



San Diego Community College District

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September 2012

City College  
Mesa College  
Miramar College  
Continuing  
Education

# GOVERNOR BROWN VISITS CITY COLLEGE

For students rushing to class on the opening day of the fall semester in the San Diego Community College District, the morning did not begin like any other first day of class.

California's Governor, Jerry Brown, arrived at San Diego City College for an 11:00 a.m. press conference to talk to students, faculty members, and administrators to emphasize the importance of Proposition 30, his ballot initiative to stabilize and begin rebuilding California's educational infrastructure.

Story on page 3.





# Chancellor's Message



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

## CALIFORNIA'S DEEP FREEZE FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Two realities argue dramatically for increasing support for community colleges. First, the California high school graduating class reached its largest size in history. Second, California unemployment remains in double-digit figures.

Unfortunately, California's response to these compelling needs has not only missed the mark; it has intensified the problems. California high school graduates face increasing difficulty in being accommodated in the freshman classes of California's public universities and community colleges, all of which have sustained deep budget cuts and have been required to downsize enrollment in recent years. Many programs designed for workforce training have also been reduced, and new program prospects struggle in search of funding. President Obama has frequently promoted community colleges as key to the nation's economic recovery, but that message has not penetrated California's budgetary deep freeze.

The San Diego Community College District (which includes City, Mesa, and Miramar Colleges, and Continuing Education) has struggled to continue serving students and the needs of the region, but the challenges of doing so have reached Herculean proportions. Governor Jerry Brown has placed a tax initiative, Proposition 30, on the November ballot to provide additional revenue to support education. Its passage or failure will have significant consequences. Let me share some facts.

Cumulative reductions in state funding for the San Diego Community College District (with a normal operating budget of \$300 million) caused the following reductions in 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, and 2011-12:

- \$34.7 million has been cut.
- The ceiling for Full-Time-Equivalent Students (FTES) has been reduced by 4,147 from 42,854 FTES to 38,707 FTES.
- 2,750 class sections have been eliminated, affecting 40,000 individual students.
- The District continues to provide local funding for over 2,000 FTES (for which no compensation is received from the state).
- 235 faculty, staff, and administrative positions have not been filled after becoming vacant.

If Proposition 30 passes in November, the SDCCD will receive an increase of \$7.3 million, as follows:

- \$5.6 million will be credited to the District in the "deferral buy-down."
- \$1.7 million will be provided to the District for an increase of 365 FTES.
- 150 class sections will be added, serving 4,000 - 5,000 individual students.

If Proposition 30 does not pass in November, \$11.9 million will be cut, bringing the District's cumulative reduction to \$46.6 million. The reduction will be in apportionment revenue via a Workload (Enrollment) Reduction, as follows:

- FTES will be reduced by another 2,600 FTES, reducing the total FTES to 36,107.
- 700 class sections will be cut, affecting 20,000 individual students.

Our California community colleges and the hopes of our students sail into November facing two possible outcomes: the warmer waters of budget stabilization or a collision with an iceberg of massive budget reduction. We hope the voters will make a wise decision. ♦



Chancellor Constance Carroll (left) and Governor Jerry Brown (far right) with Prop 30 supporters at City College.

# GOV. BROWN AT CITY (CONTINUED)

Exuding energy and enthusiasm, he fielded impromptu questions from students in a Sociology class on a wide range of topics from marriage equality to the cost of education.

After speaking to the class, the Governor wasted no time in going out on the lawn in front of the Educational Technology Center to speak to students and the gaggle of news reporters who had assembled to hear what the Governor had to say.

District Chancellor Constance Carroll introduced the Governor wryly noting that when she first became a community college president, the Governor of California was Jerry Brown, “the same Governor Jerry Brown who is here with us today!”

The Governor, picking up on the experience that longevity has brought him, rebutted critics who say Proposition 30 does not provide new funding for schools. He asserted that he has not pushed the proposition as a school funding measure; rather, it “will prevent more cuts rather than provide new funding.”

Of the \$6 billion raised from Proposition 30, \$1 billion would go toward higher education and \$5 billion would go to K-12 to prevent further cuts. Chancellor Carroll said that, “If Proposition 30 fails, we will lose 700 more classes meaning 20,000 students would be turned away.” The District is already turning away 10,000 San Diegans each semester due the state’s defunding of 2,750 classes during the past four years. If Proposition 30 passes, “We will be able to reinstate 150 classes,” she said.

Jim Mahler, President of American Federation of Teachers Guild Local 1931, noted that the temporary tax increase amounted to “paying one cent more for a hamburger or café latte.”



*Gov. Brown discussing the details of Prop 30.*



Reflecting on the Governor’s discussions on the campus, Board President and hotelier Rich Grosch commented that, “I think the Governor has a deeper understanding of the impacts on the San Diego economy if Californians do not support higher education for a better trained work force.”

Chancellor Carroll summed up the issues facing all Californians concerned for the economic development and quality of life in our state. “This is a time,” she said, “to determine whether California wants to move forward with opportunity or backwards the way we have been going.” ♦



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

# Veterans Service Center - A Place of Their Own

At a flex session for City College faculty last spring, a panel of student veterans shared their experiences transitioning from 'battle to books'. Having a safe haven that would provide a welcoming environment for all veterans on campus emerged as one of the panel's top priorities.

City College responded quickly to this growing student population and established the City College Veterans Service Center (VSC) as a place where student veterans can study, socialize, or simply escape school and life pressures for a while. Attendees also receive peer support, mentoring, and referrals to other services available to military veterans. It's a place to work with tutors, and hear speakers from a variety of community agencies and resources on issues of interest to veterans.

Rudy Zamora is a City College Counselor who works in the VSC, serves on the Veterans Task Force and advises the Veterans for Peace, a student club on campus. Zamora is committed to serving veteran students after losing a close friend and fraternity brother in the war in Iraq. "It is important for us to advocate for those who have risked their lives for us all."

Army veteran and City College student Pemberton Tran also works in the VSC. "Vets come here to relax. The library is crowded and the cafeteria is too noisy. Here is a place they can call home," Tran explained. "We're here to share our experiences. We are able to talk about what we did in the service, vet to vet."

Contributions from City College faculty, the National Resource Directory, and the veteran clubs on campus helped furnish and decorate the Center, which includes flags from branches of the military.

The veterans who participated in the development of the Veterans Service Center and those who have utilized the center's services have expressed great appreciation for the recognition and commitment to welcome them to City College. ♦



Army Veteran Pemberton Tran, Dean Helen Elias and Counselor Rudy Zamora in the Veterans Service Center at San Diego City College.

## 2011-2012 Headcount of Active Military/Veteran Students

**City College** — Campus

**2,142** — Total

Source: SDCCD Information System.



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

# Mesa's Olympic Mettle

"It was, after all, an Olympics year," recalls Keith Carlson of the decision to name the students of San Diego Mesa College the Olympians. In a recent phone call, Carlson, one of Mesa's first student body presidents, remembered casting his vote in the 1964 elections.

Fast-forward nearly 50 years. In the London summer games, Mesa was represented by "throws" coach Jarred Rome and grad Félix Sánchez (1995-1997).

In his second Olympics, Jarred Rome, 35, finished 31st among 41 competitors during discus qualifications. Rome, who had tweeted, "What an honor to represent your country!" did not advance to the finals.

A few hours later and seemingly against all odds, 34-year-old Dominican American Félix Sánchez stormed to a second men's Olympic 400 meter hurdles title. "El súper Sánchez" won his second career gold with the memory of his late grandmother on his mind and in his heart.

As an emotional Sánchez took the podium, grinning from ear-to-ear in San Diego was his mentor, two-time Olympian, Arnie Robinson.

"If anyone could pull it off, Félix could," said Robinson, who taught Sánchez to put training above all else. Robinson, 1969 Mesa graduate, 1976 gold medalist, and beloved track coach, is the college's 2012 Distinguished Alumni — and one of the best long jumpers in track and field history.

Mesa's coaching staff includes a number of world class athletes. Mesa's sprints coach, Monique Henderson, took gold 2004 and 2008 as part of the U.S. 4x400 meter relay squad. Head Track and Field coach is world class athlete Renee Ross. And, of course, Jarred Rome.

"With stellar coaches and outstanding athletes, I know you'll be seeing future Olympics contenders from Mesa College," predicts Athletics Director and Dean Dave Evans.

During the 2011-2012 school year, 10 of Mesa's 20 athletic teams took State Conference titles. Chanel Putrus and Matt Neault were named Conference female and male scholar-athletes of the year, and Cassandra Kennison took the State championship in the shot put.



From Left: Jarred Rome, Cassandra Kennison.

On the election ballot in 1964, students were asked to consider that the name they chose should "Identify Mesa College five, ten, fifty years from now." And, well, "Olympians" does. ♦

*Félix Sánchez's winning time of 47.63 seconds was identical to his win in Athens, Greece.*





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

# Science for All Ages

Science faculty at San Diego Miramar College are exploring avenues to build enthusiasm and training for future scientists and health professionals.

Late last spring, more than 250 attendees enjoyed Science Fun for Kids 9 to 99, an annual Miramar College activity of San Diego Science Month. Faculty provided hands-on demonstrations that included How to Get DNA from Anything, Sensory Perception, Marine Critters, Blast Off with Diet Coke and Slime, Make Like MacGyver, and An Epidemic.

Week-long, S2 summer science enrichment camps provided 70 students in grades 5-8 experiences in chemistry, biology, physics, anatomy, physiology, and biotechnology. Sponsored by the Southern California Biotechnology Center and hosted at the college's state-of-the-art laboratory facilities, S2 camps will return next summer.

According to coordinator Dr. Rebecca Bowers-Gentry, "This first year program has been extremely successful in inspiring elementary and middle school children into learning science."

### Parents sang praises for the camps –

"My daughter absolutely loved the heart dissection and was so impressed by the lab equipment, the surgical gloves and especially the lab coat. Your program is the stuff dreams are made of! Keep up the good work!"  
"Thank you for helping instill a greater love of science in my son."

Utilizing Miramar's science labs for a more mature crowd, 16 acupuncture and massage therapy students and one instructor from Pacific College of Oriental Medicine attended a cadaver-based anatomy workshop led by Dr. Kevin Petti on June 30. Four students from Petti's spring semester Human Dissection class served as teaching assistants. According to Petti, proceeds from the innovative partnership will enhance the anatomy program, and helped replace some of the funding, which has recently been reduced. ♦





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

# SAN DIEGO CONTINUING EDUCATION

## STOP THE HATE WEEK Continuing Education Campuses

A group of 30—including students, faculty, administrators, and staff—attended a three-day intensive training course to help fight bias and hate crimes on Continuing Education campuses. Armed with the new knowledge, the group of 30 trained 100 additional faculty, staff, administrators, and students throughout six CE campuses during the last week of March, which was designated as Stop the Hate Week in CE.

The Stop the Hate training included discussion, activity, and statistics. “We are learning about transitioning into a more active role vs. a bystander role when witnessing bias incidents,” said Bob Parker, Vice President of Administrative Services at Continuing Education, and Chairman of the Bias Incident Response Team for CE.

Following the training, CE established a dedicated team who can respond to incidents. The BIRT (Bias Incident Response Team) supports anyone on campus affected by a bias incident or hate crime by identifying and recommending community resources. BIRT also educates the campus community on how to prevent bias incidents and hate crimes, and on the procedures for reporting such incidents.

Offering the Stop the Hate training supports the SDCCD strategic goals to strengthen and expand support services to respond to changing student needs, and to enhance professional development for all staff. The national Stop the Hate program serves as the premier

source of anti-hate educational resources for higher education institutions and campus communities. ♦



Top Photo: CE participants attend Stop the Hate training.

Bottom Photo: Greg Miraglia, national program coordinator for Stop the Hate, leads training for CE faculty, staff, and students in association with Stop the Hate, a national coalition and resource for educational institutions.

**According to the US Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation statistics for hate crimes, in 2010, 1,949 law enforcement agencies reported 6,628 hate crime incidents involving 7,699 offenses, of which 48.4% stemmed from racial bias.**

# KUDOS

## Accomplishments & Achievements

### And the Emmy Goes to... City College Radio and TV

City College's Radio and TV department earned several Emmys at this year's 38th Annual Pacific Southwest Emmy Awards held this past June. "It was a proud moment for me and our department," stated Professor Laura Castaneda.

The students who won were **Neiko Will** and **James Smith** for *Diana Gonzalez: One Year Anniversary Special*, **Neiko Will** for *Occupy Up Close*, and **Steven Commer** for *Centless in San Diego* in the category for Student Production/Newscast. Students **Alex Miller Pastore** and **Laura Kaplan-Nieto** won in the News: General Assignment category for *San Diego Marks the End of D.A.D.T. (Don't Ask Don't Tell)*. ♦



From Left: Steven Commer, Alex Miller Pastore, James Smith, Laura Castaneda, Neiko Will, Laura Kaplan-Nieto, and DJonne Holmes.



### Abdirisak Hussein is Sixth JKC Scholar for Mesa College

Recent Mesa College graduate **Abdirisak Hussein** is one of only 60 students in the entire nation to be named a Jack Kent Cooke Scholar for 2012. The recipients can use their scholarships to transfer to four-year colleges and universities. Awards can total up to \$30,000 per year for each student.

"It was like a dream," said the East San Diego resident, who learned he received the scholarship at the college's scholarship gala event in April.

Hussein grew up in war-torn Somalia and lived as a refugee for many years before moving to the U.S. at the age of 17 without any

knowledge of English. In addition to his studies, Hussein supports his father and brother on his modest security guard salary.

"Going from an ESL learner to a biochemistry major with a 3.9 cumulative GPA and 102 completed units is an indicator of Abdi's stellar academic work, his drive to excel in college, and his resolve to become a medical doctor," said Professor Alison Primoza, who nominated him for the scholarship award.

Hussein's JKC scholarship is the fifth in six years for San Diego Mesa College. Hussein will attend UCSD in the fall. He hopes someday to work for Doctors without Borders. ♦

### US-China Vocational Education Leadership Training

Late last spring, 21 college presidents from the People's Republic of China participated in the US-China Vocational Education Leadership Training program (VELT), visiting Miramar College for an overview of community colleges in the United States, the California community college system and the San Diego Community College District. The program's mission is to explore new concepts and share effective international cooperation. VELT is jointly run under the supervision and administration of the American Association of Community Colleges and the China Education Association for International Exchange. ♦



Miramar President Patricia Hsieh addresses the VELT program attendees.

### VOICES MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Featured on KUSI TV morning news show (April 9, 2012), City College Professor **Elizabeth Meehan** and her son, **Aidan Miller**, talked about their trip to the Epilepsy Foundation's Kids Speak Up!/Public Policy Institute in Washington D.C. where they represented the voice of over 50,000 San Diegans and 3 million Americans with epilepsy. At the Capitol they met with Senators Feinstein and Boxer, and Congressman Bilbray to share their story and advocate for funding for epilepsy research. ♦



Professor Elizabeth Meehan, son Aidan, and husband Stuart Miller, visiting Senator Dianne Feinstein's Washington, D.C. office as part of the Epilepsy Foundation's Kids Speak Up!/Public Policy Institute event.

### WALK FOR THOUGHT



Students and instructors from Continuing Education's Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) program raised \$15,000 for the Brain Injury Association of California (BIACAL).

Team ABI again increased their contribution over last year by about \$3,000 and helped put San Diego in the #2 spot of the ten cities holding walks

this year: Sacramento, San Diego, San Jose, Bakersfield, San Francisco, Northridge, Fresno, Oxnard, Rancho Cucamonga, and Fullerton.

In 2010-2011, CE served 284 students with Acquired Brain Injuries. BIACAL is crucial in promoting BI-related legislation. Money raised also supports brain injury research and education. ♦

## Data-Driven

Program Deans at Continuing Education (CE) participated in the California Regional Deans Academy, which is offered to San Diego County Community College Administrators. The academy provides leadership skills, discussion, and best-practice examples about important topics that impact Deans. This year, topics included Cal-PASS, a data tool used by colleges throughout the nation to assist in data-driven analysis of enrollment statistics, and Strategic Planning, where academy participants were exposed to useful planning models used by other community colleges in the San Diego area. ♦



From Left: CE Deans Alma McGee, Robin Carvajal, and Leslie Shimazaki.

## Dr. Leticia López Selected as USDA 2012 E. (Kika) De La Garza Fellow

In June, Mesa College Spanish Professor, **Dr. Leticia López**, was one of 27 people chosen from across the country to receive a federal fellowship from the U.S. Department of Agriculture that focuses on colleges with Hispanic-oriented programs.

As an Education Fellow, Dr. López will experience first-hand the policymaking process by meeting with USDA personnel and connecting with federal agencies such as the Department of Education, Housing and Urban Development, and the National Science Foundation.

"It's definitely been an engaging and eye-opening experience," reported Professor López on day two of the fellowship orientation session. ♦



## CHAMPIONS AGAIN

San Diego City College's Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) team was named the 2012 SIFE Western Regional Champions in Hollywood, CA earlier this year. The campus team has competed in regional championships for 19 years, winning 18 consecutive times.

At the SIFE National Competition in Kansas City, MO, the team earned a Second Runner-Up award in their league and were recognized for their work on the Walmart Women's Economic Empowerment grant, for the TIAA-CREF financial literacy grant, and for collecting over 13,000 pounds of food for City College's participation in Campbell's Let's Can Hunger grant.

Carrying out the SIFE mission to "serve the community through outreach programs," City's dedicated 68-member team of business interns worked on 12 projects,

completing 5,000 hours of community service. With the motto, "A head for business. A heart for the world," the SIFE team's projects focus on social change, economics and entrepreneurship, and environmental change. ♦



San Diego City College 2012 Regional SIFE Championship Team.

# KUDOS

## Accomplishments & Achievements

### New DOE Designation Helps Mesa College Serve Hispanic Students

Earlier this year, San Diego Mesa College was designated by the Department of Education as a Hispanic-Serving Institution. The notification, received April 13, 2012, authorizes the college to apply for grants as an eligible institution under Title III and Title V programs of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HEA).

"This designation does two important things," noted President Pamela T. Luster. "First, it acknowledges that Mesa College is committed to serving historically underrepresented students, and this designation opens the door to grants and funding that will enable us to increase access and success for a greater number of students. Second, it brings the college recognition as a part of an excellent network of colleges and universities nationwide designated as Hispanic-Serving Institutions." ♦



### National Rankings

Miramar College was recognized as one of the fastest-growing community colleges in the nation by *Community College Week* magazine, ranking #41 in the report, with an 8% increase in annual enrollment. Miramar was one of only four California community colleges to place in the top 50 with enrollments of 10,000 or more. And in the magazine's special edition, Top 100 Degree Producers, Miramar College placed #50 in the top 100 associate degree producers/ all disciplines – Asian American and #95 in the top 100 certificate producers/1-year certificates – Asian American. ♦

### Classified Staff Leaders

Congratulations to Administrative Technician **Terrie Hubbard** (pictured), on being named the Miramar College Classified Employee of the Year. And, to **Joyce Allen**, Miramar Classified Senate President, for recognition by the California Community Colleges Classified Senate (4CS) for her participation as a panelist at the annual Leadership Institute, held in Ventura, CA over the summer. Allen addressed the importance of staff involvement in the accreditation process. ♦



### Articulation Honors

Kudos to Miramar College articulation officer **Duane Short**, who has received the California Intersegmental Articulation Council (CIAC) Service Award, which is bestowed annually to an individual in the organization who is recognized by peers as an outstanding representative of the articulation community. ♦



### Blue Ribbon Winners

Miramar College art students took Best in Show, 21–1<sup>st</sup> Place, two Best in Class, two 3<sup>rd</sup> Place and seven 2<sup>nd</sup> Place awards in the 2012 San Diego County Fair Student Showcase. Congratulations to instructor **Sue Dawe** on her students' success! ♦



Photo: Best in Show, "Dakota" by Miramar art student Vinh Huynh

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# THE SAN DIEGO ENFORCERS

The San Diego Enforcers is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, representing a cross section of law enforcement, firefighter, and other public safety personnel who play football for charities in San Diego. The Enforcers are proud members of the National Public Safety Football League (NPSFL).

This 27-team league, features organizations in cities such as Philadelphia, Dallas, Orlando, and Chicago.

Recently, SDCCD Police Officers Jarad Preston and Jordan Mirakian played in the National Championship Game at San Diego High School, against Fire Department of New York (FDNY) Bravest. In front of a crowd of over 4,500 people, the Enforcers defeated FDNY 16-15 on a last minute touchdown pass to San Diego Police Department Officer and player Robert Davis.

Officer Preston kicked three field goals, ran for a crucial first down, and kicked the game winning point after touch down.

Preston was named the NPSFL National Champion MVP and is the first College Police Officer to be named MVP in this nationwide league. A portion of the proceeds from the game helped to raise money for United Cerebral Palsy of San Diego. The San Diego Enforcers finished the season 6-0.

More information about the San Diego Enforcers can be found at [www.sandiegoenforcers.com](http://www.sandiegoenforcers.com). ♦

*Pictured: Jordan Mirakian and Jarad Preston*

