



President's Report to the Board of Trustees

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SKYLINE SHINES

Jump Start program nurtures success in the class of 2008

Leslie Shelton, Director of Skyline's Learning Center prepared this wonderful description of this summer's Jump Start group:

The heavy fog rolling across campus on Thursday evening, July 24th, did not dampen the spirits of the twenty-seven rambunctious high school juniors and seniors who gathered with their families and a wonderful team of Skyline College faculty to celebrate the conclusion of the 11th Jump Start summer program. Both joy and sadness filled the air as these "unlikely" college students marked a kind of success that few had experienced recently



in their high school classes and said goodbye to newfound friends. Along the span of their intensive six-week journey at Skyline, many were challenged to show up consistently, learn new math and English skills, develop their video expertise, and discover the inner and outer supports available for college success. Few expected to like the experience or see college as a real option in the future. Most just came just to get a bunch of valuable high school credits and gain the possibility of graduating on time, but the Skyline faculty worked its magic, as demonstrated in the students' own words.

Now that I joined Jump Start I feel like my life has turned around. My experience was unbelievable because I didn't think there was a program that could motivate me to do work and want to stay in class. Most importantly, the teachers were actually teaching me something. Marion

When I first came I was shy in the company of others. But, since I had to work in different groups, I had to learn to communicate with people, and I actually learned that I enjoy the company of others. Now I am really excited about college and about learning. Alyssa

The evening was filled with examples of the students' creations. Awards of Excellence were given to a selected few outstanding students in math, English, video and college success. The celebration culminated with the presentation of the Outstanding Scholar Award exemplifying excellence in all four academic categories. As his stunned family sat in the audience, Damion Concepcion, an Oceana High student, was announced as the unanimous winner nominated by all faculty members. Damion summed up his experience this way:

What I liked most out of this experience was learning a lot of different things about school, but also about myself. I learned that I underestimate myself all the time when it comes to school, but when I came here, that all changed... This experience has changed me by teaching me that I can do anything if I just put my mind to it. No matter what the situation, work, or problem, I can solve it.

This is the magic of Jump Start – newly realized potential and renewed hope. Heartfelt thanks go to all the staff and faculty who created the brew that nurtured these students, including Vanson Nguyen, Math instructor; Amy Leonard, English instructor; Viola Lasmana, Video instructor; Daryan Chan, College Success instructor, Eugene Garcia, Math Instructional Aide; and Felix Perez, Study Skills instructor, and Leslie Shelton, Director.

New walkway between Buildings 5 and 6—no more fence jumping needed!

During the week of August 4, construction was done to create a walkway around Building 5 so faculty, staff and students do not have to walk around the back of Building 5 or through Building 5 to travel between the parking lots and Pacific Heights or the central campus. Thanks to the Facilities staff for their work to develop a solution to this barrier and to get it implemented in time for fall.

PROGRAM AND SERVICES NEWS

Library's first ever book discussion group to convene over Eggers' *What is the What*

As a member of the Peninsula Library System (PLS), Skyline College Library will support the PLS initiative known as *One Book One Community: San Mateo County Reads*, sponsored by all of San Mateo County's libraries. This year, PLS has selected Dave Eggers' *What Is the What*, a lightly fictionalized memoir, whose principal subject is the "lost boys" of Sudan. The event will be open to the entire campus community and to the public. The book discussion will be on September 25 at 2:00 p.m. in the Library and the film presentation will be on October 15 at 12 noon in the Main Theatre. The book is available in the Skyline Bookstore.



Skyline MESA Director presents at MESA Academy for science and mathematics educators

About 300 teachers from K-12 schools throughout the state spent the first weekend in August in San Ramon, learning how to foster an interest in math and science among their students. The MESA Academy for Science and Mathematics Educators (MASME) was held at AT&T's regional headquarters. It started Friday and continued through Sunday, offering more than 50 workshops for attendees. Skyline MESA Director, Tiffany Reardon, presented a workshop entitled, "The MESA Continuum" that focused on continuing the MESA Pipeline while in college.

EVENTS

Skyline College Opening Day, August 15

On Friday, August 15, Skyline will hold its Opening Day festivities beginning with a continental breakfast in the Main Theatre Lobby from 8:00 a.m. to 8:40 a.m., followed by presentations and awards in the morning in the Main Theatre beginning at 9:00 a.m. At approximately, 10:30 a.m. the annual group photo of faculty and staff in the Building 7/8 quad will be taken, followed by a coffee break. The Academic Senate meeting for faculty will begin at 11:00 as will the Classified Council meeting. All faculty and staff are invited to a campus-wide lunch in the Student and Community Center, Building 6, from 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be followed by afternoon division or unit meetings.

Pancake Breakfast, August 27, 2008

The Associated Students of Skyline College will welcome students back to campus with its annual Pancake Breakfast on Wednesday, August 27 from 7:30-10:00. Breakfast will be served in front of the Student and Community Center, Building 6.