President’s Monday Briefing—Feb. 28, 2011

ACCJC/WASC Follow-Up Report

Dear Colleagues:

As part of our accreditation process, ACCJC/WASC has requested that we provide a Follow-Up Report by Oct. 15, 2011 demonstrating the college’s resolution of eight recommendations. The report will be followed by a visit by Commission representatives.

In order to prepare the report, and because I am new to the college, I have asked members of Cabinet to help me identify a timeline, determine accountability for completing specific sections, and assess the need for resources. The development of an action plan and the completion of the Follow-Up Report will require broad participation from constituent groups, including participatory governance committees, faculty, staff, and students.

Dr. Chialin Hsieh is now serving as our Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO) and will be working with individuals and committees to facilitate the timely completion of the Follow-Up Report. Dr. Hsieh replaces Dr. David Snyder who served as ALO during the self-study process.

More details about action plans for each recommendation will be announced in March. A draft report will be available for review and comments at Convocation in August 2011. The report will be submitted to College Council for approval on Sept. 15, 2011. The report will be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval on Sept. 20, 2011.

I look forward to working together with you on this important project.

Sincerely,

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President

Open Forum with COM Superintendent/President

Join me on Wednesday, March 2, at 3 p.m. in the Deedy Lounge, Student Services Building for the second in a series of informal open forums to discuss a range of topics. Faculty, staff, and students are invited to bring their ideas, questions and other subjects of interest.
Kudos
Curriculum and Articulation Specialist Tom Hudgens’ cookbook continues to gain notoriety. Local publication Marin Magazine featured an interview with Hudgens and a recipe from The Commonsense Kitchen, 500 Recipes and Lessons for a Hand-crafted Life submitted by our own Health Sciences Administrative Assistant Joan Rinaldi. You can read the article at: http://www.marinmagazine.com/Marin-Magazine/March-2011/Irish-Bread-Soda/

College of Marin Measure C Bond Citizens’ Oversight Committee
Solicits New Members
Five committee members are being sought to serve on the College of Marin Measure C Bond Citizens’ Oversight Committee for the Measure C bond program. The committee is seeking applications for members representing the community at large, a bona-fide taxpayer’s association, a senior citizens’ organization, and a member active in a business organization representing the business community located in the district. New members will be appointed by the College of Marin Board of Trustees at its April meeting. Applications are due March 31, 2011. Oversight committee members cannot be employees, officials, vendors, consultants, or contractors of the College of Marin. Application and application information can be found on-line at http://www.marin.edu/MeasureC/coc/index.htm or by calling the Office of the Superintendent/President at (415) 485-9502.

The College of Marin Board of Trustees passed a resolution on Dec. 14, 2004, establishing the independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee. The committee is responsible for ensuring the College of Marin’s financial accountability for projects funded by a $249.5 million bond earmarked for facilities modernization and passed by Marin County Voters in the November 2004 election with more than 63 percent voter approval. Measure C was a Proposition 39 bond that required the formation of a Citizen’s Oversight Committee.

Marin Symphony Offers Friends at COM Discounted Seats
The Marin Symphony is offering great seats to their friends at College of Marin Sunday, March 13, and Tuesday, March 15, at 7:30 p.m. for Love, Sex and Soaps—Leonard Bernstein’s symphonic dances from West Side Story. The concert also features the Marin Symphony Chorus singing opera’s greatest hits and Bay Area composer Nathaniel Stookey’s Zipperz* (a soaPOpera) with Broadway performers. Come and enjoy these steamy works about romance for only $20. Call the box office at (415) 499-6800 and mention College of Marin to take advantage of this special offer.

*Zipperz deals with adult subject matter and may not be appropriate for younger audiences.
The Deadline to Apply for Financial Aid is March 2
Students applying for Cal Grants, 10,000 Degrees (formally known as the Marin Education Fund), and College of Marin Foundation scholarships must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and supplemental forms prior to March 2 for the following fall semester. Students applying for Federal Work-Study and Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grants must also submit their FAFSA by the March 2 deadline. If you miss the March 2 deadline you can still apply for fee waivers, Pell Grants, and loans by filling out the FAFSA. The Cal Grant also has a second deadline of Sept. 2. Call the Financial Aid Office at (415) 485-9409 for more information.

Upcoming Events

Detective Story
By Sidney Kingsley
Directed by James Dunn
March 3 is a pay-what-you-will preview at 8 p.m.
March 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, and 19 at 8 p.m.
March 13, 19 and 20 at 2 p.m.
Kentfield Performing Arts Theatre
$20 general, $10 students, seniors, COM employees, and alumni

A play noir Detective Story was the script upon which the 1951 Oscar-winning and Golden Globe nominated film was based. Set in a busy New York City police squad room and office, the play takes the audience through the busy workings of the precinct during the course of one day. Every manner of petty criminal, tough cop, eccentric street character is represented in this gritty story that is guaranteed to keep viewers spellbound until its dramatic climax.

Good news! Circle Drive has re-opened so there is convenient parking there as well as in Parking Lot # 2 (across Sir Francis Drake Blvd.) and Parking Lot #17 (at the corner of Laurel and Sir Francis Drake Blvd.).
Two Orchestras Unite
Conducted by Tara Flandreau and Cynthia Weichel
Saturday, March 19, 8 p.m. at the Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa
Sunday, March 20, 4 p.m. at Unity in Marin, 600 Palm Dr., Novato
$10 suggested donation.

Conductors Tara Flandreau and Cynthia Weichel unite their community college orchestras to present two concerts of celebrated orchestral music to Marin and Sonoma Counties. The program is a benefit for the COM Charles Meacham String Scholarship and the SRJC Student Music Scholarships. Flandreau and Weichel are both former violin students of renowned teacher and COM faculty member Charles Meacham. The program features Vivaldi’s Concerto in B minor for Four Violins, with Flandreau, Weichel, and orchestra concertmasters Joanna Pinckney and Sebastian Shader as soloists. Also on the program is the Egmont Overture by Beethoven performed by the Santa Rosa Junior College Orchestra, and the Classical Symphony by Prokofiev performed by the COM Symphony Orchestra. The groups will combine for the energetic and cheerful Symphony No. 104 by Franz Joseph Haydn.

SweetART Show
The College of Marin Fine Arts Gallery presents the second exhibition all about sweethearts and love now through March 17. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ESCOM Painting Exhibition
Emeritus Students College of Marin (ESCOM) is sponsoring an exhibition of paintings by Cole Posard now through March 25, 2011. The Emeritus Center at the Kentfield Campus is located in the Student Services Building, Room 146.

COM Athletics

Baseball vs. Diablo Valley College
  Tuesday, March 1, 2 p.m. in Pleasant Hill

Baseball vs. Solano College
  Thursday, March 3, 2 p.m. in Suisun

Baseball vs. Napa Valley College
  Saturday, March 5, 1 p.m. in Kentfield

Softball vs. College of San Mateo—Double Header
  Saturday, March 5, noon and 2 p.m. in San Mateo

Track and Field—Gator Preview
  Saturday, March 5, all day in San Francisco
Sign up for COM’s Emergency Notification System, Alert U

You can be notified immediately by text message of campus closures and emergencies by signing up for Alert U, the college’s emergency notification system. Marin Community College District Police Department, with sponsorship from alertu.org, has an emergency SMS messaging platform to enhance communication services during crisis situations.

Alert U will allow campus police to broadcast critical information, in real time, to the mobile devices (cell phones, etc.) of all employees and the student body. This is particularly important for those who may be in, or near, a crisis zone. To sign up, go to www.alertu.org/mccd and follow the directions. There is no cost to sign up for this service; however, standard text message rates may apply.

From a computer:
1. Go to www.alertu.org/mccd
2. Enter your cell number and indicate if you are staff, faculty, etc.
3. On your cell phone, you will receive a welcome text message: Please join MCCD’s Emergency Alert System. No spam. Reply Y to sign up
4. From your cell phone, Reply Y (only the letter Y, nothing else)
5. That’s it

From your cell phone:
1. With your cell phone, text “MCCD” (your campus keyword) to 253788 (ALERTU)
2. You will receive a welcome text message: Please join MCCD’s Emergency Alert System. No spam. Reply Y to sign up
3. From your cell phone, Reply Y (only the letter Y, nothing else)
4. That’s it

RECOMMENDATION: To make it easier for you to recognize emergency messages, store the number 253788 in your cell phone’s phone book as AlertU We value your privacy as students and staff at Marin Community College District and can promise:

You will never receive any mobile spam. No personal information will ever be shared with anyone. Only MCCD College Police will have access to the alerting system The AlertU system will only be used in the event of an emergency/crisis. The service is free, though the users standard text message rates/plans apply. It is expected that in the event of a crisis or emergency, AlertU will greatly help minimize both risk and damage for our students, faculty, staff, and school. While this service is only one of the many methods that may be needed in getting the word out in a crisis, it should be the most immediate.

Have a great week!

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President