

College of San Mateo

Executive Report to the Board of Trustees • January 27, 2010

CSM FORMER QUARTERBACK SHINES IN PLAYOFF GAME

Former CSM quarterback **Julian Edelman** (right), currently in his rookie season with the New England Patriots, gave a gem of a performance in the NFL playoff game between the Patriots and the Baltimore Ravens. Although the Patriots lost 33-14, Edelman, the wide receiver, caught six passes for 44 yards with two touchdowns. According to ESPN's NFL website, "It was an anticlimactic ending for the Patriots, but on the plus side, the team has unearthed a diamond-in-the-rough in Edelman, an unsung seventh-round pick, who has made a fast transition from college quarterback to NFL wideout." Edelman transferred from CSM to Kent State University where he was a standout starting quarterback.

Edelman's performance received a good deal of media coverage including an article that ran in the *Boston Globe* on January 7. It is available online at www.boston.com/sports/football/patriots/articles/2010/01/07/passing_the_torch



CSM LAUNCHES FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN

Earlier this month, the college kicked off a fund raising campaign to attract additional revenue during the fiscal crisis. The *Support CSM* page, accessed from the home page of CSM's website, describes several simple ways in which members of the college community can participate. Donations made

through *Support CSM*, go directly to the 2009-2010 Budget Crisis Fund to support and maintain classes and student services that have been impacted by the state budget. The college community can also show support by signing up for eScript, S.H.A.R.E.S., Amazon's Associates Program and Arctica; percentages of sales will directly benefit CSM. The site includes information for contacting state legislators for those wishing to advocate on behalf of community colleges. Another component that will be added to the site in the coming weeks is a series of video clips, produced by KCSM, featuring successful alumni requesting community support for CSM. The site can be accessed by going to:

<http://collegeofsanmateo.edu/communityandalumni/supportcsm.asp>



STUDENT SUCCESS STORY: CANDICE ALFARO
Academics + Leadership: A Formula for Success

As a first generation college student, **Candice Alfaro** grew up in a family that valued education and expected her to earn a college degree. While she was academically prepared to go from high school to a university as a freshman, like many students, she was undecided about what major to study and thought CSM would be a good place to start college. At CSM, Candice was able to explore various subjects, experience student life and discover what path she wanted to pursue.

With encouragement from CSM Counselor Modesta Garcia, Candice enrolled at CSM and began a journey that shaped the next several years of her life. She describes her experience at CSM as “filled with amazing teachers who helped me focus on my goals.” She joined the college’s student government and made an immediate connection with the campus and college life. Candice recalls that she was fortunate to have several important mentors at CSM, including Ms. Garcia, her counselor; student body president, Allan Young; and CSM’s former president, Dr. Shirley Kelly.



At CSM, she found exceptional opportunities for developing her leadership skills. Candice served as a student senator prior to being elected student body president. In her role as a student leader, she served on college committees representing the voice of the students in college governance. As a participant in college budget discussions during the State’s budget crisis in 2003, she felt that her contributions were taken seriously and respected by faculty, staff and administration with whom she worked. According to Candice, “the combination of my academic and leadership responsibilities at CSM grounded me in a way that transformed me from teenager to adult.” As an advocate for students, Candice discovered the power of people working together for a common goal. That experience helped guide her decision to major in political science.

With helpful advice and counsel throughout her years at CSM, Candice received acceptances to all of the seven UC campuses to which she applied; she chose to attend UC Berkeley, the university that had been her number one choice. While in political science classes at UC Berkeley, she realized that her calling was to make a difference and affect change in the lives of others. She got involved in grassroots-level volunteer work, first participating in the relief effort for Hurricane Katrina victims followed by volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and the Peninsula Humane Society. Candice says her volunteer experience, and in particular, her work with animals, has helped to define her future goal. Today, armed with an associate degree from CSM and bachelor’s degree in political science from Cal, she has returned to college and is completing requirements for admission to a graduate veterinary program.

WRITING IN THE END ZONE SCORES STATEWIDE HONOR

CSM's *Writing in the End Zone* program has been honored by the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) with a 2009-10 Exemplary Program Award in the Honorable Mention category. Currently in its seventh year, *Writing in the End Zone* pairs developmental English and transfer level composition courses with physical education and football. English faculty and coaches work in unison to provide students with the highest quality instruction, services and support. The program's primary goal is to facilitate success in a student's transition from basic composition to transfer-level composition and beyond. The team of faculty responsible for the development and implementation of *Writing in the End Zone* are **James Carranza, Teeka James, Bret Pollack, Larry Owens, Jon Kitamura, Anne Stafford** and **Frederick Gaines**. CSM was one of only six community colleges in the state to be recognized by ASCCC with an award.



CSM STUDENTS CREATE PUBLIC ART

"Reflect, Rejoice, Renew," is the title of a sparkling new mosaic mural designed and created by students in CSM's Mosaic Mural class for Samaritan House. The mural which students donated to Samaritan House has been installed in the entrance of its new building located on Pacific Boulevard in San Mateo. The colorful artwork features a sunburst design with patterns that represent the diversity of cultures and people served the Samaritan House. The instructor of the class, **Jude Pittman**, associate professor of art, who teaches the class, commented, "Public art creates a dialogue in the community. It's something to enrich our lives on a daily basis." Students who designed, created, donated materials and helped to install the mosaic are: **Adam**

Klafter, Yvonne Long, Gail Mintz, Mary Ellen Presta, Gail Vannucchi Strack and Diana White. (Top photo: a student working on the installation of the mosaic; bottom photo: pre-installation mural layout)



EVENTS

► Despite last week's the stormy weather, CSM's Operation Welcome Mat (OWM) was up and running with a cadre of volunteers to assist students find their way around campus. Staff members and students, wearing easily identifiable blue shirts, were deployed at various locations in the morning through early afternoon and again in the evening. OWM was coordinated by **Alex Guiriba** of the Office of Community Relations and Marketing. In addition, the Student Life Office provided complimentary hot beverages to students and staff during the week. Photo: Student volunteers Sandie Bello and Arianna Avendano working the information table in the Science Building.

► **CSM's Financial Aid Office** recently sponsored two Cash for College Workshops at the San Mateo Main Public Library for high school seniors and college students. The workshops were designed to provide assistance in completing the FAFSA form and inform attendees about other sources of available funds to help pay for college.



► Earlier this month, **CSM's Student Senate** participated in a three-day leadership retreat that focused on the theme, "Leadership for Working with Diverse Populations." The overall goal in choosing this theme was to help student leaders develop a greater understanding of diversity issues that impact CSM students. The retreat, which was held in Los Angeles, included a four-hour visit to the Museum of Tolerance. Following the MOT experience, students attended a series of workshops facilitated by guest speakers from the LA area. The featured speakers included Carrie Afuso, coordinator of the Cross-Cultural Center at Pasadena City College, who helped the students process

the emotional experience of the MOT and discussed many of the important themes presented at the museum; Tom Selinke, a business and community leader in Pasadena, who addressed the "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People;" and Dr. Stephen Johnson, vice-president of student services at Cerritos College, who spoke about the importance of balancing decision making when working with a diverse group of stakeholders. *Photo: Student leaders pose during a retreat break.*

BULLDOGS REAP HONORS

Capping off an outstanding and historic football season, CSM's bulldogs have captured a number of exemplary individual honors. **Eddie Elder**, sophomore defensive back was selected was named Defensive Player of the Year in community college football. CSM lineman **Matangi Tonga** joins Elder in being named All-America First Team Defense for 2009; Tonga and Elder were also named All-California First Team Defense along with fellow teammate **Jack Forbes**.



Kudos to first-year head football coach **Bret Pollack** who was voted the All-State Region Coach of the Year and was runner up for National Coach of the Year. At the end of the 2009 season, Pollack was also named the Coast Conference Coach of the Year.



NOTABLE

★ CSM's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program received an \$8,000 grant from the United Way. Students in the program prepare income tax returns for qualifying individuals at no cost. VITA is a critical capstone for the tax program. The grant will cover all salaries and overhead for instructors and assistants. **Bruce Maule**, professor of accounting and **Donna Marcus**, CSM, an adjunct faculty member in accounting were instrumental in securing the funding. *Photo: left to right: Students Pina Gil and Quynh Le prepare a tax return for client Jeff Day.*

★ CSM alum **Rob Leary** (right) has been named as the Boston Red Sox's major league assistant. For the past eight years, Leary was Boston's minor league field coordinator. A graduate of Serra High School, Leary played at CSM during the 1980's, transferred to Louisiana State University and was selected by the Montreal Expos in the 12th round of the 1986 Major League Baseball Draft. He played five years of minor league baseball.



Photo: The Providence Journal, Kathy Borchers