President’s Weekly Briefing—December 19, 2013

Campuses Closed December 21 – January 1. Enjoy the Holidays!
As 2013 draws to a close I would like to thank the College community for contributing to the many successes that we celebrated this past year. It is through your hard work, commitment, and enthusiasm that we are able to build on our accomplishments and set our sights on continuing positive progress when we return. I wish you a safe and happy holiday season and hope that you take time to relax and enjoy the winter break in the company of family and friends.

Accreditation Commission to Respond to Midterm Report in January
We are looking forward to hearing from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) when the agency responds to our Midterm Report 2013 at a Preliminary Public Session next month in Sacramento. In the report, provided to the Commission in October, the College responded to nine recommendations of the Commission, outlining 26 self-identified plans for improvement. The Commission will meet in closed session to consider institutional actions, January 8 – 10, 2014, followed by an open session for the community. Limited seating for just 20 is available. We will provide an online link to the ACCJC’s response to the Midterm Report 2013 as soon as it is available. For more information, you may contact, Barbara David, administrative assistant to the Director of Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness, at (415) 485-9570; or Tom Lane, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges at (415) 506-0234.

Friday, January 10, 1 p.m.
Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel
1230 J Street
Sacramento

Kudos
❖ The new Advancement Office has made great progress during its first year of operation, particularly in the areas of developing and implementing fundraising processes and procedures; designing fundraising campaigns, events, and marketing strategies; investing in fundraising training for staff; identifying prospective donors; identifying an ethical framework to ensure appropriate stewardship of donor funds; and proposing a staffing and reorganization plan to support effective operations. These accomplishments provide an excellent foundation for advancement activities in the upcoming year. You can see the full report, including goals for year two, online.

❖ The College Trustees voted last week to extend for five more years the District’s wonderfully successful collaboration with the Marin Conservation Corps, now known as Conservation Corps North Bay (CCNB), to develop the Indian Valley Organic Farm and Garden. Since it was established in 2008, the joint project, together with the University of California
Cooperative Extension – Marin, has flourished. It has played a significant role in addressing the region’s need for workforce development in multiple sectors of the Sustainable Local Food Systems Industry. The program has:

- Developed a regional teaching farm laboratory and launched a farm production operation that will be the foundation for the sustainability plan;
- Extended the community college level core curriculum and certificate program that link to four-year university standards;
- Provided a link to the agricultural industry and established a paid field-study apprenticeship program and a customized work experience program in organic farming; and
- Transferred the model and content to organizations interested in developing similar programs.

It is anticipated that through this continued collaboration, the College of Marin and the community will benefit significantly.

**Personnel Actions from the December 10, 2013 Board of Trustees Meeting**

**Appointment of Academic Personnel**

- **Paul Cheney** has accepted the position of history and science instructor, effective January 10, 2014.
- **Marco Gonzalez** has accepted the position of sociology instructor, effective January 10, 2014.
- **Robert McCoy** and **Shawn Purcell** have accepted the position of psychology instructors, effective January 10, 2014.
- **Susan Rahman** has accepted the position of behavioral science instructor, effective January 10, 2014.

**Appointment of Classified Personnel**

- **Tracy Audisio** has accepted the position of lab technician in the Life and Earth Sciences Department, effective December 11, 2013.

**Resignation of Academic Personnel**

- **Jennifer Loeser**, chemistry instructor, has submitted her resignation effective December 20, 2013.

**Appointment of Educational Management Personnel**

- **Terry Gesulga** will continue as interim director of health sciences and child development effective, January 1 through June 30, 2014, or until the position is filled.
Board of Trustees meeting information from December 10, is available online. You can also watch the meetings online at justin.tv. The next meeting regular Board meeting is:

**Tuesday, January 21, 6:30 p.m.**
Student Services Building, Cafeteria
Kentfield Campus

**Cop’s Corner: Holiday Decoration Safety**
Here are some tips on trees, lighting and decoration to ensure a safe holiday.

- When purchasing a live holiday tree, check for freshness. Green needles are hard to pull from branches and do not break when bent between your fingers. The trunk cut of a fresh tree is sticky with resin and, when tapped on the ground, the tree should not lose many needles.
- When bringing a tree home, make sure it is securely fastened to your vehicle before driving.
- In the home, place the tree away from fireplaces and radiators. Heated rooms dry live trees out rapidly. Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways. Be sure to keep the stand filled with water.
- Use no more than three standard sized sets of lights per single extension cord.
- Always use non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to decorate a tree.
- If using artificial snow spray, follow container directions carefully to avoid lung irritation.
- Do not burn wrapping paper in a fireplace. A flash fire may result as wrappings ignite suddenly and burn intensely.

More holiday decoration tips are online.

**Upcoming Events**

**Contemporary Opera Marin: Amahl and the Night Visitors**
Directed by Paul Smith

Contemporary Opera Marin, the opera program of the College of Marin, presents this Gian Carlo Menotti holiday favorite in a fully staged, English language production performed in locations throughout Marin County. The hour-long production is free and suitable for the entire family. For more information, call the Music Department at (415) 485-9460. To receive performance notices electronically, email COMmusic@marin.edu.

**Friday, December 20, 7:30 p.m.**
**Saturday, December 21, 2 p.m.**
Lefort Recital Hall, PA 72
Kentfield Campus
**Spring Convocation: Transformation and Change**

We will have the opportunity to enjoy a creative keynote speaker for our spring Convocation next month when [Jordan Wright](#) explores the themes of transformation and change through the lens of magic. His passion is to stimulate innovation and creativity. For more than a decade, he has taken his unique style of surreal magic on tour from Las Vegas to Beijing, crafting original and tailored corporate presentations for Fortune 500 companies and nonprofit organizations. He will be creating an original presentation for the College exploring the world between fantasy and reality. Most College offices will be closed to allow all employees to attend. Updated program information will be sent via campus email as details are finalized and will also be posted on the [Staff Development web page](#). Reminder to faculty: The [Fall 2013 Flex Verification Form](#) is due in Human Resources by **Friday, December 20, 2013**. Also, if you need special assistance to participate in Flex activities, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the [Human Resources Department](#) at (415) 485-9340 as soon as possible. Notification at least three weeks prior to the activity will enable us to make reasonable arrangements to ensure workshop accessibility. An ASL interpreter will be provided for College Convocation.

**Friday, January 10**

9:15 a.m. – 10 a.m.: Coffee and Refreshments
10 a.m. – noon: Convocation Program
  
James Dunn Theatre
Kentfield Campus
For information, contact [Kathy Joyner](#), ext. 7502

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.: Flex department meetings
Contact your department chair or coordinator for your meeting location.

**Hooked on Marin Speaker Series**

**Marin County Rock ’n’ Roll Music History**

In the final lecture of the Hooked on Marin speaker series, [Richie Unterberger](#), rock historian and College of Marin instructor, will share rare archival video and audio footage from the 1960s and 1970s rock era. [Ben Fong-Torres](#) of *Rolling Stone* magazine will also be on hand to share stories from the local living legends of rock ’n’ roll. [Terry McGovern](#), College of Marin Drama instructor and one of the Bay Area’s most versatile performers, will moderate the event. Hooked on Marin is a community-based partnership of Marin County public service agencies and educational districts celebrating the region.
Wednesday, January 15, 7 p.m.
Corte Madera Community Center Hall
498 Tamalpais Drive, Corte Madera
Admission is $15
To order tickets, visit Hooked on Marin, or call (415) 945-3730.

Ongoing Events

Information on Pertussis (whooping cough) from the Health Center
Pertussis is highly contagious but is not usually serious in adults. Even if you have been immunized against pertussis, you should see your doctor right away if you have any of the symptoms. Answers to commonly asked questions are online. Please check the CDC website for more information.

Helping Survivors of Typhoon Haiyan
The far-reaching effects of the storm have hit a number of people close to home, including members of our staff and students who have family and friends living in the Philippines.

- COM employees who are struggling with family issues are encouraged to access the COM Employee Assistance Program for support.
- Students with families in the Philippines seeking support may contact the COM Counseling Office at (415) 485-9432.

In addition to our deepest condolences, consider helping to alleviate the suffering of those struggling in the Philippines. A number of organizations are providing help:

- The Filipino Americans of Northern California Organization (FANCO), and
- NBC has posted an online list of international organizations that are providing aid to victims.

Register Now for Spring Semester
Registration for continuing, new and returning students is underway for the spring semester classes that start January 13. The spring class listings are available online and printed schedules are found at locations throughout the campus. Registration improvements include the ability for students to submit petitions online, the automation of course waiting lists and the ability to change your major online. The final date to add a full-term course is Monday, January 27. For questions, contact admissions@marin.edu.
Low Cost Flu Shots on Campus—Cost Reduced for Students
You can get a flu shot on either campus through the College Health Center at various times during the week. Anyone wishing to receive a shot must be at least 18 years old. The Health Center is not a Medicare provider and is not able to bill insurance plans. The cost has been reduced to $5 for students. **Insured students can get their shots free.** Flu shots for faculty and staff are $10, and $20 for community members.

**Kentfield Campus**
- **Mondays**, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays**, 9 a.m. – noon, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- **Wednesdays**, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- **Fridays**, 9 a.m. – noon
Health Services Portable, front parking lot off of College Avenue
Please call (415) 485-9458 and confirm availability.

**Indian Valley Campus**
- **Mondays**, 9 a.m. – noon
   Administrative Services, room 121
Please call (415) 485-9458. Appointments only.

Employee Discount for Cirque Du Soleil
College employees are invited to buy discounted tickets for Cirque du Soleil’s performance of *Amaluna* in San Francisco. *Amaluna* is also the name of the mysterious island where the story unfolds. The show’s mostly female cast and an all-women band is a tribute to the work and voice of women. Reflecting on balance from a woman’s perspective, the show is less about feminism and more about reconnecting to our world in a different way. Note that there may be use of pyrotechnics and stroboscopic lights during the show. Employees will receive discounts and special access to seating not available to the general public. To find out more, visit [TicketsAtWork.com](http://TicketsAtWork.com), or call (800) 331-6483. The company code is MARIN.

**Tuesdays – Sundays, through January 12**, times vary
AT&T Park
74 Mission Rock Street
San Francisco

Sports
**Women’s Basketball vs. Gavilan**
Saturday, December 21, TBA in Kentfield
**Women’s Basketball vs. BVC-Napa**
Thursday, January 2, 5:30 p.m. at Kentfield
**Women’s Basketball vs. BVC-Mendocino**
Saturday, January 4, 5:30 p.m. at Mendocino

**Men’s Basketball—Santa Rosa JC Tournament**
Thursday – Saturday, December 19 – 21, TBA in Santa Rosa

**Men’s Basketball vs. BVC-Napa**
Thursday, January 2, 7:30 p.m. in Kentfield

**Men’s Basketball vs. BVC-Mendocino**
Saturday, January 4, 7:30 p.m. in Mendocino

**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.

Happy Holidays!

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President