President’s Weekly Briefing—April 25, 2013

College of Marin Makes Home for Cloned Saplings from World’s Largest Coast Redwoods

College of Marin became an honored steward this week of three young saplings cloned in a novel scientific process from the largest coast redwoods in the world. They were provided by the Archangel Ancient Tree Archive and planted in the Redwood Grove at the Kentfield Campus in an Earth Day ceremony with local dignitaries, environmental advocates and school students and officials. The event was emceed by award-winning broadcast journalist Dana King and approximately 80 people attended. The College was one of eight locations in the world to receive a clone from the famous Fieldbrook Stump, the biggest coast redwood tree that ever lived. Cut down in 1890 when its diameter measured 35 feet across, the tree, had it lived, would have surpassed the General Sherman sequoia in Sequoia National Park.

Many thanks to all who rallied to organize the event, including Archangel Ancient Tree Archive, Congressman Jared Huffman, Dana King, Conservation Corps North Bay, and Cool the Earth. In addition, I also would like to thank College of Marin staff who organized the event, including Landscape Coordinator Tom Burke, Nanda Schorske, Cathy Summa-Wolfe, Nicole Cruz, Andy Haber, Cathy White-Lambert, Jon Gudmundsson, Shook Chung, and Maintenance and Operations staff.

College of Marin’s Baseball Team Wins the 2013 Bay Valley Championship

Congratulations to Coach Steve Berringer and our student-athletes for winning the 2013 Bay Valley Championship. As a result of winning first place status, College of Marin will be hosting the first round of the regional playoffs on Friday, May 3, at 2 p.m. and on Saturday, May 4, at 11 a.m.

Enrollment Priority

In September 2012, the California Community Colleges Board of Governors approved a regulation to establish system-wide enrollment priorities designed to ensure classes are available for students seeking job training, degree attainment, or transfer to a four-year university; and to reward students who make progress toward their educational goals.
Beginning fall 2014, new students who have completed college orientation, assessment, and developed education plans, as well as continuing students in good academic standing, will now have priority over students who do not meet these criteria. To be in good academic standing, a student cannot be on academic probation or progress probation for two consecutive terms. In addition, students who have accumulated 100 or more units—excluding most basic skills English and math and English as a Second Language classes—by fall 2014 will lose priority enrollment. Students who feel they may be at risk of losing priority status are strongly encouraged to see a counselor to discuss their educational plans. College of Marin’s revised enrollment priorities can be found in Administrative Procedure 5055. It’s also at: http://www.marin.edu/admissions/policies.html.

**Student Success Scorecard Report 2013**

The Student Success Scorecard Report for College of Marin, an annual report produced by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's office to meet the requirements of Assembly Bill 1417, is available online. The report, which shows how well community colleges are doing individually and collectively to support transfer, degree and certificate attainment, provides student demographics to compare with state totals.

**Kudos**

Communications Department Chair Patricia O’Keefe has been appointed to a small National Communication Association task force to help identify common core competences for an introductory communications course. The group’s efforts will strengthen the integrity of the communication curriculum and enhance the rigor, relevance, and validity of the discipline’s introductory courses as well as the discipline as a whole, according to Steven A. Beebe, NCA president. “Their efforts can clarify and enhance the domain of communication studies within the academy,” he said.

O’Keefe and her four colleagues were appointed to the task force after the group took up the issue on their own initiative in 2011. That group has since earned the full support of the National Communication Association. The task force, headed by Isa N. Engleberg, emerita of Prince George’s Community College, also includes Scott M. Myers of West Virginia University, Lynn Disbrow of Huntingdon College, and Susan Ward of Delaware County Community College.
Upcoming Events

Drama Department Presents *I Hate Hamlet*

By Paul Rudnick

*Jeffrey Bihr*, director

**April 25** (Pay What You Will Preview) at 8 p.m.

**April 26, 27, May 3, 4, 10, and 11** at 8 p.m.

**May 5 and 12** at 2 p.m.

Kentfield Campus

Studio Theatre

His TV career in limbo, hot young TV star Andrew Rally has relocated to a gothic apartment in New York City. He has been offered the title role in *Hamlet*, but there’s a problem; he hates *Hamlet*! When the very inebriated ghost of John Barrymore appears in what used to be his gothic apartment, a wildly funny duel erupts between the two over women, art, success, duty, television and yes, the apartment! Tickets are $20 for general admission, $15 for seniors, $10 for students, COM employees, and alumni. For tickets contact the box office at (415) 485-9385. More information is available online.

COM Biology Professor to Speak at Social Justice Center of Marin

**Sunday, April 28**

5:45 p.m.

West End Cafe

1131 Fourth Street, San Rafael (wheelchair accessible)

Biology Professor *Joe Mueller* will speak about underlying systemic problems relating to environmental justice and how people can make a difference at the Social Justice Center of Marin May Day Dinner. Mueller, recipient of the 2008 Terwilliger Environmental Award, developed and directed the Natural History Program at College of Marin. He is also the steward of a small animal farm that is home to llamas, lizards, and many other creatures. There will be a no-host bar and live music followed by a Middle Eastern buffet dinner at 6:15 p.m. Joe will speak at 7:15 p.m. Tickets are $35-$50 (sliding scale) for general admission and $15-$25 for students. RSVP by April 20 to Justine at (415) 883-8188. More information is available online.

Professional Development Webinars on Student Success

Instructors are invited to learn new skills related to inspiring student success in two new courses to be offered “live” on the dates listed below or as online webinars supported by the Professional Development Committee. Detailed descriptions of the webinars are available on the [Professional Development Calendar](#).
Student success presentations – *Growth Mindset: How to Foster Enthusiastic Learning & Encourage Students to Set Goals* (April 24), and *The New “At-Risk” Student Seminar: Increasing Retention, Success & Institutional Support* (May 1) – were chosen based on feedback from the COM Professional Development Needs Assessment as well as goals and objectives that support the COM Strategic Plan. Faculty and staff are welcome. No registration is necessary. A link to the archived Webinar recording will be made available online on the [Professional Development Web](#) Page after the presentations. Webinars can be used to fulfill professional development/flex hours.

**Professional Development Webinar on Student Success**

**Growth Mindset: How to Foster Enthusiastic Learning and Encourage Students to Set Goals**

Wednesday, April 24

10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Learning Resources Center, room 53

**The New “At-Risk” Student Seminar: Increasing Retention, Success, and Institutional Support**

Wednesday, May 1

10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Learning Resources Center, room 53

**College Success Saturday—Volunteers Still Needed**

Saturday, May 4

8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Student Services Building

Kentfield Campus

College of Marin’s Counseling Department in connection with the Outreach Office is hosting the second College Success Saturday for high school seniors and their parents on Saturday, May 4, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Kentfield Campus. Attending students will have already taken their placement tests and met with a counselor to develop their educational plan. At this event, an in-depth orientation will be given to both the new students and their parents that will introduce them to all the resources available to aid in their success at College of Marin. Students that attend will also be given priority registration for their chosen summer and fall courses. This is a great opportunity for faculty and staff to interact with and inform our new students about COM’s excellent academic programs and student services. Student organizations will also be on hand to welcome the incoming students to the College of Marin community. Your participation is a crucial element in this important day and volunteers are still needed. Please contact [Anna Pilloton](mailto:Anna.Pilloton@marin.edu) in Outreach at ext. 7663, to sign up for this great opportunity.
Grand Opening Planned for new Science, Math, Nursing Building

**COM Alumnus Adam Steltzner will be Featured Speaker**

**Friday, May 10**
Kentfield Campus
1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

**Dr. Adam Steltzner, lead mechanical engineer of the NASA Mars Rover Project**
James Dunn Theatre

2:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

**Ribbon Cutting and Dedication**
Science, Math, Nursing Building, Orbital Court

3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

**Interactive Tours of Classrooms and Labs**
Science, Math, Nursing Building

Faculty, staff, students and the public are all invited to celebrate the grand opening of the state-of-the-art Science, Math, Nursing Building, a half-day celebration that begins with a special lecture by noted COM alumnus Dr. Adam Steltzner, lead mechanical engineer of the NASA Mars Rover Project. Steltzner, an award-winning lecturer, who headed the landing team of the *Curiosity*, will be on hand for the ribbon cutting and dedication. Interactive tours are free of charge to all.

**Reception for COM Retirees**

**Wednesday, May 15**
4 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Marin Art and Garden Center
30 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, Ross

All faculty and staff are invited to attend a special reception honoring our retirees for their many years of service and wishing them well in all of their future endeavors.
Gavin Newsom to Speak at Commencement Ceremony
Friday, May 24
6 p.m.
Kentfield Campus.

Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom, former mayor of San Francisco, will be the honored speaker at College of Marin's 86th annual commencement ceremony. Gavin Newsom was elected as the 49th Lieutenant Governor of California on November 2, 2010. His top priorities are economic development and job creation, improving access to higher education, and maintaining California’s environmental leadership. His background includes the start-up of 15 small businesses, creating more than 1,000 jobs in the private sector, and serving as a County Supervisor and the Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco.

Under his energetic leadership, the economy grew and jobs were created. The City enjoys the highest minimum wage in America, universal paid family leave and universal child care. San Francisco’s public school district is the highest performing urban school district in the state. Newsom also balanced seven consecutive budgets on time during national economic instability without laying off a single teacher, police officer, or firefighter.

Ongoing Events

Farm Stand—Now Open Wednesdays and Saturdays
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Indian Valley Campus
Parking available in lot 6

If you haven't been able to come to the Wednesday farm stand, now is your chance to buy local organic produce and plants on Saturdays as well. Please remember to bring your own bags. Reusable, washable produce bags are sold on site for $1 each. All proceeds support the operation of the Indian Valley Organic Farm and Garden.

Fine Arts Department Faculty Exhibition
Through May 25
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Fine Arts Gallery
Kentfield Campus

Don’t miss the faculty show held in the newly remodeled Fine Arts Gallery at the Kentfield Campus. The exhibition will showcase the many art disciplines taught at the College. For more information, call Olga Borissova at (415) 485-9480.
Emeritus Center Displays Work of Anna Ladyzhenskaya

Through June 30
Emeritus Center
Kentfield Campus

The work of internationally known artist Anna Ladyzhenskaya, a Novato resident, will be on display through June 30 in the Emeritus Center. The artist, a native of Moldova (when it was still part of the former Soviet Union) works with different forms of media to create landscapes, still lifes and portraits. She is a member of the Marin Museum of Contemporary Art. Other recent exhibits of her artwork include San Francisco’s annual Celebration of Craftswomen at Fort Mason and regular displays at Gallery Elektra in Sausalito.

Sports

Baseball vs. Mendocino College
Thursday, April 25, 2 p.m. at Mendocino

Baseball State Playoffs 1st Round
Tuesday, April 30, 2 p.m. TBA

Baseball State Playoffs 2nd Round
Friday-Sunday, May 3-5, Time: TBA, Location: TBA

Softball Regionals—doubleheader
Saturday, May 4, Time: TBA, Location: TBA

Track and Field—Conference Finals
Saturday, April 27, all day in Sacramento

Track and Field—NorCal Trials
Saturday, May 4, all day in Sacramento

Swimming and Diving—State Championships
Thursday-Saturday, April 25-27, all day in East Los Angeles

Electric Vehicle Club Hosts Hamburger Tuesdays

Tuesdays
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Outside Main Building 27
Indian Valley Campus

Tuesdays are burger days throughout the spring semester thanks to the Electric Vehicle Club, which is hosting a weekly fundraiser to support the restoration of one of the College’s classic electric vehicles. The club will be selling beef and vegetarian burgers with the works for $3 or a burger with soda and chips for $5. The group is also selling energy drinks, water, fruit, and ice cream.
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