COM Students Go to Sacramento Joining Others to Protest Budget Cuts

Around 20 College of Marin students are in Sacramento today to join thousands of California community college students on the March in March 2011, an effort to highlight student concerns about proposed budget cuts.

The statewide effort, sponsored by the Student Senate for California Community Colleges which has organized student leaders via teleconference and social media channels such as Facebook. Community college faculty and staff as well students from the Cal State and UC systems will join California community college students in the march. The community is also invited to participate by calling their state representatives.

College of Marin students, faculty and supporters, who have made advance reservations, will drive by bus to Sacramento to join an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 others on a brief walk to the state Capitol. Students plan to meet with representatives from State Assemblyman Jared Huffman’s and State Senator Mark Leno’s offices to discuss their concerns.

Community colleges are faced “with simply keeping the doors open,” according to the Community College League of California, which seeks to suspend scheduled tax cuts for five years and compromise on proposed cuts to include $12.5 million in budget cuts this year. There were $400 million in state cuts to community colleges in 2009-10 and at least that much is expected this year.

Institutional Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

College of Marin will hold the TOEFL on Friday, April 8, 2011, from 9 a.m. to noon. Students should arrive by 8:45 a.m. Students can sign-up beforehand on the sheet in Ohlone 142 or e-mail sara.oser@marin.edu. You may also leave a message at (415) 883-2211, ext. 8579.

There is a space limit of 15 people so students are encouraged to sign-up early. The cost to take the test is $30 and this fee may be paid in the Kentfield or Indian Valley Campus Admissions and Records Office, Building 27, after March 25.

Please keep the receipt and bring it to the test along with photo identification. Hand-scored results will be available by e-mail on April 19, 2010. Official score sheets will be available for pick up at the Intensive English Program (IEP) four to six weeks later. A free practice test is available for checkout at IEP.

The tests will be given at the Indian Valley Campus Intensive English Program (IEP), Ohlone Building 19, Room 158. Parking is available in lot 6; however, a daily or semester parking permit is required. Off campus parking is free.
Kudos
College of Marin Social Sciences Professor Walter Turner will be part of a panel discussion following the screening of Pushing the Elephant. The film will be presented by ITVS, the Oakland Film Office, OACC, and DEAF Media on Thursday, March 24, at 6:30 p.m. The screening will be held at the Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 Ninth Street, Suite 290, Oakland. The film follows the story of a woman who lost her family to violence that took place in the Democratic Republic of Congo in the late 90s.

COM student-athlete Marco Farahmand and Swim Coach Warren Lager were featured in the Marin IJ last Friday, March 11. The article talked about Farahmand’s realization that success can only be achieved by putting in the effort. He credits Lager’s dedication and interest in helping students recognize their potential. Farahmand has learned to commit to himself and both he and Lager are eager to see the opportunities that the future holds both in and out of the pool.

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/cooc/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.
Volunteer Long Term Care Insurance Information Meetings
College of Marin will be offering two additional meeting dates for employees (and their families) to learn about the district’s new voluntary Long Term Care (LTC) Insurance. Please join our LTC Specialists to provide an overview of planning, eldercare management, and care-giving issues, as well as this new benefit program.

Meetings will be held at both campuses:

Kentfield Campus
**Tuesday, March 29**
Deedy Lounge
**12:30 p.m.** (lunch will be provided) or **3 p.m.** (cookies and beverages served)

Indian Valley Campus
**Wednesday, March 30**
Administrative Services Building, Conference Room 101
**12:30 p.m.** (lunch will be provided) or **3 p.m.** (cookies and beverages served)

RSVP to **Julie Breakstone** in the Human Resources Office at (415)-485-9340 by March 25.

For more information on this program, please contact our LTC Specialists:
Karen Perry: **kperry@jhancock.com** at (650) 224-9204 or
Teresa Campama: **teresachb@aol.com** at (714) 955-3300

Upcoming Events

**Detective Story**
By Sidney Kingsley
Directed by **James Dunn**
March 18 and 19 at 8 p.m.
March 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.

Santa Barbara City College Dean to Speak on Moodle Migration
Dr. Douglas E. Hersh, Dean, Educational Programs, Santa Barbara City College (SBCC) will present at COM on April 1 from 10 a.m. to noon in Learning Resources Center, Room 53. At SBCC, he serves The Online College, Learning Technologies, The School of Media Arts, Student Technology Support, and The Faculty Resource Center; and he is credited with bringing the human touch to Distance ED in order to narrow the gap between retention rates in face-to-face programs and those in online programs. Hersh convinced Santa Barbara in 2008 to abandon Blackboard, the LMS industry leader, in favor of Moodle’s open-source platform, which he used to build the straightforwardly named “Human Presence Learning Environment.”

Guest Piano Duo from London
Valeria Szervansky and Ronald Cavaye
Friday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.
Lefort Recital Hall (PA 72)
Suggested donation: $10

SweetART Show—Reception Tomorrow!
The College of Marin Fine Arts Gallery presents the second exhibition all about sweethearts and love now through March 17. Come and enjoy a closing reception for the artists featured in the SweetART show Tuesday, March 15, from 5 p.m. to 7 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**

Congratulations to women's basketball captain **Jasmanique Price** who made the 2010-2011 Bay Valley All—Conference Team. The All-Conference team is made up of the top players in the Bay Valley Conference. To earn an All-Conference spot the players are voted onto the team by conference coaches. What an honor!

Baseball update: College of Marin Ranked 7th in the latest Northern California Community College Baseball Rating Percentage Index poll.

**Baseball vs. Mendocino College**  
Tuesday, March 15, 2 p.m. in Ukiah

**Baseball vs. Yuba College**  
Thursday, March 17, 2 p.m. in Marysville

**Baseball vs. Solano College**  
Saturday, March 19, 1 p.m. in Suisun

**Softball vs. Contra Costa College—Double Header**  
Tuesday, March 15, 2 p.m. in Kentfield

**Track and Field—Hornet Invitational**  
Saturday, March 19, all day in Sacramento

Have a great week!

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.  
Superintendent/President