President’s Monday Briefing – Dec. 6, 2010

Thanks for the Warm Welcome!
Since arriving on Wednesday, Dec. 1, I have had the great pleasure of meeting a number of faculty, staff, students, and community members and am inspired by the great talent and dedication to students that I have encountered so far. My first day on the job began with attending the regular monthly meeting of Management Council followed by several meetings with campus constituents and staff. Since I arrived, I have had the opportunity to meet Shirley Graves and College of Marin Alumni Association members, Classified Senate officers, had breakfast at our children’s center on Thursday morning and lunch with Russ Colombo, President of Bank of Marin and member of College of Marin’s President’s Circle. On Wednesday night I was invited to attend an event for 10,000 Degrees (formerly the Marin Education Fund) and met a variety of community members including Kim Mazzuca among others. The College of Marin Foundation Board President Ann Hill sent me a warm greeting and I am thankful to the College of Marin Board of Trustees for their part in introducing me to our community.

I look forward to meeting many more of you in the weeks ahead and hope to see you at the informal reception on Tuesday, Dec. 7, at 3:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Gallery at the Kentfield Campus. I also look forward to seeing many of you at the Grand Opening of the New Main Building at the Indian Valley Campus on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 3 p.m.

Sincerely,

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President

You Are Invited to the Grand Opening of New IVC Main Building
The Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Celebration will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2010. Tours start at 3 p.m. and the ribbon cutting will begin at 4 p.m. Guests will be treated to refreshments and live music. A special presentation will be held as part of the event recognizing the efforts of former COM Trustee Harry Moore who was an ardent supporter of IVC and sustainable building practices.

Construction of the Main Building Complex includes a new two-story general purpose building and surrounding landscape beautification. The new building, with a spacious entryway and areas for outdoor seating, incorporates abundant natural lighting and efficient heating and air circulation systems wholly supported by a new geothermal field. The building houses a variety of workforce development programs in medical and dental assisting, court reporting, and computer technology, among others. A new library and Internet Café will also reside in the building. The building is eligible for LEED® Certification and was sustainably built to achieve
LEED® Gold. The architect for the project was VBN Architects, Oakland. The contractor was DiGiorgio Contracting Co., Novato. The Program Manager/Construction Manager was Swinerton Management & Consulting, San Francisco, and College Of Marin Modernization Director Laura McCarty and former Director V-Anne Chernock helped shepherd the project to fruition. Also, a very special thanks goes to Nanda Schorske and all of the IVC faculty and staff who worked hard and participated in the planning process for the new building. The success of the project is the result of an extended team effort!

**Harry Moore Memorial**

A special presentation will be held as part of the IVC ribbon cutting event recognizing the efforts of former COM Trustee Harry Moore who was an ardent supporter of IVC and sustainable building practices. Harry was an early champion for sustainability and environmental stewardship in Marin County and served with distinction on the College of Marin Board of Trustees before he died in 2008. The College of Marin community will honor Harry’s memory with the installation of a memorial including an outdoor geothermal educational display and a commemorative bench. The memorial has been paid for with private funds thanks to the generosity of donors. The fundraising effort was led by COM Trustees Carole Hayashino, Wanden Treanor, former Trustee Annan Paterson and community member Lauren Beal. In addition Di Giorgio Contracting Company donated the labor for the installation of the memorial. Harry’s widow Callita Moore will commemorate the installation of the memorial at the IVC Ribbon Cutting Celebration. Special thanks to Melinda Molloy and Heather Holliday for their behind the scenes efforts in coordinating the logistics for fundraising and installation.

**Last Week to Buy Raffle Tickets for Cheese and Wine Tasting**

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.

**Seasonal Flu Vaccines—Now Only $10**

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 offer flu shots for only $10 until the campuses close for the winter break on Dec. 23. Please call (415) 485-9458 for an appointment.

**December Distance Education Newsletter Is Now Available Online**

To view the December DE@COM Newsletter visit http://www.marin.edu/distance/PDFs/DE@COM-12012010.pdf. Please note: Training for December is by appointment only. For more information about DE@COM, please contact alisa.klinger@marin.edu.
Upcoming Events

Don’t Drink and Drive Campaign
College of Marin is participating in Alcohol Awareness month by hosting a Don't Drink and Drive campaign. Campus Police and the Health Center will have an information table set up in front of the Learning Resources Center at the Kentfield Campus Dec. 7 through 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. A crashed car display will be near the information table pending availability from the Sheriff’s Department. For more information please call June Lee at (415) 485-9462.

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.

Novato Forum
Tuesday, Dec. 7
7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Indian Valley Campus
1800 Ignacio Blvd.
Miwok Cluster, Room 181

Kentfield Forum
Thursday, Dec. 9
7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Kentfield Campus
835 College Ave.
Olney Hall Auditorium, Room 96

Retirement Reception for Barb St. John
After 25+ years at College of Marin, Barbara St. John (Barb) is retiring! Please join her for cake and coffee on Thursday, Dec. 16, in the Student Services Building Deedy Staff Lounge from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Anyone interested in contributing towards a gift for Barb, please contact Sandra Tachiara, Sandra.Tachiara@marin.edu; Vickie Lamke, Vickie.Lamke@marin.edu; or Gina Longo, Gina.Longo@marin.edu.
**Performing Arts**

**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
Tuesday, 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 “orchestrations” 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—Skyline Tournament
  Friday through Sunday, Dec. 10 through 12, in San Bruno

Women’s Basketball vs. Cabrillo College
  Wednesday, Dec. 8, 5:30 p.m. in Kentfield

Women’s Basketball vs. Hartnell College
  Friday, Dec. 10, 5 p.m. in Salinas

Results:

Men’s Basketball
  Nov. 30: Sacramento City College 66, COM 51

Women’s Basketball
  Dec. 3: Modesto College 61, COM 52
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 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.

If you wish to enroll in any of the plan options, forms are available in Human Resources and Payroll. If you have specific questions about the program please contact Donna Reeve at (415) 250-0540 or donnareeve@comcast.net. Please note that the Health Benefit Open Enrollment period will occur December through January. More information regarding health plan open enrollment will be forthcoming.