



## SKYLINE COLLEGE EXECUTIVE REPORT FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OCTOBER 26, 2005

**Death of a Skyline College student:** On October 16 Skyline freshman Jihan Abdel-Gawad was killed when she was struck by a car in Burlingame. Abdel-Gawad, who was also a student at CSM, was a starter for the Skyline's women's soccer team as a center midfielder. A memorial service was held on Sunday, October 23. Skyline Coach Kevin Corsiglia said the team will honor Abdel-Gawad's memory with a plaque or a tree.

### APPRECIATION

**“This is a Test,” emergency preparedness training and drill:** On October 19 and 20 many members of Skyline's staff underwent emergency preparedness training in which the college set up an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and handled a complex series of simulated events as if a major earthquake had occurred. Skyline collaborated with the San Bruno Police Department and San Bruno Fire Department, and students in Skyline's surgical tech department served as simulated victims. The drill allowed Skyline to test its emergency preparedness plan and to assess ways in which to make improvements. The college will be conducting a review of the exercise with each participant submitting an evaluation. Emergency Management Consultants assisted Skyline in the exercise and will provide a report and recommendations. Later in the term, Skyline will hold its annual training for building captains and floor monitors who will be trained in building evacuation. Skyline wishes to thank everyone who participated in this demanding and productive exercise which will help with the college's preparations in dealing with any genuine emergencies.



*Members of Skyline's EOC team review finance operations and logistics during drill. From left to right: Ellen Lee, Sherri Hancock, Rachelle Minong, Maria Escobar, Theresa Tentles, and Jennifer Hughes.*



*Surgical tech instructor Alice Erskine (standing at left) with members of the surgical tech moulage team and simulated earthquake victims.*

**Skyline Shines in financial aid:** The Financial Aid Office has just learned that Skyline has a very low student loan “cohort default rate.” Skyline's low cohort default rate means that our Financial Aid Office staff has done a successful job in providing financial advice to our students and in helping them to manage their loans. A cohort default rate is the percentage of a school's borrowers who get into difficulty paying on certain categories of loans during a particular fiscal year. Skyline's cohort default rate

for the fiscal year 2003 is 1.9, which is significantly lower than the college's cohort default rate of 6.2 in 2002, and much lower than the national cohort default rate of 4.5 percent. Skyline wishes to thank the following Financial Aid Office staff members for their excellent work with students: Regina Morrison, Karen Chadwick-White, Juanita Quintero, Randy Claros, and Erika Torres and work study students Silvia Cervantes, Caitlin Murphy, Winny Pratiwi and Shawnesha Smith.



*Financial Aid staff member Juanita Quintero (seated) and work study student Silvia Cervantes (standing left) assist Skyline student Mayliza Ruiz.*

**Homophobia Forum:** A discussion led by a panel of Skyline faculty, staff, and students on issues of homophobia and how it affects everyone regardless of sexual orientation was held on October 20. More than 150 students and staff attended filling the Gallery Theatre beyond its capacity. The forum was sponsored by the Associated Students of Skyline College and the Gay-Straight Alliance. Thanks to Rachel Bell who organized this successful event and all the panelists who participated.

**Two new partnerships with Mills College serve students:**

- Skyline College's Transfer Center has entered into partnership with Mills College to establish a "Cross Registration Program." The program provides Skyline students who meet established eligibility criteria the opportunity to enroll concurrently in a Mills College course at no cost. Mills students participating in the program may enroll in a Skyline course at no cost. Thanks to Transfer Center Coordinator, Linda Rosa Corazon and Honors Transfer Program Counselor Joyce Lee.
- The Skyline College Honors Transfer Program has forged a new alliance with Mills College which establishes priority admission for female Honors Transfer Program (HTP) graduates who have also completed the transfer admission requirements of Mills College. A guaranteed annual scholarship ranging from \$10,000-\$12,500 is available to certified HTP students with a GPA of 3.5 or better. Thanks to Honors Program Coordinator Connie Beringer and Honors Counselor Joyce Lee.

**PROGRAM NEWS**

**Skyline hosts high school counselor conference:** Counselors, career coordinators, and support staff from feeder high schools and targeted middle schools will visit Skyline on October 28 for an all-day conference. Participants will have an opportunity to select from a number of breakout sessions that will feature presentations by Skyline faculty and staff about various programs and services, including financial aid, transfer, occupational programs, special programs (EOPS and DSPS) and others.

Representatives from four-year institutions will be on hand at lunch to provide information to counselors regarding admission and financial aid information. The day will conclude with a variety of round table discussions on "hot topics" determined by participants and a tour of the campus.

**Skyline offers assessment workshop:** Faculty and staff will be given an opportunity to develop their expertise in the student learning outcomes assessment cycle (SLOAC) at an upcoming workshop on “The Nuts and Bolts of Outcomes Assessment.” The workshop, led by Cathy Hasson, Director of Planning, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness, will be held on October 27 from 2-4 p.m. in Room 5131. This workshop will provide an overview of outcomes assessment as it pertains to student learning outcomes. Participants will define assessment based on widely-adopted principles of assessment and assessment models. In addition, participants will gain an understanding of the various assessment approaches, methods, and techniques in order to develop a balanced assessment plan.

**1906 Earthquake centennial lecture presented:** Novelist and Hollywood screenwriter James Dalessandro, presented a 19-minute documentary on the 1906 earthquake, *The Damnedest, Finest Ruins*, on October 4. The presentation was part of a project funded by the Skyline College President's Innovation Fund. This program brought a part of the Bay Area's 1906 earthquake centennial commemoration to the Skyline College community. The author signed copies of his book, 1906: A Novel, which was available for purchase. Dalessandro's presentation was videotaped for an episode of "Down to Earth," which is produced by the Skyline College Geosciences Professors Mel Zucker and Richard Lambert. The shows are presented on Pacifica Community Television, Peninsula TV, and Mid-Coast TV.



*A toppled statue of geoscientist Professor Louis Agassiz on the Stanford campus following the 1906 earthquake. It is one of several still shots used in The Damnedest Finest Ruins. Agassiz' statue has been returned to the front of the Stanford quad.*

**DSPS celebrates Disability Awareness Month:** To increase public awareness of the contributions and skills of people with disabilities, Congress has designated October as Disability Awareness Month. This year's theme emphasizes the vital role that disabled people play in America's workforce. Skyline's Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSPS) presented an acclaimed film, "A Beautiful Mind," and will also show a selection of videos that focus on hidden disabilities such as learning differences/disabilities, and ADD and depression on October 27. A DSPS fundraising event will be held on October 28 at Chevy's. Additional information on disabilities is on display near the entrance to the Learning Center in Building 5.

**Skyline College CITD concludes international trade seminar in the Bay Area:** Skyline College's Center for International Trade Development (CITD) recently concluded a successful seven-part seminar series on international trade. The Seminar Series, a part of the on-going Creating Export Opportunities (CEO) program, jointly developed by Skyline College CITD and the US Department of Commerce, addresses the international trade challenges facing mid-level managers, as well as those who are new to international trade entrepreneurs. The Seminar was supported by various public and private sector organizations in the Bay Area, including FEDEX, Renaissance Women Entrepreneur Center, SF Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, City and County of San Francisco, and the Office of Small Business. Presenters were

drawn from the rich pool of trade experts in the Bay Area, as well as Richard Soyombo, Director, Skyline College CITD.

**Program Review is underway at Skyline:** Program Review is a vital element of Skyline College's efforts to ensure the quality and currency of its programs and courses and it is strongly connected to important decisions such as the allocation of new faculty positions and instructional equipment funding, not to mention longer term planning relative to facilities needs. It is also a critical part of the college's efforts to assess its service to students systematically. Program Review has long been a part of accreditation standards. The program review instruments and processes are in the process of being reviewed to include the SLOAC (Student Learning Outcome Assessment Cycle) component as well as to improve the program review process itself. This is a particularly important time of the year at Skyline in terms of Program Review and several different phases of the process are underway now:

- Programs are undertaking their work on program review as part of the six-year cycle.
- Other programs are presenting the results of their review work to the college and inviting feedback on it.
- A group of programs has completed the process and are about to have their final meetings with the vice presidents on their programs.

## SKYLINE SHINES

### **Skyline students present original research**

**at conference:** Eight Skyline students presented their original scientific research in Denver from Sept. 29-Oct. 1 at the SACNAS convention (Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science). Students undertook their research in Biology 230 and Biology 690. Our students presented along side Harvard, Cornell, MIT, several UC campuses, and a host of other universities. The students and their projects are:

- Rona Silva (with Charles Havnar), *Microbial Analysis of Indoor Air Quality at a Community College.*
- Sandra M. Goins and Nhuquynh Tran, *The Effects of Methyl tert-Butyl Ether on Growth of Aquatic Primary Consumers.*
- Paul Adler and Gilbert Huang, *The Effect of Secondary Sewage Effluent on the Growth of Euglena.*
- Gordon Lam, *The Potential Effect of Chloroacetic Acid on Aquatic Food Chains.*
- Narmen Hanhan and Marwan Jubary, *The Effect of Lead on an Aquatic Primary Consumer, Paramecium caudatum.*



*Biology Professor Christine Case (standing second from right) with students at SACNAS conference*

**Founders' Learning Grove of Trees wins Beautification Award:** The President's Innovation Fund project, "The Founders' Learning Grove of Trees," is the recipient of the City of San Bruno's Beautification Task Force 'Beautification Award.' The Skyline people responsible for dreaming up this wonderful project are Biology

faculty Nick Kapp and Ed Wodehouse, and the people responsible for working with them on the installation itself are Facilities staff Richard Inokuchi, Diego Zarco, Sheikh Hussain, and Larisa Cosmineanu. The award was presented at the San Bruno City Council meeting on October 11. Skyline wishes to thank the President's Innovation Fund for funding the grove, and Carolyn Livengood, charter member of the President's Council, for nominating this project for the award.



*Skyline President Vicki Morrow accepts Beautification Award from the City of San Bruno. Pictured behind Dr. Morrow are from left to right: San Bruno City Council member Irene O'Connell, Nick Kapp, Richard Inokuchi, Diego Zarco, Sheikh Hussain, Ed Wodehouse, and Carolyn Livengood.*

### **Skyline students perform at statewide**

**conference:** Students of Skyline faculty members Diana Cushway (Dance) and Jude Navari (Music) performed at the statewide Network of California Community College Foundations conference held in Millbrae. The performances at the dinner earned a standing ovation and dinner attendees continued to talk about the outstanding performances throughout the three-day symposium. Thanks to Diana Cushway and Jude Navari for their efforts and to the students for showing how Skyline shines.

**Skyline shines in soccer:** Currently Skyline's women's soccer team is ranked third in Northern California out of 36 colleges and 18<sup>th</sup> in the state out of 82 colleges with a 7-4-3 overall record. Freshman Nancy Chicas is ranked third leading scorer in the state. The men's soccer is ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in Northern California out of 28 colleges and 39<sup>th</sup> in the state out of 64 colleges.




## **EVENTS**

**Phi Theta Kappa's Honors Seminar Series:** Popular culture is the theme of this year's Honors Seminar Series, presented by Skyline's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, Beta Theta Omicron. Seminars are free and open to the public. Dates and topics include:

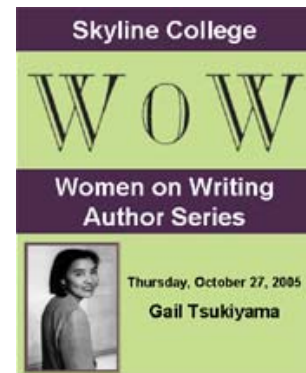
- Sept. 29, 1-3 pm **Courting Disaster**, presenter: A.J. Bates
- Oct. 18, 1-3 pm **Sexing the Sale**, presenter: Jeff Westfall
- Oct. 25, 1-3 pm **Youth Culture**, presenter: Michael Moynihan
- Nov. 16, 2-4 pm **Shattering Stereotypes**, presenters: Masao Suzuki and Kim Touneh
- Dec. 7, 1-3 pm **Jesus in America**, presenters: Donna Bestock and Lori Slicton

**Adewole Project, October 26, 2005:** Skyline College's Adewole Project will present "Hitler's Forgotten Victims," featuring Dr. Firpo Carr, author of *Germany's Black Holocaust: 1890-1945*, on Wednesday, October 26 from 12:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. in Skyline College's Main Theatre. The event is free and open to the public. Dr. Carr is a best-

The Adewole Project Proudly Presents "Hitlers Forgotten Victims"	
	Oct 26 2005 12:15 - 2:15PM Skyline College Main Theatre
Dr. Firpo Carr	

selling internationally known author, scholar, and lecturer and resides in the Los Angeles area. He experienced the Watts Revolt of 1965, the Los Angeles Uprising of 1992, and the ever-present threat of gang violence in Los Angeles' Nickerson Gardens housing projects. He is the recipient of the "2004 NAACP Award for Excellence in the Media," and has been selected for Who's Who in America 2005 (59th Edition). Both *Essence* and *Black Scholar* magazines list his groundbreaking book, *Germany's Black Holocaust: 1890-1945*, among their national bestsellers. This project was funded by Skyline College's President's Innovation Fund.

**Author Gail Tsukiyama presents at WOW Speaker Series on October 27, 2005:** The Women on Writing (WOW!) Author Series presents novelist Gail Tsukiyama, who will host a workshop entitled "Family Matters: Family and Culture in Fiction" from 7-9 p.m. in Room 7106 at Skyline College. The event is funded in part by the President's Innovation Fund. Tsukiyama is the author of five novels including *Women of the Silk*, *The Samurai's Garden* and her latest book, *Dreaming Water*. General admission is \$20 and \$12 for students.



**Mardi Gras for Hurricane Katrina relief, November 2, 2005:** Skyline College is holding a fundraising event to benefit the victims of Hurricane Katrina on November 2 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and from 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Plans for the event include a hot links barbecue and live music on the quad between buildings 2 and 3. A group of students, faculty, and staff led by ASSC Vice President Peter Monrroy is reviewing plans for the event and determining which organization(s) will receive the proceeds raised from the event.



**Building 6 "Topping Off" ceremony, November 7, 2005:** Large steel beams have been arriving at Skyline College which signifies the start of the vertical construction phase of Building 6, Skyline's Student Support and Community Services Center. A "Topping Off" Ceremony will be held on November 7, where a select group will have an opportunity to autograph the last steel beam before it is set in place. The beam signing will take place between 11:30-12 noon, and is followed by presentations from President Vicki Morrow and ASSC President Taylor Angel, and a hot dog lunch. The ceremony will take place in the center of the Quad between Buildings 1 and 2. Parking is free and is available in Lot 5 on the north side of the campus.

