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STUDENT'S PHONE CALL LEADS TO WHITE HOUSE ASSIGNMENT

Instructors take joy in finding that student who goes the "extra step" in completing his or her assignments. In the case of May Sagoo, that extra step amounted to a 3,000-mile trip to the White House.

It began when Sagoo's instructor, Charles Dirks, informed students that they would be required to do lab work as part of his U.S. Government course. According to Dirks, most students satisfy the requirement by volunteering to work in a political campaign or in the office of a local official. For Sagoo, that wasn't enough. She picked up the phone and called the White House, where she was connected to the volunteers office. Explaining that her assignment had to be completed during January, an official listened patiently and then asked her to sit by the phone. He called back shortly to inform Sagoo that she had cleared a security check – when could she start?

Four days after her call to the White House, Sagoo was on a plane to Washington and the next day was working as a volunteer in the Office of Presidential Correspondence/Photo Department. Over the next four days, she saw much of the White House, the Pentagon, the Capitol, various monuments and Georgetown University.



"The atmosphere at the White House is very warm and friendly, even though security is so tight," Sagoo said. "It was the experience of a lifetime."

Sagoo, the mother of four children, hopes to become a physician's assistant. But her whirlwind experience in Washington now has her considering a career in government or politics. In fact, she has been invited to apply for a White House internship.

Shaking her head and smiling, Sagoo said, "It's funny, you know. Professor Dirks told us, 'You'd be surprised how far a phone call can get you.'"

In the case of Sagoo, it got her to the White House.

Dr. Adriana D. Barrera



SPRING SEMESTER DEVELOPMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

With our Spring semester just around the corner, I have much news to relay to you.

We're adding a new name to the Mission College team. It gives me great pleasure to announce that we have selected the firm of Gateway Science and Engineering of Pasadena to be our Proposition A project manager. In that role, Gateway will oversee and manage all of our Prop. A construction projects. Gateway also will work with Gensler, the firm that is developing our master plan for facilities.

The selection of Gateway marks a key step in the effort to expand our facilities. Gateway will be responsible for ensuring that Mission's projects are completed on time and within budget; examining the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of our designs; assisting in the selection of architects and contractors; and representing our interests in dealings with contractors and builders. I will be working closely with Fernando Calderon and Ana Rojas of Gateway, who will serve, respectively, as team leader and project manager.

* *

We are in the final stages of preparing to occupy

the Collaborative Studies Building. We will be able to offer Spring semester classes in this long-awaited, 20-thousand-square-foot facility, which will add 10 new classrooms, nine faculty offices, and several laboratories to our campus.

* *

We've completed the interviews and we will soon add seven new faculty members. We will soon welcome new instructors in business, Chicano Studies, developmental communications, English, psychology and sociology. Our seventh new faculty member is Bonnie Sherman, who has been selected EOP&S counselor after serving as our EOP&S coordinator.

* *

I want to thank all of the staff members who helped bring-about what I think was a fairly successful Winter session. It's true that we did not match the enrollment of last year's Summer Session A, which was our target. But we did enroll more than 1,800 students – a good start, I believe, from which to build on for next Winter.



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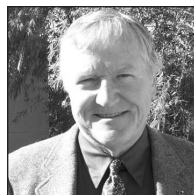
calendar of UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
1/23	Citizens Oversight Committee (Prop. A) meeting, 5:30 p.m., CC 4
2/2	Winter Session ends
2/4	Spring Semester begins
2/6	LACCD Board of Trustees meeting, 3:30 p.m., Downtown Los Angeles
2/11	La Opinion 75th Anniversary Photo Exhibition, South Atrium (through March 8)
2/18	Presidents' Day, Campus closed

focus on MISSION PEOPLE

Several employees got more than a delicious deal at last month's college holiday party. They were presented with "kudos" awards, or more specifically, certificates of appreciation for "extra effort" given by the Staff Development Committee. Among those honored were **John Beck** and his hard-working staff at Computer Systems Services for keeping the college "on-line" under great pressure and many demands; **Maria Enriquez** of the culinary staff for seeing to it that employees are well-fed during noontime staff development events; **Maria Fenyes**, AFT chapter president, for her vigilance and persistence in protecting faculty rights; and **Julius Walker** and his custodial staff for their work in keeping the campus clean and running efficiently.

Gerald Scheib, professor of art, has been selected by the Coca-Cola Company to serve as a judge in its art competition for high school students. Scheib will serve on a panel of distinguished judges selected to evaluate the work of talented young artists from throughout Southern California. Winners will receive \$10,000 in savings bonds and cash awards of \$200.



Friends recently took **John Morales**, instructor in Chicano Studies, out to lunch to mark a special occasion. Morales has been granted tenure.

The work of multimedia instructor **Lucy Griesbach** recently was featured at the Hatch Gallery in Los Angeles. Entitled "Two Humps," the exhibition combined video images of farm animals with footage of the sterile environment of an airport. The result, said Griesbach, is a work that "transports viewers through long cold hallways and into green pastures."



Mission College has said farewell to **Vera Garcia**, administrative secretary in the President's Office. Garcia was not one of the original employees who were with the college when it opened in 1975 – but she didn't miss



by much. Garcia has been a member of the Mission family since October 1976. When she started working here, Vera had five children and no grandchildren. Now she has 19 grandchildren, with whom she plans to spend more time during her retirement. But she hasn't spent the last 25 years simply accumulating grandchildren. She's also earned 59 units at Mission College. In fact, Vera is on the Dean's List, maintaining a G.P.A. of 3.5. "I like school," she said. "I'll keep taking classes in multimedia. It's something I wish I had learned about earlier."



Say hello to **Monica Waton**, **Janet Hughes-Fields** and **Alicemary Devlin** (pictured above, left to right). All three joined Mission College in recent weeks. Hughes-Fields and Devlin are administrative secretaries working, respectively, in the President's Office and the Office of Academic Affairs. Waton is a senior secretary, also working in academic affairs. Hughes-Fields, a district employee for 15 years, comes to Mission following assignments in the Chancellor's Office and the Office of the General Counsel. Devlin is making the transition to the district after many years as a state employee – 17 years as a senior investigator with the Medical Board of California and seven with the Department of Motor Vehicles. Waton, who was born and raised in Sweden, traveled all over the world as an airline flight attendant early in her career. Most recently, she worked as an office manager in a San Fernando Valley dental clinic.

Bonnie Sherman has been selected to serve as a counselor in the EOP&S program, it was announced by **Jose Luis Ramirez**, associate dean, student services. Sherman has been coordinator of the EOP&S program since her arrival on campus last summer. Ramirez said a search has begun for a new EOP&S coordinator.

