



City College
Mesa College
Miramar College
Continuing
Education

San Diego Community College District

WE *with excellence*

February 2012

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Story on page 3.



District employees listen attentively to Jordan Goldrich during one of the Supervisory Leadership Development Academy modules. Goldrich is one of several professionals who facilitate the Academies for Classified, Supervisory, and Management personnel.



Chancellor's Message



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

Destination Sacramento

The California Community Colleges is America's largest system of higher education, with 2.6 million students at campuses spread across the nation's most populous state. The colleges' mission is broad, encompassing education leading to university transfer, to careers, to basic skills

improvement, to general education, to a host of goals as diverse as the student body itself. Given the overwhelming number of California State University graduates who transferred from



Assembly Member Martin Garrick, with MiraCosta President Francisco Rodriguez beside him, addresses the delegation from San Diego.

community colleges (60%) and the number of graduates populating occupational fields (e.g., 70% of California's Registered Nurses are community college graduates), these institutions provide invaluable services to their communities, the state, and the economy.

The California Community Colleges is also known as the "most regulated" system of higher education in the country. Other than for academic content and programs, and except for local collective bargaining and such specialized actions as bond measures, most of the decisions made by community colleges are constrained by state regulations and direct legislation. From the determination of the enrollment fee (tuition) for students, to the number of days required in a semester, to a host of personnel issues, to the state budget for community colleges, most decisions affecting community colleges are made in Sacramento.

Each year, California's 72 community college districts, operating 112 community colleges, make a coordinated trek to Sacramento in search of 120 legislators, 80 Assembly members and 40 Senators, and one Governor, to plead their case, primarily about the budget, but also about other issues.



Governor's Office: (kneeling in front from left to right) Trustee Mary Graham, Chancellor Constance M. Carroll (standing in back from left to right) Trustee Peter Zschiesche, Student Trustees Victor Bohm, Cherie Deogracias, and Michael Cash, Trustee Rich Grosch, Vice Chancellor Lynn Neault.

In late January, the San Diego Community College District joined with the other community college districts in San Diego and Imperial Counties to hold joint meetings with legislators. This was, as always, a good opportunity to demonstrate solidarity regarding the issues facing community colleges, and it was a salutary experience for the students who accompanied us, both as a platform for their advocacy and as an opportunity to explore and learn about the legislative process.

We will continue this effort in the months to come. ♦



Assembly Member Marty Block (center) with students from left: Michael Cash, Lisa Tylenda, Cherie Deogracias, and Victor Bohm.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

It is no longer surprising to say that public higher education is being buffeted by regular financial shocks. These have been coming in the form of over \$30 million in state cuts to the San Diego Community College District budget during the past four years, with more state funding reductions anticipated. As a result, new faculty and staff hiring is being kept to a minimum in the face of demand for classes and services exceeding the District's capacity to meet those demands.

Faculty and staff are leaving higher education in record numbers. Within the last 5 years 374 people in and out of the classroom have retired, depriving the District of 7,062 years of experience in service to students.

Training of a retiree's replacement or the reclassification of other employees to absorb new duties is a growing challenge—one that cannot be avoided. Thus, succession planning has assumed a new urgency.

Key elements of effective succession planning include: planning for the future, leadership development, formal education, and commitment to the future.

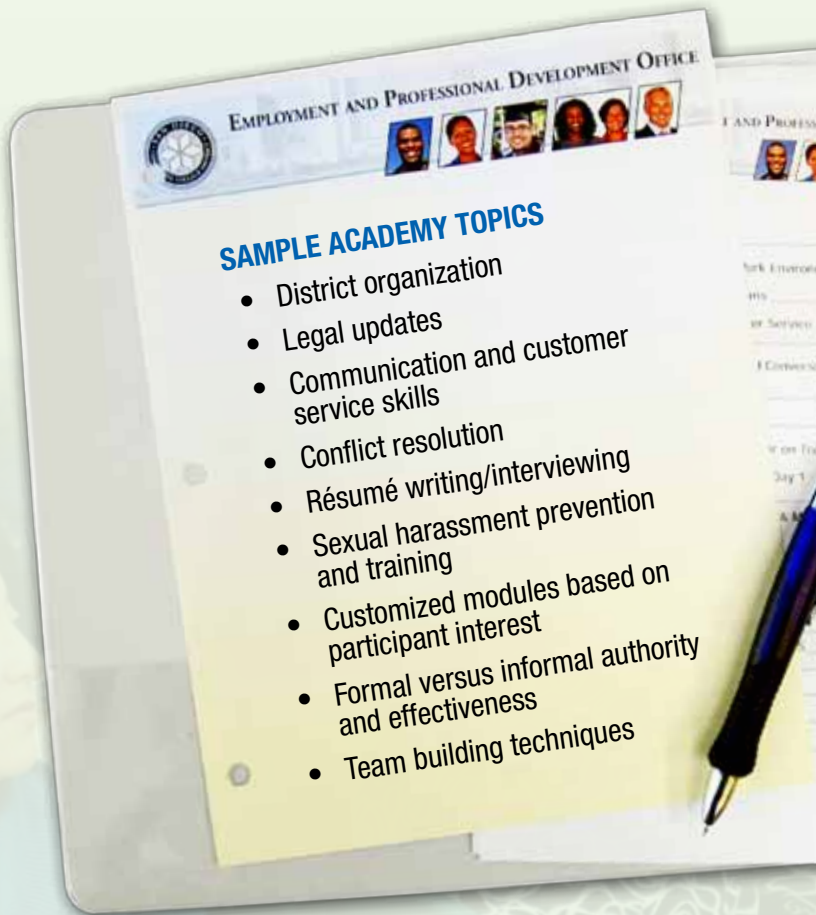
Of these four elements, the level of fiscal and regulatory disruption that is present in higher education today is causing *planning for the future* to become an increasingly challenging task. *Formal education* is more easily grasped since a wide variety of advanced coursework is available in the San Diego region. *Commitment to the future* is an intensely personal determination influenced by one's ability to prepare for the future. It is through the fourth element, *leadership development*, that the District can most directly influence one's commitment to the future.

The question the District faced in early 2009 was how to stimulate leadership development. Brainstorming by Erin Milligan-Hill and others in the Human Resources Department led to the creation of what has become a full offering of in-service academies for non-faculty employees.

It became clear that one of the impacts of the departure of so many faculty and staff members was that institutional knowledge, resident in so many employees, was no longer available to others left behind. Since the fall of 2009, the District has been seeking to address the growing knowledge gap created by retirees and those accepting positions elsewhere by offering in-service leadership academies for classified, supervisory, and management staff. Approximately 260 employees have participated in these academies. ♦



From left, Supervisory Leadership Development Academy participants Tim Saylor (Educational Cultural Complex, Information Technology) and Pattie Grela (District Office, Human Resources).



“The tools I learn here will assist me in becoming a better manager for my department and for the District.”

Daniel Gonzalez
Instructional Support Supervisor
Library, City College



“The Academy is an excellent staff development opportunity not many organizations have for their employees.”

Thuan Le
Student Assistance Technician
EOPS, Mesa College



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

FORMER CITY COLLEGE STUDENT HEADING OBAMA DESIGN TEAM

Imagine working for the President of the United States, consulting with him personally and being responsible for the artwork and design of his whole reelection campaign. Josh Higgins doesn't have to pinch himself awake from the dream—he's living it. Higgins



Apparel for Fender Guitars

studied graphic design at City from 1999 to 2002. He has done design work for Fender Guitars, Hewlett Packard and Perry Ellis International, and now he's the Design Director for President Obama's 2012 campaign.

The position is demanding. "It's the most intense job I've ever been in," Higgins said. He oversees all the marketing for the reelection effort with the exception of video and writing. He puts in 12-hour days and works from home on weekends. He is hiring project managers, designers and copy writers and will supervise 29 people as the leader of the design team.

It is the experience of a lifetime. "My first week, I was on the phone with the President," Higgins said. "To hear that voice on the other end of the phone is so surreal." He is consulting with Obama's advising team to develop the branding strategy for the President's reelection.

Higgins owes much of his success to Candice Lopez, the faculty member who developed the award-winning graphic design program at City. In the 1990s, Higgins was playing bass in a rock band and created promotional flyers for his group. A friend had taken graphic design at City and suggested Higgins try it. He enrolled in a typography class taught by Lopez and was hooked the first day. "Candice was so inspirational," Higgins conveyed. "I never had a teacher who inspired me the way she did...she has so much passion that it radiates; it's intoxicating."



The admiration is mutual. "Josh has a genuine authenticity, a persona," Lopez related. "He has a tremendous social consciousness. He's a brilliant conceptual thinker and knows how to craft a message that people can identify with. He believes that design makes a difference."

Higgins has used his design and organizational skills to help raise \$60,000 dollars for Hurricane Katrina victims, to aid people devastated by the 2007 San Diego wildfires, and for earthquake relief efforts in Haiti.

It's ironic that Higgins never liked high school and went into music, because his music career exposed him to the basic elements of visual design. Then, the graphic design program at City launched him into a new career. Now he hopes others will look at community college as a path to success. "If you have the passion and drive, and an instructor like Candice, there's no limit," he said. ♦



Poster designs



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

From Pain to Purpose

Urban teacher program answers a need and provides a path to success for at-risk youth.

"I always tried to do the right thing...but nothing good was happening to me," reflects 21-year-old Krystal Monroe. Sitting in the sunshine at Mesa College, the stylish young woman looks very much like the typical college student. Her enthusiasm belies the struggles she's faced growing up with an absent father, a mom that was in and out of prison, and a life of instability and self-doubt.

"The biggest thing I felt throughout this journey was pain. Just the pain of never feeling like anybody was ever there for me, or genuinely cared," Krystal recalls. "But things are different now."

Krystal is part of the San Diego Urban Teacher Fellows Program (SDUTF) at San Diego Mesa College. She is in a cohort of 37 students in their second semester of college who are on a path to change not only their future, but future generations of urban youths.

The only program of its kind in the San Diego region, SDUTF is designed to build leadership opportunities, support education, and lead to employment for youth and young adults at risk of gang involvement. The program is supported by funds allocated in 2010 by the Governor's California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention (CalGRIP) initiative.

A fixture at the local YMCA since entering their transitional living program for homeless and at-risk youth, Krystal inquired about her chances of being admitted into the urban teachers program.

"It's really a coordinated village effort," said Dr. Chris Sullivan, interim dean of the School of Humanities at Mesa College. "It's Mesa, the SDCCD, and the YMCA Youth and Family Services. It's the San Diego Workforce Partnership, The Children's Initiative, local after-school employers, and San Diego State University."

According to Dr. Sullivan, the articulation agreement with SDSU provides for seamless transition from an Associate Degree with maximal credit transfer into a BA or BS degree program with a single- or multi-subject teaching credential.

Becoming a teacher is just the beginning. Krystal wants to earn a degree in psychology and become a youth counselor. "Connecting with people and services has inspired me and helped me to realize my potential. After all the help I have been given, I want to give back," explained Krystal. ♦

I always tried to do the right thing...but nothing good was happening to me.

Mesa College student Krystal Monroe





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

Toyota Retools Technician Training Through Model Program

The Miramar College automotive technology department is one of only six schools nationally to have completed a rigorous program validation process conducted by the Toyota Technician Training and Education Network (T-TEN). The college received word recently that the program has received full certification as a new CEED (Chassis, Electrical, Engine and Drivetrain) Certified T-TEN program, earning the right to provide factory-level certification credentials to its T-TEN students.

Under the guidance of a T-TEN curriculum and program design expert, Miramar faculty members Mark Dinger and Joe Young rewrote the T-TEN program lecture and lab course work, focusing on student learning outcomes that will enhance analytical and problem solving skills. In many instances, products completed by the Miramar faculty have provided templates for T-TEN programs nationally.

David Camden, Vice President, Dealer Operations, Toyota Motor Sales, USA, stated, "The CEED program is a new initiative unmatched in our industry to ensure we are providing a world-class training and development experience for T-TEN students. Clearly, San Diego Miramar College shares Toyota's vision. The college should be proud of the leadership demonstrated

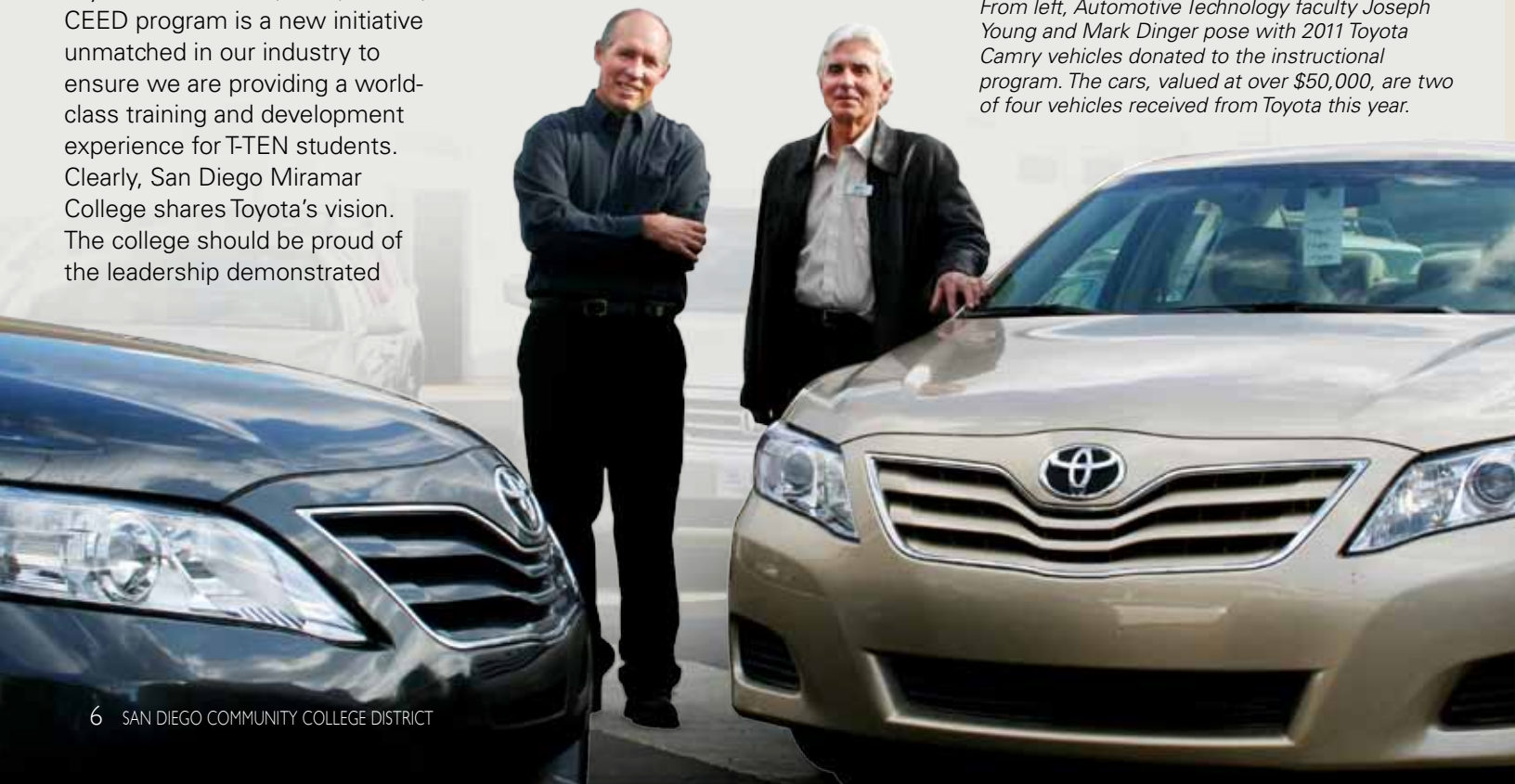
in this long-standing partnership with industry, as well as successfully earning T-TEN certification."

Toyota's commitment to the partnership is further evidenced through the donation of two new 2011 Toyota Camry vehicles to the Miramar automotive technology program.

T-TEN is a partnership between Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc., community colleges and vocational schools, and Toyota and Lexus dealerships. Its mission is to support Toyota and Lexus dealership success by providing skilled entry-level service and parts personnel.

Program excellence is also reflected in state-of-the-art training facilities, recently expanded through voter-approved bond measures to meet the growing need for highly skilled automotive technicians. The \$4 million auto tech expansion includes 7,200 square feet of new classrooms, a computer lab, and service bays. ♦

From left, Automotive Technology faculty Joseph Young and Mark Dinger pose with 2011 Toyota Camry vehicles donated to the instructional program. The cars, valued at over \$50,000, are two of four vehicles received from Toyota this year.

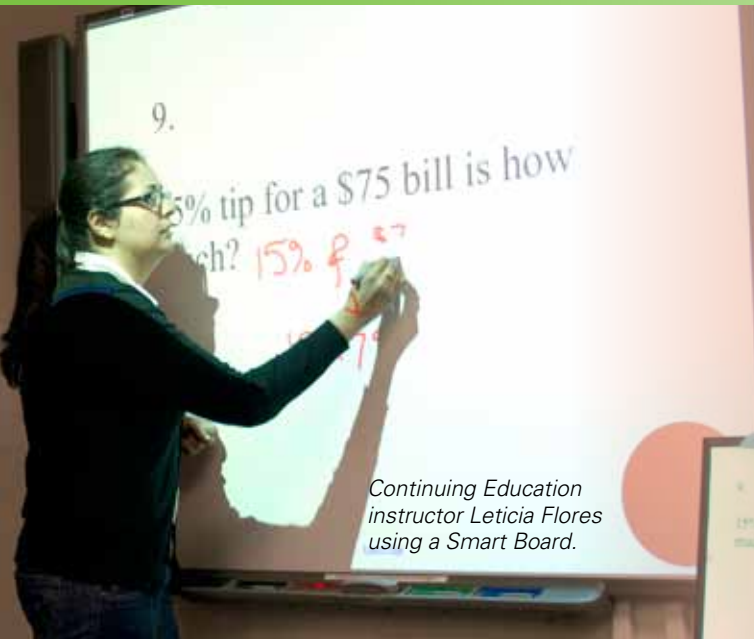




Anthony E. Beebe, Ed.D.
President
San Diego Continuing Education

SAN DIEGO CONTINUING EDUCATION

Using Technology to Advance College Readiness



Continuing Education
instructor Leticia Flores
using a Smart Board.

In addition to the budget buzz and media attention around student completion rates, many people in our nation are having a very important conversation about the low percentage of students who are “college-ready” when they enter college. College readiness is having the ability to complete college-level work. In the U.S., only 32% of students who enter college have the basic skills (e.g. reading, writing, and math) to succeed.

At Continuing Education, new technology is increasing learning opportunities in basic skills classrooms. On a recent Tuesday morning, more than two dozen students were in a very traditional reading class learning punctuation, spelling, and grammar—but in a very nontraditional setting with an interactive game sharing the front of the class with an instructor giving the lesson on a Smart Board.

“I use the Smart Board every day, in every class,” says Holly Rodriguez, Adult Basic Education/Adult Secondary Education instructor and Program Chair at Continuing Education. “It’s the wave of the future. The new technology has really inspired us as instructors. It has brought not only the students and the material alive, but in a way, it has really renewed our passion. Everything about it is exciting! When funds become available again, we want every classroom to have a Smart Board,” says Rodriguez.

A Smart Board combines the simple idea of a white board with SmartNotebook software. Instructors deliver interactive lessons by showing videos, writing notes, and demonstrating in digital ink. Plus, educational computer games keep students motivated and engaged; and, at the Smart Board, they use touch instead of pens or pencils.

“The Smart Board can actually improve learning outcomes,” said Leticia Flores, an Adult Basic Skills/Adult Secondary Education instructor. “The students are literally drawn to the board.” Flores uses interactive lesson plans and games to teach fractions, decimals, and percents. She begins the lesson with a question to the class about why this sort of math is important. The student responses are on target: for tax rates, understanding discounts, and configuring gratuities.



A Continuing Education student learning basic skills using a Smart Board to participate and engage in the lesson.

“I like how it shows the different examples, instead of having to write them all down,” said Lupita Zarate, a student in class. Zarate has been taking GED preparation courses. “Even though the games seem a little kiddish, they really do help us understand,” she says.

“Using the Smart Board builds on established classroom pedagogy and provides the instructor with the technology to add to, and expand, this pedagogy thereby enhancing the learning environment,” said Dr. Brian Ellison, Vice President of Instruction and Student Services at Continuing Education. ♦

San Diego Mesa College Named One of the Nation's Fastest-Growing Colleges

San Diego Mesa College has been recognized by *Community College Week* (CCW) as one of the nation's Top 50 Fastest-Growing Colleges. Of the nation's 1,050 two-year institutions, the magazine's overall ranking puts Mesa College seventh in the nation for colleges enrolling at least 10,000 students, with a 13 percent increase in enrollment.

"This distinction underscores the dedication of our faculty and staff to meet the education and workforce training needs of the San Diego region," noted Dr. Pamela T. Luster, Mesa's president. "It comes at a critical time, and in spite of the fact that in the last several years, we have had to turn away students, reduce classes, and increase fees."

The demand for classes at Mesa, Miramar, and City Colleges are at an all-time high, even as the colleges and the entire the California Community College system, faces severe and continuing budget cuts. San Diego Miramar College, with an eight percent increase in student enrollment, ranked 41 in the same category of the CCW report.

The SDCCD colleges buck the trend of moderate enrollment gains throughout California and the nation after years of rapid growth. Mesa College ranked the highest growth in numbers in the State of California, with Mesa and Miramar being two of only four California community colleges to place in the top 50 with enrollments of 10,000 or more. ♦

Hats off to millinery professor Diana Cavagnaro



Fashion Professor **Diana Cavagnaro** received the 2011 Gaslamp Quarter Association's Armond Award for Lifetime Achievement. Also a milliner, fashion columnist, and photographer, Diana received the award at the Gaslamp Quarter Lamplighter Awards at the Omni San Diego Hotel on Nov. 7.

San Diego Councilman Kevin Faulconer presented Diana with the award, which recognizes "merchants and individuals who are leaders in their community and have made a positive impact...through exceptional service, high-quality products, and enthusiastic concern for the historic district."

Diana was recognized for her countless hours of dedication to improving the downtown area, in recognition of her business, Designer Millinery, for her service to fashion instruction, and for 13 years of conducting the annual Easter Parade & Hat Contest for children with cancer at UCSD. ♦

Nominated as Classified Employee of the Year



Robin Watkins, a media technician at San Diego Mesa College, has been nominated by the SDCCD Board of Trustees for a California Community Colleges 2011 Classified Employee of the Year Award. The honorees exemplify the best of California's community college classified employees.

An employee of Mesa College since 1998, Robin served in the Classified

Senate for 10 years (president from 2006 to 2011), and as vice president, AFT Local 1931, for 11 years. She currently serves as the classified staff representative to the San Diego Mesa College Foundation.

Robin is an active volunteer both on and off campus. She annually participates in events including the AIDS walk, the Martin Luther King, Jr. commemorations, and she coordinates the campus "Animeals" Food Drive project run by the Helen Woodward Animal Center. Robin and her entire family come out each year for the college's Canyon Day clean-up. ♦

New Horizons Provides Book Loans and Much More

Mary Jane Kruse is so uncomfortable in the spotlight she cringes at the thought of being interviewed. Yet this self-effacing woman helped 285 low-income City College students receive desperately needed services last year. As the program coordinator for New Horizons, Kruse provides book loans, transportation assistance, referrals to needed resources, and even a shoulder to cry on. She's been doing this for 11 years.

In today's economy, many students are struggling. Kruse gives voice to their dilemma: "Do I buy food for my family or spend money to get to school?" She helps a needy student obtain a bus pass or a book loan for another student who was copying textbook pages in the library.

Fon Sparks is a 49-year-old re-entry student who has an artificial right hip and knee due to a serious work accident. In 2001, Sparks attended City

and was unsuccessful because she didn't have any direction or support in school. She came back in 2010 and was referred to New Horizons by Steve Schommer, her Personal Growth 140 instructor. She has worked with Kruse for three semesters. "I didn't have any medical coverage at the time and Kruse showed me several resources that assisted in my well-being. She helped calm the fears, hurts, and disappointments of life," Sparks said. "She helped me gather the books and materials I needed to become successful."

Elena Adams, the Continuing Education New Horizons/Gender Equity Program Coordinator, has worked



From left, Fon Sparks with Mary Jane Kruse.

with Kruse for 15 years. "Mary Jane is passionate about student success and goes above and beyond to make sure students' needs are met," Adams said.

In the face of dwindling resources, Kruse is undeterred. "I so believe in this program and the essentials it provides for students," she said. ♦

Women's Soccer Dominance Continues



Congratulations to the Miramar College women's soccer team, who claimed their second straight Pacific Coast Conference Championship! Led by former soccer pro, head coach Sean Bowers, the Jets finished undefeated (12-0). In addition to the Conference title, Miramar athletes claimed Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year honors, as well as five slots on the First Team, All Pacific Coast Athletic Conference Women's Soccer Team. ♦

KUDOS

Accomplishments & Achievements

40 Years of Serving the Aviation Industry



From left, Classified Senate Vice President Terrie Hubbard, Academic Senate President Daphne Figueroa, Aviation Department Chair David Buser, SDCCD Board President Rich Grosch, Miramar College President Patricia Hsieh, SDCCD Chancellor Constance Carroll, Aviation Professor Wheeler North, SDCCD Facilities Vice Chancellor Dave Umstot.

With jets flying overhead from the neighboring MCAS Air Show providing timely background music, nearly 100 people gathered last September to celebrate the start of a major renovation of the Miramar College Aviation Center – the region’s only aviation maintenance technology program. In the fall of 1971, Miramar College expanded its mission from exclusively providing public safety training to serving the aviation industry. Approved by the FAA, the aviation maintenance technology program would become the primary supplier of trained technicians for the next 15 years for San Diego-based Pacific Southwest Airlines (PSA), the “World’s Friendliest Airline.” In 1991, the aviation ground school and operations program moved from Mesa to the Miramar campus, enabling Miramar College to serve the entire aviation industry. Completion of the \$10.2 million, 15,300 square foot retrofit and expansion is expected in the fall of 2012. ♦

Olympians on a Winning Streak

The San Diego Mesa College Olympians wrapped up a winning fall season with three Pacific Coast Athletic Conference (PCAC) titles in the following categories: Men’s Cross Country, Women’s Volleyball, and Women’s Water Polo. All three teams qualified for the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCCA) Regional competitions, where they were joined by the Women’s Cross Country and Women’s Soccer teams.

Following impressive performances, the Men’s and Women’s Cross Country teams advanced to the California State Tournament, where the men’s team placed third overall. The women’s volleyball team was named Co-Champion (with Grossmont College) of the PCAC. ♦



The Mesa College Women’s Basketball team won the 1st-Annual James Mulvehil Coaches vs Cancer Holiday Inn Mission Valley Stadium Tip-Off Tournament. President Pam Luster (far right) joined the lady hoopsters in the winner’s circle for the official photograph.

DONATION SUPPORTS DIESEL TECH

At the Miramar College Foundation Board of Directors quarterly meeting in December, Hawthorne Machinery representatives Jim Champany, General Services Manager, and Sue Shaw, HR Generalist, presented a check for \$10,000 to support the San Diego Miramar College Diesel Technology program and provide student scholarships. The \$10,000 represents matching funds (\$5,000 each) from Caterpillar and Hawthorne Machinery Co., the San Diego area Caterpillar dealer.

Champany stated, "Hawthorne Machinery's long-standing partnership with Miramar College is very important to us and to our industry. We have provided significant support to the diesel program in the past, but for the last couple years, due to the economy, our financial contributions unfortunately ceased."

Dr. Hsieh added, "Due to the efforts of Foundation President Marty Hight and Foundation board member Mike Johnson, Hawthorne/CAT funding to support the diesel technology program has returned and is greatly appreciated. Miramar College students and the diesel and heavy equipment industry are certain to benefit." ♦



Chef to Chef

When **Ricardo Muñoz Zurita**, a former Continuing Education student and professional chef, invited his former instructor **Marilyn Biggica** to meet well-known TV personality and chef Martha Stewart, Biggica did not imagine she would possibly begin a new long-distance friendship. Stewart was in Mexico to help promote tourism. The Mexican government suggested various cultural and culinary locations for her visit, including a segment with the Mayor of Mexico City. Among other stops, Stewart agreed to film a food segment with Zurita at his restaurant Azul Condesa. When Zurita had confirmed the film date with Stewart, he wanted his former instructor to join him for the big event.

When filming concluded, Biggica took the opportunity to have a delightful conversation with Stewart. Biggica introduced SDCCD and explained that Zurita attended classes for two years at Continuing Education, with Biggica as his instructor.

Zurita is the author of numerous cookbooks and is the owner of five restaurants including Azul Condesa in the fashionable Condesa section of Mexico City. Although Zurita's fame has extended far beyond U.S. borders, he is still connected to Continuing Education largely through the efforts of Biggica, who has already confirmed him as the professional chef to host San Diego Continuing Education Foundation's annual Los Dos Chefs fundraising event in San Diego on March 23, 2012.

Supporting Zurita's success and meeting Stewart were proud moments for Biggica, who says it was not only



From left, Former Continuing Education student and professional chef Ricardo Muñoz Zurita, with Martha Stewart and Instructor Marilyn Biggica.

wonderful meeting the superstar, but she now has fond memories of their sincere conversation, admiring photos of Stewart's granddaughter, and being invited by Stewart to visit her again in New York City. ♦

We

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District Campuses Make a Big Showing at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade



Continuing Education, Grand Sweepstakes Award winner

Hundreds of people from City College, Mesa College, Miramar College, Continuing Education, and the District Office, took part in the annual citywide Martin Luther King, Jr. Day parade held on January 15. Parade judges bestowed the Grand Sweepstakes Award on the float entered by the faculty, staff, and students of Continuing Education, which commemorated Mrs. Rosa Parks' refusal to take a back seat in a public bus, the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court ruling and the election of President Barack Obama.

City College was also awarded honors for its float, which focused on education rather than incarceration. Chancellor Constance M. Carroll, Board President Rich Grosch and Trustee Bill Schwandt participated in the parade, along with City College President Terrence Burgess, Continuing Education President Anthony Beebe, Mesa College President Pam Luster, and Miramar College President Patricia Hsieh. ♦

Miramar College LEED Bound

The Miramar College's Police Station, which opened late last fall, is on track to obtain a prestigious Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum certification—the highest green building certification possible and the first for an educational entity in San Diego County.

Key to its sustainable design is the building's xeriscape landscaping, green roof, and green screen, which

help insulate the facility from intense temperatures and help filter and retain storm water. The tower element serves as a solar chimney, which is a passive solar strategy to create a flow of natural ventilation. The top of the tower will heat up, and louvers will provide for air exhaust at the high point. Inside the building, exposed concrete walls and ceiling will create a thermal mass that can store heat during the day and release it during the night to keep the building comfortable during operating hours. The police station will use reclaimed water for flushing toilets and for all irrigation needs, reducing the need for costlier potable water.

The three-story parking structure provides 815 parking spaces. To commemorate the grand opening



Miramar College Police Station

of the structure, presidents of the Miramar College Associated Student Council (Victor Bohm), Academic Senate (Daphne Figueroa), and Classified Senate (Joyce Allen) drove through a red ribbon into the parking garage. ♦



Cars anxiously wait to enter the newly built Miramar College parking structure.