President’s Monday Briefing – Nov. 29, 2010

Welcome to Our New Superintendent/President Dr. David Wain Coon
It has been a great honor serving as your Superintendent/President over the past months. Our new Superintendent/President Dr. David Wain Coon will begin his tenure this week on Wednesday, Dec. 1. Faculty and staff are invited to attend an informal reception welcoming Dr. Coon on Tuesday, Dec. 7 at 3:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Gallery at the Kentfield Campus. Faculty and staff will also have an opportunity to meet Dr. Coon on Dec. 14 during the grand opening celebration for the new building at the Indian Valley Campus with tours beginning at 3 p.m. and the ribbon cutting ceremony at 4 p.m. in rooms MB 116 and MB 118. I will return to my previous role as Vice President of College Operations on Dec. 1. Thank you again for your support during this transitional period and for all that you do every day for our students and the community that we serve.

Sincerely,

A.J. Harrison II

Iraq Veteran’s Film Shorts Portray Realities of Coming Home from War
Veterans returning home from the war will be the central theme of a benefit student film screening hosted by the College of Marin Drama Club Sunday, Dec. 5, at 6 p.m. in Olney Hall on the Kentfield Campus. A panel discussion will follow from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door. General admission will be $20, students will be $15, and veterans will be free. Proceeds will go to veterans’ groups and victims of the Haitian earthquake and cholera outbreak and Pakistani floods. For more information contact Robin Jackson at robin.jackson@marin.edu or go to www.marin.edu.

Donations Requested for COM’s Night of Giving
Associated Students College of Marin (ASCOM) is requesting donations for College of Marin's Annual Night of Giving on Dec. 3, 2010. All types of donations are welcome including: toys, children's books, non-perishable food, gift cards, and gift baskets. This will be a free, fun-filled evening with dinner, gifts, and lots of children's activities. ASCOM hosts this event for our College of Marin low-income students, single parent families, and students in need. Donations support our student leaders' work at the college and may be tax deductible. Thank you for helping our students and the community.
In need of a Christmas gift?
ASCOM is having a drawing valued at $175 for a cheese and wine tasting from A.G. Ferrari Foods. The wine and cheese tasting is for up to 10 people and the funds raised will be used toward the expense of ASCOM’s annual Night of Giving Program for our students and families in need of a positive Christmas with an evening of food for all families in attendance and games and gifts for the children. Tickets for this drawing are $5 each, with the drawing to be held at ASCOM’s meeting on Dec. 9. Buy your tickets in the Student Services Building, Room 250. For more information contact Vickie Lamke at (415) 485-9376.

Section 125 Benefit Plan—Open Enrollment
The college’s Pre-Tax Section 125 program year ends on Dec. 31, 2010. You should have received an open enrollment memo for the Section 125 Benefit plan in your campus mail box. Employees who wish to enroll or make changes in their current plan(s) will need to do so by Dec. 14, 2010. Participation in the pre-tax plans is voluntary and the enrollment period is limited to once annually.

Section 125 of the IRS Code provides options to use pre-tax dollars to pay for certain health and welfare benefits. The employee share of health care premium contributions, dependent/child care expenses and out-of-pocket medical/dental expenses, including office visit and prescription co-pays, are all eligible for payment with pre-tax dollars and provide a reduction in tax withholding and reportable wages. Enrolling in the Flexible Spending Account program allows you to set aside funds for un-reimbursed medical/dental expenses, childcare or dependent care expenses, and supplemental insurance premiums and have those funds deducted from your paycheck before your taxes are calculated. Pre-taxing these expenses may save in taxes on the money you are currently spending.

IMPORTANT: We anticipate increases in monthly premiums for both Kaiser and Health Net this year as well as increases in office visit and prescription co-pays for some employees effective Feb. 1, 2011. Depending on your individual situation, you may wish to consider looking into tax saving options under this program. There are also changes due to Health Care Reform related to over the counter medicine and drug reimbursements. These items may not be reimbursable unless prescribed by a physician. Please contact our AFLAC representative, Donna Reeve, if you have questions about what is covered and reimbursable.

Donna Reeve will be on campus for individual appointments on Dec 1 and Dec 3. You may make an appointment by calling Kathy Joyner at ext. 8101 or via e-mail at kathy.joyner@marin.edu. You may also contact Ms. Reeve directly at (415) 250-0540 or at donnareeve@comcast.net. Enrollment forms are available in the Human Resources and Payroll offices. Please note that the Health Benefit Open Enrollment period will occur December through January. More information regarding health plan open enrollment will be forthcoming.
January Flex Workshops—Call For Proposals
The Professional Development Committee is calling for proposals for January Flex workshops. In particular, the committee is interested in building the Flex program around the topics identified as top priorities by faculty and staff in last spring's Professional Development Needs Assessment: strategies for student success, SLOs, assessment, CPR, health and wellness and online learning courseware development including Moodle. If you are willing to present a workshop on one of these topics or another topic of interest or suggest a trainer, please e-mail Kathleen Kirkpatrick at Kathleen.kirkpatrick@marin.edu. The committee is currently reviewing proposals but will accept submissions through Dec. 7, 2010.

Seasonal Flu Vaccines—Now Only $15
Influenza (“flu”) is a contagious disease which 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 Health Center will continue to offer flu shots as long as the supply lasts for $15. Please call (415) 485-9458 for an appointment.

Personnel Items
Retirement of Academic Personnel
- Behavioral Science Instructor and EOPS Director Victoria Coad has submitted her resignation for retirement purposes effective Dec. 18, 2010.
- Counselor Robert Flynn has submitted his resignation for retirement purposes effective Dec. 18, 2010.

Resignation of Management Personnel
- Vice President of Student Learning Nicolar Chang has submitted his letter of resignation effective Dec. 31, 2010.

Appointment of Classified Personnel
- Heather Holliday has accepted the position of Administrative Assistant to the Maintenance and Operations Department effective Dec. 1, 2010.
Upcoming Events

Measure C Bond Program Update—Community Forums
Please join us on Tuesday and Thursday, Dec. 7 and 9, for community forums at the Indian Valley and Kentfield Campuses. The meetings are intended to bring the community up to date on the progress of the modernization program. There will be a question and answer period following each presentation. The forums are open to the public and are free of charge.

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<tr>
<th>Novato Forum</th>
<th>Kentfield Forum</th>
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<td>Tuesday, Dec. 7</td>
<td>Thursday, Dec. 9</td>
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<td>7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Indian Valley Campus</td>
<td>Kentfield Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>1800 Ignacio Blvd.</td>
<td>835 College Ave.</td>
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<td>Miwok Cluster, Room 181</td>
<td>Olney Hall Auditorium, Room 96</td>
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Performing Arts

Symphonic Band
Douglas Delaney, director
Wednesday, Dec. 1, at 7:30 p.m.
Fine Arts Theatre
Donation suggested, parking $3

The Community Symphonic Band performs challenging music, which is always well received by our audiences. On this program the band will perform Don Gillis’ Symphony 5 ½, the William Byrd Suite by Gordon Jacob, and Bernstein’s Overture to Candide.

Two Evenings of Chamber Music
Jessica Ivry, director
Friday and Saturday, Dec. 3 and 4, at 7:30 p.m.
Lefort Recital Hall (FA 72)
Suggested donation $7, free parking

College of Marin music students perform in a variety of small ensembles, including trios, quartets and quintets. There will be a different program each evening. Call (415) 485-9460 for program details.
Almost, Maine
By John Cariani
Molly Noble, director
Thursday, Dec. 2, is a pay-what you will preview at 8 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, Dec. 3, 4, 10, and 11, at 8 p.m.
Matinees on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 4, 5, 11, and 12, at 2 p.m.
Studio Theatre (FA 32)
$20 general, $10 for students, seniors, COM employees, and alumni

Set in the mythical town of Almost, Maine, this play is a quirky, romantic mid-winter dream—a roundelay of vignettes, all set at precisely 9 p.m. on the same night in the depths of winter. Guaranteed to eradicate the blues, this show will leave you with a warm fuzzy feeling, make you laugh, and make you cry as it explores the mysteries of the human heart.

Cabaret Songs of William Bolcom
Advanced Voice Class
Linda Noble Brown, instructor
Sunday, Dec. 5, at 3 p.m.
The Tamalpais Retirement Community
501 Via Casitas, Greenbrae

Jazz Ensemble
Douglas Delaney, director
David Jones, choreographer
Tuesday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m.
Fine Arts Theatre
Donation suggested, parking $3

This fall’s concert will again add vocal soloists and jazz dancers to the jazz band. Choreographer and COM Dance Instructor David Jones and his students will bring excitement with his interpretations of Jazz and Latin classics. Student vocal soloists from the COM Music Department will be featured on such classic jazz tunes as Chega de Saudade, Fever, and Lush Life.

Concert Band
Douglas Delaney, director
Wednesday, Dec. 8, at noon
Fine Arts Theatre
Donation suggested, parking $3

The Concert Band will perform selections from Aladdin, Prokofiev’s Train Ride, and a suite from the opera Carmen for a noontime audience. Come join us during the lunch hour to hear a selection of musical favorites.
Marin Oratorio
*The Seasons* by Franz Joseph Haydn

**Boyd Jarrell**, director
Saturday, Dec. 11, at 8 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 12, at 3 p.m.
Fine Arts Theatre
Donation: $20 general, $15 students, staff, seniors, and alumni.
Call the College of Marin Box Office at (415) 485-9385 for tickets.

From the rustic pleasures of the village peasants to the noble brilliance of the heavenly chorus, *The Seasons* represents the culmination of Haydn’s long and illustrious career. In Haydn’s last great work, the human condition and the passage of time are told through the story of a farmer, his daughter, and her suitor. The old composer’s thoughts on mortality, grandeur, and power shine through in some of his most varied and fascinating writing. The 110 voice MARIN ORATORIO chorus and full orchestra will be joined by guest vocal soloists Christa Pfeiffer, Jonathan Smucker, and Jeffrey Fields.

The Sound of Courage
Beginning Voice Class
**Linda Noble Brown**, instructor
Monday, Dec. 14, at 2:10 p.m.
Lefort Recital Hall (FA 72)
FREE admission, parking $3

College Chorus and Chamber Singers
*Post Season*

**Boyd Jarrell**, director
**Jeffrey Paul**, accompanist
Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.
Lefort Recital Hall (FA 72)
Donation suggested, parking $3

Following Haydn’s lead, College Chorus and Chamber Singers will take another look at the seasons through music. Winter, spring, summer, and fall all get their due in this delightful choral survey. Beginning with *To Everything there is a Season* by Ed Harris, the forty voice College Chorus will present a variety of musical images. Chamber Singers will follow with a cappella “orchestration”s” of Bach’s *Air on a G String*, and Tchaikovsky’s *Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy*, as well as the hauntingly beautiful *Twelfth Night* by Samuel Barber. Come and celebrate!

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. There is very limited disabled parking behind the Fine Arts Building in the remaining vestiges of Parking Lot 4. Daily parking passes may be purchased from the machines in Parking Lot 2 for $3. Parking for events on Friday evenings, Saturdays, and Sundays is free.
Ongoing Events

COM Athletics
Men’s Basketball vs. Sacramento City College
   Tuesday, Nov. 30, in Kentfield

Women’s Basketball vs. Modesto College
   Friday, Dec. 3, 5 p.m. in Kentfield

Results:
Men’s Basketball
   Nov. 27: Shasta College 82, COM 72

Women’s Basketball
   Nov. 27: Shasta College 68, COM 51

Have a great week,

A.J. Harrison II
Superintendent/President