November 2011

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

# MESA NEWS

**WELCOME TO MESA E-NEWS,** the monthly e-zine of college-wide events, activities and news. Go to www.sdmesa.edu/e-news/index.html for more information on the following November 2011 items:

## NEWS and EVENTS at SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

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## This Month at Mesa: November

*Click here to view November events. You can also view it online at http://www.sdmesa.edu/news/month.cfm.*

### Flamenco Fires Up the Apolliad

A packed house filled the Apolliad Theatre for a stunning flamenco dance and music "cuadro" performance at Mesa College on Oct. 12th. The brainchild of Spanish Professor **Dora Schoenbrun-Fernández**, "Flamenco Culture & Art Form," was a showcase of teaching and learning that stepped outside the confines of the traditional classroom directly into the heart, mind and soul. Perfect lighting set the mood as the history and performance of flamenco was brought to life by **Rocio Carrera** (baile, stage name Paloma Aragon), accompanied by **Oscar Aragon** (guitarra) and **Emilia Eneva** (cante). The highly charged performance was underscored by chants of "Aupa!" from an enraptured audience of students, faculty, staff and guests. "This culturally enriching event provided curriculum enhancement in a variety of Humanities courses," said Prof. Schoenbrun-Fernández, "It was a celebration of artistic, social and cultural diversity." Aupa!

Photo Credit: Nguyen Do, *Mesa Press*

### Seeking Distinguished Olympians!

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2012 Mesa College Distinguished Alumni Award. The purpose of the Distinguished Alumni program is to recognize alumni who have made significant contributions to society, and whose accomplishments, affiliations, and careers have honored the legacy of academic excellence at San Diego Mesa College. The 2012 award will be announced in January and conferred at the college graduation ceremony scheduled for May 19th. Nominations are due no later than December 21st. For an application and more information see sdmesa.edu/alumni.

### An Afternoon with UC San Diego

Monday October 10th over 200 students attended An Afternoon with UCSD, hosted by Mesa College. Following a welcome and introduction by **Dr. Constance M. Carroll**, SDCCD Chancellor, students heard from **Dr. Marye Anne Fox**, UC San Diego Chancellor. The program was organized to demonstrate UCSD's commitment to strengthening the transfer pathway to UC, and featured presentations by UCSD Admissions and Financial Aid. Attendees also hear about exciting research opportunities and heard firsthand about the transfer experience from a UCSD student transfer panel. After the presentation, **Mae Brown**, UCSD Assistant Vice Chancellor and Director of Admissions, personally took questions from students. "From transfer presentations, to individual support, to an array of information tables, the event was a cumulative testament to UCSD's commitment to our transfer students," reported organizer, Counselor **Chris Kalck**.

## Mesa Music... Showcased at Dizzy's

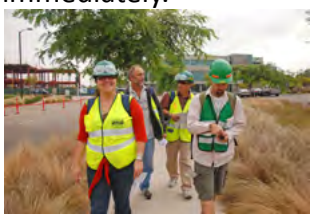
The Mesa College Music Department showcased its performer professors on Oct. 19 at San Diego's hottest hotspot, ***Dizzy's***, located in the San Diego Wine and Culinary Center at Harbor Club Towers. "Mesa Night" featured the **Mesa College Big Band**, under the direction of **James Romeo**, the **Mesa College Vocal Ensemble**, and an ensemble made up of instructors including **George Svoboda, Jaeryoung Lee, Jim Romeo,** and **Bob Boss**. The ensemble also played a composition by the Music Department's own **Momilani Ramstrum**.

## Speech and Debate Team Debut

– No debate about it, the Olympian Speech and Debate Team is off to a stellar start. In early October, the Olympians scored in its first event at Concordia University, where they competed against 97 debate teams and 413 speeches, including some of the best programs in the nation. **Andrew James** took first place in both Novice Informative speaking, Novice Extemporaneous speaking, and 8th place in Junior Parliamentary Debate. Other category placements included Novice Extemporaneous speaking (**Devin Darcy**), Novice Parliamentary Debate Octo- Finals (**Jalessa Johnson** and **Erika Gasca**); Novice Parliamentary (**Erika Gasca**); and Junior Parliamentary Debate: (**Andrew James** and **Brittany Boiko**). The team also did well at the Oct. 28, Point Loma Nazarene non-official parliamentary debate tournament. Two Olympians placed 2nd (**Brandon Delavar**) and 8th (**Jose Caballero III**) in speaker awards. Two debate teams (**Brandon Delavar** and **Jose Caballero III***;* and **Brigitte Miller**, **Owen Garcia**, and **Bobby Whaley III***)* took Bronze Awards. Profs. **Kim (Gerhardt) Perigo** and **Linda Farnan** report, "Our team is very new this year and we were excited to launch them into their first tournament and they made us all proud!"

## Great California Shakeout

At exactly 10:21 a.m. on Oct.21, the Mesa College community "dropped, covered, and held on." Instantly, our C-CERT emergency response team, led by **Charlotta Robertson** and assisted by Officer **Diana Medero**, swung into action -- as if a real earthquake disaster had occurred. Those in offices heard an instant message regarding what to do in case of an emergency. For the next hour, the C-CERT volunteers set up a Command Center in front of the LRC and dispatched teams to inspect and report on the status of all areas of the campus. The hands-on exercise demonstrated Mesa's amazing team of trained individuals equipped and ready to act immediately.



## Death Experience Postmortem

A record number of 400 students participated in the 2011 Death Experience, located in front of the LRC on Oct. 26th. The annual event is sponsored by Student Health Services as part of National Collegiate Alcohol

Awareness Week. Crashed cars framed the multiple experiences of simulated drunk driving; an arrest and booking; accident scene with crashed car; emergency first-responders who used the jaws of life to extract the victim; and a funeral complete with casket and mourners.

## This and That

- **"Bookstore Boutique" Opens --** Just in time for holiday shopping, the "Bookstore Boutique" opened Tue., Nov. 2. The unique, cooperative venture between the Mesa College Bookstore and fashion students enrolled in Fashion 110: Fashion Buying and Management offers students a real-world college experience in Fashion Merchandising. Items include beanies, scarves, hats, hoodies, t-shirts and yoga pants. Proceeds will benefit the Mesa Fashion program.
- **ESOL Scholarship Committee** Opportunity Drawing. Give up a buck or two for an opportunity to win more than 15 unique items with values of up to $119. Tickets are $1.00 each or 6 for $5.00. Purchase at: Reprographics, K203; Admissions MV12; Allied Health Café, S Building 1st floor; Employment/Payroll Office, A101; **Donna Duchow**, English/ESOL Faculty, G304. Cash or Checks, made payable to Mesa College Foundation with "ESOL Scholarship" on memo line.

## In the News

- Congratulations to Professor of Drama **George Ye**, who is among 14 of San Diego's theatrical best named to the *San Diego Union Tribune's* new FRONT ROW panel. This esteemed group will provide commentary to the U-T on thoughts and trends in the San Diego theatre scene. See the article, which ran on Sun., Oct. 30, HERE.
- Students in Prof. **Alessandra Moctezuma's** Museum Studies class are getting well-deserved nods from the greater San Diego art community scene. Check out the review of the student exhibit, "Stillness Interrupted," in San Diego Magazine.

## On-Track with the Olympians!

Once a week, student-athletes are nominated by their coaches, for the "Pacific Coast Athletic Conference Athlete of the Week Award." This award is given to a female and a male student-athlete who is selected from a pool of candidates from all nine participating colleges. This fall season, 11 of Mesa's student-athletes have been honored as "PCAC Athlete of the Week," with others making the Honorable Mention list. Women's Volleyball has taken the PCAC conference by storm and moved into first place as they beat nationally ranked Grossmont College and a tough Palomar College squad. With half of the season ahead, they have plenty of time to secure their position in the PCAC. Hot on the winning trail is the Mesa Women's Soccer team, which has only lost one conference game and two in the entire season. The team has been playing some very intense ball and has only given up five goals in PCAC play and moved up to #8 ranking in the state. The Men's team has also been holding at 3rd Place in the conference and has plenty of time in the season to move up following a great victory over City College. At last week's **PCAC Cross Country Championships**, the Men's team surged past top ranked Southwestern and had runners finish 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th giving the team the championship title. **Dylan Marx**, who placed 1st, was named the PCAC Championship runner. The women's cross country did well taking 3rd at the same championship and are a strong contender at the SoCal Championships. The Olympian football team took visiting San Bernardino Valley College by surprise and won their final home game 21-10. Their outstanding defense kept the Wolverines scoreless after the 3rd quarter and helped the offense score an unanswered 11 points to secure the victory.

## Kudos:

- Professor of English **Scott Starbuck**, whose poem, "Jacob Describes the Man Behind the Counter," was one of five runners up out of over 900 entries at the 2011 Beyond Baroque Poetry Contest in Venice, California. Beyond Baroque is one of the United States' leading independent Literary/Arts Centers and public spaces dedicated to literary and cultural production, contact, interaction, and community building. Prof. Starbuck was among those honored at a gala reading and reception at Beyond Baroque Literary Arts Center in Venice, California, on October 16th.
- The **Honors Club** and **Pre-Med/Pre-Pharma Club** "Vampire Blood Drive" held over two days, and during Halloween, of course, resulted in the collection of 125 units of usable blood! That will help more than 300 patients! Club members arranged for the drive, checked people in and greeted donors. The costumed greeters didn't have to do much to scare the blood out of donors – many made their appointments online and in advance!

- Prof. **Janna Braun** reports that five members of The *Mesa Press* earned awards at this year's 38th Annual San Diego Press Club Excellence in Journalism Awards. Competing against colleges from around the county, Mesa's top-notch journalism students garnered three first place awards, three second place awards, and one third place award for Mesa's student journalists in a variety of categories. Check out all their stories www.mesapress.com.

## This and That

- The **Child Development Center** is conducting its annual Lending Library Book Drive, Nov. 5 - Dec. 10. Drop off preschool age books, puppets and puzzles at the CDC or call 619-388-2812.
- Enroll in **FLEX workshops** of your choice! For questions, contact the Flex Office at (619) 388-2509 or visit A-109.
- Scholarship applications are now available for the All-USA Coca-Cola Community College Teams and the Jack Kent Cooke Award. Campus Deadline: Friday, November 4, 2011. For details, contact 619-388-2698.
- Workshops offered by the District can help you advance in your career. Next workshop is 9 a.m. to noon, Tue., Nov. 8; call 388-6373 to register.
- Show your students that there's life beyond Google and Wikipedia. The Mesa librarians are pleased to announce a new, "super search tool" that will streamline information access for our students, faculty, and staff. The librarians encourage you to give it a try and let them know what you think. http://sdmesa.edu/library/

## Mesa Moves!

**TRANSFERS:**

Carlota Vidrio, Senior Secretary, School of Humanities, Transfer from District
Jessica Lee (Gonzalez), Senior Secretary, School of Humanities, Transfer to District
Karla Guiterrez, Student Services Asst., Outreach, Transfer from CE

## Passings:

**Coach Charlie Popa,** a longtime Mesa College faculty member and football coach, passed away on Oct. 14, 2011. Coach Popa was always interested and involved with his students, football athletes and colleagues. He joined Mesa College in 1964 where he taught physical education and coached football until his retirement in 1996. He came to Mesa from San Diego High School where he was a teacher and assistant football coach from 1957 to 1960, and head football coach in 1961. His specialty and love was teaching the Physical Education in the Elementary Schools class. After retirement, Coach Popa enjoyed attending many of the Mesa College Football games and the annual Department Golf Tournament.

**Joyce Skaryak**, one of Mesa's most well-known and respected classified staff members, passed on Oct. 17, 2011, following a brief illness. Joyce joined the Mesa College staff in 1974. She most recently held the position of Secretary, Learning Resources & Instructional Support. In 37 years of service to the college and the District, Joyce will be probably best remembered as Classified Senate President, an elected position she held for many years. Joyce was an advocate of shared governance who worked tirelessly to see that the contributions of classified staff members were not only recognized, but that the group had a voice in college- and district-wide matters. Projects she championed included numerous LRC book sales, the Hurricane Katrina fundraiser, a cookbook fundraiser, and the United Way Campaign. Under her leadership, the Classified Senate holiday shopping bazaar at the San Diego Center for Children brought smiles to needy children, and raised more than $12,000 through the years. Joyce also worked to provide scholarships for students who might otherwise not have the financial resources to go to school. "It is difficult to imagine a Mesa without Joyce," noted President Pamela Luster. The statement was echoed by many. Donations to the family may be made through **Cindy Hess**, x2692.

## THE MONTH AHEAD: November

You can always check out what's in store for by viewing THIS MONTH AT MESA.

## STAY INFORMED

- Which **QUAD** concept won? Option #2, by a landslide. Discuss the voting results of final concept design at the FINAL workshops, and share your views. Wed., Nov. 16 12:30 p.m., LRC 435; OR Thu., Nov. 17, 1:45 p.m., Design Center Z-102.
- **Shared governance** committee agendas, minutes and reports can be found at http://www.sdmesa.edu/governance/committees.
- Prop S&N Updates are posted to VP Ron Perez's monthly reports at http://sdmesa.edu/parking/.
- In office flu shots are offered at Student Health Services L-504. Free for students. Faculty and staff: $14.00. Must show CSID card.

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*Be sure to provide all specifics, and please limit your copy to 75 words or less. Thank you!*
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