



Victoria P. Morrow, President
August 13, 2009

Welcome to the 2009-10 academic year!

I look forward to seeing everyone here on Monday and Tuesday. As you know the district wide opening day is on Monday and our Skyline Opening Day will be Tuesday, with coffee at 8 am and our program starting at 9 am. I will provide my usual update on what has been going on here over the past year, and in recent months, and I will look comment on what I see coming this year. Our program will also include welcomes from all of the college's constituent groups; faculty service awards; recognition of several important groups of people: newly tenured faculty, new and reassigned faculty and staff, and holders of newly earned degrees; and the Skyline Shines Awards. And we will gather for our annual group photo in the new quad between Buildings 7 and 8. See you there!

The campus has seen big changes over the summer

Those of you who have been away for the summer will see some dramatic changes when you return. The central quad areas, walkways and stairs will be largely in place. The redesigned parking will be in service, increasing the number of spaces just when we need them most. The walls of the new Auto Tech building are starting to take shape, and new Building 4 is also progressing visibly. As I mentioned last spring, the landscaping will follow in the fall, along with the fountain in the main quad and the new gateway monument signs at both road entrances to the college. In addition, our new Smoke Free Campus policy takes effect this fall, and you will see ten designated smoking areas distributed around the perimeter of the campus at the inner edges of the parking lots. How will it look when it is all finished? Here are a couple of glimpses. In this first artist's rendering you can see the view from the central quad toward Building 8, with the amphitheater on the left and then the fountain. The amphitheater is installed; the fountain will come this fall. The second one is an aerial view of the same part of the campus, and includes some of the quad between buildings 1 and 2. The paving will all be in come Monday, though the landscaping will await the fall.





Beyond Economic Self-Sufficiency Tools (BESST) Program comes to Skyline

In collaboration with the San Mateo County Human Services Agency, Skyline College will launch a new program this fall to serve students who qualify for supplemental nutrition assistance. Students can receive employment training by enrolling in career technical education courses and programs. BESST will connect qualified students to food assistance, fee waivers, money for books, transportation assistance and more. The program draws upon federal funding, and has the potential to bring additional resources to the college while not creating additional costs to be borne by the college. Skyline is also participating in a pilot project--the FSET (Food Stamp Employment and Training) Expansion Initiative, a project of the Insight Center for Community Economic Development, which is leading the California effort to design and disseminate the FSET model (also known as the Cal Success model). The pilot project also includes Foothill/DeAnza and Cabrillo College. This program is a critical component of our efforts to support students in improving their economic conditions; the services are bundled, connected to public benefits, and integrated with workforce preparation/career technical education programs and services. Though we expect to start off serving a modest number of students, as the program grows and we are successful in helping students access their public benefits, we anticipate serving hundreds of students. Thanks to Regina Stanback Stroud for her leadership in identifying this excellent program and working with the county to bring it to the college. Thanks also to William Watson and Adolfo Leiva for their work in developing the implementation plan for it. For more information visit http://www.skylinecollege.edu/combiz/cwd/pro_besst.html. Students who are interested in this program should contact Adolfo Leiva at 650-738-7035 in the Center for Workforce Development.

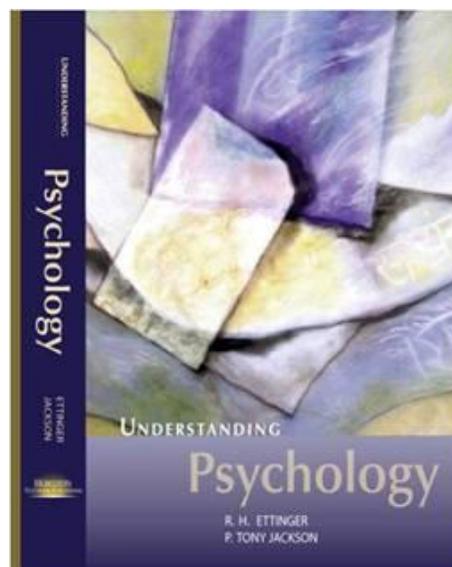
Skyline attends UMOJA Summer Retreat

On July 13-17 several members of the Skyline ASTEP Learning Community attended the UMOJA Summer Retreat at Sequoia Retreat Center in Ben Lomond, California. UMOJA is the statewide African American student learning community consortium and Skyline is one of the community colleges with the longest standing and most established African American learning communities in the state. The photos include attendees Donna Bestock, Dean of Creative Arts/Social Sciences; Phyllis Taylor, Speech; Pat Deamer, Math; Maya Watson, English; Pauline Wethington, Counselor and Jocelyn Mouton, former Skyline Counselor and founding member of ASTEP at Skyline. The presentation photo is taken on the last day of the retreat during our cumulative presentation.



Professor Jackson authors new textbook

Dr. Tony Jackson, a faculty member in the Psychology Department, co-authored a recently published a new textbook for General Psychology called Understanding Psychology. Dr. Jackson says, "After years of searching for a text book that would offer credible information on the complex history and origins of psychology and not finding it, I decided to create one. My participation in the writing of this text helps place culture, perception and perspective in a psychological context that speaks to real world issues and the socio-political nature of the field. I'm proud of what this text might achieve in the classroom." Dr. Jackson teaches General Psychology and provides leadership in the ASTEP Learning Community in collaboration with the ASTEP Coordinators, Professors Pat Deamer and Phyllis Taylor.



Skyline MESA students present at SFSU

On Wednesday August 5, three Skyline MESA students presented their research at the San Francisco State University (SFSU) Undergraduate Summer Research Symposium. These students were in their NIH/SFSU Bridges to Baccalaureate Program. Overall, there were 34 presentations by students doing independent research, most of them working in labs at SFSU. These three Skyline students spent their summer in labs at Skyline College developing and implementing research projects with Professors Chris Case and Nick Kapp. Throughout the summer Biology Laboratory Technician Pat Carter provided support for the projects.

- Ashley Priscilla Good –Case Lab, Skyline College. “The antimicrobial activity of kombucha tea.”
- Mathew Anthony Garza –Kapp Lab, Skyline College. “A search for an inexpensive method to purify proteins through affinity chromatography using the starch binding domain of α -amylase from *B. subtilis*.”
- Pamela Rios –Case Lab, Skyline College. “Investigation of antibacterial activity of the American cockroach (*Periplaneta americana*).”

In the photo from left are Pamela Rios, Ashley Good, Pamela’s lab partner An-Chi Tseng, and Matt Garza.



Photo by Chris Case

Regina Stanback Stroud earns doctorate

Dr. Stroud has completed her third graduate degree, an Ed.D. in Higher Education from Mills College. She also earned her second Master’s degree from Mills College in the same discipline. Her first master’s degree was an MS from Golden Gate University in Human Relations. Her BS is from Howard University in Nursing Sciences.

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