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Continuing
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San Diego Community College District

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February 2013

Restoring Civility: One Step at a Time

Story on page 3.



Pulitzer Prize-winning
reporter **Eugene Robinson**
at the 2nd Annual Restoring
Respect Conference at the
University of San Diego.

Chancellor's Message



In Search of a California Budget

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.

On January 28, the San Diego Community College District joined with the other community college districts in San Diego and Imperial Counties in holding 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.

The California Community Colleges is America's largest system of higher education, with a diverse student body of over 2 million students at campuses spread across the nation's most populous state. The colleges' mission is broad, from preparation for university transfer to workforce training. Given the overwhelming number of California State University graduates who transferred from community colleges (60%) and the number of graduates working in occupational fields (e.g., 70% of California's Registered Nurses are community college graduates), two-year colleges provide invaluable services to their local communities, the state, and the economy.

The California Community Colleges is also the most underfunded and the "most regulated" system of higher education in the country. Except for academic program

content, hiring, collective bargaining, bond measures, and other specialized matters, most of the decisions made by community colleges are constrained by state regulations and direct legislation. From the determination of the student enrollment fee (tuition) to the number of days required in a semester to a host of personnel issues to the budget, most decisions affecting community colleges are made in Sacramento.

In this legislative season, our representatives will be deliberating on the many issues contained in the Governor's Budget, which was proposed by Governor Jerry Brown on January 10. Our community college advocacy efforts have officially begun with the January 28 meetings in Sacramento. We will continue this effort in the months to come.



From left: SDCCD Chancellor Constance M. Carroll, Mesa President Pamela Luster, Student Trustee Roberto Rosas, Trustee Mary Graham, Vice Chancellor Lynn Neault and Trustee Bernie Rhinerson.



From left: Grossmont-Cuyamaca Governing Board President Bill Garrett, Assembly Member Shirley Weber, and SDCCD Chancellor Constance M. Carroll.



From left: Assembly Member Rocky Chavez and Senator Marty Block.

Restoring Civility: One Step at a Time



Restoring Respect panelists from left, front: U-T San Diego Editor Jeff Light, A Way With Words Co-host Martha Barnette, State Senator Marty Block, Professor and SDCCD Board Member Maria Nieto Senour, and KGTV-10 Anchor Virginia Cha; back, left: SDCCD Chancellor Constance M. Carroll and Professor Carl Luna

San Diego's second annual conference on civility opened on a humorous note. "Talking about civility in Washington is like talking about unicorns in La Jolla," said Eugene Robinson. The Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter from *The Washington Post* and renowned MSNBC political commentator addressed the audience at the University of San Diego's Peace and Justice Theater with a message that was both sobering and hopeful. The conference, once again headed by Mesa College Political Science Professor Carl Luna, offered an opportunity for public dialogue on the topic of civility in the face of increasing incivility in the public arena.

Acknowledging that the least civil period in American history was the era of the Civil War, Robinson called the current climate of incivility in the nation "one of the worst since that time." He cited as one of the most egregious examples of incivility the shout, "You lie," directed at President Barack Obama at a joint session of Congress during his first term as President. Robinson said that many factors have contributed to the burgeoning climate of incivility in America. The continuing economic pressures, the loss of manufacturing and other types of jobs, dramatic demographic changes, and the gradual decline in the country's global political leadership have posed challenges that foment discord, competition, and blame, more than cooperation, compromise, and courtesy.

Robinson did point to signs of hope. Referring to himself as an optimist, he noted that the debate on immigration reform offered constructive possibilities as a vehicle to bring the presently polarized Democratic and Republican parties closer together regarding an issue about which there is "more agreement than disagreement, more prospects for common ground."

The panelists echoed Robinson's sentiments, especially pointing toward pathways for positive change. Tracing the term *civilitas* from its Latin connotation regarding the art of citizenship through its history to its present form, Martha Barnette, co-host of the radio show *A Way With Words*,

stated that "Words can divide us, unite us, celebrate us, or demean us. Words are powerful." Jeff Light, Editor of the *U-T San Diego*, affirmed that sentiment, adding that this was the rationale for his newspaper's prohibiting the use of the adjective "illegal" in referring to undocumented people.

State Senator Marty Block said he believes that "things are getting better in Sacramento. Not only do the house rules demand courtesy," he said, "the emergence of supermajorities among the leading political party and the improving economy have promoted a more civil tone among members of the legislature." He added, "The best legislation we get is when we reach across the aisle." Dr. Maria Nieto Senour, a professor as well as an SDCCD board member, talked about the psychological causes of incivility and called for efforts to promote understanding and connection between people through dialogue. "We seek a dialogue not a debate. You cannot win a dialogue, only a debate." KGTV-10 Anchor Virginia Cha added her concurrence to these concepts from her vantage point as a media representative.

The conference, titled *Restoring Respect*, was organized by a community group headed by Reverend George Walker Smith, and was supported by a number of organizations including the San Diego Community College District. Also among those who spoke during the opening session were Chancellor Constance M. Carroll and Mesa College Associated Student Government President Roberto Rosas.

The conference video can be accessed at www.sandiego.edu/restoringrespect.

Talking about civility in Washington is like talking about unicorns in La Jolla.

Eugene Robinson
on civility



Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter Eugene Robinson.



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

SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE



FROM COUNSELING TO KENYA

Assisting livestock farmers in Kenya is just the type of service Cassie Morton wants to be doing after 20 years in counseling and serving as a City College dean and a District Dean of Career and Workforce Development.

Two years ago, Cassie and her partner, Dr. Refugio Rochin, a retired UC Davis Agricultural Economics Professor, volunteered their services to work with ACDI/VOCA (Agricultural Cooperative Development International/ Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance) in Ghana with projects funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

This type of work in Africa led to a similar international non-profit, the Citizens Network for Foreign Affairs Farmer-to-Farmer Program in Kenya, in 2012. Both international development programs focus on stimulating economic growth to raise the standard of living by empowering the private sector.

Cassie and Refugio were initially assigned to assist livestock farmers in the Arid and Semi-Arid Dry Lands (ASALs) with resource mobilization. But a last minute cancellation by the State Department on travel restriction for Americans in that area brought a reassignment to the Kenya Leather Development Council (KLDC).

KLDC, a new semi-governmental entity operating under the Kenya Ministry of Livestock and Agriculture, had been established to improve the value chain of leather products in Kenya and provide jobs for women and youth in the ASALs.

To get a sense of the current state of the leather industry, Cassie and Refugio visited hides and skins warehouses, tanneries, cobblers, an international trade fair, and vocational schools in towns throughout southeastern Kenya. Although distances are not far,

the travel times were long due to heavy traffic and traffic jams. With limited resources, Kenya's two vocational schools train and support the leather trades.

Most of the leather production in the country is done by individual cobblers working with a few employees in a room with one ancient sewing machine. With limited training, tools, and small business management skills, these Kenyan cobblers manage to produce shoes, belts, and bags at low cost for local consumers.

Cassie and Refugio worked with KLDC to fine tune strategic plans and to develop outreach opportunities to obtain limited resources. During their three weeks of consulting work, Cassie said, "I worked hard to get the organization of male leaders to realize they had enormous talent and viewpoints in their female staff."

Back at City College, developing Service Learning projects, Cassie maintains regular communication with the KLDC Director and continues to advocate and provide connections with designers, retailers, and funders. Never one to rest for too long, Cassie said, "We hope to return for more volunteer opportunities."

On February 14, Cassie discussed her work and travels at City College during a World Cultures program.

Dr. Refugio Rochin and Cassie Morton (center) working with the Kenya Leather Development Council to improve leather trade opportunities.





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

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

VOICES OF MESA



Voices of Mesa panelists and presenters.

"My name is Jesus Daniel Mendez-Carbajal, and I am a reflection of Mesa College," said the poised and confident 19-year old ethnic studies major.

Jesus was among a panel of ten young men, some African American, some Latino, who bravely faced a standing-room only conference room last fall to talk about his personal experiences as a man of color and as a student at San Diego Mesa College.



Jesus Daniel Mendez-Carbajal

"It took me a while to get comfortable," said Jesus, who came to Mesa directly from high school. "Being involved in Black Studies and Chicano Studies, I have found a place where I belong and a sense of community. My professors have helped me to grow and

find myself...and motivated me to get into education and teaching."

Jesus plans on beating the odds against African American and Hispanic/Latino college students.

A 2010 report conducted by the American Council of Education, for example, said, "When determining graduation probabilities over a six-year period, African American males were found to have a graduation rate of 35 percent. This compares with rates of 59 percent for White males, and 46 percent for Hispanic males."

"At Mesa, we are working hard to defy and change those statistics, and to create opportunities and pathways that lead to completion and success," said Ashanti Hands, Mesa's Dean of Student Affairs. "The panel was not only an opportunity for this student cohort to share their experiences

as students of color, but also to create a platform for them to realize that their experience — while personally unique — are universally similar."

Following the panel's comments, Professor Michael Temple and EOPS Assistant Director/Counselor Pedro Olvera led a Q&A session. Many in the audience shared their personal stories, including homelessness, and the difficulty of separating from gang influences.

One commented on the value of hearing other students share their own stories. Another asked for more panels to engage other groups of students, which was met with nods of agreement.

A young woman summed the impact on her personally, "From this presentation, I realize you never know the phenomenal people you are constantly surrounded with at Mesa College. The speakers on this panel are the same people that I have classes with, yet...why is it that I never see them as genius when I am sitting right next to them, and not in front of them? These students are absolutely brilliant."



Voices of Mesa Q&A session.



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

COLLEGE PROGRAM FOCUSED ON

CLEAN AIR



The state-of-the-art Heavy Duty Advanced Transportation Center at San Diego Miramar College will support expansion to diesel, natural gas, hybrid bus and transit technology and new developments in construction equipment technology. The \$15.2 million, 17,500 square foot building, is due for completion in the spring.

In California, the transportation sector represents over 35% of greenhouse gas emissions. According to Dan Willkie, diesel technology professor, more than 100,000 new Clean Diesel, CNG, and LNG (compressed and liquefied natural gas) technicians with a strong understanding of clean diesel and alternatively-fueled commercial trucks and equipment, will be needed in the next few years.

The Heavy Duty Advanced Transportation (HDAT) Technology Program at Miramar College is striving to meet that need and to prepare students to successfully enter the green transportation technology workforce.

Buses, trucks, and construction equipment are continually undergoing changes in their technology, ranging from the introduction of electronic controls and software operating systems to new alternative fuels, such as natural gas, to the creation of new emission control systems.

On campus, the HDAT program offers technical training that provides skills in diesel electronics, integrated industry certifications, expertise in the use of diagnostic software, experience in the

use of emission testing equipment, and training in natural gas engine technology. These complement an effective apprenticeship program with the San Diego Metropolitan Transit to train their technicians for working on a bus fleet that is over 85% natural gas driven. Additional courses addressing vehicle emission control technology and heavy-duty hybrid technology are under development.





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

SAN DIEGO CONTINUING EDUCATION

Auto Tech Training Named One of Nation's Top Programs

Over the next three years, the San Diego Workforce Partnership forecasts the region's need for automotive service technicians and mechanics to grow by 8 percent. This makes sense when you stop and think that the Department of Motor Vehicles estimates there are over 10 million cars registered in Southern California.

Fortunately, the San Diegans in Continuing Education's Automotive Job Training/Certificate Program are training in the largest automotive technology skills center of its kind in the nation. The program was recently recognized by *Tomorrow's Technician* magazine as one of the top four programs in the nation for its short-term job training, use of technology, LEED-certified facility, and state-of-the-art equipment.

Continuing Education provides first-rate instruction, and relies on industry partners to help keep skills and curriculum relevant to the

industry. "The AutoTech Industry Advisory Committee serves as the direct link between what students need to know to gain employment in the field, and what we're teaching in the classroom," says Jane Signaigo-Cox, Dean of Career and Technical Education.

Mark Oberlies, President of Auto Strategies, LLC (a company that creates custom business growth strategies for select automotive industries), serves as the chairperson for Continuing Education's Auto Tech Industry Advisory Committee. "The combination of classroom teaching and hands-on experience gives students a real competitive edge in a difficult job market," said Oberlies.

Students who choose to pursue an Associate degree in Automotive Technology from Miramar College can receive college credit for the noncredit coursework completed at Continuing Education.



Scan the QR code to see the video.



KUDOS

Accomplishments & Achievements

San Diego  Blood Bank
make a difference *in life.*

SAVING LIVES! SAN DIEGO BLOOD BANK

San Diego City College partners with the San Diego Blood Bank each month on campus to help save lives!

In 2012, City College had 441 participating donors and collected 472 pints of blood, touching the lives of 1,416 patients. What's even more impressive is that there were 250 first-time donors.



Continuing Education at Mesa



Continuing Education's new facility at Mesa College is open and serving students. Classes in the building support five programs within CE including ESL, DSPS, Emeritus (classes for age 55+), Parent Education and Community Education (low-fee classes for personal and professional enrichment).

Collaboration between Continuing Education and Mesa College instructors helps students who are interested in transitioning from noncredit to credit. For example, students who complete the Family Home Day Care

noncredit program at Continuing Education can transition to the Child Development credit program at Mesa College and receive college credit for the noncredit coursework completed at CE. Other examples include collaboration between both ESL and DSPS credit and noncredit instructors.

Campus and community members will be invited to tour the new facility at the grand opening event on Wednesday, March 20.

KUDOS

Accomplishments & Achievements

Holocaust Exhibit

“Riveting, Sad...
but Still Inspirational”



A travelling exhibit from the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Museum of Tolerance.



The Simon Wiesenthal Center's *The Courage to Remember* exhibit made its San Diego debut at Mesa College, November 5-16, 2012. The exhibit featured more than 200 exclusive photographs that cannot be seen anywhere else in the world, offering amazing insight into the Holocaust.

A reception and lecture held on November 7, opened with a welcome from President **Pamela Luster** and Chancellor **Constance M. Carroll**, and remarks by Rabbi **Laurie Coskey** of the San Diego Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice. A lecture by UCSD Professor **Susanne Hillman** was followed by a personal account of survivor **Ben Midler**, and a Q&A with Professor **Jonathan McLeod**, who also organized the speakers.

"Dr. Hillman's lecture raised very important points about how a need for narratives of heroic individualistic resistance and survival can obscure and, in a bizarre way, almost legitimize horrible evils like the Holocaust," said Dean **Charles Zappia**. "The testimony of the survivors, from both the podium and the audience, was riveting, beyond sad, but still inspirational."

"The talks were stirring, and I believe created a Mesa College community moment that I will remember for many years to come," said President Luster.

Three-peat!

Congratulations, Miramar Jets on a third straight Pacific Coast Conference women's soccer championship! Undefeated in regular season play in 2011 and again in 2012, the Jets dominated their conference. In its sixth year of existence, the Miramar College women's soccer program, led by former soccer pro head coach **Sean Bowers** came into the season nationally ranked at #7 in the country in the Community College Division III by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA). On November 6, Miramar was ranked #2 in the nation, tied with a #1 record of 17-0-1 with Santiago Canyon College.



Caregivers Conference

On October 26, 2012, the Institute for Human Development at City College partnered with the Caregiver Coalition of San Diego to host the second Caregivers Conference, "Finding the Balance in Caregiving." In addition to workshops and industry experts, dozens of organizations set up exhibits in the City College cafeteria to share information about senior care and available resources.



WHAT I BE PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT SHOWCASE



Laura Gonzalez in the What I Be photography project.

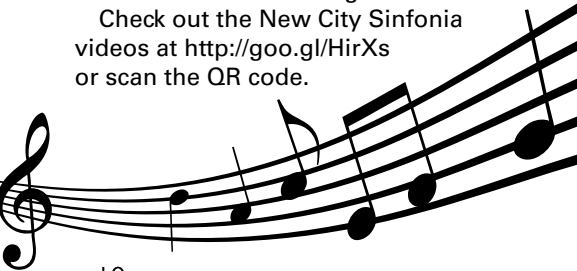
Steve Rosenfield, creator and photographer of the celebrated "What I Be" Project featured Miramar students, faculty, and staff in his work during a fall visit to the campus. Students in classes taught by **Sheryl Gobble**, **Mark Manasse**, and **Laura Gonzalez** participated in the photography project that focused on issues of tolerance, diversity, and acceptance. Rosenfield works with individuals to name their insecurities and then shoots a photo of them claiming that insecurity clearly written on their faces or upper body.

The idea behind the photography is to say openly "I am not my insecurity," while promoting honesty, diversity awareness, and tolerance. The "What I Be" campus project was sponsored by the Diversity and International Education Committee and the Marketing and Outreach Committee.

New City Sinfonia

The 40-member New City Sinfonia is a community chamber orchestra sponsored by Continuing Education and has regularly presented free concerts of music, both familiar and new, to the San Diego Community for over 20 years. The Sinfonia is directed by Emeritus program instructor **Daniel Ratelle**, who is also an instructor at Mesa College.

Check out the New City Sinfonia videos at <http://goo.gl/HirXs> or scan the QR code.



A painter paints pictures on canvas, but musicians paint their pictures on silence.

— Leopold Stokowski, Accomplished Conductor



KUDOS

Accomplishments & Achievements

Aviation Grand Reopening Draws Media and More

On October 31, more than 150 attended the Grand Reopening of the historic Miramar College Aviation Center. The \$10.8 million modernization and expansion project involved the extensive retrofitting of classrooms and lab space in the existing building, built in 1971, and the addition of new, state-of-the-art classrooms for a total of 15,300 square feet. KUSI News broadcasted live all morning and, befitting the occasion, Jimmy the Jet, Miramar's pilot mascot, was on hand during the ribbon cutting. The Grand Reopening

celebration, which included a custom cake and airline snacks, was made possible by contributions from Joseph Wong Design Associates and Legacy Building Services, Inc. The project is on track to obtain a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certification by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) – one of 14 LEED certified projects built or planned at Miramar. With the new, state-of-the-art facility and technology, Miramar is positioned to serve the aviation industry for 40 more years!.



We

with excellence



Students in the MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) program at City College gave presentations on "What is Research." The students participated in a 5-day research academy over the summer with MESA programs and graduate students from both San Diego State University and The University of California, San Diego.



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SDCCCD Takes Top Honors in MLK Parade

The San Diego Community College District took the top float awards in the 33rd annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day Parade. Parade judges were impressed by the quality and detail of the colleges' and Continuing Education division's floats in this year's parade. The Grand Sweepstakes Award for the second year in a row went to San Diego Continuing Education for its float. This year's float depicted the struggle of Rosa Parks, the "I have a Dream Speech" by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and a 400-lb Liberty Bell, crafted out of steel by welding students as a class project. More than 200 Continuing Education faculty, staff, and students joined President Anthony Beebe and marched behind the float, which stretched almost a full city block.

San Diego City College received the First Place award in its division for its float with the theme of honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by remembering his past and recognizing the leadership of President Barack Obama. San Diego City College President Terrence Burgess led the brightly-colored float.

San Diego Mesa College was awarded the Third Place trophy for its parade entry, which was built around the college's "Mesa Be Civil: Pass it On" campaign. Mesa College President, Dr. Pamela Luster, led the large delegation from the campus. District Chancellor Constance Carroll commented that, "The volunteer participation in the parade of the hundreds of students, staff, and faculty shows the tremendous support the colleges and Continuing Education have for diversity and equality, important teachings of Dr. King."



Continuing Education's Grand Sweepstakes Award winning float.