President’s Weekly Briefing—November 7, 2014

The Kentfield and Indian Valley Campuses will be closed on Tuesday, November 11, in honor of Veterans Day.

On Tuesday we remember and honor the many veterans who have answered the call to military service. This semester at COM we have 30 student-veterans enrolled in classes, and many more participating in lifelong learning through our Community Education Program. We also have faculty and staff who are veterans. Please join me in thanking these remarkable men and women who have served our country. Their sacrifices, dedication, and commitment to democracy deserve our most heartfelt and sincere gratitude.

The COM Veterans Association is hosting a Burger Burn to celebrate the service of all U.S. military veterans on Monday, November 10, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the Student Services Building. The Burger Burn (also known as the Hail and Farewell) is a tradition on many military bases. It is a time for celebrating promotions, welcoming new service members to a base, and saying goodbye to those moving on. Military veterans will share their experiences and Veterans Administration representatives, along with other student club representatives, will be available to answer questions. All are invited to enjoy the free BBQ.

November Data Nugget
College of Marin’s strategic plan calls for developing courses and services that allow for anytime/anywhere delivery. According to the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) results from spring 2014, approximately 90 percent of COM students prefer to register for classes, review their account, and manage other college-related business using computers and smartphones. Additional findings about our students’ use of information technology will be presented in various college forums and posted on the PRIE website.

Transportation and Commute Committee Needs Your Input
A Transportation and Commute Committee was recently formed at COM to research and develop a comprehensive commute program at the College. Their goal is to offer all COM students, staff, and faculty free or reduced public transportation passes. Below is a link to a brief transportation survey developed in part by Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART), Marin Transit, and COM committee members. Your responses are very important in understanding current commute patterns and how the most effective and cost efficient transportation program can be developed.

Please complete the transportation survey by November 13. Thank you in advance for your time.

Kudos
A photography show by Biology Instructor Brennan Wenck-Reilly opens this Sunday, November 9, at Café St. Jorge, 3438 Mission Street, San Francisco. Esta Vida Andina is a collection of his photographs taken during his time spent in the Andes while working with the Peace Corps. The show runs through Thanksgiving. An opening reception will be held November 9, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

**Flexible Spending Account Information**
The maximum Flexible Spending Account (FSA) amount for out-of-pocket medical/dental expenses has increased from $2,500 to $2,550.

**Discounted Tickets to Cirque de Soleil for COM Employees**
College employees can take advantage of discounted tickets to performances of the current Cirque de Soleil production, KURIOS—Cabinet of Curiosities running November 14, 2014, to January 18, 2015, in San Francisco. KURIOS is an ingenious blend of unusual curiosity acts and the stunning acrobatic prowess that Cirque de Soleil is known for. Purchase tickets online through Tickets at Work or by phone at (800) 331-6483. Use company code: Marin.

**Upcoming Events**

**2014 Fall Dance Concert—Visions**
Choreography by COM Dance Faculty
Production Design by e. “Ernie” Ernstrom

Enjoy pieces choreographed by our faculty at the fall dance concert, Visions. Experience musing in movement and temperament, soaring playfulness, and the spirit of going forward together as one force. The November 7 and 8 performances feature Miya Hisaka and dancers of the San Domenico Dance Ensemble.

**November 7 and 8, 8 p.m.**
James Dunn Theatre, Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

Tickets are $20 general; $15 seniors; and $10 students, COM employees, and alumni. Buy your tickets through the Box Office at (415) 485-9385.

**Contemporary Opera Marin—Devilish Delights**
Paul Smith, director

Contemporary Opera Marin presents Devilish Delights, eight micro and mini operas including Rodion Shchedrin’s Three Choral Scenes, Stephen Oliver’s Cinderella, or The Vindication of Sloth, Jonathan Dove’s Greed and others. This free 75-minute program is fully staged in English and is appropriate for the whole family.

**Friday, November 7, 7:30 p.m.**
Lefort Recital Hall (PA72), Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

**Saturday, November 8, 7:30 p.m.**
Muir Beach Community Center, Muir Beach

**Sunday, November 9, 7 p.m.**
The Dance Palace
503 B Street, Pt. Reyes Station

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**Selected Works by Robert Brady—Artist’s Reception Tomorrow**
An exhibition of Robert Brady’s selected works is on display at the Fine Arts Gallery and runs through November 26. There will be a **reception for the artist on Saturday, November 8, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.** at the gallery. This free exhibition is open to the public and has been made possible courtesy of the artist and the Jack Fischer Gallery. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please email all inquiries to Chris West or call (415) 485-9494.

**Student Success Speaker Series—Renter’s Rights**
The speaker series continues with the next presentation on **Wednesday, November 12, at noon** in the Student Services Building, Kentfield Campus. Legal Aid of Marin Staff Attorney Araceli Ontiveros-Venegas will present an overview of tenant’s rights.

**Upcoming Sessions**

**November 19**
**Desserts from Around the World**
Co-sponsored by the Office of International Education and ASCOM

**New Evening Session Added November 19**
**Overview and updates on AB 540, Dream Act, and DACA**
Jose Arreola, Educators for Fair Consideration
4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

A complete list of seminars presented this fall is available online.

**International Education Week**
The Office of International Education will host the second International Education Week at the Kentfield Campus **November 18-20.** A wide variety of cultural events, food, and music will be offered during the three day event. Submit pictures from your travel outside the U.S. to enter the travel photo contest. Photos must be received by November 16. The event is open to all COM students, faculty, and staff. For more information contact Rebecca Freeland.

**Free STD Testing for Students November 19**
The Health Center will hold free, painless, STD testing Wednesday, November 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 pm at the Kentfield Campus. Chlamydia and Gonorrhea testing is available on a
drop-in basis. Students who would like to include HIV testing must schedule an appointment by calling (415) 485-9458.

**College of Marin Symphony Orchestra**  
**Tara Flandreau**, director

Masterworks of the classical and romantic eras presented by the full orchestra.

**November 22, 7:30 p.m.**  
James Dunn Theatre, Performing Arts Building  
Kentfield Campus

**December 6, 3 p.m.**  
Performing Arts Building, Lobby  
Kentfield Campus

**Hooked on Marin Speaker Series—Strong Cognitive Health**

The Community Education Department, along with collaborating Marin County public service agencies and educational districts, presents *Strong Cognitive Health* as part of the Hooked on Marin Speaker Series. Unquestionably important is the health of your brain—in particular, avoiding cognitive impairment and Alzheimer’s. Be part of state-of-the-art scientific research that originated at the Buck Institute for Research on Aging. Join Dr. John Q. Walker as he describes a high-tech systems approach that is tailored precisely to an individual’s blood chemistry, genetics, and medical history.

**Strong Cognitive Health**  
Presented by **John Q. Walker**, Ph.D., founder of Muses Labs

**Wednesday, December 3, 7 p.m.**  
Corte Madera Community Center  
498 Tamalpais Dr., Corte Madera

For more information or to purchase tickets call (415) 927-5072 or visit [www.HookedonMarin.com](http://www.HookedonMarin.com). General admission tickets are $15.

**College of Marin Symphonic Band**  
**Trevor Björklund**, director

The Symphonic Band presents a concert of works including great American and Italian marches plus powerful and elegant music inspired by romantic ballet. Tap your feet to Gustav Holst's *First Suite in Eb, Danse Bacchanale* from Saint Saens' *Samson et Delila*, Glieré's *Russian Sailors Dance*, *Funeral March of a Marionette* by Gounod, and the indescribable *March of the Martians*, by Emil Soderstrom. Bring the whole family!

**December 3, 7:30 p.m.**  
James Dunn Theatre, Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

An Evening of Chamber Music
Tara Flandreau, director

The chamber music class performs trios, quartets, and quintets from three centuries of the classical repertoire. A different program will be presented each evening.

December 4, 8 p.m.
Lefort Recital Hall (PA72), Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

Jazz Ensemble
Cayce Carnahan, director

Take a seat at the James Dunn Theatre on December 6 at 7:30 p.m. and enjoy the music of Count Basie, featuring some of the finest swing music ever written. Also, evening performances at the Sausalito Seahorse each second Thursday of the month.

Advanced Voice Class Recital: Stars and the Heavens — Celestial Songs
Linda Noble Brown, director

Man has long been fascinated with gazing into the sky. Composers, likewise, have embraced the mystery and vastness of the night sky. This recital will explore the universe beyond the Earth's atmosphere, both real and imagined, with songs chosen from a variety of genres (arias, art songs, musical theatre), each captivated by the stars and the heavens.

Sunday, December 7, 3 p.m.
The Tamalpais Retirement Community
501 Via Casitas, Greenbrae

Beginning Voice Class—Audience Ready! First Open Recital

Our beginning singers have been working all semester on their first onstage performance. Share the thrill and excitement as our singers courageously step in front of the audience. You will hear a lovely mix of folk songs and art songs, and perhaps even a short aria, as the singers are allowed make their own choices from within the class repertoire.

Monday, December 8, 2:10 p.m.
Lefort Recital Hall (PA 72), Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

Ongoing Events
Emeritus Center Exhibit Featuring Nancie West Swanberg
Nancie West Swanberg is the featured artist in the Emeritus Center’s current exhibition; read more about her online. The Emeritus Center on the Kentfield Campus is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The show runs through the end of December.

Seasonal Flu Shots Available at the Health Center
The College of Marin Health Center will be offering seasonal flu shots to students, faculty, and staff for $10; and to the community for $20. Fees go to help support our Nursing Program.

Flu shots are available by appointment at the following dates and times:
Mondays 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays 8 a.m. – noon
Wednesdays 8 a.m. – noon and 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Fridays 8 a.m. – noon

Call (415) 485-9458 for an appointment or more information. The Health Center is not a Medicare provider and is not able to bill insurance plans. Anyone wishing to receive a flu shot must be 18 years of age or older.

Fall Sports

Men’s Basketball
COM vs. City College of San Francisco
Friday, November 7, 6 p.m. in San Francisco
COM vs. West Valley College
Saturday, November 22, 5 p.m. in Saratoga

Women’s Soccer
COM vs. Mendocino College
Wednesday, November 12, 3 p.m. in Kentfield

Women’s Volleyball
COM vs. Solano College
Wednesday, November 12, 6 p.m. in Fairfield
COM vs. Contra Costa College
Friday, November 14, 6 p.m. in San Pablo

Women’s Basketball
COM vs. Modesto Junior College
Thursday, November 13, 1 p.m. in Livermore
COM vs. Skyline College
Thursday, November 20, 7 p.m. in Kentfield

Men’s Soccer
COM vs. Contra Costa College
Friday, November 14, 3 p.m. in San Pablo

Have a great weekend,

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President