



LOS ANGELES  
MISSION  
COLLEGE

PRESIDENT'S  
NEWSLETTER

## A CLOSER LOOK AT PROPOSITION AA

We end this school year with much uncertainty over the budget, but not without some hope and optimism.

Since I expect we'll hear plenty of depressing news from Sacramento in the coming weeks, let me focus on the positive. And that clearly is the passage of Proposition AA. Needless to say, I'm delighted at the result for the obvious reason: passage of the measure assures us that we will complete this campus and become a fully developed college several years down the road – as envisioned by our Arroyo Master Plan.

However, just as important to me as the actual result is the *message* that voters in the district seemed to send us. For the second time in two years, they have told us that they believe in community colleges and our mission; that they believe we do make a differ-

DR. ADRIANA D. BARRERA



ence in people's lives. The fact that they are willing to put money (in the form of a tax) behind this belief also suggests to me that the citizens of the district know we're here for the long run. This budget crisis may still be with us two or three years from now. But Mission College will be around a lot longer than that, serving not just those who cast votes last month, but their younger brothers and sisters and their children.

Don't misunderstand me. I take the budget crisis very seriously. It's the most pressing matter on my desk. And, unfortunately, I do expect to be reporting some bad news to you in the coming months. How bad depends on action in Sacramento. But as we move through this difficult time, I hope we all take heart from what our constituency told us on May 20: it's about the big picture...and the long haul.

## CSU PRESIDENT TO SPEAK AT COMMENCEMENT



Dr. Richard R. Rush, President of California State University, Channel Islands, will be the keynote speaker when Mission College holds its 28th annual Commencement on June 10.

Rush will be a timely speaker for Mission College's 440 graduates, many of whom are just starting to build an educational or professional career. Appointed president of the newest campus in the Cal State University system in June 2001, Rush has spent the last two years "starting up" the state's 23rd CSU campus, hiring the first faculty and senior administrative staff, and overseeing development of academic and physical master plans.

Prior to his appointment at Channel Islands, Dr. Rush served nine years as President of Minnesota State University, Mankato. Rush also served on the faculty at San Diego State University. While in San Diego, Dr. Rush played a key role in the founding of CSU San Marcos. The City of San Marcos recognized his contribution by naming a street after him, Rush Drive.

Dr. Rush holds a doctorate in English Renaissance Literature from UCLA. He is a life member of the Milton Society of America, which is devoted to scholarship on John Milton, the 17th century English poet.



### ZOOT SUITERS

Students Michael Shanahan (left) and Sergio Gonzalez donned zoot suits to help mark Mission College's commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Zoot Suit riots in Los Angeles. Event also commemorated the 35th anniversary of the East L.A. high school walk-outs. (See more at [www.lamission.edu/news](http://www.lamission.edu/news))

Commencement ceremonies begin at 5 p.m. in the Quad. The class valedictorian is Terie Stephens and the salutatorian is Sharon Klafter, both of whom have 4.0 grade point averages.

The graduating class is 73 percent women, 27 percent men. The largest number of graduates – 38 percent – have earned their degrees in Interdisciplinary Studies. The ages of the graduates range from 17 to 66, with the greatest number – 59 percent – falling into the 21-30-year-old age bracket.



LOS ANGELES  
MISSION COLLEGE

LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

WARREN T. FURUTANI, PRESIDENT  
MONA FIELD, VICE PRESIDENT  
KELLY G. CANDALE  
GEORGIA L. MERCER  
NANCY S. PEARLMAN  
SYLVIA SCOTT-HAYES  
MICHAEL D. WAXMAN  
MARY M. RAMOS, STUDENT TRUSTEE

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

DR. MARK DRUMMOND, CHANCELLOR  
PETER J. LANDSBERGER, SENIOR VICE CHANCELLOR  
DR. MARY E. LEE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
FACILITIES PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
CAMILLE A. GOULET, GENERAL COUNSEL

COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

DR. ADRIANA D. BARRERA, PRESIDENT  
WILLIAM C. FARMER, VICE PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS  
SHARI BORCHETTA, VICE PRESIDENT, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
JOSE LUIS RAMIREZ, VICE PRESIDENT, STUDENT SERVICES

EDITOR: EDUARDO PARDO  
GRAPHICS: LYDIA CHUNG

calendar of  
**UPCOMING  
EVENTS &  
KEY SUMMER DATES**

DATE	EVENT
6/6	Specially Funded Programs Recognition - 5 pm - Quad
6/6	Evening Under the Stars - 7:30 pm - Veterans Park
6/10	28th annual Commencement - 5 pm - Quad
6/12	LAMC Foundation meeting - 8 am - CC 4
7/4	Fourth of July holiday - College closed
7/7	Summer Session begins
8/15	Summer Session ends
9/2	Labor Day holiday - College closed
9/3	Fall Semester begins

focus on  
**MISSION PEOPLE**

Physics and astronomy instructor **Richard Rains**, who has taught at Mission College for the last 12 years and for more than 20 years overall in the district, said he never tires of seeing it. "It always gives me joy to see the sense of awe most people come away with the first time they look through a telescope,"



he said. But Rains feels that too many people, particularly those in economically dis-

advantaged communities, never get the opportunity. That's why Rains is sponsoring an "Evening Under the Stars" for the Sylmar and San Fernando communities on June 6 in Veterans Park. The highlight of the evening, following a brief lecture in the Cultural Arts Center, will be the viewing of the moon and several other celestial objects through telescopes placed in the park by Rains and some of his students. Rains said viewers will be able to see the objects 100 times closer than they can with the naked eye. It all begins at 7:30 p.m.

Five students are recipients of Mission College's most prestigious scholarship: the \$1,000 Aspire a Más Scholarship awarded by CompuCredit Corporation of Atlanta. **Daniyal Amirhamzeh, Alberto Perez Jimenez, Eliseo Guillen, Michele Lee Walters and Naomi Faith Riley** (pictured left to



right) were named recipients of the award at the college's annual scholarship ceremony. Guillen received an Aspire scholarship for the second year in a row. In all, 45 students received 55 scholarships totaling more than \$18,000. (See

the full list of scholarship winners at [www.lamission.edu/news](http://www.lamission.edu/news))



TELACU scholars (left to right) Zarina Gallardo, Baltazar Martinez and Tina Moreno.

More from the scholarships front! The East Los Angeles Community Union (TELACU) has selected 10 Mission

College students to each receive \$500 scholarships. The students were chosen on the basis of academic potential, commitment to serving their communities, and financial need. Recipients are **Robert Fernandez, Zarina Gallardo, Elsie Martinez, Tina Moreno, Altagracia Nava, Maria Perez, Maritza Soria, Claudia Sotelo, Alejandro Vazquez and Abel Zamora**. In addition, ASO President **Baltazar Martinez** received TELACU's Cesar Chavez Memorial Leadership Award, given annually to a student who demonstrates exemplary leadership skills, has an extensive record of community service and achieves high academic standards. The award comes with a \$1,000 scholarship.



**Jerry Huang** has earned his Master's degree in Information Technology and Finance from California Lutheran University. Huang, who began as a student worker nine years ago, is now an accountant in the college's business office. He hopes the Master's degree will lead to a position in the classroom, teaching business, accounting, or finance.

Law instructor **David Jordan** made a presentation to the Southern Pacific regional gathering of the American Association for Paralegal Education, meeting in Costa Mesa. The presentation, which was well received, was about the use of legal forms and pleadings in an online classroom.