President’s Report to the Board of Trustees

Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud

Guest Lecturer M.K. Asante presented by CIPHER
Photo Credit Raul Guerra
Skyline College Receives Full Accreditation!

Skyline College put its best foot forward over the past two years to engage in an extensive self evaluation. That evaluation was followed up with a visit by an external evaluation team who looked at how well Skyline College meets the standards set forth by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). The team filed a report with the Commission who then met in January to consider the status of the college. Skyline College received both commendations and recommendations.

The team commended the college on:
- The morale and enthusiasm which is “palpable and infectious.”
- Our commitment to learning and the civility and respect they had the opportunity to observe.
- The students first environment and our shared vision of social justice, integrity, diversity and access.
- Its spirit of innovation, creativity – noting such programs as SparkPoint, CTTL, Learning Communities, Boot-Up for New Faculty amongst many. The entire campus, administration, faculty, staff, and student leadership were all commended for our compassion and sincere valuing of the diverse life experiences at our college. The team chair also took a moment to recognize the leadership of the president, “Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud, for her visionary leadership…..This is a fabulous, fabulous college and a great part is due to your visionary leadership.

The Commission made the following college and district recommendations, of which Skyline College is required to provide a follow up report to the commission.

College Recommendation 1
In order to meet the Standard and ensure quality instructions, the team recommends that the College adhere to its systematic and regularly scheduled process of performance evaluations for all adjunct faculty members (Standard III.A.1.b.).

College Recommendation 2
In order to improve and increase effectiveness, the team recommends that the College complete a systematic review of its integrated planning and resource allocation cycle, in its entirety as a holistic process, and to do so in a purposeful and well documented manner to promote transparency and sustainability (Standard I.B, I.B.6, I.B.7).

College Recommendation 3
In order to improve quality instruction, the team recommends that the College adhere to its policy ensuring that all Distance Education courses are effectively facilitating student learning by providing continuous, regular and substantive faculty interaction with students ( Standards II.A.1.b, II.A.2, II.A.2.a, II.A.2.e.).

District Recommendation 1
In order to increase effectiveness, the District and Colleges should broadly communicate the modification of the evaluation process for faculty and others directly responsible for student progress, which includes student learning outcomes, and ensure the process is fully implemented. (III.A.1.c)

District Recommendation 2
In order to improve institutional effectiveness, the Board of Trustees should develop goals for increasing its professional development and orientation of new Trustees. (IV.B.1.f)

District Recommendation 3
In order to improve institutional effectiveness, the District should establish a regular cycle for the evaluation of its services and provide documentation regarding the outcomes of the evaluations. (IV.B.3.b, IV.B.3.g)

As the president of the college, I would like to take a point of personal privilege and thank all of the faculty, staff, and community members who dedicate their life’s work to serving the Skyline College community. You all are amazing and I am quite humbled to have the honor of working with you for this college, for these students and for our community.

Thanks are in order starting with the Board of Trustees and Chancellor Ron Galatolo, all of whom provide the visionary leadership and stewardship that makes it possible for Skyline College to do so well. And thanks to the Accreditation Co-Chairs, Donna Bestock and Christine Roumbanis who led the way to an exceptionally well executed process. Thanks to Dennis Wolbers and Christine Themoleas for managing the evidence for the self-evaluation. Thanks to Nancy Kaplan-Biegel for editing and essentially, perfecting the report. Thanks to the accreditation steering committee for their leadership in the writing process. Thanks to Dr. Gina Rosabal who provided consultation and writing expertise to help us amass an impressive set of integrated plans and manuals that is more impressive than we could have imagined. Thanks to Kayla Razavi, ASSC President, Leigh Anne Shaw, Academic Senate President and Linda Allen, Classified Senate President for their leadership and support in responding to the standards, ushering the various plans through the processes and calling on the faculty, staff and students to be engaged. Thanks to the faculty, staff, students and district staff on the standard committees. Thanks to Chancellor Galatolo, Deputy Chancellor Jim Keller, Vice Chancellor Tom Bauer, Vice Chancellor Harry Joel, Vice Chancellor Jose Nuñez, Vice Chancellor Jing Luan, Vice Chancellor Kathy Blackwood, Chief Information Technology Officer Frank Vaskelis, Director Barbara Christensen, and the entire District team for the unconditional
support and engagement we received during this process and always. Thanks to Katie Beverly, the staff in the Skyline College Reprographics Department, Kevin Chak and the staff in the Bookstore for the production of a beautiful set of documents and for being at the ready to do whatever was necessary to have a successful visit. Finally, thanks to Dr. Sarah Perkins for her leadership and guidance as the Accreditation Liaison Officer and to the staff in the Office of Instruction and the Instructional Leadership Team for putting forth stellar work before and during the visit. During the visit, Theresa Tenten was stellar in managing all of the logistics and ensuring that team had appropriate accommodations.

I want to add my thanks to all of the third floor staff in the President’s suite for their tireless work to support the team, the administration, faculty and staff and the process. Thanks to Rick McMahon, Hector and all of the Pacific Dining staff for the exceptional job you did in serving our guest. Three community members, Michele Enriquez-Da Silva, Jessica Evans and Carolyn Livengood took the time to meet with the team and really made a clear impression of commitment to and support for the college. “I love this college” is the way Carolyn Livengood closed her statement. The Food Service staff, Public safety, Information Technology staff, the faculty and Jim Petromilli and the staff of the Center for Teaching and Learning, Facilities and grounds crew helped us show our best face.

The visiting team made complementary statements about the website during the entire visit. Thanks to Cherie Colin, Liz Gaudet, and the Marketing, Communications, Public Relations department for the great work to give us a great website and for helping us put forth a coherent and professional image for Skyline College (and yes, Keisha Ford provided an impressive tour for the team). The Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness faculty and staff, Dr. David Ulate, Katie Galvin, Karen Wong and Anjelica Gacutan were outstanding in ensuring all of the plans, data, manuals/handbooks were at the ready. Thanks to Dr. Joi Blake and the Student Services Leadership Team, you really helped us shine. Team members commented on the great work being done in student services. Vice President Eloisa Briones and the administrative services staff impressed the team members with the comprehensive and transparent budget processes. Finally, the faculty, staff and student leadership did a superb job of showing just how collegially we work together to serve our students and community. The team chair indicated that we have a true jewel of the community college system……...yes, that confirms it….like most jewels, Skyline College really does shine!

Article by Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud.

College Board Western Regional Forum Conference

Dr. John Mosby attended the College Board Western Regional Forum Conference from January 29 – February 1. In addition, Dr. Mosby facilitated the first ever College Board workshop centered solely on community college students. The workshop, titled “Transitioning from a Community College to a Four-Year Institution: What Works and What Doesn’t?” This session looked at the transfer admission and transition experience from a student perspective. Student panelists provided insight on the practices and policies that enhance, or sometimes hinder, successful transitions for transfer students.

At the end of the conference, Dr. Mosby was nominated and accepted the opportunity to Chair the Guidance and Admission Assembly Committee for the Western Region of the College Board, representing educators from the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. This is the first time that an educator from the Community College system will serve in this role.

Article by Dr. Joi Blake. Photo by Keisha Ford.

M.K. Asante Goes “Buck” At Skyline College

“The world is a university.” This was one of many insightful quotes, author and filmmaker, M.K. Asante, shared with Skyline College students and faculty on Tuesday, February 7, 2014. Fitted in his Sixers hat, jeans, and Timberlands, M.K. Asante mesmerized a full house with his own personal experiences through literature from his new memoir titled “Buck”. His ability to weave both academia and street knowledge really resonated with the audience making it a very meaningful experience for everyone.

Article by Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud.
M.K. Asante, who is also a tenured professor at Morgan State University, explained that his intent of sharing his life story was to empower others about the importance of reading and writing, learning about different cultures, and being open-minded. The event kicked off African-American History Month with tremendous energy, highlighting the shared triumphs and struggles that many students really related to.

M.K. Asante was one of the guest presenters sponsored by the Center for Innovative Practices through Hip Hop Education and Research also known as the CIPHER. CIPHER aims to provide students with educational and career opportunities through the new CIPHER Hip Hop Learning Community (which starts in Fall 2014), Urban Music Academy, and the Youth Entrepreneurship Program. In addition, CIPHER provides professional development and enrichment opportunities for faculty to learn about the various Hip Hop pedagogies utilized in classrooms and programs.

M.K. Asante further validated the importance of meeting students where they are at and recognizing that students come to us with a breadth of knowledge and personal experiences that defines them. He states that, “The more we know about our students, the more they will believe that they can succeed.” That day, he connected.

The event concluded with a book signing of his memoir, “Buck”, as Maya Angelou described as “a story of surviving and thriving with passion, compassion, wit, and style.” His books are still available for sale at the Skyline College Bookstore.

For more information about M.K. Asante, please visit his site at www.mkasante.com. The live stream video is available at www.skylinecollege.edu/cipher/events.

If you’re interested in the work of CIPHER, please email Nate Nevado at nevadon@smccd.edu.

Article by Nate Nevado. Photo by Raul Guerra and Twitter.

COACH NOMICOS REACHES 300-WIN MILESTONE

Amid a flurry of Bay Area rains, Skyline College endured a wet weekend in its scheduled three-game series against the College of the Redwoods Corsairs. Saturday play was ultimately rained out before the two teams were able to squeeze in a twin bill Sunday. When it was all said and done, Skyline College Trojans swept the doubleheader to notch its first two wins of the season, downing the Corsairs in the opener 9-8 in 10 innings, then triumphing 12-1 in a rain-shortened seven-inning nightcap.

The wins mark career victories No. 299 and No. 300 for Nomicos, who started coaching at Skyline College in 2000. He is the fifth baseball coach in the history of the college and the winningest to date. Previous Skyline College Head Baseball coaches were Bill Harron, Terry Christman, Mike Givens, and Ken Bowman. With these victories, Nomicos is now second in career victories by a Skyline College coach only trailing Pete Pontac, the former legendary Hall of Fame Men’s Basketball Coach.

Article by Alexandria Hatzistratis.

CRLA CERTIFICATION AWARDED TO THE LEARNING CENTER

The Skyline College Learning Center has long been a hub for developing future educators. Current faculty in several departments around campus got their start as peer tutors in The Learning Center before completing undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Effective December 1, 2013 The Learning Center’s tutor training program became certified by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) through its international tutor training program certification process, as a Level I and Level II certified program. Level I (Certified Tutor) is awarded to tutors upon completion of the LSKL 110 Tutor Training course offered each fall and spring. Level II (Advanced Certified Tutor) is awarded to tutors after they have completed additional hours of supervised
tutoring and training; each level additionally requires regular evaluations by faculty and The Learning Center staff.

Skyline College tutors are now being recognized professionally for the great work they do each semester. This certification helps The Learning Center attract and retain quality tutors, helps tutors demonstrate their professionalism for employment and four-year transfer purposes, and demonstrates the credibility of the program to the Skyline College community.

Article and photo by David Reed.

A MIDDLE COLLEGE IS COMING TO SKYLINE COLLEGE

Keeping a 2012-2017 Strategic Plan promise to strengthen community connections, Skyline College will open its doors starting the 2015-2016 academic year to a Middle College for high school students from the Jefferson Union High School and the San Mateo Union High School districts. The Middle College will allow concurrently enrolled high school students to explore their career technology education aspirations, earn a high school diploma and simultaneously earn college units toward a certificate and/or an associate degree and/or toward being able to transfer to four-year university.

Raymond Jones, Ph.D. has been appointed as the Interim Director to plan, develop and implement this innovative educational option for high school students who are capable and independent learners but whose needs are not being met in the traditional high school environment. The Middle College is a bold, creative and innovative educational enterprise for keeping Skyline College’s commitment to empowering and transforming a global community of learners to achieve.

Article by Dr. Raymond Jones.

TRANSPORTATION: SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS TO GET TO AND FROM CAMPUS

Spectacularly situated above the Pacific Ocean, the Skyline College campus can be a little challenging to get to. When community leaders and members of the Skyline College campus community convened for the President’s Council Success Summit in September 2013, “Transportation - The Last Mile” was one of the discussion themes.

Skyline College however is more than a mile from key transit hubs. San Bruno and South San Francisco BART stations are four miles away, and Daly City and Millbrae BART stations are a distant seven miles.

The President’s Council, taking the input of the Success Summit attendees who voted with “clicker technology” to focus attention on this problem, has developed a plan to move forward a new initiative on transportation. The project goal is to identify and create sustainable opportunities for students, faculty and staff to conveniently and economically travel from public transit stations (or other locations) to the campus.

Richard Hsu, Skyline College's Sustainability Coordinator and members of the Sustainability Ambassador's Network, have met with Greg Cochran and Cindy Abbott, representing the President's Council, and John Ford and Brenda Valencia of the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance (Commute.org) to kick off the project. A survey developed in collaboration with the Planning, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness (PRIE) office and members of the working group, will find out how people currently travel to campus and to assess their needs. It is anticipated the data collection will take place in February, with results of the survey available by April.

Concurrently, the President’s Council is working with regional transit organizations to learn about opportunities that include technical assistance for planning and funding sources, carpool and other commuter options. Updates on this initiative will be provided every few months.
Women in Transition Program and the experiences of returning female students. Held at the Basque Cultural Center on January 21, 2014, Professor Slicton passionately described to the AAUW the diverse strengths and needs of returning women students, many of whom have led very complicated lives. While there are not any “typical” returning students, many have encountered similar obstacles to acquiring a higher education such as domestic violence or trauma, homelessness, unemployment and general poverty. Many WIT students also qualify for accommodations through the Disability Resource Center. Having said this, some returning students already hold academic degrees. Through the Women’s Resource Center, WIT students are also very generous with each other and work as excellent peer advocates and assist each other when in need. Re-entry students, Melody Glines and Shawn Kayln Edwards also spoke about how they have benefited from the WIT Program. The WIT program provides a unique and vital function for our college by empowering students to be strong self-advocates, clarify their academic goals and to aim VERY high! Thanks to wonderful volunteers and a supportive work environment, the Women in Transition Program continues to grow. The AAUW membership responded very enthusiastically and are excited to work more closely with the Women in Transition Program.

Article by Lori Slicton. Photo by Shawn Kayln Edwards.

SAN to Engage Students in Campus Sustainability

The Sustainability Ambassador Network (SAN) met on Tuesday, January 28th to explore campus outreach strategies and improve student engagement in campus sustainability. Ideas discussed included campus-wide essay/photo/design contests, infographic flyers, and student speaker groups.

SAN also welcomed two special guests from San Francisco State University: Guy Dalpe, Managing Director of the Cesar Chavez Student Center, and Sharon Daraphonhdeth, Sustainability Strategist and cofounder of the SFSU Student Sustainability Coalition. Sharon presented on several successful sustainability initiatives at SFSU, including campus-wide composting, a bike barn and workshop series, and the Fossil Free campaign to divest from fossil fuel companies.
The Sustainability Ambassador Network is a forum for students, faculty and staff to address sustainability at Skyline College. The mission of the Sustainability Ambassador Network is to inform, collaborate, and inspire action for sustainable change on campus.

Article by Richard Hsu. Photo by Dr. Sarah F. Perkins.

**Mentorship Program Kick-Off!**

The African Diaspora Program at Skyline College has officially launched its mentorship project for young women: Education Across the Miles.

On January 30, 2014, a group of Skyline College students (mentors) participated in a video conference with a group of high school students (mentees) in Liberia. This videoconference is the first of many meetings between the two groups of young women. During this introductory session, both groups learned about each other and their cultural customs and backgrounds.

The goal of Education Across the Miles is to expose Skyline College students to mentorship opportunities and provide them with tools to serve as mentors to the young women in Liberia.

At the same time, Education Across the Miles seeks to provide both educational and financial assistance via scholarships to young women in Liberia that aspire to graduate high school and pursue higher education.

Seven members of the International Trade and Services (ITS) Facet of SF Links agreed to contribute a $200 scholarship for each of the seven Liberian high school girls. The ITS Facet’s contribution will allow Skyline College student mentors and Liberian young women to engage in a cross cultural exchange where both parties will have the opportunity to teach, inspire, and learn about each other. The Skyline College students will be able to learn and apply their mentorship skills, network with their Liberian peers, and gain a better global awareness and general understanding of the African Diaspora.

Article by Pcyeta Stroud. Photo by Noelle Encina.

**Events**

**Dr. Shakti Butler, Social Justice Expert to Speak on Flex Day**

Deepening the National Conversation on Race with:

**Dr. Shakti Butler**

**Cracking the Codes**

**Wednesday, March 5, 2014**

1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Building 6, Fireside Dining Room

Race, more than any other demographic factor, determines levels of individual educational achievement, health and life expectancy, possibility of incarceration, and wealth in the U.S.

The conversation on race is shallow and remains focused on individuals. It stops us from talking. It freezes our capacity to connect and act across crucial racial divides. If not interrupted, it is a system that is endlessly self-perpetuating.

What if we deepen the conversation?

A Cracking the Codes film/dialogue event sets the stage for transformation in classrooms, conference rooms and communities by unpacking the system of racial inequity and enabling people to—finally—talk about it. Talking about race opens the way for institutional change. Authentic dialogue is a critical component of any equity effort.

Thousands are talking with Cracking the Codes. This year over 10,000 people in communities and on campuses nationwide have participated in a live Cracking the Codes event with World Trust facilitators.
Shakti Butler, PhD., is Founder and President of World Trust Educational Services. She is also the producer/director of World Trust films. Dr. Butler shares her holistic framework for conveying the interconnection between internal and external/structural components of racial inequity, and revealing how self-perpetuating systems reinforce disparities in institutions. This framing, along with the use of Butler’s films, set the context for constructive conversation.

Contact: Nina L. Floro, 650-738-4414 / floro@smccd.edu

Article by Nina Floro.

**WOW! Voices Now**

*Women on Writing*  
*A Morning of Readings and Refreshments*

**Saturday, March 15, 2014**  
*9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.*

**Student & Community Center, Building 6, Room 6202**

You are cordially invited to a festive morning of readings, conversation and conviviality. This year WOW! is scaling back from a day-long conference, and we’re delighted to host a lively morning event to celebrate the WOW! community and creative spirit. Acclaimed authors Caroline Goodwin and Kirstin Valdez Quade kick off the program by reading their work, and then we will enjoy an Open Reading. Please join us!

Featured Readings:

**Kirstin Valdez Quade**  
Stanford University Creative Writing Program  
Author of fiction in *The New Yorker*, Narrative, Guernica,  
The Best American Short Stories 2013, and elsewhere.

**Caroline Goodwin**  
Poet Laureate of San Mateo County California College of the Arts MFA Program Stanford University Writer's Studio  
Author of Trapline and Kodiak Herbal.

For more information, contact Kathleen McClung at mcclungk@smccd.edu.

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**14th Annual President’s Breakfast**

**March 27, 2014**

**PRESIDENT’S BREAKFAST**

Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud  
President, Skyline College

Cordially invites you to join the  
Skyline College President’s Council for the  
14th Annual President’s Breakfast

**Thursday, March 27, 2014**

*7:00 a.m. Networking Opportunity*  
*7:30-8:30 a.m. Complimentary Breakfast*  

South San Francisco Conference Center  
255 South Airport Boulevard  
South San Francisco, California 94080

Please RSVP to (650) 738-4325 by March 10, 2014

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**Allensworth Exhibit Extended!**

Come and visit the Skyline College Library to experience the inspiring Allensworth exhibit. The historic town of Allensworth tells a story of the all-black settlement in California’s Central Valley. The exhibit is a great representation of self-determination for all Californians in the areas of education and economic development. The exhibit at Skyline College is a collaborative effort between the Bay Area CITD, the African Diaspora Program at Skyline College and the African American Museum & Library of Oakland.
The Allensworth Exhibit is open to the entire campus as well as the general public on the following days:

**Monday through Thursday:** 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.
**Friday:** 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
**Saturday:** 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

If you would like to bring your class on a guided tour of the exhibit, or for more information on the African Diaspora Program please contact, Pcyeta Stroud at stroudp@smccd.edu.

Article written by Pcyeta Stroud. Flyers by Elizabeth Tablan.

**ART GALLERY EXHIBITION 2/3 - 3/7**

Join us for an exciting new exhibition in the Art Gallery
**Now – March 7th!**

**Other Dimensions of Narrative**  
Group exhibition at the Skyline College Art Gallery

Featuring works by Miriam Hitchcock, Keiko Ishihara, and Masako Miki.

Check the Gallery website for hours and more information: http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/skygallery