



# President's Report to the Board of Trustees

**Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud**  
**August 24, 2011**

## **SKYLINE SHINES**

### **Professor Pat Deamer Honored With Skyline Shines Award**



On Skyline College's Opening Day event on August 16, Professor Patricia Deamer was presented with the Skyline Shines Award for her dedication and commitment to students and student success. She has committed herself to teaching, learning, and advocacy for the benefit of her students and colleagues. She has a steadfast commitment and dedication to students and her ongoing advocacy and efforts to promote equity and fairness in education.

Pat and other African American colleagues who were concerned about how African American students were faring at Skyline College created its notable African-American Success Through Excellence and Persistence (ASTEP) program. The creators are also advocates and mentors for African American students, steering them toward scholarship and leadership opportunities, and helping them to mediate conflict when such occasions arise. Pat is a primary fundraiser for the Skyline scholarships designated for African American students.

In Fall 2006, Pat created the Math Academy that is open to all students interested in succeeding in Algebra. Proudly referring to this class as her private United Nations, she fosters a collaborative learning environment in which students can openly grapple with the problem sets both in class and study halls after class. Pat, not only uses untraditional methods in her classroom to teach students how "to do the math," she also gets them to understand mathematical processes and "not to fear" the subject. As a result, her students succeed at a 15-20% higher rate than the

average math students.

Pat, however, does more than just teach mathematics; she instills in her students a sense of "community" in the way she encourages their involvement in campus, District, and community-wide efforts to support and promote ASTEP, Math Academy, other student programs and Skyline College. Pat's students not only see themselves as math students, they see themselves as artists, teachers, builders, scientists, doctors, advocates, activists, and the list goes on.

Pat is actively involved with many community organizations. In addition to raising scholarship monies for her sorority, she organized College Day for Black Expo, a major Bay Area event that connected African American students with colleges, and hosted an informational booth there for Southern University, her alma mater, and other Historically Black Colleges. She also served on former Oakland Mayor Ron Dellums' Task Force on Education.

Last, but by no means least, Pat has devoted much of her time to faculty advocacy. Pat promotes fairness and diversity as a College, District, and State-wide participant in the Academic Senate. She has also played key leadership roles in the American Federation of Teachers and the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges. Pat inspires her students and colleagues to explore and accept their potential and, with that, to strive towards making change in the world. Congratulations to Pat Deamer.

### **Cherie Napier Honored With Community Member Skyline Shines Award**

The President's Council is made up of community, civic, and business leaders who help people love Skyline College and the community it serves. They come from all walks of life and make contributions in the way of their time, energy, and connections to help Skyline College realize its goals and be the prize community resource and cultural center that it is.



This coveted support team does not exist serendipitously. It takes leadership that has a vision and conviction—leadership that understands and buys into the values of Skyline College. On Tuesday, August 16 at Skyline College's Opening Day event, President Stanback Stroud was joined by faculty and staff to honor the leader of the President's Council and 2011 recipient of the Community Skyline Shines Award, Cherie Napier.

Cherie is the Marketing Manager for Serramonte Shopping Center. She consistently finds ways to connect Skyline College with the center to the benefit of both. She is passionate about education and wasted no time in making a strong connection to the college.

Under her leadership, the council has grown into a coveted body of folks who have a sense of pride, ownership and investment in Skyline College. During the Opening Day event, the 2011 President's Innovation Fund video was shown to faculty and staff. The video shows all of the great and innovative things at Skyline College that the President's Innovation Fund has supported. That fund is made possible by the President's Council. Under Cherie's leadership the council has raised and allocated more than \$100,000 in President's Innovation Funds so that faculty and staff as a college committee may embark upon some of their most innovative ideas.

Cherie also makes sure that Skyline College and its programs are connected to the recruitment activities and publicity at the Serramonte Shopping Center

College Days, whether it is by hosting a fashion show that also connects the Cosmetology program and the Fashion Merchandising program to the community or participating in the green living fair. Congratulations to Cherie Napier.

## **PROGRAMS**

### **Phi Theta Kappans Teaching Older Adults**

Skyline College's Phi Theta Kappa members developed a program called CLICS: Computer Literacy and Internet Competency for Seniors. The research that the students did earlier this year showed older adults can actually get some of the greatest benefits from computer use. The internet can prevent social isolation and provide mental stimulation. Moreover, people can remain independent because they can do many of their chores such as shopping and bill paying online.

In the spring, the Skyline College Phi Theta Kappa students developed one-hour training sessions to help get older people to go online. The lessons include safety tips to avoid scams and spams. During the summer, the students visited senior centers almost daily to give their popular training.

The students are doing a remarkable job helping people and representing Skyline College. More senior centers are requesting more and there have been requests for CLICS sessions in Spanish too. No special knowledge or

computer science is necessary. If there are students looking for community service or just wanting to contribute to society, they may contact Skyline College's Phi Theta Kappa chapter Vice-president of Records, Denice Sy, at [dsy2@my.smccd.edu](mailto:dsy2@my.smccd.edu) or the Phi Theta Kappa Advisor Professor Chris Case at [case@smccd.edu](mailto:case@smccd.edu)

In the photo below, Skyline College Phi Theta Kappans and MESA students (Math English Science Achievement) are planning the lessons. From left to right are: Kayla Aung, Elena Anuryeva, Richard Porter, Charity Walden, Anand Singh, and Julie Chou Inset: Katrina Cheung teaches her pupil how to take a self-portrait.

