

## President's Report to the Governing Board October 16, 2007

### COLLEGE NOTEWORTHY NEWS

- **Grand Opening for Student Center**

On Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, nearly 600 people, including students, faculty, staff, community members, two past college presidents, and distinguished guests, participated in the grand opening of the brand new Student Center here at Cuyamaca College. The three multi-purpose rooms were filled to capacity, as guests were treated to performances from "The Four Winds" (playing traditional Kumeyaay instruments), the Valhalla High School Chamber Singers, and Cuyamaca's very own ASL Choir. This grand event was followed by a catered luncheon and tours of the new facilities. Fondly known as "The Heart of the Campus," the new Student Center is now officially open for business!!



- **Vice President Named to Higher Education Advisory Work Group**

Dr. Cristina Chiriboga, Vice President of Instruction, has been invited to serve on the Community Partnership Governance Committee to oversee the direction of the San Diego State University Doctoral Program in Education. Dr. Chiriboga, serving as the representative for a Chief Instructional Officer, will be joined on the



committee by a SDICCCA College President, a Vice President for Student Development and Services and three K-12 administrative representatives. Dr. Chiriboga had previously been active in representing the college in support activities for the development of this program.

- **Water Grant Receives Funding**



The college received notification this month that it has been awarded an Industry Driven Regional Collaborative (IDRC) grant of \$486,729 for 2 years to support the creation of a regional training project titled “Assuring the Safety of California’s Water.” This project will serve as a collaborative between Cuyamaca College, Palomar College and Imperial Valley College to provide education and training for the water distribution industry throughout the region. Our thanks go to Mr. Tony Zambelli and

Mr. Brad Monroe for the development of the grant, and to Executive Dean Henri Migala for his guidance and submitting the grant to the California Chancellor’s Office, Economic and Workforce Development Program.

- **Child Care Center Received Grant**

Linda Haar, Director of the Child Care Center, and her staff were awarded a grant for \$2,500 from the California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division, for the development of a new children’s garden. Staff will be creating a compost area to process excess organic material from the school lunch program. In addition, five raised beds will be installed in several areas of the outdoor environment, providing an opportunity for children to experiment with new foods, and to introduce children to the concepts of the cycle from garden to table, and from table back to garden.



- **Rotating Internship Program Established**

CIS Instructor Gregg Differding has been working with Network Insight on establishing a rotating internship program for our CISCO students. Students will be interviewed in November and May for participation the subsequent semesters. They will be employed for a six-month internship (January to June/June to January) with the goal of having an intern on-site at all times. The program may be expanded to more than one Intern and overlapping start times if this pilot is successful. We are grateful to Gregg for taking the initiative in this new project.

- **New Appointed Interim Dean for Learning and Technology Resources**

Ms. Connie Elder has accepted the position of Interim Dean, Learning and Technology Resources. Ms. Elder has been a member of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District for 18 years. She has held such roles as Interim Manager of Instructional Computing Services (Grossmont College), Interim Associate Dean of Instructional Computing Services (Grossmont College), full-time instructor in the CIS Department (Cuyamaca College) where she has been the Coordinator of the Computer and Information Science Department for eight of her eleven years at Cuyamaca. We are fortunate to count on Connie for leadership in this pivotal position as she brings a wealth of educational preparation, professional experiences and demonstrated commitment to students and the mission of our college.

- **Susan Haber to Speak at Thursday Club**

Instructor Susan Haber, along with her best friend Carol LeBeau of Channel 10 News, has been invited to speak at the Thursday Club in Point Loma at their monthly meeting. Their topic will be “Friendship of Women.” The Thursday Club is one of the oldest and active professional women’s clubs in San Diego.

- **Cuyamaca College Well Represented at the El Cajon Annual Fire Expo**

On Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> 2007, Outreach was invited to attend and host a booth representing Cuyamaca College at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fire Expo. The safety and prevention-focused event housed booths hosted by such affiliations as The Burn Institute, San Diego Blood Bank, California Highway Patrol, Home Depot, El Cajon Police Department, and various prevention agencies. There was a plethora of youth-focused activities; as well as programs geared towards adults. Ambassadors from the Cuyamaca College Outreach Department provided the community with various brochures, flyers and departmental information about the many great opportunities offered by Cuyamaca College. A strong interest was expressed in Cuyamaca's Social Work program by a group called "Head Start." Outreach plans to take steps to build a working relationship with the group, making certain that all of their questions regarding the program and getting started at Cuyamaca College are answered.



Community Learning as courses. Cuyamaca outside exhibit area staffed provided over 200 kids and use a real CO2 fire the demonstration of Sweep). The second "Save Nemo." Participants response materials to environment.



Cuyamaca/REBRAC promoted well as their credit and non-credit College had 2 booths in the by 14 ENVT students. ENVT parents hands-on opportunities to extinguisher (on pretend fires), in "PASS" (Pull/Aim Squeeze hands-on demonstration was choose between different HAZMAT clean up an oil spill and save the

Important contacts were made with numerous people from several agencies, including the City of El Cajon Storm Water Division. Members of the Division have offered to serve as guest lecturers, join the ENVT/REBRAC Advisory Committee and participate as panelists on upcoming Industry Panel Nights.

- **Library Introduces New Blog**

Librarian Kari Wergeland announced that the library has a new blog – <http://cuyamaca.blogspot.com>. It is also linked to the Library website. The blog will be used to feature services, materials, and other information related to the library. Training and a staff development workshop are been developed for those who are unfamiliar with "blogging."



- **College Hour – Chaldean Culture and Traditions**

Last Tuesday, the Grand Lawn was alive with the wonderful sights, enchanting sounds, and delicious aromas of Chaldean culture. Members of the local Chaldean community were on hand to enlighten students, faculty and staff on the various aspects of their cultural traditions, including food, clothing, music, and dance. The 1,200 people in attendance were able to learn about the rich traditions, customs and practices of Chaldeans, as well as their fascinating history, coming from the "Cradle of Ancient Civilization."

- **International Club Hosts Bar-B-Que**

The garden in OH was alive with conversation and the universal sound of laughter, while the smoke from the grilled chicken, burgers and hotdogs filled the air. The International Student club hosted its monthly social event on Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, treating international students and guests to a good old fashion bar-b-que and picnic. Students from Lithuania, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, Peru, Vietnam, Korea, and China have come to Cuyamaca College to study, with many of them planning to transfer to 4-year institutions to complete their advanced degrees.



- **Coyote Athlete Update**

Congratulations go out to our Men's Cross County team and Coach David Dominguez for clinching first place in the Palomar Invitational Cross Country Track meet.

The Pacific Coast Conference has selected Cuyamaca College soccer player Nicole Bishop as one of their Women's Athletes of the Week. The Women's Soccer team is currently in first place in the Pacific Coast Conference with a 5-1 record.

## **COLLEGE UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Library Exhibit**

In conjunction with the Grand Opening of the new Student Center, the library has a display on "Student Success." Included in the displays are books, e-books, and magazine articles on how to be successful in college.

- **Accreditation Team Site Visit**

October 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007

- **President's Holiday Celebration, sponsored by the Cuyamaca College Foundation**

Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007

- **Communication Arts Building Grand Opening**

Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008

- **Date Set for 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Dance & Auction**

Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008