



2013-2014 school year offers expanded opportunities

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Bookstore student workers TC Crawford (front) and Julia Brown (far left) help students prepare for fall classes

As we welcome our students to the fall 2013 semester, we have many things to celebrate and many things to share. Columbia College students, staff, and faculty have worked hard this summer to gear up for a big year on campus.

First and foremost, we are expanding course offerings on campus, online, in Oakdale, and in Calaveras. Thus far, 477 class sections are being offered, which is an additional 44 class sections over last fall. The Student Learning Division will continue to add class sections, as we are able, that are most in demand. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to progress to their educational goal(s) in a more expeditious manner.

Moving into this 2013-2014 academic year, we are welcoming new faces on campus, moving forward with planned facilities improvements, re-hauling our website, and picking up our outreach to the community. Additional information on each of

these topics can be found in the pages of this edition of InSite. However, we know there is more happening on campus with respect to your efforts and we would like you to share your stories with us—whether it be in the classroom, during the course of providing excellent services to our students, or an update on our alumni—we want to hear about it and share it! Be sure to connect with us by sending an email to Coni Chavez in the President's Office.

Finally, as Columbia College staff, faculty, and administrators, we are committed to maintain the excellent services and educational programs this college has to offer. Your efforts and dedication are appreciated. Your focus on serving students and assisting prospective students, as well as their supporters, is even more essential as we increase enrollments and assure these individuals that Columbia College is the college of choice. ■



Leslie Buckalew, Ed.D.
Interim President

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Dr. Leslie Buckalew

A note from the Interim President

Welcome Back! As many of you know, we have been busy this summer in preparation to make sure that 2013-2014 is a great year for our students and staff, and are pleased to be back in full-swing. Many activities, initiatives, and collaborations have occurred over the summer months for which my sincere thanks and appreciation is extended.

We used the summer to tackle a variety of large construction projects, and I am happy to report that the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee met in mid-July and were extremely pleased with the new facilities and improvements on campus.

We are also incredibly excited to unveil an update to the college's website. It is a significant enhancement in terms of ease of use, overall look and feel, and responsive design for today's mobile devices. The team worked diligently over the summer to bring this long-overdue improvement to our students.

Meeting the submission date for the Columbia College Accreditation Follow-Up Report has also been a top priority. Columbia College actively engaged all campus constituents, including faculty, staff, students and administrators to participate on the accreditation

standards work groups. Additionally, many opportunities to review resulting drafts have been made available college-wide. The final report draft will be considered by the Columbia College Council at their September 6 meeting and, pending adoption, will be forwarded to the YCCD Board of Trustees for consideration at their October 2013 meeting.

Looking ahead to the coming year, I express my enthusiasm and confidence in our staff, faculty, and administrators, as we expand course offerings, and continue to put the mission of serving students first. We, as a team, regardless of our job title, have a role in the success of our students and vitality of our college. My best wishes are with you as we continue to work toward our shared goals. I look forward catching up with you at In-Service!

Leslie Buckalew, Ed.D.
Interim President

182 Students Registered at X-Reg



Prizes were won by students who participated in the survey

Extrême registration or “X-Reg” brings the campus together and provides a service for incoming students. Approximately 240 “passports” were given to prospective students at X-Reg guiding them through the process to become Columbia College students. Many of those students brought parents and other family members on campus. And, while feedback noted on the passports is still being compiled, students did return 124 passports at the end of the day. Those students who returned passports were provided a chance to spin the prize wheel. Ten lucky winners won a \$100 gift certificate to the bookstore, provided by the Columbia College Foundation, while other prize winners went home with college merchandise donated by the bookstore, financial aid, and Career Technical Education.

Throughout the day, 138 students were given assessments tests, 108 went through orientation, 71 took advantage of advising services, 182 registered, and many visited our information



Student volunteers offer information on the GPS project

booths and took a campus tour.

A very special thank you to all of our student helpers, donors, and those who volunteered to staff welcome and information booths throughout the day—it is truly amazing to see such outstanding team work! ■

New look for college website means improved access & usability

As the result of recommendations compiled over the last approximately 1.5 years from the Web Focus Committee and directly from students and community members, as well as analytical data from our current site and anticipated future trends, a comprehensive document was developed to guide the re-haul of the college's website.

A team was developed to lead the update that included two very talented web developers, one specializing in technology and one in design, Brian Hill, YCCD Web Developer, and Jeribai Tascoe, of recent HGTV acclaim, respectively, with the President's Office serving as project manager. Specific areas of focus were design, content, usability for our student and prospective student audience, as well as conversion to mobile devices. Using the comprehensive plan to guide the work, a very small advisory committee was formed to provide feedback on various aspects of the project. Committee members are Shawn Jordison, Kathy Sullivan, Anneka Rogers Whitmer, and two students, Matthew Christman (who holds a web design degree from Columbia College) and Edwin Bobrycki.

The College's website is THE electronic face of Columbia College in terms of online access to our programs and services, as well as introduction and relationship building with our audience of students, prospective students, and community. It is our most used marketing tool and public facing presence. Thus, upon conclusion of this project, the website will offer a more unified and modern appearance and will serve as the foundation for Columbia's ever growing portfolio of online tools, services, information, and social media presence.

Functional navigation was also of utmost importance to increase satisfaction with the Columbia College web experience. Whereas the current site is organized by the organizational structure of the college, the new site is organized by category in terms of who is accessing the information. Further making the site easier to navigate, terminology and "jargon" was reviewed with a student and prospective student audience in mind and now provides for more intuitive naming conventions. An upgraded search tool, "breadcrumbs," and stationary header and footer will also allow for easier navigation throughout the site.

Conversion...we ask for your understanding and participation after the basic information is converted to the new site. A team of individuals are working even



A peek at the mockup for the website design

as you read this article to bring over basic information to the new site. Once the initial conversion is complete we invite you to use one of the five new, beautifully designed templates to expand the information available on your area pages and on your faculty/staff page. Go-live is expected toward the end of September. Stay tuned for more information regarding roll-out, training, and resources that can be made available to assist you during this transitional time.

Lastly, it is our hope that this project will lead to greater accessibility and usability of our website and will be an accurate online representation of the professionalism and top-notch programs and services offered at Columbia College. ■

Columbia multimedia students' video presented to the Board of Supervisors



Jesse Wildoner at work on a multimedia internship project

As most Columbia students know, the library can be a one of the most valuable resources available to acquire more knowledge. In addition to the books and texts available for check out, library patrons can make use of computer technology and socialize with other like-minded individuals.

But many people in Tuolumne County don't realize the full value and community involvement that libraries can provide. That's why the Friends of the Tuolumne County Library brought on multimedia Columbia College students Edwin Bobrycki and Jesse Wildoner. Friends was hoping to put together a short, 2-3 minute video that goes over some of the other, lesser known services the libraries in Tuolumne County provide.

"During a meeting with the 'Friends,' they told us they wanted a video that they could show the Board of Supervisors and the community, to reveal aspects of the library that some may not be aware of," said Edwin. In the video, Edwin and Jesse interviewed a variety of library regulars who routinely take advantage of the peripheral offerings, including storytelling and craft making sessions for children, reading to rescue dogs, free computer and Internet services, browsing local art, participating in the regular Adult Game Night sessions, or even playing a game of Wii Sports.

The film was recently presented to the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors at their July meeting. It was well-received and Friends will be able to use it for future promotional purposes. Tom Mannix, President of the Friends of the Tuolumne County Library shared, "Edwin and Jesse performed far beyond our expectations. Your willingness to provide staff, equipment, and financial support to those two students made all of this possible."

Edwin received an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts through Columbia's multimedia program two years ago, and is now working toward an engineering degree and transfer to a four-year school. He hopes to combine the engineering knowledge with his love for high-adventure sports and use video production skills attained here to safely engineer bigger and more adventurous stunts, and also film them.

Jesse began his studies last year and was instantly drawn to the multimedia program. He is looking to finish his general education here at Columbia this year and transfer to the Los Angeles area to a four year school, with the eventual goal of breaking into the film industry. His positive learning experiences in our multimedia program have inspired him to encourage others interested in the field to enroll. "You should go for it, you'll totally have a blast," he said. "Being able to use new equipment and do professional video production is something not all colleges offer." ■

Veterans honored for academic achievement



Student speaker Mitchell Finn (second from left) is joined by his parents, Patrick and Kelly Murphy, and Interim President Leslie Buckalew (far right)

On June 18, Columbia College was honored to host the 2nd Annual Veterans Academic Achievement Celebration in Carkeet Park. In addition to recognizing those with remarkable grade point averages, Columbia recognized veteran students who made a unique contribution to classroom

discussion. "The second annual Veterans Academic Celebration was a unique opportunity to recognize and connect with the veterans of the Columbia College

campus," said Michelle Vidaurri. "Fifty one students received awards for categories related to grade point averages, outstanding classroom contributions as well as academic determination. This annual event is part of the Academic Wellness Educator's project that focuses on veteran student success. The goal is to build the community of veteran students which will increase overall retention." Students who were recognized for their achievements had their families in attendance, and all guests enjoyed a celebratory afternoon of conversation, refreshments and sunshine. Mitchell Finn, veteran student, was the Keynote Speaker and was among those who received academic honors. The event concluded with a special flag folding ceremony performed by the local Veterans of Foreign War association. ■

Local youths connect with Columbia College this summer



Head volleyball coach **Jennifer Osterhout** (back row, fourth from left) kicked off her second Columbia College season in style with this summer's **Youth Volleyball Clinics**. There were three different clinics (an indoor bantam and intermediate clinic, an advanced indoor clinic, and an outdoor grass volleyball clinic) that were offered from mid-June through late July. Dozens of girls from around the area participated and received hands-on instruction—we hope to see all of them play for the Lady ClaimJumpers team someday. “The camp was very successful this year,” Coach Osterhout said. “All of the participants improved over the span of the camp: learning new skills or improving on their current skill level. One of my favorite parts of camp is the morning of the first day; seeing all of the new faces as well as the familiar faces that continue to return to our camp every year. It is always exciting to see how much these young athletes grow and improve after just one year.”



Columbia College is thrilled to welcome its new Men's Head Basketball Coach, **Rob Hoyt!** One of Coach Hoyt's first official duties was to host our annual **Youth Basketball Clinics**. The summer clinics, for 3rd through 10th grade area students, were held on June 10-12 and

July 8-10. Coach Hoyt said that approximately 30 kids attended the first clinic in June and about 40 for the second one in July. “The kids loved it, they had a great time,” Coach Hoyt said. The participants ran through a variety of drills, and each day they hosted a player from the Men's ClaimJumper team as a guest speaker. “It was good for the players,” said Hoyt of their involvement in the clinics. “It showed them the value that our basketball team has in this community.”

On June 27th, Columbia College hosted **Modesto Junior College's Pre-College TRiO programs** (Upward Bound and Educational Talent Search, serving 9th-12th graders throughout Stanislaus County). Over 100 students toured Columbia College and received detailed information from student outreach coordinator Doralyn Foletti and student government representatives Kim Morris and Matt Christman. Columbia's TRiO Program Director Anneka Rogers Whitmer said, “The high-schoolers were treated to a hike around campus to explore many of our exceptional programs, like Natural Resources and Child Development. They enjoyed lunch catered by the Snack Bar in the great outdoors at Carkeet Park. The students asked many thoughtful questions and departed campus after a half day of activity with enough knowledge to consider Columbia College as one of their top choices for furthering their higher education.”



Columbia College was pleased to be the host for the recent Tuolumne County science camp from August 1-5. Themed **“Mad About Science”** and sponsored by Front Porch, Inc., this camp consisted of the third collaboration between Columbia College and the Tuolumne County Office of Education for such a camp. Over 125 students from 3rd through 8th grade signed up and participated in the variety of environmentally-focused activities, and hailed from public and private schools, as well as home-schools. Classrooms in Sugar Pine, Toyon, and Maple were used to teach kids about energy, matter, forces, engineering, design, astronomy and space, nature, chemistry, earth science, wildlife, plants, and physics. Columbia College Professor Dr. Jeff Tolhurst was on hand with additional teachers from the county to conduct the educational learning at the camp. “The teachers all put a huge amount of effort into planning and executing their lessons and it definitely showed,” Professor Tolhurst said. “Mike Torok said every child he spoke with wanted to come back next year and some even mentioned wanting to come to Columbia College someday.” ■



New faces at Columbia College



Allison McDermott

Allison McDermott joins the library staff at Tamarack as the newest Library Specialist. Having grown up in Sonora and graduating from Sonora High in 2002, Allison went on to earn her Bachelor's degree in Journalism from Chico State in 2006. She has always been interested in conducting research and finding information, so Allison decided to pursue her Master's degree in

library and information science from San Jose State University, which she received in 2009. While working on her Master's, we were fortunate enough to have Allison as an intern in the library here at Columbia. "I am really looking forward to helping students find the information and resources they will need to not only be successful in their classes but in their future endeavors as well," she says.

We are pleased to welcome **Michelle Walker** as a Program Technician for our Student Support Services! Originally from the Tuolumne County area, Michelle moved to St. Louis in 2007 to take a position with the Institutional Review Board at St. Louis University. She soon attended classes to earn a degree in Social Work so she could pursue her lifelong dream of helping others in need. Approximately one year ago, she and her husband, along with their two teenagers, moved back to Sonora, which is how she came to apply here at Columbia. "The position in Special Programs seemed like a great fit for my personality as it requires attention to detail as well as a high level of commitment to education and the service of others," Michelle said.



Michelle Walker

Matt Fox is Columbia College's new EOPS/Care Coordinator Counselor. Matthew comes to Sonora from Los Angeles where he simultaneously worked at Los Angeles Valley College as a Career & Technical Education counselor and Santa Monica College as an Academic and Transfer counselor. Matthew brings a wealth of experience in special programs and CTE counseling and advisement, as he performed as Coordinator for the UCLA California Teach program

for five years and as a Career Counselor for three years. Matt graduated summa cum laude from UCLA with a BA in Sociology and a Master's in Educational Counseling in 2000 and 2001 respectively. Matt was a transfer student, a first generation college student, and a student who struggled academically in high school before finding a path and subsequent success. "I'm excited to be working with the EOPS/Care programs and helping students reach their goals," he said.



Kimberley Angel

Kimberley Angel is our latest Child Development Center Teacher. A graduate of both Summerville Elementary and High schools, Kim has lived in Tuolumne County for 38 years. She began taking Child Development courses while working at Belleview Elementary as an

Instructional Aide while her children attended school there, eventually earning her Child Development Site Supervisor Permit. This past Spring, Columbia College began looking for a Lead Toddler Teacher for our Child Development Program, and after many qualified applicants, Kim was chosen. "I feel so honored to be here at Columbia College," she said. "The staff are all so friendly and caring, and I feel so blessed to be part of an amazing team of adult students, children, professors, and Child Center administration staff."

Colette Such joins Columbia College as its Interim Director of Development. She has over three decades experience as a Respiratory Care Practitioner, with broad knowledge and extensive practice in her field. While the core of her background is in the healthcare arena, she brings over twenty years



Colette Such

of management experience from numerous and varied business settings. Her most recent assignment was as the Credentialing Manager at the American Academy of Pain Management. Colette's business background includes grant writing and administration, personnel management, staff instruction and training, curriculum development, program development, strategic planning, new software implementation, fundraising, and community outreach. ■



Matt Fox

Newsbytes



Curriculum	Award Type	Median Annual Salary		
		2 Years Before	2 Years After	5 Years After
Computer Information Systems	Degree	\$21,862	\$30,950	\$42,341
Computer Information Systems	Certificate	\$14,408	\$31,091	\$43,111
Computer Infrastructure and Support	Degree	\$37,975	\$38,993	\$44,542
Computer Networking	Degree	\$23,849	\$47,449	\$55,105
Computer Networking	Certificate	\$24,045	\$46,780	\$58,024
Computer Programming	Degree	\$20,292	\$36,199	\$52,038
Computer Programming	Certificate	\$30,446	\$45,860	\$42,590
Computer Science (Transfer)	Degree	\$15,805	\$33,111	\$55,099
Computer Software Development	Degree	\$48,942	\$54,055	\$71,817
Computer Software Development	Certificate	\$40,545	\$26,863	\$62,184
Computer Support	Degree	\$27,739	\$30,144	\$34,941
Computer Support	Certificate	\$20,144	\$35,197	\$44,890
Information Technology, General	Degree	\$20,862	\$31,245	\$41,174
Other Information Technology	Degree	\$24,330	\$36,534	\$51,381
Software Applications	Degree	\$16,847	\$26,401	\$32,900
Software Applications	Certificate	\$13,847	\$21,725	\$29,552

CCCCO debuts Salary Surfer tool

The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) recently unveiled a new tool that allows students and the public to view aggregated median earnings of those who complete a certificate or degree in a specific community college discipline and then enter the workforce. Dubbed the Salary Surfer (and viewable at salarysurfer.ccco.edu), it displays data that shows the increase in annual incomes for those who complete 179 of the most widely enrolled program areas and do not transfer to a four-year institution. The data show the median earnings for community college graduates two years prior to earning the award, then two years and five years after earning either a certificate or degree. According to the CCCCCO, "An analysis of the data contained on Salary Surfer shows that students who complete an associate degree more than double their annual pre-degree earnings after two years in the workforce and nearly triple their pre-degree earnings after five years in the workforce."

The CCCCCO's Salary Surfer tool lets you pick from one of over a dozen sample fields of employment and compare average annual salaries, both before and after receiving a two-year degree.

Columbia gets first human cadavers

In an effort to consistently increase the learning capabilities of its students, Columbia College now offers those in the sciences the chance to dissect human cadavers. According to Biology Instructional Support Specialist Doreen Bass, it has been a long, 15-year process for the College, which just received its first cadavers in May of this year. With the new Sugar Pine building and its capability for leading-edge facilities, the timing was perfect. "We contacted the Willd Body Program at University of California, Davis last year to receive one male and one female," Doreen said.



"The [cadaver lab] has its own 24-hour ventilation system, and is the only room in the building on the geothermal heating and cooling system, as the temperature must be maintained at about 65 degrees," says Bass.

"The UC representatives were extremely impressed with our facilities and written protocols. Four instructors and I had to have medical and respirator testing prior to creating the solutions needed and before beginning dissection, which Kathy Kenna and John Sousa began in July. The cadavers will be used primarily for demonstration purposes, and with proper care, should last for 15-20 years. We are extremely grateful for this ultimate gift of knowledge that these people have given to the students and staff of Columbia College."

Columbia wine wins award

Adjunct Hospitality Instructor Tom Bender and his Intro to Wine Making class from 2011 recently won Best of Show and a gold medal at the Calaveras Winegrape Alliance's Professional Wine Judging Competition this spring! The 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon received top honors at the competition, which saw approximately 80 wines entered. Tom Bender and the entire Hospitality Management program would like to sincerely thank Chatom Winery owner Gay Callan and her crew for donating the grapes that produced the students' wine. "They have actually donated [grapes] 20 of the past 21 years we have been making the wine in class." Thanks to Chatom and congratulations to Tom and his class for this distinction!



Changes to Middle College coming this fall

Since its debut in August of 2007, Columbia's Middle College program has offered hundreds of area high school students a chance to achieve college-level learning right here on the Columbia campus before graduating high school. While the learning opportunities are still here, the high school classes themselves are moving to the Sonora High School campus. Starting this semester, students will be required to take two periods at SHS, at any two period block, and can then take college courses at Columbia. "They take anywhere from 6- 11.5 college units working towards their high school requirements and college requirements," said Courtney Castle, Middle College counselor and program liaison. "With this change the program has grown from about 23 students to 32." ■

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

10
Redbud Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
 3:00 p.m.
 Redbud Building

26
Fall 2013 All Faculty Mixer
 4:30 p.m.
 Manzanita Community Education Room

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

6 Fri
College Council
 1:00 pm
 MCR

11 Wed
YCCD Board of Trustees
YCCD Board Rm/Modesto
 5:30 pm

COLUMBIA COLLEGE
 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

InSite is published each month excluding summer months. Editorial contributions are encouraged and due on the last day of each month prior to publication. Submit editorial materials to the President's Office.

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Athletics off to a great start this fall

Claim Jumper athletics recently named **Nathan Rien** as Athletic Director for Columbia College. Rien has been an Associate Athletic Director since 2007, and has served as a Health and Human Performance professor since 2005. "I am very excited for this opportunity to represent Columbia College athletics at multiple levels and to work alongside our



Athletic Director Rien

new Men's Basketball Head Coach and Women's Volleyball Coach, to continue guiding our sports programs in a positive direction," Rien stated. Filling the Men's Basketball Head Coach vacancy is **Rob Hoyt**. Hoyt, 28, will be returning to his alma mater and



Coach Hoyt

home town. A graduate of Sonora High School and former student at Columbia College, his coaching career includes stints as an assistant at both Reedley and Cabrillo Colleges. Look for the Claim Jumper basketball season to begin in November—a schedule of games is currently available online and will be printed in an upcoming edition of InSite.

Meanwhile, Head Volleyball Coach, **Jennifer Osterhout** and her staff are preparing for a successful 2013 season. The schedule of games is printed below and may also be found online. On behalf of the team, Jennifer encourages you to come to the games, "we hope to see you at Oak Pavilion rooting on your Lady Claim Jumpers!" ■



Coach Osterhout



Columbia College Women's Volleyball

2013 Schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Pre-Season				
Wed	Aug 28	Alumni Scrimmage	Columbia	6pm
Fri	Aug 30	San Jose City	San Jose	5pm
Wed	Sept 4	Cosumnes River College	Columbia	5pm
Fri	Sept 6	Chabot Classic	Hayward	TBA
Thur	Sept 12	Chabot	Columbia	5pm
Fri	Sept 13	Monterey Classic	Monterey	TBA
Sat	Sept 14	Hartnell	Salinas	12pm
Wed	Sept 18	Modesto	Columbia	6pm
Central Valley Conference				
Wed	Sept 25	Taft	Taft	5pm
Fri	Sept 27	BYE	-	-
Wed	Oct 2	Merced	Merced	6pm
Fri	Oct 4	Fresno	Columbia	6pm
Wed	Oct 9	Porterville	Porterville	6pm
Fri	Oct 11	West Hills	Columbia	5pm
Wed	Oct 16	Reedley	Columbia	6pm
Fri	Oct 18	COS	Visalia	6pm
Wed	Oct 23	Taft	Columbia	5pm
Fri	Oct 25	BYE	-	-
Wed	Oct 30	Merced	Columbia	6pm
Fri	Nov 1	Fresno	Fresno	6pm
Wed	Nov 6	Porterville	Columbia	6pm
Fri	Nov 8	West Hills	Coalinga	5pm
Wed	Nov 13	Reedley	Reedley	6pm
Fri	Nov 15	COS	Columbia	6pm