



President's Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

President Michael Claire ~ January 22, 2014

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Renown Expert on Higher Education Visits CSM



Dr. Sylvia Hurtado, professor and director of the UCLA Higher Education Research Institute, was a guest speaker at CSM as part of a Flex Day event on January 10. Dr. Hurtado's presentation addressed, in part, cultural competency and the importance of understanding that students bring with them competence and knowledge that is embedded in their life experiences. She also noted the importance of faculty and other college staff in helping students develop a successful academic identity by affirming their ability to learn. Other key points of her address included identifying institutional barriers that limit student success; building on existing intervention strategies that contribute to student success; and expanding these strategies across the institution. During her presentation, she stressed that "retention is everyone's responsibility."

Dr. Hurtado's most recent research is on the assessment of validation theory on student success, a theory developed by Dr. Laura Rendón. The preliminary outcome of this research data highlights that validation of students both in- and out-of-the

classroom by institutional agents does indeed contribute to student success. Dr. Hurtado's ongoing research is impacting classroom pedagogy and will also inform future research studies.

Dr. Hurtado's visit was sponsored by the President's Forum for Academic Excellence: Pathways to Student Success, Diversity In Action Group, and the Center for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. The next speaker in the President's Lecture Series is scheduled for April 17 and will feature **Dr. Laura Rendón**, professor and co-director of the Center for Research & Policy In Education at the University of Texas-San Antonio. (Article and photo contributed by Henry Villareal)

CSM Brings Art to the Community



Photo courtesy of Peggy Dean

Throughout the month of January, artwork by CSM students in painting classes will be on display at Twin Pine Manor House in Belmont. This exhibition is the first for the department, and was orchestrated by **Rebecca Alex**, a new full-time faculty of the studio art program.

The exhibit displays a wide variety of genres, with works from beginning artists to advanced students. It includes everything from still life and landscapes to portraits and large gallery pieces. Most are available for sale and Rebecca Alex is proud to say that a number of paintings have already sold. "Thanks to Judy King of the Belmont Parks and Recreation Department, this kind of opportunity really helps our students move out of the classroom and into the larger world of exhibiting and selling their work," says Alex. It is open to the public Wednesdays through Sundays, 12 to 4 p.m. Twin Pines Manor House is located at 10 Twin Pines Lane.

Kudos

~ **CSM's Jazz Ensemble** received first place honors in the community college division at the San Joaquin Delta College Jazz Festival. Students **Jacob Cabral** and **Josh Dunsford** earned citations for outstanding soloists. The festival included musical groups from throughout the Western United States. This group was recently added as a daytime jazz ensemble and has received first place honors at two major jazz festivals since it began last fall.



~ Major league pitcher and CSM alum **Scott Feldman** signed a three-year deal with the Houston Astros for a reported \$30 million. During the 2013 season, Feldman was 12-12 with a 3.86 ERA in 30 combined starts for the Chicago Cubs and Baltimore Orioles.



Photo source: ESPN MLB

~ The 2013 football season was one of the best in CSM's 92-year history as the team capped its 10-1 record with a 75-9 victory in the Bothman Bulldog Bowl over Northern California third ranked American River College. It's not surprising that many players will be moving on to the university level to continue their intercollegiate careers.



Photo source: Facebook - CSM Football

Five CSM football players recently signed letters of intent to universities. The Mid-Year Signing Day included **Sam Atoe**, safety/outside linebacker and **Trevor Kelly**, defensive tackle; both will play in 2014 for the Cal Bears of UC Berkeley. CSM right tackle **Haniteli Lousi** signed with another Pac-12 team, University of Oregon; middle linebacker **Michael Spivey** will become part of the wolfpack and play for University of Nevada. Finally, cornerback **Isaiah Skelton** has signed with University of Central Arkansas. According to CSM assistant head coach **Tim Tulloch**, "This is obviously a very special group," Tulloch said. "They accomplished a ton on the field. The way they played, they were dominant. Led us to a 10-1 record and a bowl championship. A lot of these guys are going to be really impact guys at the next level."

~ **CSM Yields 2 All-Americans and 4 All-State Players** - CSM defensive lineman **Riki Levi** has been named defensive player of the year on the 2013 All-America football team of the California Community College Football Coaches Association and he was selected as defensive player of the year on the all-state unit. **Dominick Jackson**, CSM sophomore offensive lineman was also a first team selection; he will be playing for the University of Alabama next season. CSM had two other players selected to the All-State team for Region I: record-setting running back **George Naufahu** and defensive back **Bryant Hayes**.

~ CSM alum **Julian Edelman**, a wide receiver with the New England Patriots had a breakout season catching 105 passes for 1,056 yards and six touchdowns. He played quarterback at Woodside High, College of San Mateo and Kent State University before turning professional. ESPN Boston.com recently featured Edelman in "Competition fuels Edelman's fire: Undersized, underappreciated WR's success no surprise to those who know him." The article can be viewed at espn.go.com/boston/nfl/story/_/id/10270087/competition-fuels-julian-edelman-fire

~ Alum **Cheree Hethershaw**, who attended the college in the mid-1960s, visited CSM's Library this fall and brought with her some items from her days as a student which she donated to the archive collection. Her donations included a 1966-67 **CSM Catalog**, a newspaper clipping about former CSM President **Julio Bortolazzo** (written by the recently retired **Michael Svanevik**) and an article about another former CSM president, **David Mertes**, who went on to become chancellor of the California Community Colleges. In the photo, Cheree is holding her CSM t-shirt, part of the required uniform for women's physical education classes during that era.



Photo courtesy of Lorrita Ford

Student Success Story: Mario Rossetti

San Francisco State University: Psychology Major

San Francisco State University (SFSU) psychology major **Mario Rossetti** says that CSM shaped him academically and contributed to his development as a well-rounded person in general. “The Mario that started at CSM and the Mario that graduated from CSM are two different people...I have CSM to thank for that!”

Mario acknowledges that two of his professors, Rob Komars (math) and Rudy Ramirez (ethnic studies), were especially influential in his success. “They helped me figure out my path and provided support for me when I needed it and as a result, I matured academically” says Mario. They showed me that faculty at CSM truly support their students.”

A graduate of Moreau High School in Hayward, Mario chose to cross the bridge and enroll at CSM. “I learned that CSM had an excellent reputation for transferring students to the universities of their choice,” explains Mario. In addition to his professors, Mario found CSM’s instructional labs were an important resource. When he needed extra help in a particular subject, he would visit the labs and receive tutoring which enabled him to stay on track in his coursework.

When he transferred to SFSU, Mario continued his association with CSM as a student ambassador. He worked as a representative of the college assisting with outreach and recruitment efforts in the local high schools. In this role, he borrowed from his own experience at CSM when he spoke with high school students about the benefits of attending CSM: “I would tell them that CSM is a great option to help you grow into the person you want to become. Since the first two years of college is spent taking general education, it doesn’t really matter where you begin college. What’s important is that you can transfer from CSM to a university and that’s when you focus on your major.” Good advice from a student with first-hand experience.



Photo courtesy of Community Relations and Marketing