President’s Weekly Briefing—October 11, 2012

COM Board of Trustees Unanimously Approve Follow-Up Report
In a special meeting held on Tuesday, October 9, 2012, COM Trustees reviewed and unanimously approved the college’s Follow-Up Report that will be presented on October 15, 2012, to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges/Western Association of Schools and Colleges. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to express our great appreciation for the tremendous efforts of the college community in addressing and ensuring that all accreditation recommendations are fully met. The Visiting Team will be on campus November 7 and 8, 2012, validating our progress.

Dr. Brice W. Harris Named 15th Chancellor of the California Community Colleges
The California Community Colleges Board of Governors today announced the unanimous selection of former Los Rios Community College District Chancellor Brice W. Harris as the 15th chancellor to lead the 112-college system, the largest system of higher education in the country.

Harris was the longest-serving chancellor at Los Rios, with nearly 16 years at the helm, and led two local bond measures that funded facilities improvements and allowed the district to serve thousands of additional students. The Los Rios district includes American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake and Sacramento City colleges, and enrolls more than 85,000 students each semester. Harris oversaw the establishment of the district’s fourth college, Folsom Lake, and provided the vision that made it home to a regional performing arts center, which was recently renamed in his honor.

Harris previously served as president of Fresno City College, and was a faculty member and vice chancellor in the Kansas City, Mo., community college system. Harris has also served on a host of local, state and national boards and commissions. He was the first educator to serve as president of the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce as well as serving as president of the Sacramento Area Commerce and Trade Organization (SACTO). Harris serves on the American Council on Education (ACE) board, and was a member of the California Community College Chancellor’s Office Student Success Task Force.

Harris did his post-doctoral study at the Harvard University Institute of Educational Management, received his doctorate in education at Nova Southeastern University, his master's in communication from the University of Arkansas, and his bachelor's in communication from Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

As chancellor, Dr. Harris will receive an annual salary of $198,500, plus a standard benefits package afforded to state employees. He begins his duties on Nov. 6, 2012. Harris lives in Fair Oaks, Calif., with his wife, Barbara, who is an elementary educator and he has three adult children also in the state.
ASCOM Will Provide Support for Performing Arts Gala
At last month’s ASCOM board meeting, members generously donated $2,000 in support of the production of our March 1, 2013, Gala Fundraising Performance of A Mystery Musical and commemorating the naming of the James Dunn Theatre. Many thanks to ASCOM for their continued support and involvement in the college community. Proceeds from the event will benefit our wonderful performing arts programs, including dance, drama, and music. Get your tickets early for the performance before it sells out.

Participatory Governance System Evaluation Launched
The Governance Review Council (GRC) is conducting a Participatory Governance System (PGS) evaluation to assess employee satisfaction with and awareness of the college’s governance system. The results will be used as evidence for WASC and reviewed by the GRC to recommend improvements to the system if indicated. If you’ve already taken the survey, thank you for your time. If not, please take a few minutes to provide your feedback by completing the 11-question online survey. It should only take about five minutes of your time. The survey will close Tuesday, October 16, 2012. Survey link: COM Employee Participatory Governance System Evaluation

Fall Job Fair
College of Marin’s Job Placement Center is hosting the Annual Fall Job Fair at the Kentfield Campus, Student Services Building, first floor on Wednesday, October 24, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Employers from the Bay Area will be available to accept resumes and answer questions about employment.

The Job Placement Center establishes and maintains contacts with businesses in our community to provide students with job leads and internships in various fields. This event is open to the public and is free of charge. For additional information contact Job Placement Technician Carol Perez at (415) 485-9410. Check the job placement website for a detailed list of employers who will be in attendance.

College of Marin Transfer Day
On November 5, 2012, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., College of Marin will hold its annual Transfer Day in the Student Services Building, Cafeteria. College of Marin students, their families, and members of the community are invited. This free event is open to the public.

More than 35 colleges and university representatives from the UCs, CSUs, independent, online, and out-of-state schools will be on campus to meet with students and provide information about transferring from a community college to a university. School representatives will be on hand to discuss relevant topics such as admission requirements, academic programs, fees, housing, scholarships, and financial aid. They will also highlight majors they offer and provide an overview of campus life.
Students are encouraged to research scholarships and financial aid available, what majors each school offers, what the campus life is like, along with other relevant topics to help make the transfer decision-making transition more successful and less stressful. There will be a wealth of good information at Transfer Day, including expert help from COM’s counseling staff.

Original Navigations
COM Noncredit ESL Instructor Linette Escobar will be part of a group of Brazilian-American and Portuguese-American poets and writers sharing their work. The reading will be held Friday, October 12, at 6 p.m. at the village market, 4555 California St. in San Francisco. The event is sponsored by Presence/Presenca, an organization that provides a community for North American writers of the Portuguese diaspora and aims to address the relative absence of Luso-American voices in contemporary letters. All are invited to attend this free event.

Cop’s Corner
The Great California ShakeOut is a day of special events featuring the largest earthquake drill ever, organized to inspire Californians to get ready for big earthquakes, and to prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes. What we do now, before a big earthquake, will determine what our lives will be like afterwards. College of Marin is planning to participate in the ShakeOut drill which will occur at 10:18 a.m. on October 18, 2012. More information on the event and how you can get prepared is online.

Please refer to page 12 in College of Marin’s Emergency Guidelines Handbook to start preparing for what to do in case of an earthquake while on campus. Handbooks are also attached to the wall near the exits inside College of Marin buildings.

Training About Veteran Students Released by the Chancellor’s Office
The Professional Development Committee (PDC) is pleased to launch Veterans on Campus, an online training module designed to raise awareness among California community college employees about our increasing veteran student population. Through a series of simulated scenarios, faculty and staff interact with veteran students to learn more about their needs and how to better assist and refer them to appropriate support services when necessary. The training is being made available system-wide through the CCC Student Mental Health Program, a partnership between the Chancellor’s Office and the Foundation for California Community Colleges (FCCC) funded through a grant from the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA). Veterans on Campus was developed with input from leading education experts and veteran organizations. It can be used by faculty to fulfill Flex hours.

To access the training, go to: http://kognitocampus.com/vet/ccc. College of Marin’s enrollment key (login) is ccc4554. Feel free to contact Kathleen Kirkpatrick at kathleen.kirkpatrick@marin.edu, if you have any questions.
Hooked on Marin Speaker Series
With the collaboration of five local school districts and public agencies, a new speaker series called Hooked on Marin is being launched. College of Marin along with Emeritus Students College of Marin (ESCOM); the Tamalpais Union High School District; and the towns of Larkspur, San Anselmo, and Corte Madera are working together to provide a series of moderated discussions centered around the Marin County experience and influence. Marin’s own Terry McGovern will moderate each session.

The Mountain Bike Revolution
Wednesday, October 24, 7 p.m.
Sir Francis Drake High School, Little Theater
1327 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, San Anselmo

Panel will feature Charlie Kelly, Joe Breeze, and other legends involved in the birth of mountain biking in Marin County. Event cosponsored by the Marin County Bicycle Coalition (MCBC).

Marin County Rock ‘n’ Roll Music History
Wednesday, November 28, 7 p.m.
Corte Madera Community Center Hall
498 Tamalpais Drive, Corte Madera

Richie Unterberger leads a discussion featuring local individuals sharing their memories and experiences.

Admission is $15 per event. Purchase tickets and get more information at www.hookedonmarin.com.

Seasonal Flu Shots
Influenza (“flu”) is a contagious disease that can be spread by coughing, sneezing, and nasal secretions. For most people, the flu lasts only a few days and includes symptoms such as fever, chills, cough, sore throat, headache, muscle aches, and fatigue. By getting vaccinated you can protect yourself from influenza and may also avoid spreading influenza to others. The College of Marin Health Center will be offering seasonal flu shots for $20.

Flu shots will be available at the Kentfield Campus, Health Services Portable. Call (415) 485-9458 for an appointment. Shots will be offered through November while supplies last.

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. For more information call (415) 485-9458.
College of Marin Drama Department Presents Macbeth
By William Shakespeare
Directed by W. Allen Taylor
October 12, 13, 19, and 20 at 8 p.m.
October 14 and 21 at 2 p.m.
Performing Arts Theatre

Set in a cold, forbidding netherworld populated by supernatural beings and three of the most famous witches in English literature, Shakespeare’s Macbeth is a dark and intense tale of morbid ambition, corruptive power, and serial murder. Upon hearing the prophesy of his destined ascent to the throne, Macbeth, a decorated war hero with a manipulative Lady Macbeth by his side, embarks on a bloody quest for power only to descend into madness and self-destruction.

Tickets are $20 for general admission, $15 for seniors, and $10 for students, COM staff and alumni. For more information, call the box office at (415) 485-9385.

Have a great weekend,

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President