President’s Weekly Briefing—May 3, 2012

COM’S New College Success Saturday was a Hit with Parents and Students
The Counseling Department and Outreach and School Relations Office hosted College Success Saturday over the weekend and welcomed 156 graduating seniors and 102 parents. The event was the culmination of a number of information sessions at local high schools that included testing sessions and providing opportunities for seniors to meet with COM counselors and develop their individual education plans. Separate orientations, in both Spanish and English, were offered to students and parents. Students who had completed the application, testing, and student education plan steps registered for summer/fall courses. COM faculty and staff were available during lunch at information tables to welcome students and answer questions. COM student ambassadors led tours of the campus and it was a great success for this inaugural event.

Hats off and hearty thanks to the many COM faculty, staff members, students, and community members who participated in this important event (apologies in advance if I’ve missed anyone).

Bruce Furuya, Alex Clark, Alexandra Magallanes, Allen Taylor, Anna Pilloton, Annahita Fallah, Becky Reetz, Brett Sklove, Byron Ramey, Carol Perez, Cesar Pomajulca, Chase Schweitzer, Chris Schultz, Chris Schultz, Daniel Sulaiman, David LaRocca, Debbie Wiebers, Debra Lewis, Dong Nguyen, Ellen Shaw, Gina Cullen, Gina Longo, Ginny Hanna, Jesse Klein, Joan Paulino, Joetta Scott, Judy Morgan, June Yokell, Kathy Takemoto, Kristi Kuhn, Kristin Perrone, Lance Reyes, Laurie Ordin, Lee Deo, Letta Hlavachek, Lexi Lobdell, Lisa DiCarlo, Luz Moreno, Marnitha Haynes-Barnes, Matt Markovich, Miguel Aguila, Sandra Tachihara, Shannon Timpane, Sharon Haanstra, Steve Dodson, Sue Scott, and Theo Fung.

Raffle prizes were generously donated by Campus Police (two fall semester parking permits), COM Bookstore (bags and COM mugs), and Seasonal Cuts in Kentfield (two free back-to-school haircuts). Funds for the delicious lunch by New Mecca Catering were provided by ASCOM.

Commencement Exercises
COM’s 85th Commencement will take place on Saturday, May 26, at 10 a.m. in the Diamond P.E. Center Gymnasium, on the Kentfield Campus. More information about Commencement is online.

International Society Club Official Kick-off meeting
All students, faculty, and staff are invited to the International Society (IS) official kick-off meeting on Monday, May 7, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Services Building, Deedy Staff Lounge at the Kentfield Campus. The renewed club emerges under the counsel of club advisors, Director of Community Education, Lifelong Learning and International Education Dr. Jason Lau and Admissions and Records Technician Ellen Shaw. The club’s purpose is to promote intercultural communication and exchange, cross-cultural understanding, and support the academic and personal needs of our international students. In addition, the club will
two exciting new initiatives including the Conversation Partner Program, and International Friendship program. Attendees will meet the officers, students, and members while enjoying international food and music. Please come and join us!

Registered Nursing Program Pinning Ceremony
The faculty and 2012 graduating class of the COM Registered Nursing Program will hold their annual Pinning Ceremony Thursday, May 24, at 6 p.m. at the Diamond Physical Education Center, 700 College Avenue, Kentfield. A reception will be held prior to the ceremony beginning at 5 p.m. The traditional Nurses’ Pinning Ceremony is held to observe the completion of the Nursing Education Program and dates back to Florence Nightingale. The pin itself identifies the particular school of nursing that the graduate nurse attended and symbolizes the philosophy, beliefs, and aspirations of the nursing program. The ceremony is a community celebration of the completion of the nursing program and is evidence of the achievement, learning, and skill that the graduate nurse has attained.

Personnel Action Items from the April 17 Board of Trustees Meeting
Classified Personnel Items
- Debra Thayer has accepted the position of Administrative System Analyst effective April 16, 2012.
- Melinda Molloy will temporarily assume the duties of the Confidential Administrative Assistant to the Vice President effective March 1, 2012, until the permanent recruitment process is completed.

Resignation Retirement of Academic Personnel
- Douglas Delaney has submitted his resignation for retirement purposes effective July 1, 2012.
- Carmen Carrouche has submitted her letter of recommendation effective June 30, 2012.

Educational Management Personnel Items
- Angelina Duarte has been appointed Special Assistant to the President with responsibility for Academic Services and Student Affairs effective April 15, 2012, through June 30, 2012.
- Dr. Kenneth Meier has submitted his resignation for retirement purposes effective June 30, 2012.

Instructor Travels to Korea for Conference
Communications Instructor Patricia O’Keefe will travel to Korea next week as an invited speaker at Hallym University. The university is hosting an international conference on the *Future of College Education: Challenges and Responses in Business and Communication Education*. O’Keefe will present her paper on “Open Door/Open World: Communication Departments at Community Colleges Addressing Government Agendas without Losing an Independent Voice.”
Children’s Art Show
The Indian Valley Campus (IVC) and Kentfield Campus Child Development Centers will present their annual Children’s Art Show on Tuesday, May 15 and Wednesday, May 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. The IVC Art Show will be held in Building 12, Room 100. The Kentfield Campus Art Show will be held at the campus crossroads (by the big tree where Harlan Center, the Business Center and the Learning Resources Center meet).

Please stop by to pick up a beautiful matted drawing or painting to decorate your office or some special gift cards and gift wrap created by the children. Fresh, homemade treats will also be available. Donations are welcome and will support the children’s arts program.

Transfer Recognition Reception
The Transfer and Career Center will be hosting its Sixth Annual Transfer Recognition Reception to honor and recognize our students who are transferring on to four-year universities. The event will be held Friday, May 25, in the Student Services Building, first floor at the Kentfield Campus. The evening will begin with a ceremony at 6:30 p.m. to formally acknowledge our students, followed by a reception. You are invited to celebrate and honor our students as they make their transition from the college to attain their educational and professional goals.
For additional information, please contact Janice Austin or call 415-485-9671.

Campus Police News and Views
As the summer approaches we may see more native wild life around the Indian Valley Campus. There are a variety of snakes on campus, including rattlesnakes. For those of you unfamiliar with snakes, a good general rule is to treat any snake you see as you would treat a rattlesnake. Rattlesnakes do not always rattle before they bite. NEVER try to pick up, move, or get close to any snake.

If you see a snake near campus buildings or walkways, please call the campus police at ext. 7455. Most snakes can bite. If you are bitten by a rattlesnake, move away from the snake and call 911. You will need to go the emergency room. Rattlesnake bites are rarely fatal, but can be very painful.

You may occasionally see other wild animals on campus. Leave them alone. Never try to pet or pick up any wild animal. Animal control suggests making noise by clapping and/or yelling to scare it from the presence of humans. If an animal enters a building, stay away from it and contact the Campus Police or the Maintenance and Operations Department. Animal control can be reached at (415) 883-4621.

Retirement Webinar
Deciding to retire? If so, CalPERS invites you to attend a live webinar on Wednesday, May 9, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. During the online webinar you will receive step-by-step instructions on filling out your service retirement application and an explanation of the different retirement options available to you. Register for this free event and get more information.
Reception for COM Retirees
All faculty and staff are invited to attend a special reception honoring our retirees on Thursday, May 17, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Marin Art and Garden Center, 30 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, Ross. Please join us in recognizing these outstanding individuals for their many years of service and wishing them well in all of their future endeavors.

Spontaneous Theatre Festival
Directed by Lisa Klein, William Hall, and Paul Killam
April 26, 27, 28; May 4, 11, 12 at 8 p.m.
May 6 and 13 at 2 p.m.
College of Marin Studio Theatre (PA 32)

COM’s Drama Department presents the Spontaneous Theatre Festival—a festival of three distinct styles of in-the-moment theatre performed over three weekends. There will be a different director each weekend. For tickets or more information contact the box office at (415) 485-9385.

Spring Music Calendar
All concerts are FREE unless otherwise noted.

Two Recitals of Chamber Music
Jessica Ivry, instructor

Friday, May 4, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 5, 7:30 p.m.
COM Kentfield Campus, Lefort Recital Hall (PA 72)

Jazz Ensemble
Douglas Delaney, director
David Jones, choreographer

Sunday, May 6, 3 pm
COM Kentfield Campus, Performing Arts Theatre

Singers, dancers, and a terrific big band perform in a concert featuring the music of Duke Ellington, Benny Golson, Count Basie, and George Gershwin. David Jones’ jazz dance class, and our singers will be there with some great standards. Enjoy an exciting arrangement of *Mambo* from *West Side Story*, Count Basie’s *Jumpin’ at the Woodside*, and Duke Ellington’s *Don’t Get Around Much Anymore*.

Symphonic Band
Douglas Delaney, director
Wednesday, May 9, 7:30 p.m.
COM Kentfield Campus, Performing Arts Theatre

A performance of Gustav Holst’s Mars combined with a synthesizer realization by Isao Tomita will be a highlight of the program. Also on the program, Richard Rodgers’ Victory at Sea from the popular TV program, works by Isaac Albéniz, and H. Owen Reed. The concert closes with a dramatic arrangement of Wagner’s Prelude and Love Death from Tristan and Isolde.

**Advanced Voice Class: Nos souvenirs qui chantent—Art Songs by Francis Poulenc**
**Linda Noble Brown**, instructor

Sunday, May 13, 2 p.m.
The Tamalpais Retirement Center, Greenbrae

Monday May 21, 11:10 a.m.
COM Kentfield Campus, Olney Hall, Room 96

**Concert Band**
**Douglas Delaney**, director
Wednesday, May 16, noon
Kentfield Campus, Performing Arts Theatre

The ensemble will open with English Suite by Clare Grundman and closes with Wagner’s Die Meistersinger excerpts. In between will be the music of Clifton Williams, Francis Poulenc, and Robert M. Panerio, Jr. whose piece Macarena features trumpet player Frank Killey.

**Marin Oratorio presents The Creation by Franz Josef Haydn**
**Boyd Jarrell**, director

Saturday, May 19, 8 p.m.
Sunday, May 20, 3 p.m.
COM Kentfield Campus, Performing Arts Theatre

The Creation may be embraced by all who love the natural world. With an Age of Enlightenment text drawn from the King James Bible and John Milton’s Paradise Lost, Haydn infuses his epic oratorio with spectacular orchestral and choral depictions of howling winds, slashing lightening, the moon’s silvery shimmer, and the sun’s majestic radiance. From the chaos of the formless void, to the profusion of birds, fish, and animals, and finally Adam and Eve’s rhapsodic bliss, Haydn celebrates the mystery of creation with grace, delight, and wide-eyed wonder. Marin Oratorio will be joined by guest vocal soloists Christa Pfeiffer, Brian Thorsett, and Jeffrey Fields.

Donation suggested: $20 general, $15 students, staff, seniors, and alumni
Box Office: (415) 485-9687
Beginning Voice Class Debut! First Open Class Recital
Linda Noble Brown, instructor
Monday, May 21, 2:10 p.m.
Kentfield Campus, Olney Hall, Room 96

For more information about the concerts call (415) 485-9640.

College Chorus and Chamber Singers
Boyd Jarrell, director
Jeffrey Paul, accompanist

Tuesday, May 22, 7:30 pm
COM Kentfield Campus, Performing Arts Theatre

In keeping with our celebration of life in its many forms, College Chorus and Chamber Singers return this spring with music about real and mythical animals. From Renaissance madrigals to the classics; from Josquin to Rossini; birds, bees, dogs, cats, monkeys, crickets, and even teddy bears will grace this evening of animal delights.

Have a great week!

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President