

# President's Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

President Michael Claire ~ August 12, 2015

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## College Opening Day Offers Full Schedule of Activities



Photo provided by CSM Community Relations and Marketing

On Friday, August 14, CSM will welcome faculty and staff to the college's Opening Day festivities. The day begins at 8 a.m. with an opportunity for colleagues to gather for a continental breakfast in the Theatre Courtyard. At 9 a.m., President Mike Claire will officially kick off the new academic year with an all-college meeting that will include campus updates and the introduction of new faculty and staff. The college is pleased to welcome Arash Daneshzedeh who will serve as the Opening Day keynote speaker. Selected by CSM's Center for Academic Excellence Committee, Arash is the director of education programs at Hip-Hop Chess Federation and faculty member for the San Quentin Prison University Project. The title of his presentation is "Achievement is a Big Ol' Lie: Changing the Dialectic of Success from Achievement to Autonomy." The Committee has also planned a number of professional development workshops covering a wide range of topics which will be held throughout the day.

College of San Mateo

## Lender's Fair Promotes Small Business Success





Photo by Alexis Madayag

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More than 160 small business owners and entrepreneurs recently attended the Access to Capital Lender's Fair hosted by the San Mateo Small Business Development Center (SBDC). The half-day workshop held at CSM focused on efforts to stimulate economic growth for small businesses throughout the County. According to Robert Shoffner, director of the San Mateo SBDC, "Access to capital has been and continues to be a

key impediment to growth for small businesses. Lack of capital is one of the primary reasons businesses fail, while access to capital has a positive and significant effect on small business revenue growth, revenue levels and number of employees. Providing capital to small businesses is one of the keys to their success."

The event featured a panel of experts speaking about traditional and alternative lending products as well as providing networking opportunities with potential lenders and other small businesses. Speakers included Robert Shoffner, Chancellor Ron Galatolo, President Mike Claire and Ton Qin, deputy district director of the Small Business Administration.

The Lender's Fair was sponsored by Lending Club, Capital Access Group, Community Bank of the Bay, Boston Private, Cutting Edge capital, Pacific Community-Ventures, Marble Bridge funding Group, Inc., Working Solutions, VISA, City of San Mateo, U.S. SBA and the SMCCCD. This event is the fifth of 10 planned programs within the Norcal SBDC Regional Network that will focus on growth strategies for transforming small business by adding resources to expand, increase sales and create and retain jobs locally.



## CSM Makes the Grade In USA TODAY Competition

In a recent USA TODAY article (July 30, 2015), "NorCal vs. SoCal Community Colleges: Who Makes the Grade," CSM was cited along with Hartnell College as two schools with significantly high transfer rates. CSM was also listed in the top 10 Best Northern California Community Colleges. The article pitted community colleges in Northern California against those in the southern part of the State, comparing four metrics: university transfer rate, student-faculty ratio, affordability and distance education. Northern California captured the top spot for university transfer rate and studentfaculty ratio while Southern California received higher ratings for distance education and affordability. The article comes from the USA TODAY College Contributor network; it is available at schools.com/articles/norcal-vs-socal-education.



Photo by Sean Arbabi

## **Kudos**

~ Four CSM transfer students are in the first cohort to graduate from Palo Alto University's CSM-based bachelor's degree program. The graduates and their future plans are:

**Nicole Busse Schumaker**: will attend nursing school at San Francisco State University

Herman Johal: graduated Magna Cum Laude and is currently working, but looking for opportunities to teach abroad

Kevin Murphy: taking a year off before looking for full-time work

Francis Young: will begin his own consulting firm

~ CSM alum and transfer to Cal Berkeley **Sione Sina** has committed to playing for University of Utah. Sina, a defensive end, redshirted in 2013 and played in only one game for Cal in 2014. He will be a redshift senior for the Utes.

~ The City of South San Francisco recently hired six new police officers and all are graduates of CSM's Policy Academy. The new officers are **Gabriel Carriel**, Hayward; **Andrew Constantino**, Burlingame; **Phillip Nielsen**, San Mateo; **William Ojakian**, San Bruno; **Grable Ramirez**, Manteca; and **Dylan Westfall**, Danville.



Photo provided by the Office of South San Francisco



~ **Bob Rush**, emeritus professor of physical education and athletics, was inducted into the Northern California Sports Hall of Fame for his accomplishments in track and field over the past 65 years. Rush, who spent 26 years as track, field and cross country coach at CSM and six years as a teacher and athletic director at San Mateo High School, was previously inducted into both schools' halls of fame. In addition to his coaching career, Rush invented the first electronic recording timer for track and cross country called the "Chronomix," a ground-breaking innovation that was adopted for use internationally.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **College Opening Day**

Welcome Back to 2014-15 Academic Year Friday, August 14, 8 am – 4 pm CSM Campus

Psychology/Philosophy Movie Night Friday, September 4, 6:30 pm - 9 pm

CSM Theatre

San Mateo Middle College Fall Back-to-School Night Wednesday, September 9, 6-8 pm College Center, Room 193

CSM Football vs. Modesto Junior College

Saturday, September 12, 1 pm CSM College Heights Stadium

### **Transfer Day**

Wednesday Sep 16, 9:30 am - 1 pm CSM College Center Building 10, Bayview Dining Room

**CSM Football vs. Butte College** 

Sat Sep 19, 2015 1:00 pm CSM College Heights Stadium

#### **Total Eclipse of the Harvest Supermoon**

Sunday, Sep 27, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

CSM College Center Terrace, Second Floor

### Student Success Story: Winnie Wu (Chiao-Hui Wu)

### **UC Berkeley, Communications**

Attending CSM was one of the best choices I have ever made. As an international student from Taiwan, I was really excited and nervous about studying in the United States. As it turned out I didn't have anything to be nervous about. At CSM I was able to pursue my dreams in a diverse educational environment. The college provided me a lot more opportunities than I ever expected and it prepared me for a higher level of education.

Thanks to encouragement from the staff at the International Student Center, I joined the International Student Club and Student Senate during my first year at the college. As an active member of both organizations, I learned to how to create big events, manage a group of



Photo provided by Transfer Services

people, and apply these events to social issues. I became a student senator and the president of the International Student Club. Those experiences helped me to develop leadership skills, hone my critical thinking abilities and transform my love for public speaking into a voice for students. I worked to become a bridge that connected cultures in the classroom between my teachers and my classmates, through peer-to-peer support.

I gained much from the support provided by **Mike Mitchell** in Transfer Services and **Martin Bednarek** in counseling. Mike provided information about different transfer approaches, such as the Transfer Admission Guarantees, assist.org, and the Common Application. He also gave me advice on my personal statement for my transfer application. Martin helped me to build my educational plan, kept track of my progress and helped me to make changes to fulfill the requirements of different universities that I was considering.

CSM was a great transition for me to continue my education in a different country. In two years of studying at CSM, I learned a lot both inside and outside of the classroom. I appreciate that CSM offered me many opportunities to experience various extracurricular activities which helped me prepare for the next stage in my education. Thanks to the wonderful faculty and staff, I gained admission to several top UC campuses, as well as USC. I decided to attend Berkeley and I know that my education at CSM will serve me well. (Original content contributed by Transfer Services)