



Victoria P. Morrow, President

August 28, 2009

With this edition of *Skyline Shines* I am beginning again with the practice of including synopses of certain central college governance committee meetings in this newsletter. This week we have had the first meetings of the year for the College Council and the College Budget Committee, so you will see summaries of those meetings near the end.

Opening Day photo captures the spirit of Skyline

Here we are! We use this photo in our catalog, on our website and elsewhere. Thanks for joining me for it!



Hillsdale High School incident reminds us of our own emergency preparedness plans

As you may be aware, Hillsdale High School in San Mateo experienced a pipe bomb incident perpetrated by a former student this past Monday. No students or staff members were injured as a result of this incident. The Hillsdale High School staff showed great professionalism in executing a predetermined

safety plan and successfully evacuated about 1,270 students. The San Mateo Union High School District immediately sent out an automated telephone notification to all parents. The San Mateo Police Department also sent out automated telephone alert message to residents in the immediate area. Skyline College has a comprehensive emergency plan in place and conducts emergency simulations on a regular basis. We have an excellent relationship with the San Bruno Police Department as evidenced by SBPD's rapid response to Skyline's emergency calls. We have an pro-active threat assessment team which consists of staff from the Public Safety, Counseling, and Administration offices. Please contact the Public Safety Office should you have questions about our emergency preparedness. If you have not already done so, please take a moment to sign up for emergency text messaging. Please remind your students to do the same. You can sign up for emergency texting using WebSMART at <https://websmart.smccd.edu>.

New smoking policy off to a good start

Thanks to everyone who is helping with our gentle enforcement of the new smoking policy. The extensive signage seems to be effective and the designated smoking areas are being well used. I have spoken to a few individuals who were smoking elsewhere and was greeted with polite compliance with the policy. I have been seeing many of you doing the same, and hearing that in general the response from smokers is polite. For your reference, the smoking policy and the designated smoking areas map are on our website at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/resources/smoking.html>. Here is the map, as a reminder to assist you in directing people to them—see the black boxes with the “S” in them.



College Hour begins this fall

Last year the College Council established a new College Hour policy. Effective fall 2009, College Hour was established on Wednesday, from 2:00-3:30 pm. There is a limited number of classes meeting at that time. The Council considers this to be an experiment and will assess it at the end of the year.

State Budget has a severe impact on San Mateo County Community College District 2009-2011

The district is sharing the following information with members of the community who are wondering about the impact of the state budget on our district. I thought you might like to see this synopsis as well.

- The District has cut 10% from its 09/10 budget and it is still not balanced. We are planning to make an additional 10% cut during this year, to be effective in 2010-11, due to the fact that the State budget still is not balanced and State revenues continue to come in below budgeted amounts.
- We have a total of 66 positions that we did not fund for this year (out of a permanent work force of 903 regular employees) which represents a 7% reduction. Some of the affected employees participated in a voluntary separation incentive program and some were hired into other positions, so the net job loss is about 55 positions, a 6.1% reduction. We may be forced to lay off some employees this year and next.
- Due to increased student demand, the Colleges offered 20 additional sections of classes this summer; enrollment grew by 14%, and the wait list to get into classes grew by 70%.
- The Colleges are planning to offer the same number of sections this Fall as last Fall. On the day before classes started, student demand has pushed enrollment up nearly 13% and the wait list for classes is up more than 61%.
- There are currently more than 18,000 names on wait lists for Fall classes. The Colleges realize that this doesn't represent 18,000 students because students trying to get a particular class may add themselves to wait lists for several different sections of the class in order to increase the odds of getting into a class.
- Based on these enrollment numbers we can definitely say that 1) classes at all three colleges will be larger this Fall than at any time in the recent past; and 2) many students will not be able to get all the classes they wanted to take this Fall; and 3) some students will not be able to get any classes this Fall.
- This Fall, we experienced the largest distribution of financial aid ever; more than \$1,250,000 was distributed. In addition, our students received enrollment fee waivers valued at \$1,282,000 million.
- Categorical programs, which are targeted to assist our poorest and most needy students—disabled students, poor students who need assistance with child care and transportation, underprepared students who need remedial support—have been slashed by the State 50%. Our Colleges will lose \$5 million in categorical funds in 2009-10.
- The State has increased student enrollment fees 30% from \$20 to \$26 per unit, in order to reduce the state's apportionment obligation to the Colleges. This fee increase will cause hardship for some students and prevent others from attending college.

Skyline College Art Gallery is proud to present *Technopia*, a group exhibit featuring works by Robert Geshlider, Jon Huffman, Tanya Lin Jaffe, Therese Lahaie, and Andrew Werby

Technopia will be in Skyline's Gallery from August 26 through October 3. The genesis of this exhibition comes from an interest in combining the words technology and utopia, *tekhne*- the Greek root for art, and *utopia* (noun- an imagined state or place in which everything is perfect- from Greek *ou* (not) + *topos* (place)). The artists in this show explore a variety of merging points between contemporary art and technology.

- Robert Geshlider's sculptures are designed in cyberspace (SolidWorks CAD program), and then printed on a 3-D printer made by Z-Corporation. Normally used to print 3-D prototypes in high-tech industrial design workplaces, Geshlider co-opts this technology, creating a virtual sculptural workspace populated with virtually derived figures. Their physical manifestations seem almost miraculous.
- Andrew Werby uses all manner of high tech wizardry to create sculptural forms. Using 2 and 3-D scanners, computer controlled carving devices, 3-D printers, and of course- computer software,

Werby's pieces begin as natural and organic forms, then shoot through the funnel of technology, scrambling and re-assembling themselves into a myriad of technological juxtapositions.

- Therese Lahaie's kinesthetic and photographic works are subtle, exploring such contemplative subjects as our breath, heartbeat, even karmic seeds and Tibetan Buddhist philosophy. Employing a variety of combinations of glass, steel, mirrors, electric motors, light sources, and fabric, the overall effect is a dance of light and form in ever-changing and hypnotic ripples of phenomena.
- John Huffman's photographic work employs a descending trail of imaging technology. Using a 4x5 studio camera, he makes photographic transparencies of digital video images frozen on video monitors, directly reversing the traditional technological image trajectory. In his large-scale Cibachrome and C-prints, pixels recorded on film freeze and transform themselves into an abstract mosaic patterning, and the utopian images of lotuses, dahlias and other garden forms arise from the mud of technology becoming once again patterns of light.
- Tanya Lin Jaffe's images are created using a variety of digital and film cameras, x-ray machines and cell phone cameras. She brings them into the digital realm and edits using photoshop and other software programs. Jaffe's photos are in and of themselves pseudo-scientific experiments conducted and then photographically captured. And there is a quasi-cosmological beauty to be found in the constellational structures of the random archeological bits from the past that she captures using a chiropractors x-ray machine, re-purposed in the interests of art.

The reception for the artists is on Thursday, September 10, from 5:30 - 7:30. Gallery Hours vary, please see the gallery website for current visiting information: <http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/skygallery>.



technopia

robert geshlider
jon huffman
tanya lin jaffe
therese lahaie
andrew werby

skyline college
art gallery
aug 26 - oct 3
<http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/skygallery>

reception: september 10 5:30 - 7:30



Skyline grad Akillah Wali wins DOVE fellowship

Akillah Wali graduated from Skyline in 2006 and transferred to Columbia University where she completed her bachelor's degree in 2008. This fall she will attend the University of Minnesota in the Educational Policy program. She has just learned that she has been selected to receive a DOVE (Diversity of Views and Experiences) fellowship from the university. This award will provide her in the first year with a \$22,500 stipend plus full tuition and 95% health insurance; in the second year she will have a 25% graduate assistantship (10 hours/week for a salary of approximately \$6500), plus full tuition. This award is a partnership between the Graduate School Diversity Office and the Humphrey Institute. Please join me in congratulating Akillah!

Skyline's recycling efforts reach a new high

I would like to repeat part of a message we received from Richard Inokuchi, Skyline's Facilities Manager:

Hi everybody – every year I am required to submit a report to the State's California Integrated Waste Management Board that documents Skyline College's efforts at recycling as much as we can and keeping recyclable materials out of waste product landfills. I am totally blown away and

pleased to report that the initial figures I've submitted for calendar year 2008 show we achieved a fantastic **85.5%** - meaning we are **recycling roughly 86% of our trash**. That's a remarkable achievement, given the State is mandating that we recycle only 50% of our trash and debris. This is even more noteworthy in light of the construction we had occurring throughout campus last year and all the construction rubble and debris that was removed from those various projects.

My thanks and thanks from the campus go out to all our construction contractors who worked various projects during 2008 and did their best to recycle construction materials and debris where possible – Swinerton Construction Management, Hensel Phelps Construction, John Plane Construction, QBuilders Construction – all of you are to be congratulated for supporting Skyline College and its recycling efforts. Thanks also to District General Services and our Bookstore operations for their assistance with universal waste, special products and book recycling. Special thanks also go out to San Bruno Garbage Company, who worked collaboratively with Skyline College Facilities staff to implement a **'One Stream'** recycling program on campus – meaning you do not have to separate recyclable materials anymore . . . plastic, glass, aluminum cans, paper, cardboard . . . all can collectively go into those blue recycle containers and recycle stations. We implemented the program in April 2007 and I believe this made it simpler and easier for everyone and contributed to our enviable percentage achievement.

Should you need recycle containers for your office areas or spot anywhere on campus where you feel recycling efforts can improve, please contact Manny Granillo, our Supervisor of Custodial Operations, at ext 4456 or granillom@smccd.edu.

Thank you – **CONGRATULATIONS** – and keep up the good work. All of you should feel especially proud of this accomplishment. The **future of our environment** depends on all of our efforts at **recycling now**. **THINK and GO GREEN !**

College Council update

College Council minutes are archived on the College Council website at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/GovCommittees/>.

- 1. Orientation to the work of the College Council:** President Vicki Morrow reviewed the college's shared governance philosophy and the charter and bylaws of the College Council, which is the central body in the college's governance structure. That document is available on the College Council website, at the address above.
- 2. Annual Report for 2008-09:** Vicki Morrow noted that the College Council bylaws require the publication of an annual report of the work of the College Council. The 2008-09 version was discussed by the Council. All editions of it are posted on the website noted above.
- 3. ACCJC October 2009 Follow up Report:** The college is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges/Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (WASC/ACCJC). We are required to submit a follow-up report to the commission this fall concerning three recommendations from the teams which visited the three colleges in our district in the fall of 2007. Those recommendations concerning district wide matters and a draft follow-up report on them has been prepared. It was presented to the College Council, and the timeline for review and approval of it was discussed. The draft will be disseminated to the college electronically with a deadline for responding to Donna Bestock and Ray Hernandez by September 16. The Council will then take action on the report at its September 23 meeting. The same draft is being circulated at all three colleges. Next fall, Skyline will be submitting a Midterm Report on the five recommendations which the team made to the college. All of them have been completely addressed.
- 4. Classified Council leadership:** Adolfo Leiva, Classified Council president for 2008-09, and Linda Herda, vice president for that year, attended the meeting to update the College Council on their efforts to recruit leadership for the Classified Council this year. Vicki noted how critical their participation is to the college's governance processes.
- 5. Budget update:** Vicki provided a update on the college's budget, indicating that the College Budget Committee (CBC) would be holding its first meeting of the year on Thursday, August 27. She summarized the effects of the state budget cuts on the college, indicating that the college

had to cut about \$1.7 million dollars from its budget for this year, 2009-10, leaving a budget of about \$21 million. The CBC was involved in extensive discussion of budget the reduction strategies used, and they will be again as the college plans for the 2010-11 year. Reductions in the 10-15% range are expected, along with likely mid-year cuts this year. The college's ending balance will allow us to weather the latter, but the 2010-11 year will be much more challenging.

6. Next meeting: September 23.

College Budget Committee (CBC) update

The College Budget Committee held its first meeting for this academic year on August 27 with Academic Senate President Ray Hernandez and Director of Business Services Eloisa Briones serving as Co-Chairs.

- Budget update:** Over the summer, the Committee was kept abreast of developments relating to the state and district budget through email communications from the Chancellor, Chief Financial Officer Kathy Blackwood, Skyline President Vicki Morrow, and Eloisa Briones. At the meeting, Eloisa shared the 2009/10 Budget Hearing PowerPoint that Kathy Blackwood presented to the Board of Trustees on August 19th which covers final outcomes of the 2008-09 and 2009-10 state and district budget. As a result of the state budget cuts in the current year, site allocations were reduced by 10%. District reserves will be used to cover the remaining \$5.4 million deficit. The community college system counted on receiving \$130 million of one-time federal stimulus dollars to mitigate cuts to categorical programs. However, Scott Lay, President of the Community College League of California, announced August 27 that the system will probably receive only 25% to 35% of this allocation. With the implementation of workload reduction measures, SMCCCD will be funded for 21,025 FTES. 2009-10 FTES goals for the three colleges were adjusted to reflect this reduction. The Legislative Analyst's Office projects increasing state budget deficits in the ensuing years, making it necessary for the district to plan to cut an additional 10% to 15% of its budget by July 2010. Since 94% of the budget is in personnel, this suggests the need for more drastic measures such as program elimination, incentives, managed hiring and, as a last resort, layoffs.
- Resource Allocation for 2009-2010 and 2010-11:** CBC reviewed the Revenue and Expenditure assumptions for 2009-10 noting the decline in site allocations until 2012-13. The committee was pleased to see the positive impact on the college's allocation resulting from the FTES growth and high load that the college has achieved. Skyline's allocation this year decreased by only 1.1% compared to last year. The preliminary resource allocation projections for 2010-11 assume an 11% reduction to site allocations plus a small amount of funding for growth.
- Bracing for more budget reductions:** Co-Chair Ray Hernandez shared a draft of the guiding principles to be used in the CBC's development of budget reduction strategies for 2010-11. Eloisa distributed a list of Budget Reduction Strategies to Consider for 2010-11. This is a preliminary list of general and specific strategies for the committee to consider and is suggested as a tool to begin the conversation as the committee discusses ways to reduce the college budget by \$1.2 to \$2.2 million by July 2010. Consideration of any potential program discontinuance will be undertaken in accord with the college's Program Viability Policy(available on the Curriculum Committee website under Resources: <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/GovCommittees/currcom/resources.html>). Discussions will continue at the next CBC regular meeting and all throughout the rest of the academic year.
- Next Meeting:** CBC invited Kathy Blackwood to hold a **Budget Open Forum on September 10th in the Theater at 2:10 pm.**

Coming up...

Tuesday, September 1

- Last day to add semester length classes
- Last day to drop semester length classes with eligibility for partial refund
- Women's Soccer vs. Mendocino, 1pm

Wednesday, September 2

- Volleyball-Coast to Coast Classic, 2:30pm

Friday, September 4

- Women's Soccer vs. Foothill College, Los Altos, 3:30pm
- Wrestling, Alumni Match, 7pm

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 **40th 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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