Student Ambassadors Attend National Conference in Pittsburgh

On August 6 and 7, College of San Mateo Student Ambassadors Melissa Aliu and Michael Ryan joined Outreach Coordinator Alex Guiriba, at the 16th Annual National Student Recruitment Conference held at the University of Pittsburgh. The conference is designed to improve outreach programs and allow for collaboration between students and college staff. This year’s conference was the largest in its history with more than 100 attendees. Thirty-six colleges and universities participated; CSM was one of two community colleges nationwide and the only institution from California. This was the second year that CSM ambassadors participated in the conference.

Aliu and Ryan facilitated a workshop entitled “Ambassadors in the Galaxy,” a PowerPoint presentation that focused on community service, high school and community college outreach and social networking recruitment strategies.

CSM’s Student Ambassadors have developed goals for 2012-13 that are based on strategies learned at the conference, including implementing tour evaluations, an ambassador mentorship program and professionalizing the program via business cards, ambassador shirts and the utilization of microphones for large group tours. CSM’s team was funded by the Associated Students and Classified Staff Development Program. Aliu and Ryan were selected for the conference by members of CSM’s Community Outreach Advisory Council. (Photo provided by: Alex Guiriba)
Learning Center Establishes New Peer Tutoring Program

The CSM Learning Center launched its new Academic-Peer Tutoring Program for the fall term. Twenty CSM students were selected to offer both individual and small-group tutorial sessions in a variety of subjects: anatomy, art history, biology, computer information science, chemistry, economics, history, math, music, nursing, philosophy, physics, political science, psychology, sociology and statistics.

This program exists in partnership with faculty and staff to support and increase student motivation and achievement. All peer tutors are required to complete a tutor-training course that explores a variety of procedures for understanding and utilizing effective practices to assess a tutee's needs. The Academic-Peer Tutoring Program is currently under review for certification through College Reading Learning Association’s (CRLA) International Tutor Training Program. (Article contributed by Jennifer Mendoza; Photo credit: Pepper Powell)

A Warm Welcome for New Faculty and Staff

On September 11, the President’s Office hosted a reception to welcome new faculty and staff. Each new employee was introduced by his/her respective dean or supervisor. CSM’s new faculty and staff:

Faculty
Stephanie Alexander, Michael Brunicardi, Kevin Chin, Catherine Ciesla, Lorena Gonzalez, Kathleen Sammut

Classified Staff
Lindsey Bynum, Laurie Carrasquedo, Olivia Cortez-Figueroa, Alicia Frangos, Erin Gruman, Wing Kam, Patricia Kwok, Patricia Powell, Lani Sevilla, Michael Vargas, Helia Ying, Valerie Young

(Photos credit: CSM Community Relations and Marketing)
ASCSM Hosts Welcome Week

Between Aug. 28 and 30, the ASCSM kicked off the fall 2012 semester by hosting Welcome Week. The event is a way to welcome new and returning students to campus. During the three-day event, the Associated Students hosted a rock climbing wall, a mechanical bull ride, and local radio stations. In addition, students were treated to free food, given an ASCSM drawstring backpack with information about college programs and services, and met members of the ASCSM. (Article contributed by Fauzi Hamadeh; Photo credit: Alicia Kinert)

Middle College Students Participate in Home Building Project

Eleven San Mateo Middle College High School students participated in a Habitat for Humanity (HFH) condominium building project in Daly City on August 15. Students were divided into several groups led by HFH project managers. Students performed tasks such as cutting and hanging siding, plastering and painting rooms and cutting and fitting drywall. The event was tied into the opening week of the fall semester’s orientation activities. (Article contributed by Greg Quigley; Photo credit: Greg Quigley)

Kudos

~ English Instructor Jeramy Wallace has received a fellowship with Stanford University’s Human Rights Education Initiative (SHREI), a multi-disciplinary project that aims to advance human rights curricula at the community college level. This is the second year that a member of the CSM faculty has been selected for the fellowship (Professor of English Tim Maxwell was a SHREI fellow last year). As part of Jeramy and Tim’s commitment to human rights education, they will be working with their students to plan the second annual CSM Human Rights Day to be held on November 8. (Photo credit: CSM Community Relations and Marketing)

~ Professor of Music Mike Galisatus and his Big Band performed at the Bach Dynamite and Dancing Society, a picturesque seaside venue in Half Moon Bay, earlier this month. The band featured vocalist Duane Lawrence and some of the Bay Area’s finest jazz musicians. (Graphic source: Hellbent Marketing)
~ CSM graduate Rahsaan Vaughn was highlighted in the August 20, 2012 college football preview issue of Sports Illustrated Magazine as University of Oregon's (UO) "Breakout Player." Rahsaan is in his second year at UO having transferred after he earned his AA degree from CSM in 2011. He was part of the of UO team that won the Rose Bowl earlier this year (the first for UO in 95 years). Rahsaan received many academic and athletic accolades while at CSM. In 2010, he was voted 1st Team All-American, and in 2009, he was instrumental in the Bulldogs' march to the State championship game. Rahsaan received many scholarship opportunities from top schools including Cal, USC, Georgia and Miami. Although he did not graduate from high school he enrolled at CSM where he was academically influenced by the "Writing in the End Zone" faculty.

The entire Sports Illustrated article can be viewed online: http://www.oregonlive.com/ducks/index.ssf/2012/08/oregon_ducks_rundown_whos_your.html (Graphic source: Sports Illustrated)

~ CSM’s Cheer Squad Captures Awards

CSM’s cheer squad took home several awards from the Universal Cheerleader’s Association College Cheer Camp held at UC Santa Barbara: third place in the Junior College Division Sideline Cheer, third place in the Mascot Division, the Camp Improvement Award and the Leadership Award. This was the first time CSM Cheer attended UCA Cheer camp and the team made a good impression on the camp staff and to other college and university teams that participated (UC Berkeley, Sierra College, Glendale College, Sacramento State University and UC Davis, to name a few). The members learned many new stunt techniques and cheers which they will showcase at home CSM football and basketball games. Members of CSM Cheer squad are Angela Bianchi, Biancha Gonzalez, Briana Turk, Brianna Musso, Cassidy Palmer, Courtney Fil, Joel Vasquez, Kathleen O’Brien, Mona Abboud, Shelby Martin, Irene Ruiz and Bria Naylor. Coach Liz Diegle is in her second year leading the CSM Cheer.

~ Denaya Dailey, an adjunct faculty member in physical education who teaches the Yoga Teacher Training Certification Program, just had her first graduating class of 19 students. The graduates are now are prepared to enter the workforce to teach yoga in health clubs. Of the 19 graduates, five have received internships at SMAC. (Photo credit: Community Relations and Marketing)
Three paintings by Art Instructor Rebecca Alex are currently on display at the Pajaro Valley Arts Council Gallery’s show, “Monterey Bay: Land, Air and Sea.” Local artists from the Monterey Peninsula were asked to interpret the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary to celebrate its 20th anniversary. Alex painted three specific locations: Seaside Dunes, Capitola Wharf and West Cliff Drive. The show runs through October 2, 2012. More information is available by visiting www.pvarts.org. (Graphic source: Pajaro Valley Arts Council)

CSM alum Michael Matoso who played baseball for the bulldogs and subsequently transferred to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on an athletic scholarship has been named the director of athletics at California State University, Stanislaus. Matoso spent 13 years with University of San Diego in administrative positions, including six years as senior associate athletic director. He received his BS and MA degrees from Cal Poly. A graduate of Carlmont High School, Matoso attended CSM from 1988-90. (Photo source: Modesto Bee)

Upcoming Events
- Lockdown Drill, Thursday, September 20, 10:30 am and 7:15 pm
- Jazz Under the Stars, Saturday, September 22, 7-10 pm, Rooftop Observatory
- CSM Football vs. Delta College, Saturday, September 29, 1 pm, Bulldog Stadium
- President’s Lecture Series, Wednesday, October 10, 11:10 am – noon, Theatre
- Faculty Service Awards and Ice Cream Social, Wednesday, October 10, 12:30-2pm, College Center Terrace
Student Success Story: Victoria Anderson

U.C. Davis, Communications Major

Victoria Anderson fulfilled her goal of attending a university after high school graduation. However, the path to college for the Notre Dame High School graduate wasn’t as straightforward as planned. After a year at a State university campus, and despite doing well in her classes, Victoria realized that she wasn’t ready to make that big step as a college freshman. She decided to return home and attend CSM for her sophomore year. In doing so, Victoria became one of a growing number of reverse transfer students – students who begin their college education at universities and transfer to community colleges. “Although some people criticized my decision, I enrolled at CSM with a positive attitude and the mindset that I would work hard and earn the grades I needed to get into the UC campus of my choice. I also needed some time to figure out a major and where I wanted to transfer,” says Victoria.

“CSM opened doors for me to succeed. I benefited greatly from the college’s counseling services. I met regularly with my counselor to make sure I was on the right path to transfer by the end of my sophomore year.” Victoria also tapped into the resources offered by Transfer Services by attending workshops about transfer agreements and the application process, meeting with university representatives and attending the college’s transfer events. “I also met with my professors to make sure I understood the material presented in class. Classes were not university-size which gave me the chance to interact with my professors. These resources definitely made me a better student.”

During her year at CSM, Victoria felt that the college gave her the opportunity to grow as an individual and prepare her for the next step. “For the first time in my life, I looked forward to going to school. My professors were amazing – they had passion for their subjects and they truly wanted their students to succeed. One particular class where I learned valuable life lessons was ‘Introduction to Ethnic Studies’ taught by Rudy Ramirez. The material he presented was very meaningful because I learned so much about myself. Rudy’s class has had a lasting impact on me.”

Victoria discovered that another advantage of attending CSM was the ability to develop bonds with professors and classmates, an experience that she didn’t find at the university level. She also learned that by going to CSM and completing all lower division transfer requirements, she had a broader selection of universities to choose from than she did right out of high school. Following a very successful year at CSM, Victoria transferred to U.C. Davis in fall 2012 as a communications major. “I’m so glad I came home and attended CSM because it helped me in so many ways. Most importantly CSM helped me to reevaluate my life, decide on a major that better suited my strengths, and select a university that is a good fit for me. I’m definitely ready for the next step in my education.”

(Photo credit: CSM Community Relations and Marketing)