality industries), to include the automotive and landscaping industries.

- **Cuyamaca College Presentations**

Dr. Perri, College President, and Henri Migala, Executive Dean of Institutional Advancement, co-presented with Chancellor Carroll of the San Diego Community College District at the recent national AACC conference in Philadelphia. The title of the presentation was *"Managing Crisis: The California Wildfires"*, and featured Cuyamaca College's collaboration with county, state and federal agencies in responding to the recent devastating fires.

Alan Ridley, Student Services Specialist, was invited to speak on Renewable Energy to SDSU Engineering classes. On March 21, 2008, Mr. Ridley guest lectured at two classes at SDSU, Environmental Engineering 101 and Civil Engineering 401. Ridley has been developing and offering Renewable Energy Seminars through Cuyamaca College's Community Learning, the Environmental Training Center and *Four Energy*, a consortium of San Diego Community Colleges addressing energy issues. Mr. Ridley was delighted with the positive responses especially from so many Cuyamaca College Engineering transfer students.

- **San Diego County History Day**

Kudos to Professor Anthony Zambelli for his efforts and leadership in coordinating "History Day." Cuyamaca College hosted History Day on April 5th, which was sponsored by the San Diego County Office of Education, and co-sponsored by the Constitutional Rights Foundation. Three hundred San Diego County students in grades 4-12, their teachers and parents participated in the event, which was a history-based learning experience for students to learn about issues, ideas, people and events in history, and apply what they have learned through creative and original productions. This year's theme was *"Conflict and Compromise in History"*. Student winners will compete at the California State History Day held in Sacramento, May 8-11, 2008 where they will represent San Diego County in competition with students to determine who will represent California at National History Day held at the University of Maryland in June.

- **Athletic Site Visit**

California Community College Athletic Association & Pacific Coast Conference Program Review Committee visited the Cuyamaca College Athletic Department on April 10, 2008. Thirty six representatives of the college were interviewed by the committee. They included leaders from Student Services, Exercise Science, coaches and staff from Athletics, and sixteen awesome, Student-Athletes representing Men's Golf, Women's Tennis, and Men's and Women's Track and Field. The students projected a very positive picture of their involvement in intercollegiate sports at Cuyamaca College.

There were numerous comments about how amazing the new buildings and enrollment growth is at Cuyamaca College and how rich the experience was for all the PCC Committee participants. The work done together with the PCC to evaluate Cuyamaca Athletics will assist the college to improve intercollegiate sports and to serve student athletes at a higher standard. The committee will send their findings and recommendations in the next week.

- **Cuyamaca Prep Program Graduates Fifth Class**

On Saturday, April 12, the fifth graduating class made up of seven (7) students of the Cuyamaca Prep program took place in the Student Center. Cuyamaca Prep started in 2003 as an innovative, voluntary opportunity for district-referred high school at-risk students to complete high school credits and attend college classes. The program provides an effective combination of college and standards-based high school courses with appropriate services to promote

progress toward graduation. The collaboration is one between Cuyamaca College, the San Diego County Office of Education, and high school districts.

At the ceremony, Dr. Cristina Chiriboga, Vice President of Instruction, received a Certificate of Recognition for service and support of the program—an acknowledgement of the hard work of college faculty and staff, including Dr. Anthony Zambelli, Instructor of Economics, Dr. Madelaine Wolfe, Dean of Instruction for Division I, and Administrative Secretary Debra Miller. Participating from the County, were Dr. Maruta Gardner, Executive Director, Suzanne Miyasaki, Principal, and Program Coordinator, Richard Strauss.

COLLEGE UPCOMING EVENTS

▪ **Library Display**

From April 10th to May 10th, the library will be featuring a special exhibit on Climate Change. On display are books, e-books, maps and information from the EPA Climate Change website. Come by and learn more about climate change!

▪ **OH Scholarship Banquet**

The Cuyamaca College Botanical Society will be celebrating its annual Scholarship Banquet on Thursday, May 17th. This fun and popular event distributes more than \$30,000 in scholarships to students in the Ornamental Horticulture program.

• **Piano Concert Series Continues**

The Art of the Piano: 3 Generations ~ 3 Artists ~ 3 Concerts, will celebrate its second concert on Saturday, April 26th, beginning at 8:00 p.m. The featured performer for the evening is Dr. Scott Walton, faculty member and accomplished concert pianist. Dr. Walton amazed the audience at the Evening Premiere of the Grand Opening for the Communication Arts Center with his musical selection. The Art of the Piano concert series is being sponsored by the Cuyamaca College Foundation and the Music Department. Proceeds go towards the Foundation's Music Scholarship Fund.

• **Grossmont College Concert Band performs**

The Grossmont College Concert Band will perform its musical magic on Thursday, April 17th at 7:00 pm at the Communication Arts Theatre. Admission is free and attendance is expected to be enthusiastic.

• **Spring Garden Festival**

The theme of this year's festival will be "Conservation in Bloom," and will be held on Saturday, April 26th. The Spring Garden Festival is not only the college's largest and most popular public event, but is also one of the largest events in East County, attracting more than 6,000 people to the college.

• **Associated Student Government of Cuyamaca College (ASGCC) Election**

Elections for new Executive Board members will be held April 21-23. Ballots will be located in front of the Administration building from 9 am to 7 pm. The winners will be announced via all district email on April 24 at 2:30.



• **Cuyamaca College Foundation 30th Anniversary Celebration**

“Passport to the Future,” the theme of this year’s Cuyamaca College Foundation’s annual fundraising event, will have a progressive format set, for the first time, in the serene and natural setting of the college. The event will feature the exciting new facilities and will offer guests a fascinating journey through the college while enjoying international food, entertainment, fun and laughter with friends and colleagues – as well as an opportunity to support the college Foundation through raffles, silent and live auctions!

Some of the exclusive and fine items that will be available for auction at the event include:

- Rare Himalayan rugs hand-woven by Tibetan refugees in Kathmandu, Nepal
- Exquisite Pashmina and yak wool shawls
- Collectibles from the renowned artist community of Tlaquepaque, in Guadalajara, Mexico
- Concert-quality Taylor guitar and Deering Banjo
- Autographed sports memorabilia, airline tickets, guided tours, timeshares and MUCH, MUCH MORE!!!!

• “Passport to the Future” will begin promptly at 5:30 at the Communication Arts Center on **Saturday, May 17th**.

