IT’S GOOD TO BE BACK IN CAMPUS CENTER

When we completed our Student Services Expansion, we knew that a bonus benefit would be having the use once again of the Campus Center for large, indoor events. But I couldn’t have imagined that the availability of Campus Center “Main” would have such an impact on our relations with the community.

We’ve always claimed to be a vital member of the northeast San Fernando Valley community. I don’t think it’s ever been truer than in the last two months. Since we put out the “welcome mat” at Campus Center, the following meetings have attracted large numbers of people to our campus:

- The Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees meeting on October 9 drew about 100 visitors;
- A debate on San Fernando Valley secession brought more than 250 people to the campus on October 22;
- More than 500 people attended the “Adelante Mujer Latina” conference here on October 26;
- When rain threatened our Veterans Day Ceremony, we moved inside at the last minute and hosted 250 people;
- Just last week, an estimated 450 people attended the Los Angeles City Council meeting and city department fair in Campus Center.

This doesn’t even include the major college events that took place recently in Campus Center, such as the Transfer Fair and the Job/Careers Fair. And at this week’s Honors Program, we expect about 500 students, their relatives and guests. While aimed primarily at our students, these events also draw a significant number of community, university, and business representatives.

(continued on page 2)

MISSION COLLEGE APPOINTS NEW DEAN

An administrator and educator from the University of Southern California will join Mission College in January as Dean of Academic Affairs, it was announced by William Farmer, vice president for academic affairs.

Dr. Martha Soto will begin her duties with LAMC on January 6, 2003. She is currently Associate Director of the Center for Urban Education at USC. She also is an adjunct professor in USC’s Rossier School of Education, where she teaches graduate courses.

"Dr. Soto brings a unique perspective to Mission College," said Farmer. "One of her research projects at USC helped to identify inequities in educational outcomes among under-represented community college students. Her knowledge in this area will benefit us tremendously."

Farmer also announced the appointment of Alex Yguado, current interim Dean of Academic Affairs, to the position of Executive Assistant, functioning as chief of staff to Farmer. That appointment also is effective on January 6, 2003.

Soto’s duties in Academic Affairs will include working with the Academic Senate Curriculum Committee, assisting faculty department chairs in managing their areas, and overseeing preparation of the college catalogue and class schedules, said Farmer.

In addition to her university experience, Soto also has taught in elementary school and is a former director of social services for El Rescate, a non-profit organization that provides legal and other services to Central American refugees and immigrants.

HONORS CEREMONY SET

Nearly 700 students who have gone to the top of the class will be recognized when Mission College hosts its Fall Honors Ceremony.

Recognition will be given to the 589 students who have made the Dean’s List and 80 others who have made the President’s List. The ceremony will be held Friday, November 22, in Campus Center Main, beginning at 5 p.m.

To make the Dean’s List, a student must complete 12 or more cumulative graded units with a 3.5 or better grade point average. To make the President’s List, a student must have been on the Dean’s List for three consecutive semesters.
At one recent event in Campus Center, an administrator observed that this must have been what Guadalupe S. Ramirez envisioned when she fought for a community college in the northeast San Fernando Valley: People drawn to our campus not just as students, but as citizens and residents seeking information and participation on vital issues.

If this is what having Campus Center back has meant so far, can you imagine the vitality of this college in a few years when we complete a media arts center, a fitness center, a culinary arts center and other projects identified under propositions A and 47. I, for one, can hardly wait.

LAPD Chief William Bratton addresses the Los Angeles City Council in most recent of several community events held in Campus Center. The meeting drew an estimated 450 people.
This month’s passage of Proposition 47 by California voters brings closer to reality an expanded child development center at Los Angeles Mission College.

LAMC is expected to receive about $6.7 million from Prop. 47 proceeds to construct a two-story, 27-thousand-square-foot child development center on the land-space just north of the Ramirez Collaborative Studies Building.

The L-shaped building, only a portion of which will be two stories, will house six children’s classrooms, two common spaces for children’s activities, a kitchen, a laundry, staff offices, two restrooms, and observation spaces. It will have capacity for 90 children – compared to the 15 now served by the present child development center.

“The building will be designed such that our child development students and teachers will be able to observe children as they learn and play,” said Shari Borchetta, vice president for administrative services.

Pending state approvals, construction of the building could begin as early as next July, said Borchetta.

“The voters in Los Angeles and California have really gone to bat for education,” said Borchetta. “With the passage of propositions A and 47, they’ve shown that they want the best for children and college students.”

MISSION COLLEGE HONORS SOME VERY GOOD FRIENDS

President Adriana D. Barrera has paid tribute to five supporters in recognition of their contributions to Mission College.

Dr. Barrera hosted a tea on behalf of Mother Rosa Broadous; Wagdy and Mona Shenouda; and Kevin and Kit Srichurat.

“Each of you has given so much to this college,” said Dr. Barrera. “I wanted you to know how much we appreciate you.”

Mother Broadous helped Mission College raise the funds to create the fountain in front of the Learning Resource Center, donating directly to the cause and helping convince others to give.

The Shenoudas are the parents of MaryAnn Shenouda, a culinary arts student. When MaryAnn and other students took part in a recent culinary arts competition in Las Vegas, the Shenoudas awarded each competitor a $200 scholarship and helped with the expenses of the trip.

The Srichurats have made several significant contributions to the college, including donations to complete the fountain and, most recently, purchasing a table at the scholarship dinner which they donated for student use. The Srichurats, who operate the food concession outside the Instructional Building, have two daughters who graduated from Mission College.
focus on

MISSION PEOPLE

Instructor David Jordan (below) has written an article that will appear soon in Paralegal Educator Magazine. In the article, Jordan talks about the advantages of teaching in a “smart classroom” – wired so that the teacher can project any page from the Internet on a classroom screen as a lesson plan. “Smart classrooms work because they are part of an ‘active’ classroom which engages the faculty and student,” writes Jordan, who uses one of the classrooms in the LRC for his “smart” teaching.

Mission College was well-represented at events held under the auspices of LA Freeways, a festival dedicated to experimental media: Students Gordon Loney, Bernardo Pacheco, Manas Narux, James Noack and Tony Kucenski attended the Slamdance Filmmaking Bootcamp, a weekend of seminars on producing and promoting a feature length film…A short film about the September 11 attacks created by Loney, Narux and Noack, along with classmate Gerri Gulino, recently screened at “Smogdance,” a film and video festival held at Da Center Gallery in Pomona…

The works of multimedia instructors Lucy Griesbach and Jacalyn Lopez-Garcia are on view through January 19 at “Impromptu: Improvisation with Digital Media,” an exhibition at the UC Riverside Museum of Photography. Griesbach filmed a caterpillar at play and slowed down the graceful movements of a caterpillar, combining this footage with abstract animation and footage of her young nephew. Lopez-Garcia directed actors in an improvised performance. The result was “Mariachi Man,” a super hero who stops domestic disputes by singing traditional Mariachi music…The work of instructor Jeremy Hight represents a true merging of art and technology. His interactive art piece enables viewers to browse through history using a global positioning system that triggers images and sights from the past, based on the viewer’s location.

Halloween Fun

A number of college employees brightened Halloween by wearing costumes to work, including, left to right, Lisa Parker, Martha Lopez and Edwin Gomez.

calendar of

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE | EVENT
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11/22 | Fall Honors Ceremony - 5 pm Campus Center
11/28-30 | Thanksgiving Holiday - Campus closed
12/3 | Citizens Oversight Committee (Prop. A) - 6 pm - CC 4
12/4 | FCCHN Holiday Party - 6:30 pm CC Main
12/6 | Clerical Office Assistants Luncheon 11 am - CC 1-2
12/6 | ASO Scholarship Fundraiser 6-10 pm - Campus Center Main
12/11 | “Winter Informal” Staff Holiday Luncheon - 11 am - CC Main
12/12 | LAMC Foundation meeting - 8 am CC 4
12/19 | College Council - 1 pm - CC 1

For sports events, visit www.lamission.edu/athletics