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## President's Report to the Governing Board November 18, 2008

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- **Cuyamaca College Science Alum Selected as UCSD McNair Scholar**

Hala Stephan, a Cuyamaca College Alum (having received an AA in chemistry), has been selected as a 2008-2009 UCSD McNair Scholar. The McNair Program is a Ph.D. preparatory program for low-income, first-generation college students and students from underrepresented groups (African American, Alaskan Native, American Indian, Chicano or Latino). The program's goal is to equip students with research, writing, and presentation skills that will give them an edge in getting into and succeeding in graduate school. The McNair Program offers various scholarly activities that include: training in how to write a research proposal and paper; the opportunity to present your paper at a minimum of two research conferences; guidance in applying to graduate school and obtaining fellowships; preparation for the Graduate Record Examination; training in library research skills; and seminars presented by faculty. Ms. Stephan is pursuing a bachelor's degree in pharmaceutical chemistry and then hopes to attend the UCSD pharmacy school. Ms. Stephan moved to the US from Iraq in September of 2003, came to CC in Spring 2005 and graduated in Spring 2008.



- **Got Plans Transfer/Career Fair**

The Grossmont Union High School District in collaboration with Cuyamaca College held the largest college and career fair ever seen in San Diego County. Thousands of parents and students attended the fair that included representatives from 130 colleges and career programs. Organized by the GUHS District's counselors and various representatives from Cuyamaca



College, the fair addressed the "Post Secondary Plans" initiative, providing every student with the opportunity to explore post-secondary opportunities (educational and career) and develop a plan for after high school. Parents with students visited exhibitor booths, talked at length with college and career representatives, obtained information and attended workshops ranging from filling out applications to financial aid. The excitement and enthusiasm on the part of the counselors, staff, students and their families at the event was truly exceptional.

- **World Music Tour**

An ethnic dance recital, "World Journey Through Dance", was held at the college on Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, and featured performances by students from Cuyamaca College's modern dance

class. Performances were presented by Cuyamaca College dance instructor Lucinda Hollands and included African, Middle Eastern, Spanish, Polynesian, and Native American choreography.

- **Economics in Education**

The Economics Department and the San Diego Center for Economic Education at Cuyamaca College hosted the California Association of School Economics Teachers' (CASET) 13th Annual Economics in Education Conference at Cuyamaca College on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The CASET meeting brought approximately 250 high school economics teachers from throughout Southern California (with the majority coming from San Diego County) to the college to learn the latest techniques in teaching economics to high school students. CASET is supported by the California Council on Economic Education, the organization that authorized Cuyamaca College to be the San Diego Center for Economic Education



- **College Buildings win Architectural Awards**

The Community College Facility Coalition (CCFC), in conjunction with the California Community College Chancellor's Office, presented Cuyamaca College with the following 2008 CCFC Professional Design Awards:



*Campus Completion: Award of Excellence*  
**Student Center** (LPA, Inc., architects)

*Growth: Award of Honor*  
**Communication Arts Center**  
(NTD Architecture)



- **52<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Debate**

On Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, Cuyamaca College had the distinction of hosting a Congressional debate for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District, sponsored by the East County Chamber of Commerce. Debating that evening were Michael Lumpkin, Duncan D. Hunter, and Mike Benoit. The Union Tribune estimated that approximately 350 people attended the event.

- **National Mole Day at Cuyamaca College**

On Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, students and faculty at Cuyamaca College celebrated National Mole Day in the Science and Technology Center. National Mole Day is an American Chemical Society "holiday" designed to promote chemistry awareness throughout the country. In addition to chemistry jokes, crossword puzzles and edible chemicals (such as sucrose bits, polymer pieces and citric acid strips), "Professor Severus Snape" (aka Dr. Glenn Thurman, Astronomy/Physics instructor) from Hogwarts School, made a special guest appearance. The robed Dr. Snape conducted a number of chemistry experiments that resulted in color changes, an oozing pumpkin head and the formation of an amorphous monster. The standing-room-only audience was appreciative and crowded to watch Dr. Snape from over the railing of the second floor and along the entire length of the staircase in the H building - in addition to the capacity seating on the first floor. We look forward to many such holidays put on by the science faculty and staff.

- **County Academic Competitions Brochure Features Senior High Math Field Day**  
Nicole Shina, Special Program Assistant of the San Diego County Office of Education, has prepared an Academic Competitions Brochure for the county which features most of Cuyamaca College's programs. Specifically, the Senior High Math Field Day, sponsored by the college math department every year, is highlighted as one of the activities in the brochure.

- **First Annual Robotics Expo Held at College**  
Cuyamaca College's Engineering Department hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Robotics Expo on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, from 10 am to 1 pm in the Cuyamaca College Student Center. The event was sponsored by the San Diego Science Alliance (SDSA), and promoted robotics programs and competitions throughout the county, from middle school through college. Some of the exhibitors included:



- The Botball Educational Robotics Program
- First Robotics Competition
- Legoland Robotics
- The Cuyamaca Community College engineering program in mechatronics
- San Diego City College Underwater Robotics Competition Team
- Wintress Technical Schools Inc.

- **GCCCD Classified Senate Fund Raisers**

Each year the GCCCD Classified Senate contributes to students and a variety of community and campus charities such as the 'Sharing for the Holidays', 'Tecate Children', 'EOPS/CARE Holiday Party', 'Sharing for the Holidays' and Classified Staff Appreciation Day, just to name a few. The Classified Senate would not be able to assist these worthy student and campus projects if not for the generosity of our co-workers and their families during our fund-raising events. The Classified Senate raises these funds by selling See's Candy (deadline is December 1<sup>st</sup> for December 8<sup>th</sup> delivery) and Dudley Bread (deadline is November 17<sup>th</sup> for November 24<sup>th</sup> delivery).

- **GCCCD Classified Senate Highlighted**

Also the GCCCD Classified Senate was recently highlighted in the 4CS November Newsletter under "Senate News From Across the State". Featured in the article was the GCCCD Classified Senates' annual retreat and the development of their new Mission and Vision statements.

- **Congratulations Goes to Grossmont/Cuyamaca Speech and Debate Team!**

The Grossmont/Cuyamaca Speech and Debate Team attended its second tournament of the season, held at Azusa Pacific University, on October 18-19<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Thirty schools attended, including four-year and two-year schools such as Pepperdine, SDSU, San Francisco State and many others. Congratulations go out Cuyamaca College students:

- Vanessa Estrella: 3rd Place in Senior Speech to Entertain
- Vanessa Estrella: 3rd Place in Senior Poetry
- Vanessa Estrella: 9th Overall Top Speaker of the Tournament
- Sarah Dougall: 1st Place-Top Novice Award in Program Oral Interpretation (this was Sarah's first tournament).

Congratulations must also go to the Grossmont/Cuyamaca Speech and Debate Team for their exceptional showing at their first tournament of the season, held at Concordia University, on October 4-5<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Specifically, congratulations go out to Cuyamaca College students:

Vanessa Estrella: 1st place in Open Poetry  
Jessie Wallace: 2nd place in Novice Poetry  
Vanessa Estrella: 3rd Place in Open Speech to Entertain  
Jessica Green: 4th Place in Open Program Oral Interp.  
Nick Gonzalez: Finalist in Novice Impromptu  
Nick Gonzalez: Finalist in Novice Extemp.  
Colton Salaz: 9th Place Speaker Award in Junior Parli Debate

Congratulations to all the competitors for an outstanding job!!

- **Child Development Center Fall Festival Fundraiser – Friday, October 24, 2008**



The attendance was great this year with roughly about 150-200 people who attended. The attendee's were families, friends, and staff of the Center. The CDC raised just over \$900, which will be used for enrichment activities for the children, playground redesign, classroom materials, family events, pet needs, etc.. The entertainment was provided by one of the Center's families. The band's name is Nova Menco and they have performed at the CDC for the past two years.

- **Aggie Open Golf Tournament – Friday, October 24, 2008**

The Ornamental Horticulture Program raised over \$10,000 at its annual Aggie Open Golf Tournament, held on Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. OH enjoyed a record level of Industry Sponsorship Support, and 130 players participated in the event. Funds raised at the event go towards supporting the program's Scholarship Fund and department activities.

- **Staff Member's Art on Display in San Diego's Little Italy**

Steve Gonzalez, Custodial Supervisor here at Cuyamaca College, had his art featured at the monthly "Art Walk" in San Diego's Little Italy on November 7<sup>th</sup>. This monthly open house features work of art by local artists and craftsmen. Congratulations to Mr. Gonzalez!



- **Music Industries Studies program featured in *Union Tribune***

The Music Industries Studies program was featured by the *Union Tribune* in its weekly East County Section on Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. The lengthy 2-page spread focused on the new Communication Arts Center in general and the college's unique music industries studies program and its students in specific. In just a few short months, the Communication Arts Center is well on its way to becoming the 'center of arts and culture' in East San Diego county. Additional accomplishments of the Music Industries Studies program include:

October 23<sup>rd</sup>: Co-presented with the San Diego Center for World Music, presented a concert featuring Kembang Sunda, a Sudanese gamelan ensemble, and Zimbeat, an ensemble that performs mbira and marimba music from Zimbabwe on 10/23;

October 26<sup>th</sup>: Presented a faculty recital featuring pianist Martha Heminger and clarinetist Laura Green;

October 27<sup>th</sup>: Hosted the Grossmont College Concert Band, directed by Russ Sperling.

October 29<sup>th</sup>: Gave the inaugural performance of the college's own Cuyamaca College Concert Band, directed by Jeanne Christensen.

- **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Wheelchair Basketball Game**

This year marks the **11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of our **Wheelchair Basketball Game**, played on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Each year we invite the *San Diego Xpress wheelchair basketball team* for a friendly competition with our basketball team and any spectators who would like to play in the game are put into wheelchairs to “equalize” the playing field. This leads to a very exciting and action packed game.



- **Personal Development Courses working with Incarcerated Youth**

PDC has been working with court schools for the past three semesters to interact with incarcerated youth, who are taking the PDC course online. Counseling interns in juvenile hall are assisting with registration/enrollment and student success of these students (monitoring their classroom attendance and working closely with Cindy Morrin). We have enrolled approximately 40 incarcerated youth students since last spring.

- **Vice President of Student Development and Services Dr. Joe Marron in the news**

Dr. Joe Marron, Vice President for Student Development and Services, presented a refereed seminar/workshop entitled “Navigating Your Path Toward Senior Student Affairs opportunities in Community Colleges”, at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Western Regional conference in Long Beach, CA., on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Marron was also nominated for the NASPA award for Outstanding Service to NASPA at the Annual awards Luncheon at the conference.

Dr. Marron, also gave one of the keynote addresses at the “Annual Summit on Binge and Underage Drinking: Policy and Emerging Issues” sponsored by the San Diego County Alcohol Policy Panel. Dr. Marron spoke against the “amethyst initiative” – an initiative to lower the legal drinking age being proposed by a number of college and university Presidents. Dr. Marron was subsequently interviewed by several local media outlets who were covering the summit on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

- **College Foundation Receives Clean Audit**

The Cuyamaca College Foundation has received its final, published 2007-2008 financial audit, and, as usual, it was an unqualified report indicating no deficiencies, delinquencies or recommendations.

- **Congratulations to Men's and Women's Soccer!**

For the first time in over 15 years both the men's and women's soccer teams have won their respective conferences in the same year. Cuyamaca men's team has not won a championship since 1992. It is rare for a college to achieve dual championships in the sport of soccer. The teams will compete in first round championship playoffs on Saturday, November 22. The women earned the honor of hosting a home event.

Thank you to all in the college community who have helped earn success of Cuyamaca Soccer: administrators, faculty, loyal fans, volunteers, and counselors, Grounds Crew, Athletic Trainers, and Athletic Service Staff. With out your interest and support the teams and coaches could not have achieved so highly.



### Upcoming College Events

- **Dedicating the Wendell Cutting Center**

Cuyamaca College will be honoring a great humanitarian by renaming the Science and Technology Center to the Wendell Cutting Center. The dedication ceremony will be held at 10:00 a.m., on Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, at Building H (the Science and Technology Center).

- **Guardian Scholars Luncheon**

The EOPS and Financial Aid departments will be hosting an end-of-the -semester luncheon for our Guardian Scholars students (former foster youth) on Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. The luncheon will combine good food, friends, information regarding scholarship opportunities and gifts from the campus community to these deserving students.

- **The Krueger Brothers to Provide Seminars to Music Industry Program**

On December 5<sup>th</sup> the Krueger Brothers, Deering Banjos' most celebrated band, will play at the Communication Arts Center on Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. In support of the college's educational mission, The Krueger Brothers will work with the College's music department to provide lectures and seminars throughout the day to students in the College's music industry program. Given the popularity of the Krueger Brothers, a full house is expected.

- **Renaissance, Baroque Music Concert**

Music from the Renaissance and early Baroque periods will be performed by campus faculty at the Communication Arts Theatre on Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 3:00 pm. Admission will be \$5 for the general public and \$3 for students.

- **An Evening of World Music**

Featuring Dornob, an ensemble that plays Persian Classical, Folk, and Dastgah Music, and The SDSU Latin Music Ensemble, on Tuesday, November 18, 7:30 pm, in the Communication Arts Theatre, Building B.

- **Faculty Concert.**

The Performing Arts Department presents a faculty recital, featuring Easther Jordan, voice, Taylor Smith, viol da gamba, and Pat Setzer, lute. The program will include vocal and instrumental music from the Renaissance and early Baroque periods. November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3 pm.

- **Choral Concert**

The Cuyamaca College Chorus, led by Ruth Lopez-Yanez, will present a program of choral music on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm.

- **Rock, Pop and Soul**

The Cuyamaca College Rock, Pop & Soul Ensemble, led by Aaron Irwin, will perform songs about war and peace on December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 3 pm.

- **Orchestra Concert**

The East County Youth Symphony, led by conductor Olga Rezlsova, will perform a program of classical music in the Communication Arts Theatre on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm.

- **Band Concert**

The Grossmont College Concert Band, under the direction of Russell Sperling, will join the Cuyamaca College Concert Band, under the direction of Jeanne Christensen, to perform a program of selected instrumental works in the Communication Arts Theatre on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.