President’s Report to the Board of Trustees

Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud

Skyline College students performing with Ensemble Mik Nawooj

Photo Credit: Rocky Branch


**ENSEMBLE MIK NAWOOJ: A HIP HOP ORCHESTRA DELIVERS A MASTERPIECE!**

On Saturday, November 15, the Center for Innovative Practices through Hip Hop Education and Research (CIPHER) hosted an evening with Ensemble Mik Nawooj (EMN), a Hip Hop Orchestra led by the direction of composer Joowan Kim. Over 225 people attended the event and were graced with an amazing performance by EMN that blended Western European Classical compositional techniques with the lyrical realism and grittiness of Hip Hop. They performed classic Hip Hop songs from the Wu-Tang Clan and Snoop Dogg as well as their original tracks from their album.

The evening opened with a magnificent set by Professor Kymberly Jackson and a crowd-pleasing and dynamic vocal percussion performance by U.S. Beatboxing Champion Frisco Beats. The audience also was able to watch the promotional video for our upcoming event Rock The School Bells 8 that is scheduled for March 7, 2015. One of the many highlights was a community welcome to all of our Bécalos Program students who were in attendance. Also, in between each performance set, Professor Mustafa Popal and the Advanced Placement Crew kept the positive energy going as our CIPHER House DJ. The evening was certainly filled with musical artistry and great energy.

As previously mentioned, many of Skyline College’s Bécalos students from Mexico were in attendance. Many of these students are talented musicians, dancers, artists, and singers and the opportunity to witness a unique blend of musical genres was a special experience for the visiting students.

Proceeds from this event will be used to provide educational scholarships through the Rock The School Bells Scholarship Fund intended for students pursuing majors such as art, music, graphic design, and film.

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN SUCCESS THROUGH EXCELLENCE AND PERSISTENCE (ASTEP) AND THE BROTHA’S AND SISTA’S UNION (BSU) ATTEND WRCBAA’S CAREER INSTITUTE**

The ASTEP Learning Community and the Skyline College BSU attended Western Region Counsel on Black American Affairs’ Career Institute on November 14 and 15 at El Camino College in Compton, CA. The students were joined by Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud, Dr. John Mosby, and Professor Kwame Thomas. The conference was a great opportunity to expose our students to a networking and professional development experience.

Article by Nate Nevado. Photos by Rocky Branch.
focused on encouraging students and other faculty to pursue careers in higher education, especially in the community college setting. Students participated in the following workshops:

- Strategies to Ensure Upward Mobility in Higher Education: Employability and Careers
- What Hiring Managers Won't Tell You and What You Need to Know
- Review, Rework and Revise: Resumes and Cover Letters
- What Elements in YOU are Needed for Success and Why
- Mock Interviews
- Putting the Students’ Voice in Your Student Equity Plan

Overall the students had an amazing time. They felt the conference was empowering and inspirational. The workshops taught them how to be professional and the networking opportunities were priceless.

“You are always interviewing” - Dr. Stroud.

Article and photo submitted by Kwame Thomas.

100 SKYLINE COLLEGE STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO PHI THETA KAPPA

With friends and family in attendance, 100 Skyline College students, 40 Cañada College students, and 30 College of San Mateo students were inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society for the fall 2014 semester. SMCCCD Trustee Tom Mohr attended the induction.

On November 14, Beta Theta Omicron hosted the Induction Ceremony for new members at Skyline College. It is the tradition of these three chapters to rotate hosting the induction. Howard Cannon, NASA Flight Director, gave the keynote address to introduce the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Study Topic, “Frontiers and the Spirit of Exploration”, to new members. Mr. Cannon talked about the nature of exploration and his lunar landing project. Professor and Phi Theta Kappa advisor Paul Spakowski called each inductee to the stage to sign the roster. Beta Theta Omicron President and 2014 International Distinguished Officer Jaimelynn Alvarez swore in the 2014-15 officers for each chapter.

Did you know:*

- A Phi Theta Kappa member is four times more likely to complete college than an average student.
- A member is 44% more likely to complete when compared to students with similar GPAs (3.5 or higher).

*Data from National Center for Education Statistics Completion Survey for the Integrated Post and Secondary Education Surveys and National Student Clearinghouse Degree Completion/Transfer Verification.

Article by Christine Case. Photo by BΘO vice president Naing Min.

Scholarship Social Event Raises Scholarship Awareness

Wednesday, November 12, 2014 the Financial Aid Office kicked off National Scholarship Month with a Scholarship Social. Students who completed a scholarship quiz received freshly popped kettle corn by Peter’s Kettle Corn. Students also received information about the 2015-2016 Skyline College Scholarship Season.

Thanks to the Associated Students of Skyline College (ASSC) for sponsoring this event. Also, thank you to the Financial Aid Office, Financial Aid Ambassadors Leitu Takapu and Michael Mark, Outreach Coordinator Florentino Ubungen, Outreach Ambassadors Amelia Uluave and Jordan Baligad, and Media Services for helping make this event a success.

Article and photos submitted by Jocelyn Vila.
SKYLINE COLLEGE BOARD REPORT
DECEMBER 10, 2014


The Strategic Planning and Allocation of Resources Committee (SPARC) has been busy at its past two meetings, investing time in reviewing the two topics most central to its role: budget and planning. At the October 30, 2014 meeting, the SPARC hosted Executive Vice Chancellor Kathy Blackwood, who presented an overview of the new District Allocation Model. The forum was well attended by not only Committee members, but also interested faculty, staff, and students of Skyline College. The main highlights were:

- FTES and Enrollment changes will not automatically affect Colleges’ allocation.
- Growth in international students will result in increased allocations to the Colleges.
- Step and Column increases will be covered.
- Colleges can receive additional allocation through a category called Demonstrated Need.

There was significant discussion regarding the last point. At this time the process for applying for ‘Demonstrated Need’ allocations has yet to be determined.

At the SPARC meeting held on Thursday, November 13, 2014 the focus turned to Strategic Planning at the College and the District. The SPARC dedicated time to a review of the Strategic Plan, including the goals, strategies, and priorities of Skyline College. This was the first opportunity the committee has had to review the documents since the combination of the Institutional Planning Council (IPC) and College Budget Council (CBC) formed the SPARC at the beginning of this academic year. The importance of the content of these documents was reinforced as discussion turned to the District Strategic Planning process currently underway, and the incorporation of Skyline College’s strategic priorities into that process.

Accordingly, the next SPARC meeting will be held jointly with the District Strategic Planning Forum on Internal Data and Trends on Thursday, December 11, 2014, 2:30 p.m., in Building 6, Rooms 6202-6206. All interested parties are welcomed.

Student Digital Art Exhibition

The Skyline College Art Gallery currently presents a Student Digital Art Exhibition, November 24-December 12. An opening reception on Wednesday, December 3 featured refreshments and music provided by DJ audio dieticians Advanced Placement (Donovex and Mustafa Popal, Skyline College history professor).

Digital Art is now here at Skyline College! Works on display in this exhibition are selections from in class projects done during the Fall 2014 semester by students enrolled in a range of Digital Art classes at Skyline College.

The Art Department now has a dedicated Digital Media Lab, located in room 2-117A. Their Macintosh based Digital Art lab features state of the art design and output equipment, including Adobe Creative Suite software, Epson large format color printers, a Graphtec plotter for cutting vinyl and a MakerBot 3D printer. They currently offer a number of Digital Arts courses, and will be in a growth phase over the next five years with new courses being offered each year to train our students to work in the Digital Art field.

Artworks in this exhibit are selected from these currently running Art courses:

- Art 430: Introduction to Digital Art
- Art 431: Digital Imaging I- Photoshop
- Art 354: Color Photography I
- Art 354: Color Photography II

Article and photo submitted by Paul Bridenbaugh.
Strategic Planning Process

As announced back in September, our College District has embarked on a strategic planning process this semester to be concluded in the spring. In October, an open strategy session held at Skyline College focused on external trends.

The next strategy session/public forum at Skyline College will be held on Thursday, December 11, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., in Building 6, Rooms 6202-6206.

This session will focus on internal data, and what we know about our students, programs, and students’ experiences within the District’s colleges. Topics for discussion including: changing demographics, student retention, student success and more. Additionally, the December strategy sessions will provide an overview of instructional program trends and their potential connections to labor markets, overall enrollment scenarios, and the District’s competitor analysis. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss the SMCCD student experience and to provide input on how the District and its colleges can improve that experience. Your participation is welcome and encouraged!

Additional background and upcoming meeting dates:

The District’s Strategic Planning process has been endorsed by the Strategic Planning Taskforce and put the District on a “fast track” and will conclude with a written plan for review by all members of the campus community in late April. The process includes strategy sessions at each college at which the data and information produced as part of this process will be considered. The current calendar for the process is:

**September 30:** Initial Strategy Session at Skyline College to review Planning Assumptions, Environmental Scan and other documents - completed
**October:** Environmental Scan, Planning Assumptions and other information reviewed and posted to webpage [http://smccd.edu/strategicplanning/index.php](http://smccd.edu/strategicplanning/index.php) - completed
**November/December:** Review internal and external data with Strategic Planning Taskforce
**December:** Internal and external strategy sessions (external data). Public session at Skyline College on December 11 at 2:30 p.m..
**March:** Internal and external strategy sessions (preliminary goals and strategies). Two public sessions on March 18, 2:30-4:00 p.m. and 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. (times to be confirmed)
**Late April:** Draft strategic plan ready for review
**Early May:** Feedback finalized. Final plan delivered. Public session at Skyline College on May 5, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

The college community is encouraged to attend these upcoming sessions and participate in the process. Your insights, ideas and vision will help us develop a data-driven strategic plan that will allow the College District and its stakeholders to meet the challenges ahead.

California State University (CSU) Application Workshops Overflowing with Students

October 1 kicked off the CSU Application season and the first CSU Application drop-in assistance days. Skyline College students again proved they are not procrastinators. The first drop-in day had students ready to start before the 9:00 a.m. start time.

Application season is now in full swing and the Transfer Center’s drop-in hours and workshops to assist students applying to CSUs continue to be extremely well attended. Over 100 students have received CSU application assistance either through the Transfer Center drop-in hours, or through a CSU workshop offered through the Transfer Center. Several counselors have helped out during these hours, as well as our SFSU superstar Representative Doris Fendt. The last workshop this season was on Tuesday, November 11th, and deadline for the CSU and UC was November 30th.

Please keep spreading the word to help us ensure every eligible student applies for transfer and has the greatest chance for success!

Article and photo submitted by Michelle Hagar.
Skyline College Unites to Support Students Writing University of California (UC) Personal Statements

The Transfer Center is partnering with the Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning (CTTL), Learning Center and faculty and staff to work towards the goal of reviewing as many UC applicant personal statements as possible. Traditionally, that means around 200 students! To reach this goal, the Transfer Center partnered with the CTTL on Tuesday, October 28 to host a workshop on reviewing personal statements. Our UC Davis representative Mayra Escobar and English Professor Karen Wong gave an in-depth overview of what the UC is looking for and tips on supporting students’ writing process for the personal statement. Eighteen faculty and staff from various disciplines and departments attended the workshop and several have since signed up to volunteer during designated UC personal statement review drop-in hours provided through the Transfer Center.

The first drop in day was on Wednesday, November 12 and it was widely attended!

The Transfer Center coordinated its efforts this year with the Learning Center by having a Personal Statement Workshop hosted one week prior to each drop-in day. This way students could get an overview of the process, start brainstorming and have time to come in with a draft. The faculty and staff working with students will provide feedback primarily on the content of the essay and Writing Center staff and tutors will continue their efforts to support students with the mechanics of their statements.

International Education Week (IEW)

Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud gave some brief opening remarks highlighting the importance of international education. The event attracted students, faculty, staff and San Bruno community members and was followed by a series of international documentaries: Discovery, China The New Super Power; Roads of Arabia and The French Revolution Tearing Up History. On the same day, the “Key To World Understanding” event was held in Building 6. At this event, Ms. Maricruz Arteaga-Garavito from the Mexican Consulate, and Ms. Lupe Gallegos-Diaz from the University of California-Berkeley each gave presentations about Latin American culture and cross-cultural understanding.

IEW continued on Tuesday with the celebration of Mexican Cultural Day. Students from the Bécalos program showcased the rich culture of Mexico by making presentations and demonstrations on Mexican clothing, traditional dance forms, Día de los Muertos makeup, and live music and singing. For the Día de los Muertos makeup tutorials, Evelyn Smith, Cosmetology Instructor and professional horror make-up artist, brought two students who took the lead in demonstrating the Día de los Muertos makeup to the audience.

On Wednesday, November 19, the International Affairs Student Club (IASC) celebrated IEW by bringing in ethnic cuisines to the Multicultural Center. These included various types of Chinese pastries, Korean pancakes, Japanese sushi and Mexican churros. Despite the rain, IASC received a number of students, faculty and staff members who enjoyed the cultural foods presented by the IASC members. Following the lunch event, the Global Learning Programs and Services Division (GLPS) presented the African Diaspora Evening which included an introduction to the African Diaspora Program (Clyde Lewis, African Diaspora Coordinator and Adjunct Faculty), an “Africa in Pictures” presentation (Jaye Atkin-Taylor, Former ISP Director and...
International Scholar), and a panel discussion on African Diaspora (Jaye Atkin-Taylor, Professor Johannes Masare, Political Science and Professor Michael Moynihan, Sociology). At the end of the program, the audience had an opportunity to network with the panelists and learn more about African culture through foods, books and arts and crafts exhibited at the event.

On the last day of IEW, the International Student Program (ISP) hosted a workshop for the international students at Skyline College. The invitation was extended to 110 international students currently on campus. During the workshop, Wissem Bennani, ISP Manager, gave a presentation on job opportunities for international students. Additionally, Andrea Vizenor, Director of the Retail, Hospitality and Tourism Program, joined the workshop as a guest speaker, introducing the new initiatives in her program. The workshop also provided the chance for international students to mingle with ISP staff members and fellow international students.

Article by Chikako Walker. Photos by Raul Guerra and Claudia Paz.

### Events

**Student Digital Art Exhibition**
Now - December 12
Building 1, Gallery

**Vocal Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Band**
Monday, December 1, 2014
7:30 p.m.
Building 1, Theater

**Concert Band and Symphony Orchestra**
Tuesday, December 2, 2014
7:30 p.m.
Building 1, Theater

**Region Hospitality Summit**
Friday, December 5, 2014
9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront
Burlingame, California

**Skyline College Concert Choir Presents: A Musical Feast for the Holidays**
Friday, December 5, 2014
7:30 p.m.
Building 1, Theater

**An Afternoon of Monologues, Scenes, and Maybe a Song or Two**
Sunday, December 7, 2014
4:00 p.m.
Building 3, Dance Studio

**Fall Dance Show**
Friday, December 12, 2014
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
and
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Building 1, Theater