

## Friday, October 24, 2008

The week of October 19 to 25 was a bit unusual. First, Mesa College was asked to host a two-day, satellite broadcast of The Women's Conference 2008. The Women's Conference was described by Maria Shriver, Conference chairperson as "the largest and most dynamic gathering of women in the nation. Recognized for its unparalleled capacity to empower and inspire women to become architects of change." Despite the extremely short notice we were given to gear up and take care of the logistics, the event was a resounding success. Because we had a live download and a delayed taping, the entire conference is available for viewing by those who may be interested.

Mesa also hosted a meeting of the Board of Trustees. As you know, the Board schedules at least four meetings at each of our three college campuses and continuing education. These meetings are the perfect opportunity to showcase special programs and innovations on campus. There is a catch-- the presentations cannot exceed one hour. Given the many distinguished and noteworthy activities on our campus, it is always very difficult to select from such fertile ground. In any case, this year's theme, "Building a Culture of Evidence," turned out to be one of the most informational and delightful examples of accountability "done right!"

### [Presentation to the Board of Trustees](#)

**Composers in our midst-** On Friday, October 24, our Music Department presented "Interlude," a gala concert that is part of its recital series made all the more noteworthy by the fact that funding for these events is made possible by a partnership with Bumble Bee Foods. Friday's concert was special because it presented an irrepressible example of Mesa's creative genius. It featured two original works, *Camber* and *Dances* composed by our own Music Department professor Momilani Ramstrum and performed by professors James Romeo and George Svoboda. With the composer's permission, I hope to share this work when we next gather at the opening of our Spring Semester.

### **Safe and Sound**

On October 20, I met with Charlie Hogquist, Chief of College Police. Many of you have met Chief Hogquist because he has made it a point to be very accessible on matters ranging from emergency preparedness to campus safety. Chief Hogquist takes the education and prevention part of his responsibilities very seriously. This time, he presented me with a briefing on campus safety as mandated by the Clery Act, a piece of legislation that requires schools to publish an annual report disclosing campus security policies and three years worth of specified crime and arrest statistics. In addition, The Clery Act requires that this annual report be made available to students, faculty, staff and applicants for employment.

The good news is that Clery reportable crime on campus and on public property surrounding the campus decreased by 12.5% in 2007 over 2006. In comparison, the City of San Diego saw a 4% reduction in their crime rate over the same period. Some of the most important highlights for this year's report are as follows:

Mesa College had no reported hate crimes from 2001-2007. There were no aggravated assaults, and, vehicle thefts were down from 30 in 2006 to 21 in 2007.

If you would like to view the entire report and you would like more information on the Clery Act, go to [www.securityoncampus.org](http://www.securityoncampus.org).

### **The Beat Goes On**

Great events that helped to lift our spirits.

10/22 -- Music Recital featuring Dale Williams on guitar.

10/22 - Lecture and Performance: Rediscover the Long Forgotten Traditional Chinese Music & Musical Instruments. Three professional Chinese musicians performed from traditional Chinese music instruments such as *er hu*, *pi pa* and *gu zheng* in various classrooms. All three instruments were the mainstay of Chinese music and were enjoyed for thousands of years, until Western instruments spread to China in early 20th century.

10/22 - Sal Castro: The Struggle for Change and the East Los Angeles Walkouts of 1968: A Leader's Perspective. Sal Castro, a principal organizer and supporter of the East Los Angeles Walkouts, addressed the conditions in the East Los Angeles High Schools which culminated in the decision to boycott the schools.

### **President's Cabinet Update**

President's Cabinet was canceled in order to prepare for the meeting of the Board of Trustees.