



San Diego Community College District

City College  
Mesa College  
Miramar College  
Continuing  
Education

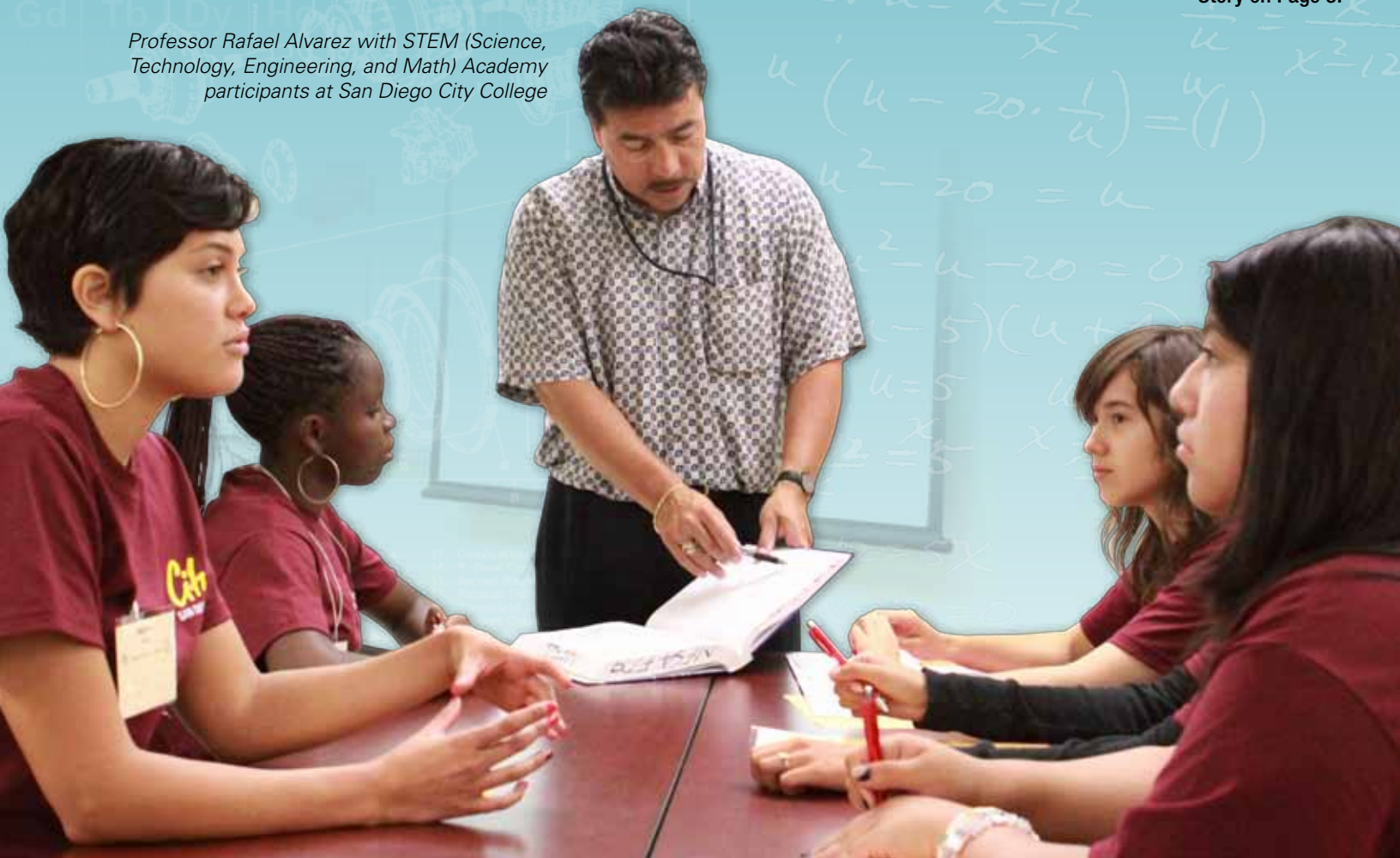
**WE** *with excellence*

December 2011

# College Preparation for Student Success

Story on Page 3.

Professor Rafael Alvarez with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Academy participants at San Diego City College





# Chancellor's Message



Constance M. Carroll, Ph.D.  
Chancellor, SDCCCD

## An Agenda for Student Success

California's 112 community colleges have always put the best interests of students and their success as top priorities. From the role assigned to community colleges in the 1960 California Master Plan for Higher Education to the ambitious "reforms" of Assembly Bill 1725 in 1988 to a host of categorical programs, especially Matriculation, California's community colleges have focused on helping students achieve their goals.

Most recently, under Senate Bill 1143, a statewide task force was formed to address the issue of student success through a wide range of programs and initiatives. It was my pleasure to serve on this task force, along with Mesa College Professor Cynthia Rico Bravo. The task force report and recommendations will be presented to the California Community Colleges Board of Governors on January 9, 2012, and will proceed to the California legislature by March. Although you may find the full text of the report and recommendations on the website <http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/PolicyInAction/StudentSuccessTaskForce.aspx>, here is a summary of what is being put forward as an agenda for student success.



Photo by Kevin Feliciano

### Student Success Task Force Members

Front row (left to right): Kevin Feliciano, Samantha Elliott, Dr. Yasmin Delahoussaye, Dr. Jack Scott, Dr. Jane Patton, Dr. Manuel Baca. Row 2 (left to right): Christopher Cabaldon, Dr. Nancy Shulock, Amy Supinger, Dr. Jeannette Mann, Dr. David Morse, Dr. Peter MacDougall, Tara Cooper, Cynthia Rico Bravo, Dr. Constance M. Carroll. Back Row (left to right): David Rattray, Dr. Brice Harris, Dr. Melinda Nish, Suzanne Reed, Dr. Bob Gabriner, Ruben Lazardo, Rich Hansen, Dr. Ben Duran.

## Student Success Task Force Recommendations

### *Increase College and Career Readiness*

- 1.1. Collaborate with K-12 to jointly develop common core standards for college and career readiness.

### *Strengthen Support for Entering Students*

- 2.1. Develop and implement common centralized diagnostic assessments.
- 2.2. Require students to participate in diagnostic assessment, orientation and the development of an educational plan.
- 2.3. Develop and use technology applications to better guide students in educational process.
- 2.4. Require students showing a lack of college readiness to participate in support resources.
- 2.5. Require students to declare a program of study early in their academic careers.

### *Incentivize Successful Student Behaviors*

- 3.1. Adopt system-wide enrollment priorities reflecting core mission of community colleges.
- 3.2. Require students receiving Board of Governors fee waivers to meet various conditions and requirements.
- 3.3. Provide students the opportunity to consider attending full time.
- 3.4. Require students to begin addressing Basic Skills deficiencies in their first year.

### *Align Course Offering to Meet Student Needs*

- 4.1. Focus course offerings and schedules on needs of students.

### *Improve the Education of Basic Skills Students*

- 5.1. Support the development of alternatives to traditional basic skills curriculum.
- 5.2. Develop a comprehensive strategy for addressing basic skill education in California.

### *Revitalize and Re-Envision Professional Development*

- 6.1. Create a continuum of mandatory professional development opportunities.
- 6.2. Direct professional development resources toward improving basic skills instruction and support services.

### *Enable Efficient Statewide Leadership & Increase Coordination Among Colleges*

- 7.1. Develop and support a strong community college system office.
- 7.2. Set local student success goals consistent with statewide goals.
- 7.3. Implement a student success scorecard.
- 7.4. Develop and support a longitudinal student record system.

### *Align Resources with Student Success Recommendations*

- 8.1. Encourage categorical program streamlining and cooperation.
- 8.2. Invest in the new Student Support Initiative.
- 8.3. Encourage innovation and flexibility in the delivery of basic skills instruction.



# College Preparation for Student Success

Most San Diegans understand that the economic vibrancy and social cohesion of the region require an educated population capable of assuming roles in a technologically-driven society that is prosperous and compassionate. About one-half of the nearly 120,000 students at San Diego Community College District's (SDCCD) City College, Mesa College, and Miramar College are enrolled in degree or certificate programs of study aimed at preparing for roles in our evolving society and economy. The STEM (Science,

Technology, Engineering, and Math) Academy at City College and the Allied Health programs at Mesa College illustrate two of over 150 programs of study that lead to successful career or graduate education pathways.

The majority of the remaining 60,000 students are not ready for success in college.

They are taking classes at Continuing Education campuses and extension sites in a wide array of basic skills necessary to speed their pace into college or directly into a new job. Some students are enrolled in classes focused on providing the English, Math, and other threshold skill sets necessary for college success. Others are taking classes to master in-demand skills in PowerPoint, Excel, and other computer programs. Over 20 classes are offered to meet industry demand for training in information technology ranging from basics of networking to the Cisco Academy. At the North City campus, displaced workers in media and technical communication occupations are joining others taking classes in state-of-the-art multimedia applications and technical training for new jobs.

The need for these programs has been growing during this recession. Over 13 percent of San Diegans live in poverty while the region's unemployment rate continues to be stuck between 9-10 percent. Immigrants, especially those who have arrived during the past decade, are anxious to acquire language and other skills to become part of the region's economic success. Immigrants (who make up over 25 percent of San Diego's population) are responsible for nearly 40 percent of new businesses in

## Literacy Defined

**"...an individual's ability to read, write, and speak English, and to compute and solve problems at levels of proficiency necessary to function on the job and in society" and "...to achieve one's goals, and develop one's knowledge and potential."**

*1991 National Literacy Act*

the U.S., according to the U.S. Department of Commerce. Those enterprises range from small neighborhood sole proprietorships to high-tech start-ups.

To strengthen the pathway to success for those who are college-bound, the District's Continuing Education program pioneered the establishment of the "Continuing Education Advantage" approach to the matriculation of students from basic skills into classes at the college campuses. The results are clear. Student persistence and success rates are higher in college for these adults compared to those not previously enrolled in pre-college classes at Continuing Education.

These programs at our colleges and Continuing Education campuses are key to fueling the entrepreneurial success of immigrants and non-immigrants alike in San Diego. ♦



*STEM Academy participant  
Omogbolabo Kupoluyi*



*Continuing Education ESL (English as a Second Language) students*



Terrence J. Burgess, Ph.D.  
President  
San Diego City College

# Tomorrow's Leaders

In August, San Diego City College piloted its first-ever Academy for STEM Success. The Academy is a national model for addressing the need to increase the retention and success of students in the STEM majors of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

With a focus on underrepresented minorities and women, more than 50 incoming high school students spent three

full days listening to mentors, faculty and industry leaders from businesses such as Qualcomm and SPAWAR talk about a culture of learning and success. Graduates leave the Academy with the tools and resources to launch their college career – already a step ahead of their peers.

In small groups led by MESA Program student mentors, discussion groups focused on topics such as time management strategies, the big picture approach, and test taking strategies. Science, Technology, Engineering and Math faculty, along with industry professionals, visited the 3-day Academy encouraging the participants that if they are prepared, they will have a successful career in this competitive industry.

STEM Academy student mentor Faith Silva is already at UCSD studying Structural Engineering. According to Faith, “the MESA Program gave me the self-confidence to succeed in this competitive field of engineering.” Faith chose Structural Engineering because it is more “hands-on” than other majors. Her goal is to work for a city, a construction company or a consulting firm and she is already making plans for graduate school.

Having had previous STEM Academy training, the MESA Program student mentors were in a position to encourage the newcomers to actively participate in the training by expressing their thoughts and opinions. Mentor Melissa Ramon shared, “once you’ve gained knowledge, you can fly.” Melissa recently earned a coveted post with the Birch Aquarium, and plans to attend UCSD or Hawaii Pacific University. “Before joining the MESA program at City, I had no foundation. MESA opened new doors for me and gave me the tools and offerings to help me achieve my goals.”

Mentor and Math major Hue Simone advised new students to be motivated and be their own advocate. “There is no reason not to be a success as the MESA program provides you with lots of support.”

STEM Academy participant Leny Diaz is the first in her Hispanic family to attend college. With her sights set on becoming a nurse practitioner and applying to UCLA and SDSU for a BS and MS in Nursing, Leny believes the STEM training taught her “essential things that will be a part of my future success throughout my academic life. I will use every part of the training that I received.”

Vice President of Instruction Mary Benard told the students, “Be selfish about your education and take what you need to succeed.” ♦



STEM Academy students





Pamela Luster, Ed.D.  
President  
San Diego Mesa College

# Mesa

## On a fast track to a future in medicine...



Health Science High  
Middle College student  
Marybelle Camacho

Place a group of high school students in a college classroom and a transformation occurs. Active, energetic, and chatty teenagers morph into poised and polished young professionals, eager to learn a skilled trade and advance their path to a career in medicine. At least that's what happens when students from Health Science High Middle College step into the Medical Assisting laboratory at San Diego Mesa College each summer.

On a hot August day made more for surfing than studying, a dozen students were taking glucose samples and practicing other laboratory procedures in a state-of-the-art medical laboratory in the college's Allied Health Education and Training Facility.

"It has the look and feel of a real lab," explains 17-year-old Felix Heath of Ramona as he dabbed a swab of alcohol on a classmate's finger.

Through a unique educational partnership between Mesa College, Health Science High Middle College and Sharp Hospital, Felix has the opportunity to complete his high school diploma and earn up to 19 college units towards a Certificate in Medical Assisting. If Felix completes an additional semester at Mesa College upon graduation from high school, he could be eligible to sit for his board exam and become a licensed Medical Assistant at 18 years of age.

Talk about a fast-track high school and college experience. Felix is part of a program that was established between Health Science High Middle College, Mesa College's Medical Assisting program, and Sharp Memorial Hospital to give students training in the allied health field while attending high school. The program began in 2007 and is supported by SB70 grant funding. Felix was part of the first cohort of 168 students, which has grown each year since, with 480 participating in the past school year.

In addition to the lab work at Mesa College, students spend time with doctors and nurses at Sharp Memorial, where they gain experience shadowing healthcare workers. "Working with and talking to patients is the best," says 16-year-old Kevin Rodrigues. "Doctors and nurses tell me they wish they could have had this experience," says Kevin, who hopes to become a pediatrician.

Medical assistants play a vital role in patient care and performing routine tasks. Career opportunities in this field are on the rise. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment is projected to grow much faster than average, ranking among the fastest growing occupations over the 2008-18 decade.

"We provide a career pathway to meet the needs of the students, but also the needs of the community," says Margie Fritch, Mesa's Dean of Health Sciences and Public Service. "Students will be well prepared to address the different populations in our community in relation to patient expectations and care." ♦



Gabiela Jimenez takes a glucose sample from Sebastian Licht as Kevin Rodrigues looks on.



Patricia Hsieh, Ed.D.  
President  
San Diego Miramar College



# Hourglass Park

College and Community Success Story



To say the Hourglass Park partnership of San Diego Miramar College and City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department has been a success would be a colossal understatement. In 2010 alone, the combined daily attendance by students and public patrons to Hourglass Park facilities neared 500,000!

According to Dan Gutowski, Hourglass Park Coordinator, the complex has hosted hundreds of regional, national and even international events, including the annual Top Gun Soccer



Tournament, U.S. Synchronized Swim Team, California State Gates, Firefighter and Police Olympics, U.S. Synchronized Swim Championships, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer 3-Day, Univision Soccer Tournament, International Frisbee Championships, and San Diego Sol Basketball.

Since the partnership was signed in September 1989, the 99-year agreement has seen development of three joint projects: Hourglass Park, the Ned Baumer Miramar College Aquatic Center, and Hourglass Park Fieldhouse.

The 25-acre Hourglass Park opened in 1993. It includes six softball/baseball fields, two multipurpose soccer fields, and a Passive City day park. While the San Diego Community College District contributed 31 acres of land for all phases of the Hourglass Park complex, the City provided full funding to construct the first phase.

The \$4 million Aquatic Center, which includes three heavily used pools, opened ten years later in 1999 with the majority of construction funding provided by the City. More than 70,000 college students and community residents took advantage of swim instruction, recreational swim, and water polo team practice and competitions in 2010.

The opening of Hourglass Park Fieldhouse in 2009 marked completion of the complex. The \$26 million Fieldhouse features a gymnasium, state-of-the-art fitness center, classrooms, dance studios, college and City offices, and a concession stand. In 2010, college and City patrons in the Fieldhouse reached 174,000.

College athletics teams – Miramar College Jets – have developed and flourished with their new facilities. In its first four seasons, the women’s soccer team, coached by former San Diego Sockers pro Sean Bowers, has placed 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and won the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference, making the state playoffs twice.

In five seasons, men’s basketball, led by athletics director Nick Gehler, placed 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup>, with back-to-back playoff appearances and a Southern California Regional Final victory. More than a dozen men’s basketball alumni moved on to play for four-year colleges in Division I, Division II and NAIA schools. Another Miramar basketball alum plays professionally in Japan. *Go Jets!* ♦

## Why Hourglass?

The Miramar College campus sits on land that was once an auxiliary military landing field in the shape of an hourglass. The hourglass runway became a race track, and finally became Miramar College. The history was honored by naming the new joint-use complex Hourglass Park.







Anthony E. Beebe, Ed.D.  
President  
San Diego Continuing Education

# Continuing Education

## Advantage to College-Bound and Career-Bound Students

Whether it's a "friend in the business" who gives you good advice, or a VIP pass to the front of the line, having an advantage just feels good, and students at Continuing Education (CE) are learning this first-hand.

Ernest Bolden is a student in the Auto Technician Job Training/Certificate Program. He's preparing to enter the Automotive Service Technology program at Miramar

College, but first he's getting a background education through CE. "I'll have an advantage when I go to Miramar," he says. "Using this background knowledge will give me an advantage over students who don't have the same education that I've received at CE."

CE serves 90,000+ students annually. Some are preparing for college, others have plans to complete a certificate program, and many are sharpening career skills that will lead them to a better job, or a promotion.

For the nearly 10,000 students looking to improve basic skills—math, English, ESL, and computers are among the most popular classes. Data confirms students who enroll in noncredit classes at CE before going to college can do better in college classes than students who did not attend Continuing Education classes before enrolling.

This success is seen in higher placement scores for reading and writing; greater retention and completion rates; and greater overall success rates. Plus, when CE students transition to college, they are given priority registration at City, Mesa, and Miramar Colleges—an advantage that Maria Elena Hernandez is excited about.

"My instructors helped me believe in myself and take advantage of the opportunity to improve my skills," said Maria. Maria earned a job training certificate from Continuing

Education, passed the state exam to become a licensed Certified Nursing Assistant, and she is now transitioning to City College's LVN program.

Continuing Education is making it even easier for college-bound students by creating new classes that are specifically designed to help with transition. ACE2 (Accelerated College English) is a partnership between CE and Mesa College that facilitates a smooth transition of students from noncredit to transfer-level credit English. ESL Transition to College focuses on reading, writing, and taking notes from lectures. Students also learn about college programs, and how to apply.

Behnur Tsegay enrolled in ESL Transition to College and will enroll at City College to take health care classes. His long-term goal is to become a medical doctor. "I have an advantage over other students because the classes are teaching me how to think critically. The ways the instructors teach are preparing me for college," he said.

While transition is a big part of the Continuing Education Advantage, another important focus is on completion, which gives students a better opportunity at jobs.

President Obama has called upon community colleges to increase degree and certificate completions by 5 million within a decade and CE has stepped up to the plate—offering 25+ short-term job training programs that give both college-bound and career-bound students an advantage. When students complete a program, they can enter the job market with valuable skills, or continue to college and pursue an Associate degree. For those who choose to continue in education, select articulation agreements are in place with SDCCD colleges, which can give students the advantage of having partial college credit for the training completed at Continuing Education.

The CE Advantage is about giving students access and resources so they gain knowledge and skills that propel them to the next step in achieving their goals. Ultimately, students learn new skills that will lead to a better job and more financial stability. "And that," concluded CE President Dr. Anthony Beebe, "is one of our important missions." ♦



Ernest Bolden, Auto Technician Student



Behnur Tsegay, Future Medical Doctor



Maria Elena Hernandez, Future Licensed Vocational Nurse



## Union-Tribune Fame and now TV...

Congratulations to the Sand Squirrels, led by Miramar College Hourglass Park Coordinator and professional sand sculptor Dan Gutowski, for carving a masterpiece at the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual U.S. Open Sand Castle Competition at Imperial Beach over the summer. Sponsored by Foster Farms, the Sand Squirrels, comprised of Miramar staff, faculty, and student athletes, were fan favorites and the focus of feature coverage in the San Diego Union-Tribune. Read the story and view the photo gallery at <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2011/jul/24/a-test-of-true-grit/>. Watch for the Sand Squirrels' latest work of art created on the shores of Mission Bay for the December 16 episode of ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition. ♦



## MESA PROFESSOR RECOGNIZED

Professor Jaye Van Kirk has been selected as the Psi Beta Faculty Advisor of the Year. Psi Beta is the National Honor Society in Psychology for Community and Junior College and is an affiliate of the American Psychological Association. The award is considered the organization's most prestigious.

It recognizes the valuable mentoring contributed by an outstanding chapter advisor. Professor Van Kirk was honored at the American Psychological Association national conference in Washington, D.C. in August where she received a plaque naming her the 2011 Virginia Staudt Sexton National Psi Beta Advisor. "It is the caliber of students whom I get to work with in Psi Beta that makes what I do so rewarding and meaningful," said Professor Van Kirk. "Psi Beta provides me with opportunities to work with some of psychology's best and brightest." ♦

## Excellence in Student Journalism

The National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA) awarded its Excellence in Student Journalism to two City College journalists Alex Miller Pastore (camera and editing) and Steven Commer (reporter/track) for their Newscene, iTV story "Day of Remembrance." Day of Remembrance featured City leaders and the Hillcrest Community paying tribute to all the gay and transgender people who were killed in hate crime situations. City College Radio/TV Professor Laura Castaneda proudly boasted, "Our students' work beat out other pieces from New York University and Columbia!" NLGJA's Excellence in Journalism Awards were established in 1993 to foster, recognize and reward excellence in journalism on issues related to the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) community. The awards were presented in Philadelphia in late August. ♦



NLFJA Winners, from left: Alex Miller Pastore and Steven Commer



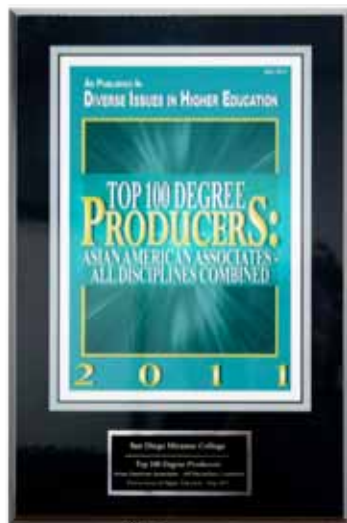
### Miramar College Serves Asian Americans — Among Top 100 Degree Producers

Miramar College is ranked in the “Top 100 Producers” for associate degrees awarded to Asian Americans among colleges nationwide, as reported by *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*.

In the magazine’s June 2011 issue, Miramar College was listed 59<sup>th</sup> in the awarding of associate degrees in all disciplines combined to Asian Americans in the 2009-2010 academic year. In addition, Miramar was listed tenth in the awarding of social sciences degrees to Asian Americans, 14<sup>th</sup> in psychology and 16<sup>th</sup> in family and consumer sciences/human sciences majors. In all, the college ranked in the top 50 for awarding associate degrees to Asian Americans, African Americans, and Hispanics in nine majors.

The rankings were based on data collected by the U.S. Department of Education’s Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, which gathers information from every college, university, and technical and vocational institution that participates in federal student financial aid programs.

According to the magazine’s website, the publication addresses issues concerning African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans in higher education. ♦



### NKBA EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARD

The Mesa College interior design program received the 2011 Excellence in Education award from the National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA). The award was presented at the organization’s Kitchen and Bath Industry Show and Conference in Las Vegas earlier this year. During the Educators Forum, an etched glass trophy was presented to Interior Design Professor Mimi Moore and Adjunct Professor Helene Lindquist. In attendance was Elizabeth Leahy, VP of Academic Relations for the San Diego Chapter of NKBA. Leahy is a graduate of Mesa’s interior design program. ♦

The Mesa College interior design program received the 2011 Excellence in Education award from the National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA).

### Award Winning Music Maker

City College’s KSDS-FM Jazz 88.3 radio station was named 2011 JazzWeek Large Market Station of the Year at the national JazzWeek Awards on June 18 in Rochester, N.Y. The all-jazz member-supported public radio station has been operating at San Diego City College since 1951. Radio Station Manager Mark DeBoskey says the award is due to a superb collective effort from the staff and many volunteers who help keep the station on the air 24 hours a day. “The Station of the Year award is especially meaningful because it represents recognition by our peers in the Jazz world, at radio stations, record labels and industry publications.” ♦

[www.jazz88.com](http://www.jazz88.com)



## Miramar College Recognized by American Red Cross

Recognizing a 394% increase in blood donations over the prior year, the American Red Cross (ARC) presented Miramar College with a "Platinum Award" for support of the Community Volunteer Blood Program recently.

Through multiple American Red Cross donor campaigns on the college campus, Miramar College Health Services collected 95 units of blood during 2010, potentially benefitting 285 patients.

"Miramar College is supporting both our local San Diego hospital needs for blood due to accidents, traumas, surgeries, cancer and leukemia transfusions, organ transplants and the military needs for blood products," said Carolyn Holland, ARC spokesperson.

According to Lezlie Allen, Miramar Student Health Services supervisor, "Students at the college have a history of supporting community needs. I'm proud to say that as college enrollment grows, so does the number of students willing to step up to help others." ♦



From left: San Diego Miramar College student Lily Chou, Health Services staffer Stacey Gierka, Health Services supervisor Lezlie Allen, American Red Cross representative Carolyn Holland, Miramar College President Dr. Patricia Hsieh



## MODEL OF SUCCESS

San Diego City College was noted in the July 25, 2011 *Diverse Issues in Education Magazine* (Paul Ruffins) as a "Model of Success" for its positive results in retaining students until graduation, with special emphasis on encouraging minority students to succeed in math and science classes.

As reported by Dr. Clifton Conrad of the University of Wisconsin, San Diego City College, a Hispanic Serving institution, is one of nine colleges producing better success outcomes than White colleges and universities through its dedicated teaching and outreach methods to minority students. City College's best practices and innovative programs will be publicized and shared with others through a \$1.5 million grant obtained by Dr. Conrad and Dr. Marybeth Gasman of the University of Pennsylvania, and sponsored by three different organizations: the Lumina Foundation, the Kresge Foundation, and the USA Funds. ♦

## FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER SUCCESS

On a sunny Saturday afternoon in June, 150 guests attended the first annual Miramar College Foundation *Invest in Success* fundraiser at the Rancho Santa Fe home of Tony Pizarro, a director on the Foundation board.

Attendees had the opportunity to meet Miramar students and alumni whose dreams are being realized through education and whose

successes would not have been possible without scholarship help. Their compelling stories of personal determination and achievement, despite staggering obstacles, were shared through a video.

Entertainment from around the world, provided by Samahan Philippine Dance Company; Son de San Diego from Veracruz, Mexico; Sariri music of Andean

South America; and Afta Shock Hip Hop Dance Troupe, filled the air. Catering was provided by Encore Catering & Events. A silent auction and drawing were conducted by the Miramar College Classified Senate. ♦





# KUDOS

## Accomplishments & Achievements

### On Location! Mesa College Campus Turns into “Music High”

For four weeks in July, Mesa College looked more like a high school than a college. On purpose. That's because film crews from Angelic Pictures took over offices, band rooms, outdoor areas and the Apolliad Theater to film “Music High: Not Just Another High School Musical.” The funny, young-adult antics film is about a teacher (Jonathan Bennett) who is trying to save his career by turning around an unruly class of students deeply divided by cliques based on different genres of music. Rivalry and competition ensue, with the film ending with a rousing, happily ever-after, musical performance. Among the local musicians featured in the film was East County pop country singer **Dannie Marie**, pictured here with actor **Joe Slaughter**. The family film is expected to be released in 2012. ♦



Photo, left: The lead singer of the local Dannie Marie Band shows actor Joe Slaughter the chords to her song. Photo, right: Members of Music High's fictional country band, Silver Springs (l-r): Ryan Poole, Megan Roethlein, Joe Slaughter, Tenessa Avey, Dannie Marie

Photo Credits: Laurel Pupa, Manager; Dannie Marie

## CAPED Honors



WorkAbility III Coordinator **Jenn Cook McMahon** received the Vice President's Award at the California Association on Post-secondary Education and Disability (CAPED) conference. As the Southern Co-Chair for the Counseling and Career Development CAPED Interest Group, Jenn was honored for her work to better the organization through her support of the vision and mission to serve the needs of persons with disabilities in higher education. ♦

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# ANNUAL JETS JUMPSTART AIDS NEWCOMERS



“Jets Jump Start” attracted more than 300 high school graduates and family members to the new student orientation program at Miramar College.

According to Outreach coordinator Sonny

Nguyen, this year’s crop of 224 new students was the largest ever to participate in the college orientation program.

Mostly comprised of recent high school graduates from local schools, some accompanied by their parents, guests enjoyed a full morning of workshops, presentations and campus tours that provided a comprehensive overview of what students can expect from their Miramar College

experience. Valuable information on transfer, financial aid and scholarships, choosing a major or career, and developing an educational plan was provided by college counselors, program directors, and student ambassadors.

Students were most impressed with the many new state-of-the-art facilities recently constructed with local bond funds, including completion of a state-of-the-art fitness center and fieldhouse, classroom buildings, and a parking garage. Construction is currently underway on a 100,000 square foot library/ learning resource center, due for completion in the winter.

College Facebook activity was high following the event. One post from attendee Gabe Ceron said, “Pretty cool today. Now I know for sure this is the school I want to attend.” ♦

