Skyline Shines

Victoria P. Morrow, President
August 27, 2010

One cool spot at Skyline last Tuesday
Thanks to Christianne Marra for this beautiful shot from the overlook last Tuesday afternoon. We had a scorching day here, but the sea breezes still blew here at the overlook at Vista Point.

Power outage closes campus for Monday morning

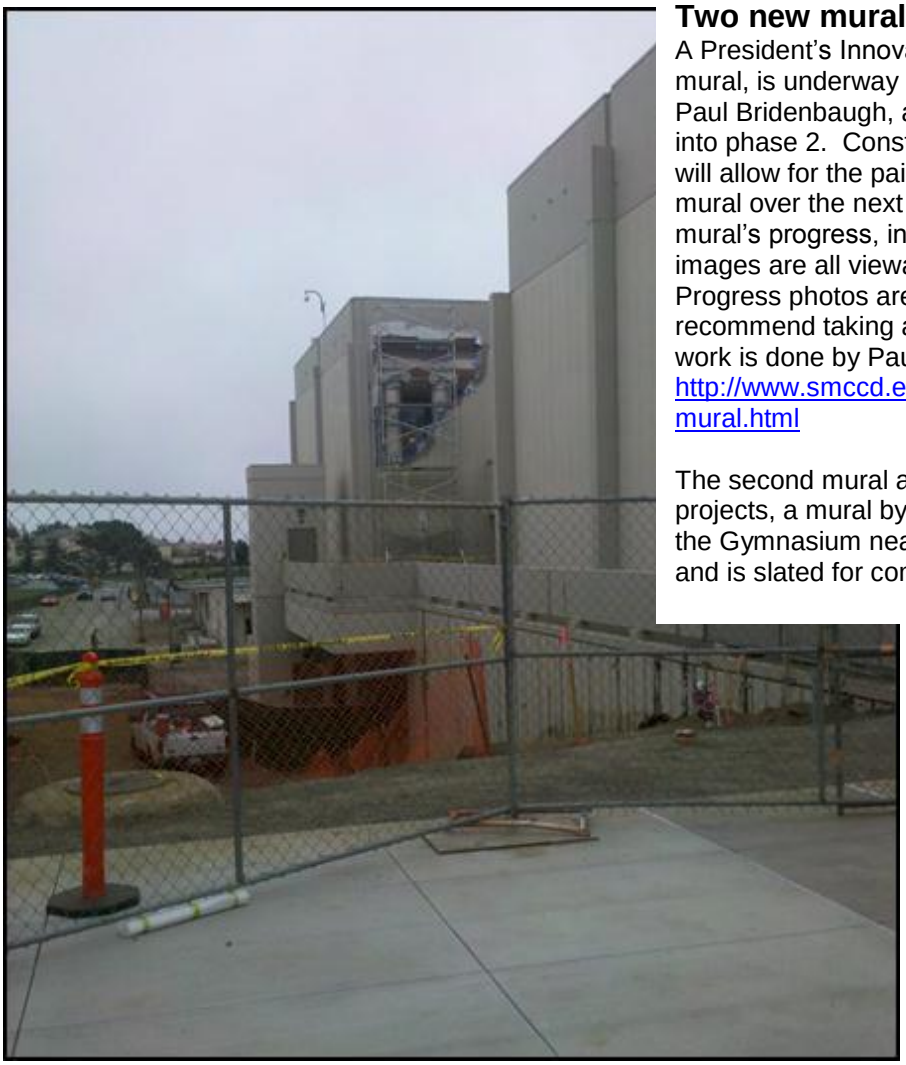
We had an unscheduled test of our emergency response plan last Monday when a power outage occurred around 9:15 in the morning during the heat when large air conditioning loads were put on the electrical system. The new campus electrical upgrades are designed to sufficiently handle these loads but as the upgrades are only now being completed and put into service we have not yet fully resolved the interface with the existing campus infrastructure, in particular the college's cogeneration facility. Swinerton, Facilities, Hensel Phelps and Chevron Energy Systems engineers are currently resolving these interface problems and in the interim temporary adjustments have been made to prevent further outages. These temporary adjustments mean the buildings will not be cooled as frequently and to as low a temperature as we would like and uncomfortable conditions may continue on future hot days. While we don't anticipate further outages, it is a possibility as diagnosis and adjustments to the electrical system are being made.

During the outage, we used all of our emergency communication strategies to get the word out—emergency text message, email to students, emergency announcement system (public address), and our website. Classes were canceled until noon and all buildings were evacuated. The initial outage lasted an hour, and then was followed by several short hiccups during which the power went off and then came

back on again shortly afterward. A short term fix for the problem was identified by noon, so classes resumed then**.** Thanks to our Public Safety, Facilities, Swinerton, Hensel Phelps and Decker Electric staff who mobilized immediately to address the problem. Thanks also to the many faculty and staff who assisted with the situation.

Here are another couple of important points:

- **Please remind your students to sign up for emergency text messages** when we send them out, via their Websmart page, and sign yourself up too if you have not done it yet. On your Home page there, go to Employee Services and you will see the Emergency Text Message link. Enter your cell phone number and follow the instructions. Easy-peasy.
- **If you have feedback** on what worked well, or not so well, in terms of our emergency response that day, please let me know by replying to this email. Thanks in advance for that.



Two new murals are in progress at Skyline

A President's Innovation fund project, the "Dragon Meets Clouds" mural, is underway at the southern entrance to Building 1, thanks to Paul Bridenbaugh, and his art students. The mural is now headed into phase 2. Construction of a level platform is now complete, and will allow for the painting to be developed in the main body of the mural over the next few weeks. Photographic documentation of the mural's progress, information on the mural design, and design plan images are all viewable at the following page of the gallery website. Progress photos are posted weekly at the website below, and I recommend taking a look—you can really get a sense of how the work is done by Paul and the students: http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/skygallery/exhibits/new_mural/nw_mural.html

The second mural at left is one of the college's Art on Campus projects, a mural by artist John Pugh, being installed on the wall of the Gymnasium near the entrance. This wall faces the Main Quad and is slated for completion shortly.

Skyline's MESA program wins laptops for students

The Foundation for California Community Colleges has just announced California Connects, a new program that will increase digital literacy and expand broadband Internet access to underserved populations throughout the state. The program is funded by a $10.9 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration for Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). Here is how the Foundation describes the program: "The three-year program will provide outreach, training and educational support in key communities throughout the state, and will ultimately provide access to more than 61,000 broadband users in California through three primary components," one of which is this:

- Support will be provided to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office in its statewide efforts to provide laptop computers to community college Math, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) students who participate in community service.

Thanks to Stephen Fredricks, MESA Program Director; Christine Case, Professor of Biology; and Pat Deamer, Professor of Math, for their efforts to bring this wonderful resource to our students.

Skyline College Art Faculty Exhibition coming September 7

The Skyline College Art Faculty Exhibition will open on Tuesday, September 7 and run through October 8. The exhibition will feature works by Skyline College Art faculty, including Aya Artola, Paul Bridenbaugh, Noah Buchanan, Ilana Crispi, Eileen David, Diane Jones, Jody Keane, David Kerry, Ellen Lowenstein, Michael Pauker, Michael Ryan, Tiffany Schmierer, Laura Siegel, Arthur Takayama, and Ann Turner. The Reception is scheduled for Thursday, September 16 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Gallery hours will be posted to the gallery website: http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/skygallery/.

Other images of works in the show are viewable at http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/skygallery/exhibit

JoAnne Hughes

I am sad to report the passing of long-time reading instructor, JoAnne Hughes. An instructor with Skyline since 1988, JoAnne taught as recently as the beginning of the Spring 2010 semester but was soon stricken with ill health and she passed away of cancer on August 11, 2010. She will be remembered by her friends, colleagues and students as an energetic, intelligent, and kind-hearted person, who touched the lives of many, many students here at Skyline as well as at other institutions where she taught. According to her wishes, no memorial is planned.

College Council update

The College Council held its first meeting of the year on Wednesday. The group includes, in addition to the college president; the vice president for instruction, Regina Stanback Stroud; the vice president for student services, Joe Madrigal; the Academic Senate President, Fermin Irigoyen; the Academic Senate Vice President (to be appointed); the Classified Council President and Vice President, Kathy Fitzpatrick and Sandra Hatzistratis; and the Associated Students President and Vice President, Ray Parenti-Kurtilla and Amanda Parker.

Here is my usual synopsis of the work of the group, which is published on the Friday morning after the meeting as part of *Skyline Shines*.

1) **Orientation to the work of the College Council:** Vicki Morrow, President, provided an orientation for the new and continuing members of the Council. It included discussion of the College Council Charter and Bylaws, the roles and responsibilities of members, the Compendium of Committees (both documents are available at http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/GovCommittees/) and the Skyline and District Standing Committee Calendar.
2) **Annual Report for 2009-10**: The Council reviewed the Annual Report for last year. It is an alphabetical listing of all of the topics discussed during the year indicating all the dates on which an item was discussed, and a summary of the discussion on each date. All editions of the Annual Report are archived on the website noted just above.
3) **Commencement changes at Canada and CSM:** Vicki Morrow noted that in recent years, Skyline College has held Commencement at 5 pm in our Gymnasium, and we have honored those students who earned associate degrees during the year. Canada College and College of San Mateo had followed similar practices (though at different times), until May 2010. At that time Canada College made several changes to their Commencement: they honored those who had earned certificates, they moved the event to Saturday morning, and they held it outdoors. College of San Mateo has decided that they would like to honor those who have earned certificates as well, and they are considering when and where to hold their event. For Skyline, the question of where the event is held is tied to the matter of which awards are honored, because inclusion of certificate holders would roughly double the number of people in the ceremony. Skyline's Gym cannot hold more people, so adding recognition of certificate holders means that the event must move outdoors at the college or to a rented venue. The Council discussed a variety of options and agreed that the topic will be considered in the constituent groups and brought back to the College Council at the September 22 meeting.
4) **College Council agenda for the year:** The Council had a preliminary discussion of topics that might need work this year, and agreed to continue this conversation at the next meeting.
5) **Next meeting:** September 22

Coming Up…

August 28, 2010

- 12:00 p.m., Women's Volleyball – Butte Classic @ Oroville

August 31, 2010

- 1:00 p.m., Men's Soccer vs. Foothill College @ Skyline

- 3:00 p.m., Women's Soccer vs. West Hills College @ Lemoore

September 1, 2010

- 5:30 p.m., Women's Volleyball vs. Mendocino College @ Skyline

Do you have a suggestion?

One way to submit it is through our general **e-Suggestion Box**, via the hyperlink in the box below, or via the same box on the front page of our website at http://www.skylinecollege.edu/general/surveys/index.html

Here is the **Website Redesign Project e-Suggestion Box**, for feedback on the new website,

For suggestions specific to the **budget**, here is the link:

For state level information on community colleges, see these websites:

- The Chancellor's Office in Sacramento: http://www.cccco.edu/
- The Community College League of California: http://www.ccleague.org/
- The Research and Planning Group: http://www.rpgroup.org/

Skyline Shines is archived at http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/PresidentsOffice/skyshines/

Victoria P. Morrow, Ph.D.
President

Skyline College

3300 College Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066
650-738-4111

www.SkylineCollege.edu
morrowv@smccd.edu

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