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COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT

City College • Mesa College
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FEBRUARY 2015

WE

With
Excellence

MESA

CO

*Four-Year
Degrees*
Coming to Mesa College



The Community College Baccalaureate: *A Brave New Journey*

In higher education, opportunities to take actions that are innovative and bold are rare. Whether we are administrators or faculty members or Board members, we deploy much of our time and efforts to fine-tuning, tweaking, and maintaining current programs and services. While this type of activity is critical to quality control, it falls short of the mark in transforming our institutions or propelling them toward new frontiers and journeys.

On the afternoon of Sunday, September 28, 2014, I welcomed the advent of an important innovation. California's community colleges were presented with an open door to explore a truly new aspect of their mission. That afternoon, State Senator Marty Block called me at home with the good news that Governor Jerry Brown had just signed into law Senate Bill 850. This legislation was authored by Senator Block to establish a pilot project that will allow 15 community college districts to develop and implement bachelor's degrees in selected workforce fields. The Legislature's evaluation of the pilot will determine whether or not California will institutionalize and expand this option, thereby joining 21 other states that have made this a permanent authorization for their community colleges, enabling them to offer a robust program of baccalaureate opportunities for their students and communities.

It was my privilege to chair the statewide advocacy effort in support of SB 850. Following the work of a statewide task force that saw merit in the idea but did not recommend action, we started our campaign in an atmosphere of uncertainty and controversy. Concerns were expressed both within the community colleges and most definitely by a number of external institutions and groups. However, our advocacy team rapidly grew in number and support as we employed our most effective weapons: education and facts. As chambers of commerce, universities, employers, community groups, and professors learned about this proposal, they began to appreciate the urgent need for baccalaureate programs in many fields that were not being addressed and would not be addressed by California's public universities. The high-quality, low-cost capabilities of community colleges were finally seen as the obvious solution to this workforce-preparation dilemma.

Community by community, region by region, governing boards, city councils, businesses, students and veterans groups, newspapers, and others fell in line behind SB 850, passing resolutions and joining the statewide



Chancellor Constance M. Carroll and Senator Marty Block were recognized at the January 20, 2015, California Community Colleges Board of Governors meeting in Sacramento for their leadership toward the passage of SB 850.

campaign, resulting in an enormous and enthusiastic grassroots coalition. Our joint efforts were effective, leading to unanimous votes by both houses of the California Legislature and culminating in the governor's final approval.

And now the door has opened before us, albeit partially, offering a view into an exciting vista of service to employers and opportunities for students. It also poses challenges – from curriculum structure to special accreditation to student admissions requirements to tuition rates. All of this is new terrain for our community colleges, as we in the San Diego Community College District learned firsthand when Mesa College developed its baccalaureate proposal in the field of Health Information Management.

With gratitude to Senator Block for his leadership and with great thanks to the many members of our advocacy coalition, California's 112 community colleges and 72 districts are ready to take a bold, first step into the new world of baccalaureate education. What an opportunity!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Constance M. Carroll".

Constance M. Carroll, Ph.D.
Chancellor

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WE—With Excellence Magazine

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Questions, comments? We'd love to hear from you. Email us cpr@sdccd.edu.

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Miramar Jets Set to Take Off in *Men's Volleyball*



Coach John Landicho with Miramar College's Jimmy the Jet.

San Diego Miramar College's newest sports team is on the attack with a men's volleyball squad that has found its home in the Pacific Coast Athletic Association. The volleyball team, which began competing this spring, is the fifth served up by the Jets athletic program.

John Landicho, an assistant professor in the Department of Exercise Science, Health & Nutrition, was hired to coach the new team. Landicho was head coach of the girl's volleyball team at Francis Parker High School when it won consecutive CIF California state championships in 2012 and 2013. Landicho also was the head men's volleyball coach at San Diego Mesa College from 2009 to 2013.

The San Diego Community College District's Board of Trustees approved the Miramar volleyball program at its October 9 meeting.

Taking Charge

The San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) Governing Board members Rich Grosch, Maria Nieto Senour, and Peter Zschiesche were sworn in to new four-year terms during the board's December 11 meeting. The three have served collectively on the board for 48 years.

State Senator Marty Block administered the oath of office to Grosch and Senour. San Diego City Council Member David Alvarez administered the oath of office to Zschiesche.

Later, the board unanimously elected Senour as its new president.

In addition to Senour, the board elected Rich Grosch Executive Vice President, Mary Graham as Vice President of Instructional Development, Bernie Rhinerson as Vice President of Educational Collaboration, and Peter Zschiesche as Vice President of Community Development.

Senour, whom voters elected to her seventh term, takes over from Grosch, the board's longtime president who ran unopposed for his fourth term in the November 4 election. Zschiesche was elected to his fourth term on the governing board.

"Our District is superbly managed, innovative, student-centered, and successful in large

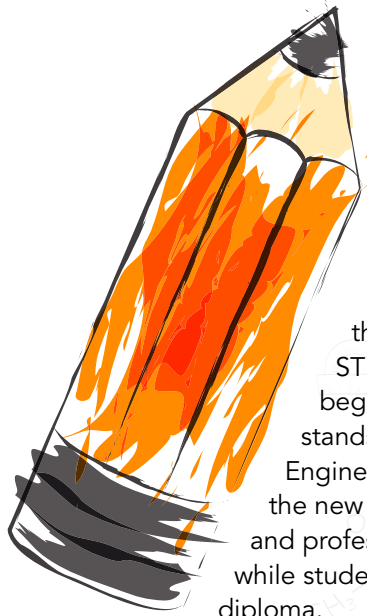
measure because of the stability and excellent guidance we receive from our Board of Trustees," said SDCCD Chancellor Constance M. Carroll. "The administration, faculty, staff, student leaders, and I are delighted that we will benefit from four more years of service by our re-elected trustees."

Senour, Grosch, Zschiesche, and their colleagues on the board, Mary Graham and Bernie Rhinerson (both elected in 2012), have played a critical role in overseeing management of voter-approved Proposition S, a \$685 million bond passed in 2002, and Proposition N, an \$870 million bond passed in 2006. The measures have provided for the completion of some 100 projects to date, including new, state-of-the-art instructional and career-training facilities and major renovations that have transformed San Diego City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges, and Continuing Education campuses.



From left: San Diego City Council Member David Alvarez; Trustees Peter Zschiesche, Rich Grosch, Maria Nieto Senour; and Senator Marty Block.

Getting a Jump *on College*



Lincoln High School students have wrapped up their first semester at a new Middle College program offered in conjunction with the San Diego Community College District.

The first cohort of students in the inaugural Lincoln High School STEAM Middle College program began its studies last August. STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics, and the new program offers college courses and professional internships in those areas while students pursue their high school diploma.

The curriculum emphasizes hands-on, project-based learning and student exhibitions. Continuing

Education's Educational Cultural Complex provides the college portion of the work, in collaboration with Lincoln High School staff.

Meanwhile, San Diego Miramar College and Mira Mesa High School are on track to launch an Early College program in August 2015.

"This program will allow high school students to experience a higher education," said Miramar College President Patricia Hsieh. "Our goal is to keep students motivated and encourage them to pursue their education right here at San Diego Miramar College." The program is designed to provide high-achieving seniors from Mira Mesa High School the opportunity to take college-level classes at the Miramar College campus. The program will improve students' academic preparation while boosting their readiness to study at a four-year college or university.

This is the third Middle College program the SDCCD operates in conjunction with the San Diego Unified School District. Other Early/Middle College programs are at the Met High School, located at San Diego Mesa College, and City Middle College, a collaboration between San Diego City College and neighboring Garfield High School.

Driving *the Economy*

The San Diego Community College District, its students, and its alumni pumped more than \$5.2 billion into the local economy during the 2013-14 fiscal year, an amount equal to about 3 percent of the county's Gross Regional Product, according to the latest study of District operations.

The District has 4,568 full-time and part-time employees at City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges, San Diego Continuing Education, and elsewhere. The net impact of payroll and expenses came to \$331.7 million, according to the report by Idaho-based Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI). Former students generated approximately \$4.9 billion through higher wages, increased output of businesses

that employed them, and the multiplier effects that occurred as students and their employers spent the added money on other goods and services.

"There is no doubt that the San Diego Community College District is an important contributor to San Diego's economy and workforce," said Jerry Sanders, President and CEO of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce. "Under the guidance of Chancellor Constance Carroll, SDCCD produces high-quality learning experiences that are preparing the workforce of tomorrow while at the same time employing today's workforce throughout its campuses."



Lights, *Camera...*



San Diego City College's "Newscene" – a weekly news show produced, directed, and presented by students studying radio and television – has moved to the UT-TV studios in Mission Valley until construction of the new C Building is completed.

The arrangement has allowed broadcast students to get hands-on experience with the largest media company in the region. "Newscene" airs at 6 p.m. every Friday on Channel 16 on both Cox and Time Warner Cable.

The move builds on a budding collaboration between City College and U-T San Diego, which runs UT-TV. Last summer, The U-T launched an internship program with City College that included five students. Working with UT-TV also enables students to boost their credentials on their resumes.

"Newscene" has won six student Emmy Awards.

Serving *the Underserved*

San Diego Mesa College continues to impress federal officials with programs at the San Diego Community College District's largest campus.

Mesa College recently secured a five-year, \$2.62 million Title V grant to serve low-income Latinos who are first-generation students. "Proyecto Exito," which translates to "Project Success," includes instructional and student-support programs to strengthen the college's ability to serve underrepresented populations.

Latinos make up nearly one-third of the college's 25,000 students. Funds will go toward teacher training, improved student services, developing a peer-mentoring program for at-risk students, and creating new spaces for learning, such as a student engagement center.

Mesa College also secured a five-year, \$1.1 million grant extension from the National Institutes of Health to boost the transfer rates of underrepresented students eyeing careers in research and biomedical or behavioral sciences.

The Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program has been in place since 2005, with 97 of the 102 Mesa College students participating having transferred, or planning to transfer, to a four-year college or university. Ninety-four percent of students who transferred from 2008 to 2011 have earned or are on track to earn at minimum a bachelor's degree. Some are en route to earning a doctorate.



San Diego Mesa College graduates.

A Talk with the Chief

We recently asked San Diego Police Chief Shelley Zimmerman, a graduate of Miramar College's San Diego Regional Law Enforcement Academy, a few questions about the Academy and the Police Department she leads.

Q. What is your vision for the San Diego Police Department?

A department whose employees feel valued, work together in community partnerships to be a model of excellence in policing, and fosters the highest level of public trust and safety. I talk a lot at community town halls about imagining the possibilities of all of us working together, the Mayor, the City Council, the City Attorney, our Police Department, and all of our wonderful communities. Our goal is to make San Diego the envy of the entire nation – where we all work, we all live, we all play and raise our families in harmony and in safety – and become known as the safest large city in the United States where the culture of cooperation between our Police Department and all of our communities sets the national standard of excellence.

Q. What is your most memorable experience at the San Diego Regional Law Enforcement Academy?

I attended the 13th Regional Academy that started in October of 1982. I enjoyed the entire experience, but I would have to say the lifelong friendships that were established at the Academy have been the most memorable.

Q. Can you give us your assessment of what you learned? The academy prepared me well for the next part of my training, which was phase training with a Field Training Officer (FTO). At that time we had three phases with a FTO. Each phase was at a different patrol command and with a different FTO, and built upon what you learned during the previous phase. Without a doubt, the curriculum taught at the Academy was the backbone of my career.

Q. What does it mean to be a San Diego police officer?

We have an opportunity every day to make a difference. The badge that we all proudly wear is not just a piece of polished metal. It represents the people of San Diego. It is our symbol of service above self, of sacrifice, of honesty, of dedication, of personal courage, of professionalism, and the oath we all took to protect and serve.



Photo credit: U-T San Diego

Q. Biggest challenge facing the San Diego Police Department?

Recruitment and retention. We have 400 officers today who are eligible to retire. Many police departments are hiring, which means we are in an extremely competitive market to hire the very best recruits from a qualified pool of candidates. In addition, other local departments are offering hiring bonuses and more take-home pay for our experienced officers to lateral over to their departments. We need to find a way to recruit the very best officers to our department while at the same time retaining our experienced officers.

Q. How does the SDPD go about ensuring diversity in its new recruits?

Our desire is to recruit the very best from all communities and we are committed to having a Police Department that is reflective of the communities we proudly serve. About 50 percent of our last several academies have been minorities and/or women.



Photo credit: U-T San Diego



Newest naturalized U.S. citizens with naturalization ceremony guest speaker and 2014 Boston Marathon winner Meb Keflezighi (center).

Living the Dream

His family was persecuted because of its Mayan ancestry. His father was shot dead by police. He was robbed at gunpoint while embarking on his journey to freedom. But today, Guatemalan refugee Manuel Taracena has found the American Dream, thanks in large part to citizenship courses at San Diego Continuing Education (SDCE).

“They explain everything on the test,” the recently naturalized Taracena said about the free classes he completed to help him with the citizenship exam. “They make you understand. I am very happy. I am very proud to be American.”

Taracena, who owns a small commercial cleaning business, was one of 922 students who completed citizenship classes through SDCE in 2014.

Citizenship classes were among those first offered when Continuing Education was founded in 1914. Courses cover not only the basics of American government, but also the application process and what to expect during an official oral interview.

“You would think that history and government would be the main part of the curriculum, but actually, it’s helping students understand and complete the paperwork,” said Mechelle Perrott, who joined

SDCE as an ESL teacher in 1987 before becoming a citizenship instructor 10 years ago. “Navigating the application maze and accurately completing the paperwork can be a very difficult, time-consuming process, and we want to make sure students are prepared.”

Mahjabin Andar, a refugee from Afghanistan whose odyssey has led her to San Diego, praised Perrott and the SDCE classes.

“They give confidence to students to do well on the test,” Andar said. “The class is very useful.”

A teacher in a school where girls were treated as equals, Andar was forced to flee Afghanistan with her family in 1995 as the Taliban rose to power and imposed its version of Sharia law. After five years working with a United Nations agency in Pakistan, though, Andar was on the move again, this time to Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan.

“The situation in Pakistan became harder for us because the government was working with the Taliban to find teachers working with the U.N.” With their options limited in Baku, Andar and her four children secured visas for the United States. More than five years later, her husband was able to join her.

Her plans now include becoming an ESL teacher, perhaps with SDCE.

“Citizenship changes lives,”

Mechelle Perrott

"This is the land of opportunity," said Andar, who is now enrolled in a Transition to College course and hopes to earn a master's degree.

"SDCE has been preparing students with the education and skills needed to compete in the local economy and live productive lives since 1914," said Rudy Kastelic, Interim President at SDCE. "Class offerings have changed throughout the years to meet the needs of the community, but priorities have always included classes in basic skills – including how to speak English, short-term job training, and citizenship."

Perrott said her students' stories validate her decision to become an educator.

"Citizenship changes lives," Perrott said. "Achieving citizenship is a big accomplishment for both students and their families. To hear about their lives before, why they want to become citizens, and then to know we are helping them achieve something very significant that will impact their lives in a profound and lasting way, is very rewarding."

Perrott has a growing legion of admirers.

Scarlet Cisneros, who emigrated from Ecuador, took Perrott's class last year and passed the citizenship exam in August with little trouble.

"The classes helped a lot, not only to learn and understand the history of the U.S. and be ready and more comfortable to take the citizenship interview and the oath ceremony, but it also helped me improve my English grammar, vocabulary, and communication," Cisneros said.

Valentina Mosley was determined to become an American citizen after emigrating from Mexico.

But finding a suitable program that combined English-language instruction with proper preparation for a citizenship exam was becoming a bit frustrating.

Then she discovered the San Diego Community College District's Continuing Education classes.

"I have been in the United States since 1987 and I have taken these classes before at other places, but they are not like this," Mosley said of the ESL/citizenship courses she took at the Mid-City Campus in City Heights. "Here, they teach you no matter what level you are at. They teach you how to speak English. They motivate you to do well. I feel very comfortable coming here. The teachers want to make sure that you get it before they move on."



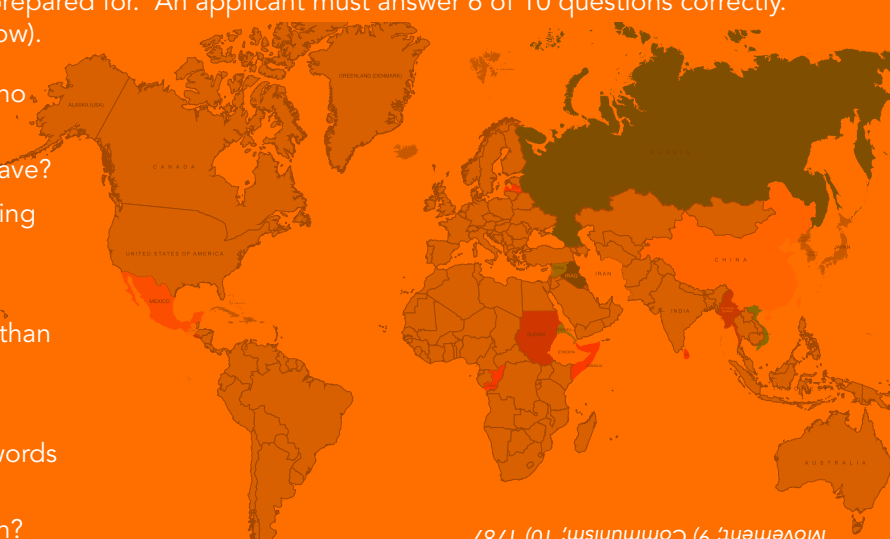
The naturalization ceremony, held at Continuing Education's Mid-City campus, was part of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' annual Constitution Day and Citizenship Day celebration.

How Would You Do?

Immigrants studying to become a United States citizen must take an oral civics test given by a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officer. The officer asks 10 random questions from a list of 100 that every student has prepared for. An applicant must answer 6 of 10 questions correctly. Here is a sample of the questions (with answers below).

- 1) If both the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, who becomes President?
- 2) How many amendments does the Constitution have?
- 3) The House of Representatives has how many voting members?
- 4) Name your U.S. Representative.
- 5) Why do some states have more Representatives than other states?
- 6) What is the supreme law of the land?
- 7) The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words?
- 8) What movement tried to end racial discrimination?
- 9) During the cold war, what was the main concern of the United States?
- 10) When was the Constitution written?

Answers: 1) Speaker of the House; 2) 27; 3) 435; 4) varies according to where you live; 5) depends on the population; some states have more people; 6) the Constitution; 7) We the People; 8) Civil Rights Movement; 9) Communism; 10) 1787



Four-Year Degrees

Coming to Mesa College

San Diego Mesa College has been selected as one of the first California community colleges to grant four-year degrees as part of the state's historic Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program.

The college's proposal to establish a baccalaureate-level program in Health Information Management was submitted by the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) in November. On January 20, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office announced that Mesa College was selected to be one of 15 colleges to participate in the statewide pilot program.



2004

AB 1932
(Maze)

2009

AB 1455
(Maze)

2011

AB 661
(Block)

2013

August

California community colleges baccalaureate study group meets for first time

AB 1280
(Maze)

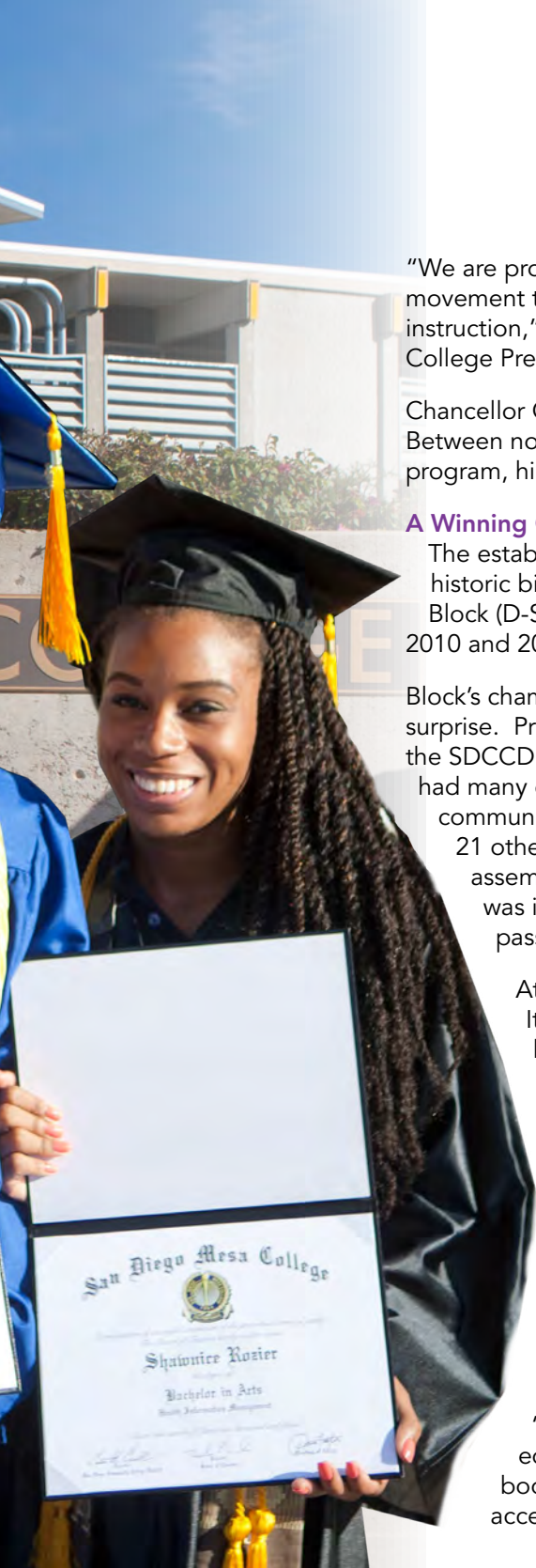
2005

AB 2400
(Block)

2010

November 22, 2013

Chancellor Carroll and Foothill-De Anza Chancellor Linda Thor present baccalaureate study group recommendations at statewide conference



"We are proud that one of our colleges will be in the vanguard of this innovative movement to address the region's workforce preparation needs through high-quality instruction," said Chancellor Constance M. Carroll. "I applaud the excellent work of Mesa College President Pam Luster and her team on generating a winning proposal."

Chancellor Carroll says Mesa College expects to begin enrolling students in the fall. Between now and then, the college will secure the necessary accreditation for the program, hire additional instructors, and finalize a sequence of required classes.

A Winning Combination

The establishment of California's Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program is the result of a historic bill authored by a state senator with strong ties to the SDCCCD. Senator Marty Block (D-San Diego) introduced Senate Bill 850 in January 2014 after previous bills in 2010 and 2011 failed to secure enough legislative support.

Block's championing of the community college baccalaureate in California should be no surprise. Prior to his election to the state Legislature in 2008, Block served as President of the SDCCCD Board of Trustees for eight years. During this time, he and Chancellor Carroll had many conversations about how California's workforce would benefit if the state's community colleges were enabled to grant four-year degrees – as is the practice in 21 other states. Not surprisingly, when a statewide baccalaureate study group was assembled in 2013, Chancellor Carroll was among those named. Then, after SB 850 was introduced, she chaired the statewide advocacy effort that helped secure its passage in the Legislature.

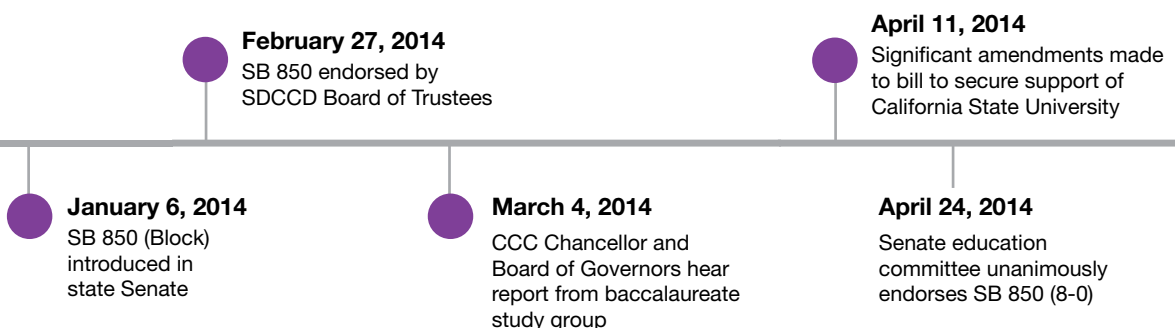
At 5:30 p.m. September 28, 2014, Chancellor Carroll's home telephone rang. It was Block calling to tell her that Governor Jerry Brown had just signed the bill into law.

'Landmark' Legislation

SB 850 drew overwhelming bipartisan and business support because it addresses a growing need for the state to become more competitive in areas of high workforce demand. The bill stipulates that the four-year programs offered may not duplicate any currently available at the University of California (UC) or California State University (CSU). So for now, programs in high demand such as nursing are off the table. Regardless, SB 850 represents one of the most significant changes in the California Master Plan for Higher Education since its adoption in 1960. Until now, only the UC and CSU could offer public, four-year degrees.

"This is landmark legislation that is a game changer for California's higher education system and our workforce preparedness," Block said. "SB 850 boosts the focus of our community colleges on job training and increasing the accessibility and affordability of our state's higher education system."

2014



No 'Mission Creep'

Because of its importance to the California economy, SB 850 was supported by community colleges, the CSU, veterans organizations, and many business groups, including the California Chamber of Commerce. Chancellor Carroll emphasizes that the addition of four-year degrees is not about changing the mission of the state's community colleges. In spite of arguments about "mission creep," most understood that community colleges are uniquely organized to provide workforce education in career technical fields.

"One of the top missions of the California community colleges is workforce education," said Chancellor Carroll. "In cases where businesses, health care organizations, and other industries now require a bachelor's degree at their entry level, it is imperative that community colleges step forward to ensure the competitiveness of our students. That is a win-win proposition for our students, for employers, and for the economy."

'A Degree with a Job'

With high-paying jobs awaiting graduates, Block sometimes refers to the community college bachelor's as "a degree with a job." In many fields, technology has dramatically expanded career opportunities. For example, in health information management – also referred to as "informatics" – baccalaureate degree holders are needed by hospitals and other health providers to help manage the massive amount of digital health information. An estimated 41,000 four-year graduates will be needed in the field by 2022, with mid-level salaries ranging from \$55,000 to \$70,000.

In addition to Mesa College's Health Information Management degree, other California community colleges are proposing programs in areas such as dental hygiene, respiratory therapy, biomanufacturing, and automotive technology, among other fields.

"This is a classic example of how our community colleges are innovative and cost-effective enough to address key areas of workforce need," said Rich Grosch, SDCCD trustee. "If California is to remain competitive into the 21st century, we'll need to leverage all the strengths of our public colleges and universities – including our 112 California community colleges."



Chancellor Constance M. Carroll speaking at a September 2014 press conference urging Governor Jerry Brown to approve Senate Bill 850.

Assistant Professor Connie Renda (center) with Health Information Technology students.

May 27, 2014

California Senate approves SB 850 (34-0)

June 24, 2014

Assembly Committee on Higher Education passes SB 850 unanimously

August 20, 2014

SB 850 passed by California Assembly (68-0)

June 13, 2014

Chancellor Carroll leads delegation in Sacramento to lobby lawmakers and governor's staff on SB 850

August 21, 2014

SB 850 is approved 32-0 in the Senate

California Not Keeping Pace

Increasingly, community college graduates are finding that professions that once required a certificate or an associate degree now require baccalaureate-level preparation as a prerequisite for hiring. With the state's public universities either being too crowded or failing to offer bachelor's degrees in these fields, many students are being challenged in trying to secure the education they need.

Meanwhile, demand for graduates with bachelor's degrees is increasing. In California, several studies have found that the state needs to produce 60,000 more graduates each year by 2025 to meet employer demands. One study, by the Public Policy Institute of California, concluded that 41 percent of jobs in the state will require a bachelor's degree, but just 35 percent of working-age adults will have one.

While disappointed that programs such as nursing were excluded from SB 850 – the price of securing the necessary support – Chancellor Carroll is bullish on the pilot program and its potential for expansion.

"I predict that California will follow the path of the 21 states that already have these programs," said Chancellor Carroll. "Once the state sees how successful they are, there is a great probability that the pilot will expand."



CALIFORNIA

Mesa College 'Ready to Go'

Mesa College President Pamela T. Luster says her college, which already offers an associate degree in Health Information Technology, is ready to go. The college began academic planning mid-way through 2014 as Senate Bill 850 gained momentum in the Legislature.

"Of the many excellent academic programs at Mesa, the Health Information Technology stood out as the most vibrant choice for a four-year degree," Luster said. "There is a robust labor market need for medical records managers, we have tremendous student demand, superior faculty, and overwhelming support

from our health industry partners who stand ready to employ our graduates."

"To be in the forefront of one of the most ambitious goals ever undertaken in the history of California community colleges is an honor for Mesa College. We are ready," she added.

Mesa College is now pursuing accreditation through the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges

(ACCJC), which obtained approval to accredit bachelor's degrees at community colleges last spring. Students will need to complete a minimum of 120 semester credits with a minimum General Education requirement of 36 semester credits. In terms of costs, students will complete 60 units of lower-division coursework at \$46 a unit. Students enrolled in upper-division coursework will pay an additional \$84 per unit fee – which is still less than fees paid by CSU students. In total, the cost of the four-year program, not including books or other costs, would be about \$10,560.

This is music to the ears of Mesa College students like Steven P. Cordero-Wade: "I'm excited. Having the ability to get a four-year degree at a lower cost – it's an opportunity that's fantastic."



Senator Marty Block and Chancellor Constance M. Carroll receiving awards presented by State Chancellor Brice Harris.

September 28, 2014

Governor Brown signs SB 850 into law

2015

January 20, 2015

Mesa College selected as one of first colleges to participate in baccalaureate pilot program

September 4, 2014

News conference hosted by Senator Block and Chancellor Carroll

October 28, 2014

SDCCD submits certification of interest to participate in the baccalaureate pilot program



Politically Speaking

Call it serendipity.

San Diego Mesa College professor Carl Luna is one of the longest-serving instructors on campus, he is perhaps the most visible political commentator in San Diego, and he is the driving force behind a movement to make local campaigns more civil.

And he never planned on any of it.

Take, for example, Restoring Respect, a community initiative promoting greater civility in San Diego civic dialogue. Restoring Respect came about by chance, its evolution spawned when the Catfish Club of San Diego founder the Reverend George Walker Smith asked Luna to take part on a panel several years ago with *Los Angeles Times* reporter Tony Perry. The topic: incivility in local politics.

"We had a lot of feedback after that event, and it got me to thinking that maybe we could continue to build on this to improve the tone of political discourse in San Diego," Luna said. A founding committee that included San Diego Community College District Chancellor Constance M. Carroll was formed. Restoring Respect came next, supported by the San Diego Community College District, USD's School of Leadership and Educational Sciences, and the Catfish Club.

Restoring Respect's first conference, Restoring Civility to Civic Dialogue, was held at USD's Joan Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice in the spring 2012. This year's conference is set for March 20. It has since grown into The Institute for Civil Civic Engagement, whose projects include "CivicTalk," a networking effort involving dozens of nonprofits and academic institutions. CivicTalk also is involved with an ongoing public discussion in Chula Vista aimed at addressing the negative connotations often associated with the South County city.

Luna's role as a political pundit also came about by chance. For the past year, Luna has been a political analyst for Fox5 News. A go-to figure during election coverage, Luna figures he's done more than 1,000 interviews over the years.

The niche evolved from newspaper op-eds he penned with fellow Mesa College political scientist Joe "Mac" McKenzie in the late 1990s and monthly KPBS radio spots on politics. A series of political crises beginning with the successful 2003 recall campaign of Governor Gray Davis turned those efforts into a stream of media interviews.

"Local stations started calling and asking if I could explain the recall on the morning shows, and that grew into more spots for afternoon and increased appearances on KPBS. Then, when Mayor Dick Murphy resigned in 2005 during the city's fiscal fiasco, I started doing national and international media interviews about San Diego. The (former Mayor Bob) Filner follies was yet another crisis that sent lots of reporters to me for comment."

Why is he so sought after?

"Carl's willing to talk about anything, anywhere, anytime, and he's quick with a clever turn of phrase," said Scott Lewis, CEO at Voice of San Diego. "San Diego is a place where clever people with some credibility who are willing to talk bluntly can stand out very easily."

Luna became a professor through happenstance, too.

A graduate of Mira Mesa High School and the University of San Diego, Luna returned to San Diego in 1988 after earning his Ph.D. in political science from American University in Washington, D.C. He was set to work with a defense contractor developing a computer program to model the thinking of the world's political leaders, but federal budget cuts doomed the project.

At an annual dinner event for area political scientists, Luna met members of Mesa College's Accelerated College Program, then known as the High School Honors Program. McKenzie, a professor in the program, suggested Luna apply for an opening, and he has been there for 25 years.

The Mesa College program provides political science and college calculus courses to advanced high school students on San Diego Unified School District campuses. His courses include Introduction to Political Science and the American Political System. He finds these classes to be the most rewarding portion of his career.

"It is a wonderful opportunity to help inform and motivate younger students who will go on to become active voters and citizens and, hopefully, clean up some of the political mess our current generation is leaving them," he said.

Luna also has been a visiting professor at USD for more than 15 years, teaching courses ranging from Russian Politics to International Political Economy. "The materials I learn teaching these courses have helped me to enhance the quality and content of what I teach in the ACP curriculum," Luna said.

Luna isn't just well known in San Diego. He was selected as the Pacific Region's Faculty of the Year by the Association of Community College Trustees, who honored him in October at its national congress in Chicago.

"Dr. Luna is respected in the classroom for engaging our students, and in the community for the clarity and acumen he brings to the political process," said Dr. Pamela T. Luster, Mesa College President. "But most notably, he is a model of civility and civic engagement for us all. He is truly one of Mesa's treasures."



Professor Carl Luna at the 3rd annual Restoring Respect conference held at the University of San Diego.

KSDS Hitting the Right Notes

It is the top-rated jazz station in the country, its audience has doubled in the past decade, and it recently moved into new state-of-the-art studios nearly six times the size of its former digs. Yet when it comes to KSDS Jazz 88.3, the San Diego City College-based radio station's greatest contribution to the community could be its educational efforts.

"We want to make a difference in young people's lives," said Mark DeBoskey, who in 13 years as general manager helped turn KSDS into a national jazz radio powerhouse.

In fact, the jazz station is at the forefront of City College's mission of partnering with the community while meeting its educational needs. Endeavors range from crafting an internship program available to students and non-students alike to staging an annual jazz festival aimed at teaching young music students the intricacies of a musical style ingrained in American culture.

Among the educational programs today:

- **Jazz: An American Art Form**, in which the San Diego chapter of Young Audiences works in partnership with KSDS to perform and teach jazz at schools with a large number of low-income students. Some 30,000 elementary school children have taken part in this program over the past three years, a program that includes lessons about jazz and jazz history.
- **Music Matters**. Established a decade ago, the annual Music Matters instrument drive has restored more than 500 used instruments from tubas to trumpets collected from the community and distributed to public school students who cannot afford to buy or rent.
- **The San Diego City College Educational Jazz Festival**. Jazz 88.3 produces this annual student showcase in partnership with the California Music Educators Association, giving middle and high school students an opportunity to play together and work with professional musicians on the dynamics of jazz improvisation.



KSDS Music Director and Host Joe Kocherhans in the new Jazz 88 studio at San Diego City College.

A photograph of a radio broadcast booth. In the foreground, a hand is visible near a mixing console with many buttons and sliders. In the background, a computer monitor displays a website. Above the desk, a sign reads "ON AIR" in glowing green letters, and to its right, another sign reads "MIC LIVE" in white letters on a dark background. The lighting is dim, with blue and green accents from the signs and equipment.

**ON
AIR**

**MIC
LIVE**

KSDS also sponsors the International Academy of Jazz every Saturday at Grossmont College for students ages 10 to 20 who work with professional artists in improving their musicianship.

"We're not just a radio station," DeBoskey said. "We wanted to become a valuable resource for the San Diego Community College District, and we have succeeded in doing that by teaming with an alliance of cultural arts institutions, from the La Jolla Playhouse to the North Coast Repertory Theatre to the Poway Center for the Performing Arts, by getting involved in marketing opportunities with other arts institutions in the community, and by becoming a part of the cultural scene in San Diego."

Licensed by the FCC as a non-commercial, nonprofit, educational radio station, KSDS has hit its groove by fusing its educational mission with music from the masters. Its 22,000 watts carry tunes from artists ranging from John Coltrane, Miles Davis, and Ella Fitzgerald to Peter Sprague, Esperanza Spalding, and Christian Scott, while a growing reputation and Internet audience has created new fans around the world. KSDS also features the longest-running blues radio show west of the Mississippi on Saturday nights, featuring the likes of Peter Green, Sonny Boy Williamson, and Professor Longhair.

"Like so many of the jazz greats that the station plays, KSDS has become legendary," said Dr. Anthony Beebe, San Diego City College President. "It is so incredible that a station of this stature is right here at City College."

In fact, KSDS has been dubbed Best Jazz Station of the Year in 1993 by the National Association of Broadcasters and in 2011 and 2014 by Jazz Week Magazine.

"Very few stations in the country are doing what they're doing, or doing what they are doing as well as they do," said U-T San Diego music critic George Varga. "They do a really good job of offering a broad array of jazz and blues. It's a pretty impressive station."

Such sentiment is universal.

"The station brings a valuable cultural asset to the community and gives you music you really can't get anywhere else," said KSDS' newest DJ, Michael Kinsman, host of "Every Shade of Blue." "The people who have been listening have been listening to the station for years."

Jazz 88.3 came of age during the DeBoskey era. When he arrived, the station had a small budget, a small audience and a small signal. "And it was not very involved in music education or in the cultural scene," said DeBoskey, who retired last fall. "All that has changed."

"City College and the San Diego Community College District have been so supportive of the station and everything it does," he added. "They really have given us the freedom to create something very special."



Anthony E. Beebe, Ed.D.
President
San Diego City College

On the Right Track *with the Trolley*



From left: Student designer Lindsay Jonkers, MTS Chair Harry Mathis, City College President Anthony Beebe, SDCCD Chancellor Constance M. Carroll, SDCCD Trustees Rich Grosch and Bernie Rhinerson.

San Diego City College partnered with the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) during Centennial Founders Week to launch a special City College trolley car commemorating the college's centennial. With art crafted by graphic design student Lindsay Jonkers, the "Agents of Change" themed trolley features portraits of City College students, alumni, and staff.

Less than a block from the campus, the City College Trolley Station serves thousands of City College students every day as one of the busiest stations in San Diego. During the September 10 Trolley launch, MTS Chairman Harry Mathis noted the long-term working relationship with City College through the school's San Diego Trolley Apprenticeship Training Program:

"When City College opened its doors in fall 1914, students rode electric streetcars into downtown. The San Diego Electric Streetcar Company eventually became the Metropolitan Transit System. And MTS has continued that legacy. Thousands of students and faculty ride our system every day to our City College Transit Station, the major transit hub that is adjacent to City College - a great urban campus that is undergoing tremendous growth.

On behalf of MTS, I would like to thank City College for the

academic apprenticeship program that has been training the Trolley's maintenance employees in the Light Rail Vehicle, Wayside and Revenue departments for more than 25 years.

This apprenticeship program, developed in partnership with MTS, the California Division of Apprenticeship standards and San Diego City College provides a 23 to 34 hours of study on electricity, electronics, heating, ventilation and air conditioning. During the program, students also complete 8,000 on-the-job training hours. Upon completion, apprentices are recognized by the state and MTS as Journeyman level within their chosen trade.

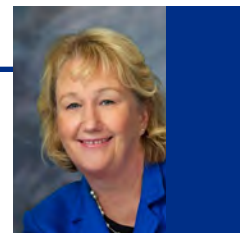
To the credit of everyone here today, City College continues to be a vital and important educational institution for thousands of San Diegans, and MTS is proud of its 100-year long association with City College."

Creating partnerships between the college and local industries provides students with lifelong careers and employers with highly qualified workers. Instructed by certificated faculty who are professionals in their field, City College apprentices complete training on all aspects of a job, from the basics to the advanced. A City College apprentice can also earn an AA degree by completing additional academic credits.

Nearly 500 students are enrolled in City College apprenticeship programs each semester, and an additional 200 students are enrolled through Continuing Education. More than 150 students earn apprenticeship completion certificates ("Journeyman Certificates") annually.

The City College Apprenticeship program works with several community employers offering training in numerous trades, including electrical, pipefitting, plumbing, HVAC, and more.





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

A Place of Their Own

Expanded Veterans Resource Center Offers Comfort, Unity

One million of the nation's 20 million college students are military veterans, and the student-veteran numbers are even higher in military-strong San Diego. At San Diego Mesa College, 2,000 registered students—or 8 percent of the student population—are active-duty military or veterans.

With a growing enrollment, new data on needs, and a vocal contingency of student veterans, college officials have worked to expand services and streamline processes, to offer emergency funding, and to make the boots-to-books transition easier.

"We're learning more and more that the transition from the battlefield to the classroom has a unique set of challenges," said Susan Topham, Dean of Student Development, who is also responsible for veterans services. Those challenges include adjusting to civilian life, financial burdens, navigating veterans benefits, and a reluctance to disclose disabilities.

And then there's the stress.

"I can remember the exact moment I knew the struggles I was facing were different from those that most of my classmates faced. We did a 'Stress Survey' in my Personal Growth 120 and it hit me like a sack of bricks," said Jordan Agricola, president of the Student Veterans Organization (SVO). His high score was Agricola's turning point; it helped him to realize "I had to deal with how stress was affecting me."

He saw a counselor, who helped him to find his passion and a major and create an education plan. Then he looked around and saw other veterans who were also struggling to find their way.

Agricola and his buddies urged the campus to find space for a larger Veterans Resource Center (VRC), a place where they could come together as a cohesive unit, to exchange mutual experiences, and motivate and guide each other through the college experience.

Last spring, the VRC moved into two large, adjoining former laboratories in the I-100 building. The group has grown as well, from four to 150 active members in two semesters. They offer workshops, guest speakers, and meet-ups on a variety of topics. They've raised funds for fellow veterans and organized volunteer efforts to give back to the greater community.

A casual stop-in on a recent Wednesday afternoon found the place crowded, but purposeful. In one room, students were playing cards, relaxing, having a bite to eat on comfortable sofas, tables, and chairs donated by Jerome's Furniture. Through the connecting door were dozens of students quietly doing homework, studying in teams, working on computers, and polishing résumés.

"When I got out (of the Navy), I lost the camaraderie I had in the service. The VRC has helped me find that again," said Randi Cooper, a former Navy radar technician who's now a business administration major. "I love being here... it's grown so much in such a short time. I feel I'm part of something big."

Part of the reason could be the leadership, and the family of friends at the VRC.

Agricola rattles off names of fellow students and thanks them for "constantly being there to remind me to stay on track with school, as well as to strive to create a presence... an atmosphere on campus for my fellow student veterans to grow." He credits them, and Mesa College, for "being where I am today."

The new and expanded Veterans Resource Center at Mesa College features two adjacent rooms, the lounging area shown here, and an adjacent quiet study, shared library, and computer room.





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

Celebrating the 100th Regional *Law Enforcement Academy*



The San Diego Regional Public Safety Training Institute at Miramar College is proud to congratulate its 100th Academy graduating class. After six months of intense training, a total of 88 recruits from eight local law enforcement agencies recently completed the nationally recognized program.

“Be proud of the quality training you have received and the achievement you have made in successfully completing this very prestigious program,” said Dr. Patricia Hsieh, San Diego Miramar College President. “We are proud to be a major training provider for thousands of first responders over the years.”

The original academy at Miramar College, known then as the Miramar Regional Occupational Training Center, was founded in 1969 and had a total of 23 graduates. In 1980, the police and sheriff’s academies were combined to form the San Diego Regional Law Enforcement Academy. The Law Enforcement Academy is located at the San Diego Regional Public Safety Training Institute.

Since 1980, more than 5,600 recruits have graduated from the San Diego Regional Law Enforcement Academy at Miramar College.

George Beitey, dean of Miramar College’s School of Public Safety—who graduated from the sixth regional law enforcement academy class in 1981—says the program has come a long way.

“The academy has a reputation of being one of the finest in the state,” said Beitey. “Knowing the cadets are trained just as well as anyone else is an honor, especially to see them move on to a long and rewarding career in law enforcement.”

San Diego Police Chief Shelley Zimmerman, who is also a graduate of the law enforcement academy and was a keynote speaker during the graduation, says all graduates should be proud of this achievement.

“The 100th regional academy is a milestone in a long and rich tradition of public safety excellence,” said Zimmerman. “I congratulate these recruits as they follow in the footsteps of all who have chosen to serve honorably in our noble profession.”

Sheriff Bill Gore says he is proud of his graduates and the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department’s long association with the Regional Academy at San Diego Miramar College.

“The San Diego Regional Law Enforcement Academy continues to give our deputies the solid foundation they need to protect our community and proudly represent the Sheriff’s Department,” said Gore.

President Hsieh is proud to say San Diego Miramar College is the fastest-growing college in the San Diego Community College District. The campus continues to work closely with local industry and governments to prepare students for exciting and competitive careers.

“Forty-five years later, the college not only continues this tradition, but it is also a leader in partnering with public safety agencies to expand this service to serve the community in the years to come.”



Dean George Beitey (left) with law enforcement graduate.



Rudy Kastelic
Interim President
San Diego Continuing Education

Adult Education *Grows Up*

In California, both community colleges and K-12 school districts provide adult education. Over the years, colleges and school districts have collaborated and partnered to divide adult education responsibilities and serve communities based on need.

Governor Jerry Brown wants one adult education system for California, and he proposed a plan to align college and K-12 adult education services throughout the state, emphasizing the strengths of each organization to maintain the best-in-class for adult education.

This new alignment is outlined in Assembly Bill 86 (AB 86), which also provides the framework for San Diego Continuing Education (SDCE) and San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) to form an Adult Education Regional Consortium. The consortium is working on a new plan for adult education in San Diego – one that focuses on seamless transitions from adult education to postsecondary education or the workforce.

“I believe the collaborative will have implications to future generations in 10, 20, and even 30 years down the line,” said Jamil Person, an adult educator at SDUSD and one of the faculty members in the consortium who is working on the regional plan.

Adult students often face challenges to success, and the faculty members in the planning group understand those challenges because they are currently teaching adults and have real examples about what is needed to help adult students succeed. They share the examples in a way that often results in a new or better way to teach.

“It feels quite exciting to be a part of this historical process. We are active participants in molding the future delivery of adult education,” said Person.

Molding is a good word to describe the work because the consortium includes many faculty members who bring expertise and knowledge to the planning table as a foundation for the new plan. After months of discussion and sharing ideas, the plan has taken shape to form a viable, innovative, successful design that will help adult San Diegans succeed in their educational goals.

“During the work, our esteemed faculty became emboldened to use their skills and talents outside of their programs,” explains Rachel Rose, a faculty

member at SDCE and member of the planning group. “This cross-disciplinary collaboration immediately evoked the augmentation of transition pathways and student services within and across disciplines, which means that in the short seven months the group has been working together, each individual has already contributed to increasing support for students currently being served.”

A draft of the comprehensive plan was delivered to the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office on December 31, and the final plan is expected to be prepared in March.

“The new plan will be something significant that I will reflect upon,” said Person, “and say proudly to myself ‘I was a part of that’.”



More than 60 faculty, 40 community partners, 10 professional writers, and eight program deans are working together on one plan to improve adult education in the San Diego region.



Rolling with CE

Joel Flood managed a vintage bicycle shop in Philadelphia for 18 years before moving to San Diego at age 37 looking for a career change and unsure of his future. Then he discovered San Diego Continuing Education (SDCE), where he developed new skills in project management and information technology. Joel is now responsible for marketing, IT, and educational programs at the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition, a local nonprofit that advocates for safer biking.

We asked him a few questions about CE and his take on San Diego.

Q. How did you end up at SDCE?

I discovered Continuing Education through a serendipitous catalog in the mail that arrived a month after I moved to San Diego. The programs were very appealing and because they were free, I was able to register right away. When I visited North City Campus, I was impressed with the newly constructed, high-tech campus.

Q. How has SDCE changed your life?

Continuing Education not only helped me develop technical skills, it also gave me a boost in my self-confidence. The experience motivated me to set larger goals for myself than I would have before taking the classes. The education and experience convinced me that I am capable of learning in a classroom setting, even with a 15-year gap since my last formal class.

Q. Any experiences at SDCE that stand out for you?

Completing the Web Server Maintenance and Security program was a watershed moment for me. The certification program culminates in a final team project that ties together lessons learned. We developed a project, assigned roles, identified deliverables, and created milestones to track our progress. Working in a small group and assisting each other to achieve a better

understanding of complex technical topics led me to realize that I work well in team settings and secondly, that I now have a strong interest in teaching. Looking back, I found myself in teachable moments and aiding my classmates. I really enjoyed helping people learn and see a future in education.

Q. What advice would you give to someone considering enrolling in classes at SDCE?

Explore what interests you. You can get as much out of the courses and programs as you put into them.

Q. How does San Diego differ from Philadelphia?

San Diego is more relaxed. I think the weather plays a major part; every day is beautiful, leaving people in better moods. There are nice people in Philadelphia, but there is something to be said about living in a place with predictably perfect weather.

Q. The cheesesteaks may be lacking here, but what is your favorite San Diego food?

I love the burritos here in San Diego! They are the greatest/worst at the same time, as they are not the healthiest—especially the ones I like.

35th Annual

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade





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