



President's Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

President Michael Claire ~ August 14, 2013

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CSM Welcomes New International Students



Photo courtesy of Mario Mihelcic

Sixty-one new international students arriving from as far as Mongolia and Uzbekistan, and as near as Canada, excitedly began their academic careers at CSM by attending the two-day International Student Orientation. The students from 18 different countries were welcomed to the college by **Vice President of Student Services Jennifer Hughes** and **Dean of Enrollment Services Dr. Henry Villareal**. Coordinated by **Project Director Patty Kwok** and **Program Services Coordinator Mario Mihelcic** of the International Student Center (ISC), the orientation introduced the new students to the campus, college academics, and student life. Student services representatives shared information about the Learning Center, Center for Student Life, Health Services Center, and campus safety. Workshops were provided to help students understand the U.S. educational system, what the U.S. classroom experience is like, and how to use WebSMART. This year's orientation also offered an optional field trip to Hillsdale Shopping Center where students had the opportunity to learn firsthand how to use SamTrans and Caltrain as well as explore the mall.

The ISC is expecting an additional 20 students to arrive to the college during the beginning of August. The total number of international students enrolled for fall 2013 is estimated at more than 190. *(Article contributed by Mario Mihelcic)*



Pathway to College: Connecting the Dots to Success

“It definitely took the fear and anxiety out of going to a new school for the first time, and I understand the different responsibilities that were not present in high school.”

The previous comment made by one of the twenty-nine new college students who recently completed *Pathway to College*, 2013, CSM’s two-week summer bridge program. *Pathway* is designed to improve student preparation in basic skills, math and English and ease first-time college students’ transition to CSM.



The program incorporates ALEKS (Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces) instructional software, peer tutoring, team building activities, and specialized math instruction to reduce math anxiety. Furthermore, the curriculum demonstrates successful reading habits by incorporating Reading Apprenticeship techniques. In fall 2013 and spring 2014, *Pathway* students continue with peer mentors in the Learning Center’s pilot S.M.A.R.T. program. In their second year, *Pathway* students can become peer mentors themselves. The *Pathway* model prepares students to reassess their math skills so they have an opportunity to begin college at transfer-



Photos courtesy of Ron Andrade

level or as close to transfer-level as possible. (Statewide basic skills research and CSM’s student success data make it clear that the longer the students’ path to completion the lower their chances of obtaining a degree or transferring to a four-year college of university.) Overall, of the twenty-five students who retok the math placement test, fifteen (52%) placed at least one math level higher. All students in the 2013 *Pathway* program initially placed into basic skills math and/or English.

Pathway to College, 2013, was made possible through the collaboration of faculty, staff, students, and administrators. Among those who provided leadership for the program were **Jennifer Mendoza**, director of the Learning Center; **Cheryl Gregory**, professor of mathematics; **Autumn Newman**, assistant professor of English; **Ron Andrade**, Learning Center program coordinator; **James Carranza**, professor of English; and members of the **Basic Skills Initiative Committee**.

Football Field Gets Upgrade for 2013 Season

This summer, CSM’s football field was replaced with a Hellas turf field after it was determined the previous field was no longer safe and had reached the extent of its lifespan. According to Dean Andreas Wolf, “In my role as athletic director for CSM, we seek only the best products to complement our outstanding coaching staff and foster the development of our student-athletes. Through a long process of data gathering and research, our decision to replace our football field with Hellas will be instrumental to our continued success. What helped seal the deal was learning that most prestigious professional and collegiate institutions in the nation utilize Hellas fields.” It is the same field that UC Berkeley recently installed and it’s also the same as the

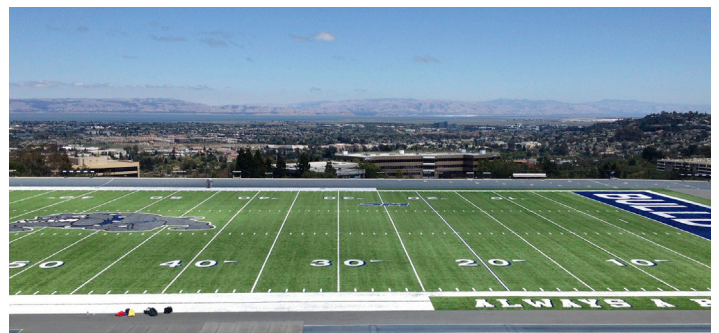
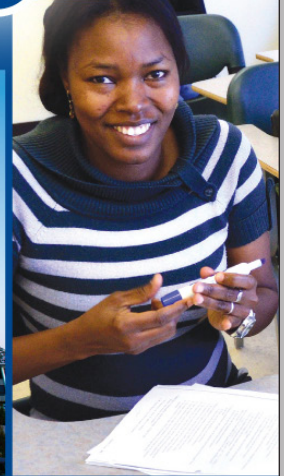


Photo courtesy of Andreas Wolf

fields that Baylor University and the Dallas Cowboys play on. The bulldogs will host its home opener on September 14 against Chabot College. (Article contributed by Andreas Wolf)

Welcome Day

Friday, August 16, 2013



Success Starts on the Hill

College of San Mateo

Welcome Day Preps Incoming Freshmen

The Center for Student Life and Leadership Development is hosting its annual Welcome Day for new students and their families on Friday August 16. Those who attend will learn what to expect as a new college students at CSM and where to find resources around campus. The day begins with a complimentary pancake breakfast and is followed by campus tours, presentations about student services and tips for success, a visit to the bookstore to purchase textbooks (to avoid the inevitable lines of the first week of school) and the opportunity to pick up student ID cards.

Great Turnout for Concurrent Enrollment Night

A crowd of more than 175 high school students and their parents showed up for CSM's Concurrent Enrollment Night, an orientation about the popular high school program. The presentation included course prerequisites, textbooks, study tips, transcript requests and student life. Concurrent Enrollment Night is offered three times a year, a week before the beginning of each semester and summer session.



College Partners with Local Arts Organizations - Create Opportunities for Art Students



Photo courtesy of Peninsula Museum of Art website

Starting this fall, CSM students in two-dimensional (2-D) art classes will find new opportunities to participate in professional artists practices. **Assistant Professor of Art Rebecca Alex** has developed partnerships between the college and four important local arts organizations: the Peninsula Museum of Art in Burlingame, City Arts of San Mateo, the Peninsula Arts Council and the Manor House in Belmont. CSM's 2-D art students will be able to use exhibit space at City Arts and the Manor House, which will be invaluable for students to engage in professional artist practices such as creating work and a portfolio for an exhibit, framing, hanging a show, advertising and marketing. The Peninsula Museum of Art, a new 18,000 sq. ft. museum showcasing regional and national artists, will provide opportunities for students to intern and learn all aspects of the business of art, including working with a non-profit organization, staffing the

galleries and store, becoming trained docents, helping artists in their studios and cataloguing the permanent collection. The Peninsula Arts Council offers an online artist registry where artists can showcase their work as well as present numerous other ways for art students at CSM to connect with artists and arts organizations throughout the country. In addition, CSM's 2-D Department plans to co-host workshops, lectures and other arts-related events with all of these organizations.

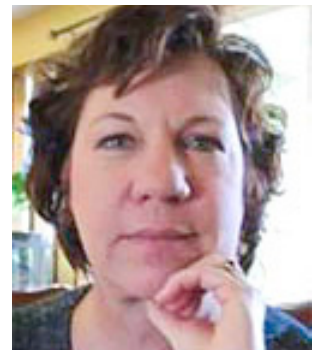


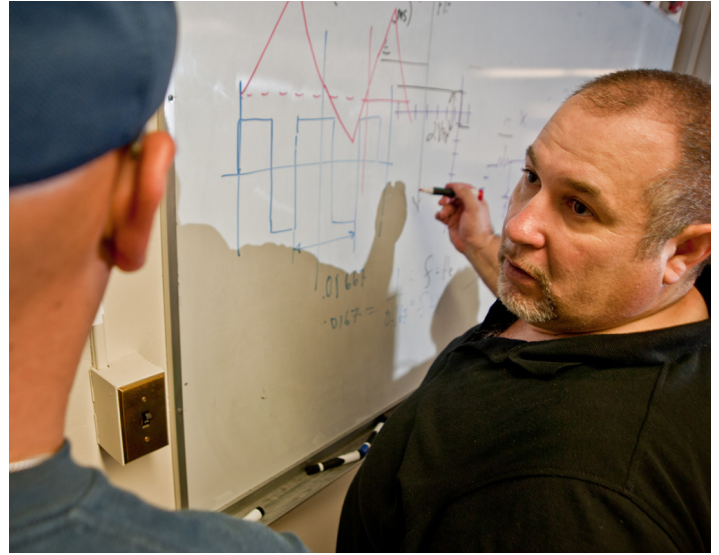
Photo courtesy of CSM art website

Kudos

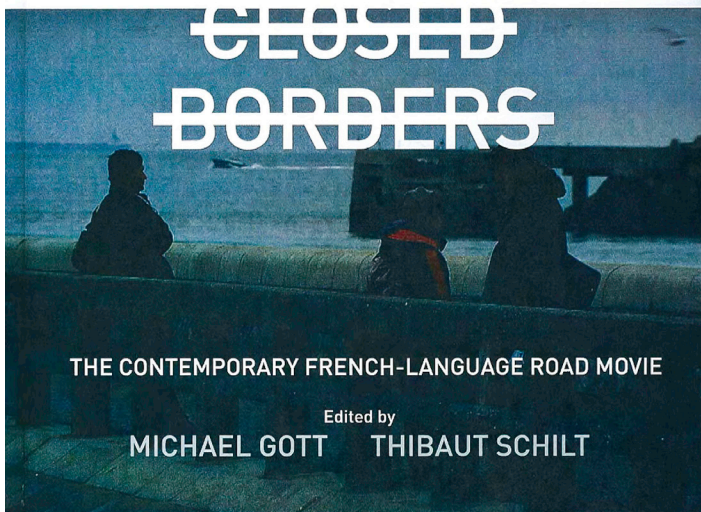
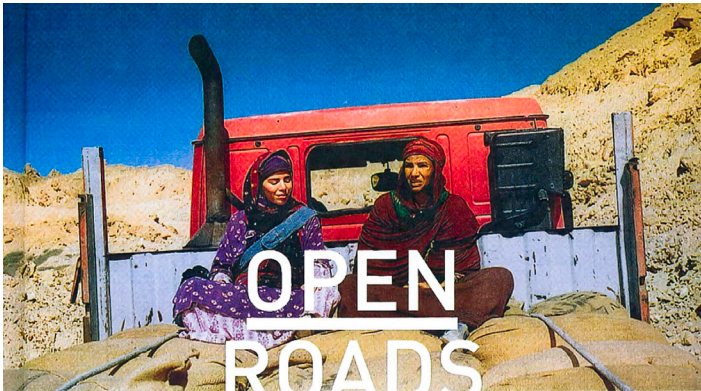
~ **Assistant Professor of Electronics Steve Gonzales** (photo) has so impressed PG&E by his commitment to the Electrical Power Systems Program and the quality of student he graduates, that the company offered him a paid “externship” for the summer. So for eight weeks Steve has been shadowing real electronics technicians, gas line operators, corporate trainers, etc. The result will be someone who can tell students - “this is really how it happens - I know. I did the work.”

CSM’s Electronics Department established the Electrical Power Systems Program in 2009-10 in partnership with PG&E, EBMUD and SFPUC. Since the program’s launch, graduates have been hired by PG&E, San Francisco Muni, SamTrans, Tesla, Loral Space and Satellite Systems, Lawrence Livermore Labs, Mother’s Cookies, BART and many other companies.

(Article contributed by Kathy Ross)



(Photo by Gino Degrandis)



~ **Professor of Film David Laderman** has published an article in an anthology titled *Open Roads, Closed Borders: The Contemporary French-Language Road Movie*, from Intellect Press (May 2013). The book includes essays by an international array of scholars. Laderman’s piece focuses on the break-out film from the mid-1990s by the highly acclaimed Dardenne Brothers, *La Promesse*, a film dealing with human trafficking, immigration, and a volatile father-son dynamic.

~ Boston Red Sox starting outfielder and CSM alum **Daniel Nava** was the subject of a feature article in the *San Francisco Examiner*, “Patience pays off for Red Sox’s Nava,” on July 13, 2013. The complimentary article recounts Nava’s untraditional and sometimes difficult path to the major leagues and the success he has experienced with the Red Sox. One of Nava’s recent career highlights came on April 20, according to the article, “In the Red Sox first home game after the Boston Marathon bombing, Nava hit the game-winning home run for a 4-3 win over the Kansas City Royals which sent the Fenway Park crowd into pure delirium.” Nava credits **CSM Baseball Coach Doug Williams** with providing the foundation for preparing him for NCAA Division I level competition. Williams is also quoted in the piece. The entire article can be viewed at sfexaminer.com/sanfrancisco/patience-pays-off-for-red-soxs-nava/Content?oid=2510790.

Student Success Story: Robertino San Diego

B.A., UC Berkeley, Economics

Carlmont High School graduate **Robertino San Diego** says CSM was the foundation that made it possible for him to earn a BA degree in economics from UC Berkeley. “Choosing a university is a major decision and I wanted to get it right. CSM gave me the opportunity to make that decision while I completed all of the coursework I needed to transfer.”

While at CSM, Robertino discovered what he considers a valuable campus resource—the students. He credits his peers for playing an important role in helping him become a successful student; they provided good advice and were very supportive. To further his connection with students, he participated in student government serving as vice president of the Associated Students of CSM and also joined the Transfer Club and Filipino Club.

“My peers at CSM inspired me to be a better student and set goals that at one time seemed unattainable. This support network of students played a major role in the success I had at CSM. Furthermore, I fulfilled my transfer requirements with relative ease because the college offered a good selection of courses, small-size classes and most of all, great professors.”

Robertino says that at CSM he honed his study skills and received strong academic preparation that led to success at the university level. He explains, “It was not my original intent to attend Berkeley but the opportunities at CSM made me want to strive to transfer to an excellent university. The college set the bar higher than anything I expected.”

Following two years at UC Berkeley, Robertino became a member of the university’s class of 2013. For his first venture into the working world he landed a summer internship at Yahoo! For the next few years, he plans to gain more work experience in finance, marketing or consulting before applying to a top-tier graduate school to earn an MBA.



Photo by Alexis Madayag

For students thinking about attending CSM, Robertino shares advice similar to what he received from his peers, “Take the opportunities that you are given and strive to reach your goals. CSM can make it happen.”