President’s Monday Briefing – Aug. 30, 2010

Welcome Candidates for COM Superintendent/President!

The hiring process includes opportunities for college and community members to meet the finalists for COM Superintendent/President this week during open campus and community forums. Forums will be held from August 30 to September 3, from noon to 1 p.m., at the Kentfield Campus in Olney Hall; from 2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. at the Indian Valley Campus in Miwok 181; and a third public forum will be held from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Kentfield Campus in Olney Hall.

The forum schedule is as follows: William W. Cochran, Ed.D, Monday, August 30; David Wain Coon, Ed.D, Tuesday, August 31; Kathryn G. (Kathy) Lehner, MBA, Wednesday, September 1; Lawrence M. Cox, Ph.D., Thursday, September 2, and Jim Fay, Ph.D., Friday, September 3, 2010. More information about the candidates is available online, http://marin.edu/News/press_release/081710.htm.

Institutional Self Study Report Is Available Online

After much research, hard work, and collaboration the College of Marin Institutional Self Study Report in Support of Reaffirmation of Accreditation was delivered to ACCJC/WASC last week and is available online at http://www.marin.edu/com/ODP/Accreditation.htm.

The accreditation team visit will take place on Monday, Oct. 25, through Thursday, Oct. 28.

Special thanks to our self study co-chairs Blaze Woodlief and David Snyder, who is also serving as our accreditation liaison officer, and to the members of the steering committee, including Susan Andrien, Jim Arnold, Linda Beam, Yolanda Bellisimo, Nick Chang, Windee Cottle, Steve Dodson, Don Flowers, Chialin Hsieh, Peggy Isozaki, Kathleen Kirkpatrick, Nathaniel Parker, Becky Reetz, Kathleen Smyth, Cathy Summa-Wolfe, Derek Wilson and all of the subcommittee members for their efforts. Also thanks to former Superintendent/President Frances L. White, Ph.D., and former Interim Director of Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness Ed Buckley for their work on the self study.

Special thanks to all who helped in the document design, production, and printing process including Shook Chung, Nicole Cruz, and Barbara David, who provided major support for the publication, and Kathy Joyner, Sara McKinnon, Jesse Harbison, Melinda Molloy, Eileen Acker and reprographics staff.
Highlights from the Aug. 24 Board of Trustees Meeting

Board Adopts 2010/11 Budget
In order to balance the budget for this year, the board approved the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010/11 budget while implementing several cost saving measures. Faced with the reality of declining revenues and increasing costs, difficult decisions had to be made to achieve a balanced budget for FY 2010/11 by eliminating a $1.2 million structural deficit that has been caused by a variety of factors, including state budget cuts to categorical programs, a flattening of county property tax revenues, increased health insurance costs, and step and column increases. This structural deficit poses an ongoing challenge and has required a stringent review of programs to determine how best to allocate the reduced funding levels in FY 2010/11. This year’s cost saving measures include a 5 percent budget reduction for all non-instructional areas, a 50 percent reduction in credit/noncredit summer session 2011 classes, transfer of some noncredit courses to fee-based, and eliminating some vacant positions.

Student Health Fee Increase
Per a memo from the California Community Colleges State Chancellor’s Office and under Education Code Section 76355, the Board of Trustees approved an increase in the student health fee from $15 to $17 per semester and from $12 to $14 for the summer session for full-time students. The last time College of Marin increased student health fees was in 2007 and since then costs have increased substantially. The Health Center provides students services such as first aid materials and a consulting physician.

Revised Student Senate Constitution
The last time the Student Senate Constitution was revised was in March 1995. Since then, there came a need to reflect the changes in the institutional practices with regard to shared governance. Beginning in the spring semester 2010, the student trustee requested input from the Student Senate on revising the constitution. In July 2010 the revised constitution was ratified unanimously by the Student Senate. The revised constitution better reflects how business is conducted by the Student Senate and includes a line of succession in case a change in leadership is needed. The revised constitution also delineates the purpose and scope of responsibility of the Student Senate.

NAC Professional Services Agreement
In April 2010 the Board of Trustees authorized the district to proceed with design services for the New Academic Center (NAC) at Kentfield. The Board approved a short-form agreement to allow the firm TLCD Architecture to complete programming and cost modeling tasks. At the Aug. 24 meeting the long-form agreement was approved by the Board of Trustees for $2,208,720. That cost incorporates the costs of the existing short-form contract and amendment in the amount of $100,000. The agreement will be paid from budgeted bond funds and includes full design services associated with the New Academic Center project.
Appointment of Classified Personnel

- Shannon E. Timpane, Health Services Assistant, effective July 20, 2010.

Appointment of Academic Personnel


Resignation of Academic Personnel

- Kathryn H. Freschi, Modern Languages Instructor, has submitted her letter of resignation for retirement purposes effective Dec. 31, 2010.

Pertussis Vaccinations Recommended

Due to the high levels of disease and death from pertussis in California during 2010, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is recommending that all Californians make sure that they are immunized against pertussis, especially if they are in contact with infants. Pertussis, commonly known as whooping cough, is a highly contagious bacterial illness spread by coughs and sneezes. Vaccination is the best defense against whooping cough. However, the immunity from vaccines wears off over time making booster vaccines necessary.

Students, faculty, and staff can get a Tdap vaccination at the Health Center for $35. Call the Health Center at (415) 485-9458 for more information. Individuals without private insurance or a physician can get a Tdap vaccination for $10 from the Marin Community Clinics while supplies last. Call (415) 473-4400 for more information. Additional information about whooping cough can be found at [http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/Pertussis.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/Pertussis.aspx).

Convocation Speaker’s keynote presentation now online

The PowerPoint presentation from Dr. Swarup Wood’s Convocation keynote address “Using our Brains to Increase Student Learning and Success” is posted on the Staff Development Web page, [http://contribute.marin.edu/com/ODP/StaffDevelopment/index.htm](http://contribute.marin.edu/com/ODP/StaffDevelopment/index.htm). If you would like to view a DVD of Convocation, contact Kathleen Kirkpatrick at kathleen.kirkpatrick@marin.edu or (415) 485-9344.

Upcoming Events

The Road to Success

College of Marin’s Road to Success will take place Tuesday, Aug. 31, and Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2010, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is designed to encourage students (new and continuing) to learn about all of the COM student services, learning resources, programs, and academic departments available to help them succeed in their studies and earn their certificates or degrees at the college. When students “walk the road” by going to each stop throughout campus, they will learn important information about these services and resources, get their questions answered,
and have chances to win prizes. For many students this event helps build student awareness of the many resources in place to aid them. For services, programs, and departments, the Road to Success is an opportunity to showcase what you have to offer. Participating faculty can earn Flex time by staffing the tables.

Students “Walk the Road” to visit each stop

- Stop 1 Student Services
- Stop 2 Health Center
- Stop 3 Science Center
- Stop 4 Learning Resources Center
- Stop 5 Harlan Center
- Stop 6 Fine Arts

Various giveaways along the road include a first prize of $250 cash and other cash prizes. Each student is allowed one entry per stop on the Road. Winners will be notified after the event.

For evening students, Tuesday, Aug. 31, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., a consolidated table will be set up in the quad in front of the Learning Resources Center. For further information, contact Cheo Massion at Cheo.Massion@marin.edu or Becky Reetz at (415) 485-9620 or Becky.Reetz@marin.edu.

The Road to success is sponsored by ASCOM, Basic Skills Initiative Committee, and all Student Services and Departments.

**Book Banter**

Beginning Sept. 10 come join your fellow book lovers on the second Friday of the month at College of Marin’s Emeritus Center from noon to 1:30 p.m. for Book Banter. Often we get really excited—enamored—delighted—by something we are reading and are eager to talk about it and share it with friends. This is your chance. Reading a short passage from your selection will be encouraged. All sorts of book shares are welcome. The idea is to stimulate each other and enjoy a lively discussion. Bring your own lunch and spend part of the afternoon talking about one of your favorite books or authors. Future dates are Oct. 8, Nov. 12 and Dec. 10. Book Banter will continue January through June 2011. Non-Emeritus members are welcome. Call Karen Hemmeter at (415) 883-9120 or Len Pullan at (415) 381-6952 with questions; otherwise just show up!

**Sunday Salon**

The Emeritus Students College of Marin and The Lark Theater are pleased to continue the film series, Sunday Salon, beginning Sept. 12 at 10:30 a.m. at the Lark Theater in historic downtown Larkspur. The festivities include a light continental breakfast, then a screening of the film followed by commentary with question and answer period. The film will not be announced in advance to add to the intrigue. Bernice Baeza, Executive Director of the Lark Theater and film marvel, will find the best and most interesting selection to offer and open our eyes and minds to something we undoubtedly missed the first time around.
Series dates are Sept. 12, Oct. 17 and Nov. 7. Tickets are $39 for the series or $15 per film. Emeritus members will receive a discounted price of $36 for the series or $13 per film. To purchase tickets call The Lark at (415) 924-5111. Only Emeritus members qualify for the discount. If you have a non-member friend joining you, his or her price is $39 for the series. Bring your friends, come make new friends, and join in on a stimulating and friendly morning. See you at the movies!

**Constitution Day**
On Monday, Sept. 20, College of Marin will welcome historian Dr. Patricia Sullivan as we celebrate Constitution Day. Dr. Sullivan will be speaking about civil rights lawyers, the Constitution, and the transformation of America. The presentation will be held at the Kentfield Campus in Olney Hall 96 at 11:30 a.m. All students and the campus community are welcomed. Instructors in related subjects are invited to encourage their students to attend.

Dr. Patricia Sullivan is a civil and human rights speaker who has done extensive research on the first 50 years of the NAACP. Stories of men and women who experienced the struggle for civil rights first-hand are dramatically told in her book *Lift Every Voice*. Immersed in her subject matter, she is an engaging speaker who educates and inspires. Sullivan teaches history at the University of South Carolina and is a fellow in the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute at Harvard University. She lives in Washington, D.C.

**Transfer Day**
The College of Marin will be holding its Annual Transfer Day on Thursday, Sept. 30, 2010, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Services Building dining area. This event is a great opportunity for students, parents, academic advisors and the community to meet representatives from four-year California colleges, universities, private colleges and out-of-state institutions and get their questions answered about the institution, admissions, housing, financial aid, and the general transfer process.

Contact the Transfer/Career Center at (415) 485-9671 or e-mail transfercenter@marin.edu for more information.

**Performing Arts**

**Music Department Faculty Recital**
Thursday, Sept. 23, 10 a.m.
Lefort Recital Hall (FA 72)
FREE admission, parking $3

**WRACK**
Guest Artist Improv Concert
Friday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m.
Lefort Recital Hall (FA 72)
Admission is $10 general; $5 students, seniors, alumni; and free for COM Students
Free Parking
WRACK skirts the boundaries of an ever-evolving tradition hovering at the crossroads of other traditions. It is both a chamber ensemble with a highly unusual instrumentation and a book of compositions tailor-made for the personalities of its members. While the compositions’ melodic and contrapuntal content is reminiscent of European-American classical modernism, their modular structures and improvisational procedures are heavily indebted to the innovation of the African-American Creative Music continuum.

**Golden Vocals—Singer’s Choice Recital**  
Advanced Voice Class  
**Linda Noble Brown**, instructor  
Wednesday, Sept. 29, 11:10 a.m.  
Lefort Recital Hall (FA 72)  
Free admission  
Parking $3

**Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom**  
By **August Wilson**  
Directed by **W. Allen Taylor**  
September 29 is a pay-what-you-will preview at 8 pm  
October 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, and 16 at 8 pm  
October 10 and 17 at 2 pm  
Fine Arts Theatre  
$20 general, $10 for students, seniors, COM employees, and alumni

The play that initiated Wilson’s ten-play series about the African-American experience in America in the 20th Century; this brilliant and explosive piece will keep you riveted in your seat! It’s 1927, and the Jazz Age is in full swing. Set in a run-down recording studio in Chicago, Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom is funny, salty, and carnal and opens a scathing window into repression, racism, and the exploitation of black artists by whites. Don’t miss this iconic piece by one of America’s foremost Pulitzer Prize-winning playwrights.

**Parking Information**  
Due to construction at College of Marin parking availability is reduced. Performances may be accessed by using Parking Lot 16 after 5pm (at the corner of sir Francis Drake Boulevard and Laurel Avenue) and Parking Lot 2 (across Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, accessed via traffic signaled crosswalk.) Additional parking across campus can be accessed via College Avenue.  
On weekdays and Monday through Thursday evenings, please park in student parking only. Daily parking passes may be purchased from the machines in Lot 2 for $3. Parking for events on Friday evenings, Saturdays, and Sundays is free.
Ongoing Events

Static Progression
The Fine Arts Gallery is featuring new work by Jason Dunn in the exhibition Sculptures and Vessels now through Sept. 23, 2010. A reception for the artist will be held Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2010, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact Andrea Antonaccio at (415) 485-9493 for more information.

Emeritus Exhibit
The College of Marin Emeritus Center is sponsoring an exhibition titled Currents featuring paintings by Sharon Paster now through Sept. 20 in the Student Services Building, Room 148. A reception for the artist will be held Tuesday, Sept. 7, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Emeritus Center is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call (415) 485-9368 for more information.

COM Athletics
Men’s Soccer vs. Chabot College
Tuesday, Aug. 31, 2010, 4 p.m. in Kentfield

Women’s Volleyball vs. Chabot College
Thursday, Sept. 2, 2010, 6:30 p.m. in Hayward

Women’s Soccer vs. Mission College
Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2010, 3 p.m. in Kentfield

Have a great week,

Al J. Harrison II
Superintendent/President