

Columbia College receives Hewlett Foundation Award

Yosemite Community College District

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Seated with award check:
Dr. Joan Smith (left) and
Adrienne Webster, and
standing: (l. to r.) Anne
Cavagnaro, Meryl Soto and
Melissa Colon

Basic skills education offered at Columbia College reached new heights of statewide awareness on October 2 when the Hewlett Foundation presented the college with its Leaders in Student Success Award. Recognition was given for the college's work in preparing students for higher level math and English courses.

Dr. Joan Smith and AWE (Academic Wellness Educators) members Anne Cavagnaro, Melissa Colon and Adrienne Webster attended a luncheon presentation at the Anaheim Marriott and received the honor, along with a \$15,000 award. As such, Columbia was one of four California community colleges out of 110 in the state to be recognized as a leader in basic skills education leading to student success. The others included Santa Barbara City College, De Anza College and Southwestern College.

Columbia College was selected for its excellence in the following areas:

- Curriculum aligned and organized for effectiveness
- Learner-centered classroom practices
- Integration of academic support and student services

- Equity, pursued by assessing learning and progress rates by cohort
- Institutional leadership and support, reflected in mission, planning, evaluation and investment.

According to the news release issued by the Hewlett award coordinators, "A dedicated core of Columbia faculty and staff began a systematic overhaul of basic education three years ago. In addition to innovations in teaching math and writing, the school strengthened counseling, tutoring and other student services."

It was also noted that "the effects of these efforts are far-reaching. Retention is at 85 percent, well above the state average and the percentage of students, who pass pre-collegiate courses is rising. Most inspiring, perhaps, is that reforms conceived for developmental education have energized the campus-wide culture."

The Hewlett Leaders in Student Success Program is administered by the Research and Planning Group of the California Community Colleges and is funded by The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. ■



Joan Smith, Ed.D.
President

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Dr. Joan Smith

President's Note

This academic year will mark a historic milestone for Columbia College. It is with great pride that we celebrate our 40th Anniversary—40 years of service to the community. Columbia College is proud to be a great higher educational resource to the community.

There are three factors that account for the overwhelming success of America's 1,000 plus community colleges. They are open to all, offer top quality programs that blend high standards with a true love of teaching and service, and they focus on "community." In fact, community colleges generally have come to represent our country's single most powerful mechanism for assuring access to economic opportunity. This is true for Columbia College—we embody these characteristics. Our goal, our mission at Columbia College is assisting students in achieving their educational goals—whatever they may be. Everything we do is done with our students' best interest in mind.

The year 2007-2008 was a year that saw marked enrollment growth, patterns of remarkable student success, expanded programs and services, facilities improvements and a host of other phenomenal accomplishments. These efforts could only be achieved with tremendous team efforts, like the accomplishment of our newest recognition, the Hewlett Leaders in Student Success Award. We at Columbia College are dedicated to service to our students and community and are optimistic about our achievements to come.

All my best,

Joan Smith, Ed.D.
President

Measure E projects move right along



Boyer electricians install conduits in framing stage at Public Safety Center

According to Kitchell, CEM, Columbia College Measure E projects are moving ahead as planned. Observers will note obvious physical changes that have already taken place on both the Public Safety Center and Madrone Building Project. In addition, the Child Development Center bid opening will occur this month, and plans are being made for the Science & Natural Resources Building for spring 2009. ■



Tri-technic workers also install electrical conduit below Madrone Building slab



Public Safety Center's newly constructed addition

Greek week followed by more international buffets to come!



Buffet servers (from left) Anna Mayo, Jennifer Cheney, Elia Luca and Chris Mourer

Opa! If you're Greek or Greek at heart and didn't attend the September 29 buffet in the Cellar Restaurant, wrap your imaginative taste buds around the lineup of these missed delicacies. Kalamata olive bread...cucumber yogurt dip...onion soup...Greek salad...beef shish kebab...Greek chicken with mushrooms...eggplant casserole...artichokes a la polita...tomato orzo...and baklava – for only \$8.95.

While lunches are served regularly for \$8.25 in the Cellar Restaurant on Mondays through Thursdays from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, one day per week is set aside for international luncheon buffets. That's when our culinary and pastry arts students creatively plan, prepare and serve specially-themed dishes for the

college community and general public. In fact, they handle all aspects of customer service as part of their practical training, everything from taking reservations, greeting and seating guests, waiting on tables, clearing areas, and serving as cashiers.

If you missed the Greek buffet, more choices are coming, like



Rebekah Fegan prepares for cashier duties

Portuguese (10/14), Mexican (10/22), Hometown Harvest (10/30), German (11/11), Vietnamese (11/19), and Thanksgiving (11/24). Got questions? Call the culinary arts department at 588-5135. ■



Raquel Davis



Diners Al and Raquel Cepeda



Andrew Burnelli (l.) and Peter Brown

The Cellar Restaurant & Bistro

Cellar Restaurant Breakfasts

Mondays through Thursdays
7:30 am – 10:30 am
Ranging from \$3.95
Walk-in basis

Cellar Restaurant Lunches

Mondays through Thursdays
11:30 am – 1:30 pm
Salads, \$3.95
Cold Sandwiches, \$4.50
Hot Sandwiches from \$5.45
Lunch Specials, \$8.25
Walk-in basis

Cellar Restaurant Special Buffets

Days for buffets change weekly
11:30 am – 1:30 pm
International buffets, \$8.95
Walk-in basis or reservations
Inquiries: 588-5135

Cellar Bistro Contemporary Dinners

Tuesdays and Wednesdays
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Four course cuisine
Prices range from \$15.95 to \$18.95
Reservations: 588-5300

Cellar Bakery

Fresh baked goods available for purchase!
Watch for sign at bakery door when open



Waiter John Yim takes a moment to chat with Cellar buffet guests Kathy Lea and Chuck Cooper

Student Success Report

Ben Schifrin is not your typical ER physician. He prefers the outdoor life to city life. He goes by “Ben” instead of “Doctor Schifrin.” He doesn’t enjoy sporting a physician’s smock or other familiar medical wear. But then, there’s nothing typical about Ben Schifrin.

In 1976, Schifrin started attending classes at Columbia College with no specific career goals in mind. As an athlete, his primary interest was outdoor activities and in particular, mountaineering. Through search and rescue classes at Columbia taught by Jim Mendonsa, his focus on medical services was developed. This naturally led him in a direction toward emergency medicine.

After receiving an A.A. degree from Columbia College in 1980, Schifrin transferred to UC Davis where he took the prerequisites for their university medical school and qualified to enroll directly into their



Ben Schifrin, M.D.

medical program. He interned in Fresno through a UC San Francisco program with emergency medicine as his specialty.

Since then, the Tuolumne County native has practiced emergency medicine at Memorial Hospital in Modesto for about 11 years, and has been with Doctors Medical Center

of Modesto as an emergency medical physician for the past 12 or so years.

Ben Schifrin believes in the college and offers strong support for Columbia and its education. “Columbia College was unquestionably the best instruction that I have received. It was so obvious that the instructors were here to teach. They were unpretentious, relaxed in attitude, and with a goal of providing good information. Teaching was clearly focused and most important, instructors made the information relevant for students. As an example, they made the complexities of organic chemistry understandable,” he said. ■

“Columbia College was unquestionably the best instruction that I have received.”

Preparing for winter



Steve D’Orsay and Kathy Lea install a French drain system next to the Manzanita Building to help prevent water pooling this winter

Nursing Program yields high pass rate nationally

Modesto Junior College's Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Program recently received the 2007-08 National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX) results for its graduates and according to the report, has achieved the highest pass rate of any nursing program in the Central Valley at 93.06%. In fact, this NCLEX pass rate is higher than the national pass rate of 85%, as well as the statewide pass rate of 86%.

Starting in fall 2001, a cohort of nursing students to the satellite program was established at Columbia College. Nursing students attend lectures via videoconferencing and do most clinical rotations in local hospitals. In addition, the Columbia cohort students have local nursing instructors, a nursing skills lab and a human patient simulation lab currently housed in the professional building at the old Sonora Regional Medical Center site.

One of the new features of the program that has enhanced its training capabilities is clinical rotation of students into the newly created human patient simulation lab. This lab is equipped with

highly computerized manikins that simulate real people and real life clinical situations. With the use of baby, child and adult manikins at the Sonora and Modesto campuses, students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills are developed and strengthened.

The program has established a history of strong support from area health care agencies, high NCLEX pass rates, low attrition rates, and high employment rates. All alumni have found employment to date, with most graduates hired into hospitals where they receive extensive orientations and starting wages of \$32 per hour. The MJC Allied Health Office can be contacted for more information at 575-6362. ■



Nursing students (l. to r.) Brian Forbes and Laurie Norfolk are taught in the manikin simulation lab by Diane Hosmer

Go Lady Claim Jumpers!



Support our women's volleyball team by attending home games in the Oak Pavilion. A complete game schedule is located at gocolumbia.edu/volleyball/schedule.htm.



Head Coach Raelene Juarez

New Student Senate leaders named for ASCC offices

“The Student Senate is dedicated to ensuring that the students get what they need from their time here. We’ve got a great team this year and have established a few tangible goals that should really serve the students well.”

Johnny Proctor
ASCC President



Seated clockwise from left: Rachelle Broomfield, Danielle Jackson-Rubash, Sherrene Barnard, Callie McGreen, Johnny Proctor, Zachary Priest, Liz McMahon, Jennifer Cheney, Irina Popovac, Tom McDonnell and David Young. Standing: Sean Day and Doralyn Foletti



Johnny Proctor

With the start of the fall semester comes a new Student Senate leadership group. Newly elected ASCC president is Johnny Proctor, who will represent the student body at the district as well as on campus at College Council.

Among the many student activities being planned for this semester are the Revolution of Love, dances, Fall Bash, Open Mic nights, and others.

Student Senate meetings will be held on Wednesdays from 2:30 – 3:30 pm in the Student Center, located in Manzanita 15. Advisor is Doralyn Foletti. ■



Associated Students of Columbia College

President	Johnny Proctor
Vice President	Sean Day
VP of Activities	Sherrene Barnard
VP of Clubs	Jennifer Cheney
VP of Finance	David Young
Secretary	Rachelle Broomfield
Director of Publicity	Callie McGreen

Senators

Cody Ann Baker	Irina Popovac
Kass Bremer	Zachary Priest
Tom McDonnell	Tiffany Shepherd
Liz McMahon	Emily Valentine

Senator/Middle College Rep

Danielle Jackson-Rubash

Newsbytes

The Claim Jumper

Deli is now open inside the college Snack Bar for fresh, made-to-order sandwiches. Hours: 10:00 am-3:00 pm, Mondays through Thursdays, and 10:00 am-1:30 pm on Fridays. Watch for their Panini bread sandwiches coming soon!



Dean Zaharias points out deli menu

The Snack Bar has a healthy salad bar, hot food, pre-made sandwiches, snacks, baked goods, and beverages for customers. Hours: 7:30 am-7:30 pm, Mondays through Thursdays, and 7:30 am-1:30 pm on Fridays.



Danielle Pellini works at snack bar

The Academic Achievement Center (AAC)

is open and ready for student tutoring. Open Mondays through Thursdays, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, and on Fridays from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. This fall's tutors include Cody Baker, Dana Baker, Judy Bennington, R.C. Cavagnaro, Nick Cordova, Nicol Gaffney, Elizabeth Rousseau, Tracy Schwartz, Emily Valentine, and others.



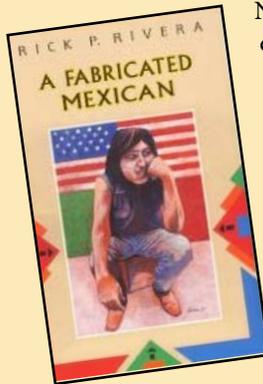
Tutor Nicol Gaffney



AAC administrators Elissa Creighton and Craig Johnston

Flu vaccine will be offered through the health services office in Juniper 2, starting October 20. Drop-in clinics will be available on October 20 and 21 between 9:00 am-3:00 pm. After those dates, flu vaccines will continue to be administered during regular office hours on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9:00 am-4:00 pm, and on Thursdays, 11:00 am-6:00 pm until supplies are used up. Prepay at the business office and bring receipt with you to health services: students, \$5 and college employees, \$15.

While this month's **book group at the library** is discussing *Atonement*, free copies of *A Fabricated Mexican* by Columbia College English Professor Rick Rivera are available from Brian Greene for November's group discussion.



Rick Rivera

BOB, Tuolumne County's school-based **mobile health van** will be parked in front of the Oak Pavilion every other Monday this semester from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm to serve students. Services include clinical treatment of minor illnesses and injuries, sports physicals, immunizations, weight loss and nutrition counseling, behavioral health outreach, family planning services, and others. For more info, call 588-5204.



Watch for the grand opening of the **IMC duplicating center!** Everything's been renovated to provide better, more convenient and faster service to college customers. ■



New Face on Campus



Greg Ryan
Director, Financial Aid

Campus Calendar / October 2008

October Meetings

3 Friday

Safety/Facilities Committee
Safety 9:00 am
Com Ed Room
Facilities 11:00 am
Com Ed Room

7 Tuesday

Leadership Team
Manzanita Conference Rm
9:00 am

8 Wednesday

YCCD Board of Trustees
Com Ed Room
5:30 pm

10 Friday

College Council
Manzanita Conference Rm
1:00 pm

17 Friday

Academic Senate
(Hiring priority)
Cedar 1
3:00 pm

24 Friday

Classified Senate
Manzanita Conference Rm
8:30 am

Academic Senate
Cedar 1
1:30 pm

Columbia College President's Report

InSite is published on the first week of every 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 public relations office and calendar items to the Instructional Materials Center/mailroom secretary.

Dr. Joan Smith
Columbia College President

Coni Chavez
Administrative Assistant to the President

Doug Lau
Marketing & Public Relations Officer

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1

Columbia College Volleyball
vs. Fresno
Oak Pavilion at 7:00 pm

2

Civic Engagement/Election '08
Vice-presidential Debate
Dogwood Forum at 5:45 pm

7

Civic Engagement /Election '08
Second Presidential Debate
Dogwood Forum at 5:45 pm

10

Columbia College Volleyball
vs. Reedley
Oak Pavilion at 7:00 pm

Book Club Discussion

Atonement
Library at 4:30 pm

14

Luncheon Buffet
The Cellar Restaurant
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

15

Civic Engagement/Election '08
Final Presidential Debate:
Domestic & Economic Policies
Cedar 1 at 5:45 pm

17

Columbia College Volleyball
vs. West Hills
Oak Pavilion at 5:00 pm

20-21

Flu Vaccine
Health Services Office
Vaccinations: 9:00 am-3:00 pm

21-22

Mood Screening
Health Services Office
8:30 am-12:30 pm

22

Luncheon Buffet
The Cellar Restaurant
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

23

Civic Engagement/Election '08
Candidates' Review & Open Forum
Dogwood Forum at 7:00 pm

24

Meet the Author
Between Two Women
by Patricia Harrelson
Library at 4:30 pm

Civic Engagement/Election '08

Proposition 8 Overview
Dogwood Forum at 7:00 pm

30

Luncheon Buffet
The Cellar Restaurant
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Civic Engagement/Election '08

California Ballot Proposals
Dogwood Forum at 7:00 pm

31

Columbia College Volleyball
vs. Taft
Oak Pavilion at 5:00 pm



Don't miss...

Civic Engagement/Election '08

November 4 Election Returns
Dogwood Forum at 5:00 pm