



President's Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

President Michael Claire ~ March 28, 2012

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Kudos



~ On March 7, CSM students **Emmeline Wong** and **Caleb Kenney** were honored by the Community College League of California for being named to the All-California Academic Team of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK). President Mike Claire accompanied the students to the luncheon ceremony held in Sacramento where the students received their awards. Emmeline who received first team honors, serves as co-president of PTK and, in fall 2011, she was instrumental in developing the college's participation in "Commit to Completion," a national education initiative designed to help students understand the impact of completing their community college education. Caleb received second team honors; he is the financial officer for PTK; in that role, he developed a formal budgetary system for the chapter. He also was involved in "Commit to Completion." Both Emmeline and Caleb are business administration majors and have applied to UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business. (Photo source: PTK - Emmeline Wong)

College of San Mateo

~ The Community Relations and Marketing Department has been honored with a Gold Level Medallion Award for District 6 from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) for the Explore CSM Interactive Map. NCMPR District 6 Medallion Awards recognize outstanding achievement in communications at community and technical colleges and is the only competition that honors excellence exclusively among marketing and public relations professionals at two-year colleges. District 6 includes California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Hawaii, in addition to the Pacific territories. The team of staff that worked on the map included **Alex Guiriba, Dave McLain, Bev Madden, Valerie Tyler, Chris Smith, Valerie Anderson, Heather Paizis and Justin Merritt.** (Photo credit: CSM Community Relations and Marketing)



~ Professor of Film **David Laderman** will present a lecture to the University of Pennsylvania's Cinema Studies Department titled, *Arresting Mobility: Crossing Borders and Going Nowhere in the Films of the Dardenne Brothers*. His presentation will explore some of the distinctive road movie elements found in selected films of the Dardenne brothers. (Photo credit: CSM Community Relations and Marketing)

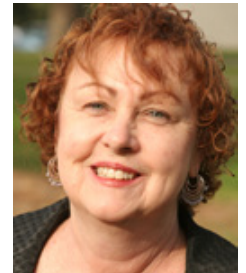


~ CSM pitcher **Daniel Grazzini** was recently named to the California Community College Academic All-State team for the 2012 season. Grazzini boasts a 3.75 GPA at CSM and has already accepted a scholarship to play at UC Davis next year. (Photo source: CSM Baseball website)



~ CSM football player **Fehoko Fanaika** (offensive tackle) has signed a letter of intent to play for Louisiana State University. LSU is one of the top-rated college football teams in the nation.

~ Director of Nursing **Jane McAteer** was a contributing author to the textbook, *The Medical-Surgical Problems of Pregnancy.* The text received the American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Award for 2011. (Photo credit: CSM Community Relations and Marketing)



President of Local Biotech Company Addresses Science Faculty & Students

Earlier this semester, the Biology Department hosted a seminar by **Dr. Calvin Harley**, president and chief scientific officer of Telome Health Inc., a start-up biotech company in Menlo Park. Telome Health is developing assays for the diagnosis, prevention and management of disease. The presentation was a great opportunity for students and staff to learn first-hand how basic research leads to medical and pharmaceutical applications. Dr. Harley's seminar was very well received and well attended by faculty and students.



(Photo source: CSM Math/Science Division)

Upcoming Events

~ CSM's 16th Annual Get Linked Career Fair is scheduled for Wednesday April 11 from 9:30 am to 1 pm in College Center's Bayview Dining Room. The fair provides opportunities for employers and job seekers to "link up" and discuss the employment needs of both groups. Job seekers will be able to speak with numerous employers to learn about current job openings and careers. Get Linked is open to the public. Counselor **Eileen O'Brien** is the coordinator of the event.

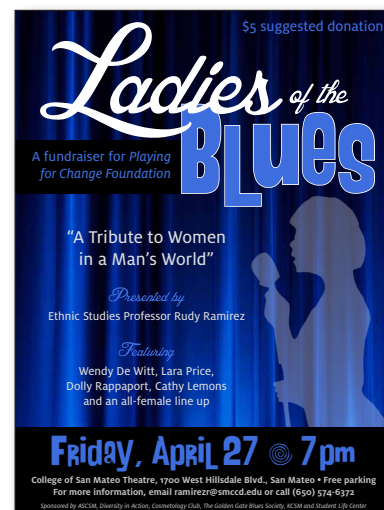
~ "Do we need art?" is the title of a lecture and art exhibit to be presented by Professor **Mohsen Janatpour** on Friday, April 20, at 7:30 p.m. in the CSM Theatre. The lecture will explore the question, "Is the core of art a historical accident or a pre-historical necessity? The presentation is sponsored by the Associated Students of CSM and the Math/Science Division.



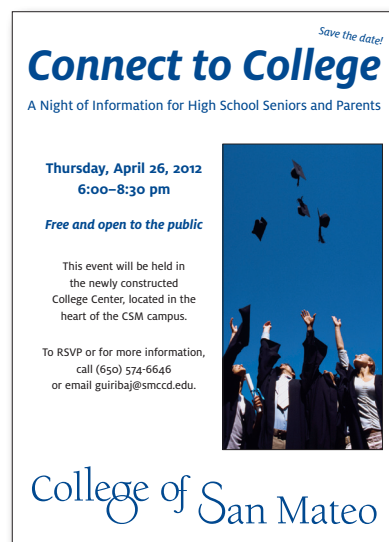
~ The San Francisco Chamber Orchestra will present an admission-free family concert, "Meet the Composers," on Sunday, April 22 from 12 to 1 pm in CSM's Theatre. This is third and final program of the 2011-12 series, which is designed to bring music history to life for young listeners as well as adults. The program is under the direction of San Francisco Chamber Orchestra Music Director Benjamin Simon.



~ On Friday, April 27, **Rudy Ramirez**, adjunct assistant professor of ethnic studies, will present "Ladies of the Blues: A Tribute to Women in a Man's World," at 7 pm in the college Theatre. The show will feature an all-female line up including Wendy De Witt, Lara Price, Dolly Rappaport and Cathy Lemons. The event is a fundraiser for Playing for Change Foundation; a \$5 donation is suggested. It is sponsored by the ASCSM, Diversity in Action Group, Cosmetology Club, the Office of Student Life, KCSM and the Golden Gates Blues Society.



~ On Thursday, April 26, the College will host Connect to College – A Night of Information for High School Seniors and Parents. This annual event provides an opportunity for prospective students and their parents to learn about transfer programs, career and certificate programs, A.A./A.S. degree programs, financial aid, scholarships and student life. The evening will feature panels of university representatives and CSM alumni. More than \$750 in scholarships will be given out during the event. Throughout the evening, prize drawings will be held and refreshments will be served. For the first time, Connect to College will be held in the College Center (on the second floor). Connect to College is free and open to the public. The event is coordinated by **Alex Guiriba** of the Community Relations and Marketing Department.



Student Success Story: Collette Yee

When Harvard Forest called CSM student **Collette Yee** and offered her admission in its summer research program, Yee enthusiastically accepted. Little did Yee realize that she had competed among 500 college students nationwide for a program that accepted only 31 students. Even more impressive was the fact that Yee was the only community college student in the program!

Yee, a 2009 graduate of Terra Nova High School, became interested in environmental sciences, a field that integrates physical and biological sciences to the study of the environment. Due to the broad nature of the field, she decided to attend a community college so that she could explore the different sciences. After attending another local community college, Yee visited CSM and found that she liked the “look and feel” of CSM and its science department. “CSM seemed to offer a lot of resources for science students, and I wanted to take full advantage of that.” After transferring to CSM in spring 2010, she honed in on the field of botany. “Botany was my first college-level science class, and it really sparked an interest with me. It’s what made me look into majors such as environmental science and ecology.”

As a CSM student, Yee met with Counselor **Modesta Garcia** who helped Yee to develop an educational plan in the natural sciences. During that meeting, Garcia, a Harvard graduate, suggested that Yee apply to the Harvard Forest program, a department of Harvard University. The Harvard Forest Summer Research Program in Ecology provides opportunities for college students to participate in 11 weeks of mentored and fully-funded summer research at a site located on 5,000 acres of land in Petersham, Massachusetts. Not knowing the competition that she was up against, Yee followed through with the application process. When she received the call from Harvard Forest that she was being considered for the program, she was thrilled. Following two phone interviews, Yee received wonderful news that she had captured one of the coveted 31 Harvard Forest program slots.

As Yee prepared for the program, her initial task was to select a research project. “I focused my study on understanding the growth patterns of red maples. I found red maples to be particularly interesting to study for its characteristics of being able to grow on a wide variety of conditions set it apart from other species.” Yee explained. Upon arrival at Harvard Forest, Yee was paired with a faculty mentor with whom she collaborated on her research over the course of



the summer. In addition to their research work, Yee and her fellow student research assistants were able to participate in a variety of extra-curricular activities in and around the greater Boston area.

The program concluded with a two-day symposium in which each student presents his or her research and experiences of the summer. In what was Yee’s first public scientific presentation, she shared her findings with an imposing audience that included professors, scientists and researchers. “I loved working outdoors in the forest. It was an intense learning experience; I made great friends and had a great mentor,” says Yee.

As a result of the Harvard Forest experience, Yee finds that she has an expanded number of opportunities for studying the natural sciences. “I have decided to step out of the botany box and study something else like biology and chemistry. I want to go into research, maybe in the area of ecology.” She added, “The summer changed my life. And, I was so very fortunate to meet Modesta Garcia at CSM.”

Yee returned to CSM for the 2011-12 academic year to complete her lower division coursework and is also conducting research at the Marine Science Institute in Redwood City. She has applied to UC Berkeley as a conservation and resource studies major and hopes to transfer in fall 2012.

The Harvard Forest Summer Research Program is funded by the National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. EPA, NASA, Harvard University and Mt. Holyoke College.

(Photo credit: Harvard Forest, Harvard University)