

WAE

*with excellence*

Magazine of the San Diego Community College District | May 2003



## **Feat of Clay**

*City College ceramist YC Kim turns humble materials into works of art. Page 12*



**Molly Cartmill,**  
Director of Corporate and Community Relations  
and Corporate Events for Sempra Energy

*Molly Cartmill joined the Corporate Council to help the district address issues, solve problems and assist in shaping the future of the local business community.*

*“The San Diego Community College District plays a critical role in creating and maintaining the local workforce by providing access to education for those who can’t afford to go to a four-year college or university here, or who can’t get into a university immediately after high school,” she says.*

*“The local business community has a vested interest in the employability of those who live and work in this region, and should support the notion of access to education — not just for some, but for everyone. It’s a classic win-win partnership.”*

***Business can play an important role in increasing awareness of the value provided by community colleges.***

**Join the  
Corporate Council  
to make your  
voice heard.**

*See page 24 for a list of current members. Visit [www.sdccd.net/public/partnerships/corporatecouncil.html](http://www.sdccd.net/public/partnerships/corporatecouncil.html) for more information about benefits. Or contact Lou Murillo at 619-388-6914 or e-mail [lmurillo@sdccd.net](mailto:lmurillo@sdccd.net).*

Published for the faculty, staff and friends of the San Diego Community College District

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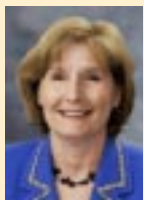
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# Waging the Battle for Fair Funding

*STATE PROPOSALS to make disproportionate, unfair reductions in community college budgets are facing fierce opposition by college districts statewide, and our district has been at the forefront of the battle.*



Chancellor Augustine P. Gallego

Your Board of Trustees and I have been meeting with legislators and members of the governor's staff to express our views. I have made presentations before legislative committees in Sacramento to detail the unfair budget proposals and to offer alternatives. We have also had outstanding support in our efforts from students, staff and faculty organizations, particularly AFT Guild President Jim Mahler and City College professor Jim Miller.

Board of Trustees members Marty Block, Rich Grosch, Bill Schwandt, Maria Senour and Peter Zschiesche have called, faxed and met with state legislators and members of the governor's staff to insist on fair funding for our colleges and adult education programs. Board President Marty Block has been a leader in an alliance of San Diego and Imperial county community college trustees to develop strategies and action plans for equitable funding among community colleges.

Although Rich Grosch and Peter Zschiesche are newly elected board members, they bring politically active backgrounds that have made it possible for them to hit the ground running, meeting with legislators in Sacramento and in San Diego to demand fairness for community colleges. Bill Schwandt may be

the most persistent caller to legislators and the governor's office, urging them to support legislation that would help community colleges. Trustee Maria Senour has used her statewide leadership position on the California Community College Trustees Board of Directors to speak on behalf of all community colleges in the state.

Our district and community college districts throughout the state are united as never before to not sit still for unfair budget cuts. We have also been actively supporting legislation to improve community college funding.

One such bill is Assembly Bill 554, which would allow us to keep the fees we collect, rather than the current practice of the state taking the fees for the state general fund. The fee revenue would be distributed to districts based upon full-time equivalent students (FTES) — particularly helpful to districts like ours that have a high proportion of low-income students who have their fees

waived. This could mean as much as \$5 million for our district.

Last week, the bill passed the Assembly Higher Education Committee on an 11-0 vote. It now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, where we will continue to advocate strongly for its passage.

Funding community college districts equally on an FTES basis for our state general fund apportionment revenue is a position our district has long held as a fair and equitable approach, and there is a bill in the Legislature that would come close to doing that. Currently, our district receives \$3,700 per full-time equivalent student in the colleges, while some districts receive as much as twice that amount because of an outdated, unfair funding formula. Assembly Bill 40 would help end the unfairness by bringing lower revenue districts like ours up to a statewide average funding per FTES. The bill would not provide any additional funding in 2003-04 because of the state's fiscal crisis, but it would add \$6.2 million to our apportionment in future years. Because of the future costs and budget uncertainties, AB 40 is being held in the Assembly Higher Education Committee in the suspense file. However, we continue to work with lower revenue community college districts throughout the state and the Legislature to move this bill, or a similar bill, toward passage.

Thanks to all of you who continue to advocate for fair funding for community colleges. While we've made some progress, there is a long way to go before we achieve our goals. I look forward to your continued support and active participation in our efforts to provide the accessible and high quality programs our students and our community deserve.

# Music Scholarships

When Mesa College music professor Irvin King established a scholarship fund in 1995, he didn't name it after himself, but rather honored Gustavo Romero, a native San Diegan who has been acclaimed worldwide as one of the most outstanding young



Irvin King

pianists of our time.

The Gustavo Romero Music Scholarship is funded by the presentation of benefit concerts at both on- and off-campus venues, with the help and support of the Mesa Humanities Institute, and by contributions from San Diegans who follow the career of Gustavo Romero and want to support Mesa College music students.

The scholarship is awarded to music students who complete Mesa's two year music-major-sequence program with distinction and who are ready to transfer to a four-year institution. The money is sent directly to the transfer institution for withdrawal by the recipient for tuition, books or housing.

Since 1995 more than \$15,000 has been awarded to Mesa students who have since completed undergraduate and graduate degrees in music at UCSD, UC Irvine, SDSU, and at California State Universities at Chico and Northridge. At this year's 10th Annual Scholarship Banquet, three students who will transfer to UCSD and SDSU this fall will receive a total of \$4,000.

## MARDI GRAS REVELERS. The Miramar College Black History Month

Committee hosted the 2nd Annual Mardi Gras Ball Feb. 28 at the Admiral Kidd

Club to raise money

for scholarships.

Rebecca Garber, and

Clara and Larry

Blenis got in the

party spirit by

decking themselves

out in traditional

Mardi Gras colors of

purple, green and

gold. Terrie Hubbard

was event

coordinator.



## CORPORATE COUNCIL UPDATES

Welcome to our newest member, LPL Financial Services. Council member Calderon, Jaham and Osborn has merged into Caporicci & Larson, Certified Public Accountants, and now goes by that name.

The Miramar College Foundation Board of Directors, strengthened by the addition of 13 external business and community leaders, participated in a dynamic Saturday workshop recently to learn more about resource development and their role in that undertaking.

## Building a Strong Fundraising Foundation

Coreen Petti, senior director of Corporate Relations and Strategic Partnerships at the University of San Diego (USD), presented a clear and concise look at fundraising facts and figures, responsibilities, types of fundraising and stages of fundraising. Following the workshop, the Miramar College Foundation board voted to form new subcommittees to plan and implement ideas of the day.

Subcommittees, led by an external Foundation member and facilitated by a college employee, will focus on planning and implementing the annual campaign and case statement (Linda Davis, Pat Keir); finances (Karen Harrison, Peggy Manges); planning an annual public safety recognition fundraiser (George Yee, Sandi Trevisan); defining the purpose and logistics of the annual scholarship gala (Joan Messenger, Sandi Trevisan); and ongoing review and recommendations of changes to the foundation's bylaws (Sandi Rosalia, Pat Keir).

Petti, wife of Miramar College biology professor Kevin Petti, oversees USD's corporate affiliation program, BusinessLink USD, which is made up of more than 180 companies that financially support the institution. Her current focus is the corporate component of the \$20 million capital campaign for the Donald P. Shiley Center for Science and Technology.

San Diego is home to the nation's only accredited chef's training offered in a homeless shelter. The Centers for Education and Technology (CET) have teamed up with St. Vincent de Paul Village to offer the 600-hour culinary program, followed by 200 hours of paid internship in local restaurant and hotel kitchens. The students are drawn primarily from residents of the village. They get practice slicing and dicing when they sometimes help prepare the 1,200 meals served daily at the shelter. November saw the first class of 16 graduate and move on to above entry-level culinary jobs.

Felix Aquino, president of CET, Marc Cuellar, dean at Centre City and Cesar Chavez centers, and Donna Namdar, instructional leader for family and consumer sciences, showcased this culinary program during their presentation to the League for Innovation in the Community College about collaborations with St. Vincent de Paul. For more information, contact Donna Namdar at 619-388-4949 or e-mail [dnamdar@sdccd.net](mailto:dnamdar@sdccd.net).



## SOUP'S ON

## 3rd Annual Career Expo

Miramar College students and the general public were joined by more than 250 area high school students during an event-filled 3rd Annual Diamond Days Career Expo which included a campus-wide open house, job fair and student festival. Visitors explored career training programs offered by the college, including transportation technologies (aviation, diesel and automotive), biotechnology and public safety. Guests were able to explore campus facilities, including the college's three-pool aquatic center, state-of-the-art Mac graphics arts and digital music lab, award-winning child development center and Independent Learning Center computer lab. Comprehensive displays by transportation industry partners Toyota and Chrysler, and diesel partner Hawthorne Machinery drew large crowds.

More than 30 employers, recruiting for current and future job openings, participated in the Job Fair portion of the event.

The student festival, "Flower Fest," was sponsored by the Miramar College Associated Students, and added bands, a DJ, food and craft vendor booths to the event. Planners of the annual event include Julianna Rodriguez, Mary Benard, Greg Newhouse, Joe Hankinson, Ray Quon, Tim Riley and Sandi Trevisan of Miramar College. Denise Whisenhunt, dean of high school outreach, addressed high school students at "welcome" orientations to kick off their visit.

## Toyota Summer School

*Toyota of El Cajon is hosting automotive instructor and department chair Ray Quon's T-TEN (Toyota-Technical Education Network) program summer class, using dealership equipment and work areas at its new Santee Automotive Store. Quon's program is slated to move from old quarters at Mira Mesa High School, but the new facilities on the college campus are not ready for occupancy. Dale Snow, service director at Toyota of El Cajon heard about this problem and offered his facilities free of charge for the summer air conditioning class. Quon credits strong industry partnerships and respect for Miramar's quality training for this generosity.*

## Why Does the Student Cross the Street?

City College's business communications professor Leroy Brady and Sandra Linn, who teaches the same topic across the street at Centre City Center, have teamed up, giving their students exposure to instructional content from both sides of Park Boulevard. Brady, whose class meets on Fridays, gives his students extra credit for every one of Linn's Monday-through-Thursday classes they attend. In addition, Brady will teach at Centre City this summer.

## Transfer Rate Soars

*Jodi Corliss, Miramar College transfer coordinator, reports that the number of Miramar College graduates transferring to San Diego State University surged 86 percent to 123 for fall 2003, compared to 66 students last year.*

*She packs a gun,  
a badge, handcuffs  
... and a caring  
attitude, dedicated  
to helping  
people every day.*

DIANA MEDERO, a college police officer stationed at City College, is a valuable campus resource, not only for helping protect students, faculty and college property, but also in her ability to guide people who seek her help.

“Being a college police officer is personalized,” Medero said. “I am able to get to know and interact with the students, faculty and staff members on each college campus. I’m able to better serve the needs of the college community, unlike other law enforcement agencies with a high volume of service calls that limit them from interacting with the community they serve. It’s very rewarding to me personally, and it meets our department goals and mission statement, as well as our community-oriented policing philosophy.”

Medero began her career as a police officer with the Oceanside Police Department in 1996. She arrived in the college district in 1998 to work as a college service officer, then was promoted to police officer in 2001. Before entering law enforcement, Medero was a physical therapist’s aide in Oklahoma, Alaska and California.

In law enforcement, Medero says, new adventures await daily.

“Unlike other jobs, you never know what each day may bring, especially since the 9/11 attack on our country,” she said. “All of us are on a high state of alert. Our main concern is to provide the same level of security during these times when there is a shortage of resources given the current state budget cuts.”

Funding or not, Medero doesn’t mind going above and beyond. She frequently

refers students with personal problems or who are going through various crises — be it domestic abuse, the need for post-sexual-assault counseling or even daycare needs — to the appropriate campus or county agencies.

“It’s the personal aspects of the job that are most rewarding, getting in there and helping people one-on-one,” Medero said.

Medero recently won an Award of Merit from the California College and University Police Chiefs Association. Her superiors offered this assessment in her nomination: “She devotes a great deal of her own personal time to her community work. Every event Officer Medero plans, every Rape Aggression Defense class or Child Safety class she teaches or project she participates in is done out of genuine selflessness, concern and care.”

Despite all this time she gives to the job, Medero still finds time for her personal life.

“My biggest hobby is my family,” she said. “I enjoy reading books and going to the movies. In the winter, my family and I go to the desert and ride our Quads. In the summer, we camp almost every weekend at local California state beaches, where I enjoy body surfing, running and mountain biking.”

Medero says future opportunities exist for women in law enforcement.

“I’m approached by women quite frequently who express an interest in what I do, and want to know more,” she said. “I encourage them to look into it.”

If she weren’t a police officer, Medero says, she would probably work in juvenile probation.

“I want to help kids turn their lives around,” she said. “I would also continue to teach personal safety to the elderly, women and children.”

Thinking back on helping people in the recent past inspires Medero to push even more.

“It matters just knowing that what I did may have made a difference in someone else’s personal life, whether at work, home or somewhere else,” Medero says.

## To Protect and To Serve



Diana Medero

BEING OLDER doesn't mean you're just waiting to die. Get up and live, declares Jeffrey Wheat, popular instructor of exercise classes tailored for the older adult.

Wheat has a lot to say about how activity of mind and body can slow problems associated with aging. He has long had many things going on in his life, and while he doesn't yet qualify for senior status, he is an expert on the ways fitness can benefit older adults.

Though the modest Wheat would never admit it, he appears to be well-versed in numerous subjects. He holds a bachelor's degree in physical science from Harvard University, and a master's degree in exercise physiology from George Williams University. A basketball player since youth, Wheat says athletics have been a lifelong interest.

"I was always doing something," Wheat said. "Of the children in our family, I was the outside kid."

Besides athletics, Wheat has become an expert at Tai Chi, and regularly incorporates the discipline into his fitness teaching. He's also an avid barbershop quartet singer, and tells the story of the time his quartet so shocked an audience with their caveman outfits, they ended up winning a contest and touring Sweden and Germany with the routine.

Wheat arrived in California in 1986, after a stint working as a cancer researcher at the University of Chicago, among other positions. He interviewed with the San Diego Community College District, and had a choice between teaching physical science at Mesa College or older adult fitness for what was then the College of the Emeriti, a program within Continuing Education that focused on classes and other resources for older adults. Wheat opted for the older adult fitness program.



# Turning Back the Clock

*This Renaissance man helps his older adult students with their own revival.*

"At George Williams, my emphasis was on preventive health education," Wheat said. "When I entered the program, I began working with people who had gone through heart attacks, people with Alzheimer's disease. I began working with them on ways to exercise that would address their individual needs."

Wheat has seen graying seniors turn their lives around. Fitness routines may

not be the mythical fountain of youth, Wheat says, but they can help maintain youthful energy and emotional well-being.

"The proper type of exercise can not only make older adults feel better, it can stave off depression," Wheat said. "The demographic of our entire population is changing, and fitness is one of the ways we need to address that. As the baby

boomer generation reaches full maturity, a strong emphasis on fitness will save money, prolong lives and make people happier during those longer lives. Health is wealth, and there is a wealth of joy and information in our older adults when they are healthy.”

Wheat talks about better balance meaning fewer falls and fewer broken hips. Exercise means better bone density, meaning fewer broken bones. Keeping mentally fit also means understanding instructions for medicines better, remembering to eat right and other related benefits.

Despite advantages, during times of budget cuts and other financial crises, the program has been threatened. At a meeting of the district Board of Trustees recently, several seniors spoke out against getting rid of the older adult program.

“When you eliminate the entire older adult program, you are in essence saying our future learning is eliminated,” Wheat said. “All of us are going to reach these life plateaus, and all are going to need the proper education and training to handle the challenges. This is our future, so why would we want to get rid of it?”

By keeping older adults fit and active, Wheat says, the public benefits by saving dollars that would be spent on care for these adults, not to mention the costs down the road as each of us reaches senior status.

One older adult learner addressing the board told of how she had been housebound and dependent on a home health aide because of myasthenia gravis. She can now cook for herself, groom herself — when before she couldn’t reach high enough to comb her hair — and credited her improvement to the fitness classes.

For now, the free classes have been saved. Evolving the free classes into fee classes is part of a larger developing plan to balance the budget.

“When you place older adult learners in a classroom situation with younger people, they lose interest and confidence,” Wheat added. “They make considerably more progress when they are in their own

element, working alongside those in their peer group. It’s difficult to marshal independent seniors into cross-generational settings.”

That said, Wheat also points out that sometimes intermingling can be healthy, as in recent programs when older adults learn alongside their own children in some situations, or even their grandchildren.

“The best payoff, though, is when both

“This downtown has blossomed into a major urban center,” Wheat said. “It’s been interesting to see how the Gaslamp District has developed such a varied dynamic. There are good people down here, and we’re seeing more retired people not only living down here but also venturing downtown from elsewhere.”

Wheat tells the story of one street person who came in very disoriented and unfocused because of some serious



*SLOW AND STEADY. The measured movements of Tai Chi promote good balance and muscle tone. Here, Jeffrey Wheat leads his class for older adults at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association Senior Garden.*

age groups can intermingle in the appropriate courses, and go their separate ways in other courses,” Wheat said.

“Having older adult classes means we might save 10 older adults every session from going into depression sooner than they would otherwise.”

Wheat is fond of saying that older-adult learners have taught him more than he has taught them. The Tai Chi program he has implemented has helped not only his students with various heart diseases, but the focus, discipline and philosophy of the Chinese form seems to benefit nearly all of his students immediately.

During his time in San Diego, Wheat has also seen downtown San Diego change.

personal dramas. The individual ventured in and out of the class until he better understood the mind-body-spirit connection Wheat teaches. That person went on and took other classes, and is now a teacher’s aide.

Working in a downtown environment, teaching so many older adults and his other activities have given Wheat a full appreciation of life.

“I’ve made some wonderful friends,” he said. “The community has allowed me to meet people on so many different levels. I enjoy the idea of helping older adults as I grow older myself. That’s one of the reasons I see myself doing what I do for many years to come.”

*The ultimate test of do-it-yourself confidence is to build an airplane and then fly in it. And that's exactly what five Miramar College aviation maintenance professors do in their free time.*

# Plane Speaking



**SKY KINGS.** Clockwise from top right, Wheeler North, proud owner of his scratch-built RV-6, Piper Rose, is joined by faculty colleagues and fellow builders Larry Pink, Reuven Silberman, Steve Adams and John Shablow.

WITH MORE THAN 11,000 hours in the air and nearly a century of combined years building and maintaining their own aircraft on the ground, Miramar College aviation maintenance faculty really know the ups and downs of airplanes.

Currently, five professors of the eight-member aviation department are either building or have built their own planes for personal use — all kits from Vans Aircraft. They fondly refer to their hobby like parents would their children, proudly giving birth to their “babies” after devoting more than 3,000 hours on average to their construction. With a life span of 30 to 50 years and a price tag for “quick built kits” of \$30,000 to \$60,000 and up, their hobby resembles the care

and feeding of live offspring.

The average cost of an airframe runs about \$25,000, the engine another \$25,000. It’s the avionics that can send the total price tag sky high. Options include cup holders to auto pilots, GPSs to stereo systems, intercoms to Palm Pilots — bells and whistles that can run upwards of \$50,000.

Steve Adams says his RV-8 kit, tail wheel version, will be his first completed plane. Adams hopes to name and christen his baby in about six months and has plans to take his wife for a “hundred dollar hamburger” now and then, and on trips cross country when they retire. With a plane that can travel at approximately 200 mph, this

modern-day kit plane is considered high-end.

The “hundred dollar hamburger” is a widely recognized term in the aviation industry, referring to the “fly in” restaurants at or near general aviation airports. Local destinations include spots like Palm Springs and Catalina Island. There’s even a website and book (in its second edition) of the same name, providing a *Pilot’s Guide to Fly-in Restaurants* and a “cockpit friendly rating system” that judges location, food, service, ambiance and price.

Wheeler North has been teaching aviation maintenance at Miramar College for quite a few years, but flying since he was a child, accompanying his father on

marine kelp forest aeronautical surveys. “Piper Rose,” North’s scratch-built RV-6 was named after a family friend’s new daughter and was literally built from scratch. It took eight years of cutting parts, bending metal, and machine tooling the entire plane before she took her inaugural flight in July of 2001. She’s been across country before, and this summer North plans to journey cross country once again, revisiting the “mother of all air shows” in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. According to North, it takes about 10 hours total flight time and three field stops to make the trip. This year, North is hoping to be joined by colleague John Shablow and his new plane, soon to be completed and yet to be named.

Shablow, the “senior” builder in the group, has been constructing aircraft for more than 25 years, when he caught the bug while attending Northrup University in Los Angeles. His first home-built was a Hiperbipte stunt plane, authorized for unlimited aerobatics and local shows. That first plane has since been taken apart, providing parts for the new RV-8A nosewheel version in construction and an airframe that he donated to the college program for valuable instructional use.

Larry Pink and Reuven Silberman are the most recent Miramar faculty to catch the building bug. Together, they have



*SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED. If you're stumped trying to put wheels on your child's bicycle, don't even think about trying this. Laid out on a hangar floor are the parts of a Van's Aircraft kit plane. (Van's Aircraft photo)*

formed “Wild Things LLC,” pooled resources, and are working on a RV-7A side-by-side nosewheel model.

According to these instructors, it’s not unusual for pilots to enroll in aviation maintenance programs and for technicians in the field to become pilots while building their own planes. Shablow said students sometimes assist with work at the hangars and that a recent Miramar College aviation grad and airline pilot, Dave Sterling, now has a hangar adjacent

to his own and is building his own plane. “Dave took the program specifically to gain the skills to build his own plane,” said Shablow.

Once kits are finished, an FAA designee inspects for airworthiness and issues certificates. Knowledge of guidelines and passing FAA requirements pose no challenge for these “fly boys.” The Miramar College aviation maintenance technician program is the only FAA-certified program in San Diego County.

## Centennial of Flight



*Kittyhawk, 1903*

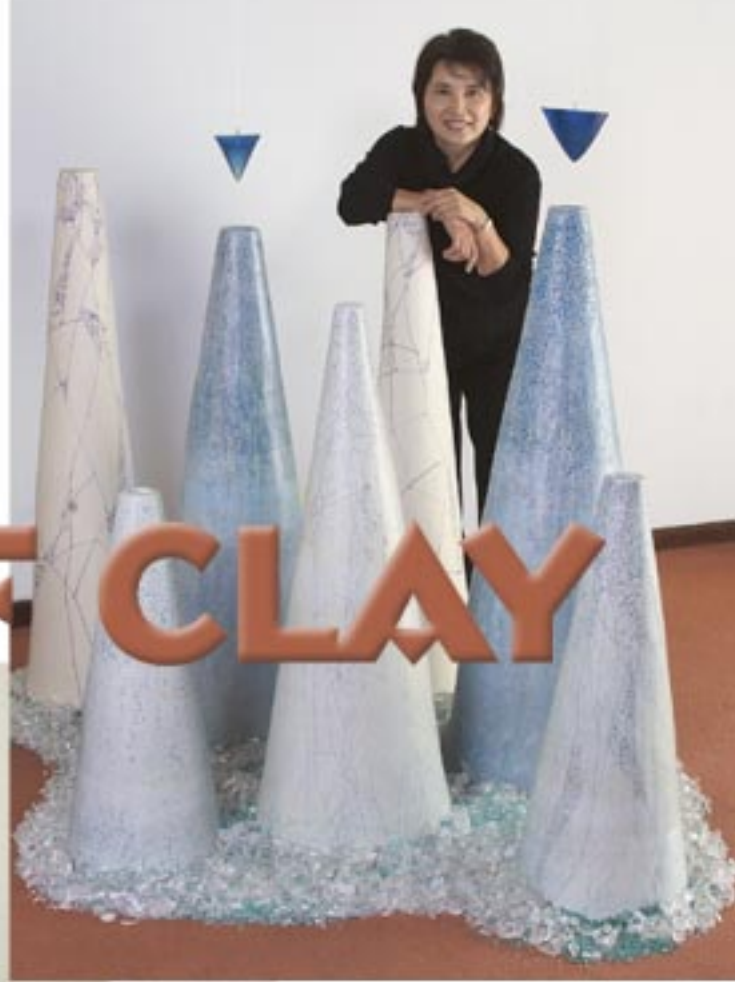
*Miramar College and the entire nation will celebrate the importance of technicians this May as May 24 will officially be proclaimed Charles E. Taylor AMT (Aviation Maintenance Technician) Day. Taylor built and maintained the engine for the Wright brothers' historic flight, 100 years ago.*

*On Friday, May 23, to celebrate the centennial of powered flight, Miramar College will host a special Evening with the Experts, “Unsung Heroes,” featuring Brigadier General Bob Cardenas, USAF (retired), noted test pilot and combat leader. Evening festivities will also include a catered reception, reunion*

*and recognition of Miramar College aviation program professors, emeriti and graduates from the past 10 years; honors for the area’s oldest practicing mechanic; official proclamations by the State of California, City of San Diego and SDCCD, recognizing Charles E. Taylor AMT Day; and involvement from various aviation industry organizations, including the Tuskegee Airmen.*

YC Kim's art has evolved from the cultural and aesthetic conflicts of her Asian-American experience.

# FEAT OF CLAY



*ARTIST ON ICE. This installation sculpture, "Glacier," is an abstract impression of a vast glacier. Made of stoneware clay, glass, cast resin and blue light, it was too large to transport to the Smithsonian.*



*STONE COLD DESIGN. Reflections of morning dew on an icefield were the inspiration for "Daybreak in the Icefield," a high-fired stoneware clay sculpture.*

A CENTURY AGO her native countrymen began coming to America — as she did three decades ago — and now Yoonchung Kim's art will travel to the most American of locations, the Smithsonian Institution in our nation's capital, Washington, DC.

Kim, who goes by the nickname "YC," is a professor of art at City College. The ceramist is one of only 17 Korean-born artists nationwide chosen to show work in the Smithsonian Institution's exhibit "Dreams & Reality: Korean-American Art Exhibition to Celebrate 100 Years of Korean Immigration to the U.S." The exhibit runs Aug. 18-Sept. 21.

The exhibit will allow Kim not only to showcase her most recent work to a varied audience, but also through that work to express the hopes, dreams and aspirations she has gathered since arriving in Northern California from Seoul during the late '60s.

"I came to UC Berkeley (where she studied with clay revolutionary Peter Voulkos) on a University Fellowship, after my graduate study in ceramics at Seoul National University," Kim writes in her artist statement for the exhibition. "Even though I was thirsty for a new approach, I was unprepared to embrace funky ceramic sculptures of the West Coast in the late 1960s. According to what

I learned in Korea, they represent everything that good art should not be. I was torn between contradicting cultures and aesthetics."

Kim says she experienced months of agonizing soul searching, and in the end relied on her own judgment. If she had landed on the East Coast following her immigration, she admits she might not have experienced the conflict that often gives rise to the best art.

"Most importantly, it taught me to not fear being lost, or different," she said. "I was making my pieces against the backdrop of social unrest and the Vietnam War. I had grown up during the Korean War. I lost my father to the North

Koreans, and since the 1950s I have not known if he is alive or dead. So the notions of war were in my mind even as I was working on more traditional art in Korea.”

Her artistic career has long melded dreams and reality, Kim says.

“I enjoy infiltrating those two aesthetics into my work,” she said. “When I was younger the work came across as more rebellious, but lately I’ve been able to balance that notion with my Korean training.”

The Smithsonian exhibit will offer work from two of Kim’s most recent series, “Homage to Blue and White” and “Ice and Water.” The former is inspired by an awe-filled trip to Alaska’s glaciers, along with thoughts on mortality, the two ideas melding as do so many of Kim’s crossreferenced themes.

“In 1996, I had breast cancer, and that made me think more about my own life than I had before,” Kim said. “Our life span is so short, and I began to address this, becoming more in tune with the Buddhist philosophy of going back to nature.”

Kim wrote of this life-nature blend in a statement accompanying her one-person, “Homage to Blue and White” exhibit at Galeriasia in Hong Kong: “Nature dwarfs human scale. My existence and art-making seem temporal and humble compared to the eternal enormity of the Alaskan glaciers, the California desert or the vast Pacific Ocean. I try to show time as a visual element and scale beyond human perception.”

From there, the work took on other forms.

A trip to Alaska two years ago exposed her to the blue hues of ancient sea ice, where air is squeezed out by the weight of succeeding decades, even centuries, of snow and ice, until only the blue spectrum of light is reflected. Blue ice is old and strong.

“I started working from the images of the blue and white glaciers,” Kim said. “This series also became homage to the blue and white Korean ceramics of the 18th century. Geometric forms are juxtaposed here against an impression of

magnificent glacier, ocean or mountains. I try to create harmony between contrasting elements: nature vs. human, mortal vs. immortal, object vs. primal element.”

These insights are passed to Kim’s students at City College.

“I enjoy teaching, because to me it’s what the making of art is all about,” she said. “Teaching is immediate gratification, and I use it to rediscover who I am as an artist.”

In her teaching, Kim says she attempts to go beyond talking only about the technique of the art, but also encourages her students to incorporate their own life experiences into the work.

“Students are often surprised by how much this helps,” she said. “Art is different than dancing. You require technique in art, but so much depends on what you bring to the art from your own life. I like to think I have a knack for bringing talent out of students, especially those who have experienced difficult times. While students can make interesting pieces, they can also solve their crises.”



*BLUE ICE. “Melting” is stoneware clay with melted glass representing a deep valley of ice and water.*

Technology also figures into heartfelt art. “We use computer programming to fire up our kiln,” Kim said. “We use computer imagery, printing techniques. I don’t believe artists should worry about technology becoming intrusive. Art must be personal, but we can look at technology as a tool.”

Kim was a committee member who helped organize the World Ceramics Exposition 2001 in Korea. She received her bachelor of fine arts degree at Seoul National University, followed by her master of arts degree at UC Berkeley. She has also served as artistic director for the Combined Organization of Visual Arts in San Diego, and networks frequently with the local artistic community.

This spring, Kim’s work was enjoyed by visitors to Mesa College’s art gallery where it was part of citywide exhibits during a national convention of ceramics educators. She was recently one of five featured artists at the San Diego City College Saville Theater Lobby in the exhibit “Contemporary Ceramics: Conceptual Approach.” Kim’s work is in permanent collections at the Pacific Asian Museum in Pasadena, the Tennessee State Museum, and three museums in Korea: Hoam Art Museum, the Seoul Metropolitan Museum, and Seoul National University Museum.

Her artistic appetite remains unabated. “Throughout my career, my work has evolved into many different aspects of art-making, but what has remained consistent is that I thrive on the challenge of my previous work,” Kim says. “I experiment with one piece after another, instead of making a masterpiece. My entire artistic career is one continuously challenging experiment.”

From  
Manufacturing to  
Medical to the  
Mundane



the energy of ammunition impact. And the Space Shuttle's exterior tiles, that are at once brittle and yet strong enough to shield the craft and its occupants from intense heat, are also ceramic.

So are battery-operated smoke detectors, air bag triggers, transistors and even the alarm beeper on your wrist watch or pager. "Solid state" circuits have no moving parts. Rather, they employ piezoelectricity, which is a property of certain crystalline

start the fan blades to spin — and since the ceramic is nonmetallic, there's nothing to rust or squeak.

The piezo reaction is so predictable and so constant that you can literally set your watch by it. In fact, a quartz-movement watch runs on the piezoelectric vibration of a piece of natural quartz.

The automobile's catalytic converter is ceramic and uses piezoelectricity to "grab" carbon monoxide from the engine and thereby reduce pollution released into the atmosphere.

Ceramics are nonorganic, nonmetallic and nonreactive, so they are ideal for medical uses because the body doesn't reject them. Artificial hip joints are ceramic as are



*A toilet and artificial hip joint are two examples of industrial ceramics that were on display in the Mesa College Learning Resource Center in March.*

THE SAME MATERIAL that is used to make toilets also protects the Space Shuttle and gives Grandma a new hip. In one incarnation or another, ceramics are all around us.

We all recognize a ceramic bathroom fixture, but some forms are less obvious. Kevlar, which is used in bulletproof vests for the military and law enforcement, is made by superheating a ceramic precursor, running it through sieves to make threads, then weaving the threads into a fabric of sorts. Ceramic tiles on tanks are structurally porous to disperse

materials, either natural as in quartz or in certain manufactured ceramics. In some cases the crystalline molecular structure will produce electricity when under pressure; in other cases, when electricity is applied, the material will undergo dimensional changes which produce motion. The latter reaction happens, for example, in a piezoelectric fan when the opposing shrinking and expanding of infinitesimally thin ceramic materials

certain discs implanted to stabilize fractures and serve as a framework for bone regrowth. Even those pretty porcelain caps on your teeth are ceramic.

**LASSIE COME HOME.** Brian Gillis used a clay collie as the subject of his study in hot pink that was exhibited in the Mesa College art gallery as part of the citywide events for the recent convention of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA).

Gillis is completing his first full year as a ceramics professor at Mesa College and says he continues to be amazed by the students' potential.

"They bring energy and creativity with them every day," he said. "Many are looking to use some of what they learn here in their careers, and so imagination is important for them, but even those who are here without a related vocation in mind offer great ingenuity in this discipline."

Gillis, who has his master's in fine arts from New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University, also says he enjoys bringing recognition to the "unsung, everyday stuff" in life, which led him to curate an exhibit of industrial ceramics in the Mesa Learning Resource Center during the NCECA convention in San Diego.

"While there aren't that many job opportunities for ceramic artists, there are opportunities for ceramic engineers," Gillis said. "These are people who problem-solve with inorganic compounds. They deal on the molecular level. It's a strong blend of science and engineering."



When your kids complain that dinner looks like a science experiment, better double check. If you're a student in Gin Gee's online biology class, it just might be.

The Miramar College professor's new, completely online lab is getting quite a lot of attention as the first of the kind in the district and in Southern California.

The course, developed by Gee using a California Virtual Campus grant, is intended for nonscience majors to meet degree requirements to earn a fully online transfer studies degree.

"The development of the online Principles of Biology laboratory course proved to be much more challenging and time-consuming than the online lecture course," Gee said.

In order to simulate the home laboratory conditions of his online students, Gee initially developed many of the course experiments in the kitchen of his home. However, use of the kitchen as a laboratory created several problems, such as the potential to mix up laboratory appliances with eating utensils, and contaminate cooking materials with laboratory materials. In addition, pouring chemicals such as iodine, alcohol and hydrogen peroxide into

# Armchair Scientists



*HOW WILL I EVER GET THESE STAINS OUT?  
Online biology student works on a lab project in her garage.*

the kitchen sink undiluted is harmful to the environment.

Soon, Gee moved his home lab to the bathroom, which turned out to be a much better situation. Materials for experiments could be isolated from cooking materials; the bathroom has a ventilation fan, which is helpful when working with chemicals such as

ammonia, iodine and acetone; and low concentration solutions of iodine and alcohol can be flushed in the toilet without causing hazardous contamination. A garage with a sink is also a workable home laboratory in Southern California because of the warm weather all year round, but may not be practical in other parts of the country.

"The simplicity of materials employed in the experiments makes this hands-on and project-based course innovative and accessible," Gee said. "And yet rigor is maintained in course content."

Taking the online concept even further, the virtual teaching assistant also operates at a distance. He is Shaheen Lakhan, a Harvard University science student who volunteered to help this spring from his Cambridge, Mass., campus.

Based on the experience of the instructors teaching the online biology lab and the performance of the students and their evaluations, it is evident that this online lab course is successful and academically feasible, Gee reports.

"This course brings the challenge and joy of scientific discovery to the home environment for distance education students," Gee said.

## PATRIOT BASKETS

*This spring staff and students at West City Center conducted a donation drive to fill "patriot baskets" for the families of their students who had a servicemember deployed or soon to be deployed in the Iraq war. The drive culminated in a special event*

*on April 30, complete with music and refreshments where 25 military-dependent children, ages 10 months to 14 years, received their gift baskets. The baskets held age-appropriate toys for the kids plus food coupons and other items for the family from area businesses including McDonalds, Chuck E. Cheese, Big Lots, Krispy Kreme, Target, Mervyn's, WalMart, the San Diego Padres and many others.*

*West City staff came up with this project to show their appreciation for the sacrifices service personnel and their families are making during the Iraq conflict. Spearheading the homefront drive were counselor Lola Gaona, clerical assistant Esther Anthony-Thomas, and senior office manager Charlene Shurtleff. The Associated Students organization pitched in to survey the students to identify military families.*

*Lynns Mayfield and Holly Leahy helped with planning and creating the posters. Deans Bill Grimes and Sy Lyon were on hand to express gratitude to and show support for our military families, and to help distribute the baskets.*

## Online Orientation

Bob Garber, Miramar College vice president for student services, and counselors Rick Cassar and Kirk Webley have created an innovative computer-based orientation program for students to use along with their online placement tests. At the end of the orientation, there is a brief student questionnaire that is sent back to counseling to verify completion of the orientation. The Miramar College online student orientation is a district first. Check it out at [www.miramar.sdccd.net/depts/orientation](http://www.miramar.sdccd.net/depts/orientation).

*Larry Weiss  
coaches Mesa  
College's debate  
team to lob the  
winning shot.*



**VARSITY PLAYERS.** Larry Weiss prepped team members before they traveled to an “away game,” the national two-year college debate tournament in Portland, Ore., where the team won gold and bronze awards.

# Verbal Volleys

TWENTY YEARS is a long time to go without a good, healthy argument.

That’s how long Mesa College went without a debate team, though, before they hired Larry Weiss to organize and coach a squad that now competes regularly against some of the top debate teams in the region, including those from major four-year universities.

Weiss was the man for the job. After all, this is a fellow who grew up as one of 12 — count ’em, 12 — children in a large, happy, boisterous Wisconsin home.

“Growing up in that large of a household, there’s something to be said about understanding the value of communication,” Weiss said, laughing. “When you are one of 12, you get to know about the value of organization and making a case for yourself. You develop leadership skills, otherwise you become one of the many followers.”

Weiss engaged in debate competition growing up in Wisconsin, before earning his bachelor’s degree in speech from the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater. That degree was followed by a

## DEFINITION

***Argument is that process of communication in which logic is used to influence others.***

master's degree in communications arts and a Ph.D. in educational administration from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. For more than 20 years Weiss served as a teacher of speech, communications and theater at the elementary, high school and college levels, and also has 10 years of experience as a school administrator.

New challenges beckoned when Weiss moved to San Diego, first to teach part-time at the University of San Diego, then when he made the move to Mesa College in 2001.

"I had visited San Diego for an event, and it immediately became my favorite warm-weather city," Weiss said.

Past teams coached by Weiss regularly landed in the Top 10-ranked college debate programs, and he has also coached a few individual national champions. His many years honing his own skills as a communicator no doubt helped. Weiss, frequently hired as a public speaker himself, wrote the instructor's manual for the first edition of *The Art of Public Speaking*, one of the most popular speaking-related books in the country.

Weiss was raised in a part of the country where high school pride was plentiful and local folks truly cared what happened with the local speech team.

"Speech events were huge economics and other social factors, just as there are now," Weiss said.

The work ethic also remains intense,

and students are asked to give all.

"We work the entire year," Weiss said. "We had a big tournament in January in Point Loma, and now we're gearing up for the nationals, heading to Portland in mid-April."

The decision by Mesa College administrators to renew the debate team after so many years was worthy, Weiss says. Such teams are a recipe for self-esteem as they push students not only to explore oratory skills, but also gain added confidence.

"It's always exciting to see if what we teach in the classroom can be practiced at a more in-depth level," he said. "It's also exciting as a community college to take on Berkeley and UCLA and other top schools. We jumped through the curriculum hoops, developed a budget for the first time and began a foundation to benefit the program. Everything is in place now, and we've really started recruiting."

One of the biggest challenges a community college team faces, Weiss says, is the limited time a student team member is enrolled.

"At four-year universities, the juniors and seniors can help coach the younger members," Weiss said. "Now, we have the students in class for a semester, then they hit the pavement running. But we are very pleased, because the students have made commitments to the program, knowing it can help them in future goals, everything

## J O B S U C C E S S

### Why study speech?

*Why get involved in debate?*

*Here are examples of jobs*

*in which persuasive*

*communications skills are*

*keys to success:*

*Lawyer*

*Salesperson*

*Teacher*

*Manager*

*Politician*

*Activist*

*Labor negotiator*

*Commentator*

*Fundraiser*

*Advertising/PR executive*

*Lobbyist*

from politics to law to education."

Weiss credits adjunct professors Marybeth Brown and Rhonda Trust as outstanding volunteers who have helped coach team members, as well as assistant Mary Ross and department chair Terry Kohlenberg, who Weiss says has shown great vision.

"We're off to wonderful start, and we want to have continued success," Weiss said.

And now that Weiss is firmly planted in his favorite warm-weather city, will he stay for awhile?

"Teaching the arts of speech and debate, and the thrill of creating a winning team — that's what it's about for me, and that's what I have here," he said. "I never grow tired of the joys involved in communication."

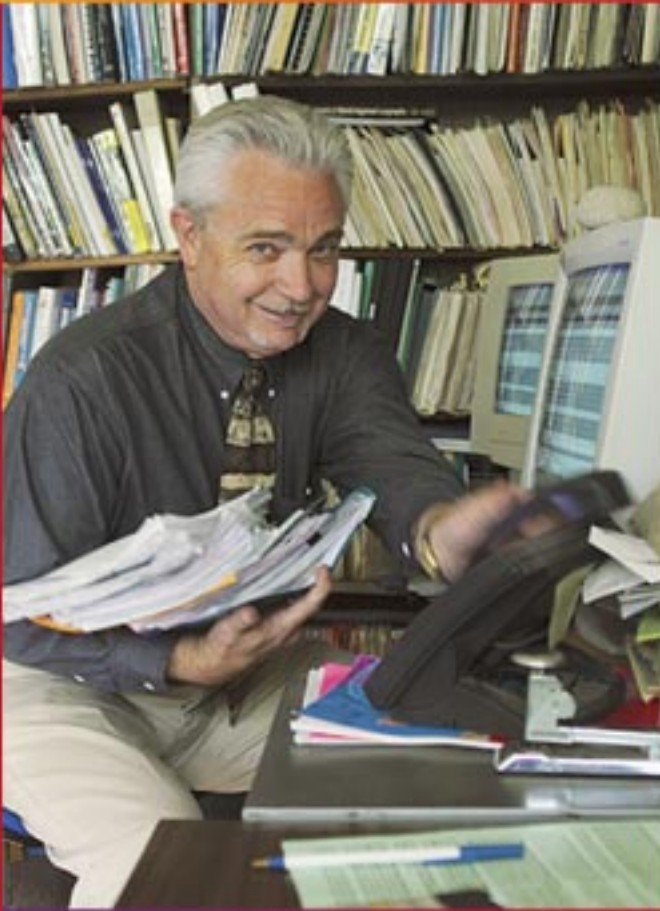
## REASONING

***So, you like a good argument.***

*Even if you consider lively discussions about political, social and cultural issues as verbal tennis, there's no reason to play out of bounds.*

*Instead, try reasoning.*

*"Solid arguments build a debate," says Larry Weiss, speech team coach at Mesa College. "We all ought to be gathering reasons for what we say. There are an awful lot of people who speak, but don't have evidence. Even in an argument across the dinner table, we need evidence to back up what we say."*



*THE JUGGLER. Being involved in so many activities — teaching, department chair, Honors Program, Bio-Link and more — is quite a juggling act for Herald Kane, but he says he's committed to all the projects and wouldn't have it any other way.*

*Part analytical scientist, part creative artist, Herald Kane played violin in the UCLA symphony while there working on his doctorate in chemistry.*

“I was accepted at UCLA in the fall of 1964,” Kane said. “Los Angeles was an absolute awakening. It was a paradise of opportunity and variety. I loved the academic environment and how bright, motivated and witty the people were. I played violin in the UCLA symphony, was active in athletics and also learned how to scuba dive. I really started to love California. I was immersed in a new culture that was immensely exciting, also unnerving.”

In 1970, he was sought by a recruiter from City College to teach. “When they offered me the position, I assumed it would be for a year, and then I would go back to UCLA, finish my doctorate, then return home to Canada to work,” Kane said.

It didn’t happen that way. Kane did return to UCLA to finish his degree, then went back to City College and stayed.

“I had long been engaged by chemistry, but I realized during this period that I loved teaching even more than I loved the discipline,” Kane said. “That fact only confirmed itself over the years. I would teach any subject. It was a major choice for me to stay in the U.S., because I love Canada.”

With the job came changes.

“The rigorous academic thinking and

IN THE COAL MINING town of Hillcrest, Alberta, Canada, residents enjoyed a sizable advantage over their urban counterparts: Relationships and trust were built into the lifestyle.

Herald Kane, a City College chemistry professor, faculty leader and tireless advocate for students for more than 30 years, grew up in that small town, and developed values built to last.

“It was a blue collar neighborhood, with interesting people from many countries,” Kane said. “I had a truly wonderful childhood. Early on, I assumed a kinship with people, including them in my consideration rather than excluding them. I became a very accepting individual, and assume we are all doing the best we can.”

From the age of six, Kane studied violin. On summer days he played baseball on a local field and, when he wasn’t playing, gazed in the distance and wonder what was past the majestic Rockies. “I always knew there was more to life than immediate, basic experiences. I always felt there was something deeper about life’s purposes,” he said.

Kane’s world expanded when he ventured out of his small hometown to attend the University of Alberta. It was his first foray from home, but not his last.

planning became so pervasive,” Kane said. “My sense of being a Renaissance person, experiencing some of life’s spontaneity, a lot of that left with the demands of the work. It was sort of a reluctant lesson.”

Kane made another huge personal decision, to replace the focus that had been on himself with the channeling of his energies into students.

“I had gone as far as I could go, and now I wanted to commit myself to others,” he said. “I took on the role of championing City College, and I grew to love the institution. I realized this was my family. I saw City College as a place for the transformation of people. I took cues on this from so many outstanding faculty mentors that were at the college when I arrived, and with whom I’ve worked since.”

Kane took two years off in the early ’80s to travel the world with a friend, and again formed new impressions.

“I found that the more difficult places people lived in, the more wonderful those people could be,” he says. “I developed a certain disillusionment about how all the citizens of the world were not on the same page. I had always approached things idealistically, and always believed that in my lifetime, the world would be healed. But I saw cruelty, poverty and misery as much as I saw friendliness, productivity and beauty. The experience was sobering.”

College Tutorial Program during the ’70s. In 1985, Kane and others started the successful, still-flourishing Honors Program, where students engage in in-depth exploration of topics, critical thinking and extensive reading.

“It became my all-consuming interest,” Kane said. “I loved working with people on all three campuses. I was absolutely delighted to see how creative our faculty was. We started to develop specializations and a core curriculum.

“We were all appropriately anxious about how Honors would be seen, and we discovered who honors students really were. Our discovery was that honors students were not found but made. The honors student is just a regular student with the potential of being developed.”

The honors faculty forged transfer incentives with four-year colleges.

“Putting the agreements in place was visionary, because we set up a pathway for students, a great way to get into a four-year institution,” Kane said.

Along came the Transfer Alliance program, where students followed a particular pattern of study and were more easily admitted to highly competitive four-year universities.

“Honors has taken on a life of its own,” Kane said of the program he established with several others, including longtime friend and colleague Candace Waltz. “It brought a measure of belief, and creates

Cross Enrollment Program allows students to take one course a quarter at UCSD or SDSU to acquaint them with the university experience. Meanwhile, education students at UCSD and elsewhere began teaching in area high schools and community colleges. Kane is also co-director of the Bio-Link Southwest Regional Center at City College, managing industry internships for faculty in community college biotechnician education programs.

“A very important aspect of one’s self is self-identification,” Kane said. “It’s a principle about not only seeing who a person is, but helping them see themselves. It’s a central theme that needs to be impressed. I help push things along. When you begin to see obstacles as bridges, then man, the future is yours.”

Kane keeps busy as chair of the physical and earth sciences department, goes to as many graduations of former students as possible, and enjoyed his recent stint in a team-teaching project.

“That helped me find out a lot about myself as a teacher,” Kane said. “I still have the passion to challenge myself, to formulate new thoughts about subjects, I love to think about philosophy and how it relates to science. I can’t stop myself from creating metaphors with music and dance into my own teaching.”

Kane says he will likely retire in a year, then divest himself of his extracurricular

## ***In the ’70s, Kane held “brown bag” seminars to demystify science for students and staff.***

The journey had used up Kane’s savings, but he had a job, and was starting over at age 40.

“I was ready to exert some leadership,” Kane says. “I had been the academic faculty senate president, but became disillusioned because there was so much talking without doing. I wanted to devote myself to student potential. I would try to know the students much better. Rather than prepare the perfect chemistry course, then deliver it to a group of waiting receivers, I wanted to make an investment in the individual.”

Kane helped lead the formation of the

pride that spreads. It’s the best thing I’ve been involved in — extremely satisfying.”

In the early ’90s, Kane was involved in the formation of the district’s auxiliary organization, and recently rotated off its board after 12 years.

“We were able to set in motion some grand projects, such as the training of employees for companies, and contracting to provide educational services for government agencies,” Kane said.

Over the years, Kane has often blended logic and intuition to be at the nucleus of innovative projects. For example, the

activities and teach part-time. He says he hopes to get back to some of his other pursuits, such as travel and music. He will not forget the students or the passion he finds teaching.

“I love working, talking and laughing together with colleagues and students,” Kane said. “If we can continue developing and realizing our potential as we go through life, we are pretty close to living as our purpose was meant to be. I am blessed to have been in this field, and I pinch myself everyday. I am humbled by life, and determined to live life to its fullest.”



## Move Over, Mia Hamm

One Saturday in February 400 girls from the elementary and middle schools around City College converged on the campus for the 13th Annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day. They participated in nine different sports clinics during the day-long event that supports gender equity in school athletics.

"Many of the girls who have attended this event have gone on to pursue athletics in high school and college," said event coordinator Kathy McGinnis, health and exercise professor at the college. "This day empowers these girls to believe in their abilities and to explore sports that they would otherwise not have access to," she said.

Cash and in-kind donations to support the event came from People'sFirst.com, S&S Sports, Domino's Pizza in North Park, and Deb Canning, district gardener/groundskeeper.

Campus volunteers who helped with the project include Dede Bodnar, Ellen Turkel, Paul Greer, Mary Bongard, Simone Vasquez, Cheryl Campbell, Nick Skvarna, Lori Ray and Cassie Macias.

## Let's Clear the Air

*Centre City Skills Center received the National Pollution Prevention Week 2002 Award from the California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control, for its exemplary work and efforts in pollution prevention throughout 2002.*

*Part of the center's clean air effort involved a project with the California Air Resources Board, which received a grant from the federal Environmental Protection Agency to train San Diego automotive refinishers in reduced-emission spray painting methods.*

*Centre City already had the paint spray booth, and the Air Resources Board provided \$10,000 worth of equipment and supplies, which will become district property after the eight Saturday training sessions. Jose Alvarez, professor in the auto body/paint program, traveled to the Iowa Waste Reduction Center to learn the latest low-emission techniques.*

## Have a Heart

Eileen Schwartz, a CET instructor teaching at Miramar College, yet again showed her heartfelt patriotism when she organized a local effort to collect Valentine's cards for MCAS marines who are stationed overseas. Schwarz's "Flags Across America" project documented the national spread of patriotism following the 9/11 tragedy. Her support of "Heart to Hearts" brought in dozens of cards from Miramar students.



## A Way With Words

Richard Lederer, best-selling author and co-host of the popular KPBS radio/television show "A Way with Words," brought a witty language presentation to the Friday night, Miramar College Evening with the Experts series recently. From puns to punctuation, from pronouns to pronunciation, and from phrase origins to phraseology, Lederer's language and humor presentation entertained a standing-room-only crowd.

As a result of the successful "Evening of Language and Laughter," Lederer decided to donate to the college library a collection of new-to-market books from various publishers and authors that he has been asked to review.

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## Caring to the Core

*The Miramar College bone marrow drive, held during the first week of the spring semester, recruited 237 registrants, the highest number in the districtwide effort, according to Lezlie Allen of Miramar College Health Services. Most importantly, the San Diego stem cell and bone marrow recruiter was very appreciative of the high number of ethnic participants at Miramar, primarily Filipino Americans and other Asian Americans. The recent community college drive is responsible for 25 percent of all registrants in the county. The drive also yielded 21 pints of blood donated to the San Diego Blood Bank.*

■ Mesa College interior design professors **Holly Hodnick** and **Mimi Moore** were able to promote community colleges when they co-chaired the Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) International Conference in San Diego, March 25-30. The organization is dominated by interior design educators from four-year colleges and universities throughout the U.S., Canada and several other countries. The conference featuring keynote speakers, tours, and paper presentations, took a full year to plan, according to Moore.

■ Miramar College's automotive technology professor **Ray Quon** was featured in a Channel 8 "Car Maintenance Overkill" news special segment with Michael Tuck on Feb. 20.

■ **Jackie Clark**, senior secretary in the Office of Student Affairs, is Miramar College's team captain for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. The event begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 17 and ends 24 hours later. Clark and her committee are busy recruiting walkers to span the 24-hour relay in increments of 30 to 60 minutes. Her co-captain is **Michelle Pasag**, and other committee members are college president **Pat Keir**, **Kevin Alston**, **Loretta Rinderle**, **Ruthy Ofina**, **Lezlie Allen**, **Carol Murphy** and **CherryMae Lapis**. Besides donations, Clark hopes to raise awareness of the importance of regular check-ups for early detection.

■ **Madeleine J. Hinkes**, forensic anthropologist for San Diego and Imperial counties and Mesa College professor, was interviewed by the television program "America's Most Wanted" about a February 2000 case she worked on for the local medical examiner. In April, she presented "Ladies and Gentlemen, Children of All Ages: Skeletal Indications of Age and Sex" at the San Diego Museum of Man's 15th Seminar in the Forensic Sciences.

■ **Charlene Schade**, associate professor at West City Center, was a featured presenter at the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Combined Conventions for Northwest District, Southwest District and the state of Nevada in February 2003. Schade also presented at the Southwest Dance, Movement and Acrosports Workshop in April, and in May for the Professional Dance Network Convention in Palm Springs. In June, she will be among the featured authors in the 29th Meet the Author Program for the San Diego County Office of Education.

■ **Paula Sassi**, long-time ESL instructor at North City Center, was selected as the best handwriting analyst in the annual Reader's Best issue of The Reader, San Diego's Weekly. Sassi went from an interest in handwriting analysis to a psychology degree and certification, and now heads the American Handwriting Analysis Foundation.

■ Mesa College psychology professor **Jaye Van Kirk** has been invited to join a select group of 35 psychology professionals from around the world at the Oxford Round Table in England. They will serve as a think-tank for educational policies for the United States and the United Kingdom, with an emphasis on women's rights and gender discrimination. Round Table members will convene Aug. 10-15 at St. Anthony's College, Oxford University. En route to Oxford, Van Kirk will present a workshop on leadership at the annual American Psychological Association convention, Aug. 5-10, in Toronto.

■ **Myles Clowers**, City College history and political science professor, is chairing one of the short courses, "Teaching about British Politics: Substantive Issues," at the 100th Annual American Political Science Association (APSA) Convention this August in Philadelphia. With more than 13,500 members in 70 countries worldwide, the APSA is the world's largest

professional organization for the study of politics.

■ **Zak Ruvalcaba**, an instructor at Mesa Online and CET, recently finished writing a 1,100-page computer manual, *Dreamweaver MX Unleashed*, released by Sams Publishing.

■ An aspiring art teacher, **Cathy Springs** currently spends her days as a student services assistant in Mesa College's Financial Aid Office, and after hours she's co-chairman of the San Diego Chapter of the California Art Club. Founded in 1909, the club was a powerful force in the development of early California art. Springs drew from her recently completed master's thesis on early California painter Maurice Braun when she wrote the cover story, "Maurice Braun and Alfred Mitchell: A Mentor and his Student," for the club's December 2002 newsletter. She is also curator of "Ode to San Diego and the Eucalyptus," a show of paintings by eight California artists (including herself) that highlight the beauty of San Diego's eucalyptus, which are falling prey to insects. The show runs through June 2 at the California Art Club's Old Mill Gallery in San Marino near the Huntington Library.

■ In December, **Chips Richards'** Mesa College landscape construction class donated more than 1,200 pounds of non-perishable food to the Salvation Army.

■ CET career counselors **Carrie Perez** and **Paul Hedley** presented "Developing the Independent Personalized Internship, An Emerging Tool for Thriving in the Changing World of Work" at the International Career Development Conference last fall.

■ **Kevin Cox**, Mesa College journalism professor and contributing writer for San Diego Magazine, won a national award from the City and Regional Magazine Association for "To Catch a Killer," his controversial article about the Danielle

## faculty & staff newsmakers

van Dam murder case published in the magazine's October 2002 edition. Last October, the San Diego Press Club honored him with two first-place awards for magazine writing — for “The Case of the Forensic Femme Fatale” about Kristin Rossum, the local toxicologist convicted of poisoning her husband, and “A Case of Foul Play” about Rick Post, a missing private investigator.

■ **Rafael Alvarez**, City College MESA (Math, Engineering, Science Achievement) program director, brought back to City College the MESA Calculator Olympics (10th annual) and the Robotics Challenge (2nd annual) on Saturday, April 26. Hewlett-Packard and Sony co-sponsored this event where students competed against MESA students from Southwestern and Cuyamaca colleges, SDSU, UCSD and local high schools in solving technical problems in math, chemistry, physics and engineering. Math professor **Misael Camarena** volunteered to coach City's teams.

■ In March, City College MESA program director **Rafael Alvarez** and dean **Armando Abiña**, hosted a one-day institute focused on the effective use of technology in education. Utilizing the MESA Hewlett-Packard wireless mobile classroom, almost 60 people from k-12 schools throughout the U.S. participated in this institute conducted by the International Society for Technology in Education and hosted by Hewlett-Packard.

■ **Ram Gurumurthy**, City College chemistry professor, hosted Nigel R. A. Beeley, vice president and chief chemical officer of Arena Pharmaceuticals as a guest lecturer at City on “The Role of Chemistry in Arena Pharmaceuticals” on March 17.

■ Mesa College philosophy professor **Nina Rosenstand** is active in a number of professional venues. She is on the American Philosophical Association's

committee for teaching philosophy in two-year colleges. Her paper, “What Does it Mean to Be Human?” was published in the British journal *Dialogue* in April. The fourth edition of her ethics textbook, *The Moral of the Story*, will be published this year by McGraw-Hill. And if that weren't enough, she's also a regular guest on Danish Public Radio, commenting on current events.

■ Assemblymember Shirley Horton presented **Eileen Schwartz**, ESL instructor for CET, with the California State Assembly Certificate of Recognition for founding *Flags Across the Nation*, which started as a post-9/11 exhibit of flag photographs, and has since become a national road show of patriotic exhibits and school projects.

■ City College English professors **Jim Miller** and **Kelly Mayhew** are collaborating with Mike Davis, a Southern California writer and UC Irvine history professor, on *Under the Perfect Sun: The San Diego Tourists Never See*, a book scheduled for publication this fall by The New Press.

■ **Andrea Marx**, Mesa College fashion design professor, was honored with the Education Style Award from the Fashion Group International of San Diego, Inc. in February. Marx has directed the college's fashion program for the past seven years and has been directing its design courses for more than two decades.

■ In March, **Diane Glow**, articulation officer at Miramar College, co-chaired the statewide annual meeting of the California Intersegmental Articulation Council (CIAC) which includes all the two- and four-year articulation officers in California. She was co-planner of this first-ever San Diego meeting of CIAC and led breakout sessions on “The Role of the Articulation Officer in the Curriculum Process” and “How to Write Effective Resolutions.” Glow was also elected vice chairman of the southern group, the Southern California Intersegmental

Articulation Council, for the 2003-2004 academic year

■ **Angela Liewen**, a computer science support staff supervisor at Mesa College, has earned her bachelor's degree in business administration from San Diego State University. She is a 2000 graduate of Mesa College.

■ **Rob Fender**, Mesa College architecture professor, is staying very busy writing about computer technology in architecture. His first book, *AutoCAD Architect* published by Prentice Hall, is used in his Architecture 105 class. His next book and companion website are scheduled to be ready for this fall's Architecture 106 students. Now, he is starting a third book on Revit, the newest 3D modeling program for architectural applications from the developer of AutoCAD, which he hopes to have ready this fall.

■ Mesa College's **Ann Heck** received the California Community College Athletic Directors Association's Athletic Director of the Year Award at the CCC Commission on Athletics convention in Reno in March.

■ **Karen Schneiter**, Mesa College computer business technology professor, is a contributing author of the 2003 edition of *Your Career: How to Make It Happen*, a textbook used in professional development classes taught in the community colleges, private career colleges, and adult education programs. Schneiter revised seven of the 20 chapters.

■ This is the third year that **Robyn Taylor** will be co-creating a summer day camp for girls, Sacred Traditions, June 16-27 at the YMCA Surf Camp in Imperial Beach. Girls, ages 7-13, are taught about earth-based spiritualities from around the world. Participants create gourd drums, clay rattles, dreamcatchers, spirit dolls, talking sticks and many other spiritually centered crafts. Visit [www.sacredtraditions.org](http://www.sacredtraditions.org) for more

information. When not at camp, Taylor is an administrative technician in the district ABSO office.

■ **CET business information technology instructors Karen Owen, Dea Brite and Nancy Seamster** presented “An Introduction to Microsoft’s MCSE Certification” in one of the hands-on lab training sessions at the 18th League for Innovation in the Community College 2002 Conference on Information Technology. This conference is a showcase for state-of-the-art information technology applications and new delivery skills and techniques that enhance teaching and learning. Owen also co-presented with City College on “Articulation and Collaboration Between Adult Education and Community College IT Programs.”

■ **Georges Merx**, Mesa College computer information science professor, presented his doctoral dissertation, “A Critical Modeling Methodology for Parent-School Interaction at the High School Level,” at the Hawaii International Conference on Education, which was held in January in Honolulu. Merx receives his Ph.D. in education this month in a joint program of San Diego State and Claremont Graduate universities.

■ **Jane Newcomb**, a teacher in the interactive media certificate program at the Centers for Education and Technology, received an award from the California Community Colleges’ Economic and Workforce Development Network (ED>Net). ED>Net sponsors an annual competition for community college students, and Newcomb was honored for nurturing one of the award-winning students.

■ **Doug Elliot**, workforce development counselor at the Career Center, has been appointed to the board of directors of EUREKA, a career planning tool used throughout California public education.

■ **Liane De Meo**, administrative analyst in Student Services, will receive her bachelor’s degree in public administration from San Diego State University this month.

■ **Rita Sanchez**, Mesa College Chicano studies professor, published a research article, “Embracing Our Indian Ancestry: Two Antonio Gurules — One French and One Indian,” in the January 2003 New Mexico Genealogical Society Journal. She also presented excerpts from a research paper, “The Five Sanchez Brothers in World War II: About Civil Rights and World Peace,” at the National Association of Chicano Studies Conference held in Los Angeles in April. The paper is the story of soldier brothers who collectively won more than 25 medals. The article will appear in *Latinos in World War II*, scheduled to be published later this year by the University of New Mexico Press, which chronicles the important contributions made by Mexican Americans, as evidenced by their receiving more Congressional Medals of Honor than any other ethnic group.

■ Three City College classified employees have earned their master’s degrees in educational technology through National University this semester: **Lori Oldham**, instructional program placement specialist; **Majeda Nasrawi**, instructional program supervisor; and **Deanna Louis-Balintec**, instructional assistant.

■ **Kelvin Branom**, a college service officer with the College Police, received a commendation from Chief Dave Worden for heroic efforts to rescue the occupant of a burning home on Dec. 27, 2002. Branom radioed for paramedics then worked with passers-by to pry off the window security bars. “With disregard to your own safety, you assisted in grabbing the trapped elderly gentleman and pulling him out of the burning house,” the award says.

■ Besides working at Mesa College as a computer technician, **Mark Stone** is an artist specializing in whimsical metal-welded sculptures using found (recycled) metal parts. Stone was among a small group of artists invited by the City of San Diego to participate in its third annual “Dare to Reuse” exhibition, March 18-April 11 at the City Administration Building downtown.

■ **Vuong Nguyen**, instructional lab technician at Miramar College and research technician at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, spent Feb. 15-March 11 at the Mars Desert Research Station (MDRS) as part of an international group of Mars Society volunteer scientists, engineers and support crew who lived in a domed habitat in the Mars-like desert of southern Utah. In this analog environment, Nguyen collected and analyzed soil samples as an example of the kind of work explorers to Mars may one day perform in their search for signs of life and to understand more about the elements of the planet.

■ **Charles Kovach**, City College English professor, served as volunteer referee at the Special Olympics Southern California Floor Hockey Championship January 18-19, 2003, at the San Diego Convention Center.

■ **Katie Rodda**, drama professor at City and Mesa colleges, is directing “Bobby Gould in Hell” at the Lyceum Theatre in Horton Plaza. The play runs through May 10.

■ **Elizabeth Hamilton**, Mesa music professor, announces that the CD “Instruments of Peace II” celebrating Rosa Parks’ 90th birthday has been released. The meditation music features the soothing tones of the harpsichord, Apache flute and bass. CDs are available in the Mesa music office, C109, for a minimum donation of \$7. Call 619-388-2811 or 388-2218 for more information.

**IT WAS A SCENE** out of the '60s, but this time students in bell bottoms marched shoulder to shoulder with college faculty and administrators in Dockers and business suits. Ten thousand strong they marched on the state Capitol March 17 to protest Gov. Gray Davis' proposals to disproportionately cut community college funding and raise fees.

"Most political demonstrations at the state Capitol are either contrived or irrelevant — but Monday's massive outpouring of community college students to protest state budget cutbacks was neither," wrote Sacramento Bee political columnist Dan Walters.

Dozens of district students and administrators flew to Sacramento to join the march. Those who couldn't make the trip north massed at City College to march to the governor's local office, where Chancellor Augie Gallego, board president Marty Block and AFT president Jim Mahler went inside to speak personally to the governor's staff. Similar "satellite" demonstrations took place elsewhere in the state, and more are planned.

"The budgets of California's community colleges have been shafted for so long that one might expect the colleges to submit meekly to the latest proposed cuts. But they should not," said the March 21 editorial, "Governor short-changes community colleges" in the San Diego Union Tribune.

Since early 2002, when the governor started his dissection of community college funding, local districts began to complain loudly and publicly — a kind of dissent virtually unheard of from the

# Taking to the Streets



**CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?** Protesters, angry at Gov. Davis for decimating community college budgets statewide, march from City College down Park Boulevard, waving their handmade signs.

community colleges despite years of fiscal neglect when the more prestigious and politically connected universities have enjoyed the lion's share of budget rewards.

Editorial writers up and down the state have come out solidly in support of the colleges.

"It's shameful enough that community colleges have routinely been shortchanged by the Legislature... [but] most also get clipped by an unfair funding formula," said the Union Tribune editorial of Jan. 23, 2003. "Community colleges understand the need for belt-tightening during tough

economic times. And they are willing to bear their fair share of the budget cuts. But what Davis is asking them to accept is mutilation."

Some legislators have heard the message. "Your fight is my fight," shouted Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, himself a product of community colleges, to the demonstrators at the Capitol.

But will that be enough? Visit [www.keepthedoorsopen.org](http://www.keepthedoorsopen.org) to follow what's happening in Sacramento. There is also a place for you to send your comments to your legislators.

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