



**Victoria P. Morrow, President**

May 29, 2009

This will be the last edition of *Skyline Shines* for this academic year. I will publish it about once a month over the summer, on Thursday mornings since most offices will be closed on Friday. The administrative offices in Building 1, Public Safety, the Learning Center in Building 5, and the PE/Athletics/Dance office will be open. I look forward to seeing some of you at Commencement tonight and over the summer. Best wishes to everyone for a great summer!

#### **Chancellor's budget update**

I am including here a message which Chancellor Galatolo sent out yesterday morning concerning the state budget crisis and its implications for our district and colleges. The district will continue to send update emails over the summer, and our College Budget Committee has scheduled monthly meetings. The District Committee on Budget and Finance will also be staying in touch over the summer.

As we conclude another academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize each and every one of you for your hard work and sustained commitment to our students and to the District as a whole. I want to personally thank you for the contributions you make in shaping your College's future through your active participation in a wide variety of significant activities throughout the year. Similarly, the quality and effectiveness of our teaching and learning is revealed through the outstanding work that's been accomplished in refining our academic programs and services as well as through positive reinforcement from the accreditation commission. All of these worthwhile activities will have a positive, long-term impact on our current and future students. Again, I thank you for your continued and unwavering commitment to academic excellence and for shaping our academic programs and services in the spirit of true collaboration and teamwork.

Unfortunately, as we head into the summer we have been bombarded with very discouraging information regarding the economic instability of our state and the obvious detrimental impact that crisis will have on public education as a whole. Early indications suggest that the statewide budget deficit – ranging from \$21 to \$25 billion – would translate into local budget reductions in the neighborhood of \$18 to \$20 million for our District. This is in addition to the nearly \$8 million in budget cuts we took as a 2008/09 mid-year reduction. Now, more than ever before, in short order we will need to collectively face this new challenge head-on to ensure that we are well positioned to effectively address this unprecedented economic crisis. Accordingly, over the summer, the District and College leadership will be carefully examining the fiscal ramifications of the state's budget deficit and its relative impact on our three Colleges and the District Office. This work will be performed over the summer so that all stakeholders will be prepared to jointly tackle this issue in the fall. Again, my promise to you is that I will actively engage all the constituent groups to chart a course that will balance our institutional mission of broad teaching and learning against the limited available resources required to deliver our essential academic programs and services to the community we serve.

Of course, our ongoing efforts to build, renovate and renew our existing facilities will continue over the summer. As each month passes it becomes more evident that the campuses are methodically being transformed and I'm sure you'll notice even more changes when you return in

the fall. As always, I thank you again for your involvement in the planning of these vital improvements and for your patience during the construction process.

Finally, once again, I extend my sincerest gratitude to all of you for everything you do to make our District a first-rate institution. I look forward to seeing you at Opening Day on August 17<sup>th</sup> at Skyline College. At that event, I will unveil everything that I know with regard to this financial crisis and its impact on our institution. Please mark your calendars now and additional information will follow during the summer describing in greater detail the Opening Day program.

### **ASSC election results announced**

The results for the 2009-2010 ASSC (Associated Students of Skyline College) Governing Council Election are listed below. Detailed results are available on the attached excel document.

- President: Denisse Gonzales
- Vice President: Jacqueline Solorzano
- Commissioner of Publicity: Henry Carreno
- Commissioner of Finance: Noah Brown
- Senators: Oscar Diaz, Dionicio Miguel Garcia, Allison Rojas, Cheryl Padilla, Yraes Guerrero, Astrid Berrios, Stephen Berberena.
- Skyline College's nominee for the 2009-2010 Student Trustee: Virginia Medrano Rosales.

Please join me in congratulating these student leaders. I look forward to working with them next year.

### **Faculty and staff honored at annual celebration**

One of our most cherished traditions is the annual end of the year luncheon for faculty and staff. The event brings us together for a last visit before the summer and is an occasion to honor retiring colleagues and wish them well in the next phase of their lives. The retirees are Jerry Ciruolo, Marian Kelly, Charles Leach, Bob Millar, Persis Morrice, Felix Perez, Terry Stats, Angela Viviani, Sally Welch, and Kathy Zbikowski-Taylor. The event is also a fundraiser for student scholarships and this year it raised over \$700. Mike Williamson, esteemed MC, shares his annual three predictions for the next year, and this year he outdid himself in terms of cleverness and creativity. The Classified Council gave Special Recognition Awards to Adolfo Leiva and Barbara Daley. The Academic Senate gave Special Recognition Awards to Chip Chandler and Hui Pate. The Phil Meyer Award for outstanding faculty members in their first five years went to two people this year: Leigh Ann Sippel and Justin Piergrossi. Karen Schwarz, president of the Board of Trustees, joined us for the celebration. Please join me in thanking Mike Williamson, Sue Lorenzo, Pat Tyler, Theresa Tentes, Adolfo Leiva, Ray Hernandez, Sandra Hsu, all the Division and Department Assistants for organizing the raffle baskets, the Library Staff for their dessert table and everyone that purchased raffle tickets. Thanks to Caroline Ocampo for the photos below



### **EOPS/CARE program celebrates students and raises scholarship money**

On Friday, May 22, EOPS/CARE held its 2008-2009 Dream Celebration Dinner and Scholarship Fundraiser. There were more than 80 students, family members, friends and staff in attendance. We honored all students including 34 graduates, 31 Foundation Scholarship Recipients and 10 EOPS Departmental Scholarship Recipients. Derrick Smith, a graduating student and our keynote speaker, inspired the audience with his life story filled with challenges, courage and victories. The event raised \$700 in scholarship monies due to the support of both the Skyline and the off campus community and the efforts of our EOPS/CARE students as well as Skyline's Democratic Club (Kudos to Virginia Rosales and Clarissa). Thanks also to Facilities, the Media Center, Leo and Virginia Rosales and Adolfo Leiva for helping to made evening a success! And to La Tapatia, the Skyline Bookstore, Max's Restaurant, La Loma Produce and Hernández Mercado y Panadería for their generosity. The photos are the EOPS 2009 graduates, Derrick Smith (with the EOPS shawl in the center photo), and EOPS Departmental Scholarship Recipients.



*Photos by Pablo Gonzalez*

### **39<sup>th</sup> edition of *Talisman* celebrated with student readings**

On Thursday May 21, the Gallery Theatre was full of students and faculty eager to hear the students published in the 39th edition of *Talisman*, Skyline's annual collection of student poetry, short stories and original artwork. Award winners in the literary contests were presented with their prizes by the judges, Kathleen Feinblum for poetry and Greg Christensen for short fiction, both instructors in the Skyline Language Arts Department, followed by readings by the winners and by any student published in this year's *Talisman*. Kudos to Kathy Zbikowski Taylor for the beautiful printing of the magazine's pages; Alfonso Maciel, local printer and friend of Skyline for the printing of the cover; and Mary Campi, former Skyline student for her design and layout skills. Student artists contributed paintings, drawings, collages, computer art and photographs of a very high quality. Faculty editor, Katharine Harer, and student editors, Jennifer Burket, Ben Lopez, Steve Perotti and Charity Walden, worked throughout the spring semester to make the 39th edition a reality. Look for a copy of *Talisman* on one of the five display racks around campus. Creativity abounds at Skyline! The photos are of Dani Lee and Steve Perotti, reading poems published in *Talisman*.



*Photos by Katharine Harer*

### **Hermanos and Hermanas enjoy an end of the year celebration**

On Saturday, May 16, the Hermanos and Hermanas Programs at Skyline College celebrated the success and academic accomplishments of the students participating in this year's program. The evening included a keynote speech by Ivan Martinez, Skyline alumnus and former Hermano; musical entertainment by Jesus Magaña; a slide show video of the "Year in Review" created by Sthiv Valencia, current Hermano student; and awards for students. These awards recognized High School Hermanos and Hermanas, and current Skyline Hermanos. In addition to celebrating the accomplishments of the Hermanos and Hermanas Programs, the event recognized the success of Hermanitos, an initiative started by the Hermanos club at Parkway Heights Middle School in South San Francisco. Additional recognitions included our own Félix Pérez receiving a Special Achievement Award, retired SSF Chief of Police Mark Raffaelli receiving a Special Recognition for all his support, Skyline College students Jorge Murillo and Sthiv Valencia receiving Change Agent Awards, and Parkway Junior High School student Edson Gonzalez receiving the Shining Star Award. The Hermanos and Hermanas Programs provide academic instruction, mentoring and family support for Latino male and female students with the goal of enrolling these students in college and increasing their confidence along with academic and personal skills needed to succeed.



### **Automotive Technology program celebrates student achievement**

The Automotive Technology Department held its annual graduation/awards banquet at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. The event was attended by students, their families, industry partners, and college and district representatives. The automotive graduates received their program Certificate of Completion. In addition, numerous awards and scholarships were awarded to deserving students. It was a wonderful night for all in attendance. Here are Tom Broxholm giving Htet Aung the Ray Bruington Student of the Year award recipient; Rick Escalambre giving the Company Appreciation Award for Nissan to Jack Feeley; and Dave Campbell recognizing Jerry Ciralo's retirement after twenty-three years. We were joined by Karen Schwarz, President of the Board of Trustees. It was, as always, a great pleasure for me to attend this uplifting event.



### **Another Columbia University grad from Skyline's Honors Transfer and Women in Transition (WIT) Programs**

Former Skyline Honors Transfer Program (HTP) and WIT student, Annie Vo, graduated from Columbia University this May with a B.A. in Philosophy. Honors Coordinator, Katharine Harer, was there to attend one of the graduation ceremony. Annie is the second HTP and WIT student to attend and graduate from Columbia following in the footsteps of Akillah Wali. Brenda Smith, also of HTP and WIT, is finishing her first year at Columbia and attended Annie's ceremony with Katharine. Annie, in cap and gown, is in the foreground of the photo with family members in the background.



### **ASTEP/Math Academy holds 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Recognition Celebration**

What a joy it was last night to watch the ASTEP Math Academy students be honored by their faculty, family and friends. Those of us who attended did so in our full regalia and we had the great pleasure of hearing 1985 Skyline graduate colleen Matthews speak to the students. We also got to hear many, many of the students talk about their experiences in the Math Academy and at the college and to be re-inspired for the work we do. Thanks to Pauline Wetherington whose brainstorm this event was, and to program co-coordinators Pat Deamer and Phyllis Taylor, and to the many faculty and administrators who were there to cheer the students on.

## Errata

The photo of the Honors Symposium at Stanford included two faculty whom I failed to name: Nina Floro and Stephen Fredericks.

## College Council Update

The College Council held its last meeting of the year on Wednesday, May 27. Minutes of prior meetings are archived at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/GovCommittees/>.

- 1. Selection of Skyline Shines Award winner for 2009:** the selection was made from among excellent nominees. The winner will be announced at the Opening Day event at Skyline on Tuesday, August 18.
- 2. Budget update:** Vicki Morrow provided an update on the implications of the governor's budget proposal for 2008-09 and 2009-10 for the colleges and the district. It includes severe cuts, including about 70% reductions over the two years to categorical programs. She and Ray Hernandez described the meeting of the District Academic Senate with the chancellor and the three college presidents concerning the process for communication about these budget challenges over the summer and afterward. (See the chancellor's message above for more about that.)
- 3. District Shared Governance council update:** Adolfo Leiva reported on discussions of these topics: a proposed bill to allow the district to offer the BA degree since this county has no public four year institution; proposed changes to the district Rules and Regulations and the process to be used for minor technical changes as distinct from substantive ones, and the status of the plus/minus grading proposal.
- 4. Proposed name changes for the Gallery Theater (to Gallery) and the Main Theater (to Theater):** these proposed changes were approved by the College Council, and will be recommended by Vicki Morrow to the Chancellor's Council.
- 5. Compressed Calendar Committee update:** Adolfo reported on the establishment of Workgroups to undertake the feasibility analysis for the compressed calendar. They will begin in the fall. The college's survey is complete and a similar survey will be conducted at CSM and Canada.
- 6. Next meeting:** August 25

## Coming up...

### Friday, May 29

- Day Classes End
- Commencement, Gym, Doors open at 4:15pm, Commencement starts at 5pm

### Monday, June 1

- Final Examinations for Monday EVENING Classes only
- Evening & Weekend Classes End

### Thursday, June 4

- Cosmetology Program Graduation, Wedgewood Center at Crystal Spring Golf Course Burlingame, 6:30 -11pm

### Monday, June 8

- First Five-Week Session Begins

### Thursday, June 11

- Final Grades Available on WebSMART

**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:



And for ideas about Skyline's **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** celebration next year, 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/>

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Victoria P. Morrow, Ph.D.  
President

**Skyline College**

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

[www.SkylineCollege.edu](http://www.SkylineCollege.edu)  
[morrowv@smccd.edu](mailto:morrowv@smccd.edu)