President’s Report to the Board of Trustees

Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud
Skyline College Hosts First Ever CalFresh In A Day Event

Skyline College hosted a first of its kind event on Monday, May 12, 2014 during which eligible students and community members who resided in San Mateo or San Francisco Counties accomplished the following in one day:

- Apply for CalFresh (Food Stamps)
- Submit verification documents
- Complete an eligibility interview
- Receive an eligibility determination
- Obtain an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card
- Select a pin number
- Receive a free bag of groceries

Iliana Rodriguez, San Mateo County Human Services Agency Director, provided a keynote address during which she highlighted the ingenuity of our community partners to host an event which increased access to food assistance in a way which had never been done before.

A certified nutritionist provided a demonstration on how to prepare “veggie tortilla roll-ups” repeatedly throughout the event and provided samples to participants. Regardless of eligibility status, each individual who attended the event walked away with a grocery bag filled with ingredients included in the “veggie tortilla wraps,” as well as the following items: tomatoes, romaine lettuce, black olives, whole wheat tortillas, cream cheese, green chilies, bell peppers, cucumber, green beans, mixed fruit, corn, corn flakes, spaghetti, rice, canned tuna, and pinto beans.

Skyline College Financial Aid Office, Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, San Francisco Food Bank, San Mateo County Human Services Agency, and SparkPoint at Skyline College set up resource tables with information about their services for students and community members who attended the event.

A Skyline College photographer took pictures during the event to capture the excitement of individuals, who for the first time ever, had the ability to apply for and receive CalFresh benefits in the same day. Furthermore, under SparkPoint at Skyline College’s leadership, San Mateo and San Francisco County Human Services Agencies collaborated for the first time on an initiative which transcended typically intransigent county boarders and policies. SparkPoint at Skyline College hopes that the event’s success will serve as an impetus for future collaborations among agencies that perform similar functions in our community.

The above mentioned partners collectively assisted twenty-three individuals with completing CalFresh applications, and ten individuals walked away with EBT cards in hand. These ten individuals were able to leave campus with a debit card which they could use to purchase groceries for themselves and their families. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of these committed partners, students and community members were able to easily access a resource which is typically laden with red tape and exorbitant paperwork.

Article by Heather Smith. Photos by Claudia Paz.
Beta Theta Omicron Wins USA Today Challenge

Beta Theta Omicron, the Skyline College chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, won the 2013 USA Today Case Study Challenge. USA Today sponsors a Case Study Challenge for Phi Theta Kappa chapters. Members develop a Case Study on a current event within the framework of the Honors Study Topic. The 2013 topic was The Culture of Competition. Beta Theta Omicron’s case study was “Will we have to compete for a place to live?” The winning case studies are published at www.usatodayeducate.com.

Case studies are intended to be used by students and faculty. The Case Study includes a 700-word explanation of a current issue, references, and study questions. Beta Theta Omicron has won eight of the 12 Case Study Challenges, including the first challenge in 2002. All of the Chapter’s case studies can be found Online.

Article by Christine L. Case.

Respiratory Care Program Wins Sputum Bowl

On Saturday, May 3, 2014, the English Language Institute hosted its twice-annual ESL Registration Day for new ESOL students. Forty-one attendees were able to come to Skyline College’s Learning Center and participate in nearly all of the steps to matriculation. Thirty-one placement tests were given and 37 people attended an orientation with counselor Kenny Gonzalez.

Chris Rico, ELI Program Services Coordinator, assembled a volunteer team of ESOL students to assist new enrollees at every step of the way. Students assisted clients with filling out the application, and A&R’s Minerva Velasquez was on hand to provide G-numbers. Goldie Lee and her excellent assessment staff ran the testing process, ably assisted by Jairo Barreto, who ensured that the technical aspects of the day ran smoothly. ELI student assistants America Lopez and Selena Wu helped make counseling

ESL Registration Day a Success
appointments and guide students throughout the day. Campus Ambassador Bianca Porras introduced new students to the processes of Financial Aid.

ESL Registration Day is critical to many members of our non-English speaking community who would like to improve their English and get an education, but who need encouragement and guidance through the very complicated steps of matriculation. Outreach for the event takes many months and can be difficult to target the population. The event often brings out very dedicated and tenacious individuals; the ELI staff were particularly touched by a mother and daughter who walked forty-five minutes to get to the college for the event.

Article by Leigh Anne Shaw.

DRC Hits a Home Run at EdRev

On May 3rd, Skyline College’s Disability Resource Center (DRC) joined the Education Revolution (EdRev) at AT&T Park in San Francisco. EdRev is a fun and informational event for parents and students with learning differences and ADD/ADHD. In addition to enjoying activities on the baseball field, participants heard from national speakers on LD and ADD/ADHD, as well as connected with many exhibitors and vendors. DRC was the only Bay Area public institution of higher education to exhibit at the event and had a great response from attendees. DRC met with parents and prospective students and connected with local high schools special ed programs and community organizations. EdRev participants were able to sign up for a DRC open house and assistive technology demo to take place on May 13th at the DRC in 5-132. The DRC team ended the wonderful event by heading to the baseball field and running the bases!

DRC faculty Melissa Matthews, Carol Newkirk, and Judy Lariviere tabled at EdRev and received a huge response from conference goers.

Article by Melissa Matthews.

JEFFERSON Adult School ESL Students Visit Skyline College

On Thursday, May 8, ESL students from Jefferson Adult School visited the ELI for a campus field trip. For many, this was the first time that any of these students had been on a college campus. Although they may be months or more from their decision to attend, their ESL teacher Francisca Wentworth was committed to instilling a vision of a college pathway to careers.
“Our students need to be able to see what is possible for them, and visiting the college is the best way to do that,” said Wentworth.

This field trip was the culmination of several activities planned through a Silicon Valley Foundation grant written specifically to create more pathways between Jefferson Adult ESL and Skyline College ESOL. Events preceding this field trip have included a faculty textbook retreat and discussion, faculty class visits, and a series of workshops conducted by counselor Lavinia Zanassi and ESOL faculty Leigh Anne Shaw.

Chris Rico met the students and brought them to the Career Services Center, where Lavinia Zanassi presented information on careers. Florentino Ubungen met the students there and took them on a comprehensive tour of Skyline, featuring many of the CTE programs. The students finished at the ELI for a Q & A session before departing the campus.

The students were excited at the idea of someday joining their former classmates who have moved from Adult School into Skyline ESOL classes. It was an incredibly inspiring day for students who previously had never considered a college education as part of their immediate future.

Article by Leigh Anne Shaw.

**SKYLINE COLLEGE BOARD REPORT**

**JUNE 25, 2014**

On May 13, 2014, the Mills High School String Orchestra and the Skyline College Concert Band joined together to present a thrilling concert of classical and popular music in the Skyline College Theater. The 32-member award-winning string ensemble from Millbrae, under the direction of veteran music teacher Doug Miner, began the night with 45 minutes of diverse pieces, from eighteenth-century Mozart to the twenty-first-century hit song “Let It Go.” Just before intermission, the Skyline College Concert Band joined the Mills High School musicians on stage to perform Gustav Holst's orchestral tour de force “Mars, the Bringer of War” from his suite The Planets, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the piece's 1914 premier and the start of World War I. For the second half of the night, the 47-member Concert Band continued the centennial anniversary theme with selections composed during the Great War as well as some modern pieces – The Red Baron, “Downton Abbey” Suite, Cyprian Suite – with musical references to World War I. Skyline College clarinetist Pedro Gomez magnificently stole the show as featured soloist in Carl Maria von Weber’s Concertino for Clarinet and Orchestra. In Fall 2014, Pedro will transfer to San Francisco State University on a performance scholarship, pursuing a degree in clarinet performance. For the final piece of the night, the Band and audience played and sang together the newly-composed Skyline College “Alma Mater,” a song which will be featured in the 2014 Commencement Ceremony: A beacon shining through the fog, Alma Mater stands, Ever watching and cherishing Her children hand in hand. Skyline, O Skyline, Worthy of our praise, Skyline, O Skyline, We shall love thee all our days!

Article by Zack Bruno. Photo by Edwin Serrano.

**HIGH SCHOOL INVASION AT SERRAMONTE MALL A SUCCESS**

On April 26th 2014, in collaboration with Clear Channel Radio Station Wild 94.9 and Serramonte Mall, Skyline College hosted its first “Serramonte High School Invasion” at Serramonte Mall in Daly City. The goal of the event was to allow high schools students to see the
innovative programs that Skyline College has to offer while rocking out to the Bay Area's number #1 hit music station. Radio personality Nessa and Outreach Coordinator Florentino Ubungen co-hosted the event and gave out prizes throughout the day. Students were given passports upon arrival and were entered into the drawing after receiving stamps from eight program tables. The prizes included ten, $100 gifts; a David Lee signed basketball and a PS4. The grand prize was Wild 94.9 would throw a mixer at the high school with the most student attendance.

The event was a great success with over two hundred high school students participating in the drawing. Representatives from various departments and programs at the college made invaluable connections with future Skyline College students! This was a great event for the college that benefitted the community at large.

Article by Florentino Ubungen. Photos by Wild 94.9.

Heart Wrencher’s Car Care Clinic a Huge Success

Set to leave on her first international build with Habitat for Humanity, Skyline College student, Latasha Washington is enthusiastic about constructing affordable housing in Cape Town, South Africa. Having volunteered with HFH domestically, driving nails and drywall are not new to her. Ms. Washington is a vibrant student and active member of the Women in Transition Program and ASTEP. She is co-founder of POP! which is a club for students who are Parents without Partners.

Habitat for Humanity requires of its participants to cover their own expenses. For a student and single mom, that price tag was significant ($4,939!) but she was not to be deterred. She pursued fundraising by selling hot dogs, pizza, and requested donations. The Skyline College community has been most generous in assisting her with fund raising for which she has expressed deep gratitude. She has met her goal with a $2500 scholarship from the San Mateo Community College Foundation, and the rest was made up from donations from students, faculty, staff and administrators. Most impressively, approximately 506 students contributed to her cause.

Reflective of her deeper core values, she feels it's critically important to be aware of people who struggle for basic necessities and to give back to the community. She intends to share her experience with the Skyline College campus when she returns and to encourage other students to take up the HFH challenge. Ms. Washington will be transferring to Howard University next spring where she will complete her BA. Her ultimate goal is to become a lawyer.

Article by Lori Slicton. Photo by Latasha Washington.

Time to Tool Up

Skyline College’s Automotive Technology Department hosted a free car care clinic for students, single parents and low income families on Tuesday, May 20th. Eligible clients received safety inspections, brake inspections, oil changes and tire rotations all free of charge. The Heart Wrenchers (club for the female automotive students) organized the event in partnership with local repair shops and social service agencies in San Mateo County.
Funding for this event was donated by O’Reilly’s Auto Parts, Topline Autosport, Skyline College Organizations and Club Council and Helming’s Auto Repair. Students volunteered their time to perform the services and make recommendations for needed repairs. Over 25 low income individuals received much needed services.

Article and photo by Julia Johnson.

ASTEP Graduation at Skyline College

On Monday, May 19, the Skyline College ASTEP program celebrated its graduating class of 2014. The ASTEP graduates, twenty students in all, received ASTEP certificates signed by the Skyline College President, Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud and ASTEP Coordinator and faculty member, Phyllis Taylor Gulbransen. The students also received Kente Cloth Stoles as a rite of passage through the ASTEP program.

The students and the Skyline College Community was humbly graced with a riveting speech facilitated by Emmanuel Stewart the keynote speaker. Stewart also co-signed on the value of education, a theme that resounded with a special resonance for Skyline College students.

The event once again proved to be a night filled with many deserving students who had completed their AA/AS degrees and transfer requirements. The ceremony began with a wonderful opening speech from our President, Dr. Stroud, who eloquently addressed the students about the importance of education and equity. During her presentation, Dr. Stroud encouraged all the students to look closely to their left to visualize what their futures could possibly be like, by using the administrators and faculty members as a model of excellence and champions for higher education.

The evening activities provided the students with a special treat, from Skyline College’s own Richard Porter, the graduate guest speaker whose oration moved and inspired the ASTEP graduates. Porter painted a picture of his journey to success by demonstrating how Skyline College has afforded him many opportunities and aided his decision to achieve his career goals.

In all the beautiful moments that occurred during the graduation celebration, it marked a bitter/sweet new beginning. For the past seven years, Professor Phyllis Taylor Gulbransen, the current ASTEP Coordinator, will be retiring at the end of the Spring Semester. As she transitions into her new role as a retiree, she will be sorely missed but not forgotten for all the hard work, time and dedication she put into making the ASTEP program a success.

Article by Nathan Jones. Photos by Raul Guerra.
Upcoming Events

College for Kids summer Camp
June 16 - July 3, 2014
Skyline College

Green Energy Camp
Creating social media videos to highlight alternative energy solutions
June 16 - June 20, 2014
Skyline College