

San Diego Community College District

City College

Mesa College

Miramar College

Continuing
Education

WE *with excellence*

April 2007

Community College/K-12 Partnerships Change Lives

Nationwide, the pressures on K-12 education are profound, from demographic changes to legislative requirements to new pedagogy and testing to an unprecedented turnover of teachers to enormous organizational changes.

SDCCD plans to expand partnerships to provide high school students with opportunities to succeed at all levels of education.

The Chancellor sees collaborative effort as the antidote to the perfect-storm forces that are affecting educational attainment. See page 2.

As educators address these issues, one thing is clear — improving the situation requires the collaborative efforts of other institutions.

The San Diego Community College District, in partnership with K-12, has embraced its responsibilities for high-school-level education in a number of ways. Based on the success of these programs, SDCCD plans to expand partnerships to provide high-school-age students with opportunities to succeed.

Both superintendents of San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD), San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) and the Governor are supportive of increased collaboration.

City Schools Superintendent Carl Cohn stated, “We have only just started tapping into all of the possibilities for partnerships. The history we share is long-standing — with proven results — and I’m confident as we learn best practices from our existing joint projects, it will help identify what we can work on together.”

County Schools Superintendent Randolph Ward said, “We value our relationship with the community college district. A strong working



Garfield High School, located on City's campus, is one of many partnerships with K-12.

partnership is very important in order to fulfill our responsibility to this community.”

Governor Schwarzenegger “applauds the efforts by community college and K-12

continued on page 4

Community College — K-12 Collaboration: The Antidote to America's Perfect Storm

Meeting to discuss increasing partnerships are (from left) SDCCD Board President Marty Block, San Diego Unified School District Superintendent Carl Cohn, Chancellor Carroll and San Diego County Office of Education Superintendent Randolph Ward.

Recently, the Educational Testing Service (ETS) released a disturbing and provocative report on the nation's growing socio-economic crisis. The report is titled "America's Perfect Storm: Three Forces Changing Our Nation's Future" (Kirsch, Braun, Yamamoto and Sum). America's perfect storm and San Diego's storm are one and the same, with the following three forces converging.

First, the report notes a "widening disparity in literacy and numeracy skills among school-age and adult populations." One measure of this is the steadily decreasing high school graduation rate,

retire from the workforce, they are being replaced by younger people whose educational qualifications are not as high, including an increasingly immigrant labor force of people whose backgrounds often are below the high school level and whose English is also often inadequate.

Preventing the escalation of this perfect storm and combating its effects are beyond the scope of any one segment of education. It will require the collaboration of all segments, especially the two that educate the most students in America: the K-12 and community college segments. Whether early intervention, expanded ESL elements, concurrent enrollment formats, special counseling or other types of support are required, institutions can clearly no longer afford to focus on fault, but must instead develop solutions.

The San Diego Community College District Board of Trustees, the District and College leaders, both administrative and faculty, have undertaken the process of collaboration in serious ways. This was the topic of a recent leadership meeting with the Superintendent of the San Diego Unified School District (which operates 27 high schools, 18, alternative schools, 23 middle schools, 114 elementary schools

and 34 charter schools in the City of San Diego) and the County Superintendent of Schools (with oversight of 42 school districts throughout San Diego County).

In addition to the collaborative efforts described in this issue of the newsletter, the San Diego Community College District and its K-12 partners have pledged to focus on new collaborations that will seriously address the challenges inherent in "America's perfect storm." We owe that to the generation at the gate, a generation that needs seamless, extensive and more customized education now more than ever.

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

"Preventing the escalation of this perfect storm and combating its effects are beyond the scope of any one segment of education. It will require the collaboration of all segments, especially the two that educate the most students in America: the K-12 and community college segments."

which peaked at 77 percent in 1969, but has now fallen to 70 percent and even to 50 percent among disadvantaged minorities.

The second force is the economy itself, which has experienced profound changes. The new economy emphasizes global dimensions and international trade. It has also spawned changes in the nature of service and manufacturing jobs, due to technological advances, with the result that two-thirds of job growth now requires some level of college preparation. The high school diploma is no longer the ticket to gainful employment.

The third component of the storm is demographic changes. As aging baby boomers



...‘Like a hot iron poker had been jammed into my side’

When Marine Staff Sgt. Dan Harrington taught anti-terrorism and special warfare courses for the SDCCD military education program two years ago, he had no idea that he would soon be practicing what he preaches.

After all, Harrington, 34, had served his time as a Marine, having left the Corps in early 2004. But the reservist was called back to active duty,

“The pain was excruciating from the waist down. It was like a hot iron poker had been jammed into my side. But I came to my senses and just tried to focus on where the others were.”

Harrington suffered from shrapnel that took part of Harrington’s hip. He also suffered a herniated disk, fractured back, five concussions, scarring in his ears, and nerve damage to his hip, tailbone and bladder.

Quick medical action by Harrington’s fellow Marines helped mitigate the damage, and he was treated at military hospitals in Iraq, Germany and Bethesda, before being sent home to Miramar, and then Camp Pendleton. At the Navy Regional Medical Center in San Diego, Harrington underwent multiple surgeries, and continues as an outpatient. Harrington says he hopes teaching is part of his long-term future.

“He loves instructing” said Lisa Curtin, the district’s Dean of Military Education. “Dan brings his real-world experience to the students. He knows that his students learning proper technique could well mean the difference between success and failure, and lives saved or lost.

“His experience in Iraq has only deepened his desire to help ensure his military students learn to survive in a hostile environment.”

“My job now is to heal,” said Harrington. “I’m starting to get better. I’m walking around pretty well using a cane. I’ve had tremendous support from the college district. It’s a wonderful feeling to know that the people you work for really care.”

Under SDCCD policy, Harrington has been receiving supplemental pay from the District that compensates for the difference between his military pay and what he received as an instructor in the military education program.

In an effort to assist San Diego Community College District employees called to active military duty in response to the war on terrorism, the SDCCD Board of Trustees approved a supplemental compensation extension. The board’s February 2 action extends the supplemental salary from one to two years for full-time District employees called to active duty.



Marine Staff Sgt. Dan Harrington, an anti-terrorism and special warfare instructor in the military education program, was called to active duty from reserves. He was seriously injured when his Humvee (wreckage shown above) was blasted by a mine in Iraq.



and by July 2006 was patrolling the dangerous city of Hit, Iraq. It was on a July 6 mission in Hit that the Humvee he was a passenger in struck a mine planted by insurgents, and the blast lifted the 10,000-pound vehicle several feet into the air.

“The vehicle split up like a sardine can,” Harrington recalled. “We were rocked pretty hard.”

Harrington was temporarily deafened. After the initial shock wore off, he looked around to make sure the rest of the crew was okay. There were others injured but no fatalities.

The City Middle College Program has prevented more than 450 students from dropping out of high school.

continued from page 1

leaders in San Diego to strengthen their collaboration. It is an important element to supporting the Governor's goal of improving workforce training for students," stated Paul Navarro, the Governor's deputy legislative affairs secretary.

Currently, SDCCD Continuing Education campuses offer a high school diploma program in collaboration with the San Diego Unified School District, a model of its type, that reaches hundreds of students of all ages who dropped out of high school but now want to renew their lives and create new opportunities.

"The joint diploma program," Superintendent Cohn said, "is an excellent example of the well-established relationship and a long history of collaboration between SDCCD and the school district. We have designed and managed educational joint projects that provide a win-win for everyone involved."

Two of SDCCD's colleges have middle college high schools on campus. City College began the middle college movement within the district. In 1998, SDCCD and SDUSD funded construction of Garfield High School — built on City's campus. A few years later, City and Garfield were awarded a state grant to form a collaborative program.

The grant established City Middle College, which was designed for at-risk students, 17 years of age or older. The program blends high school and postsecondary education, along with special counseling and assistance for students, such as study skills and practical experiences related to employment opportunities.

Thus far, the program has prevented over 450 students from dropping out of high school. Eighty-eight percent of these students later enrolled as City College students.

Garfield Principal Jolie Pickett said, "The City Middle College is a great introductory college experience."

The middle college "instructors create manageable challenges that effectively change attitudes from indifference to enthusiasm for an education and a career," stated City College President Terrence Burgess.

In 2004, a different type of middle college high school opened on the Mesa

Program (ACP), which serves over 800 students at 15 San Diego high schools. All courses offered at the high schools are taught for college credit by Mesa professors in political science and math.

Political Science Professor Carl Luna teaches in the program. "ACP is one of the oldest community college/secondary school partnerships in the nation, providing instruction to more than 30,000 students in its almost 40 years of existence."

Both SDCCD Chancellor Carroll and Superintendent Cohn had high praise for another collaboration, which will serve as a model for similar collaborations — the *Fast Track Program* between Mesa and nearby

Kearny High School.

"In this program," Dr. Carroll said, "we share responsibility with the high school for instruction, and the results have been impressive."

Under *Fast Track*, qualified 11th and 12th graders are given the opportunity to take courses at Mesa in the morning or afternoon, outside of the required



MET School Principal Mildred Phillips assists students enrolled in the middle college high school located on the Mesa College campus.

high school day. Since the program began in 2003 with seven students, more than 1,000 high school students have taken college courses at Mesa, and many have matriculated at the college.

Dr. Cohn pointed out that certain partnerships with the SDCCD also serve families. "The Community-Based English Tutoring Program places community college teachers at our schools to provide English language instruction at no cost to parents and community members. As part of their experience, these adults turn around and help tutor elementary students.

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Mesa has also taken the District lead in two other partnerships. The college administers an Accelerated College



Terrence J. Burgess
President
San Diego City College

Faculty Champion Student Success

Political Science Professor Joon Kil meets regularly over lunch, often at an off-campus restaurant, with as many as three students. The off-campus setting provides the instructor with opportunities to counsel students on non-class matters such as a career paths and transfer. Already his lunch-with-students program is booked for many weeks in advance.

In the math department, Professor Misael Camarena developed a four-day introduction to college success strategies. One day focuses on specific learning methods, another on identifying



San Diego City College
Professor Francisco Moreno
talks with students about
community service projects.

students begin to adapt more readily to the college environment.

In sociology, Professor Francisco Moreno uses a service learning approach that integrates community service with instruction. Moreno teaches civic responsibility by requiring students to complete 10 to 20 hours of community service. With 45 community agencies already involved, Moreno monitors student progress closely, asking them to maintain a weekly journal. The agency provides a final evaluation.

Classified Senate President June Cressy pointed out that “Each of us — faculty, staff and administrators — plays a critical individual and collective role in helping every student live up to their potential. It is not what we do as much as how we do it together.”

Illustrative of its commitment to continually developing student success methods, the college recently hosted a seminar conducted by nationally renowned recruitment and retention expert Vincent Tinto. His appearance drew close to 200 students, faculty, staff and administrators from throughout the District.

City College President Burgess said that “to academicians, Dr. Vincent Tinto is a rock star.” Burgess noted how pleased he was that so many of Tinto’s initiatives were already underway at City, such as a Title V project for development of learning communities and supplemental instruction.

Academic Senate President Roberta Alexander echoed the president’s comments. “Tinto helped to reinforce many of the successful practices that our faculty use in the classroom.”

Title V Activity Manager Rafael Alvarez reported that, based on Tinto’s work, the Title V Program is engaging the campus community in promoting student success, including development of a website for sharing resources and strategies.

City College Title V participants were asked to present their achievements at the American Association of Community Colleges convention in April.

“Each of us — faculty, staff and administrators — plays a critical individual and collective role in helping every student live up to their potential.”

— City College Classified Senate President June Cressy

the Student Services opportunities available to assist students. The remaining two days are devoted to students developing a weekly planner and participating in a hands-on demonstration on “how to do bullet-point reading.”

Misael has already noted an increased development of learning skills; increased class participation, with students helping each other; and increased interaction with counseling staff, including focus on career goals and educational planning. The bottom line, he said, is that there are fewer withdrawals from class, better grades, and



Rita M. Cepeda, Ed.D.
President
San Diego Mesa College

Male Leadership Summit Succeeds

The recent Mesa College male leadership forum was so successful that the college plans to stage this event annually.

The March 23 *African American Latino Male Leadership Summit* brought together nearly 110 high school seniors from the college's feeder high schools, including Patrick Henry, Mission Bay, Clairemont, Point Loma, Mark Twain and Kearny,

graduate from high school, according to a UC Irvine study. The figures are even lower for male students in these groups, and they a higher rate of incarceration. The study's numbers also show that fewer seek post-secondary education, and those that do have a higher fail rate.

Yet if the desire and spirit of the summit participants was an accurate gauge, that failure rate could be dropping — at least by those that attended the Mesa summit.

Alex Macias, an eleventh-grader from Mission Bay High School, appreciated the event. "The summit gets me motivated to achieve more in life. Going to college was always in the back of my mind...but now it's moved to the front." His goals are to earn a business degree and help with the family's automobile repair business in Pacific Beach.

Attendee Hugo Vaquera said, "I'm understanding the whole commitment to attend college, and I hope to demonstrate what I have learned today in the near future."

Keynote speaker Doug Luffborough, executive director of *Turning the Hearts Center Program* in San Diego, reminded the high school student audience that you must help others succeed before you can climb the ladder of success. "If all of you here today go on to institutions of higher learning," he said, "then that would deem this summit a success."



Guest speaker Doug Luffborough uses a ladder and red boots to illustrate the concept of success.

as well as Jackie Robinson Community School and the Mesa-based MET middle college high school.

The half-day event, believed to be the first of its kind in the region, focused on self-awareness and personal growth skills, plus cultural issues that impact the success rate for African American and Latino males.

Organized by Mesa student services, some 40 staff, administrators, faculty and students participated in producing the summit, a direct response to the startlingly low success rate of African American and Latino males in post-high school life.

"Young African American and Latino males are falling behind in almost every measure compared to other ethnic groups," said Joi Blake, dean of matriculation and student services."

Only 55 percent of African American teenaged students and 57 percent of Latino teen students



Kearny High School students (from left) Christian Garcia, Edgar Mendez, and Tayari Andrews attended the first annual male leadership summit.



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

Serra High School Auto Shop Reopens

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Serra High School Auto Shop Grand Reopening took place in early February, thanks to Miramar College, college partners Toyota, Nissan and Honda, and the San Diego Unified School District.

Based on a model program at Mira Mesa High School where the college has been offering classes in automotive technology since 1994 to high school and college students, once deserted Serra facilities are now providing a seamless program of career technical education from the high school to the community college level.

More than \$250,000 was spent on renovating the shop, funded by corporate donations, Miramar and state grants. Several vehicles were also donated.

More than 50 high school students are attending the spring college-level classes, and that number is expected to triple in the fall with a new array of technical training.

Clarification: In the February WE, the cost estimates of two Proposition S construction projects were reversed. Here are the correct costs: \$1.1 million for the Leave a Legacy Plaza and \$18.6 million for the Hourglass Fieldhouse.

Signs of Success on Screen

It's a spring afternoon in a Miramar College philosophy class. An animated professor is jumping up and down on tables and lecturing on the differences between mental and physical actions.

Seated in the front row, Deaf student Jesse Wilson doesn't miss a word. With the assistance of Miramar's audiovisual staff, Jesse is engaged in Remote Video Interpreting (RVI).

RVI uses Internet video connections to access sign language interpreting services without an in-person interpreter on site. In this pilot program, the first of its kind to be used within the San Diego Community College District, a Web cam-enhanced laptop computer, linked to a high-speed Internet connection, is placed in front of Jesse.

The wireless microphone worn by Professor Bill Puett and the wired mic located in the center of the classroom transmit lecture and classroom questions and comments to the VRI.

As an interpreter translates from 1,000 miles away, her image appears on the screen in real time, and through the small camera located at the top of the laptop, Jesse can participate in class activities and ask questions by signing back to the monitor. His questions are spoken by the translator and heard by Dr. Puett and classmates through audio from the computer.

According to Kathy Doorly, Miramar Disability Support Programs and Services Coordinator (DSPS), "Locally, interpreters are in short supply, particularly between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., and VRI offers an attractive alternative."

Doorly, Miramar DSPS counselor Kandice Brandt, and District DSPS interpreting services coordinator Naomi Sheneman, worked with campus audiovisual staff, Professor Puett and administrative computing specialist Janice Hecksel

to set up the pilot, which has shown signs of real success. Jesse, who is pursuing a paralegal career field, would like to use VRI in other college classes.

VRI services cost around \$100 per hour, which is slightly higher than fees for live interpreters, but the benefits are substantial. Video remote interpreting is provided on-demand, avoiding advance contracting fees and commitments, as well as saving two-hour minimums — the standard fee for live services.

Before selecting this particular VRI system, District DSPS Director Mary Lewis researched



A signing expert (on laptop screen) interprets classroom lecture for Deaf student Jesse Wilson with the use of remote video technology.

various alternatives to live interpreting services to address the critical shortage of qualified, available interpreters. Bids required satisfaction of strict criteria, including quality and certification of staff, technical abilities, proper equipment, compatibility for provider/user systems, and professionalism of the entire screen image. Lewis says she would like to see VRI used at City and Mesa colleges, where parking for interpreters is often challenging. And, says Lewis, "I'm hoping VRI is paving the way for other technology advances to serve disabled students. "Real time captioning on a screen behind the faculty? That's the next frontier."



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

Teacher Takes the Initiative

During the fall semester of 2005, eight Deaf students enrolled in Professor Sandie Linn's class, Vocational Adult Basic Education and Vocational English as a Second Language, at Centre City Campus.

She and her students made it through the first day of class with the help of Disability Support Programs & Services (DSPS) Counselor Leslie Upton, one interpreter and one Deaf educational

importance of learning American Sign Language herself. She enrolled in ASL 115 at Mesa College, and in late 2006 attended her first Deaf Awareness Day in Balboa Park.

With rudimentary knowledge of ASL and the guidance and teaching from the Deaf students and Counselor Upton, Prof. Linn incorporates sign language into daily English grammar lessons, vocabulary activities and extracurricular events.

In 2007, Upton and Linn started an ASL club. The club has a healthy mix of Deaf and hearing students working together every Tuesday for one hour — after their regularly scheduled class time. The counselor and the professor create the lesson

As the numbers of Deaf students grew in this class, so did the instructor's awareness of the importance of learning American Sign Language (ASL) herself.

plans while the Deaf students act as the teachers.

“To our pleasant surprise, the numbers in the ASL club are increasing each week we meet,” Linn noted.

Friendships have been forged both in the ASL club and in the VESL/VABE class, and a comfortable learning environment has evolved. In the classroom, hearing students have been observed making an effort to communicate with Deaf students



Along with her Deaf students, ESL Professor Sandie Linn learns American Sign Language from interpreter David Janisch.

technician assistant fluent in American Sign Language (ASL).

Word got out that Professor Linn's class was user-friendly for the hard of hearing, and later that same year several more Deaf students joined the class.

As the numbers of Deaf students grew in this class, so did the instructor's awareness of the

and vice versa, employing combinations of sign language and written communications, Linn reported.

“It is evident that from the efforts made by both hearing and Deaf students in the class that Deaf awareness is in place every day without having to designate it on a calendar.”

Accomplishments & Achievements

KUDOS

Online Instruction Skyrockets Through Cyberspace

Online instruction has grown rapidly throughout the San Diego Community College District since City, Mesa and Miramar colleges first began offering such courses in 2001. Consider:

- At Mesa, fall online course sections jumped from five in 2001 to 119 in 2006.
- City's cyberspace offerings skyrocketed from three class sections in fall 2002 to 136 this past fall.
- In spring 2001, Miramar's sections grew from 39 online course sections to 118 this spring.

With the advent of Intersession in 2005, all three colleges began offering a combined total of 39 online Intersession courses on the web. This year, Intersession's combined total came to an impressive 133 sections.

And conservative estimates show that the districtwide program will grow about 20 percent annually from now through 2010. This includes fully online and hybrid courses as well as web-enhanced on-campus courses.

Three to five years from now, "we envision that the colleges and Continuing Education will develop and maintain a strong presence in the competitive online learning landscape by offering fully online certificate and degree programs," stated Dr. Andrea Henne, dean of Online and Distributed Learning (ODL).

ODL is in the process of expanding and strengthening campus resources for faculty training and support in online and distributed learning and establishing access to vital online student services including virtual library, counseling and tutoring. Some 215 City, Mesa and Miramar faculty are teaching or have taught online, and they



On a recent sunny afternoon, English major Courtney Lee logs on to a San Diego Community College District online course while patronizing a Mission Valley coffee house. Online instruction continues to grow at a fast pace.

have embraced teaching and learning on the Internet. In addition to its convenience, faculty say that they have become better teachers and learners.

"I have become a more capable teacher," Mesa College Professor Jim Wales said. "Greater familiarity with the subject matter, more confidence in my abilities as a teacher and student, and more humility have come from developing and teaching online. I am proud to have developed an environment and a structure where students feel trustful enough to discuss some of the most relevant and important things about themselves and their lives."

City College English Professor Gwyn Enright stated, "Since teaching is more individualized, I get to know the online students better compared to the on-ground students. Even shy students contribute to the online classroom." She also enjoys online teaching because "I only need to give information or directions once. I can devote my energies to addressing each student's own learning development and students particular questions."

City College Computer Science Professor Rose LaMuraglia Hicks said teaching online has provided her with a better understanding of student needs and expectations.

Mesa Accounting Professor Roger Gee said he has taught a large number of military stationed worldwide, including Iraq, Germany, England and Japan. He also pointed out that "a lot of stay-at-home moms" have enrolled in his classes.

In assessing SDCCD's online program, Professor Gee said that the real benefactors have been and will continue to be the students.

Accomplishments & Achievements



Miramar President Patricia Hsieh and Athletic Director Nick Gehler (suit) are joined by the college's first-ever basketball team to compete intercollegiately at the March 12 groundbreaking for the \$18.6 million Hourglass Park athletics complex.

Hourglass Park Field House Groundbreaking

On March 12, more than 100 guests joined City of San Diego and San Diego Community College District officials to celebrate groundbreaking for Hourglass Park Field House at Miramar College.

Completion of the \$18.6 million, 64,000-square-foot field house, the third and final phase of 32-acre Hourglass Park Complex, is expected in the summer of 2008. Hourglass Park Field House is a joint venture with the City of San Diego. Designed by Carrier Johnson Architecture, the athletics complex is being funded by Proposition "S," a facilities bond measure passed by voters in 2002, and \$4.6 million provided by Mira Mesa Facilities Benefit Assessment funds. C.W. Driver is constructing the project.

At the groundbreaking, the first-ever Miramar College Jets men's basketball team presented two signed basketballs to Mayor Jerry Sanders and President Patricia Hsieh, for eventual display in trophy cases within the City and College facilities of the Field House. Others taking part in the

ceremony included City Councilmember Brian Maienschein, Park and Recreation Deputy Director Gary Stromberg, SDCCD Chancellor Constance Carroll, architect Gordon Carrier, community representative Joe Fritchel, Miramar Physical Education/Exercise Science Department Chair Kevin Petti, Miramar Athletics Director Nicolas Gehler, Miramar Associated Students President Brittany Forrester and SDCCD board members.

Debut Novel

In March, City College English Professor Jim Miller released his first novel, *Drift*, a story set in San Diego and Tijuana.

Drift, published by the University of Oklahoma Press, uncovers the hidden past of the local region — a history inhabited by the likes of Emma Goldman, Henry Miller, Mission Indians, and Theosophists — it captures the underlying emptiness and unease of San Diego, circa 2000.

Miller is also the co-author, with his wife English Professor Kelly Mayhew, of two nonfiction books, *Under the Perfect Sun: The San Diego Tourists Never See* (2003), a political and social history, and *Better to Reign in Hell: Inside the Raiders Fan Empire* (2005).

Yosh Kawahara Dubbed Distinguished Alumnus

Mesa College Psychology Professor Dr. Yoshito "Yosh" Kawahara recently received a national honor plus recognition from his alma mater, Indiana University.

A videotaped interview of his personal history is being placed in the archives of the American Psychological Association (APA). Kawahara was interviewed in December by APA historian Dr. Wade Pickren.

In the interview, Dr. Kawahara reflects on his many years of service to the Asian American and other ethnic communities, and to the Asian American Psychological Association (AAPA). The videotape

Mesa College Psychology Professor Yosh Kawahara receives honors on the eve of his retirement next fall after 32 years at Mesa College.



also captures intimate reflections of his formative years spent living with his family in a concentration camp in Heart Mountain, Wyoming.

Meanwhile, Kawahara will also receive an Indiana University distinguished alumni award. He had been nominated by colleagues for many years of community service and research on culturally based values. In April, Professor Kawahara planned to travel to Indiana to formally accept the award.

"I am humbled by the recognition and attention," says Dr. Kawahara, who plans to retire in the fall after 32 years at Mesa College.

Accomplishments & Achievements

KUDOS

Nationally Renown Howard University Signs Transfer Agreement

the District's three colleges to Howard University, established in 1867.

Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert said the pact "will make it easier for students to maneuver through the admission, financial aid and course transfer process. We look forward to a long and mutually rewarding relationship" with SDCCD.

SDCCD Board President Marty Block stated, "we are providing students with a greater range of opportunities." Chancellor Constance Carroll, said, "Howard University is one of the best known of the nation's historically black colleges and universities. Our direct connection will open new avenues of experience for young people in the San Diego region who aspire to do their baccalaureate work at an institution known for its academic quality and cultural traditions."

City, Mesa and Miramar students have been provided with a new and significant university transfer opportunity. Historically black Howard University and SDCCD signed a transfer articulation agreement in February.

It will ease admission and transferability of academic credits of qualified students from

A Very Special Ride for Rusty Krumm

Vocational Specialist Rusty Krumm's new van is a lifesaver — literally. The specially-equipped vehicle "allows me to retain my position and provide quality services to the District's DSPS students," he declared.

And he can thank District Office and SDSU employees for the vehicle. In just two months, they raised \$25,000 to purchase the van. In March, they presented the van to a very giddy and appreciative Rusty.

Before this act of generosity, Rusty drove a van considered a "death trap." It was so unreliable that he couldn't make it up the steep Scheidler Street hill to the District Office parking lot. As a result, the WorkAbility III program staffer relied on his motorized wheelchair to get up the hill to report to work.

To compound matters, Rusty's job requires him to

spend a significant of time on the road to meet with students at District campuses and to meet with employers. That meant frequent downhill trips in his wheelchair.

Now with his new van, "I have safe reliable transportation that enables me to participate in many daily living activities that I would otherwise be dependent on others. It's given me a level of freedom that is difficult to put into words unless you've been in a situation like mine."



Rusty Krumm's specially equipped van allows him new freedom.

Heady Experience for Mesa Milliner

When Stu Segal Productions needed a hat suitable to adorn the head of actress Morgan Fairchild in the telenovela series, *Fashion House*, the producers turned to none other than milliner and Mesa College Professor Diana Cavagnaro.

Her creation — a stunning red chapeau — was worn by Fairchild in an episode of fashion industry TV series. In the show, Fairchild plays Sophia Blakey, the arch-nemesis of Bo Derek's character, cutthroat fashion mogul Maria Gianni. A publicity still of Fairchild wearing the hat made the front page



Professor Diana Cavagnaro

of the *National Enquirer*, and footage of the actress in the hat was featured on television's *Extra* and *Access Hollywood*.

It was all a heady experience for Cavagnaro. In addition to teaching in the fashion program at Mesa for the past 14 years, Cavagnaro owns and operates Designer Millinery in the Gaslamp Quarter. She has been in the hat business for more than 25 years. Diana has degrees in history, music and fashion, plus is a fine artist who works in oils, air brush and pastels. She is a volunteer for the American Cancer Society's *Look Good Feel Better Program* and is the founder of the Annual Easter Bonnet Parade and Hat Contest, held the first weekend in April at Petco Park.

Weather It Rains or Shines

Whitney Southwick has become a fixture in TV news. He was among 16 products of City's radio/TV program selected for its Wall of Fame.



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The SDCCD is governed by its Board of Trustees. No oral or written representation is binding on the SDCCD without the express approval of the Board of Trustees.

Whenever San Diego throws a temperature tantrum, Whitney Southwick is among the first to know.

Up before 2 a.m. each weekday, the City College alumnus arrives at the downtown NBC 39 (KNSD-TV) studio by 3:15 a.m., assuring that the morning news team is duly weather-manned.

From suffocating Santa Ana conditions to goose-bump epidemics — but mostly that good stuff in between — he forecasts and details what arguably is America's finest weather.

As comfortable in his on-air role as he is in his fashionable array of tailored suits, Southwick is sort of a human thermostat, permanently set on warm and engaging. If you think he enjoys his multiple weather updates, beginning at 5 a.m., you're as right as rain.

"It lets me be myself," he says.

A veteran of 30 years in the TV industry, Southwick, 56, has virtually done it all in San Diego — news anchor, field reporter, studio host, producer, sports director and ad salesman.

But he might not be behind a microphone had not it been for the two years in the mid-70s learning the basics in City College's pioneering radio and television department. Fresh from a few years in Hawaii — where he did everything from hotel management to construction to guiding tours — he landed in San Diego with one goal: to become a sportscaster.

"I wanted to attend San Diego State but I found you couldn't get the classes you wanted," he said. So he turned to Plan B: a highly recommended City College program.

At City, where he found a home in one of the country's first community college-based color-TV studios, Southwick anchored a three-person news team. Once the broadcasts were videotaped



City College alumnus Whitney Southwick

he would rush them to a Coronado cable company, which put them on the air.

"The great thing about City College was that it was all brand new," Southwick said. "We were doing things that very few community colleges anywhere were able to do."

Another plus: the opportunity for an internship at what was then KCST-TV, an ABC affiliate and the predecessor of NBC 39. It was there in the mid-1970s that his natural

affinity for early mornings — "I prefer a sunrise over a sunset" — became his ace in the hole.

Mentored by veteran anchor Dave Owen, who despised early shifts, Southwick got his feet wet by arriving for work at 5:30 a.m. and writing cut-in news breaks for the *Today Show*. One morning, a sleepy Owen called Southwick at the station about 10 minutes before air time.

"He said he just woke up, and for me to 'Go ahead and do it,'" Southwick recalled. "I got through it OK." A few weeks later he was making beat checks, writing the morning news and anchoring.

All this despite this admonition from his first news director: "You will never work here because we won't hire an intern."

So much for accuracy in the media. Southwick has become a fixture in TV news. He was among 16 products of City's radio/TV program selected, thus far, for its *Wall of Fame* on campus in Building C.

"He has grown up here in San Diego at this station and is just a wonderful contributor," said Phyllis Schwartz, president and general manager of NBC 39, where she interned with Southwick. "All of San Diego wakes up with him Monday through Friday."