

College of San Mateo

Executive Report to the Board of Trustees • April 28, 2010



ASCSM REPS GO TO WASHINGTON; ADVOCATE FOR STUDENTS

The Associated Students of CSM sent six members of the **Student Senate** to Washington, DC to advocate for education on behalf of CSM students. From April 9 to 13th, the students attended various workshops on advocacy. Using information from these workshops, the students crafted a message they would share with federal legislators. They focused their advocacy on two major issues: increased funding for categorical programs and support for HR 4196, the Community College Emergency Stabilization Act. While the categorical programs are mostly state funded, the students made the case that without federal assistance and due to the lack of state support, the effectiveness of these programs will be greatly diminished in coming years. They advocated for HR4196 as it would award grants to community colleges (based on student population increases and the local unemployment rate) to pay for staff and faculty salaries.



During their visit, the students met with staff members from the offices of Congresswoman Jackie Speier, Congresswoman Anna Eshoo and Congressman Pete Stark. The group was well-received, gaining support from all three Congressmembers on these issues. In a testament to their preparedness, Congresswoman Eshoo's legislative assistant remarked that it was one of the best meetings that she had participated in, and that the students should consider lobbying as a profession.

JACKIE SPEIER TO SPEAK AT CSM COMMENCEMENT

The Associated Students recently confirmed that Congresswoman **Jackie Speier** will be the speaker for CSM's 88th commencement ceremony on Friday, May, 28. She has served in Congress since 2008 representing the 12th district which includes San Mateo County and part of San Francisco. Congresswoman Speier is a member of three influential committees: Financial Services, Oversight and Government Reform and the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming. Prior to serving in Congress, she served in the California Legislature for 18 years. Over the years, the Congresswoman has been an ardent supporter of CSM making regular visits to meet with classes and speak at college events. This will be the second time she has served as commencement speaker at CSM.



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

CSM's Office of Student Life (formerly Student Activities) recently held an Open House to celebrate its new location in 17-112. The Open House featured a slide show of the 'March in March,' free games of pool on the new pool table and refreshments. Student Life is sponsoring "Hump Day Afternoon Movies" every



Wednesday at 1pm. This is the best deal around campus as movies and popcorn are free! The office is also in full gear with election season underway; students have been notified that election packets for ASCSM leadership positions for 2010-11 are currently available. The Associated Students will be celebrating its annual Spring Fling during the week of May 3 with three days of games, food and fun. Finally, during the week of May 10, the Office of Student Life, in conjunction with the Diversity in Action Group and the Associated Students, will be sponsoring Diversity Week. *(Photo: Children from the Child Development Center visit the new facilities.)*

ANNUAL COMPETITION TO HONOR HIGH SCHOOL FILMMAKERS

High School filmmakers will be honored at **KCSM's** 4th Annual *Spotlight!* High School Filmmaking Competition Awards Night to be held on May 2 in CSM's Theater. According to **Katherine Russell**, KCSM Producer/Director, "Video is a very popular tool for young people to express themselves, especially with today's access to production technology. At KCSM we want to recognize young talent, and encourage them to pursue their career dreams."

Winners in eight categories will receive Adobe Premiere editing software, Gorilla production management software, Avid Systems software, KillerTracks Sound Libraries, and \$500 scholarships to the College of San Mateo. In addition, the Best-of-Show winner will receive a \$1500 cash award. The young filmmakers will also have the opportunity to showcase their productions in front of thousands of Bay Area television viewers when the television series 'Youth Cinema' is broadcast later this year.



STUDENT SUCCESS STORY: GINO DE GRANDIS
Professional Photographer & Photojournalist
“CSM is my Cape Canaveral – it launched my career!”

A native of Venice, Italy, **Gino De Grandis** was a well-established chef and owner of a successful restaurant. While satisfied with his career, his passion had long been photography. Self-taught in the fundamentals, Gino knew that if he was to become a serious photographer he would need more formal education. Gino recalls, “One day, CSM’s *Schedule of Classes* arrived in my mail and it changed everything.” In flipping through the pages of the schedule, he found that CSM offered a photography program. Upon enrolling in his first classes he was immediately impressed by his professors who were also outstanding professional photographers. In addition, he was attracted to the diversity of the students in his classes– the range of ages, ethnicities and life experiences – which provided another dimension to this education: to learn from his fellow students.

While continuing to operate his restaurant, Gino attended CSM on a part-time basis for four years and, in that time, completed every photography class offered by the college. “CSM’s photography program changed my life. My professors, **Lyle Gomes** and **Richard Lohmann**, gave me the courage to change careers. They empowered me to realize my ability and become what I wanted to be.” Gomes and Lohmann recognized his readiness for work and encouraged him to take on his first professional job which was shooting the cover of CSM’s *Schedule of Classes* – the very publication that had inspired him to pursue photography. To this day, Gino continues to create images for covers of the college’s schedules and other publications.

Since completing his studies at CSM, Gino has established his own photography business which he has parlayed into a highly successful professional career that has taken him throughout the world. He has assembled a stunning portfolio reflective of his range and talent as a photographer. While many photographers specialize in a particular area of photography, Gino is equally at ease capturing a broad array of subject matter. His portfolio includes, but is not limited to, portraits, nature, fine art and travel photography.

In 2009, Gino visited four continents leading photo tours with an itinerary that included India, the Middle East, Europe and North Africa. As a photojournalist with the National Photographers of America, he has captured nature at its extreme and most dangerous as a storm chaser in eight Midwestern states. Gino has exhibited his work throughout California and in Europe. His photographs have appeared in the *New York Times* and *Sunset Magazine* and on the cover of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Business Times*, *Gentry Magazine* and many other regional and local publications.



“I tell people that there are so many possibilities for students at CSM and that it was an essential path to my career and my life. CSM is my Cape Canaveral – it launched my career!”

RETIREES VISIT HEALTH AND WELLNESS BUILDING

In 2008, **Mike Claire** hosted a group of SMCCCD retirees for the “Last Lunch” in Building 5 just prior to its demolition. At that event, he extended an invitation to the group to return when the new Health and Wellness Building was completed to enjoy the first lunch served in the facility. Making good on that promise, Mike recently hosted 35 retirees; in addition to lunch and lively conversation with former colleagues, they were given a private tour of the new building. They also received another invitation: lunch in the new Campus Center when it is completed in 2011.



Photos: top- Mike Claire leads retirees on a tour of the Fitness Center; below- retiree group photo.



CSM T-SHIRTS MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

The college donated a supply of CSM t-shirts to needy families in Guatemala. They were distributed by Aragon High School student **Erin Sullivan** who is president of the school’s Micro Lending Club.

Guatemalan children proudly display their new shirts.



CONNECT TO COLLEGE DRAWS A FULL HOUSE

On April 22, CSM hosted *Connect to College, A Night of Information for High School Seniors and Parents*. Approximately 350 students and parents attended this very successful annual event. It featured presentations and perspectives by students, faculty and university representatives and an engaging panel of successful CSM transfers and graduates. It included a hip-hop performance by CSM students, drawings for prizes and refreshments. The college received generous support from local

businesses that contributed refreshments and other resources for the event, including Safeway, Costco, Drip Coffee, PG&E, San Mateo Credit Union, Papagayo, Southwest Grill, and Celia's. Connect to College is coordinated by CSM's **Community Relations & Marketing Office**.

Photos: President Mike Claire welcomes parents and students; student panel members field questions.



KUDOS

★ On April 14, CSM's baseball team defeated Mission College 5-4 and handed **Doug Williams** (right) his 500th win as CSM head baseball coach. Williams has amassed an impressive overall record of 500-202 in his 16 seasons at CSM. The Bulldogs have averaged 32 wins per season since Williams took the helm in 1995. He is also a seven-time recipient of the Coast Conference Coach of the Year Award, most recently winning the award in 2009.



★ Five CSM student-veterans were honored by Congresswoman **Jackie Speier** at a recent Young Adults Town Hall Meeting. During the meeting, she highlighted their military service and contributions and presented them with certificates acknowledging their service to the global war on terrorism. The honored students were: **Adriana Bravo** (dental assisting student who served at Guantanamo Bay); **Anthony Petrini** (Marine who served in Iraq); **Clinton Ho** (served at Camp Pendleton and will be transferring to UC Berkeley); **John Preston** (Marine who served in Iraq and will graduate with honors in fire technology); and **Michael Lafors**, (former Army medic who was deployed in Iraq and survived a mortar blast).

★ CSM basketball player **Erica Hayes** (right) has signed a letter of intent with Dixie State College in Utah. Hayes, a standout guard for the Bulldogs, is a two-time, first team Northern California selection. She led an all-freshman team into the state playoffs for the first time. The speedy 5'7" Hayes, a graduate of Menlo-Atherton High School, averaged 19.9 points, 6.2 rebounds, 3 assists and 4.3 steals in her sophomore season.



★ **Bruce Martin**, adjunct faculty member in the fire technology program, has recently completed a master's degree in security studies, homeland security and defense from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey's Center for Homeland Defense and Security. The Center is the nation's premier homeland security educational provider.



★ CSM alum **Scott Feldman** (left), a starting pitcher with the Texas Rangers, had his major league contract extended through 2012 including a club option for 2013 with a guarantee of \$13.925 million. Feldman, 27, had a breakthrough season as a starter in 2009 with a 17-8 record. He was the 2010 Opening Day pitcher for the Rangers; Feldman did not get the decision although the Rangers won the game. From CSM, he was selected in the 30th round of the 2003 draft and was a relief pitcher for his first five years with Rangers.

★ The Lady Bulldog softball team, finished its regular season play (27-11 overall, 13-3 in conference) with a second place standing in the Coast Conference North Division and has secured a place in the playoffs. Members of the 2010 roster have received a number of accolades: **Alyssa Jepsen** – All State Team and Coast Conference Player of the Year; **Sam Pacheco, Nicole Cardoza, Lauren Cole** and **Meggan Craviottio** – 1st Team, All Conference; **Stephanie Bautista, Callie Pacheco, Tai Vegas** and **Tatiana Frelli** – 2nd Team All Conference. **Nicole Borg** is the head softball coach.



EVENTS ON CAMPUS

▶ On Saturday, May 1, from 12 – 3 pm, the **Mary Meta Lazarus Child Development Center** presents a Spring Benefit Concert featuring the Reggae sounds of the Bay Area band, “Native Elements,” on the CSM Plaza next to the Health and Wellness Building. The concert is a celebration of children and families and all proceeds will go directly to benefit the Child Development Center. Admission is \$12 for adults, \$10 for students and free for children under 13 years old. The event will include children’s activities, drawings and prizes, parent resources and tours of CSM’s new Health and Wellness Building. Attendees are encouraged to bring a blanket and picnic lunch. Tickets may be purchased in advance by calling 574-6279 or at the event.

▶ On Wednesday, May 12, the President’s Lecture Series welcomes noted journalist and bestselling author **Michael Pollan**. He is author of *In Defense of Food: An Eater’s Manifesto*, and the companion book, *The Omnivore’s Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals*, which was named one of the ten best books of 2006 by the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. Pollan is also the author of *The Botany of Desire: A Plant’s Eye View of the World*, a *New York Times* bestseller that was the basis for a 2009 PBS documentary by the same name. The presentation begins at 12:10pm in the Theatre. A reception and book signing will take place immediately following the lecture.



Michael Pollan (photo: Ken Light)

▶ CSM will host the annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, May 5 from 3-4:30 pm in the Theatre. Light refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

▶ The Library is offering CSM Learning 2.0, a series of work sessions designed to provide hands-on experience with various Web 2.0 learning tools. Earlier sessions included Google Docs for instructors and staff and using social networking sites of Facebook, Twitter, Wiggio and Ning; on May 12, the series will feature using media (Jing, Flickr, Issu, YouTube and Blip) to communicate with students. The sessions are open to all staff and faculty.

▶ On May 3, CSM’ big bands will perform in a Jazz Concert from 7:30 – 9:30 pm in the Theatre that will feature the music of Count Basie, Maria Schneider and Thad Jones.

▶ On Thursday, May 6, CSM’s Symphonic Band, conducted by Professor of Music **Michael Galisatus**, will perform the music of the classic wind band repertoire including music from *The Lord of the Rings*. The concert will take place from 7:30-9:30 pm in the Theatre.

▶ The Psychology/Philosophy Film Series will host a screening of the movie, *Food, Inc* on Friday, May 14 from 6:30-9:30 pm in the Theatre. A discussion of the film will take place immediately following the screening.