VALENCIA CAMPUS
A Very Busy Spring Semester begins.....
Spring Semester Began February 4

VALENcia CAMPUS

- Over 90% full
- Up 5% compared to the same time last year
- Average (median) class size is 31
When completed in early 2015, the new Student Services and Administration Building will bring key student support and administrative services together in one convenient location. The new 46,000-square-foot facility will create a gateway to the college and streamline the admissions and enrollment process, helping students more quickly reach their goals of transfer or career preparation.

- Speakers at the ceremony included:
  - Mr. Michael Berger, President, Board of Trustees
  - Mr. Michael Kramer, President, Associated Student Government
  - Dr. Michael Wilding, Asst. Superintendent/VP, Student Services
  - Dr. Dianne Van Hook, Chancellor

The $15.9 million project will be funded by a combination of state resources, and proceeds from Measure M, the $160 million general obligation bond measure passed by Santa Clarita voters in 2006.
Culinary Arts Building.... Breaking News!

We received the final approved drawings back from the Division of State Architects (DSA) last week!

Over the next few months we will finalize the logistics of getting an estimate of costs, awarding a construction management contract, preparing temporary spaces, relocating the current Village occupants and putting a plan in place to start demolition over the summer. We can now be assured that the ground can and will be broken for this project late summer!
CANYON COUNTRY CAMPUS
Spring Semester Began February 4

CANYON COUNTRY CAMPUS

• 292 Sections being offered
• 91% fill rate
• Average class size is 33-34
• Of the 9,500 seats, 8,647 are full!
Canyon Country Campus new gardens

Restoration project located outside of the biology lab in Quad 3
Canyon Country Campus

Coming Events:
- Star Party and Staff Recognition – May 3
- Cinco de Mayo, May 5; 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Chamber Mixer – Wednesday, May 15, 5:30 – 7:30 pm
  - “Taste of Canyon Country” concept facilitated by the Chamber with 15 restaurants and 250 people on the CCC
  - COC will arrange entertainment and showcase materials and programs (CTE, student performances, Culinary and/or Applied Tech disciplines)
City Projects in Canyon Country

The Sierra Highway Landscape Median Beautification project is underway – and will feature some nice additions to the highway near the Canyon Country Campus!

It is scheduled to begin this spring and be completed by summer 2013!
What’s Happening on Campus?
COC California Bluebird Restoration Project

Co-sponsored by COC’s Interim Sustainability Center and Santa Clarita Environmental Education Consortium (SCEEC), this project hopes to help restore California Bluebird population on our COC campus and in our community.

Our park-like Valencia campus serves as an ideal environment for the bluebirds to nest if cavity nesting boxes are strategically placed.

- Phase I - restoring the bluebird population on COC Valencia campus this year;
- Phase II - provide outreach and educational opportunities to our local K-12 teachers and learners to embark on similar restoration projects on local schools’ campuses or in people’s backyards.

Dick Purvis from the CA Bluebird Recovery Program (CBRP) discussed the reasons behind, and the significance for, the project and how we can be part of a larger research project housed by Cornell University.

Thanks to Jia-Yi Cheng-Levine and the members of SCEEC for their work in putting this together.
College of the Canyons will be awarded $284,996 for the next 2 years:

- **$160,000 for capitation** (capacity) in 2013/14 and 2014/15. It funds us $80k a year to take an extra 10 nursing students. This funding will see them through the next 2 years of their education.

- **$124,996 for special programs** (in 2013/14 and 2014/15). We received the full funding amount we requested for special programs
  - We are ranked #2 in the state for those who applied for this funding
  - Special programs (named “Dream to Career”) provides a series of workshops including: pre-nursing students to prepare for entrance exam, assisting with helping MSNs prepare clinical faculty, an interdisciplinary disaster prepared scenario with HMNMH, additional service-learning in under-served area, and support for these activities in the form of a nursing counselor and an adjunct in the skills lab.

- This brings our COC Song Brown funding total to **$1,694,296**
- We are currently the #1 highest funded community college nursing program in the state!
There are many exciting and new areas in our Welding program that are in the works!

Weld-Ed Update
• Restructuring of Weld-Ed being proposed in next round of NSF funding 2014

Skills USA
• Proposing for COC to become a Skills USA Chapter

Boy Scout Welding Medallion Badge
• Currently being offered by Boy Scouts of America

Robotic Welding Automation Project
• All three courses and certificate of specialization approved in curriculum

Laser Welding Project
• Working with American Welding Society laser welding standards committee

Proposed Pipe Welding Project
• There is currently an unprecedented demand for pipe welders as a result of new technologies in oil/gas exploration, attrition of journeyman-level pipe welders, and a lack of individuals entering into pipe welding/fabrication trade
COC Welding Program

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TB2_c7oi1Aw&list=UUxP9TJelgrj4ld2WyIuC3Yg&index=1
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Economic & Real Estate Outlook Conference – Feb 21

- Over 250 people attended this popular and informative event, co-sponsored by the SCV Economic Development Corporation.
- An in-depth and detailed forecast of our local economy and real estate market was provided by keynote speaker Mark Schniepp, Ph.D., Director, California Economic Forecast.
- Highlights of the event include:
  - Overall the Santa Clarita economy is strong, and will continue to improve.
  - The real estate market for existing homes is heating up, as fewer foreclosures are coming on the market. The coming year should see additional growth in prices.
  - The new home market is also awakening, as builders bring new models online in growing numbers for the first time since the Great Recession.
  - Unemployment in Santa Clarita is low relative to surrounding areas, but remains higher than expected as people turn to more informal employment (non-W-2 jobs), such as contracting.
Economic Development Division
Continues to Serve our Businesses

SBDC:
- QuickBooks Bootcamp (4 weeks) – March 12 (a first for SBDC!)
- Ports of LA – Graduation planned for those that complete 5+ export workshops. The Port noted that this was the best attended series they have facilitated!

CACT:
- CNC Cohort #8 (for the un-employed and veterans) will be held May 6 to June 21
- New WEDD (Workforce and Economic Development Division, the new EWD) grant Request for Applications (RFAs) are now available.
- The Deputy Sector Navigator for Advanced Manufacturing would be the equivalent of the current CACT grant.
- The visit with Oakland County, Michigan officials went great! They visited COC, ADI and CACT on March 1, as they are using our collaboration between CACT and ADI as a model for partnering schools with business.
Economic Development Division

Fast Track:

• Upcoming Programs include:
  • First Responder Operational (HazMat) – 16 hours, offered early summer 2013
  • Google SketchUp 8 – 4-week sessions, starting June 3 and 4 (20 hours each session)
    • This was proposed by Dorothy Minarsch.
    • The class filled up so quickly, they added a second one.

ETI Programs:

• Consortium Classes (advertised to the business community)
  • Beginning SolidWorks – April 3
  • Lean Value Stream Mapping – April 10
  • Geometric Dimensioning & Tolerancing (GD&T) – May 9
  • Blueprint Reading – May 14
ETI Programs - continued:

• Contract Education/Grant Programs and ETP Funded
  • Solid Concepts: Print Reading – March 12
  • Donaldson: Print Reading – May 9
  • B&B Manufacturing: Print Reading / GD&T – Feb 19
  • Child & Family Center: Excel – March 4
  • Fast Track Precision Assembly (BSN/WorkSource) – Mar 19-May 5

• Programs in Development
  • Fast Track Electro-Mechanical Systems Technician Program (Lee Hilliard and Sam Bolanos, Electronics)
  • Fralock: 5S and Soldering
  • SGL Technics: Safety/OSHA & Supervisory Skills
  • Pharmavite WorkKeys: Key train, VESL & Computer Skills
  • RAH: Welding Training Program (Tim Baber, Welding)
  • Henry Mayo: Spanish Translator Program
  • Trigg Laboratories: MS Word/Excel Bilingual
  • Terra Verde Technology (TVT): Energy Systems Tech Training
  • Production Assistant Boot Camp for Media Industry (Glapa-Grossklag, Brill, Amador, Capehart)
  • Solid Concepts San Diego: Companion Valencia program
Jia-Yi Cheng-Levine, Richard Matzen, Michael Haro, Lacey Ehrlich, Danielle Werts, BJ Atkins, Mallory Valencia, and I met and discussed a variety of topics with the Board members of SCEEC, including:

- Revising the SCEEC goals
- Placing SCEEC’s goals in a larger planning context with COC’s strategic goals
- Revising and condensing SCEEC goals to:
  - Support the development of the necessary resources needed to foster excellent teaching and student learning in the area of sustainability, including
    - curriculum development
    - teacher training
    - developing partnership among stakeholders
    - internships
    - speakers bureau
    - student engagement opportunities
- Working to develop public and private partnership(s) who support sustainability and will commit resources to support SCEEC's mission financial goal
- Providing leadership to support individuals, organizations, and businesses to initiate, embrace, and enhance sustainable practices
Santa Clarita Environmental Education Consortium (SCEEC) – March 15

- SCEEC hosted a Science Fair to promote Environmental Literacy in the UCEN
- Students in 4th grade and up were encouraged to submit projects to promote discussion on environmental sustainability
- Categories are for Grades 4-6, Middle School and High School levels
- Winners will receive a ribbon, gift certificate and a chance to display their project at the Environmental Conference on October 12
LEAP and Advocacy Efforts
LEAP 2013 Began on March 1

What’s different about LEAP this time?

- For the first time ever, we have community business partners participating in LEAP!
- The split among classified staff, faculty and administrators is fairly equal – 39 LEAPers
- All of the “solutions” will be implemented
- We funded a group of LEAPers (9) to go on the KHTS Legislative trip to Sacramento
LEAPers in Sacramento for the KHTS Legislative trip

On March 18th & 19th a group of LEAPers (7 current & 2 former) went on a road trip with Eric Harnish to attend the annual KHTS Legislative trip in Sacramento. They attended an Assembly Budget Subcommittee on funding for Adult Education. They met with various members of the Chancellor’s Office, including Fred Harris, (Asst. Vice Chancellor, College Finance and Facilities Planning) in the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office where they were able to discuss and learn more about the legislative process and how it affects the community college system. They also had a very informative lunch with Theresa Tena, Vice President of Fiscal Policy, Community College League of California.
LEAP Solution Teams:

- **Visual Arts Resource Center**
  - The Visual Arts Resource Center at College of the Canyons (VAR) will serve as the hub for a comprehensive arts development that showcases existing campus resources, will take advantage of new planning opportunities and may also employ digital technologies.
  - The VAR Center will integrate an online, virtual campus art museum showcasing the creative arenas on campus (Mentry Hall/Art Gallery/Pico Canyon Hall/PAC) with the physical re-development of the Central Commons area (as part of the facilities master plan) to include the Santa Clarita Arts Walk - an outdoor art display physically linking the Mentry and Pico sites through a grove of outdoor sculptural displays and exhibit cases. The VAR Center will encourage student development, involvement and maintenance of both the virtual and physical sites, as well as being an on-the-ground resource to complement and integrate the numerous campus curricular activities dedicated to the arts.

- **Marketing of Student Success Task Force Initiatives**
  - The Student Success Act of 2012 requires a number of significant changes to the way students interact with community colleges now and into the future. An important part of the legislation requires that Districts communicate with students and other stakeholders regarding these changes.
  - Required skills include the ability to understand the changes to the operation, formulate those changes into a clear, concise message, and create a memorable way to deliver a message that sticks by using a variety of formats (electronic, print, broadcast, etc.).
LEAP Solution Teams cont’d

**Summer Workshops for K-12 Teachers**
- K-12 teachers often do not seem to have the tools and breadth of knowledge and confidence to teach science, math, technology, basic skills and art workshops. College of the Canyons would like to offer summer workshops to “teach the teachers” these subjects and how to share that information with students. During the summer, four to six 1-week workshops will be offered, and K-12 teachers will leave those workshops with specific examples of hands-on activities that may be used in the classroom, and a set of turnkey, age-appropriate lesson plans.

**Assessment of Prior Learning**
- With the economic reshuffle over the last decade, many workers have found it necessary to change career paths after many years in a given industry. Yet when trying to make a change, those same workers may face roadblocks in the forms of educational and degree requirements locking them out of the new profession. The problem isn’t that they don’t know the material they don’t have the degree. Enter Assessment for Prior Learning (APL) whereby candidates may be tested “using valid and reliable means” by a qualified specialist of what has been learned through non-formal education, training or experience that is worthy of credit in a course or program offered by an institution providing the credit.

- APL may offer a pathway for students who have pursued non-traditional learning through such vehicles as the military, through corporate training, or even MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses). APL may provide a way to increase degree and certificate completion at a time when colleges are increasingly being held accountable for completion rates.
COC Website Project

Online resources are an increasingly critical component of COC being able to effectively meet its mission to serve students. Every office on campus relies on the college internet and/or intranet websites for disseminating information. Recently, a new "look and feel" with new navigation tools were developed to refresh the website. (They have not yet been launched, but we expect to apply these improvements soon). Before we do that, however, another critical component to the website's utility relates to the content and arrangement of content. If content is outdated, missing, or hard to find, the website cannot be effective.

Perspectives include those of:
- High school seniors
- Continuing COC students
- Re-entry students
- COC Faculty members
- COC Staff members
- Parents
- Local Businesses
- Community Members
LEAP Solution Teams cont’d

• COC Extension
  • It’s time for change: a change in structure, a change in name. COC’s Community and Continuing Education (Non Credit) Programs serve a variety of learning needs. Students range from working professionals and entrepreneurs, to those embarking on their first career or those making career changes, to those seeking enrichment or in search of ESL and Basic Skills.
  • With the potential for community colleges to have additional funding for adult education, it is the optimal time for a solution team to:
    • Review our current programs’ organizational structure and implementation practices
    • Complete a competitive study encompassing what other Colleges are currently doing and/or planning
    • Formulate a plan to restructure our current program into the new, expanded “COC Extension”

• Adult Developmental Training Center
  • National non-profit organizations serving developmentally disabled adults have limited funding and business models that only partially meet the needs of this large population. The “new” program will allow adults with developmental disabilities to participate in an environment of learning that is at a modified pace allowing them learn to marketable skills and move them towards employment and independent or group living.
Advocacy Committee Meets

- We had a great meeting of our college Advocacy Committee March 12th, with representatives from faculty, classified staff, administration, as well community partners, including the City of Santa Clarita, Six Flags Magic Mountain, and LBW Insurance.
- Our discussion focused on:
  - Prop. 30 funding, which will be available to K-12 districts and community colleges for four to seven years, then end unless the state acts to replace it.
  - 2013-14 state budget, which could provide new revenue to community colleges for the first time in five years.
  - AB 41 – The bill that would put a statewide construction bond on the 2014 ballot. If approved, it would provide resources to build the Science Building at the Canyon Country Campus.
  - A review of recently introduced legislation that is of interest to community colleges.
  - Prop 39-related legislation, and the potential uses for that funding.
  - The Associated Student Government’s recent legislative visits.
  - KHTS Trip.
Cyber Security Meeting with Congressman McKeon

• A meeting was held February 11th with Congressman McKeon and his staff to discuss our cyber-security training efforts and seek his support for the program.

• Alan Paller, Chair, SANS (SysAdmin, Audit, Network, Security) Institute Board of Trustees, and Co-chair, Secretary of Homeland Security’s 2012 Task Force on Cyberskills, outlined the need for training in this area, and the importance of the Congressman’s support.

  • In particular, Alan asked Congressman McKeon to support the establishment of a “residency” program within the military for successful graduates of the program. Following completion of coursework, students would spend six months working side-by-side with experts in the field on real cyber security projects, similar to the way medical students complete residencies.
The College Serves the Community
Body - Mind - Wellness

• Healthy Lifestyle Resource Fair – March 13, Honor Grove – 12:30 to 2:30 pm
• Campus groups and local businesses participated to promote:
  • Healthy Eating
  • Physical Activity
  • Stress Management
  • Health Care
  • Social and Community Connections
• There was music, free (healthier) pizza and salad provided by zpizza, along with prize drawings
• Weekly seminars (March through May) on various topics, including Healthy:
  • Relationships
  • Eating
  • Money Management
  • Sleep
  • Thinking
  • Sex
  • Physical Activity
  • Coping
Healthy Lifestyle Resource Fair
Community Events

• Friday Night Films – Offered every Friday in Hasley Hall 101 – show times vary
• The Power of Transferable Skills Workshop (was held March 20, 6-7pm)
• Careers on the Go! (register at www.canyons.edu/cog)
  • March 14 – Land Surveying
  • April 18 – Business Accounting, 6-7:30pm, Mentry 343
  • May 9 – Electronic Systems, 6-7:30pm, Mentry 343
• Resume Rallies
  • March 26 (Tues, Valencia Campus) March 27 (Wed, Canyon Country) – 11-2:00 pm
• TEDx (Technology, Entertainment, Design – x = independently organized event)
  • April 18, 2013 9am – 2 pm, Mentry Hall 305
• Job and Career Fair
  • April 24 (Valencia Campus) – 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
  • May 8 (Canyon Country) – 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
Upcoming PAC Events:

- **Suburbia**
  - Wed – Fri, March 27-29 @ 8 pm - Sat March 30 @ 2 & 8 pm

- **Tangos from Gardel to Piazzolla**
  - Fri, April 12 @ 8 pm

- **Symphony of the Canyons & Guests**
  - Fri, April 19 @ 7 pm

- **COC Choirs Present – A Spiritual Spring**
  - Sat, April 20 @ 7:30 pm

- **New Works Festival**
  - Thu – Sat, April 25-27 @ 8 pm – Sun, April 28 @ 2 pm

- **ABBAMANIA** – Fri, April 26 @ 8 pm

- **Annual POPS! Jazz Concert**
  - Fri – May 3 @ 7:30 pm
COC Staff and Faculty
Steve Tannehill (Director, SBDC) is also a member of Blue Sky, a local band of five individuals who perform for the sheer pleasure of music!

Blue Sky and 39 other local musicians participated in raising money for “Bridge to Home Homeless Services” at Hart High Auditorium last month for this worthy cause.

The 3-hour concert, with 300 attendees, doubled as a tribute to Elton John, as the musicians played 30 of his most well-known works, including “Candle in the Wind”, “Crocodile Rock”, “Benny and the Jets” and “Tiny Dancer”

Blue Sky plays at local venues such as Schoonerville, Wine 661, TPC, Salt Creek, All Corked Up, and Vincenzo’s.
COC Staff Members Perform and Contribute!

- Speaking of Vincenzo’s, another COC family member, **Fern Jones** (Library Tech), has been a member of the ‘60s rock band “The Screaming Clams” for the last 2 years.

- Fern is also proud that she has been a docent for the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) and volunteers her time on the weekends to manage the canyons and trails in our mountains.

- She is a presence on the trails, and talks to people about the history of the area, and provides information about the plants and animals in the area!
COC Staff Members Contribute cont’d

- Theresa Zuzevich (Director, Grants Development) will serve as the Corporate Walk Chairperson for this year’s Leukemia/Lymphoma Society Light the Night Walk on October 26 (Bridgeport Park, approximately 5:00 to 8:00pm)
  - Last year, the event raised $250,000 towards research, patient services and support for patients and families of those affected with the disease.
  - We will also have a COC team led by Cindy Dorroh and Diane Morey.
- Anthony Michaelides (Director, Career Services) and Chad Peters (Athletic Trainer) ran in the LA Marathon.
Faculty Shine

Kelly Cude (Biology) will travel to Florida to attend an Adaptive Learning Focus Group for Majors Biology, sponsored by McGraw Hill.

- She will spend three intensive days:
  - testing adaptive learning technologies,
  - providing feedback, and
  - developing strategies to improve these resources.
- Adaptive learning software will constantly reassess students’ progress and map out a learning path tailored just for them. The personalized learning plans identify and re-teach concepts the student does not understand using additional questions and activities until the student reaches proficiency.
- She will have the opportunity to build relationships and share teaching and implementation strategies with faculty from educational institutions across the US, and contribute her ideas to this “think tank” of biology professors from around the country.
- She was selected to attend because of her background and expertise in the areas of molecular biology, genetics, and science education.
Our Students are the BEST!
Model UN Team Goes to Harvard – Feb 13-19

- The Model UN Team traveled to Boston on Feb 13 – arriving in lots of snow!
- Started with a visit to the event at Harvard and the making and seconding of motions to get topics of consideration on the table.
- Dr. Gussin posted regularly on Facebook for anyone who wanted to follow their daily events.
- The COC students were one of only four community colleges in the United States in the competition, with over 300 colleges and universities in attendance! What an honor!
- They did not bring home any “big win”, but they succeeded in many ways:
  - Winning can be described best in looking at the behaviors of the players involved.
  - The COC Model UN team and their coach will always be winners – from their hard work, to the determination and tenacity, to the standards and integrity, to the unwavering tenacity to do the right things, to the unwillingness to compromise on principles, to the courage to risk, to do, to dream and to reach for those dreams!
Model UN Team continues to excel....

The COC Model United Nations teach participated in the Long Beach Intercollegiate Model United Nation (LBIMUN) conference.

- It was the first competition since returning from Harvard. Of the ten awards given at LBIMUN, our team won four awards!
- The winners included three students who attended the Harvard conference: Daniel Gomez, Pier Mantovani, and Nathan Black. Brantley Toppin, who was attending his first MUN conference ever, also won an award.

A small contingent (six members) of the Model United Nations team attended a two-day conference hosted by the University of California, Riverside (UCR).

- The two veterans on the team, Daniel Gomez and Nathan Black won "Outstanding Delegate" awards in their respective committees at UCR.
- Four of the "newbies" on the team (i.e., Parisa Saleki, Vincent Vail, Rolland Bell, and James Choi) turned in solid performances despite having one week to prepare for the conference.
- On more than one occasion, faculty advisors at the UCR conference commented on the strong team fielded by College of the Canyons. And rightfully so. They are impressive. Congratulations to them all.
Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festival – Students Excel!

Congratulations are in order...!

- Julie Lawson will be taking two choir groups to this event April 5-7!
- “House Blend” and “Just Jazz” with 14 and 13 students in each group, respectively, will travel to this prestigious festival in the spring.
- Musical groups send CDs of their performances to a panel of judges at the Berklee College of Music (Boston).
- Judges select the top 6 groups from each category (big bands, jazz ensembles, and vocal ensembles from middle school, high schools, and colleges across the nation).
- Both of COC’s vocal groups were selected as two of the six top groups!
- COC has attended the last 2 years, and placed 2nd in 2011, 3rd in 2012.
- After competing in Monterey, all winners are invited to perform at the Monterey Jazz Festival in September for cash prizes.
- GOOD LUCK TO JULIE, JUST JAZZ and HOUSE BLEND!
Phi Theta Kappa Luncheon, March 6

• Dr. Miriam Golbert (Chair, Biology Department and PTK Advisor) traveled with our PTK students to Sacramento to attend the annual awards luncheon.

• While there, they also visited Assemblyman Scott Wilk and Senator Pavley‘s staff at the Capitol.

• The students pictured are Kathryn Webb, Ryan Arroyo, Michael Kramer and Anthony Fernandez.

• Michael was selected to be on the All-California First Team!
Sports Medicine Students Achieve Victories at Bailey Arnheim Games

- Saturday, March 9, COC Athletic Trainers Sarah Ehrsam and Chad Peters accompanied student members of the newly established Sports Medicine Club to participate in the Bailey Arnheim Games hosted by CSU Long Beach.
- The Bailey Arnheim Games is a Sports Medicine Competition where students are tested on their taping skills, injury evaluation skills, and a 40-yard dash while carrying emergency equipment.
- **COC was the only community college competing!** The other schools competing were Athletic Training majors from 4-year universities, all juniors and seniors.
- Our students were outstanding and received the following awards:
  - Written Simulation – 1st and 2nd Place
  - Tape Relay – 1st and 2nd Place
  - Ankle Tape Off – 1st and 3rd Place
  - Super Relay – 2nd and 3rd Place
  - Upper Extremity Evaluation – 3rd Place
- Congratulations to Sarah, Chad and the students!

Contest winning 28-second taping job!
Speech team excels!

The COC Speech Team earned a big win at the scenic campus of California State University Long Beach.

- COC won 1st place at the PSCFA Spring Champs Speech Tournament in the Limited Entry Division! As the awards finished up in a standing room only auditorium, the team was humbled by a standing ovation --the forensics community's customary tradition of honoring 1st place.

This incredible honor also caps off several other big achievements this season, including:

- The COC Speech Team won a school record three 1st places at PSCFA this last weekend, including Derek Isomaki (Impromptu), Shawn Kern (Persuasive), and Hillary Phillips (Programmed Oral Interp.) Other team finalists included Brandon Miller (Informative) and Jessie Warme (Informative.)
- Similar to a hat trick in hockey, Hillary Phillips won her 1st place with what is known as a "picket fence", by earning 1st place ranks from each of her three judges in the final round. The team is also pleased to announce that Hillary has become the first competitor at COC to qualify for the four-year national tournament.
- Shawn Kern's 1st place makes for two years in a row that COC has won this honor for Persuasive at PSCFA Spring Champs.
- Derek Isomaki's 1st place win in Impromptu was achieved by "picket fence-ing" the entire tournament, e.g. 6 ballots, including 3 preliminary rounds and a final round of 3 judges. His 1st place is also COC's first ever top win in this event.
- As the team heads to the state and national tournaments, COC has earned a school record 29 final rounds this season. This surpasses the team's previous record of 23 final rounds for an entire season, set just last year, under 9-year team director, Michael Leach.
- This also marks the first year where each state and national team member has advanced to final rounds in open division. Team members include: Mariele Ignacio, Derek Isomaki, Alan Jacques, Shawn Kern, Brandon Miller, Hillary Phillips, and Jessie Warme.
- Records continue to be broken on the COC Speech Team because of the incredible alumni coaching in Assistant Coaches Billy Hatton, Simon Kern, and Loretta Rowley, as well as the ongoing contributions from 8-year Assistant Coach, Tony Laschi.
March 17th, the COC Speech Team won a school record of 7 medals at the 2013 CCCFA State Tournament held at the Woodland Hills Marriott.

- After a 4-day grueling competition, including both 8 a.m. and early evening rounds, team members won...
  - 2 Gold Medals
  - 4 Silver Medals
  - 1 Bronze Medal

- Because of these individual accomplishments, COC won 2nd place as a team in the Limited Entry Division! This is the first time COC has placed at the state tournament, yet that’s only one of many first time accomplishments over the weekend, including:

  - The first gold medals ever won by COC at the state tournament were earned by Derek Isomaki (Speech to Entertain) and Hillary Phillips (Programmed Oral Interpretation.)
  - Derek Isomaki was awarded his Gold Medal in STE for his humorous speech about the "Friend Zone" and earned 1st place ranks from each of his three judges in the final round, aka a "picket fence." Like any hilarious comedian, at numerous points, Derek had to come to a full stop as the packed room of 100 people --standing room only-- erupted in laughter.
  - Brandon Miller's Silver Medal in Persuasive Speaking makes for two years in a row that he has won this honor at the state tournament.
  - Alan Jacques also earned a Silver Medal in Informative Speaking --this is COC's first ever medal in this category.
  - Hillary Phillips (Programmed Oral Interpretation & Poetry Interpretation) and Shawn Kern (Persuasive Speaking & Prose Interpretation) both share the honor of being COC's first ever double medalists at the state tournament.
  - Also worthy of note is 4 of the 7 medals were scripts that saw their debut at this tournament.
  - As the team heads to the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament in four weeks, teammates look forward to a team break to finals that will also include members, Mariele Ignacio and Jessie Warme.
  - Records continue to be broken on the COC Speech Team because of the incredible support given to 9-year team director, Michael Leach. Alumni coaches include Assistant Coaches Billy Hatton, Simon Kern, and Loretta Rowley, as well as the ongoing contributions from 8-year Assistant Coach, Tony Laschi.
  - The team is also truly thankful for all the continued support from the Chancellor's office, the Office of Instruction, the COC Foundation, Fiscal Services, the Social Sciences and Business Division, and the Department of Communication Studies.
FOUNDATION
Chancellor’s Circle Luncheon

- A luncheon was held on February 20.
- Joining me and staff members Pete Bellas, Barry Gribbons, Cathy Ritz and Michele Edmonson were:
  - John Carlson (VP, Bank of Santa Clarita)
  - Rob Montgomery (local Wendy’s Restaurants)
  - Yolanda Morton (CEO, Morton Manufacturing)
  - Jim Vail (CFO, Morton Manufacturing)
  - Robert Reyes (Reyes Winery)
  - Bill Miranda (CEO, Latino Chamber, Marketing Professional)
  - Louis Esbin (Esbin Law Firm)
- These luncheons are cultivation tools for donors and for membership into the Chancellor’s Circle.
- There was a lively discussion and we have some dedicated and motivated supporters in these folks!
The Chancellor’s Circle Hosted a Business Breakfast Briefing, Friday, March 8 in UCEN 258.

Presented by Bill Miranda, CEO, SCV Latino Chamber of Commerce - “Hablando de Negocios: Talking Business”

Attendees discussed how businesses can embrace the Latino Marketplace and topics such as:

- Useful insights on how to communicate within the Latino customer base.
- How it can help your business, increase your sales and profits.
- How to market to the fastest growing segment of the population in the United States.

The event was well attended, well received and provided a wonderful opportunity to network.
Silver Spur – Saturday, March 2 – Globe Theatre

- We surpassed our attendance targets and had approximately 230 people attend this year’s dinner!
- There were six silent auction items and 10 live auction items.
- There was a tour of Universal Studios with two trams.
- It was a wonderful evening toasting two selfless, genuine pillars of our community - - - Pati and Barry Gump!
- Way to go Randy & Mitzi!
What’s New...
What’s Coming Up...
Tell your Friends!
Intelliresponse Update

Help soon to be available online!

- Virtual Agents (VAs) are software services that engage in **automated conversations** with students in self-service environments.

- **Intelliresponse VAs** empower customers through their journey for answers and task completion by simplifying the process of delivering information across multiple interaction channels.

- **Intelliresponse** will be utilized on “Ask Canyons” – a new site where students can go to ask frequently asked questions and be directed to the answers of commonly asked questions.

- It will be integrated into our new home page for fall 2013, and the old home page for the summer sessions.
Photomicrography Art Exhibit – COC on the cutting edge....

Through a Department of Commerce (DOC) grant we purchased fluorescent, and digital microscopes for the Biological Sciences Department. Over the past two semesters, biology faculty members Kelly Cude and Kelly Burke have prepared and imaged samples of flowers, butterfly wings, cancer cells, protozoa and more. And now they want to share them with the college and community through an art exhibit designed to alter people’s perspective of the microscopic world around them. Their collaborative project will expose viewers to the unexpected beauty of the world around them that is invisible to the naked eye.

Impact on students and community include:

- Raise awareness for students and community of the training available through our courses
- Provides a unique interdisciplinary approach to science and art which will expand the imaginations and career pathways for science and art students
- Will create a permanent art display in the Biological Sciences Department. Images will be utilized in classroom instruction
- Participating Biological Sciences faculty will be better trained and familiar with new equipment to develop projects and curriculum

Collaboration/Partnerships:

- Biological Sciences Department – research supplies, equipment, labor
- COC Art Gallery – Hosting exhibit, matting/mounting images, mailing advertising materials
- Math Science Engineering Division – purchase of DOC equipment
- Art/Graphics Department – creation of advertising flyers
2nd Annual Speakers Symposium Series at COC

The 2013 Mathematics, Sciences & Engineering series is being offered again!

- Began Feb 26th with Harnessing the Photonic Properties of Silicon Nanostructures for Biomaterials Applications ~ Dr. Michael Sailor, UCSD Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Mar 5 – Matthew Wallace, JPL ~ Mars Curiosity Mission
- Mar 26 – Dan Lubin, Scripps Institution of Oceanography ~ Sun & Global Climate Change
- Other Presenters in April:
  - Apr 16 – Richard Squires – CSUN, Geological Sciences ~ Fossil Treasures of the Santa Clarita Valley
  - Apr 23 – J. David Jentsch – UCLA, Psychology ~ Inhibitory Control and the Relevance to Addictions
COC Women’s Conference, *Turning Points* – March 23

- The COC Women’s Conference was held in the University Center, March 23, 8:00 to 1:30pm with upwards of 150 attendees.
- Sponsored by Boston Scientific.
- Keynote speaker was Janine Sherman Barrois, Executive Producer CBS TV show, “Criminal Minds”. She gave an inspirational keynote challenging women to believe in themselves and there is no easy way to success. There was an opportunity for Q & A where she was engaging and was given a standing ovation.
- Breakout sessions were in:
  - Balance and Healthy Lifestyle
  - Empowerment & Personal Development
  - Business & Entrepreneur Solutions
Coming Events to Remember

- Math, Science & Engineering – Speakers Series (ongoing presentations)
- Celebrating the Humanities – (ongoing events and activities)
- Environmental Science Fair – Wednesday, April 10
- Scholarly Presentation – Wednesday, April 17
  - College of the Canyons professor, activist and scholar Dr. Ali Akbar Mahdi will present a sociological analysis of the decades long history of political challenges, regional crises and ongoing hostilities with his presentation “The U.S. in the Middle East: A Century of Friendship and Hostility”
- TEDx Conference – Thursday, April 18
- Star Party – Friday, May 3 (Canyon Country Campus)
- Chamber Mixer – Wed, May 15 – 5:30 to 7:30 pm at CCC
  - “Taste of Canyon Country” – will include 15 restaurants and approximately 200 people on campus
- Culinary Arts Institute Wine Classroom fundraising event – Valencia Wine Company – Steve Corn, Eve Bushman & Guy Le Large – TBD in May
REMEMBERING.....
COC Mourns Loss of Local Jazz Legend and Music Professor Dirk Fischer

- Renowned musician, composer and longtime College of the Canyons jazz professor Stewart Roussin Fischer — affectionately known to family, friends, colleagues and students as ‘Dirk’ — died Monday, Feb. 25, in Santa Clarita. He was 88.
- Fischer began his teaching career at COC in 1977 at a time when most academic institutions had yet to fully incorporate jazz studies programs into their curriculum.
- Before retiring in 2005, Fischer dedicated his 28 years at the college to building COC’s music department, while working to establish several of the college’s most endeared and longstanding musical traditions, including jazz band performances at the college’s annual commencement ceremony.
Celebrating Stewart “Dirk” Fischer 1924-2013
Greetings from New Zealand!
Marlborough Vineyards

Roger & his friend from Elementary school, Ralph