



President's Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

President Michael Claire ~ September 21, 2011

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New Faculty & Staff Receive a Warm Welcome

On September 14, the college hosted a reception to welcome new faculty and staff that had been hired over the past year. The informal event included an introduction of each new employee by his/her respective dean or supervisor. CSM's new faculty and staff include:

Faculty

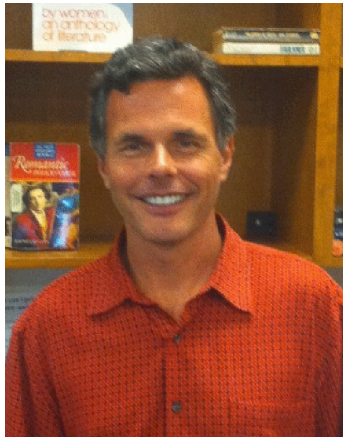
Yelena (Lena) Feinman	Math
Steve Gonzales	Electronics
Steve Lehigh	Economics
Autumn Newman	English
Jennifer Mendoza	Language Arts
Tracy Pennington	Nursing
Christopher Smith	Biology
Tim Tulloch	Athletics

Classified Staff

Patrick Co	Language Arts
Cynthia Cosse	Cosmetology
Michael Manneh	Language Arts
Gisel Martin	Social Science
Monique Nakagawa	PRIE
Chris Smith	CR/Marketing
Marci Totten	PRIE
Finausina Tovo	Admissions

English Professor Receives Human Rights Education Fellowship at Stanford

Tim Maxwell, associate professor of English, has been awarded a Human Rights Education Fellowship for 2011-12 by the Division of International Comparative and Area Studies (ICA) at Stanford University and the Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education (SPICE).



After presenting at a conference in June entitled, "Teaching Human Rights in a Global Context," Maxwell submitted an application for a fellowship to assist in designing curriculum, developing resources, and coordinating workshops. "The idea from the very beginning was to allow the community college educators to design and implement a program that's best suited to their needs," said Jonas Edman, SPICE curriculum writer.

According to Maxwell, "My vision of teaching has long involved providing students with the means, the opportunity, and, when I can, the inspiration to understand themselves and their relationship to a complex world and to learn how to make it a better place for everyone. I am honored to have the sponsorship of Stanford to work with like-minded teachers in developing cross-disciplinary curriculum that others may use to help their students to develop a more aware, more active, and more empathetic approach to our troubled and troubling world. I hope to collaborate with CSM faculty across campus in this important work."

The Stanford Human Rights Initiative is designed to promote human rights education in California and nationally, and to serve as a model of how faculty can effectively create resources for one another. *(Photo provided by Tim Maxwell)*

Dream Becomes Reality for CSM Student



CSM student **Lucy Liu** was the subject of a feature article that appeared in the *San Mateo Daily Journal* on September 9, 2011, entitled, "Living the Dream." The article describes Liu's career as an elite-level gymnast for the Chinese National Team. The accomplished young gymnast won a gold medal for her team at the World Championship and retired at the tender age of 19. To cap off her remarkable career, in 2008, Liu was chosen as the torch bearer for the Beijing Olympics. She immigrated to the United States, which she describes as "her dream," and while her transition has been challenging, she has found her niche in her adopted country. In addition to attending CSM, Liu works as a gymnastics coach with a local gym, working with the next generation of gymnasts. The article can be viewed by visiting http://smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=167089&title=Living%20the%20dream. *(Photo credit: SM Daily Journal)*

Major Leaguer Feldman Gets Starting Assignment

Following rehabilitation due to knee surgery, CSM alum **Scott Feldman** is once again in the starting rotation for the



2010 American League Champion Texas Rangers. In his first start this season, which came on August 30, Feldman allowed two hits in six scoreless innings against the Tampa Bay Rays. Feldman was a 17-game winner and the Rangers' Pitcher of the Year in 2009. He played for CSM in 2002-03. (Photo credit: MLB [Texas Rangers website])

Athletic Hall of Fame Schedule of Events

The festivities for CSM's Athletic Hall of Fame will begin on Friday afternoon, September 23 at 4 pm, with a ribbon cutting and unveiling ceremony for the new Athletic Hall of Fame Plaza located outside the Gymnasium on the upper level. Assemblyman Jerry Hill is expected to attend and make brief remarks. This event is open to the public and free of charge.



Immediately following the ceremony, there will be a no host cocktail hour and silent auction in the Bayview Dining Room in College Center. Dinner and the induction ceremony will begin at 6 pm. Finally on Saturday, September 24, the Hall of Fame inductees will be honored and introduced at half-time during the CSM-West Valley football game at Bulldog Stadium; kickoff is at 1 pm.

College Participates in Emergency Preparedness Information Day

Earlier this month, KCSM staff and CSM's Ambassadors set up an information desk in College Center to distribute 1,000 earthquake emergency kits, along with local information and additional resources from the San Mateo Fire Department and the Peninsula Humane Society on what to do after a quake hits.

This event was followed by a special program on quake preparedness called "Totally Unprepared," which aired twice on KCSM on September 18. The program and the emergency kits were the result of a collaborative effort between the California Office of Emergency Services and California public television stations to make California residents more aware of how to prepare and survive a quake.

In Memoriam

Bob Peterson, CSM alum and first San Mateo County native to play in the NBA, passed away earlier this month. Peterson was a star player at Sequoia High School and CSM (San Mateo Junior College) before transferring to the University of Oregon where he was a *Look Magazine* All-Coast first selection.



In 1953 he began his professional career with the Milwaukee Hawks and later played for the Baltimore Bullets and the New York Knicks. Peterson is honored in the San Mateo County Sports Hall of Fame. (Photo credit: SJ Mercury)

Upcoming Events

~ CSM Transfer Day

September 22, 10 am – 1 pm
College Center Bayview Dining Room
featuring representatives from more than 40 universities and colleges

~ Jazz Under the Stars

October 1, 7 – 10 pm
Rooftop Observatory

~ Faculty Service Awards Ceremony & Ice Cream Social

October 12, 12:30 – 2 pm
Dining Deck, College Center

~ "The Sky Tonight" Planetarium Show

October 14, 7:30 pm
Planetarium, Bldg. 36

Student Success Story: Maria Gershenovich

San Francisco State University, B. A. degree

“CSM and student government definitely shaped my experience and it helped me come out of my shell.”

Growing up in Russia, as a competitive ballroom dancer, **Maria Gershenovich** never dreamed she would someday attend law school in the U.S. At age 14, Maria had the opportunity to join a dance studio in Seattle which meant leaving her family and embarking on a new life half a world away. She and her dance partner achieved great success and became national champions. However, her education in the U.S. did not start out on such good footing. She attended three different high schools and a community college while in Washington. Then at 18, Maria relocated to the Bay Area, checked out local community colleges and decided to attend CSM.

“I was very lucky to go CSM because that is where things fell into place for me.” During a visit with a counselor, Maria learned that student government would be holding student body elections which might be a way for her to make connections with others on campus. She decided to run for student office and to her surprise, was elected as a student senator. “I started going to senate meetings and attended the annual summer retreat and I soon realized that I loved being part of this group of students. They became my support network. We have remained close friends and get together for semi-annual reunions.” With English as her second language, her involvement in student government helped boost her self-confidence to speak publicly, a skill that had been a challenge for Maria. Soon, she was attending college meetings and speaking up on behalf of students to committees that included faculty, staff and administrators. “CSM and student government definitely shaped my experience and it helped me come out of my shell.”



CSM became my first ‘real school’ experience where I really got to know people – students and my professors. I took challenging classes but it was worth it. For example, in my philosophy class, I was learning how to think critically for the first time and it actually made me feel like my brain was growing from all that I was learning.” Her experience was so positive that she has recruited some of her friends to enroll at CSM. “I tell people that there is a lot going on in the way of student life, the student body is very diverse, and now that construction is almost completed, the campus is beautiful!”

Upon completing her transfer requirements, Maria enrolled at San Francisco State University where she majored in criminal justice and international relations and, in spring 2011, earned her bachelor’s degree. Following internships with a superior court judge, criminal defense attorney and the District Attorney’s Office, Maria made the decision to pursue a career in law. She has been accepted to and offered a generous scholarship to Boalt Law School where she begins her graduate studies in fall 2011. *(Photo provided by Maria Gershenovich)*