President’s Weekly Briefing—March 7, 2013

Big River Opening Night and Dedication of James Dunn Theatre was a Great Success!

I couldn’t have been more pleased at the tremendous turnout for the opening night performance of Big River on Friday, March 1. The reception, a black tie affair that sold out months ago, featured a lively talk with Drama Professor James Dunn followed by a question and answer session moderated by W. Allen Taylor. Following the reception and talk, Big River provided the audience with a truly spectacular performance experience and showcased the amazing talent of both cast and crew. Members of the College of Marin Board of Trustees, Diana Conti, Eva Long, James Namnath, Stephanie O’Brien, and Wanden Treanor helped commemorate the occasion by dedicating the James Dunn Theatre in a special ceremony following the performance. Board President Dr. James Namnath presented the official board resolution. The dedication culminated with a resounding chorus of happy birthday sung by cast, crew, and audience members in celebration of James Dunn’s 80th birthday, which also coincided with the Gala. The audience was treated to an after party in the new Performing Arts Lobby replete with birthday cupcakes, coffee, and a chance to mingle with cast, crew, and college officials. I’d like to thank all of those who served on the Gala Planning Committee and also those who contributed to the event’s great success, including Bill Abright, Stephanie Ahlberg, Chester Arnold, Cole Aviles, Ishiah Benben, Ross Berger, Trevor Bjorklund, Ekaterina Borissova, Jackie Bruffée, Beatriz Carvallo, Moises Chavez, Shook Chung, Nicole Cruz, Abner Diaz, Jenny Donohue, Caroline Doyle, James Dunn, Jason Dunn, Daniel Dunne, Chris Egan, Tara Flandreau, Kahlil Gray, Jesse Harbison, Olivia Harrison, Jennifer Humble, Michael Irvine, Jessica Ivry, Barbara Jackson, Robin Jackson, Boyd Jarrell, Marvin Jones, Diane Judd, Lisa Kelly, Carrie Kelman, Todd Kendall, Mike Kessler, David Kester, Matt Kizer, Mike Klein, Kae Kositchaimongkol, Ronald Krempetz, Kristi Kuhn, Mitchell Lemay, Dave Mahoney, Marco Minoia, Lisa Morse, Lila Mullins, Yver Northum, Juan Obregon, Erik Ortman, Joanna Pinckney, Azarel Rainbow, Angela Rajchel, Annie Ricciuti, Annette Roggenbuck, Kate Salois, Maxine Sattizahn, Richard Sexton, Kit Shire, Kimberly Slater, David Leslie Smith, David Smith, Albert So, Cathy Summa-Wolfe, Sandra Tanner, W. Allen Taylor, Lucy Teper, Aiwa Troutman, Jessica Tucker, Ben Vasquez, Babz von Dallwitz, Hage von Dallwitz, David White, Savoie Wilson, and Stephen Wilson. I’d also like to thank Reprographics Staff, Maintenance and Operations Staff, Campus Police, and Media Services for their contribution of time and effort for the event. A number of local businesses and community members sponsored the event, including Bank of Marin, Associated Students College of Marin, COM alumna Grace Hughes, Midstate Construction, Ross Valley Players, Barbara Meislin and The Purple Lady Fund, The Club at Harbor Point, Wells Fargo, and Westpark Express. Special thanks to, Mountain Play, Godwin Family Vineyards and our media sponsor the Marin Independent Journal for their in-kind contributions.

Most of all, I would like to thank James Dunn for continuing to provide us with high-caliber quality performing arts experiences.
To all of you who attended the Gala—thank you for making it a truly memorable night. If you haven’t yet seen *Big River*, there is still time to enjoy this superb show. Tickets are on sale in advance or at the door for performances on March 8, 9, 15, and 16 at 8 p.m. March 10 and 17 at 2 p.m. Tickets are $25 general, $18 seniors, $15 students, and $10 children 12 and under.

**Deadline Approaching for College of Marin Scholarship Applications**

Each year College of Marin awards a variety of scholarships to College of Marin students. The scholarships range from $150–$1500 and are awarded each spring for the next academic year. Awards are available for graduating students, students who will be continuing their studies at College of Marin, and students transferring to 4-year schools.

**Application Procedures and Eligibility**

All application materials must be completed and received in the Financial Aid Office at either the Kentfield or Indian Valley Campus **by 4 p.m., Friday, April 5, 2013**. The Scholarship Committee reviews applications. Recipients are selected on the basis of financial need, academic performance and individual merit, in addition to the criteria that may have been specified by the scholarship donor. Criteria vary according to the wishes of the donor and may require that the recipient be enrolled in a particular major or meet other qualifications.

To be eligible for a scholarship, students must meet the following criteria at the time of application:

- Have completed at least 15 units at College of Marin in a major or in general education
- Have a College of Marin cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.75
- Be enrolled in at least 6 units at College of Marin

Students must submit all of the following to the Financial Aid Office at either the Kentfield or Indian Valley Campus by 4 p.m., Friday, April 5, 2013:

1. The **completed and signed** application form.
2. One letter of recommendation from a College of Marin instructional faculty member who is aware of the student’s **current** academic work.
3. A one-page statement of the student’s current educational and career goals, personal achievements, and why the student is deserving of a scholarship.

**Please note:** It is recommended that applications be typed or printed using black ink. The quality of your application will reflect the thoughtfulness and effort you put into it.

Applicants will be notified of their status in early May. At the Awards Ceremony held on May 22, 2013, recipients will be notified which scholarship they have received, the amount, and the procedures for receiving the scholarship. If you have questions, contact the College of Marin Financial Aid Office at (415)-485-9409.

Applications may be obtained from the Financial Aid office at either campus or downloaded from the College of Marin [website](#).
Vegetable Crop Succession and Rotation Planting Workshop

On Saturday, March 23, 2013, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. College of Marin, along with Conservation Corps North Bay and The University of California Cooperative Extension will offer a workshop on vegetable crop succession and rotation planting at the Indian Valley Organic Farm and Garden. Crop succession refers to following one crop with another to maximize use of space. Rotational planting means not growing plants from the same plant family in the same place in consecutive years. Workshop presenter Wendy Krupnick will explain the details of both of these good gardening practices. The cost of the workshop is $40.

Scenarios for both large and small gardens will be explored. Wendy has had a career in organic gardening and farming for 30 years. She is currently an Adjunct Faculty member at Santa Rosa Junior College Shone Farm. She has also managed variety trials and demonstration gardens at Shepherd’s Garden Seeds. Register online now the class size is limited to 35. Master Gardeners receive three continuing education hours for their attendance.

The farm stand will be open to the public for produce, fruit tree, and plant sales from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Parking at the Indian Valley Campus is free on weekends. Please wear walking shoes with closed toes and be prepared for rain. For more information contact Liz Peer. Proceeds support the Indian Valley Organic Farm and Garden, pay for instructors, and public outreach by Master Gardeners.

Healthcare/Dental Employment Fair

The annual spring Healthcare/Dental Employment Fair will take place, Monday, April 22, in the Student Services Building, main floor from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Medical and dental recruiters from all over the Bay Area will be in attendance to present employment and continuing education opportunities. Healthcare agencies will be accepting resumes and application.

Resources are open to community members as well as College of Marin students and alumni. Anyone interested in a position in nursing or dental assisting should plan on attending.

Contact the Job Placement Center at (415) 485-9410 for more information.

Workshop on Multisensory Reading and Writing Software

Improving Student Reading using Kurzweil 3000 Software, a professional development workshop for COM faculty and staff, will take place Friday, March 15, 2013, in Learning Resources Center, room 150. The workshop will be offered twice. You may sign up for either the morning session from 10 a.m. to noon or the afternoon session from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

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Workshop participants will learn how Kurzweil 3000 can help students be interactive and engaged readers using electronic study skills tools and text-to-speech support. Kurzweil can also be used to help students edit writing assignments using text-to-speech technology. The workshop will include hands-on practice with the Kurzweil 3000 software. Find out how this dynamic multisensory teaching tool can support student success.

We are fortunate to have Stacey Kayden as our presenter. Stacey has been a High Tech Learning Specialist at Laney College in Oakland California for over 20 years. Over the past 10 years, she has traveled throughout California assisting High Tech Centers with assistive technology and she is currently working on a Universal Learning Project for the California Community Colleges that integrates multisensory technology tools into the general curriculum.

This activity can be used to fulfill Professional Development/Flex hours. It is sponsored by the California Community Colleges High Tech Center Training Unit and College of Marin. The workshop supports Objective II.C.6, “Research and Pilot Assistive Technology” of the 2012-2017 COM Technology Plan.

RSVP to Mary Sage at and specify if you would like to attend the morning or afternoon workshop session.

For more information about Kurzweil 3000 or the workshop please contact your colleagues Mary Sage, Dick Martin, Harriet Eskildsen, or John Hinds.

College Representatives on Campus in March
College representatives from CCA (California College of the Arts), Columbia University, Mills College, UC Berkeley, Dominican University, and The Art Institute of California will be coming to the Kentfield Campus in March. Representatives will be available to provide information about their programs and answer questions. For more information contact Cynthia Lavi at (415) 485.9671

**Tuesday, March 12**
Mills College  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Transfer and Career Center

**Thursday, March 21**
UC Berkeley  
9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
(By appointment only; call 415.485.9671)  
Counseling Department

**Tuesday, March 26**
Dominican University  
9:30 a.m. to noon  
(By appointment only; call 415.485.9671)  
Transfer and Career Center

**Thursday, March 28**
The Art Institute of California  
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Student Services Building,  
Cafeteria Entrance
COM Art Gallery Presents:
Rubbings—Drawing on the Past
A retrospective exhibition of Bill Abright’s drawings from 1990 and 2005

A reception for the artist will be held on Thursday, March 14, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the new Fine Arts Gallery located in the Performing Arts Building.

March 1 to April 5, 2013
The Fine Arts Gallery
Located in the Performing Arts Building at College Ave. at Sir Francis Drake Blvd.
Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Kudos
Congratulations to Head Coach Steve Berringer and the College of Marin baseball team. The team finished the preseason with nine wins and three losses. They are ranked fourth in Northern California and twelfth in the state.

Congratulations to Becky Reetz, Luz Moreno, and Edwin Towle who all received scholarships to attend the Prepárate Conference in Chicago. The goal of this scholarship is to offer a professional development opportunity to community college professionals, especially those who work with students from underserved groups, and to solicit the advice and counsel of community college educators regarding the ways in which the College Board can better serve community college students who wish to prepare for transfer to a four year institution and earn the baccalaureate degree.

Free Tax Preparation Services Are Available at the Single Stop Office
COM’s Single Stop Office offers free tax preparation, financial counseling, legal advice, and benefits screenings to COM students, faculty, and staff. Free tax preparation services are available now through April at the Single Stop Office. The goal of Single Stop is to provide students with additional resources to help increase retention and graduation rates. Single Stop also offers benefit screenings and application assistance, which can give students access to food services (CalFresh), low cost or free health insurance (Medi-Cal, CMSFP and Healthy Families), child care services, affordable housing, CalWORKs, and cash aid programs (general assistance). For more information about tax preparation or other services, please contact Edwin Towle, M.S., Single Stop Coordinator at the Student Services Center, Room 124, call ext. 7761, or email Edwin.Towle@marin.edu
Plastics 360 Impact and Possibilities
On Saturday, March 16, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lafayette Public Library, 3491 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, Biology Professor Joe Mueller will be a speaker at the Plastics 360 Impact and Possibilities Conference. The conference will give a comprehensive introduction to the latest information about plastics and ways to shift to life-sustaining materials. More information is available online.

Transfer Recognition Reception
On Thursday, May 23, at 5:30 p.m. in the Student Services Building, Cafeteria at the Kentfield Campus the Transfer Center will hold a free Transfer Recognition Reception to honor and recognize our students who are transferring on to colleges and universities. For more information contact Cynthia Lavi at (415) 485-9671.

Sports
Baseball vs. Napa College
Saturday, March 9, 1 p.m. in Kentfield
Baseball vs. Contra Costa College
Tuesday, March 12, 2 p.m. in San Pablo
Baseball vs. Solano College
Thursday, March 14, 2 p.m. in Kentfield

Softball vs. Los Medanos College—doubleheader
Thursday, March 14, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. in Kentfield

Track and Field—Jack Albiani Invitational at Modesto Junior College
Friday, March 8, all day in Modesto

Swimming and Diving—Mariner Invitational
Saturday, March 9, all day in Novato (IVC)

Submissions to the Weekly Briefing
Please submit information no later than Friday for the following week. Submissions received later than Friday will be included in the next week’s edition.

Have a great weekend,

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President