President’s Weekly Briefing—January 31, 2013

Welcome to our new VP of Student Services

Our new Vice President of Student Services Jonathan Eldridge brings a wonderful enthusiasm for students, a depth of experience, and outstanding leadership skills to the college. Eldridge held for seven years a similar position at Southern Oregon University, a small, public liberal arts college in Ashland, Oregon. Prior to that, he spent about 10 years at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon where he worked as dean of students and director of residence life/coord of judicial affairs.

The new vice president of student services position was created as part of an institutional reorganization designed to achieve new objectives as outlined in the college’s Strategic Plan 2012-2015. The new post replaces a vacant dean of student development position and assumes a portion of the duties previously held by the vice president of student learning.

Eldridge received a bachelor’s degree in History with a minor in Political Science from Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington. His master’s degree at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado, Student Affairs in Higher Education, focused on bringing together different elements of an institution to make sure students have a successful and integrated college experience.

Eldridge is married to Rima DasGupta, a newly tenured sociology professor at Santa Rosa Junior College. He is an avid cook and wine enthusiast and, while he has historically cheered on the Seattle Mariners, he promises to root for Bay Area baseball teams.

Spring 2013 Welcome Week

College of Marin will host its spring 2013 Welcome Week February 19 through 21 at the Kentfield Campus and February 19 and 20 at the Indian Valley Campus. Vendors will be on site at both campuses with special offers for students, staff, and faculty. Featured vendors include: The Marin Independent Journal, San Francisco Chronicle, Comcast, Verizon, Redwood Credit Union, Riley’s Art Supplies, Gideon Bible, Blue Cross, Allstate, KMEL, Live 105, Lobo’s Ice Cream, Marin Education Fund, Union Bank, Citibank, Wells Fargo, and many wonderful art and jewelry vendors. Make sure to take a break and join in the festivities. For further information, please call Vickie Lamke in the Student Affairs Office at (415) 485-9376.

Kentfield Campus
February 19, 20, and 21
10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Learning Resources Center Quad

Indian Valley Campus
February 19 and 20
10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Building 27, Internet Café Quad
Opening Night Gala Performance of *Big River*—Limited Tickets Available

Directed by **James Dunn**  
Musical Direction by **Paul Smith**  
Choreography by **Sandra Tanner**  
Based on the book by **William Hauptman**

 Reserve your tickets today for a gala event celebrating the dedication of the James Dunn Theatre and 80th birthday party for **James Dunn**.

**Gala Pre-show Talk and Reception with James Dunn**—$65  
**Opening Night Performance and Post-show Party**  
**Preferred Seating and Parking**  
Friday, March 1, 2013, 6:30 p.m.  
John H. Myers Rehearsal Hall, PA 75  
Performing Arts Building

**Opening Night Performance and Post-show Party**—$40  
Friday, March 1, 2013, 8 p.m.  
James Dunn Theatre

The Marin County Premier of *Big River* is presented by special arrangement with Rodgers & Hammerstein Theatricals. As American as apple pie, *Big River* recently played to sold out houses at TheatreWorks in Palo Alto. Based on *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, by **Mark Twain**, this show is everyone’s favorite bad boy adventure story. Tom Sawyer, The Duke, The King, and all the other wonderful characters from Twain’s masterpiece come to life as Huck Finn and Jim, the runaway slave, raft their way down the Big Muddy—the mighty Mississippi River. With a musical score reminiscent of the music of preslavery days in Missouri, this show will be a wonderful outing for the entire family.

Tickets are limited, RSVP recommended. All proceeds will benefit College of Marin Performing Arts Programs. Contact the box office at (415) 485-9385 for tickets and information.

**Additional performances of Big River**  
February 28 (Pay-What-You-Will Preview)  
March 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16 at 8 p.m.  
March 10 and 17 at 2 p.m.  
Tickets: $25 general, $18 seniors, $15 students, $10 children 12 and under
Spring Semester Puente Speaker
Puente Project speaker Michele Serros will give a presentation tonight on *Cross-Over Success: The Trials and Tribulations of a Former Transfer Student* from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Student Services Building, Deedy Staff Lounge. Serros is the author of *Chicana Falsa and Other Stories of Death, Identity and Oxnard; How to be a Chicana Role Model; Honey Blond Chica; and ¡Scandalosa!* Formerly she was a staff writer for the *George Lopez Show*, has written for the *Los Angeles Times, Ms. Magazine, CosmoGirl, Marie Claire,* and the *Washington Post.* Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Puente/Basic Skills Counselor Luz Moreno or call (415) 485-9666.

Flu Shots Available at a Reduced Cost
The College of Marin Health Center will be offering seasonal flu shots to students and faculty at both the Kentfield and Indian Valley Campuses.

Flu shots are $5 for students, $10 for faculty and staff.

**Kentfield Campus Clinics:**
Mondays: 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Tuesdays and Wednesdays: 8:30 a.m. to noon
Wednesdays: 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. (must call before coming in)
Thursdays: 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. 3:30 p.m.
Fridays: 8 a.m. to noon

**Indian Valley Campus Clinics**
*No drop-ins; you must call for an appointment*
Mondays: 9 a.m. to noon
Tuesdays: 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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 shot must be 18 years of age or older.

**January Data Nugget**
Can you guess the correct answer to the question below?
In spring 2012, what was College of Marin’s overall course success* rate?
a) 89%    b) 81%    c) 73%    d) 65%

* success = received a grade of C or higher

The answer to this and other interesting information is located in PRIE’s *Fact Book.*
Newly Released Employment Statistics
The following New Labor Market statistics were released as of January 17, 2013, for the San Francisco Metropolitan statistical area.

The unemployment rate in Marin County was 5.5 percent in December 2012, down from a revised 5.8 percent in November 2012, and below the year-ago estimate of 6.4 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 9.7 percent for California and 7.6 percent for the nation during the same period. Marin County registered the lowest unemployment rate among California's 58 counties as of December 2012.

The Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recently released jobs and wage data for the largest counties in the country. Jobs located in Marin County increased by 3.6 percent on a year-over basis as of June 2012, ranking it 27th in performance of the 329 largest counties in the nation. The U.S. posted a job gain of 1.8 percent, and California an addition of 2.4 percent, based on those Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages data. Marin County average weekly wages for the second quarter of 2012 rose by 1.5 percent from the same quarter a year earlier, ranking it 133rd in percent wage change of those largest counties. The nation saw wages increase by 1.3 percent over the year, and the state a wage gain of 1.8 percent.

Sports
Men’s Basketball vs. Los Medanos
Friday, February 1, 7:30 p.m. in Kentfield

Women’s Basketball vs. Los Medanos
Friday, February 1, 5:30 p.m. in Kentfield

Have a great weekend,

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President