



President's Report to the Board of Trustees

Victoria P. Morrow, Ph.D.
March 26, 2008

SKYLINE SHINES

WOW! Women on Writing Conference draws record-breaking attendance

This year's WOW! Conference exceeded prior registrations by 15 percent—truly a landmark, with more than 400 people attending. Program Director Marijane Datson put together a stellar group of authors and workshops. Georgia Gero, coordinator, sent the following note to President Morrow:

“I received a lot of feedback about how welcoming and helpful our students were - beginning with the parking lot crew that greeted people as they stepped out of their cars, but including the students who were readily available throughout the campus with a smile and directions. I was impressed with the students who performed at the Poetry Slam as well as those who were active listeners in the audience.”

She also pointed out one of the major benefits of WOW! – connecting Skyline students with the written word in ways that cannot be achieved in the classroom alone. A new scholarship has been established in memory of Isabelle Maynard, one of the featured authors at the first WOW! in 2003. The Isabelle Maynard Memorial Fund Scholars of 2008 are Skyline students Shannon Elliot and Ashley Manibay. Keynote speaker Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D., author of “Kitchen Table Wisdom” and “My Grandfather’s Blessing,” discussed “Becoming a Blessing: Remembering the Way We Change the World.”



2008 Isabelle Maynard Memorial Fund Scholars Shannon Elliot and Ashley Manibay. (Photos by Shelly Hausman)

WOW! is supported by many people on and off campus. The Steering Committee includes Georgia Gero, WOW! Conference Coordinator; Marijane Datson, Program Director; Connie Beringer, Dean of Language Arts; Donna Bestock, Dean of Creative Arts/Social Sciences; Kathleen de Azevedo Feinblum, Professor of English; Katharine Harer, Professor of English; Sandra Irber, Director, College Development, Marketing and PR; all ably assisted by Kathy Fitzpatrick.



Author Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D. (left) with a WOW! participant.

Expanding Your Horizons 28th annual conference draws over 800 girls to Skyline

A huge crowd of 828 girls from the 6th through the 12th grades took over Skyline on Saturday, March 15, to spend a day with women scientists, engineers, mathematicians and medical experts. The keynote speaker was Sarah Gerhardt, Ph.D. chemist and big wave surfer. 75 parents participated as well. The rich array of workshops allowed the girls hands-on experience with fields that might be in their futures. The MySpace workshop for parents was standing room only. Skyline wishes to thank the hard working planning group that made this tremendous event possible: AJ Bates, Don Biederman, Shari Bookstaff, Pat Carter, Chris Case, Arlene Chang, Pat Deamer, Carla Digennaro, Anna Dneprov, Stephen Fredricks, Mousa Ghanma, Greg Grist, Shelly Hausman, Nick Kapp, Sue Lorenzo, Julie Mooney, Vanson Nguyen, Tiffany Reardon, Jeff Schinske, Omer Thompson, Tadashi Tsuchida, Pat Tyler and Mike Williamson. This event also succeeds only with considerable help from the media staff, the Skyline IT group, the security staff and our facilities department. They were joined by a huge group of students in bright blue T-shirts who registered the girls and assisted them and the parents in finding their way around the College.



Trojans Season ends at Fresno

Skyline College's Women's Basketball team, in its second season, beat Fresno in the state playoffs on February 27, but the run into the basketball post-season ended on March 1 as the Trojans lost to the Fresno City College Rams 78-53 in Fresno. The Rams, who are the 2nd seeded team in Northern California, shot a blistering 58% in the first half and jumped out to a 50-25 halftime lead over the 15th seeded Trojans. Skyline played a spirited second half but was never able to cut the deficit below 20 points. The Trojans were led by Adele Faataui with 16 points, Marie Colon with 13 points and Esmeralda Lopez Rivas with 11 points. Skyline finishes the season with an overall record of 19-13. Coach Trisha Hosley, her assistants and the players thanked the Skyline College community for their support during the season.

Skyline student wins Literary Award

Skyline student Andre Guiulfo won the Phi Theta Kappa Nevada/California Region Literary Award for his nonfiction essay "On Gold, Gods, and Glory." The contest was open to community college students from Nevada and California. Only one award is given.



Wong promotes Skyline to students in China

James Wong participated in the grand opening of Gaoming Wuhuan Xue, a vocational school in the Gaoming District of the city of Foshan, China. The school focuses on a business program, a sports management program for individual athletes and teams, protection and security, and a future English-language instructional program, which will be overseen by James. The vocational school set up an informal informational center for Skyline College. The local press media and television, as well as a national magazine, covered the opening, where James gave a speech in English, which was translated into the local language by a former Skyline College student living in the area. James also met with and began discussions with the local governmental bureau for “Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs” about opening up more informational centers about Skyline College. With a population of 400,000, Gaoming is one of five districts for the city of Foshan, a “small” and historical city with a population of six million. Here is James with two official greeters and a familiar banner.



Gallery Theater shows Women’s Caucus for Art exhibit

The Gallery Theatre is currently exhibiting a variety of artwork from the Women's Caucus for Art-- Peninsula Chapter. The Women's Caucus for Art, founded in 1972 in connection with the College Art Association (CAA), is a national member organization unique in its multi-disciplinary, multicultural membership of artists, art historians, students, educators, and museum professionals. Their website is at <http://www.nationalwca.org/>. The exhibit opened with a reception on March 1, at the WOW! Women on Writing Conference. Hours for the exhibit are: Monday-Wednesday, noon- 4 p.m. and Tuesday-Thursday, 2-4 p.m. through April 14. Other hours are by arrangement.



PROGRAM AND SERVICES NEWS

Teachers Teaching Teachers (Three-T) to be launched

Taking advantage of all the resources that Skyline has, the college has established a place where faculty can share successful basic skills lessons with other faculty from across the disciplines. There will be three meetings with teachers presenting 30-minute lessons. The meeting dates are on Mondays 2-4 pm in Room 1124 on March 24, April 21 and May 19. The first meeting will feature presentations by Regina Pelayo, Dr. Leslie Shelton and Dr. Tony Jackson.



Science in Action Spring Speakers Series

Throughout the spring semester, Skyline's MESA Program (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) in conjunction with San Francisco State's (SFSU) Bridges to Baccalaureate Program is presenting a series of speaker events on the Skyline campus. The goals of this project are to expose students to science in action by providing dynamic presentations, to introduce them to careers in science and interdisciplinary projects, demonstrate examples of real world situations and applications as they relate to their curriculum and encourage students to look beyond the textbook by learning about recent advances that affect daily existence. Presentations take place Thursdays from 3:30 to 5 pm throughout the spring semester and have so far included:



- Steve Weinstein, Professor Biology at SFSU, presented “Life or Death in the Immune System” a look at how the immune system protects against disease-causing organisms and how cells play a role in the early detection and response to infection.
- Dr. Ruth Globus, scientist at NASA Ames Research Center, presented “Bones & Space” and discussed her research on how bone is affected by weightlessness and radiation during space travel.
- Skyline's Dr. Christine Case, Professor of Biology, presented “Medicine Hunting” to more than 70 attendees. Her talk focused on the rise in antibiotic-resistance bacteria and how the next “miracle drugs” may be found using hints from nature, folklore, and indigenous people. She is co-author of the well-known and widely used textbook *Microbiology: an Introduction*.
- Dr. Christopher Smith, professor at SFSU, presented “Bioinformatics, Bugs, and Behavior” on March 6. He uses bioinformatics to decode the DNA of newly sequenced genomes and find genes. His current research focuses on comparing over 20 insect genomes to find genes that are implicated in complex social behaviors and the ways that they are controlled.
- Dr. Wilfred Deneclaw, professor of Biology at SFSU, presented “Chemical Signals that Regulate Muscle Development in Chick Embryos.” The early chicken embryo is a well-used animal model to study early human embryo development. He is also the director of the Cell Molecular Imaging Center at SFSU.

Gold, Gods & Glory, The Global Dynamics of Power

Skyline's Phi Theta Kappa chapter presented its 2008 Gold, Gods and Glory Honors Seminars in March. On March 11, History Professor George Wright hosted a presentation by Kevin Phillips entitled “American Theocracy: Politics, Radical Religion, Oil, and Borrowed Money in the 21st Century.” On March 25, History Professor Rosie Bell hosted San Francisco writer Tamim Ansary who presented “Afghanistan after the Taliban.”

Study Abroad Program in China

Students in Hui Pate's Business 680SB course will have a special learning experience this summer in the Study Abroad program in China. The trip is from May 31 - June 14. Students will visit Beijing and Shanghai to experience Chinese culture, business practices, language and cuisine while earning college credit. Here is a photo of the group that attended the program last year with instructor Hui Pate at the far right.



Skyline's MESA students celebrate National Engineers' Week

Students from Skyline College's MESA Program and Student Chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers visited two middle schools recently to send a message to up-and-coming youth: *Engineers change the world, save lives, protect the earth, and make a world of difference.* Computer engineering students Leo Szeto introduced students to the basics of software engineering by demonstrating a self-made video game. Luis Bill demonstrated mechanical engineering by presenting a differential drive robot he assembled. Andre Green gave students a ride on a hover board made of household items. Students Margarita Gutierrez and Cristina Urista both volunteer weekly at the two afterschool programs, Youth Adelante and Science Corps, that focus on math enrichment and skill building for middle school students in 7th and 8th grades at Garfield Charter in Menlo Park and Parkway Middle School in South San Francisco.



Students pictured in the group shot above are, left to right: Cristina Urista, Rystian Cabellen, Luis Bill, Michelle De Mesa, Leo Szeto, Jack Torres, Andre Green, Kyle Garrone, Margarita Gutierrez, Tiffany Reardon (Director), and Marcus Wong. The second picture at left is of Andre Green and Kyle Garrone demonstrating a hover board made of household items to students at Garfield Charter School in Menlo Park. The photo below is a joyful child trying it out!



FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE

Skyline shines at campus recycling efforts

Figures submitted in an annual report to the State's California Integrated Waste Management Board show that Skyline recycled a fantastic 81% of its trash in 2007, up 15% from 2006. According to Facilities Manager Richard Inokuchi, this is a remarkable achievement given the state is mandating that colleges recycle only 50% of their trash and debris. This is even more noteworthy in light of all the construction Skyline had occurring throughout campus last year and all the construction rubble and debris that was removed from those various projects. Skyline wishes to thank all of the construction contractors who worked on various projects during 2007 and did their best to recycle construction materials and debris where possible – Swinerton Construction Management, Hensel Phelps Construction, and John Plane Construction who cooperated with Skyline College and its recycling efforts. Thanks also to District General Services and the Bookstore operations for their assistance with universal waste, special products and book recycling. Special thanks also go out to San Bruno Garbage Company, who worked collaboratively with Facilities staff to implement a "One Stream" recycling program on campus – meaning there is no need to separate recyclable materials anymore. All plastic, glass, aluminum cans, paper, and cardboard can collectively go into special blue recycle containers and recycle stations. Skyline implemented the program in April 2007 and Richard believes this made it simpler and easier for everyone and contributed to the college's enviable percentage achievement.

EVENTS

8th President's Breakfast, April 1

The annual President's Breakfast, sponsored by the President's Council to raise funds for the President's Innovation Fund will be held on April 1 at 7:30 a.m. at the South San Francisco Conference Center. About 300 people attended last year and enjoyed seeing the annual video of the college's Innovation Projects, hearing a couple of students speak and sharing breakfast. College faculty and staff are welcome to join the many community members who come to support the college. The breakfast is complimentary.



8th Annual Complimentary
President's Breakfast
Tuesday, April 1
7:30 a.m.
South San Francisco
Conference Center
RSVP to 738-4325



PRESIDENT'S BREAKFAST

Coats for Comedy, April 2

Dean Austin, Ace Rodriguez and Jimmy Turner will be the featured comedians at Skyline's Coats for Comedy event on Friday, April 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Theatre. All contributed coats will be donated to One Warm Coat. The event is sponsored by Skyline's ASSC.

Lovewrecked, Diary of a Manilaman, May 3

Skyline's Filipino Student Union, Kababayan Program and the ASSC will present a performance of *Lovewrecked, Diary of a Manilaman*, at the 4th Annual Pilipino Cultural Night. Preview night is on May 2 and the gala performance will be on May 3. The performance will be held in the Main Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 at the door.



The Filipino Student Union, Kababayan Program, and Associated Students of Skyline College proudly present
LOVEWRECKED
Diary of a Manilaman
Skyline College's 4th Annual Pilipino Cultural Night
Preview Night *Thursday, May 2, 2008*
\$5 Pre-sale/ \$10 at the Door
Gala Night *Saturday, May 3, 2008*
\$10 Pre-sale/ \$12 at the Door
Shows start at 7:30 PM
For Tickets and More information please visit
www.SkylineCollege.edu/PCN