



President's Report to the Governing Board November 13, 2012



🐾 Mole Day



Celebrated annually on October 23 (10/23) from 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m., *Mole Day* commemorates Avogadro's Number (6.02×10^{23}), which is a basic measuring unit in chemistry. *Mole Day* was created as a way to foster interest in chemistry. Schools throughout the United States and around the world celebrate *Mole Day* with various activities related to chemistry and/or moles. Cuyamaca College celebrated Mole Day again after a hiatus of several years by inviting Severus Snape (aka **Dr. Glenn Thurman**) from Hogwarts Academy to present a series of "magical" chemistry demos for the occasion and give his (somewhat

skewed) overview of the mole, Avogadro's number and scientific thought. Along with the spectacular presentation, there were some to-die-for-giveaway chemistry items and edible goodies. This event was standing room only and the lobby of the H Building was packed!

🐾 University Transfer Fair

On October 22nd, the annual Transfer Fair was held on the Grand Lawn of Cuyamaca College. Representatives from over 34 colleges participated in the event, and met with approximately 450 students. Students were able to get answers to questions about majors available, major requirements, impacted majors, GPA requirements, tuition costs, student involvement, student groups, and many other questions about college life at the various institutions. College representatives were set up along the walkway going through the Grand Lawn so students could have easy access to the information. Along with the representatives, the students had the opportunity to interact with Transfer Center Coordinator **Dr. Amaliya Blyumin**. President Zacovic visited the Transfer Fair and was pleased to have been able to meet and thank each college's representative for attending.



🐾 ASGCC Halloween Festival



The Associated Student Government sponsored a Halloween Festival for students. The festival included numerous carnival style booths, music, and complimentary food. The Halloween Festival was a great community-building event for students and provided them with an opportunity to learn how to become more involved in student activities, including the Associated Student Government.

🐾 **October was Disabilities Awareness Month: Resource Fair and Wheelchair Basketball Game**

In collaboration with the Associated Student Government, DSPS, Athletics, and Club ABLED, the October College Hour, which included a Resource Fair, was in celebration of Disabilities Awareness Month. During the College Hour Resource Fair, various agencies were represented and spoke to students about the wide range of programs available to help those with disabilities.

After the Resource Fair the 15th Annual Wheelchair Basketball Game was held in the gym, followed by a special luncheon for the participants and the community resource partners. Teams were made up of professional wheelchair athletes from SDXpress, SoCal Sol Teams, and the Hammer Team along with Cuyamaca College students and basketball team players and college administrators, including **Dr. Julianna Barnes, Dr. Scott Herrin, Ms. Danene Brown, and Dr. Marty Spring**. A pictorial historical display was available for viewing highlighting each of the past wheelchair basketball games since 1998. A big thank you goes to **Ms. Mary Asher-Fitzpatrick**, from DSPS, **Dr. Lauren Weiner-Vaknin**, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, and **Coach Rob Wojtkowski** for coordinating this annual event. A boisterous crowd was on hand to cheer for all the players.



🐾 **Performing Arts Welcomes Music Legend**

On Wednesday, October 17th, the Performing Arts department welcomed Mr. Ken Scott, a legendary audio engineer and producer who has worked with the Beatles, David Bowie, Elton John, and many others to speak of his experiences within the industry. Music industry and audio recording students from all over San Diego County, as well as recording and music industry professionals, were invited to attend his presentation.

🐾 **Track Teams Race to Victory**

On Friday, October 26th, the cross country teams participated at the PCAC Championships. The men placed 2nd as a team and advanced to the Regional Championships. This is the highest finish for a men's team in a decade. Individually, the men placed 5 runners on the All-Conference team with **Lee McAllister, Emmanuel Corvera, Ryan Maize, Aaron Geisel, and Jesse Beason**. The men are coached by **Tim Seaman** who is in his third season. The men have shown improvement in each of Tim's three seasons as head coach. The women's team finished 3rd, a marked improvement over the previous six years where they finished last. The women also advanced to the regional championships. Three individuals earned spots on the All-Conference team, highlighted by **Paige Hughes**, who was the conference individual champion beating every other runner by nearly a minute. The other two All-Conference selections were **Betty Covarrubias** and **Kailene Gini**. This remarkable turn-around for women's cross-country has taken place thanks to first year coach, **Anthony Garcia**.



🐾 Child Development Center Hosts Waffle Social



The Cuyamaca Child Development Center held their monthly Waffle Breakfast Social Fundraiser on Wednesday October 24th. This monthly activity is a time for families to have a warm and delicious waffle breakfast with their child before beginning their preschool program. With tables set up outside and in the adult classroom, families can sit together with their child and visit with other families whose children attend the center. The center raises a few fundraising dollars which was used for other family events at the center; but the real joy is seeing families connect with one another.

🐾 Writing Center Improves Students' Success

The Cuyamaca College Writing Center is proud to share the following highlights from recent Institutional Research. In 2011-12, students from a variety of disciplines who visited the Writing Center were anywhere from 11.8% (English 109) to 72.2% (Bio 230) more likely to pass their courses than students who did not use the Center. We also had a positive impact on retention. Students were anywhere from 8.4% (English 109) to 55.6% (Bio 230) less likely to drop their courses if they used the Center than if they did not. We were also pleased to see that our embedded tutoring program, which puts a tutor in a classroom two hours per week and in the Center giving priority to students from that class another two hours per week, was successful. Students in English 98 sections with embedded tutors who also used the Writing Center had success rates nearly ten percentage points higher than students in the sections without embedded tutors who used the Writing Center. For the first time we have data on the impact per visit to the Writing Center. For students from English classes who used the Center in 2011-12, just one visit to the Writing Center increased success by 13.1% and retention by 9.9%; 5 visits increased success by 24.5% and retention by 14%. We owe much of the credit for this excellent data to our amazing tutors, the majority of whom have worked in the Center for five years or more. Of our current staff of ten tutors, nine began as Cuyamaca College Students. Four of our 10 tutors are currently in graduate programs or will be beginning a graduate program in spring 2012; one has a BS degree; one is pursuing a BS degree, two have AA or AS degrees, and one is in process on AA/AS degrees or transfer. Of our current staff and alumni, many have already entered education as a career. Eight of those 20 tutors we have employed over the past seven years are currently working as educational professionals outside of the Cuyamaca College Writing Center.

🐾 Students Excel in State Competition

The Netriders competition is an interactive IT/Networking skills competition that takes place in three stages throughout the United States and Canada. At the end of Stage 1, two Cuyamaca College students, **Ms. Linda Carver** and **Mr. Michael Sharon**, are in 3rd and 4th place in the State, respectively. They, along with the others in the top 25 in the state will be competing in round 2 in mid-November. The amazing Cisco instructors **Steve Grishkowsky**, **Curt Sharon**, **Anver Alam** and **Richard Glauser** mentor these two star students!

🐾 Center for Innovation Activities

The Center for Innovation within the Office of Continuing Education and Workforce Training serves as the umbrella for many of the contract and grant-funded professional and vocational programs housed at Cuyamaca College. Many are regional programs funded to serve all of San Diego and Imperial Counties. Below is a brief summary of some of their recent activities:

Environmental Training Center: The ETC participated in the 28th Annual Environmental Summit at Paradise Point in San Diego. This conference focused on areas of Air Quality, Climate Change, Energy, and Sustainable Business Practices.

California WaterWorks Project: Cuyamaca College's Water & Wastewater Technology Program was featured as the Member Spotlight in the League for Innovation's October edition of *League Connections*. Thanks to grant funds, a virtual tour of the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College is now posted to the college and district websites and on YouTube. The Instrumentation Society of America also did a feature on our Water & Wastewater Technology program in their newsletter, "The Signal".

Workforce Innovation Partnership Grants (Green Ventures):

- On October 12th, 25 students from the California Conservation Corps started a 108 hour Sustainable Green Building class on campus that is partially funded by San Diego Gas & Electric. The class introduces Corp members to green careers, including: energy efficiency, sustainable energy and energy utility jobs. The class will conclude with each student participating in 16 hours of work experience with GRID Alternatives – a nonprofit organization that installs solar panels on low income housing.
- In partnership with Access, Inc., the grant-funded Green Ventures Project at Cuyamaca College is serving 19 WIA eligible out-of-school youth in the East region of San Diego by providing an 84 hour Sustainable Green Building class.

Next Generation Solar Grant: Grant Manager, **Mr. Paolo Espaldon**, participated in San Diego State University's PowerSave Green Campus Event, delivering presentations to more than 50 SDSU students on green career opportunities and pathways.

🐾 **Water/Wastewater Program Continues to Gain Notoriety**

Mr. Don Jones, Project Director, delivered a presentation entitled "*The Role of Community Colleges in Training the Next Generation of Water Industry Professionals*" at the Annual Fall Conference of the California/Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association. He served as a panelist at a session entitled "*The Internship Experience*". Those with the Water/Wastewater program also co-hosted the meeting of the Workforce Development Council at the conference. Don was also the featured presenter at a Gavilan College hosted meeting on "*Developing Internship Programs for the Water Industry*". He was the Keynote Speaker at the Instrumentation and Control Expo held at the Town and Country Convention Center - showcasing the excellent career opportunities in the water and wastewater industry for instrumentation and control specialists.

🐾 **Library Display: Celebrate Native American Heritage Celebration**

Don't forget to visit the library throughout the month of November! We will feature art, literature and information focused on the fascinating indigenous cultures of the Americas. Check out the first floor display in our foyer where we highlight Native Americans from California including our local tribe, the Kumeyaay. Learn a little about Native American arts, crafts, and myths. Visit with the exhibit animals and check out the beautiful animal pelts on loan from Balboa Park's Natural History Museum and discover more about Native American animal symbology. Travel to the second floor and gain a deeper understanding of Native American men, women and children and enjoy the wonderful cultural items on display. Join us on November 20th from 12:30 to 1:30pm for a transcendent blend of the past and contemporary expression of American Indian Dance where dancers



from various tribal backgrounds join together for an exciting performance in front of the library! Richard DeCrane, a member of the San Diego Inter-Tribal Singers, will return as our guest speaker.

🐾 **Bid Adieu**



Dr. Arleen Satele and the entire Administrative Services team bade a fond farewell to **Ms. Sara Suter** as the college's budget analyst. Sara accepted the position as the Director of the Auxiliary, and began her new duties on Monday, October 22nd. In true Administrative Services' fashion, an aloha reception was held in Sara's honor. A memory book was created for Sara, where people were able to express their appreciation, admiration, and gratitude for her years of service to the college and the district. We are all truly grateful for Sara's time here at Cuyamaca College.

🐾 **Dean 1 and Dean 2**

Dean 1, **Dr. Scott Herrin** and Dean 2, **Ms. Danene Brown**, (aka Thing 1 and Thing 2 from Dr. Seuss) made the rounds on Halloween spreading Dean Cheer throughout the college and at the annual wheelchair basketball game.



~~ Upcoming Events ~~

A complete list of college activities can be found on our website, www.cuyamaca.edu

College Hour: Service-Learning

Monday, December 3

10:00 – 11:00am, Student Center

CDC Waffle Breakfast Social Fundraiser

Tuesday, December 4

7:30 – 9:30am, Child Development Center

President's Holiday Celebration

Thursday, December 6

12:00 – 2:00pm, Student Services

ASL Student Appreciation Fall Event "Silent Bowling"

Saturday, December 8

Parkway Bowl, El Cajon

Farmer's Market

The Rancho San Diego Farmer's Market is held at Cuyamaca College from 9:00am to 2:00pm each Saturday. Fresh fruits and vegetables, health and fitness sessions, live music and more! In a short period of time, this market has become extremely popular with the local community.





The **Water Conservation Garden** invites the public to enjoy its 2012 Fall/Winter calendar of classes and events. Gardening classes help residents save water and money by focusing on water-smart landscaping techniques and plants. Classes are taught by professionals, with offerings for both adults and children. Pre-registration is required for all classes. To enroll call 619-660-0614 x 10, or online at www.thegarden.org.

FREE Garden Tours – Every Saturday at 10:30 am

Tour the lush, colorful and water-wise garden with a knowledgeable garden docent. Bring your questions and hear the secrets and stories that make our garden special.

FREE Special Access Tour – Every Third Sunday at 9:30am

Have trouble navigating the terrain of the Garden but no trouble appreciating its beauty? Let us take you for a ride! Explore the Garden from the comfortable Verbeck Shuttle with a Garden Guide. This tour seats only 4-5 people. For reservations call 619-660-6841. Advance reservations are required

Professional Landscape Design Consultations

Spend 45 minutes one-on-one with a professional landscape designer and you will leave with a complete design plan, and list of suggested plants for your own drought tolerant landscape. Bring a photo of your house and area you want to re-design, the dimensions of the space, and photos of design styles you love. Call 619-660-0614 x10 for appointment availability, designer information and reservations. \$60 Members, \$75 Non-Members

Ms. Smarty-Plants™ and the Magic of Water School Tours and Assembly Program

Calling all kid groups! Join Ms. Smarty-Plants™ as she magically takes you on a fun, interactive journey through plant adaptations, the water cycle, conservation and much more. Become a Smarty-Plants™ Earth Hero! To book an educational tour of the Garden or school assembly program contact Jillian Chu at 619-660-6841, ext. 16.