



# Dual campus celebrations held at Columbia College

### Yosemite Community College District

Roe Darnell, Ed.D.  
*Chancellor*

### YCCD Board of Trustees

Anne DeMartini  
*Chairperson*

Pat Dean  
*Vice Chairperson*

Desirree Abshire

Linda Flores

Tom Hallinan

Mike Riley

Abe Rojas

Elizabeth McMahon  
*Student Trustee*



**T**wo campus celebrations on August 13 highlighted the end of summer at Columbia College. Groundbreaking of the Science & Natural Resources Building took place at 10:00 am and ribbon cutting of the newly completed Mahogany Building was at 10:30 am. Both are funded by Measure E, a general obligation bond passed in November 2004 by voters served by the Yosemite Community College District.

Among the numerous dignitaries and guests in attendance were YCCD trustees Anne DeMartini (chairperson), Pat Dean (vice chairperson), Linda Flores, Mike Riley, and Elizabeth McMahon (student trustee). Sophia Cardenas represented Senator Dave Cogdill's office and Doug Miller represented Assembly member Tom Berryhill's office. YCCD Chancellor Dr. Roe Darnell and Columbia College President Dr. Joan Smith were joined by Measure E Citizens Bond Oversight Committee members Jim West (chairperson), Jim Cherry, Nick Cretan and Del Hodges.

Groundbreaking, from left: (front row) Dr. Joan Smith, Linda Flores, Anne DeMartini, Pat Dean, Mike Riley, Elizabeth McMahon, Dr. Roe Darnell, Sophia Cardenas, and Jim West. (Back row) Michael Perez, Mike Torok, Jerry Hodge, Dr. Michael Miller, Dr. Dennis Gervin, Doreen Bass, Doug Miller, and Jim Cherry.



Erik Andal opens Mahogany bay doors to welcome visitors



Joan Smith, Ed.D.  
*President*

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Dr. Joan Smith

**President's Note**

All of us at Columbia College love beginnings... We celebrate the construction of our new buildings with groundbreaking, their completions with ribbon cuttings, and welcome our new faculty and staff and administrators at our In Service Days. One of our favorite beginnings however, is the start of our academic year. This is especially true of our fall term—even more so than the spring semester at the beginning of the new year. The fall brings with it a sense of newness with all our first time students excited to start on their next steps, whatever they may be. Even as our students are facing fewer course offerings, larger class sizes and higher fees at all the community colleges in the state, we are prepared to do our best to serve them. The Columbia College employees are dedicated to excellence in serving the students of our community and in so many ways, are working miracles with minuscule budgets to provide them with a quality education. As president, I am very proud of their efforts and dedication to our students!

My advice to all current and prospective students is to start planning as early as October for the spring semester. The earlier you see a counselor and register for classes, the more likely you will be to get the classes you need to achieve your higher

education goals. This is also true for your financial aid—apply early for the spring semester.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to the community for their continued support in passing Measure E and allowing us to build new structures and modernize our older buildings. Construction of these new buildings will be recorded as part of our college history. To also mark the history of our educational institution, a time capsule will be buried in the area of the Science & Natural Resources Building site, which will be unearthed in 2048—the 80th anniversary of Columbia College. Contained in the time capsule are photos, printed materials and other memorabilia that give an overview of Columbia College campus life during our time. Imagine how different the world will be when the time capsule is opened in 40 years! Wishing everyone a great fall semester...

Very warm regards,

Joan Smith, Ed.D.  
President

**Dual celebrations** *continued from page 1*

Also in attendance were those who were instrumental in planning for the Science & Natural Resources Building. Among them were Michael Perez (vice president of college and administrative services), Dr. Dennis Gervin (college vice president for student learning), Mike Torok (college dean of arts & sciences), Dr. Micha Miller (biology professor), Jerry Hodge (biology professor), and Doreen Bass (sciences/biology lab assistant). Other planning committee members were Dennis Albers, Ross Carkeet, Dr. Tom Hofstra, Dr. Jeff Tolhurst, Dr.



Jeff Whalen, Jerry Hodge, and Dr. Micha Miller



Dr. Roe Darnell



Seated from l: Anne DeMartini, Melinda & Mike Riley, and Linda Flores



Groundbreaking site



Mike Torok

**Dual celebrations** *continued from page 2*

Joe Ryan, and Guy Van Cleave.

In addition to the above, the Mahogany Building ribbon cutting was attended by Gary Mendenhall (dean of vocational education), Erik Andal (technical trades coordinator), Merlin Bart (auto technology lab assistant), Mac Frost (welding technology adjunct), and Jeff Beebe (auto body collision repair adjunct, formerly at Columbia and now at MJC). Two other committee members were welding technology adjuncts, Mike Mahr and Steve Frost. ■



Uncovering the plaque for Mahogany Building



Ribbon cutting, from left: (front row) Dr. Roe Darnell, Elizabeth McMahon, Anne DeMartini, Linda Flores, Pat Dean, Mike Riley, and Dr. Joan Smith. (middle row) Mac Frost, Doug Miller and Sophia Cardenas. (top row) Dr. Dennis Gervin, Jeff Beebe, Michael Perez, Erik Andal, and Merlin Bart.



Trustee Anne DeMartini



Merlin Bart



Above: Peggy Paddack, Judy Lanchester, Gina Rose, and Doreen Bass



Left: Adrienne Seegers, Tiffany Flies, Dr. Alex Campbell, and Beccie Michael

# X-Reg... Takin' care of business in one day

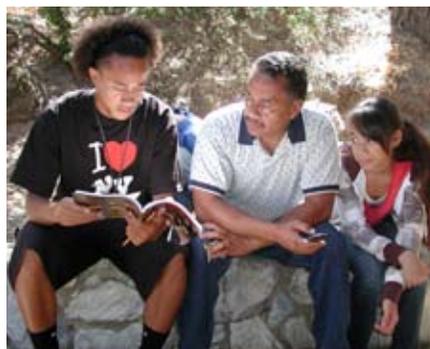
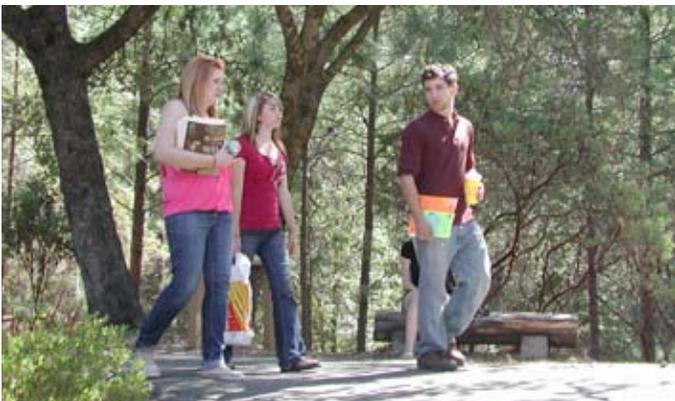
**A**n estimated 400 students attended this year's X-Reg on August 15. Unduplicated head count of those who registered was 352 students...assessment tests were administered to 266...and 180 received orientation and advisement.

This was the third year that X-Reg was offered. The activity enabled students to get all that they needed to begin their education at Columbia College on one day. That included assessment, orientation, advisement, registration, financial aid, special programs, parent/partner orientation,

textbook purchases, parking, and more.

X-Reg coordinators Kathy Smith and Dr. Lynn Martin were both enthusiastic about the event. "As usual, it was very well attended and a huge success," said Dr. Martin. "Students who were here got everything done from paying tuition to buying books to assessment."

Smith added, "The staff who worked the day were awesome and also should be congratulated on a fine day of working with students." ■



# Columbia College Fall In-Service Photo Highlights



# Tuolumne County stars dance at Oak Pavilion

**T**he Columbia College Foundation and Omega Nu presented “Dancing with the Tuolumne County Stars” on August 29 at the Oak Pavilion. Inspired by the TV show, 13 couples performed the foxtrot and cha cha with a total of \$2,000 in prize money donated to local charities represented by the winning couples. The audience voted for their favorite couple by making additional donations to the charity that the dancers represented.



Fox trot winners

### Foxtrot

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$500 Mike and Nancy Hajduk (New Horizon's After School Program)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$300 Ken and Renee Diaz (WATCH Resources)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$200 Bob and Sandy Fisher (Sonora Area Foundation)

### Cha Cha

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$500 Rob and Laurie Lyons (Re-Horse Rescue Ranch)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$300 Steve Boyack and Laura Leslie (Randi Murray's Dance Studio)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$200 Mark Eilrich and Joyce Ann Ames (A-TCAA Mentoring Works) ■



Steve Boyack and Laura Leslie



Robert Gritz and Pat Dean



Glenn Roberts and Beccie Michael



Abe Rojas and Dr. Joan Smith



Lahna VonEpps and Kasey Fulkerson



Cha cha winners



# Columbia College alum is "Up All Nite" in Sacramento

**A**lisha Cruz, who graduated from Columbia College last year, was a television field reporter last season on Channel 10's (KXTV) "Up All Nite" program. The late night show, which was aired on Thursdays from 1:00 to 1:30 am, featured different entertainment in the Sacramento area from night clubs, fashion, movies and music to museums, sports and restaurants. Along with her part-time TV job, Cruz is continuing her education in Sacramento, majoring in communications with a minor in public relations.



Alisha Cruz

You may remember her radio interviews locally as "Alisha Cruz on the street" for Clarke Broadcasting's KKBN FM, KVML AM and KZSQ FM. She was also recognized last year as one of the *Outstanding Young Californians*, a statewide honor

bestowed on her in Los Angeles.

"Being on television has been a great career experience for me," said Cruz. "The transition from a voice on radio to standing in front of a camera was remarkable. On TV, you're also concerned with your facial expression, what you look like, your clothing, how your hair is done, and basically being appealing to the general audience. The show's audience blogs were favorable toward me, so I think that I found a career niche for myself!"

In reflecting on her Columbia College education, she said, "I felt that the lectures, study load and other academic requirements were very challenging and provided excellent preparation for a four year university."

Cruz's mother Suzanne is a security officer at Columbia College. ■



Field reporting

## Newsbytes



Karen Stanley with the college snack bar's new espresso maker

**Health Services office hours** for fall will be Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 am-4:00 pm. Thursdays are 11:00 am-6:00 pm. Mental health appointments available Mondays through Thursdays. Call 588-5204.

The number of **textbook rentals** for students have increased at the Manzanita Bookstore. For information on the textbook rental program and available titles, go to [www.manzanitabookstore.com](http://www.manzanitabookstore.com). Click the book rental link on the left side.

The **Columbia College Foundation** office is now located on the first floor of Tamarack Hall. Stop by and greet Beccie Michael, our director of development and her assistant, Kasey Fulkerson.

By donating through the foundation, you can truly make a difference in the lives of our students by supporting scholarships and other college programs.



All 12 Lady Claim Jumpers on this year's volleyball team are from Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties. Half of them played at Sonora High, including three returning veterans, April Peterson, Chelsea Espino and Lauren Mojica. Head Coach Raelene Juarez anticipates a strong finish to a strong season. Go Jumpers!

# Campus Calendar / September 2009

## September Meetings

### 9 Wednesday

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

### 11 Friday

Safety/Facilities Committee  
Safety 9:00 am  
Manzanita Conference Rm  
Facilities 11:00 am  
Manzanita Conference Rm

### College Council

Manzanita Conference Rm  
1:00 pm

### 18 Friday

Academic Senate  
Cedar 1  
1:00 pm

### 25 Friday

Classified Senate  
Manzanita Conference Rm  
8:30 am

### Leadership Team

No September Meeting

4

### Jazz Series Concert

Columbia College Big Band  
First Fridays Concert  
Community Park/Murphys  
5:30 pm  
Free admission

5

### Volleyball

Columbia Classic  
Oak Pavilion  
Starts at 10:00 am

7

### Labor Day Holiday

24

### Jazz Series Concert

Columbia College Big Band  
Benefit for Columbia Elem Music  
Columbia Elementary School  
6:30 pm  
Donations for Columbia Elem

26

### Volleyball

Columbia Classic  
Oak Pavilion  
Starts at 10:00 am

## 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

Executive Assistant to the President

### Doug Lau

Marketing & Public Relations Officer

### Gail Segerstrom

IMC Graphic Arts Specialist

### Cari Craven

IMC/Mailroom Administrative Technician

### Cathy Brown

IMC Administrative Assistant

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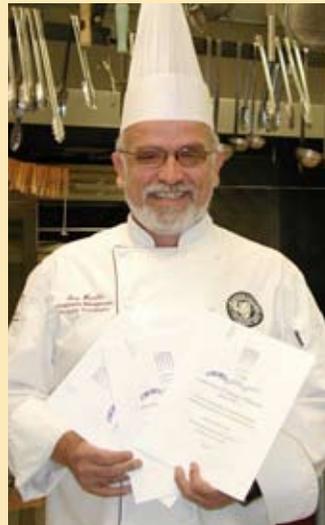
Email [laud@yosemite.edu](mailto:laud@yosemite.edu)

## Columbia College receives ACF accreditation

Columbia College's Hospitality Management Program has received the American Culinary Federation (ACF) Accreditation through June 30, 2014.

Established in 1929, the ACF is the largest professional chefs' organization in North America, consisting of more than 18,000 members in 240 chapters across the United States. The nonprofit organization is comprised of professional chefs, cooks and bakers in commercial kitchens, hotels, clubs, restaurants, institutions, and schools.

As a national accrediting commission for culinary and foodservice programs, the ACF critiques applicants on the basis of a self-evaluation report, a fact-finding team site visit, and evaluation by the commission. Accreditation requires that curriculum, faculty, facilities, resources, support staff, and



Chef Gene Womble



organizational structure all substantially meet the standards set by the accrediting commission. These standards were established by industry leaders in both culinary arts and culinary arts education.

"Determining the quality of education that students receive in a program is a real challenge," said Gene Womble, coordinator of the Columbia

College's Hospitality Management Program.

"We are proud to again receive ACF accreditation, which indicates that our program has met or exceeded published industry standards. This prestigious recognition offers numerous benefits to graduates of our program." ■