President’s Report to the Board of Trustees

Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud

Middle School Outreach Project Student Conference at Skyline College
Photo Credit: Claudia Paz.
Skyline College Hosts the Middle School Outreach Project Student Conference!

Funded by the President’s Innovation Fund and in collaboration with the President's Council, Parkway Heights Middle School, and South San Francisco High School, the Middle School Outreach Project (MSOP) was founded three years ago with the goal of exposing middle school students to college and careers beyond their scope at a young age. The project also seeks to provide information about college and financial aid to parents in order to foster and support their development as educational advocates for their child.

Throughout the 2014-2015 academic year, the MSOP Team has worked closely with 40% 8th grade middle school participants from Parkway Heights Middle School in South San Francisco.

On Friday, March 20, 2015, the college hosted the Middle School Outreach Project Student Conference for the 40% participating middle school students and staff. During the conference, students toured the campus and visited our various CTE labs, including Respiratory Therapy, Surgical Technology, Cosmetology, and Automotive Technology.

Students visited the field and spoke with Soccer and Baseball players about their experiences as Student Athletes. In addition, the middle schoolers attended a Financial Aid presentation by Jocelyn Vila, experienced a college class firsthand, and received their very own MSOP Student ID!

The conference concluded with a dynamic college panel comprised of current and former Skyline College students who eagerly shared their personal experiences in college and offered words of encouragements for the middle schoolers.

The conference was a tremendous success, which served to instill motivation and the desire to attend college among participants.

Article by Jessica Lopez. Photos by Claudia Paz.

Two Skyline College students were honored at a Community College League luncheon in Sacramento. President Stanback Stroud attended the luncheon, which honored the All-California Academic Team. Skyline College students Wafa Zeidan and Emily Colby ranked among the top 60 California community college students to earn this honor. There are 20 students on each of three teams.

First team member Wafa Zeidan is studying Biology with the desire to continue on with her education and earn a Medical Degree, while continuing to do research throughout her career. She plans to transfer to a four-year university in Fall 2015 to complete her undergraduate studies. During her time at Skyline College, she conducted independent research along with her mentor, Dr. Christine Case to test the effects of a plant extract on various microorganism, thus proving that the extract is effective in killing and inhibiting various bacteria. She went on to present her research at the annual SACNAS conference in October 2014 and still plans to continue and further the scope of her research. In addition to doing research, she is also an active volunteer in her community, both volunteering with children at the UCSF

At the luncheon, from left, Wafa Zeidan, Dr. Stanback Stroud, and Emily Colby
Benioff Children’s Hospital and also volunteering with her Phi Theta Kappa chapter’s Computer Literacy and Internet Competency for Seniors program.

Second-team member Emily Colby lives in Millbrae with her parents and her dog and cat. She hopes to transfer to a four-year university to study International Relations. At school she stays involved through participation in the Honors Club and Skyline College Model United Nations. She also works at her school’s Student Life and Leadership office. Emily is proud to be a member of Phi Theta Kappa and an honor student. Someday Emily plans to pursue international diplomacy and or law. She is passionate about travel, art, culture and learning. She is thankful to her family and friends who encourage her to try her best while taking care of herself.

Article and photo submitted by Dr. Christine Case.

**Automotive Internship and Hiring Event a Success!**

Julia Johnson, Professor of Automotive Technology set up and organized an automotive student internship program and hiring day on Wednesday, April 8, 2015. The event featured 16 premier automotive employers who participated in a job fair where they met and interviewed 25 Skyline College students. The employers represented car dealers like BMW, Lexus, Toyota, Ford and Honda. Also represented were independent repair owners such as San Bruno Auto Repair and chain stores like Firestone and Midas just to name a few.

Professor Johnson ensures all of the prospective students are prepared with instruction on what to expect from an employer, how to act and behave, as well as putting them all through mock interviews both in person and over the phone. These are soft skills that often get overlooked. Some of these employers are hiring Skyline College students as interns and offering pay well over 25% to 35% of what most entry-level automotive students would normally be offered.

Due to the retirement of baby boomers in the automotive profession, quality automotive students are in high demand. The Skyline College automotive program excels at meeting these demands, not only in turning out skilled knowledgeable students but also helping to mold mature, responsible and productive members of society. When students graduate after they have spent 3 years of their life with Skyline College getting their education, they are now part of our extended family.

Article and photos submitted by Thomas G. Broxholm.

**Skyline College Students Participate in Retail Leadership Academy**

The Bay Region Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism (RHT) Initiative, housed at Skyline College, hosted a 4-Day Retail Management Leadership Academy at Skyline College, which took place from March 16 to 19. Recruitment for this Retail Leadership Academy spanned across all San Mateo Community Colleges: Skyline College, College of San Mateo, and Cañada College. Nine Skyline College students participated in this pilot academy, led by two trainers from Gap Inc. for Community Colleges. This training
was made possible through an exciting partnership forged by Andrea Vizenor, Deputy Sector Navigator for Bay Region Community Colleges Retail, Hospitality and Tourism Programs and Gap Inc. for Community Colleges, which is a part of the White House initiative “Skills for America’s Future.”

The Gap Inc. for Community Colleges program prepares students for long-term success by helping them develop skills for entry-level management positions and general career advancement. Trainers included: Jonathan Searle, Flagship Human Resources Manager for Banana Republic in San Francisco and Allison Bower, General Manager for Athleta in Emeryville. Each day, students were taught two modules that not only consisted of retail and fashion related concepts but also integrated soft skills training that can be utilized in most career pathways.

An overview of the modules taught include: Effective Time Management, Communication Skills, Problem Solving, Conflict Resolution, Dress for Success and Job Search to Job Offer.

On Wednesday, March 18, students had the opportunity to experience a behind the scenes tour of the Banana Republic Flagship Store located on Grant Avenue in downtown San Francisco. Students were able to participate in multiple departmental roles some of which include: human relations and management, merchandising inventory control, the visual and art department, shipping and receiving, and even the loss prevention operations. Students learned the many different ways GAP Inc. and Banana Republic are creating innovative shopping experiences for their guests through introducing concierge services, "buy online and pick up in store" option, and personal styling services.

On Thursday March 19, seven different leaders from the GAP Inc brands participated in a Manager’s Networking Event and Question and Answer Panel. Students had the opportunity to ask about various career opportunities in Retail, gain advice on educational pathways, and learn more specifics about the skills and attributes necessary to be successful in leadership. Additionally, students had the opportunity to participate in a mock interview with a GAP brand Manager and receive skill-based feedback on their interview and resumes to better prepare them for future job opportunities. On the final day, an awards ceremony was held to congratulate students participating in this Retail Leadership Academy. By successfully completing this Retail Leadership Academy, students have the opportunity to participate in a paid internship experience at the Flagship Banana Republic store in SF for seven weeks beginning in mid-April.

This training experience is on one of many activities that will take place to explore the opportunity of building a Retail Management Certificate Program at Skyline College that is endorsed by leading employers such as GAP Inc.

The Bay Region RHT Initiative will also be hosting one-day Retail Leadership Workshops in the coming months that will build on the partnerships with leaders in the many exciting brands under Gap Inc.

Article by Nicole Ruggiero. Photos by Elizabeth Tablan.

Dr. James Loewen Speaks at Skyline College

On Wednesday, April 8, Skyline College welcomed award-winning sociologist, historian, and best-selling author, Dr. James Loewen as part of the Skyline College Lecture Series: A Call to Consciousness. Dr. Loewen is best known as the Author of Lies my Teacher Told Me: Everything Your High School History Textbook Got Wrong.

Dr. Loewen spoke to the audience about his most recent research and publication The Confederate and Neo-Confederate Reader: The "Great Truth" about the "Lost Cause". The book confronts national misconceptions of the causes behind secession of the Southern states and subsequent myth-making that occurred after the American Civil War that was designed to defend slavery and promote white supremacy throughout the United States.

Dr. Loewen also encouraged students and faculty to engage in dialogue and research about Sundown Towns, city or neighborhood in the United States that was purposely all-white.
The term came from signs that were posted stating that people of color had to leave the town by sundown. “Until we solve the problem of sundown neighborhoods and towns we do not have a chance of solving America’s race problem,” Loewen said.

Article by Amory Cariadus. Photo by Maryam Hadi.

**TWELVE-HUNDRED GIRLS EXPAND THEIR HORIZONS IN SCIENCE AND MATH**

On Saturday, March 21, 1,200 middle and high school girls from San Mateo, San Francisco, Alameda, and Santa Clara counties attended the 35th annual Expanding Your Horizons in Science and Mathematics at Skyline College. Expanding Your Horizons is a conference geared toward increasing their interest in the critical STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) careers through hands-on workshops.

The conference is planned by volunteers from Skyline College and North San Mateo County Soroptimist. The Soroptimist also funded scholarships and school buses for north county girls. Girls came from 194 schools in San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, Sacramento, and Stanislaus counties. Most (87%) of the girls are in middle schools. Over 100 scientists volunteered to present workshops. Additionally, Skyline College students and alumnae who have completed their baccalaureates and professional degrees presented workshops. Skyline College faculty who presented workshops and/or mentored students developing workshops include Alice Erskine, Nick Kapp, Sandra Hsu, Chris Case, Carla Grandy, Carina Anttila-Suarez, Judith Crawford, Paul Rueckhaus, Jing Folsom, Elsa Jimenez-Samayoa, Nancy Ruis, Janice McOmber, Gary Cheang, Janelle Barbier, Shari Bookstaff, Jocelyn Vila, and Tatiana Irwin. Another 70 Skyline College students volunteered to be go’fers at the conference to help usher girls between their sessions.

President Stanback Stroud started the day by welcoming the girls and introducing keynote speaker Carol Bauman, who gave an inspiring talk, encouraging the girls that they can do anything they want. Ms. Bauman is one of the Star Wars Women who created the Star Wars visual effects and is currently a Designer at Kernerworks.

In other sessions, girls dissected squid, designed a secret code, collected forensic evidence at the “murder in the produce aisle,” made lip balm as “cosmetic chemists,” and “scrubbed in for surgery.” There were 38 concurrent workshops for girls. Each girl participated in three workshops during the day.

Expanding Your Horizons aims to encourage girls to participate in high school math and science courses, provide role models for young women who are interested in math and science, and provide support for and promote interaction between people employed by industry and education.

Article by Dr. Christine Case. Photos by Andrea Caesar and Dr. Christine Case.

**BAY AREA CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT ATTENDS GLOBAL MARKETS BUSINESS FORUM**

The Center for International Trade Development (CITD) at Skyline College, hit the ground running this Spring 2015 semester by attending and launching events to build cross-regional partnerships with community colleges and businesses.

The BACITD was in attendance and was represented by Ms. Yvonne Reid, MS BA. Yvonne is currently Adjunct Faculty and Special Programs Coordinator for the CITD/Global Logistics Program under the GLPS division at Skyline College. Yvonne joined other industry faculty and leaders in discussions on a number of topics, including "Tools of the Trade: Navigating Unchartered Waters—Assessing Emerging Business Risk Across the Supply Chain" and "Getting Your Foot in the Door—Leveraging Government Resources to Win Foreign Contracts."

In collaboration with the statewide CITD, regional Centers displayed and shared literature with attendees from their respective locations across the state. The BACITD provided information on our growing logistics program and on how we assist California business to expand internationally.

The Forum proved to be an ideal venue to meet Foreign Commercial Service Officers from U.S. embassies throughout the world. Further, it allowed the BACITD to connect with other industry exhibitors and conference attendees, thereby, expanding the network and establishing partnerships with numerous U.S. and Foreign businesses.

Article and photo submitted by Yvonne Reid.

**MEET YOUR MAJOR FAIR A SUCCESS!**

On Tuesday, April 14 the Career Services Center hosted the 1st Annual Meet Your Major Fair. The focus of this campus-wide event is to assist students in selecting their major and to promote their direct engagement with instructional faculty in their decision-making process. Over 300 students attended the fair between 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. and the overwhelming response has been very positive from students and faculty.

In addition to this, students had the opportunity to share their views on their decision making process and what they hope their Major will allow for them, through two interactive boards. The first board stated "I Will Choose My Major Based On…" and asked students to choose one of three options: "Following My Passion," "Making a Difference" or "Something I’m Good At."

The second board stated "I Hope My Major Will Allow Me To…" and asked students to choose a response, including: Provide for my family and help others w/ life; Give the life I didn't have to my kids; Engineer the FUTURE; Make a change in my Latino community; Travel and see the world; Wake up every day with a smile on my face; Become an awesome Math teacher.

Over 45 faculty, staff, and students participated in this event by representing their academic programs.

A very special thank you goes to participating programs, which included:

**Business, Education, and Professional Programs Division**
- Automotive Technology
- Business
- Cosmetology & Wellness
- Early Childhood Education
- Hospitality & Tourism Management

**Science, Math, and Technology Division**
- Allied Health
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth Sciences
- Emergency Medical Technology
- Energy Systems Technology Management
- MESA / Engineering
- Math
- Surgical Tech & Central Services Tech
- Telecommunications / Network Technology
Panel Discussion on LGBT Issues Addresses Youth Suicide, Recent Legislation and the Challenges to Advocacy

Tom Ammiano spoke about his own path to public office and the challenges that face an openly gay elected official. He credited Harvey Milk, with whom he was closely associated, with persuading him that a strong public voice would be both appropriate and effective—and it has been. His path includes nearly three decades as a teacher, civil rights leader, educator, Supervisor, and Assemblyman.

A native of New Jersey, Tom earned his B.A. from Seton Hall and his Master’s Degree in special education from San Francisco State University. He taught English to children in South Vietnam as part of a Quaker program until 1968, when he returned to San Francisco to become a public school teacher shortly after the Tet Offensive. He was the first openly gay public school teacher in San Francisco.

Tom was elected to the San Francisco School Board in 1990. In 1994, Tom won citywide election to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. In 2000, after the institution of district elections, Tom was elected District 9 Supervisor, and he represented the Mission District, Bernal Heights and Portola neighborhoods. Tom was elected to the 13th Assembly District in 2008.

In the Assembly, Tom served has chair of the Assembly Public Safety Committee as well as chair of the LGBT Caucus. His influence was broad while in the assembly. In addition to his attention to LGBT issues, he made contributions to Proposition 13 loopholes, treatment of prisoners, homeless youth, immigrant rights and many other issues.

Tom is teaching Social Science 680SC Civil Rights: the LGBT Struggle for Equality this semester and will be teaching the course again in the fall.

Tom Bauer spoke about being born and raised in New York and growing up on Long Island which was a very conservative place in the 1970’s and 1980’s. As a young boy, Tom always knew he was different. He knew that he did not look at girls the way the rest of his friends did. He never spoke to anyone about his feelings and instead buried them deep inside and tried to fit in as best he could. In many ways he thinks society has come a long way since then, and yet the statistics on suicides by LGBT youth are alarming and much higher than for straight youth. Rejection by families, religious institutions and the community in general are still prevalent. This, he said, causes many LGBT youth to be self-loathing and to feel that they must hide who they are.

Tom considers himself very out, loud and proud. Tom sees one of his roles in the District as one where he is able to show people that gay people have much to contribute. Tom is particularly
sensitive to the needs of young men and women who are struggling with their sexuality. By setting a positive example, Tom hopes to inspire those around him who are struggling to take the first step and talk with someone about their feelings. They will find as he himself found that being gay is nothing to be ashamed of or embarrassed about. He urges that we all provide the safe place where LGBT youth can come to the same positive attitude, accepting themselves as worthy human beings.

Rosemary Bell, often known as Rosie, spoke about recent legislation in states like Indiana and Arkansas that purported to protect religious freedom but would actually have permitted discrimination against members of the LGBT community. She cited historical precedents and the ways that they were challenged. She noted that this time the laws met with immediate public outcry, including from the Walton family who own Walmart, they persuaded the states that they need to modify these laws. Her own story parallels that of her co-panelists. She knew at a young age that she was attracted to women, but was terrified of admitting that since homosexuality was considered a mental illness until 1973. She was Brooklyn born and educated, and as she says, California liberated. She relocated to San Francisco in 1980 when the AIDS crisis was just beginning.

In 1985, Rosie took the Shanti Project training where she became an emotional and practical support person for people with AIDS. Rosie is not a “front of the march” activist. She prefers to work behind the scenes, particularly with youth who might be struggling with their sexual identity. Rosie founded the Gay-Straight Alliance at Skyline College in the early 2000s, after two gay students came to her voicing their concerns about homophobic slurs they heard in the Student Center. She and Carlos Colombetti worked hard to make the GSA successful and it is still a safe place for all students. She also led a project entitled “I Can’t Believe You Said That!” with Bridget Fischer and Lori Slicton to raise awareness on campus about verbally abusive language.

Article by Donna Bestock. Photo by Maryam Hadi.

Skyline College Respiratory Care Program Receives Credentialing Success Award

Skyline College Respiratory Care Program is among a select group of programs that will be recognized by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) to receive the Distinguished RRT Credentialing Success Award at AARC’s Summer Forum on July 13, 2015. This is the highest award received by Respiratory Care Programs from the CoARC. This award is presented as part of the CoARC’s continued efforts to value the RRT credential as a standard of professional achievement. From a program effectiveness perspective, the CoARC views the RRT credential as a measure of a program’s success in inspiring its graduates to achieve their highest educational and professional aspirations.

In selecting programs for this recognition, the CoARC Board used objective criteria based on key accreditation metrics documented in the 2014 Annual Report of Current Status (RCS). These programs were required to: (1) have three or more years of outcomes data; (2) hold accreditation without a progress report; (3) document RRT credentialing success of 90% or above, and (4) meet or exceed established CoARC thresholds for CRT credentialing success, attrition and positive (job) placement.

Congratulations and thank you go to Skyline College RT alumni, students, support staff, faculty members, DCE (Brian Daniel), Dean (Ray Hernandez) and College administration for this achievement.

Article by Dr. Ijaz Ahmed.
The Wall That Heals

The Wall That Heals, a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, visited the Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno from April 9-12, 2015. Skyline College students, staff and administration attended the opening ceremony on April 9 which included speakers, color guard, music, a rifle volley and Taps. San Mateo County Community College District representatives were also present. Many Skyline College students, faculty, staff and administration visited throughout the weekend and participated as volunteers.

The Wall That Heals honors more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the Vietnam War. The 24 panels that make up The Wall bear the names of the more than 58,000 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam. The exhibit also includes a mobile education center comprised of photos of service members whose names are on The Wall, letters and memorabilia left at The Wall in Washington, D.C., a map of Vietnam and a chronological overview of the conflict in Vietnam. Not only was this event a healing opportunity for many veterans and family members of those impacted by the Vietnam War, but it was also a great opportunity for San Mateo County to honor veterans for their service and to welcome them home.

Thank you to all of the Skyline College representatives who participated in this event and an extra special thank you to the Associated Students of Skyline College and the Skyline College Veterans Club for their co-sponsorship along with the Skyline College Graphic Arts and Production department for their in-kind donations. We would also like to recognize the San Mateo County Community College District Facilities team for their support. The event was a great success and is a wonderful example of college and community organizations coming together to support a common cause.

Article by Gina Ciardella. Photo by Richard Jackson.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Skyline College Juried Student Art Show
April 20 - May 15, 2015
Art Gallery, Building 1

Carpool Week
April 28 - 30, 2015
May 5 - 7, 2015
Lot M

Kinder Caminata Program
Wednesday, April 29, 2015
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Skyline College

Strategic Planning Session/Public Forum
Tuesday, May 5, 2015
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Location TBD

Summer Camp Career Fair
Wednesday, May 6, 2015
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Fireside Dining Room, Building 6

Gay Alliance Safe Zone Train-the-Trainer Program
Thursday, May 7, 2015
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Building 6, Room 6202

14th Annual Student Recognition & Award Ceremony
Thursday, May 14, 2015
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Theater, Building 1
Our good friend and colleague, Richard Soyombo, Dean of Global Learning Programs & Services passed away suddenly on Monday, April 20, 2015. This came as a surprise to us all. Please know that he was laughing and joking about things to the end.

Richard had a smile in his heart that was contagious. His passion for life and for his work and his brilliant sense of humor touched everyone he worked with, so often bringing smiles to our faces.

Richard dedicated his life’s work to Skyline College and was immensely passionate about serving and improving the community around him. He was truly a global ambassador of good will who generated creative ideas on a grand scale, always looking toward the future and challenging those around him to do the same.

Richard’s vision for the GLPS Division was inspiring and his work has made Skyline College a global resource for students near and far. We intend to continue, and grow, his good work throughout the world in his honor.

Richard was larger-than-life, and so it makes sense that he leaves behind an indelible legacy and a hole in our hearts. All of us will miss him dearly.

Information regarding services and sending condolences to Richard’s family will be shared once it becomes available.

With my deepest condolences to the entire SMCCD community,