President’s Weekly Briefing—August 29, 2014

Campuses Closed Monday
The Kentfield and Indian Valley Campuses will be closed Monday, September 1, for Labor Day.

Congressman Huffman and House Leader Pelosi Visit COM to Discuss Strong Start and College Affordability

Last Tuesday the College was honored to host our second district representative Congressman Jared Huffman as he returned to campus, this time with special guest Democratic House Leader Nancy Pelosi. The town hall forum focused on college affordability, better jobs in the United States, and economic equality for women. These three cornerstones are part of the Middle Class Jumpstart campaign, a 100-day action plan to put the middle class first.

Former CBS news anchor Dana King moderated the discussion about the impacts of extreme cuts to education what Congress is doing to fix it. Congressman Huffman, Leader Pelosi, and I were joined on the panel with San Rafael Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael Wattenpaugh, COM graduate Lance Reyes, and student Cattleya Sankham. Approximately 200 people listened as the panel presented compelling facts, statistics, and personal stories around the importance of improving the educational system. Town hall photos and footage taken by C-SPAN and Community Media Center of Marin are online.

I am beyond grateful to those who contributed to making this event successful. What impressed me most was the incredible teamwork I witnessed. The can-do attitudes made it all possible. Sincere thanks to: Bill Abright, John Adams, Michelle Babb, Lyda Beardsley, Trevor Bennett, Nate Castillo, Shook Chung, Jeff Cox, Nicole Cruz, Peggy Dodge, Jason Dunn, Chris Edmondson, Patrick Ekoue-totou, Jonathan Eldridge, Kim Foulger, Kevin Gramajo,

(Continued on next page)
Jon Gudmundsson, Andy Haber, Jesse Harbison, Mike Irvine, Kathy Joyner, Mike Kessler, Todd Kidder, Mike Klein, Gabe Lambert, Martin Langeveld, Mitch Lemay, Kelley Litz, Teresa Magana, Jeff Marcum, Jimmy Mazariegos, Laura McCarty, Marco Minoia, Lisa Morse, Tou Moua, Molly Noble, Devon Paoli, Anna Pilloton, Joanna Pinckney, Mayra Ramirez, Heidi Rank, Keara Reardon, Becky Reetz, Lance Reyes, Annie Ricciuti, Aaron Rosas, Dustin Ruiz, Cattleya Sankham, Ravi Shankar, David Smith, Mike Smith, Sr., Matt Smyth, Albert So, Richard Squeri, Joseph Thomas, Diane Traversi, Jessica Tucker, Gilberto Vaquero, Chris West, Dave White, and Paul Wilson.

Special thanks to our area law enforcement officials who provided additional support to campus police: Fairfax Police Department Chief Chris Morin, Sgt. David Cron, Officer Nicholas Acton, Officer Mario Peoro, CSO Cynthia Powell, Ross Police Department Officer Danny Moy, Marin County Sheriff Parking Enforcement Officer Emily Cushman, and Lt. Doug Pittman.

Cop’s Corner
Earthquake Preparedness
After the recent earthquake that shook the Bay Area, I would encourage everyone to take a look at College of Marin’s Emergency Guidelines Handbook. It is best to prepare yourself before an emergency happens by reviewing the handbook and learning about campus emergency response centers, evacuation areas and procedures, and emergency phone numbers for various issues or disasters. There are also suggestions for dealing with suspicious or disruptive people, and information regarding fires, earthquakes, and other environmental threats.

These handbooks are available near all exits of buildings, and online as a PDF from the Police Department’s website.

During An Earthquake
• If indoors, seek cover under a desk or table, duck and hold. Stay away from glass windows, shelves, and heavy equipment. After shaking stops, leave the building.
• If outdoors, move quickly away from buildings, utility poles, and other structures. Always avoid downed power or utility lines because they may be energized.
• If in an automobile, stop in the safest place available, preferably an open area away from power lines and trees. Stop as quickly as safety permits but stay in the vehicle for the shelter it offers.

After the Initial Shaking Stops
Evaluate the situation and if emergency help is necessary, call 911. Protect yourself at all times and be prepared for aftershocks. Stay off phones unless calling for help. In a major quake, expect the phones to not work.

If the building evacuation/fire alarm is sounding or if you are told to leave by campus police or emergency personnel, walk quickly to the nearest marked exit and alert others to do the same.
Once outside, move to a clear area at least 100 feet away from the building. Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel. Listen for instructions from campus police. If it is necessary, you will be instructed to go to an emergency assembly area where you will receive further information about local conditions and exit routes from campus.

Be alert for hazards such as building damage, gas leaks, fires, broken utility lines, spilled chemicals, and other potentially harmful materials.

**IMPORTANT:**

- Do not return to an evacuated building unless directed to do so by campus police or emergency personnel.
- Do not use the telephone, except for emergency calls.
- Do not use matches or other open flames until you are certain there are no dangerous fumes present.
- Do not operate electrical equipment if gas leaks are suspected.
- Do not touch downed power lines.

**Parking Permit Renewals Due**

Campus police would like to remind everyone that the time for renewing staff parking permits is rapidly approaching. All faculty and staff should submit renewal requests **before Friday, October 3.** Requests for renewal are in the mailroom on both campuses. Forms can also be obtained on the Intranet under General/Forms/Police. If you do not have an individual mailbox in the mailroom, please list your department on the request form. When you receive your permit, please remember to place it in the lower driver side portion of the windshield immediately. After it is placed, take a look from the outside to make sure the permit number and expiration date are visible. For more information, visit the [Police Department website](mailto:).  

**Workforce and Economic Development Update:**

The unemployment rate in **Marin County was 4.0 percent in June 2014**, up from a revised 3.9 percent in May 2014, and below the year-ago estimate of 5.4 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 7.3 percent for California and 6.3 percent for the nation during the same period. Once again, Marin County registered the lowest unemployment rate among California’s 58 counties as of June 2014.

The Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recently released jobs and wage data for the largest counties in the country for the fourth quarter of 2013. **Jobs located in Marin County increased by 3.0 percent on a year-over basis**, ranking it 61st in performance of the 335 largest counties in the nation. The U.S. posted a job gain of 1.8 percent, and California an addition of 2.8 percent, based on those Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages data. **Marin County average weekly wages** for the fourth quarter of 2013 **decreased by 0.7 percent from the same quarter a year earlier**, ranking it 238th in percent wage change over the year.
Revised **industry employment** for 1990-2012 and new data for 2013 are available for Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo counties on our website. Here are highlights for Marin County.

- Jobs located in Marin County expanded by 3.3 percent between 2012 and 2013.
- Marin County netted 3,500 jobs over that year, a larger increase than the 2,900 gain between 2011 and 2012.
- Private educational and health services led the growth in the county in 2013 by adding 1,200 jobs, mostly in health care and social assistance.
- Leisure and hospitality had the second largest gain in 2013 with an increase of 800 jobs.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this news in more depth, please contact **Nanda Schorske**.

**Seasonal Flu Shots**
The College of Marin Health Center will be offering seasonal flu shots to students, faculty, staff, and the community at both the Kentfield and Indian Valley Campuses. Flu shots are $10 for students, faculty, and staff; and $20 for the community.

**Kentfield Campus Clinics, Health Services Portable**
Friday, September 19, 9 a.m. – noon
Friday, September 26, 9 a.m. – noon
Wednesday, October 1, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Friday, October 3, 9 a.m. – noon
Friday, October 10, 9 a.m. – noon

**Indian Valley Campus Clinic, AS 121**
Mondays, September 29, 10 a.m. to 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 shot must be 18 years of age or older.

**Online Writing Center Open to Assist Students**
The Online Writing Center (OWC) is open 24/7 to help students with writing assignments for all college subjects during the fall semester. Students can get free help with grammar, idea development, and organization, as well as with research and essays. There are self-help materials and instructional specialists (tutors) who respond to student posts within 24 hours. The OWC also assists students with transfer, scholarship, and job applications, including resumes and cover letters. In order to best support students with their writing needs, please help get the word out. Faculty members can customize the OWC for their students.
Submit writing assignments for posting in the OWC so that instructional specialist can best guide your students, schedule an in-class orientation for your students, or have a course forum folder created for your particular course(s) by contacting the fall 2014 OWC Coordinator, Alisa Klinger at your earliest convenience.

Students and faculty can self-register for the OWC by clicking on the “Distance Education” tab and then clicking on “Log into Moodle directly” (on the right side of the screen). On the left side of the Moodle Homepage, there is a Tutoring block where students and faculty can self-register for the Online Writing Center (OWC) with one click on “enroll”. Online writing services are available to faculty and students in all disciplines until the end of the fall semester.

Kudos
Social Sciences Professor Walter Turner will be speaking on "The Future of Human Rights in Africa" Sunday, September 15, at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Forum at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1187 Franklin Street, San Francisco. This forum is free and open to the public.

Professor Turner is a co-author of No Easy Victories: African Liberation and American Activists over a Half Century: 1950-2000. Professor Turner also hosts a radio show every Monday evening on KPFA Radio called Africa Today.

Ongoing Events

September Food Drive
Why wait until the holidays to donate food? Single Stop is sponsoring the Food-4-Thoughts Food Drive and will be collecting non-perishable goods during the month of September for our students in need. Please bring donations to the green bin outside the Single Stop office located in the Student Services Building, room 124. For more information contact Tara Arenas at (415) 457-8811 ext. 7761.

Upcoming Events

President’s Open Forums
Please join me at one of two forums scheduled on Tuesday, September 2, for an open discussion about what is happening at College of Marin and any other items of interest or ideas you wish to discuss.

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<tr>
<th>Indian Valley Campus</th>
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<td>Tuesday, September 2</td>
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<td>9:30 – 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>3 – 4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Student Services Building, Deedy Staff Lounge</td>
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The Road to Success is Back!
Once again students will be walking the Road to Success. On Wednesday and Thursday, September 3 and 4, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. students are invited to walk the road. By visiting each table in the quad they will learn about the variety of COM student services, learning resources, programs, and academic departments available to help them succeed in their studies and programs. Students can also enter for a chance to win an iPad. There will be a complimentary BBQ and music. For more information contact Tara Arenas at (415) 457-8811 ext. 7761.

Indian Valley Organic Farm and Garden Plant Sale
College of Marin’s Indian Valley Campus Organic Farm and Garden will host its autumn plant sale September 6, 7, and 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The community is invited to enjoy free workshops, live music and family friendly activities. Seasonal produce, cut flowers, and fragrant and herbal crafts will be available for purchase. For more information or to volunteer contact Amy Ridout at (415) 720-2051.

Planting the Autumn Garden and Food Forests
Saturday, September 6
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Rainwater Harvesting for your Garden
Saturday, September 6
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Fall Family Fun Day
Sunday, September 7
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Strawberry Culture: How to Grow Delicious Berries
Saturday, September 13
11 a.m. – noon

Descriptions of scheduled activities are online.

Intercollegiate Softball Meeting
The Kinesiology and Athletics Department is hosting an informational meeting for any female student interested in playing on the intercollegiate softball team. The informational meeting will be held Wednesday, September 10, at 1 p.m. in PE 61. If you have any questions please contact Lindsay Bacigalupi at (415) 485-9580. Go Mariners!
Drama Speaker Series 2014
The Drama Department will be hosting a fall Speaker Series featuring COM alumni and Bay Area professionals as they share their journeys from college students to successful theatre artists. The first in the series, Careers in Theatre, will be a panel discussion featuring Joel Blum, Leslie Hendrix, and Anthony Fusco moderated by Theatre Bay Area’s Director of Field Services Dale Albright. This free event is open to the public. Special thanks to Ron Krempetz for arranging the artists who are volunteering their time for this event.

Careers in Theatre
Monday, September 15
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Performing Arts Building, Studio Theatre (PA 32)

About the featured speakers:

Joel Blum
Joel started doing theatre at Drake High School in Marin County and continued at College of Marin doing Shakespeare, plays, and musicals along with fellow classmate Robin Williams. After a year at NYU’s Tish School of the Arts, Joel landed a part in the National Touring Company of Godspell at ACT in San Francisco. He then moved to Los Angeles to find acting work. Read about his Broadway, Off-Broadway, television credits, and more online.

Leslie Hendrix
Leslie attended College of Marin from 1979 to 1984, until Jim Dunn told her she had to move on, for Pete’s sake, and literally drove her to her audition for the National Theatre Conservatory, where she was accepted into the acting program. She still considers the work she did at COM some of the best training she ever received. Leslie is best known for her 19 years-long recurring role as Medical Examiner Rodgers on Law & Order and all of its spinoffs. Read more about her career.

Anthony Fusco
Born in New York and raised there and in Marin County, Anthony attended COM from 1976 to 1979, and graduated from Juilliard in 1983. Anthony has been a leading Bay Area theatre actor since returning here from NYC in 1999. As a company member at ACT, he’s performed leading roles in dozens of plays by writers from Christopher Marlowe through Henrik Ibsen, Anton Chekhov, Samuel Beckett, Harold Pinter, Tom Stoppard, Edward Albee and David Mamet, to name a few. Find out more about his other roles.

Student Success Speaker Series
This fall the College is pleased to present the first Student Success Speaker Series with seminars beginning in September. Students, faculty, staff, and community members are invited to learn about a variety of services, resources, and educational opportunities available to help individuals develop the life skills that are essential in taking the next step in their academic, professional,
and personal lives. These free presentations are open to the public and take place at noon in the Student Services Building, Deedy Staff Lounge, Kentfield Campus. Associated Students College of Marin (ASCOM) will provide refreshments. Contact Single Stop Coordinator Tara Arenas at (415) 457-8811 ext. 7761 for more information.

**Upcoming Sessions**

**Employment Transitions…From where you are to where you want to be!**
Presented by Jake Costa, Veterans Employment Representative, EDD Workforce Services
Wednesday, September 17, noon
Student Services Building, Deedy Staff Lounge

**Applying to jobs but not hearing back? Gain the skills you need to get that position!**
Presented by Sheila Reilly, College of Marin ESL Instructor
Wednesday, September 24, noon
Student Services Building, Deedy Staff Lounge

A complete list of seminars presented this fall is available [online](#).

**In Memoriam**

It is with deep sadness that I share the news that Student Accessibility Services staff (formerly Disabled Students Programs and Services) Counselor **Wendy Ullman** passed away on August 12 at the age of 63.

Wendy served as a full-time counselor in the department from January 1999 through the end of June 2010 when she retired to deal with multiple serious physical illnesses. During more than 10 years of service, she worked diligently to help students with a variety of disabilities in need of support services. Also, because of her specialized training as a marriage and family therapist, she was chosen to help set up the College's Psychological Disabilities Task Force which provided guidelines to address these special needs. She was also a fierce advocate for this group of students, holding classes and support groups to help them through their college experience.

She will be remembered by all who knew her as a person with great courage, optimism, strength, and grace. A Celebration of Life will be held on September 6, at 11 a.m. at the Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1329 Seventh Avenue, San Francisco.

Have a great weekend,

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President