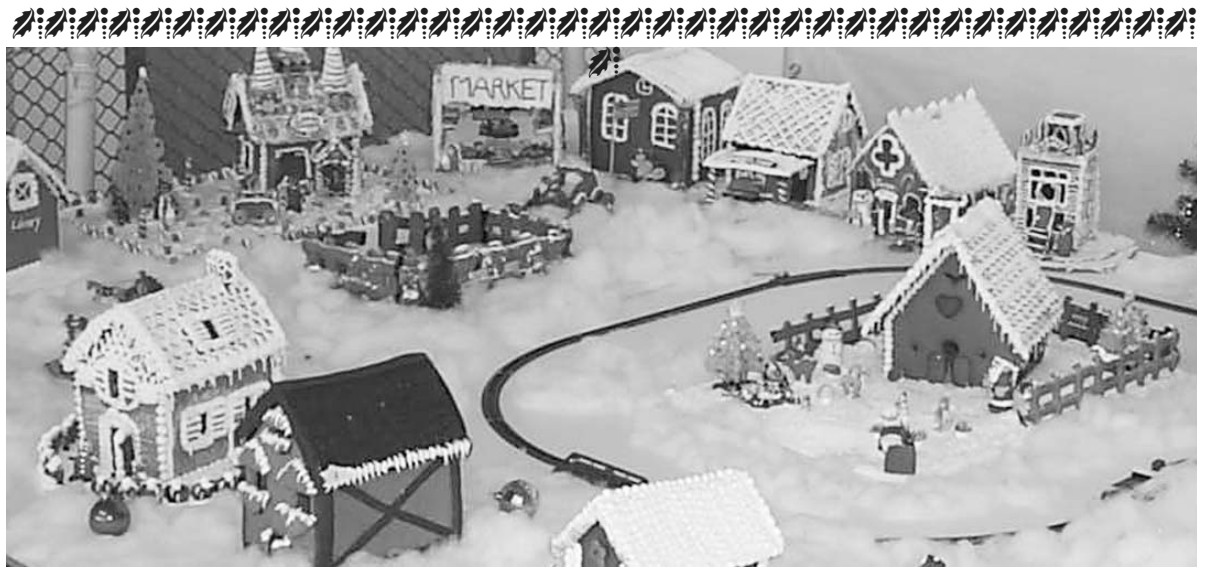




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**Good enough to eat!**

They say it takes a village. In this case, it took about 350 pounds of gingerbread, 200 pounds of sugar icing and about 200 student hours to construct this holiday village currently on display next to the coffee cart in Campus Center. The 18-foot-by-12-foot village features several cottages, a library, a castle complete with drawbridge, a corral, barbershop, market, railroad line, candy store, schoolhouse – even a cemetery with gingerbread gravestones!

Students in Mission College's pastry class constructed the village as a class project, under the supervision of culinary arts instructor and chef Rudy Garcia. Staff members are invited to bring their children to view the village, on display through December 29.

Dr. Adriana D. Barrera



**GETTING A SENSE OF THE COLLEGE**

It didn't take long after my arrival at Mission College to discover an important fact: the people who teach and work here, and the students who attend our campus are pretty passionate about the college. Whether it's because of the small, intimate nature of the campus and the friendliness of the staff and students; or perhaps because of the college's history and the sense that it has a real mission to fulfill on behalf of residents of the northeast San Fernando Valley; or, most likely, perhaps because of a combination of these factors, the people associated with this college really care about it. They want to see it succeed and to improve; they want to be part of that growth.

These sentiments are not new on my part. Many of you have heard me express them in public assemblies or in private conversation. I raise them again because they returned to my thoughts recently when I invited about 40 members of the faculty, classified staff and student body to attend a "futuring" workshop. The four-hour workshop was planned and organized with the help of Gensler, the firm which is helping us develop our master plan for campus growth as we move deeper into the college's Proposition A era.

The Gensler representatives have been meeting in small groups with members of the campus community. However, we felt that the viewpoints provided in these sessions needed the validation of a larger group setting. More importantly, we wanted the group to discuss what it sees as the values of Mission College; and to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the existing physical plant.

I expect a formal report about the session from Gensler soon. But I can tell you now that as I strolled from group to group, I clearly heard variations of the same thoughts that I expressed at the beginning of this column: the people of Mission College view this institution as a community resource; we view our-

[\(continues on back\)](#)

**SPANISH CLASS FOR INSTRUCTORS**

Mission College faculty members are encouraged to sign up for "Fundamentals of Spanish I," a Spring semester class designed specifically for instructors.

The class will be taught by David Pardess on Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. It will provide instructors with an opportunity to earn units that could move them higher on the salary schedule. For information, contact Maria Fenyas, AFT chapter president, ext. 7723.



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MISSION COLLEGE

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GRAPHICS: GEORGE HODGSON  
PHOTOGRAPHY: TERRY CARTER, JUAN CHACON

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued from front page)

selves as a group of hard-working individuals dedicated to our students; and even as we grow, we want to maintain the intimacy, the student-instructor relationships and the friendliness that has always characterized our campus.

These were some of the values expressed at the futuring session. I expect that they will form the core of the criteria by which the master planners will develop our long-term blueprint for campus expansion.

\* \*

Let me take this opportunity to wish all Mission College faculty, staff and students a wonderful holiday season. The end of the year, as always, seemed to "sneak up" on us. But we've made a great start, a successful one, to

a pivotal year. With your help, I expect our successes to continue throughout 2002.

Happy holidays and best wishes for the New Year!



Jim Oswald of Gensler helps lead discussion during Mission College "futuring" workshop. Clockwise from top are Maria Fenyes, Gwen Walker and Eloise Cantrell.

calendar of  
UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
12/19-20	Final exams continue
12/19	LACCD Board of Trustees meeting, 3:30 p.m. Downtown Los Angeles
12/22-5	Winter holidays, Campus closed
12/29	Fall semester ends

Date	Event
12/28-1/1/02	New Year's holiday, Campus closed
1/2/02	Winter session begins
1/9	LACCD Board of Trustees meeting, 3:30 p.m. Downtown Los Angeles
1/21	King Day holiday, Campus closed

focus on  
MISSION PEOPLE

Speech department chairperson **Margie Long** may need a new wall in her home to hang all of the awards and certificates of recognition that have recently come her way.



Long was honored as a "woman of achievement" by the San Fernando City Council during National Business Women's Month in November. Long also was recognized with commendations from state Assemblyman **Tony Cardenas** and Governor **Gray Davis**. She also received a certificate of special congressional recognition from Representative **Howard Berman**.

Mission College has won two "Excellence in Workforce Development" awards for its Pacoima Child Development Careers program and for its Probation to Work program. Directors and participants involved in the Pacoima Child Development Careers program include **Dorothy Nasatir**, **Lilamani**

**de Silva**, **Louis Galvez**, **Jackie Berg**, **N. D. Ondoy**, **Julie Ruelas**, and **Denice Edwards**. It was recognized as the best example of a workforce program that innovatively integrates academic and technical skills. Program directors of the Probation to Work program are **Alexandra Higgins** and **Rudy Garcia**. This program was recognized for its exceptional focus on competencies and skills required by industry.

**Sandy Lampert** recently won a third place medal for her finish in the 5K Run/Walk Sun, a sanctioned race for the L.A. Jewish Home. She says she hardly worked up a sweat and definitely plans to enter more races.

Student senator **Natalie Martinez** reports that \$7,000 was raised at the recent ASO-sponsored Toys for Tots golf tournament and barbecue at Cascades Golf Club. Martinez says ASO also collected a number of toys and many items of clothing for the homeless, donated by students and campus staff.

Amazon.com has excerpted 14 pages of philosophy professor **Douglass McFerran's** 1997 book "IRA Man" in its web pages. To view the excerpt, go to [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and type in "Douglass McFerran" in the search box.

**Leslie Milke** has been re-elected as presi-



dent of the Academic Senate. **Gwen Walker** was re-elected as vice president, **Pat Flood** re-elected as secretary and **Sonia Soto-Bair** re-elected as a district academic senator. New members of the executive body include **Margie Long**, secretary, **John Cantley**, parliamentarian, and **Jayne Thomas**, district academic senator.