



Cuyamaca College



CUYAMACA
COLLEGE

GROWING FOR YOUR FUTURE

FALL ISSUE 2007

IN THIS ISSUE

A Message from the President 2

Academic Senate - A Reflection and an Update 3

Cuyamacans Comment on the New Buildings 3

Cuyamaca College A Winner .. 4

Students Are Winners 4

Faculty and Staff Are Winners 4, 5

The College to Celebrate Its 30th Year 6

Spring Convocation Showcases Cuyamaca Talent 6

Professional Development Academy Expands Program 7

College Chosen as Center for Economic Education 7

New ASGCC Officers & Student Trustee Elected 7

New Club for Parents 7

Arbor Day Special for One Family 7

The Stars Shown Brightly at Dinner Dance 8

Science & Technology Opening is Grand!

Cuyamaca College celebrated the opening of its new \$25 million, 60,000 square foot Science and Technology Center in grand style over two days this past spring with a wide variety of activities that showcased the new building and its programs. Featuring activities ranging from a scholarly keynote presentation on "Science of the Dead Sea Scrolls", by Dr. Risa Levitt Kohn, Curator of the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit at the San Diego Natural History Museum, to a Harry Potter Potions class led by Chemistry Instructor Glenn Thurman dressed in a wizard's costume, the event drew young and old.



Parents hoping to learn about their teens' MySpace activities strolled into one of the building's state-of-the-art computer labs for a presentation on the popular online social network. Attendees looking for something more creative saw CIS instructor Jodi Reed lead "Wiggle Your Web," a workshop on creating graphics. Others interested in computer hardware headed to a session on building, testing and certifying network systems.

Meanwhile, in the science labs, people more interested in earth sciences and microscopes than PCs and Macs sat in on demonstrations with such intriguing titles as "Kitchen Biochemistry," and "Surfing with Dolphins."

Dr. Madelaine Wolfe, Dean of the programs and departments housed in the new center, was in a particularly celebratory mood noting that the new labs for physics, earth sciences, chemistry and biology provides the college with an unparalleled opportunity to provide a wide range of foundation courses in the sciences at a time when the highest shortage of employees in the U.S. is in the health professions. "Courses such as anatomy, physiology, chemistry, and paramedical microbiology are all in such short supply throughout the region that they form a serious bottleneck for students on a path to professional careers in the health professions."



Ceremony Keynote Speaker, Dr. Risa Levitt Kohn, Curator of the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit at the San Diego Natural History Museum

Dr. Geraldine Perri, college president, summed up what many people feel about the new building when she called the Science and Technology Center "a pivotal milestone in the college's history and one that puts the college a step closer to fully serving the communities of East County."



Science and Technology Building Dedication Plaque (left) Dale Switzer, District Facilities Director; (right) Rick Alexander, Board Trustee



"Gene" Cutting Ceremony (left to right): Vichaka Pann, Student; Pat Ardilla, Student Trustee (2006-07); Deanna Weeks, Trustee; Bill Garrett, Trustee; Michael Wray, Student; Rick Alexander, Trustee; Timothy L. Caruthers, D.C., Trustee; Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, President, Cuyamaca College; Dr. Omero Suarez, Chancellor, GCCCD



Dr. Geraldine M. Perri

A Message from the President

Dear Cuyamaca College Community,

It is with great excitement that I welcome you to the 2007-08 academic year. This year will truly mark a turning point in the history of Cuyamaca College with the opening of two new major facilities, the continuing increase in student enrollments and our celebration of the college's 30th anniversary!

Cuyamaca College is indeed a special academic institution, and, as president, I have "bragging rights!" So you'll just have to bear with me as I attempt to capture what makes Cuyamaca College so special. First and foremost, one of the most significant and all-encompassing qualities of Cuyamaca College is its sense of community which permeates all levels of the institution from faculty to students, to staff, to administration, and to our community partners. Members of the Cuyamaca team are truly dedicated to putting students first and do so within the framework of integrity and honesty. As part of our college vision, which drives our collaborative spirit, we always strive for innovation and excellence. We work passionately to create a beautiful, welcoming college environment where our students can excel and our faculty and staff can thrive.

From time to time, when I meet folks in the community or in my travels across the state and mention that I am from Cuyamaca College, the response is unequivocally the same, "Oh, what a wonderful college community!" Interestingly enough, this past year, our college community started to reflect on what makes our college so special, and we conducted a poll to find what is the essence of Cuyamaca. We decided to label our distinct and enviable way as "The Cuyamaca Way," and we identified those words which symbolically paint a picture of our college. I am pleased to share with you, "The Cuyamaca Way" – beautiful, collaborative, dedicated, innovative, integrity, teamwork, vision, welcoming, student-centered, community, excellence, passionate, and friendly!

As we embark on a new academic year, we look forward to enhancing our dedication and service to our community and to more fully realizing the elements of "The Cuyamaca Way." This academic year, due to the strong commitment of our Governing Board and Chancellor to increase the number of full-time faculty, the college will be hiring 8 new faculty members – 6 in the instructional area and 2 in counseling. In addition, several classified staff positions will be filled to support our new facilities.

We've come a long way since the earliest days when in 1978, Cuyamaca College opened its doors to 1,947 students and offered only 9 associate degree programs. Today, thanks to the hard work and selfless dedication of our faculty and staff, Cuyamaca College offers a wide range of courses leading to 59 associate degrees and 66 certificate programs and is gradually becoming one of the most state-of-the art colleges in terms of its facilities and technology. This fall, we will be opening our very first, architectural award-winning Student Center, and in the spring, we will cut the ribbon on our close to 90,000 square foot Communication Arts building.

A great many of you--faculty, staff, administrators and students--have worked very hard to help make Cuyamaca College the wonderful and beautiful college it is and is still becoming! This is a uniquely exciting time for our college, and I want to express my most sincere and personal appreciation to you for being a part of it all. I look forward to working with you in the spirit of the Cuyamaca Way, and I especially look ahead to celebrating with you our 30th anniversary throughout this coming year!

Sincerely,

Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.
President





Senate President Jan Ford

Academic Senate - A Reflection and an Update

The work of the Academic Senate and the faculty continues to advance the college in supporting its strategic planning values by approving a curriculum package that has added 23 new courses, modified 6 courses, approved 25 courses to be offered in a distance learning/blended format and added 2 new degree programs in Music Industry Studies and Social Work. Additionally, faculty members continue to incorporate Student Learning Outcomes into their new and existing courses.

The rising costs of textbooks continues to be a concern for both students and faculty. So the members of the senate donated \$200 for student textbook reimbursements at the college fall and spring Schedule Kick-Off events. The senate has also been discussing various strategies for addressing the rising cost of textbooks.

During the spring semester, Nanette Weir, speech instructor, received the Academic Senate-sponsored Teacher of the Year Award for 2007-2008. One of her students summed up the reason for her selection, "Her enthusiasm encourages me to learn and commit to attending her class everyday. She makes topics and subjects easy to understand. She makes this class enjoyable and interesting!"

Judy Campbell, history instructor, was the recipient of the Part-Time Teacher of the Year Award for 2007-2008, and one of her students said, "Her students know she cares about them. She is not an easy teacher nor is her class easy. Yet her students continue to take each course she teaches. That's the sign of a quality teacher."

New senate officers for 2007-2008 were elected in early spring. Michael Wangler, Geography, will serve as vice president. Tim Pagaard, Communication Arts, was elected full-time officer-at-large while Judy Campbell, History, was elected to the part-time officer-at-large position.

Cuyamacans Comment on the New Buildings

When Cuyamaca faculty, staff and students were asked about the impact the Science and Technology Center, the Student Center and the Communication Arts building will have on campus life, their individual responses were, as expected, very positive and very specific.

"Having all of the CIS and Graphic Design faculty in one building has had a huge positive impact on communications and resulted in greater collaboration. As an example, faculty in the Network Administration and Telecommunications majors have put together a capstone project course in which students must demonstrate skills acquired in at least 5 different courses, and the capstone course itself will be co-taught by at least 4 instructors." *Connie Elder, CIS*

"From my perspective, this new Science and Tech Center will allow our disciplines to grow. Our new equipment purchased with the Congressional award now has its own lab and will be accessible all the time, so we can work on learning how to use it and implementing it into our curriculum on a larger scale. We also hope to be able to bring in local high school instructors and use this particular room as a place to train them in the use of this new analytical equipment, not to mention that the labs and stockroom are beautiful!!!!" *Laurie LeBlanc, Chemistry*

"After four years of planning, including consulting with members of the Deaf community and visiting other colleges, the new facilities for American Sign Language in the new Communication Arts building are truly "state of the art." From the new labs, ASL students will be able to communicate nationally and internationally, with Deaf and hard of hearing people, thus providing our students with wonderful opportunities to increase their skills. As ASL students work towards satisfying their foreign language requirements, the faculty looks forward to hosting even more guest lecturers and ASL activities." *Therese Botz, ASL*

"The Performing Arts Department is thrilled to finally have the facilities in the new Communication Arts Building necessary to support ensembles and performances." *Pat Setzer, Music*

"One of the more exciting experiences in the new Science and Tech Center has been students bringing in their friends to show them our new labs. There's nothing better than word of mouth from a student." *Diane Kew, Graphics*

"The Science and Technology Center feels elegant and highly professional. It brings out the best in faculty, staff and students." *Madelaine Wolfe, Dean*

"The implications of the building are enormous. Microbiology, for example, is a required class for many students who are entering nursing programs. Until now, our students have had to travel all of San Diego County to take the class, in many cases waiting two to three years to actually get into a class - this will no longer be an issue." *Kathryn Nette, Biology*

"The new Student Center is going to provide many new services to Cuyamaca students. The center gives students a place to come together. It will not only benefit the students, but potentially make Cuyamaca College a shining star as we set the standard for community colleges." *Sam Farhan, Associated Student President*

"Personally, I feel that the 3 new buildings will transform the campus. There is no question that students will come and experience facilities that look to be "university" level, and I know that it will heighten their own motivation about being in college as well as inspire faculty as they teach in up-to-date venues. I am looking forward to the Student Center where, at last, students will have a place to congregate and hang out--and faculty and staff will too. I Hope this will promote the kind of student-faculty interaction that is also such a special aspect of the college experience." *Cristina Chiriboga, Vice President*

Cuyamaca College...

Cuyamaca College A Winner

College Program Recognized

Cuyamaca College was recognized at the annual conference of the First-Year Experience in Dallas, Texas for having "One of the Top Ten" notable examples of student success programs. The program was commended for having a college success course transferable to 4-year universities, which also serves as a bridge between high schools, community colleges and universities. It was recognized for the significant finding that students who successfully completed Personal Development 124, Lifelong Success, had increased persistence rates of 27%.

College Scores Higher

Cuyamaca College was recognized recently for its outstanding record of student success in the report "Focus on Results: Accountability Reporting for the Community Colleges," compiled by the California Community College Chancellor's Office. The 18-month study examined issues such as student retention, students transferring to 4-year colleges, and wages for students who receive associate degrees or certificates. Cuyamaca College was recognized for scoring higher than similar colleges throughout the state in terms of student progress, retention and other accomplishments.



Recycling Plan a Success

A recent article in *The Californian*, "Recycling Rate Triples at Cuyamaca College," noted that Cuyamaca College "has become a regional archetype for single-stream recycling..." Partnering with Allan Company, the region's largest packer and exporter of recovered fiber, the Department of Public Works, and the California Resource Recovery Association, Cuyamaca College "now boasts an 88% recycling rate compared to just 27% in 2001. Also, the college annually diverts 1,500 tons of recycling material as opposed to the mere 700 tons diverted from 2001-2003."

Workforce Grant Awarded

The Regional Environmental Business Resource Assistance Center (REBRAC) was awarded \$1,025,000 for 5 years, from the Economic Workforce Development Initiative at the State Chancellor's Office. Under the leadership of Vivian J. Bogue, REBRAC, will be expanding its efforts to include Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Training, Renewable Energy Conservation Methods, GIS/GPS Spatial Technology Training and Environmental Health and Safety Training in Spanish, to support the Community College System and industries within Region X.



Students Are Winners

Paralegal Student Recognized

The East County Economic Development Council honored Jeffrey Corcoran, a Cuyamaca College Paralegal Studies student, at their annual dinner in May as an outstanding student from a career/technical field. Jeffrey is not only outstanding academically, but he has contributed significantly towards the revitalization of the Cuyamaca Association for Paralegal Students (CAPS).

athletes in the community college system, Amy is 1 of only 24 California athletes to receive this honor through the Community College League of California. Amy attributes her success as a scholar and athlete to her family, coaches, and the Cuyamaca athletic staff.

Pepsi Scholar Athlete Honor Roll

Amy Hoyt, team captain of the Cuyamaca College Women's Basketball team, was recently selected as one of the members of the 2006 Pepsi Scholar Athlete Honor Roll. With nearly 25,000 student

Basketball Stars Earn Scholarships

Sophomore Coyote basketball players Clinton Shelton and J.R. Griffin have earned full basketball scholarships for the upcoming academic year. Clinton will be attending Northern Montana University while J.R. will be attending Northeastern State Oklahoma University.

Faculty and Staff Are Winners



Alicia Munoz

ESL Instructor Wins Rotary Award

Alicia Munoz, ESL instructor, was recently awarded a Rotary International Grant for University Teachers to study in Uruguay during summer 2008. Ms. Munoz will be studying sociolinguistic issues comparing how Portuguese and Spanish blend in the Brazil/Uruguay border region with the Spanish/English blend in the Mexico/USA border region.

New State Appointment for Faculty Member

Long-time adjunct instructor and supporter of the Paralegal Studies Program, Judge Ed Sturgeon, has been named the Vice Chair of the New Judge Judicial Education program for the state of California. He is only the second San Diego County Judge in the history of the San Diego County Superior Court to be named to this position.

More Reasons to Celebrate!



Dr. Ezequiel Cardenas

Spanish Instructor Invited to Spain

Dr. Ezequiel Cardenas, Spanish instructor, was invited by the Embassy of Spain to participate in an all-expense-paid trip to Spain as part of the country's education trade mission. Dr. Cardenas was 1 of only 15 people from the Western U.S. invited to participate in this prestigious event. The purpose of the visit was to explore and promote international student exchange and study abroad programs.

Classified Staff Member Receives Scholarship

Kari Crawford, an advisor in the Financial Aid Office, was recently selected by the California Community College Classified Senate as the recipient of their Classified Leadership Institute (CLI) scholarship for the Southern region. Only 2 scholarships are offered and awarded to classified employees with strong leadership skills and potential. This scholarship will pave the way for Ms. Crawford to attend the annual CLI conference

Counselor Article in National Publication



Dr. Marsha Fralick

Counselor Marsha Fralick's research article, "Comprehensive College Success Courses Increase Student Persistence, Self-Confidence and Satisfaction," will be published in The First-Year Experience Monograph series *Exploring the Evidence: Campus-Wide Initiative in the First College Year*, which is sponsored by the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience. This national research publication features innovative campus-based programs that contribute

to the first-year experience in college. Dr. Fralick also presented her research paper at the International Conference for the First-Year Experience held in Hawaii in July 2007.

Dean Lectures at UCSD



Dean Henri Migala

Executive Dean Henri Migala recently gave a presentation "International Health and Global Efforts to Eradicate Polio" at the UCSD Medical School. Dean Migala was asked to help start the Division of International Health and Cross-Cultural Medicine within the UCSD medical school several years ago and still holds a volunteer adjunct clinical faculty position in the division which involves him giving an occasional lecture related to global health issues.

President Perri to Serve on National Advisory Council

Dr. Geraldine Perri has been selected to serve as one of the 3 state representatives to the American Student Association of Community Colleges' National Advisory Council. During her 3-year term, she will be representing issues and concerns from the Southern California region.



Dr. Geraldine M. Perri



Cindy Morrin

PDC Instructor Receives Online Award

Cindy Morrin, Personal Development instructor, was selected for the 2006/2007 California Virtual Campus (CVC) Teaching Award for her online course at Cuyamaca College. Only 10 instructors were chosen from the California Community College system for this recognition.

Elk of the Year

Dr. Tony Zambelli, Economics instructor, was named Elk of the Year by the El Cajon Lodge, the second largest in California with over 2000 members. He received this award largely because of his volunteer efforts to raise money for various charitable causes including the scholarship fund and Constitution education activities.



Dr. Toni Zambelli



Dr. Duncan McGehee

Engineering Instructor Leads the Way

Dr. Duncan McGehee, Engineering instructor, is actively involved in a national effort called Project Lead the Way (PLTW), which works to bring engineering education into high schools with the goal of informing young people about the fun and demands of engineering. Every summer during a 2-week intensive training session at SDSU, Dr. McGehee serves as a high school teacher-trainer helping to train teachers in digital electronics.



Lindy Brazil

English Faculty To Teach Abroad

English instructors, Lindy Brazil and Kathy McWilliams have been selected to teach in the SDICCCA Study Abroad Program next year. Ms. Brazil will be teaching in Seville and Barcelona, Spain during the fall 2007 semester, and Ms.



Kathy McWilliams

McWilliams will be teaching in Florence, Italy during spring 2008. Both instructors are very excited about this great opportunity to teach community college students from all over San Diego County who are eligible to participate in the study abroad program. Students enrolled in the programs will take a variety of transfer level college courses as well as language and culture.



College to Celebrate Its 30th Year

Cuyamaca College is celebrating its 30th anniversary this 2007/2008 academic year, and the opening of two new buildings is a fitting way to start the college's 4th decade of service to the residents of East County. The \$18.9 million Student Center will have its opening celebration on October 11, and the \$44.6 million Communication Arts building in January 2008.

In addition to the grand openings, the college has planned a variety of activities throughout the school year to help celebrate this anniversary. A special issue of the *Cuyamaca News* focusing on the college's 30 years of service will be published in spring 2008. The Cuyamaca College Foundation will hold its annual dinner dance on campus for the first time in the new Student Center. Many other activities are being planned, and community members are invited and encouraged to share in the fun and excitement.

Spring Convocation Showcases Cuyamaca Talent



The Spring 2007 Convocation provided a showcase for many Cuyamaca College students and faculty to exhibit their talents with musical performances, a poetry reading and a dramatic reading. However, the hit of the event had to be Forensics Team members in a reader's theater style presentation of this year's Golden Coyote awards. Fifteen students, faculty and staff were recognized for their service to Cuyamaca College.

- Music & Song...
- Poetry Reading...
- Dramatic Reading...
- ASL Performance...
- Readers Theater...



Music performed by Cuyamaca faculty members, Esther Jordan and Pat Setzer



Cuyamaca Forensics Team presenting Golden Coyote Awards

Golden Coyote Awards Presented for Spring 2007

Academic Excellence and Program Development-- Angela Nesta and Mark Cossano

Student Success-- Brian Hash, Pat Ardilla, Greg Gomez, Sharon Barrett, Teresa McNeil, Jim Ney, Eric Preibisius

Facilities and Physical Environment-- Steve Gonzalez

Community Relations-- Jennifer Lewis and Tonette Salter

Resource Development-- Sandy Lyon, Nanyamka Hill and Nora Hok



Professional Development Academy Expands Program

A new 2-year, \$804,500 English-at-Work grant has provided Cuyamaca College with the opportunity to expand the offerings of the Professional Development Academy (PDA) to include a variety of noncredit Vocational English as a Second Language (VESL) courses focused on serving the healthcare and hospitality industries.

Curriculum for the English-at-Work program has been developed and will be posted on a newly created VESL online repository of curriculum for ESL instructors to utilize statewide. Another exciting part of the English-at-Work grant is a partnership with the Cajon Valley Union School District to deliver noncredit ESL instruction for their Community Based English Tutoring (CBET) Family Literacy program. Noncredit ESL classes are provided at elementary schools in El Cajon with the goal of increasing parents' English language skills to better support the academic success of their children.

The college is committed to developing an outstanding noncredit Vocational English-as-a Second Language program and providing businesses, employees and members of the East County community with a gateway into other vocational and credit programs offered through Cuyamaca College.

College Chosen as Center for Economic Education

Cuyamaca College has been designated as 1 of 11 centers in the state to promote and improve the teaching of economics – particularly at elementary and secondary schools – by providing workshops and other resources to instructors.

“The change is being made to bring a broad academic expertise,” said Dr. Tony Zambelli, business and economics instructor and director of the new center. “That’s the advantage of an affiliation with a college or university.” The mission of the center is to provide teaching resources to instructors in order to meet state mandates such as the 1985 legislation that students complete a semester course in economics before graduating from high school.

Cuyamaca College is the only community college to be designated an official center by the state Council on Economic Education, a nonprofit consortium of education, business, government and labor leaders whose mission is to promote economic literacy in K-12 schools, colleges and local communities.

Deanna Weeks, a Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Governing Board trustee, sees the new partnership forged by Cuyamaca as a way to help young people understand the relevance of economics. “This is yet another important link between education and real-life economics,” said Weeks, who is also the director of the East County Economic Development Council. “As a member of the college district Governing Board, I am very pleased about the ongoing innovation at our colleges and the affiliation of Cuyamaca College with the California Council on Economic Education.”

New ASGCC Officers & Student Trustee Elected



(left to right) Sam Farhan, President; Autumm Recktenwald, Secretary; Almira Henson, Treasurer; Sharon Barrett, Advisor
Trudie Hawley, Executive Vice President
Charles Taylor III, Evening Vice President

The Associated Student Government at Cuyamaca College will start the 2007-2008 academic year with a new slate of well-qualified officers. Serving the college and its students are Sam Farhan, President; Trudie Hawley, Executive Vice President; Chuck Taylor, Evening Vice President; Almira Henson, Treasurer; Audrey Causton, Student Trustee.

New Club for Parents

Cuyamaca College has a new student organization, the Parent's Club, that will offer support and benefits for students who are single parents. The new president, Meghan Hopkins, and club advisor, Maggie Gonzales, want to help parents in a variety of ways and hope to have fundraisers, book scholarships and loan programs, parenting workshops with motivational speakers and much more. One important focus of the club is helping single parents with their studies by arranging study dates and providing childcare. With 25 members already, the club is off to an excellent start.



Arbor Day Special for One Family

The 28th Annual Cuyamaca College Arbor Day Tree Planting Ceremony honored a family who has contributed so much to the Ornamental Horticulture department and its students. This year's planting was in memory of

Mr. Robert Tiglio who passed away last year. Mr. Tiglio was the founder of Hydro-Scape Products, an irrigation and horticulture supply distributor in El Cajon. His son, David Tiglio, was lost at sea in a boating tragedy several years ago. The Tiglios established a scholarship endowment for the Ornamental Horticulture department that now has over \$40,000. New funds are added to the endowment each year by the Tiglios who also give student scholarships separate from the endowment. After Robert Tiglio's death last year, the family set up a second endowment in his memory which now has over \$20,000.



The Stars Shown Brightly at Dinner Dance



Over 320 people danced the night away at the Annual Cuyamaca College Foundation Dinner Dance & Auction held in April at the San Diego Mission Valley Marriott. Maintaining a trend started over 5 years ago, the event once again broke another record by grossing over \$110,000.

This year's event was also notable because of two new initiatives, the publication of a Directory of Sponsors who support Cuyamaca College and the creation of an Honor Court. By publishing a Directory of Sponsors, the Foundation hopes to recognize, express appreciation and encourage the public to support those companies that support Cuyamaca College.

The Honor Court, which will be located between the Student Center and the Science and Technology building, will be a place where the Friends of Cuyamaca College will be honored. The Honor Court was made possible by a very generous donation from George and Pat Anderson.



Master of Ceremonies & Auctioneer
Ken McCormack



STARLIGHTS OF THE SOUTHWEST



GCCCD GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS:

Rick Alexander • Greg Barr • Timothy L. Caruthers, D.C.
Bill Garrett • Deanna Weeks
Student Members: Crystal Bernier-Sudano; Audrey Causton
Chancellor: Omero Suarez, Ph.D.
Cuyamaca College President: Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.

Newsletter Contributors

Sharon Barrett
Vivian Bogue
Della Elliott
Jan Ford
Marsha Fralick
Maggie Gonzalez

Jennifer Lewis
Brad Monroe
Dana Quittner
Barbara Takahashi
Tony Zambelli

Newsletter Staff

Editor in Chief: Henri Migala
Editor: Kathy McWilliams
Design/Layout: Jim Ney
Photography: Phu Nguyen

Email us at:
henri.migala@gcccd.edu or
kathy.mcwilliams@gcccd.edu



CUYAMACA
- COLLEGE -

900 Rancho San Diego Parkway
El Cajon, CA 92019-4369