Accreditation team examines college

On September 19, a team from the Commission for Community and Junior Colleges met with officials at MiraCosta College to hold an open forum and observe a meeting of the board of trustees. The team came to MCC to assess the climate and determine whether the college is receiving proper governance from the board of trustees. Jean Moreno, a former trustee with 20 years sitting on the MCC Board of Trustees, addressed the accreditation team, and the gathered faculty, staff, and administrators, about the attitude the current board of trustees has demonstrated in public meetings. "The public has been treated disrespectfully by the Governing Board," said Moreno.

Another former trustee, Carol Smith, also expressed her views on the way the school is being governed. She said that the board is using "governance by attorneys" to lead the school for the last year and a half.

Chris McCarthy, praised the job the administration has to have a voice." The faculty has opened Pandora's Box," stated Downs. "The administration has to have a voice."

"I am ashamed of our board and how they have behaved," said Honors Scholar Program Coordinator Mary Jennings-Smith as she addressed the accreditation team.

The accreditation team found that there was much to commend at MCC. The presentation given by team leader Jim Dooso, a member of the steering committee supporting Trustees Adams and Post, both the targets of a recall effort, stood by the board and their decisions. "The faculty has opened Pandora's Box," stated Downs. "The administration has to have a voice."

"I am ashamed of our board and how they have behaved," said Honors Scholar Program Coordinator Mary Jennings-Smith as she addressed the accreditation team.

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Emergency training prepares college for disaster

MiraCosta College has incorporated a new emergency action strategy, called SEMS (Standardized Emergency Management System), that builds on the current Emergency Preparedness Plan to direct efforts during the first minutes of a crisis or disaster.

The plan provides a set of principles for the organization of a multiple level emergency response "intended to structure and facilitate the flow of emergency information and resources within and between the organizational levels: the field response, local government, operational areas and regions," stated the SEMS handbook, available to students on the MCC website.

The plan’s priority protection begins first and foremost with life and safety, followed by preservation of property and academic restoration. MCC worked with consultants to develop the SEMS plan to better respond to emergency situations, but the most efficient way to prevent an incident is for “faculty and students to be diligent about their surroundings,” said Sergeant Perez of the MCC Campus Police.

It is important for the dispatched officer to be well informed when investigating an incident, so “students need to be prepared to answer questions in detail when calling an incident into the emergency dispatch operators,” said Perez.

Depending on the severity of a situation, MCC has created three levels of emergency responses. A minor to moderate incident where campus resources are available would require a Level One response. A Level Two response would be the effect of a moderate to severe emergency that requires aid beyond MCC resources. When a Declaration of Emergency is announced by the college President/ Superintendent, a Level Three response is enacted due to a major disaster that cannot be contained by college resources.

Professors John Phillips and Pat Connolly discuss a failed 1913 Amendment to the US Constitution outlining the powers of the president to commit troops to combat in a time of war. The dialogue was held during Constitution Week to give students an opportunity to debate amending the Constitution and what Amendments should be made.

Photo by: Matt Gose/Staff Photographer
The Chariot is a First Amendment publication

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Letters may be sent to the editor by email The Chariot at charioteers@gmail.com. All letters must be signed. Anything submitted to The Chariot becomes property of The Chariot. The Chariot reserves the right to cut letters for space or for libel. Every effort is made to print all letters in their entirety.

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MiraCosta College
Online classes don’t have answers

BILLY BUSTER
Staff Writer

MiraCosta College offers an assortment of online classes that are designed to cater to the students’ needs. The general perception of online classes is that they are easy and not comparable to being in a classroom. However, this is not always the case. It can be a challenge to walk through the park by any means, and not comparable to being in a normal class is designed to do. Taking tests online will get a student the learning process. When a student do not occur the student loses from the learning process, and when they are preparing themselves to take that class less seriously, which in turn hurts the learning process.

It takes a special type of student to take an online class and walk away from it with not only a good grade, but a wealth of knowledge behind it. The students who do well in online classes are extremely self-disciplined, have a general interest in the subject they are taking, or hate the subject enough to want to get it done the quickest way possible. For me, I don’t enjoy math, so my online trigonometry class is working well for me. However, I know that I would not take an English or history class online because I would lose too much from the learning process by not being involved in the class. The online classes are great for those who are extremely self-disciplined, but for the rest of us the conventional teaching methods will work much better.

Express yourself

The “Letters to the Editor” section allows the Chariot Editorial Board to interact with members of the community and address concerns in an open and public environment. Moreover, it gives people an opportunity for their voice to be heard. The freedom of speech is a cherished and wonderful gift. By writing to the Editorial Board and expressing views that may not have been covered ensures that the Chariot continues to be the model for free speech at MiraCosta College.

Contact the Editorial Board, send an email with “Letter to the Editor” in the subject line to: mcccchariot@yahoo.com. All submissions must include your name.
TALE OF REVENGE 'ELECTRIFIES' THE STAGE

Director Eric Bishop wanted to do 'Electra' because he felt that the actors were confident, disciplined, and committed enough to perform a Greek play. Also, during the summer, MiraCosta held a Shakespeare Camp, and Cal State San Marcos awarded a chlaus grant, from which they pooled all their resources, and found two Greek teachers who could teach all the actors Greek chorus work over the summer. Bishop decided to take the next step in directing a Greek play because he wanted to showcase a diversity of plays that will captivate the audience.

As Bishop and I walked over to the set, I was amazed with what I saw. Roughly 100 seats surrounded the stage. The set was nearly complete, as there were pillars with a roof yet to be placed. It also included a water fountain and paintings of Greece on the floor of the stage. As Bishop took me to see the seat he explained to why he wanted to have the audience up on stage while watching the action unfold. Mr. Bishop calls this type of seating arrangement a three-quarter thrust which looks like a miniature stadium with Bleachers, also called a black box. Bishop wanted the audience to feel more involved with the tragedy, and to be engulfed in the intensity of the play.

Electra stars Summer Spiro as Electra and Susan Saffarianlou as Orestes. Spiro has attended MZA for the last three years, during the summer, MCC, Palomar College, and has acted out a scene during graduate school. Later, he taught Greek tragedy in his two acting classes. This play's emotion and intensity will leave the audience spellbound, as well as challenge the audience to think.

'Electra' starts at 7:30 p.m. this Thursday, Tuesday, and Friday, followed by performances on October 5, 6, 7, 8. Showings will also be held at 2 p.m. this Sunday, October 7. The General Admission price is $12, $10 for seniors and staff, and $8 for students.

Music

"Improbable" October 11, 7:30 p.m.

General Admission, $10

Students/Seniors, $8

Paul Musso of the University of Colorado, Denver performs Latin and jazz guitar selections with MiraCosta College music faculty Eric Foster.

Restaurant in Solana Beach on the Shores of San Diego County

The Rockin' Shores of San Diego County

‘Chinatown’ Film-Noir/Film what?

‘Chinatown’ was directed by the great Roman Polanski, and it is considered one of the best films made. The movie may be short, but it’s definitely entertaining for the rest of the audience.

This movie is well worth the rental cost and should be seen by all who appreciate the film-noir.

Features:

- A play of three very different country gals that come together and form a band. Each “angel,” from a different background, meet at a bus to Nashville, Tennessee after leaving the one they love.

- A mother of six with a husband named “Bubba” in a double-wide, “a coal miner’s daughter,” and a Hollywood Dubby Patton-type come together to sing some of country’s Top 40 hits, such as “These Boots Are Made for Walking.”

I must admit that I’m not a country music fan, so I didn’t know most of the “hits,” but I truly enjoyed the show. However, if you don’t like audience interaction, avoid the first row. But it’s definitely entertaining for the rest of the audience.

Each actress portrays a wonderfully entertaining performance, but Kelli Maguire, as Angela, truly took home the show. If you don’t mind laughing “til your stomach hurts then check out this comedic musical playing through October 7.

Chinatown:

Noir/Film what?

Noir/Film what? provides the sleazy cynical characters, political corruption, deep dark secrets, incest, and the black hole for the good-guy to be sucked into. The movie takes place in 1930s Los Angeles, where a war over water rights is being fought under the table. The femme fatale, seductive, beautiful, conniving, and the tough guy detective, resourceful, loyal, and willing to take a beating for a just cause, lead the viewer around Los Angeles as they both slowly unravel along with the plot.

This tale of lust and greed was nominated for 11 academy awards and is considered one of the best films made. The movie may be short, but it’s definitely entertaining for the rest of the audience.

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STUDENT AMBASSADORS ENCOURAGE AND DIRECT STUDENT SUCCESS

The Student Ambassadors Program is a driving force behind MiraCosta College’s increasing enrollment. Their goal is to talk to potential students and let them know their options as a student at MCC. Student Ambassadors focus on high school students, but are continuously conducting workshops, and presentations for elementary and middle-school children. “[The Program] helps make a bridge into college that also helps keep students from dropping out,” said Jan Moberly, Coordinator, School Relations/Outreach.

The program’s success has demonstrated in continued invitations from area high schools and programs such as Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID).

Every March, Student Ambassadors set up a “Matriculation in a day” where high school students are brought on campus to take a test, an orientation, and then advisement. The Students are also provided with a free lunch and a tour of our campus. An experience like this is provided whether or not they plan on attending MCC after high school. The community has also given the Student Ambassadors invitations to attend small fairs where they engage in college emphasis, with not just high school students but for any person of any age in the community. Another one of the Student Ambassadors goals is to create diversity amongst our student body.

Our Student Ambassadors are trained and know a great deal of information that can help guide a potential student. Not only do Student Ambassadors get to have an experience in helping out their community, but they get paid by the hour by the school. Helping an individual who is unsure of their future, and leading them to a great, active college that facilitates their success is a rewarding achievement the Student Ambassadors get to experience.

Sarah Margolis has been a member of Student Ambassadors since June and is very optimistic about this semester. She joined to give back to the community as well as to make a difference in other people’s lives. “A lot of these students don’t know what to expect when they think about college we give them clearer views,” said Margolis. Nate Cargil, another member has also recently joined and is very well experienced student, holding a membership in five clubs. “Being in this type of leadership I want to show everybody how careful and meaningful college is,” said Cargil.

Out of the twenty Student Ambassadors at MCC, there cannot possibly be one who is most fit for the job than Maria Mejia. Her ability to help others has helped her get referred to the Student Ambassadors who are here to get students enrolled and help them take advantage of MCC’s valuable programs. When talking to students, Maria wants them to know the importance of a higher education. After talking with them she hopes they think about their options and why starting at a community college can be so helpful. Maria reaches out to our younger generation even if they don’t have a goal, because she believes as students continue to take general education classes, MCC has the services that will help guide them. All Student Ambassador members are sent out on a retreat to get to know each other and learn how to better relate to people. Because almost all 28 members are involved in clubs and other student organizations they are more than capable to address any prospective college student’s questions and encourage them to carry on their education after high school.
Student finds second chance at MCC

A few years ago, I was the unfortunate victim of downsizing in a large hospital system. Through the auspices of the California Dept of Rehab and the EDD, I took a battery of tests and then was directed to the Medical Insurance Coding and Billing Program at MiraCosta College. After completing the program, with flying colors I might add, I ultimately ended up at my fabulous job at EA Health Corporation. Yes, my MiraCosta training truly prepared me for a successful career as a Certified Medical Insurance Coder and helped me bridge the gap of having to start a new career in my 50s. Plus, my husband received his Machine Technology training at MiraCosta that led him to the successful Machinist position he has held for 15 years at Mac Dermal Graphics.

So, we are truly grateful to the MiraCosta programs.

MiraCosta programs.

Last Call! Don’t miss these events!

“Teachings into Writing” Presented by Professor John Kirwan. How do you find your way into an essay when you are not really sure what you want to write about? This workshop will explore how a small detail of the larger topic can help you make progress in your writing. September 24 from 11 – 12 p.m. OCN 1202 (Library HUB)

“Ready, Set, Research” Search smarter not harder. Successful research strategies, planning your research, and finding information. With Pamela Perry, Myla Kelly, and Jennifer Paris.

September 24 from 2 – 3 p.m. OCN 1202 (Library HUB)

“How to Read a Food Label?” Learn what information on food labels is really telling you. Understanding this information will allow you to become a more informed consumer. Bring food labels with you for this workshop. Presented by Linda Shaffer.

September 26 from 12 – 1 p.m. OCN 1202 (Library HUB)

“Tokyo Godfathers” Japan, 2003

PG-13 part of our (Foreign Film Festival). Directed by Satoshi Kon. September 28 starting 7 p.m. OCN 3601 (in the little theater)

“Stellaluna”

As part of MiraCosta College’s “Get Caught Reading!” festival, local author Janell Cannon, reads and shows the amazing illustrations she created for her book. September 26 starting 3:30 p.m. Located at the Community Learning Center 1831 Mission Ave.

“Go South of the Boarder” McC is working with Casa de Amparo, and needs your help to ease the tension of the children’s life situations. Donations are being accepted at the Service Learning Office in room 3445.

The Kenneth A. Picerne Foundation

2008 Youth Development Initiative Grants

Where do you see yourself?

5 years from now?

If you are unclear as to personal and career goals this program may be for you.

Take a break from school and make a worthwhile contribution to your community while learning about yourself.

The Kenneth A. Picerne Foundation is accepting applications to participate in the 2008 Youth Development Initiative beginning January 21, 2008.

Grant recipients will be given the opportunity to achieve clarity regarding their future life direction – both personally and in a career. Applicants must demonstrate potential for future personal and career success. Successful applicants:

- Receive personal counseling and work in a nonprofit agency while earning $23,700 in 2008
- Must be willing to commit to this full-time program for a one year period

The application deadline is November 1, 2007

For more information and eligibility criteria visit the Foundation website at www.picernefoundation.org or contact the Foundation at 760-435-2205.

Service Learning hosts ‘Olympics’

MiraCosta College service learning students will host the 5th annual Casa Olympics on September 29. MCC is sponsoring this event which will be a day of fun for children involved in the Casa de Amparo organization. The non-profit organization provides protection and support services for abused or neglected children and their families in San Diego County.

The event will provide children and students with a day of relay races, face painting, games, art activities, and a barbecue. The younger children would like to design their own hats for a Mad Hatter activity, so Casa is accepting donations of arts and craft supplies to help fulfill the children’s wishes.

MCC is working with Casa de Amparo, and needs your help to ease the tension of the children’s life situations. Donations are being accepted at the Service Learning Office in room 3445.

Foreign film schedule

September 28
7 p.m. “Tokyo Godfathers,” 2003

October 12
7 p.m. “Cach e,” 2005

October 26
7 p.m. “Mostly Martha,” 2002

Presented by Linda Shaffer.

September 24, 2007
MiraCosta College
Job Opportunities

Civil Engineer, City of Carlsbad

$15/hr, 20-30 hrs/wk. This is a great opportunity to gain experience in the field. Interns will perform small design tasks, research for and utility mark-outs in streets, assistance with recycled water retrofit program, and other engineering related tasks.

News Intern, Del Mar Times

Two positions available, 5-10hrs per week. Ideal candidates will possess excellent writing and editing skills and be currently enrolled in a journalism, English or communication program. Interns will be exposed to a weekly newswroom operation, practice writing in AP style and have their work published in a well read and respected newspaper.

Retail Sales/Admin Assistant, Del Mar

$9/hr. (will review after 6 weeks for possible pay increase). Flexible hours. Seeking responsible, energetic individual with pleasant attitude for retail store in beautiful Del Mar. Duties would include working with customers on sales and orders, receiving vendor orders and putting merchandise on display, processing web orders and packing items for shipping, helping with store/window displays.

Scholarships

Need help planning your education?

The MiraCosta College Counseling Department is offering assistance with educational planning. Counselors will help guide students in their choice of majors, course selection, transfer preparation, and career searching. Personal and crisis counseling is also available for those in need. Stop by the Counseling office to set up an appointment or for the designated drop-in hours.

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Saturday, September 29 & Saturday, October 6

10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Admission: $5

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MiraCosta College, San Elijo Campus, Room 407

Please e-mail meditationforjoy@yahoo.com to sign up.
Boy meets Girl Column

**Question**

I’ve been dating my boyfriend for a while. He’s in the military and is about to be shipped out for a tour in Iraq. I really like him, but I don’t think I can wait a year for him. How do I tell him this without hurting him?

**Girl:** Now your boyfriend is being sent overseas and the only thing you can think of is how to get out!

Countless men place their hope in that their loved ones are waiting for them. You need to support him and his choice to go and defend our country. If you cannot “wait” even a year for him, then he’s better off without the false hope in you. However, the last issue we need is hopeless men in the military.

The best advice I can give is to remain his friend. He needs to understand why you can’t hold out for him. You better prepare yourself with a damn good reason, too. It’s your loss if you break such an honorable man’s heart.

**Boy:** The man is not going to serve his country, risk his life, and you think you can’t wait a year? This relationship never stood a chance.

The divorce rate for marines at Camp Pendleton has spiked to a mind-boggling 93%. It’s a shame. To you women who stay faithful, I applaud you. Life is pretty long. A year is pretty short. Sack up and wait a year. If he can do it with bullets whizzing over his head, and the blood of his friends on his uniform, you can do it from the comfort of your sheltered life.

**Question**

My boyfriend just asked me to marry him after four years of dating. We’ve already had premarital sex, but now I want to wait until we’re married. When I brought up the idea, he tried to shoot it down. I think he may be cheating on me. What should I do?

**Girl:** Even though you and your fiancé abstain. Rather than trying to resist temptation (which always fails), try avoiding the temptation all together.

Just because a guy talks about sex doesn’t mean he’s cheating on you. If you have no other reason to believe he has cheated on you, don’t base any accusation on just a hunch. However, if there is maybe a history of cheating, the old saying goes “you can’t change a tiger’s stripes.”

Quite honestly, if you’ve already had sex, he still needs to respect you and your body. He must respect your wishes and abstain. A boyfriend/girlfriend relationship is less of a commitment than an engagement, so it makes sense that a couple would be less sexually active than in an engagement. You want the opposite.

You need to explain to him your reasons for wanting to stop having sexual intercourse, and be sure to set boundaries that will help you and your fiancé abstain. Rather than trying to resist temptation (which always fails), try avoiding the temptation all together.

**Boy:** He’s in the military, so it makes sense that a relationship never stood a chance. The best advice I can give is WE want to hear from you! You don’t have to be an artist to have your work printed in The Chariot. For size guidelines and submissions, send an email to: mccchariot@yahoo.com with “Comic” in the subject line. We look forward to putting YOUR artwork in YOUR paper this year.

**Attention all students**

October 2007 is National Arts Month. The office of student activities and the arts council would like all students to contribute comic strips. If you would like to draw a one panel comic about life at MiraCosta, or about life as a student as whole, WE want to hear from you! You don’t have to be an artist to have your work printed in The Chariot. For size guidelines and submissions, send an email to: mccchariot@yahoo.com with “Comic” in the subject line. We look forward to putting YOUR artwork in YOUR paper this year.

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Boy: with a darn good reason, too. It’s your fault. You better prepare yourself military.

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