



President’s Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

President Michael Claire ~ January 28, 2015

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CSM Provides Shelter for Storm Victims



Photo courtesy of Michele Rudosky

More than 100 people who were displaced from their homes by the December storm found a temporary shelter at CSM while County services worked to find alternate housing. CSM’s Building 8, including all three gyms and locker rooms, was transformed into a safe, clean and secure space by facilities and public safety personnel who worked closely with the San Mateo County Office of Emergency Services and Red Cross. In addition, departments throughout the college contributed support to make the evacuees stay as pleasant as possible: athletics shared not only their facilities but towels and sports equipment; cosmetology provided complimentary services; ITS arranged for Internet connections as well as TVs and DVDs; the Child Development Center offered toys and activities for the children; the Theatre held movies nights; and the Library’s Makerspace in conjunction with the Architecture Club hosted a gingerbread house building activity. The Public Safety and Facilities team put in long hours to provide support and deploy resources and did outstanding work to serve the individuals and families in need. The shelter remained in place from December 11–18. ■

CSM Students Excel in Math League Competition

A team of 22 CSM math students placed 6th out of 189 colleges in a nationwide Math League competition held this past fall. In addition, CSM's team placed 4th out of 49 participating colleges within the Western region which covers California and Nevada. The annual Math League competition is hosted by the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges. Several thousand students participated in the fall round.

Two CSM students placed very high in the individual competition—**Sammy Zhang** was 13th overall and 6th in the West and **Tong Zhu** placed 19th overall and 8th in the West. Zhang is a 14-year old from Carlmont High School who is concurrently enrolled in math classes at CSM.

Math League competition is held at each participating college and, at CSM, is coordinated by math professors **Robert Hasson**, **Mel Hom** and **Jay Lehman**. The college has hosted the exam for CSM students every year since 2000. Professor Emeritus of Mathematics **Rosalie O'Mahoney** provides monetary prizes for three students who achieve the highest scores, which is administered through the SMCCC Foundation. CSM will continue to compete in the spring 2015 round of Math League. ■

Middle College Begins Semester with Journey to Angel Island

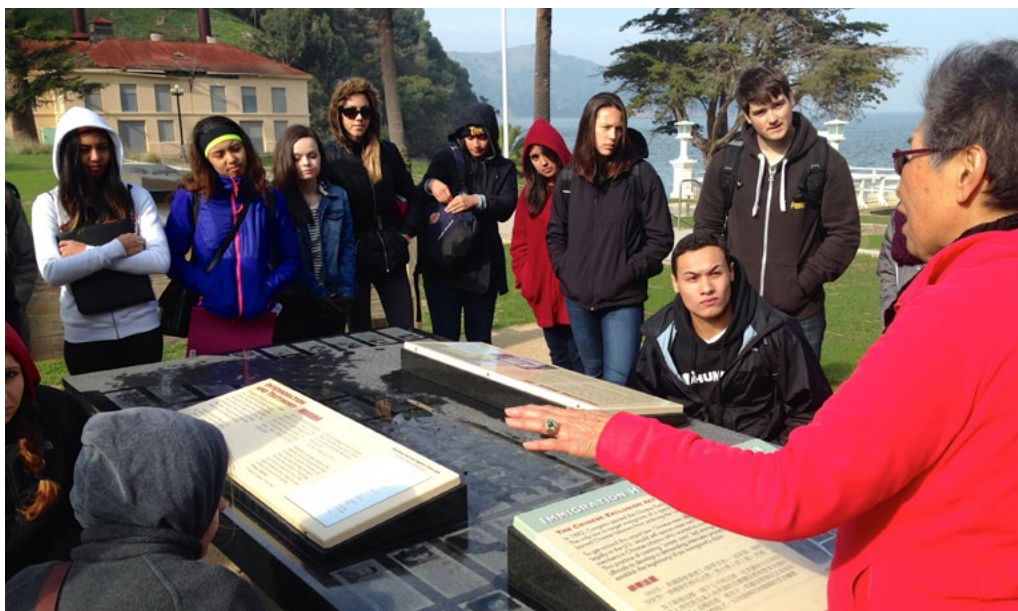


Photo courtesy of Greg Quigley

Fifty Middle College students and staff traveled to Angel Island in San Francisco Bay on January 15 as part of the opening week's focus on immigration and personal journeys. Students read *Enrique's Journey*, by Sonia Nazario, and used that as springboard for discussion about immigration issues and the internal and external journeys they have been on themselves. Students toured the immigration station at Angel Island, where, from 1910 to 1940, one million people were processed, including Chinese paper sons,

Japanese picture brides, Korean refugee students, South Asian political activists, Russian and Jewish refugees, Mexican families, Filipino repatriates, and many others from around the world. The students wrote reflective narratives about their own journeys in culmination of their learning experiences in the opening week. (Article contributed by Greg Quigley) ■

The Labyrinth Evolves into Districtwide Journal

CSM’s Writers’ Project (formerly the Honors Club) has recreated its publication, *The Labyrinth*, into an academic journal featuring a collection of scholarly and artistic work from students at CSM, Cañada and Skyline. The original version of *The Labyrinth* was awarded First Place by the National Collegiate Honors Council in 2014 for the category of “Best Printed Honors Newsletter.” However, the editorial staff chose not to rest on its laurels and ambitiously redesigned the publication so that it could provide a platform for a broader community of contributors. The December 2014 publication presents a sample of the type of work to be featured in future issues. The full content can be viewed at collegeofsanmateo.edu/honorsproject/docs/newsletters/TheLabyrinthEdition04.pdf. ■



Cover design by Jina Lee.
Photo by Precilla del Rosario.

Athletics Hall of Fame Inducts 17 New Members

On January 23, CSM’s Athletic Department honored 17 inductees into the CSM Athletic Hall of Fame. The ceremony included an unveiling of the inductee plaques at the Hall of Fame Plaza followed by dinner and induction ceremony in College Center’s Bayview Dining Room. The 2015 class included the following former athletes, faculty and other supporters of the athletic program:



Scott Feldman	Baseball student-athlete; MLB pitcher Houston Astros (current)
Daniel Nava	Baseball student-athlete; MLB player Boston Red Sox (current)
Mike Solari	Football student-athlete; Offensive line coach 49ers
Milt Axt	Football and baseball student-athlete; High school coach (45 consecutive wins); CA State Coach of the Year
Al Terremere	Principal, Carlmont HS; Football student-athlete; All-American, Santa Clara; NFL Official
Randy Gomez	Football and baseball student-athlete; Played professionally with the SF Giants.
Stella Edwinson	Track student-athlete; 1984 Olympic trials; State champion in hurdles
Perry Parmalee	Football student-athlete; Played professionally with the New York Jets

Dr. Marcel Hetu	Track student-athlete; State mile champion; College Administrator
Bob Peterson	Basketball student-athlete; First from CSM to make it to the NBA
Bob McClure	Baseball student-athlete; Professional player and coach
Doug Scovil	Football coach; Professional coach (Eagles, 49ers)
Jerry Scattini	Football student-athlete; Played at UC Berkeley
Bea Goodoy	Softball and basketball student-athlete
Julio Bortolazzo	Former president, College of San Mateo
Caroline Silva	Academic advisor to student-athletes
Ron Galatolo	Chancellor, San Mateo County Community College District (current)

Photos of the event will be in the February Executive Report to the Board of Trustees and can be viewed by visiting collegeofsanmateo.edu/halloffame. ■

Update on New Programs: Umoja and Project Change

In fall 2014, CSM launched the **Umoja Program**, a new learning community aimed at supporting African, African American, and other at-risk students. The learning community



pairs ethnic studies and English courses, which include Afro-centric curricula that highlight African American culture, identity, literature, and history. An important component of the CSM Umoja Program is a professional development program called “Indaba,” a Zulu term for “a tribal gathering, consultation, or council meeting” where elders discuss matters important to the community. CSM’s Indaba brings together faculty from across the disciplines, staff, and administrators to address the obstacles that many of our students, particularly African American students, face at CSM and in higher education. In fact, the purpose of Indaba is to both promote culturally relevant pedagogy and to also discuss actions that the institution can take to promote equity and diversity. The Indaba meets monthly in the Puente/Umoja Village. Assistant Professor of English **Jeremy Wallace** and Professor of Ethnic Studies **Frederick Gaines** are faculty coordinators for Umoja.

Project Change, also established last fall, is the first program of its kind in California to provide wrap-around social service support and offer direct assistance for postsecondary access to incarcerated youth. The project provides students with a clear pathway to resources and programs on campus from which they benefit including Pathway to College, student support services, counseling, financial aid, and cohort learning communities such as Puente and Umoja. Furthermore,



Photo by CSM Community Relations and Marketing

Project Change provides a supportive network of volunteer faculty and staff mentors, as well as a project director, to assist students navigating their first year in college. This program unites the college and San Mateo County organizations in a joint effort to help underrepresented populations of students make the transition to community college. The next stage of the project will provide instruction on-site at the San Mateo County juvenile justice facilities. **Katie Bliss**, assistant professor of English, is serving as project director. *(Content contributed by Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza)* ■

CSM Student Art Exhibited at Belmont Art Center

Artwork by members of CSM's **Fine Arts Club** is currently on display through January 29 at Twin Pines Art Center's Manor House in Belmont. The exhibit displays a wide variety of genres, with works from beginning to advanced student artists. It includes everything from still life and landscapes to portraits and large gallery pieces, most of which are available for sale. The gallery is open to the public Wednesdays through Sundays, 12 to 4 pm.



Painting by Gary Crispino

CSM's Fine Arts Club is run by students with the help of faculty advisor/Professor of Art **Rebecca Alex** and is open to all CSM students. Members of the club plan and host critique groups, exhibitions, workshops and lectures; other activities include painting murals, creating websites and designing promotional materials. In addition, the artists offer their work for sale and/or rental to members of the community. ■

Library Hosts College Educators from Japan

On Nov. 19, the College of San Mateo Library welcomed a team of educators from colleges in Japan to learn how CSM provides instruction and resources via digital formats. The team was led by Faustino Hernandez of the National Federation of University Co-operative Associations who has brought several Japanese educators to the CSM Library in the past. In addition to presentations by CSM librarians **Lisa Velarde** and **Stephanie Roach**, the visitors learned about CSM's Extra Large Online Project (XLO) from **Peter Bruni**, manager of distance education and instructional design, and about issues related to the adoption of e-books and online texts from **James Peacock**, CSM's bookstore manager.



Photo courtesy of Lorrita Ford

The guests were very impressed by the work that is going on at CSM while the panelists from CSM enjoyed learning about the status of digital teaching and

learning in Japan. Following the presentations, the Library hosted a reception that included representatives from the International Student Center including Japanese international students and several CSM faculty and staff of Japanese ancestry.

(Content contributed by Lorrita Ford) ■

Kudos

~ CSM's **Jazz Ensemble** captured first place honors in the collegiate category at the San Joaquin Delta College Jazz Festival. The Jazz Ensemble, led by Professor of Music **Mike Galisatus** topped former Reno Jazz Festival winner Fresno City College to win the big band event.

~ New England Patriots wide receiver **Julian Edelman**, a CSM alum, threw the first touchdown pass of his six-year NFL career to help secure a New England win over the Baltimore Ravens 35-31 in the divisional round game on January 10. The opportunity for Edelman arose on a double-pass trick play from quarterback Tom Brady that Edelman threw downfield to wide receiver Danny Amendola for a 51-yard touchdown. The last time Edelman threw a touchdown pass was when he played quarterback for Kent State University. It was the first time in more than ten years that a Patriots' player, other than a quarterback, threw for a touchdown.



Photo source: ESPN.com

(In following week's AFC championship game, the Patriots routed the Indianapolis Colts 45-7 sending the Patriots (and Edelman) to face Seattle Seahawks in the Super Bowl on February 1.)

~ Four College of San Mateo football players were honored by California's community college coaches in All-State voting. Offensive lineman **Benji Palu** (6-1, 275, Soph.), kicker **Justin Watts** (5-10, 170, Fr.), linebacker **Mosa Likio** (5-11, 230, Soph.) and defensive back **Taylor Mashack** (5-11, 185, Soph.), from Menlo-Atherton High School, were named First-Team All-Region I.

~ Perfect Enuf, an exhibit of 21 paintings by Emeritus Professor of Art **Jude Pittman** is currently on display at the Galleries in the Milton Marks Conference Center on 445 Golden Gate Avenue in San Francisco. The exhibit runs until January 31 and the gallery is open Monday through Friday, 9 am – 5:30 pm. ■

A poster for an art exhibit titled "PERFECT ENUF" by Jude Pittman. The poster features a red silhouette of a person in a dynamic pose, with a blue arrow or line extending from their hand. The text on the poster includes the title "PERFECT ENUF", the artist's name "21 Paintings by Jude Pittman", the dates "November 14 - January 31", and the location "Galleries in the Milton Marks Conference Center San Francisco State Building 455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco". It also provides parking information and gallery hours: "Gallery Hours: M-F 9am-5:30pm (no weekends or evenings)".

PERFECT ENUF

21 Paintings by Jude Pittman

November 14 - January 31

Galleries in the Milton Marks Conference Center
San Francisco State Building
455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco
BETWEEN LARSEN AND FOLSOM
PARKING ACROSS THE STREET IN THE CIVIC CENTER GARAGE

Gallery Hours: M-F 9am-5:30pm (no weekends or evenings)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Healthcare 411: Information & Advice about the Affordable Care Act

**Saturday, January 31, 9:30 am — 12:30
pm, College Center Building**

Sponsored by Congresswoman Jackie Speier

ASCSM Reboot Week

February 3–5, 11 am – 2 pm

The Associated Students of CSM kick off the spring semester with fun, games, music, free food, and giveaways!

Middle College Spring Back-to-School Night

An event for parents and students

Wednesday, February 4, 6:00–8:00 pm

A presentation by Middle College staff for current parents and students, detailing specific activities, curriculum and special requirements for the Middle College students.

Cosmic Microwave Background Polarization and Life at the South Pole

**Friday, February 6, 7:30–9:00 pm
Building 36, Room 110**

San Mateo County Astronomical Society speaker meeting featuring Dr. Sarah Stokes Kernasovskiy, Kavli Institute for Particle Astrophysics & Cosmology

VITA - Free Income Tax Preparation

**Every Saturday, 2/7 – 4/11 (except 2/14
and 3/28), 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Building
14, Room 104**

Student Success Story: Jenna Finegold

UC San Diego, B.A., Sociology

UC Hastings College of the Law

As a senior at Mills High School, Jenna Finegold received acceptances to a number of universities. With graduation looming, she wasn't ready to narrow her choices to a single university or decide on a specific major. "Like so many students, I got caught up in the pressure of attending a university right out of high school. I needed time to figure out a major before I made a commitment to a university for four years. As an 18-year-old, I just wasn't ready, Jenna says."

Jenna chose the community college path to a university, a path that provided both time and resources to help her make those all-important college decisions. Once she enrolled at CSM, Jenna says, "I focused on creating a meaningful community college experience."



Photo by CSM Community Relations and Marketing

In addition to taking a full load of classes each semester, she became actively involved in college life. She joined student government of which she says, "It was significant because I was surrounded by some of the most driven people I had ever met. They were my peers but they were also role models. We pushed each other to succeed and became lasting friends in the process. Being involved in student government gave me many wonderful opportunities – I was able to travel to Washington D.C. to participate in a lobbying conference at the U.S. Capitol and student leadership conferences in Los Angeles and Lake Tahoe. Our advisors Aaron Schaefer and Fauzi Hamadeh helped to build my confidence and gave me opportunities to grow."

Poised to take on additional challenges, Jenna became a CSM student ambassador, a position that allowed her to advocate for the college by speaking with high school students about the college. "Being an ambassador taught me how to speak on matters that are important to me– such as the value of a community college education. I think community colleges are misrepresented, they are seen as a default or fall-back, and as an ambassador, I was able to help to dispel that rumor."

Jenna's participation in college activities provided a good balance with her academics. While satisfying university general education and transfer requirements, she was able

to delve into different subjects, which eventually helped her to choose a major. Her decision was made when she enrolled in a sociology class taught by Professor Minu Mather. “I loved the class and the subject. I was able to see how sociology relates to so much in our daily lives.”

Jenna credits CSM with giving her the time and space to grow. After two years at CSM, Jenna transferred to UC San Diego as a sociology major. She found transferring from community college to a major university an easy transition. “When I got to UCSD, I felt as close to 100% prepared academically and emotionally as I could. At CSM, I learned to work hard and that helped me be a successful student.” In 2014, she graduated in the top 14 percent of her class, earning a bachelor’s degree in sociology.

To further build on the foundation she received at CSM, Jenna is currently working on a law degree at UC Hastings College of the Law. By choosing a career in law, she intends to pay forward all the good fortune and opportunities that she received by serving as an advocate for others. When asked if she succeeded in creating that meaningful community college experience, she states, “I had an amazing experience at CSM and one that I will carry with me through the rest of my endeavors.” ■