

# CITY CURRENTS



A NEWSLETTER FOR THE CITY COLLEGE COMMUNITY

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## 'Ruminations of an Optimist'

By Dr. Philip R. Day, Jr.,  
Chancellor

It is an amusing story which you can almost imagine happening. The priest in the confessional booth asks the growing boy, "Young man, have you been entertaining impure thoughts lately?" And the young man says, "To tell you the truth, Father, they've been entertaining me." I've begun with this because I want to confess the thoughts I've been entertaining lately, but not of the kind the priest might chastise.

The thoughts are of the most positive kind, and they are about City College. They've entertained me to some extent during the holiday break, as I had the opportunity to be away and restore some perspective. I found myself using the word epiphany to describe them – in other words a revelation that comes from outside one's self, whether from the gods or otherwise.

Now you've probably been wondering what sort of dream world the chancellor has been visiting. So, before I lose you completely, let me tell you what I've been thinking. It is really quite simple. It is this: City College is better off than I might have imagined it to be. In the context of the economic downturn, stagnant unemployment, budget reductions, and political divisiveness at the state and federal levels, it has been hard lately to see any silver linings in the clouds. Even at the college, it's been hard to see the sunshine through the clouds. We've had to trim our class offerings, freeze expenses, and postpone salary adjustments. We've experienced friction and sometimes frustration



Photo by Monica Davey

**Dr. Philip R. Day, Jr., Chancellor, delivers his welcoming address to faculty, classified and administrators assembled in the Diego Rivera Theatre January 14 for Spring Flex 2004.**

trying to get our new campuses off the drawing boards and into the community. And we've seen our students having to struggle harder than ever to stay the course educationally and financially.

And yet... we've made progress. Yes. There are positive things to say. We have accomplished some remarkable things. And this is what I want to talk with you about this morning. Like producing my report each summer, I think there is a mid-winter need, perhaps an antidote to cabin fever, to have a progress report and to contemplate the spring ahead and a future that is better than we might have thought.

### Financing the College

I'll begin with a topic you might have figured to be the gloomiest of all, the budget. If economics can be called the dismal science, the budget must surely be called the downer pill. I've been thinking about why the budget process is so traumatic. If you look back over the years, there have been some terrible times. There have also been some fairly good times. For example, the college did receive additional dollars, particularly from enrollment growth, Partnership For Excellence funding, and Part Time Equity, between 1999 and 2001. But what has made the process so upsetting and so untenable is that it fluctuates from year to year. One year we have resources, another year we don't. Now it's ok, now it's not ok. According to psychologists, this may lead to a form of institutionalized schizophrenia. No wonder we associate budgets with trauma.

While I wish we could change the on-again off-again nature of the situation, I know it isn't going to happen until there is a major fiscal restructuring of the funding formula along more sensible and equitable lines. In the meantime, I know it is the responsibility of the college's leadership to make the best of the situation and work for stability and growth. So, let me address how we are doing this, both internally and externally.

Internally, one of the most important fiscally stabilizing actions ever conceived and enacted at the college was the concession we all made in 2002 when we sat down at the table and after much soul

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# 'Ruminations of an optimist'

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searching agreed to postpone wage increases in order to avoid reductions-in-force and layoffs. I had always taken the position and felt in my heart that we must rally around and protect the college family as our most vital and precious resource. But you were the ones – union leaders, faculty, classified staff, administrators – you were the clear-headed, conviction-driven, true citizens of the college who helped choose the right path to follow. And you must know how right you were, despite how difficult it was, when you see in the newspapers the sad stories of other colleges that have cut staff, cut programs, and cut courses, impoverishing themselves and those they serve. City College kept her people, kept her students, kept her programs, and kept her commitment to the community – even in time of turmoil. Through it all, we kept ourselves on track. That is surely something positive for us to say.

Parenthetically, let me say that if you have not seen my district-wide communication on the recent publicity regarding City College's status vis-à-vis the so-called "Watch List," please check your email. I won't go into the specifics of the communication in this forum, but let me assure you that there is another side of the story and our fund balance is in good shape. Hard copies of the memo are available as you exit.

Now, you must still be wondering how we are going to get back to where we were or expected to be financially, and especially how we are going to restore some compensation in the midst of continued budgetary crisis. That is where our external advocacy efforts are important and are proving beneficial.

Perhaps the most visible example and display of advocacy-at-work took place last spring. In response to the former Governor's sudden announcement of a \$35 billion dollar hole in the state budget, midyear budget cuts and a proposed budget for the current year that included

additional cuts and dramatic increases in tuition, we worked along side other educators and our students to make the case to protect our baseline budget in order to fulfill our role as the principal "safety-net" resource for a huge segment of the local population and the best hope for recovery economically and socially. The peak of the campaign was the widely-promoted "March in March," when 15,000 of us, students included, marched on to the grounds of the state capitol in Sacramento, calling in crescendo "No more cuts, no more cuts!" (Many of you participated in the march, and I'd like to thank you for your direct engagement, support, and leadership.)

That campaign produced positive results and we were able to stay on course this year at City College with our programs in tact and our budget in balance, though sorely strained. And while we were not entirely successful in eliminating a tuition increase for students this year, we were able to reduce the increase from \$24 to \$18 per credit hour. All done in the year of the \$35 billion dollar hole, a year which still relies on a \$15 billion bond on the upcoming March ballot to help bail-out the state.

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Now, we are facing another budget cycle for a new fiscal year. And, there is still a hole in the state budget: nearly \$15 billion dollars – somewhat smaller – or larger depending upon who you talk to, but a hole nonetheless. Just this past Friday, the Governor announced his budget proposal for 2004-05. It is a \$76 billion spending plan that includes cuts in health care, public education, and payments to local governments. It is a budget based upon continued borrowing, hefty revenues from Indian casinos, and increased fees and tuitions. It is also a budget apparently that's still out of balance by some \$6B, according to the legislative analyst. It is a budget that will lead to long and hard negotiation with state lawmakers, which some say will spill over into the summer months.

How in the world, you must be asking, can we maintain a level of protection for the City College "safety-net" under such circumstances? Well, there has been a considerable effort in the past few months to achieve as much protection as possible. We have been engaged very intensely – through our educational organizations representing the community colleges, our political and consultative agents, and affiliated parties such as the K-12 alliance – in promoting a strategy and negotiating an agreement that could influence the Governor's Opening Budget salvo. The strategy has been based upon taking strategic and political advantage of a splendidly useful law which gives the community colleges and K-12 a special "bargaining chip." Proposition 98 says that 48% of state general revenues must be dedicated to education in the K-14 sector. That is a lot of money, even when state revenues are down, but now we've seen some improvement in the state's economy and revenues are now on the rise. In fact, next year it would represent more money, roughly \$4 billion in new revenues, which in fairness, it can be argued is more than we could probably

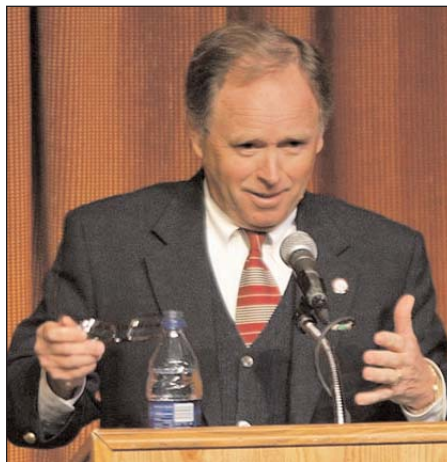


Photo by Monica Davey

get ourselves geared up to expend in the coming year, recognizing our starting point and the deliberate nature of our associated work and budget processes. So, the bargaining position which emerged as a tentative agreement early last week consisted of the following points:

- that the Governor, with our support, would temporarily suspend the Proposition 98 requirement of a 48% allocation to the K-14 sector, utilizing a portion of the dollars, approximately half of the new revenues available, or \$2 billion, to helping the state solve its budget problems. The payback of the \$2 billion would be guaranteed in the following year's budget;
- that the K-14 allocation would be protected from further cuts and would include a 2% COLA (actually the specific amount is 1.84%);
- that K-14 would be allocated funds to support what is called "enrollment growth" – at the level of 3%;
- that the Partnership For Excellence funding, which had been previously treated as a categorical would roll over into the base and accordingly would be subject to an annual COLA adjustment which it has not received since its inception in 1999;

• and finally, and very significantly, that there would be forgiveness of a \$200 million deferred cut for community colleges this year which would have "rolled over" into the upcoming fiscal year. Additionally, that amount would be restored to our base.

That was the agreement as recently as last week – until the Governor's budget was released. The announced budget was not entirely consistent with the agreement we originally had. It differed in two ways: it didn't include the 2% adjustment for COLA for Community Colleges, and it proposed raising tuition from \$18 to \$26. Somewhere in the upper reaches of decision making, as can happen in politics, the deal was compromised on these two very critical points. But it is not likely to be the final word.

We can be sure of a very strong case being put forth in the days ahead. For one thing, the proposed increase of 44% in the tuition rate is dead on arrival – as is the proposed tuition differential for students who already hold a baccalaureate degree. The proposed tuition increase is not going to survive – the best thing they'll get is a 10% increase (or approximately \$2 to correspond with the recommended percent increases for the UC and CSU systems) but never 44%. The students can't and won't tolerate it, and neither will we. Let me, as an aside, call your attention to an article that came out in today's *Chronicle* which on one hand made the point that Community Colleges in California were seriously under-funded. (It looks like someone else had an Epiphany!!! Hello! And how much did you spend for that study?). Most significantly, and its relevant to the point I want to make regarding proposed student tuition levels, the authors of the study and those offering commentary on it argue that it's OK for us to raise tuition because it will result in nearly 1.4 million students being eligible for Federal

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Financial Aid – and here is what I call the “Big Lie” ... and that is, not only will they be eligible for Financial Aid, they will also receive the maximum Pell Grant Award of \$4,050.

I want to give you a quick lesson on student aid ... and you need to know that I have played a major role on a national level in helping to write the language for the Student Aid Bill and advocating for not only its passage, but for its full-funding. You need to understand the difference between the language that's used in the Legislative Authorization and the funds that are allocated in an Appropriations Bill. It's really a very simple matter of doing the math. The Federal Student Aid Bill has never been funded to its full authorizing levels. If you consider the amount that Congress appropriates to accommodate what they define as the level of need as the numerator – that hasn't changed significantly and certainly hasn't kept up with the proportional rise in enrollment growth as access to college has increased.

Consequently, the increased number of students in need of financial aid (think of that number as the denominator) results in the average Pell Grant Award being far, far less than the maximum level authorized in the Legislation. Now just imagine what will happen to that actual average Pell Grant Award nationally when and if 1.4 million eligible students are added to the denominator and our fearless leader in Washington is not proposing any major increases in Pell Grant assistance. You do the math .... If we just give the 1.4 million students an average award of \$2000, it would take \$2.8 billion dollars to achieve that objective without having a negative impact on the average award given to other students currently in the Financial Aid System. What do you think are the chances of that happening with all of Federal Budget priorities being what they are?

That's a breakdown of both the myth and

the reality surrounding the discussion of proposed tuition increases for Community College students and other students as well. Over the next several weeks and months we will be hammering away on this issue in order to destroy the arguments and rationale that proponents of increased tuition are making. The good news is that our own State Chancellor's Office has put out some numbers suggesting that (in effect) the State is proposing tuition increases of \$240 so that students can be eligible for another \$120 in financial aid. They are starting to understand and get the message .... we need to insure that others do also.

The elimination of the COLA is another matter and that's where it will get really political and where our biggest fight will be.

The elimination of the set-aside for the Community College COLA (or approximately \$80 million) – I prefer to suggest that it was hijacked – actually resulted from an agreement between the staff of the Department of Finance and selected education advisors who were brought into the circle of influence because of their connections with former LA mayor, **Richard Riordan**, now Secretary of Education in the new administration. I'm speaking specifically of a President of one of our own community college districts. Instead of the funding that was available for the community college COLA being left intact, it was re-allocated to support an \$80 million appropriation for Equalization. In other words, the COLA set-aside would have benefited all of the community college districts statewide but instead those funds were hijacked to support the issue of Credit Equalization funding for a select number of community college districts. Not surprisingly, the institution led by the aforementioned CEO is at the top of the list of selected beneficiaries. Conversely, the San Francisco and the Los Angeles

Community College Districts don't get a dime from the \$80 million set-aside for Equalization. This type and level of “backdoor” maneuvering is unprecedented and absolutely contrary to the standards of conduct we have ascribed to as we walk the fine line between aggressively advocating for issues related to our own districts (and those that share a similar mission) and an agenda that benefits all 72 community college districts.

City College fully realizes that the funding formula has some very significant flaws. We have taken the lead in pushing for a long-term strategy that would address this issue. In my opinion, these problems relate most significantly to non-credit funding and less to the credit arena. Despite that assessment, we have always taken the position and have supported a strategy that focuses on these issues at the same time and not advancing one at the expense of the other. That has been the commitment that the State Board, the League, the Council of Presidents and the Statewide Trustees have honored and abided by through this year and we intend to ensure that they do this again. We will not support the funding of credit equalization particularly at the expense of a statewide COLA and we intend to partner with all the unions, other constituencies, and districts to ensure that it doesn't happen.

As of today, you can see that there is much to do and maybe battles to fight. I don't know the end game, but I want to say that we've had more engagement and negotiation with this new administration than with administrations of recent memory (and I mean real recent). We've seen some very positive signs and despite some of our particular and stated concerns about the budget deal as it relates to COLA and Equalization, our starting point for discussion in terms of the total package is a lot better than I ever expected!

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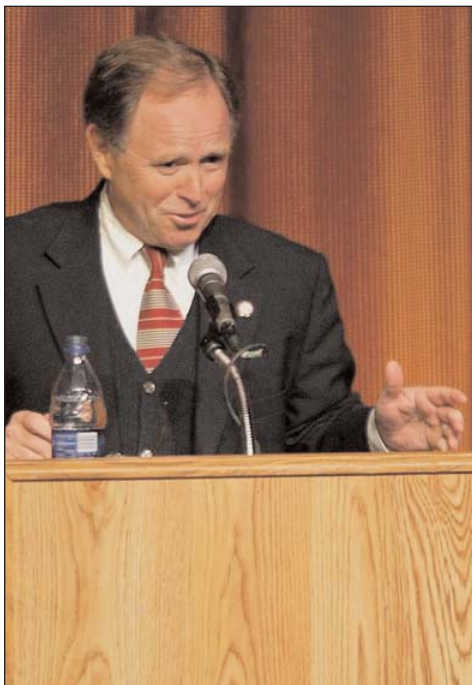


Photo by Monica Davey

What does all of this mean to City College? I think it means that we can continue in the next year to serve our full complement of students and maybe more, particularly if we want to access available growth funds. I am hopeful that it means we can fulfill our contractual commitments beyond 2004 to restore salary and fringe benefits. And I am anticipating that it means we can look forward to better budgets in 2005 and 2006.

Frankly, I think it is a responsible stance and the right political strategy to let the state "borrow" – in effect – from the Prop 98 surplus during the short-term in return for fairness in the current year with the guarantee (in writing) that those loaned Prop 98 funds will be restored in future years. I hope you understand and will support that position. And, if this spring we are called upon to advocate and visibly lobby for "missing resources" and "missing students," I hope you will enjoin the cause. For now, I trust that you can see some signs of hope and the framework of some suggested solutions.

But you are the ones, in the words of **Jesse Jackson**, who may have to "make hope real."

## Fixing the Facilities

Next, I want to share some positive thoughts about our facilities, what they were like and what they will be like. I am just about to say, "Before 1998..." It can be no surprise that my dateline begins with my engagement here in August, 1998. That's when I delivered the first welcome speech on Flex Day and when I just had to express a bit of outrage for the deplorable state of the college's buildings and grounds. It wasn't just the shocking contrast with the manicured green of the campus I knew in Florida. It was the stupefying mystery of how you ever managed to work and teach in such surroundings and how students managed to study and learn. Of course, there was the encouraging victory of the 1997 local bond approval for \$50 million dollars. However, I stated at the time, in rather unequivocal terms, that I saw the need for at least \$500 million dollars in facilities improvement funds, not \$50 million. That is why we set out to secure another \$195 million in local support. And with your help, we succeeded in the campaign for the Proposition A bond approval in the year 2000. Since then, we have leveraged that amount, as we had planned to do, with an additional \$120 million in state capital funding. So, my reason for positive thinking is this: we are sitting on over \$310 million in committed funds to improve our facilities, and that doesn't count our next local bond request and additional state matching funds. We could be getting up into the range that appropriately and accurately reflects what we actually need to do the job!

Let me present all of this a bit more concretely. I want to share with you what is about to happen. You haven't really seen visible results yet, except for some smaller renovations, because the major work has

been about real-estate transactions, community presentations and negotiations, developing a master plan for the future, basic architectural and engineering work, and always the endless attempts to conform to zoning regulations and deal with public and private interests. Now, however, we are on the verge of breaking ground and bringing our plans to fruition.

But before I mention the long-overdue and wonderful building projects in store for the college, I need to say a word about inconvenience. Any building program is going to be somewhat disruptive. But it does not have to be disabling. I am as frustrated (and sometimes as angry) as anyone when office moves are not carried out efficiently, projects are not managed in an appropriate manner, phones not switched over in a timely way, or signs and notifications not properly communicated.

Let me add here that if we consider the recent John Adams and Visual Arts Building projects as "pilots," I would consider those projects as abysmal failures and an injustice to our faculty, staff, and students who are suppose to be deriving major benefits from the planned improvements. We most certainly can do better and my pledge to you is that we will. It reflects not only our commitment to you and the rest of the college community, but to the taxpayers of San Francisco who gave us the funds to pay for these improvements in our physical environment in the first place. This is not just an empty promise. I do intend in the very near future, to recommend a shake-up in the facilities planning department and to make some basic organizational and leadership changes to accomplish the results we all want and expect.

After all these changes are implemented, you can be sure that I will expect our vice chancellors, administrators, project

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directors, and facilities planners to achieve new levels of accountability in managing the logistics of the upcoming construction and rehabilitation. Along the way, there will inevitably be “bumps in the road,” but we will set a high standard for performance in every phase of these projects. We will also ask for, and I'm sure we will receive, your understanding, your patience, and your unfailing ability to adapt as we travel this road to a better future.

Now that we've spoken to the inconveniences of moving around and clearing the way for construction projects, let me tell you what we will soon be seeing. First, here are the projects already underway:

- As we speak, the Downtown Campus is undergoing a major remodeling of the first and second floors including relocating the dining room to the lobby area now known as the Educated Palate, soon to be a world-class restaurant/classroom laboratory serving those visiting key downtown destinations. The Educated Palate will provide our students with yet another dynamic learning opportunity while also generating important programmatic funds. The renovation will also include an expanded library resource center, student labs and classroom space, as well as much needed updates in technology and software.
- In addition, there are preliminary renovations being done on the John Adams Campus that address important seismic issues and pragmatic repairs of some very essential facilities – like bathrooms. These changes are a precursor to a much larger future project that will provide for major renovation at facilities important to the John Adams Campus.

Next are the projects that are soon to break ground:

- Beginning with the Spring break, the Ocean Campus will immediately benefit from the creation of additional campus

parking as the center berm of the Balboa Reservoir is removed. This extra space will substantially offset the loss of parking spaces in Lot B when we begin construction on the new Health and Wellness Center in the fall.

- In the Summer, construction will begin on the new Student Health Services and Classroom Building, allowing **Sunny Clark** and the health services staff to move from the dilapidated bungalows to a new 10,000 square-foot facility. This facility will house offices and examining rooms and allow the staff to continue serving student health needs in a more comfortable and well-designed space. This new facility will also provide 10 new classrooms which will help eliminate some of the bungalows.

- Soon thereafter, we will start construction on a new and permanent 8,000 square-foot Childcare Facility that will serve up to 50 campus community children while their parents work or take classes. At long last, **Stephen Rico**, faculty, and other staff members, as well as the families and the children themselves, will vacate their bungalows and inhabit a brand new facility designed from the outset to meet their needs.

- We will also begin construction on the much-awaited Ocean Campus Community Wellness Center. This 140,000 square-foot facility will replace an out-dated and seismically inadequate building and provide CCSF students, faculty, staff, and community members with a gymnasium, pool, athletic and dance studios, wellness and fitness labs, and much desired classroom space.

And then, there are the longer term projects, but probably no more than twelve months away. Specifically:

- Plans for the construction of both the new Mission Campus and the Chinatown-North Beach Campus are proceeding. It is expected that within a year we will be breaking ground on the

new Mission Campus project which will be followed shortly thereafter by Chinatown-North Beach.

- We are also currently planning the new Community Performing Arts and Classroom Laboratory Complex. This new facility will house the performance, rehearsal, lab, studio, and classroom spaces that the Film, Music, and Theater Arts Departments both need and deserve.
- Upon completion of this latter project, we will then be able to follow up with the major renovation/remodeling project associated with the Diego Rivera Theatre to create a much improved environment for learning associated with that prized and invaluable asset, the Diego Rivera Mural, Pan-American cultural studies, and related areas of study.

That's the list of projects, impressive by any standards! And if you want to see what the buildings will look like, stop by the Chancellor's Conference Room and admire the drawings. They're exciting, they're real, and they're a preview for a better environment of teaching and learning and working.

All of these plans, and particularly the plans for the “Ocean Avenue Campus of the Future,” are included within the new “Master Plan” that is currently undergoing an Environmental Impact Review and associated public hearings. The Master Plan, in its current form has evolved after considerable discussion and review by our internal college community, as well as numerous public meetings with our community. After the EIR process is completed and approved by our Board of Trustees, the Master Plan will be finalized and also approved. It's an exciting new vision for our college district and will serve as our principal guide as we fulfill our expectations and dreams for a new physical environment to support our teaching and learning.

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Now, I have just one more thing to say about facilities. As a kid watching movies, I never liked hearing the cartoon character saying at the end "That's all folks." Well, it's not all – there's more! As I mentioned before, we will need to go back to the citizens of San Francisco to complete the remainder of the projects (just like we said we would last time around). If we have enough of our current construction underway and some projects, like the Student Health Services Center, the Daycare facility, and the Downtown Campus, completed in the next eighteen to twenty months, it is my intention to recommend a follow-up bond campaign for the 2006 fall election. I believe there is an enormous reservoir of good will toward City College, and when the citizens see how well we use their dollars and the significant return on their investment, there will be only one plausible outcome: another successful campaign for facility improvements that the college deserves and needs. And that is when we'll finally be able to say that we've seen the promised land.

## Focusing the College

If you'll forgive the alliteration, I've spoken so far of finances and facilities. Now, I want to speak of focus. Without focus, the finances and facilities are merely stage props. By now, you all know that I've relied heavily on participatory planning, not just at City College but throughout my career, as the principal means for achieving college-wide focus and cohesion. I believe in mission statements, value statements, goals and objectives, strategic plans, annual plans, unit plans, master plans, educational plans – sounds like a creed, doesn't it? And some of you probably think I won't quit until our planning documents surpass the Twin Peaks on the San Francisco skyline. As the cartoon in the *Chronicle* had the university president saying to his cabinet, "We'll now spend the next few years reading our plans."

More seriously, I do believe in focusing all these plans and initiatives by concentrating on a few key priorities and a singularity of results. You will know this when I ask you one question. What overarching theme have you heard us mention more than any other, almost exclusively and certainly with the most passion? If your answer is "student success," and I think I am reading your lips correctly, then you are right. It's all about our students' educational success. That's our focus and, thanks to you, that is the source of our pride.

I want to relate this, now, to an upcoming opportunity for us to stay focused on our mission and elevate the quality of what we do just a bit higher. And I promise you, it won't be the production of another plan.

Here is the deal. City College is expected to prepare for an accreditation visit in 2006 by conducting a self-study review over the next eighteen months. You will remember my call to get ready just a year ago. Since then, we have been collaborating with the Academic Senate and others on the new accreditation guidelines, the new emphasis on student learning outcomes, and examination of alternative frameworks for conducting the institutional assessment. Towards the end of the fall term, I began to think about the words "self study" and "assessment." And I kept remembering an additional phrase, "documentation of evidence." What occurred to me is that the college has already accomplished so much – with its strategic plan and other plans, its enhanced self study of two years ago, and its initiatives already underway in the area of student learning outcomes – that at this point, the college is well ahead of the process and can demonstrate many achievements as well as planned programs yet to be implemented. So, why not document all of this evidence, capture the progress, review the gaps, specify the solutions, and gather it all in the process of self-study? I think we are

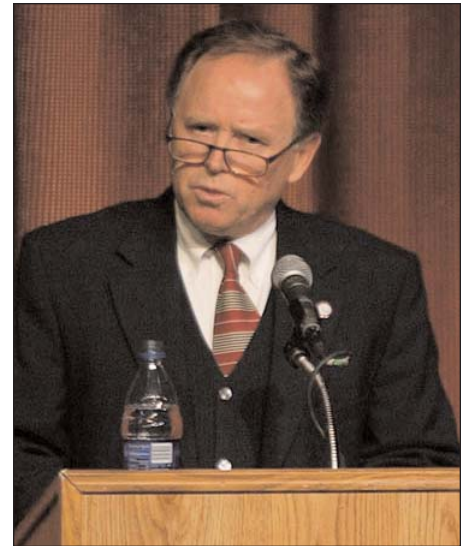


Photo by Monica Davey

going to find that, in addition to evidence of accomplishments, we have the menus and some excellent recipes for the balance of the decade.

So what does this mean? It means to me that that we can move ahead, with the assistance of the Academic Senate, to appoint the steering committee, recruit the study teams, and get underway organizationally this spring. Then, in anticipation of the next academic year, we can pull together the documentation of progress; we can re-convene the study groups; and perhaps more efficiently than we ever thought possible and without overburdening the players, we should be able to capture in the self-study report – always with critical eye and informed judgment – the best of our plans for what we intend to do and that which still needs to be done. Do I make it sound too easy? Well, nothing comes without effort, but I do believe that we are positioned like no one else to recognize our accomplishments and continue our progress toward ultimate and sound results.

Today, following this address as you leave the auditorium, you will receive a copy of the prospectus, *The 2006 Self-Study: A Dialogue for Student Success*. In this

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paper, you will find a synopsis of what is expected of us by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). You will see that the guidelines are structured around six overarching themes. I want to mention them now so that you will know what will be important to the WASC visiting team and thus to our self-study process. Please remember, as I state the themes, that we are not expected to have completed their implementation so much as have in place an assessment and a process for implementation. Notice also, as you hear them, that we are already traversing these paths, with plenty of progress to demonstrate. Now, the six themes:

1. a commitment to provide high quality education congruent with the mission of the College;
2. an effort to evaluate, plan and improve programs and services for students;
3. the development of student learning outcomes leading to improvement in all aspects of teaching and learning;
4. the definition of an inclusive, informed, and intentional effort to define, support, and evaluate student learning;
5. an engagement in inclusive, informed, and intentional dialogue about institutional quality and improvement to support continued improvement; and
6. a demonstrated concern with honesty and truthfulness in its representation to all internal and external constituencies.

The call for volunteers for the self-study has gone out. I hope many of you will consider offering to serve on one of the self-study teams. Under the new guidelines, the teams will be looking at the areas of the institution from the perspective of "impact on student learning." That should be both exhilarating and worthwhile, and certainly more engaging than the traditional approach to self-study. At various points in the process,

the self-study teams and the steering committee will be expecting the participation of the rest of us. I can't say how they will choose to do it, but they will be seeking your engagement in a dialogue and consensus-building process that unites us in common purpose for student success.

## Conclusion

In the beginning of this address, I alerted everyone that it would be like the mid-summer letter – a progress report and a look ahead on some topics of current importance to the college. I also indicated that the picture would be optimistic, the thoughts positive. I hope you agree with my assessment. City College is in very good shape relatively – in finances, in facilities, and in its focus.

Yes, I am optimistic and positive on the college. What leader wouldn't be? It must have been a leader who said, "I'd be a pessimist but it would never work." If nothing else, leaders are coaches in positive expectations. As **Vince Lombardi** would say, "We never lose, but sometimes the clock runs out on us." And so, I want to say to all of you, as we begin the new year and a new semester, we have a bright future, we have the capacity, and we have the programs and the plan. That is the belief and the reality that enlivens me and I hope you, too.

Now for a short post script. During the holiday break, I found on my doorstep a very special greeting card from an able and devoted colleague who has traveled with City College over the mountains and through the valleys. It was a message from someone who simply wanted to express her gratitude to me in an agrarian metaphor: she was saying that she knows a lot of work and persistence is required to enable this institution to progress – like an ox hauling a heavy cart or a water buffalo straining to move things forward. Inside the card, there was

a poem, "To be of Use," by **Marge Piercy**, expressing this idea:

*I want to be with people who submerge  
in the task, who go into the fields to harvest  
and work in a row and pass the bags along,  
who stand in the line and haul in their  
places . . . . .*

*and move in a common rhythm  
when the food must come in or the fire be  
put out . . . . .*

*The work of the world is common as mud.  
Botched, it smears the hands, crumbles to  
dust.*

*But the thing worth doing well done  
Has a shape that satisfies, clean and evi-  
dent.*

In truth, it is always a pleasure to receive a compliment or a word of gratitude. But I think the message from this colleague is not just about me but it is also about all of us. We are working hard in the fields, we are pulling together, and we are moving in common rhythm with a common sense of purpose.

If a member of our college community, one of over two thousand of us, can take the time to say a word of appreciation and bring to me a moment of satisfaction, perhaps it is time for me to extend to all of you that same spirit of esteem. It is something I don't do often, because I am a little like the farmer in rural Maine, obviously of conservative disposition, who one morning said to his co-worker, "Last night, I looked over at my wife by the fireside and felt so much love. . . I almost told her." Well, in case I haven't told you lately, my college friends, I do admire you and hold all of you in the highest regard, I love this college, and I believe in its future.

## References

**Piercy, Marge.** "To be of use" in *Circles on the Water*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1982.

## Russian Film Festival – ‘Kinofestival!’ – set for Spring

Dr. **Krista Hanson** of the CCSF Foreign Language Department will host a Russian Film Festival this spring on the Ocean Avenue Campus, 50 Phelan Ave. All five films will be shown in the Louise and Claude Rosenberg, Jr., Library and Learning Resource Center. Admission is free, and all films have English subtitles. Please note that days, times, and room numbers differ.

### *House of Fools (Dom durakov)*

**Thursday, January 22, 7-9 P.M.**, Rosenberg 301. As a war surrounds their tranquil haven, residents of a small psychiatric hospital are forced to fend for

themselves when the staff abandons them. The young, beautiful patient Zhanna undertakes to organize the group, entertaining them with her accordion and dreaming of the day when her imaginary fiancée will whisk her off to a better life. It won the Grand Jury Prize at 2003 Venice Film Festival, and was an Academy Award Nominee for Best Foreign Language Film.

### *Russian Ark (Russkij kovcheg)*

**Tuesday, February 17, 7:30-9:30 P.M.**, Rosenberg 304. **Alexander Sokurov's** cinematic tour-de-force follows a modern filmmaker who magically finds himself

transported to the 18th Century and embarks on a journey through 300 years of Russian history. The first feature film ever created in a single take, this film is the longest uninterrupted shot in film history. It was filmed with a cast of thousands and three live orchestras.

### *Repentance (Pokayanie)*

**Thursday, March 11, 7-9:45 P.M.**, Rosenberg 304. It is in the Georgian language with English subtitles. This last film of Georgian director **Tenghis Abuladze** was impossible to release until the perestroika period, becoming its best-known film. It examines the personality cult surrounding a totalitarian leader who combines features of Stalin, Hitler and Mussolini. It won the special Jury Prize at the 1987 Cannes Film Festival.

### *Solaris (Solyaris)*

**Thursday, March 25, 6:30-9:30 P.M.**, Rosenberg 301. **Andrei Tarkovsky's** science fiction masterpiece is based on the novel by **Stanislaw Lem**. A psychologist is sent to investigate the strange events occurring on the space station hovering over the planet Solaris and encounters more than he expected.

### *The Cranes are Flying (Letyat zhuravli)*

**Tuesday, April 20, 7:30-9:30 P.M.**, Rosenberg 301. This is perhaps the most famous Soviet film about World War II, and concerns themes of love, loyalty and death. Starring **Tatiana Samoilova** and **Alexei Batalov**, it received First Prize at the 1957 Cannes Film Festival.

### *Window to Paris (Okno v. Parizh)*

**Thursday, May 6, 7-9 P.M.**, Rosenberg 301. Residents of a communal apartment discover a window which opens to Paris, resulting in comic misadventures of misplaced people on both sides of the invisible pane.

For more information, please contact Professor Hanson at (415) 239-3542.

## Workshop focuses on service learning, homeland security, domestic preparedness

City College of San Francisco and the Community College National Center for Community Engagement invite you to a day-long workshop to be held **Friday, February 27** to address “Service-Learning, Civic Engagement, Homeland Security and Domestic Preparedness.” The workshop will be held from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. at the Evans Avenue Campus, 1400 Evans Ave.

A team of nationally recognized trainers will lead you through a day of dialogue and active participation to address Service-Learning, Civic Engagement, Homeland Security and Domestic Preparedness. This will be a time to develop appropriate responses through issue forums, partnerships, and community building.

The presenters will include **Virginia York**, Professor, Economics and History, Gulf Coast Community College, Florida; **Larry Thacker**, Director, Fire Science and Emergency Medical Technology, Mesa Community College, Arizona; and **Gary Thompson**, Chairperson, Law and Criminal Justice Department, Monroe Community College, New York.

Among the topics they will discuss are:

- What is the linkage between service-learning and civic engagement, and how to lead others to respond appropriately during a crisis?
- How do schools, higher education institutions, government entities and community based organizations prepare for and respond to emergencies, such as floods, earthquakes, blackouts and homebound patients, heat-waves, and other problems that impact our city?

The cost is \$30 per person (students \$20). **RSVP by February 15 to: Suzanne Korey**, Coordinator, Office of Vocational Education, at (415) 550-4437 or by fax to (415) 550-4400, or email [skorey@ccsf.edu](mailto:skorey@ccsf.edu). Make your check payable to “Community College National Center for Community Engagement.”

This training is made available through funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service, Learn and Serve America Higher Education.

# Parking regulations announced for Spring 2004

**Kenneth L. Baccetti**, Acting Chief of Public Safety, has announced the following Spring 2004 Parking Regulations for Faculty, Staff and Students

**STUDENTS:** Vehicles parked in student parking lots, shall display, by affixing, a current valid student parking decal inside the vehicle in a seven inch square area of the lower front windshield on the side opposite from the driver (passenger side). After 10:30 A.M. (Monday through Friday), students without a semester parking permit may park in student parking lots, on a space available basis, with the purchase of a daily \$1 parking permit purchased from a ticket vending machine. The one-day parking permits must be displayed, with date side up, on vehicle dashboard. Students may purchase a semester parking permit in E-104.

**PERMANENT FACULTY/STAFF:** The current Diego Rivera decal is valid. Please come to C-120 for a parking decal. Vehicle registration will be needed for permit issuance. Hours of issuance: Please call (415) 239-3025. Please call 239-3025. Faculty and staff will be limited to a maximum of 2 permits.

**TEMPORARY FACULTY AND CLASSIFIED STAFF** (20 hours or more per week): will be required to obtain a new parking permit from the Campus Police, Chief's office C-120. New college I.D. cards are needed and your vehicle registration will be required when applying for your parking permit. Last semester, **Fall 2003, temporary faculty and staff parking permits will be valid through January 30, 2004.** Classified personnel will need to bring a current copy of their DBO-20 form to verify hours of employment. DBO-20 forms are issued from the Human Resources Dept. at 33 Gough St. A copy of this form also goes to your department head.

Day School parking enforcement for no permits, color zones and out-of-stall violations will commence on the first day of

instruction for all student and faculty parking lots, and continue throughout finals.

**NIGHT SCHOOL STUDENTS** displaying a current parking permit may park in any lot except Lot E, Cloud Circle, Marston Rd and Science Circle. Blue medical zones, red zones, yellow zones and out-of-stall parking will be enforced. Students without a semester parking permit will be required to purchase and display a daily parking ticket from the vending machine.

**NIGHT SCHOOL FACULTY** can obtain their parking permit in the Evening Division Office (Cloud Hall 310) between 5 and 7:30 P.M. (1-15-2004 to 1-21-2004).

**SATURDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS** displaying a current parking permit may park in any lot except Cloud Circle and Marston Rd. Red zones, blue zones, yellow zones and out-of-stall violations will be enforced. Students without a semester parking permit will be required to purchase and display a daily parking ticket from the vending machine.

**VENDORS, MAINTENANCE & CRAFT PERMITS** are not due for renewal. If your parking permit is green in color it is valid. Parking permits are issued in C-120.

Parking Citation fines are payable to Department of Parking and Traffic, 1380 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94103. Telephone (415) 255-3900.

**TOWING:** Illegally parked vehicles may be towed at the owner's expense. For towed vehicles, call (415) 553-1235.

**Overnight parking is prohibited on all campuses.**

**DISABLED PERSONS PARKING:** Students, faculty and staff with permanent disabilities may park, in any student or faculty parking lot and blue zones on City College campuses only after obtaining a disabled person's placard from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and have registered their placard number

with the Campus Police (C-119). Failure to display a valid DMV placard and CCSF disabled person parking permit will result in your vehicle being cited.

Blue Zones (Medical) are enforced at all times, 24 hours.

All parking questions should be directed to the Campus Police, Cloud Hall C-119, telephone (415) 239-3200, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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## WANT ADS

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**TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT** — 3 bedrooms (2 story), 2-1/2 baths, 2 car garage (enclosed), access to 3 swimming pools, spa and tennis court. Convenient location in Hercules. Free water. Very nice neighborhood, fireplace and ore. Walking distance to bus station and 1 minute drive to park and ride. Available Feb. 1. \$1,750 a month. If interested, call Lovely at (415) 550-4436 or (707) 554-2836; or (415) 845-6503 and ask for Dan.

**UNIQUE ITALIAN RENTAL** — Umbrian tower (La Torre di Guardia) in magnificent medieval hilltop town. Beautifully restored, antique furnishings, panoramic views. Dishwasher, washer and dryer. Centrally located: 40 mins. from Assisi, Gubbio. 1-1/2 hours from Florence. Call (510) 528-1331. Website: [www.casamontone.com](http://www.casamontone.com). Email [siegelsm1@earthlink.net](mailto:siegelsm1@earthlink.net). \$775/week. References available. Local English-speaking manager.

**APARTMENT FOR RENT** — In-law apartment in nice Merced Manor area. For information or appointment, call Kathleen at (415) 664-0828; (415) 239-3512.

**VAN FOR SALE** — 1997 Ford Aerostar, 7 passenger, automatic, extended version, all weather tires, roof rack, tinted windows. A great ski or sport vehicle! \$4500. Call Stephanie (415) 239-3971.

**LONDON RENTAL** — North London flat available for rent. A clean, quiet and comfortable one-bedroom flat in a convenient location. Two-minute walk to a Northern Line tube station, numerous bus lines, shops and a lovely park. All amenities provided. Approx. \$500 per week or \$75 per day (minimum of five days). For further information, contact Dorene Cotter at [Londondig@earthlink.net](mailto:Londondig@earthlink.net)

**AUTO FOR SALE** — 1989 Honda Accord. Around 215,000 miles. Still in good condition. Asking \$1000. Call Judy (415) 452-5278.

**DINING ROOM SET FOR SALE** — 1920s-1930s solid walnut dining room set. Old brass clamps, no extra leaf. Has 5 chairs and one host chair with armrests. No stains, burns but needs some minor repair. Solid and roomy, turned wood, elaborate appearance. Photos available. Located in a farm house in the Sacramento delta \$175 for the set Call (510) 339-9570.

**RENTAL AVAILABLE** — Female to share house in Sunset area. Good location, transportation, shopping, etc. Call Roz (415) 661-1496 or cell (650) 333-0608. Available now either for Faculty or Student.

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## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### East/West group plans series of events for spring

If you are interested in planning some East/West events for this semester, please come to the next organizational meeting on **Wednesday, January 28** from 1 to 2 P.M. in Batmale Hall, Room 422.

The East/West Reading Group will meet on **Thursday March 4**, from 2 to 4 P.M., Rosenberg Library, Room 518. If you would like to participate in the next book discussion, read *Poets and Murder: A Judge Dee Mystery* by **Robert van Gulik**. Van Gulik, a Dutch diplomat and an authority on Chinese history and culture, based his mysteries on plots from popu-

lar detective novels that appeared in 17th century China. **Joan Wilson** and **John Sapienza** of the English Department will lead the discussion. If you are unable to find a copy of *Poets and Murder*, it is available on Amazon.com, or contact CCSF faculty member **Bob Irwin** at (415) 239-3354.

The East-West Center's Asian Studies Development Program has a number of interesting summer programs available throughout Asia. If you would like more information, visit the ASDP web site: [www.eastwestcenter.org/edu-ct.asp](http://www.eastwestcenter.org/edu-ct.asp)

### *Ishmael Reed to visit CCSF*

Author, poet and lecturer **Ishmael Reed** will help City College of San Francisco celebrate African American History Month with a series of readings, discussions and a book signing, all on **Wednesday, February 4**. He will begin at the **Downtown Campus**, with a reading and discussion from 9 to 10 A.M. Next, **Reed** will visit the **Southeast Campus** from 11 A.M. to 12 NOON. **Reed** will be at the **Ocean Avenue Campus** from 1 to 2 P.M. Full details will be published in future issues of *City Currents*.

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## MENUS — WEEK OF JANUARY 19–23, 2004

### **BREAKFAST – TASTE BUDS — 7:30–9:50 A.M.**

Eggs • Breakfast Meats • Pancakes • Waffles • French Toast • Cereals • Pastries • Juices • Coffee • Tea

CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 19 IN OBSERVANCE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY HOLIDAY.

CLOSED TUESDAY, JANUARY 20 AND WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21. NO FOODSERVICE. STUDENT ORIENTATION.

### **LUNCH — PIERRE COSTE ROOM (PCR) — 11:15 A.M.–12:30 P.M.**

CLOSED UNTIL MONDAY, JANUARY 26.

### **LUNCH — CAFETERIA — 11 A.M.–1:15 P.M.**

*Please check out the freshly prepared specials at the A la Minute Station*

#### **Monday, January 19**

CLOSED. NO FOODSERVICE. MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY HOLIDAY OBSERVED.

#### **Tuesday, January 20**

CLOSED. NO FOODSERVICE. STUDENT ORIENTATION.

#### **Wednesday, January 21**

CLOSED. NO FOODSERVICE. STUDENT ORIENTATION.

#### **Thursday, January 22**

Hong Kong Chicken Curry • Basmati Rice • Carrots Saute • Swiss Chard Au Gratin  
Old Fashioned Beef Stew • Oven Browned Potatoes • Soup: Tomato Orange

#### **Friday, January 23**

Blackened Catfish • Cajun Rice • Zucchini with Fine Herbs • Maque Choux  
Pork Tonkatsu • Baby Bok Choy • Soup: Boston Clam Chowder

### **DINNER — CAFETERIA — 5:45–7 P.M.**

A la Carte Salad Bar available Monday through Thursday evening

#### **Monday, January 19**

CLOSED. NO FOODSERVICE. MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY HOLIDAY OBSERVED.

#### **Tuesday, January 20**

CLOSED. NO FOODSERVICE. STUDENT ORIENTATION.

#### **Wednesday, January 21**

CLOSED. NO FOODSERVICE. STUDENT ORIENTATION.

#### **Thursday, January 22**

CLOSED. NO FOODSERVICE. STUDENT ORIENTATION.

# Master Calendar

## January 19 – February 13, 2004

Rev. 1/14/04 Subject to change without prior notice

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>19</b> <b>HOLIDAY</b> <b>MARTIN LUTHER</b> <b>KING JR. BIRTHDAY</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  <i>8:30 p.m.</i> <i>Cable-casting of the</i> <i>Board Meeting (EATV27)</i>	<b>22</b> 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. PBC (R-518)	<b>23</b>
<b>26</b> 2:15-4:15 p.m. Academic Policies (A311)	<b>27</b>  <i>First Day Class Lists Due</i>	<b>28</b>  <i>Last day to reduce units</i> <i>in order to qualify for</i> <i>100% enrollment fee</i> <i>refund and non-resident</i> <i>tuition fee refund</i>	<b>29</b>  <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <b>Board Meeting (Gough)</b>	<b>30</b> 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. ITPC (E-200)
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  <i>8:30 p.m.</i> <i>Cable-casting of the</i> <i>Board Meeting (EATV27)</i>	<b>5</b> 3:00-4:00 p.m. CAC (E-200)	<b>6</b>  <i>Resolution(s) to Vice</i> <i>Chancellor's</i>
<b>9</b>  <i>Census Day</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  <i>8:30 p.m.</i> <i>Cable-casting of the</i> <i>Board Meeting (EATV27)</i>	<b>12</b>  <i>Last day to drop credit</i> <i>classes. No notation will</i> <i>appear on the student's</i> <i>permanent record.</i> <i>Last day to withdraw or</i> <i>reduce course work in</i> <i>order to qualify for 50%</i> <i>non-resident tuition fee</i> <i>fund.</i> <i>Last day to file a petition</i> <i>to receive the Associate</i> <i>of Arts or Associate of</i> <i>Science Degree, Award</i> <i>of Achievement and</i> <i>Certificate of</i> <i>Completion.</i> <i>Last day to remove</i> <i>Incomplete received in</i> <i>previous semester.</i>	<b>13</b> <b>HOLIDAY</b> <b>LINCOLN'S</b> <b>BIRTHDAY</b>

Calendar is regularly updated by the Office of Shared Governance. To submit meeting notices call Attila Gabor at 239-3812  
The Master Calendar is also available via Internet at [http://www.ccsf.edu/Offices/Shared\\_Governance](http://www.ccsf.edu/Offices/Shared_Governance)