



CHAPARRAL

By and for the Employees of Glendale College - Primary Funding by the Glendale College Guild AFT 2276

Glendalians, Remember to Vote April 7!

by Ramona Barrio-Sotillo, Professors for Quality Education

Two weeks before election day, the Glendale Community College campus and the community were invited to attend a forum to hear the four candidates for our Board of Trustees (Ann Ransford, Anita Gabrielian, Armine Hacopian and Vrej Agajanian) answer questions regarding the college and provide their perspectives on how they can benefit the campus. Although all four candidates were invited, only three attended, as Mr. Agajanian declined to participate.

The format of the forum consisted of five questions developed by the Professors for Quality Education (PQE) regarding important issues impacting the college today. These include shared governance, the day-to-day operation of the board in the running of the college and other questions relevant to the college. After all the candidates were given a chance to answer the prepared questions,

the audience were given an opportunity to ask additional questions. The forum was also videotaped for an upcoming Gateways television episode which airs on the Glendale city cable station.

Armine Hacopian made it a point to let the audience know that there will be two ballots for the Glendale election on April 7, and the board of trustees candidates' names will be on the second ballot. She stressed the importance of letting the voters know that they should

**Don't forget to
VOTE
on APRIL 7!**

**Don't forget to
vote both parts
of the two-part
ballot.**

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pay special attention to the names of the board of trustees candidates on the ballot and not inadvertently overlook it.

We at PQE would like to thank everyone who helped us to put together this forum and all of those who participated in the event. 📖

Gabbing and Grousing with Gordy

by Gordon Alexandre, Guild President

Stop the Budget Madness



Even before the ink was dry on the month-old budget package deal, the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) has estimated that next year's budget is already \$8 billion in the hole. In addition, almost \$6 billion worth of budget solutions this year is based on the passage of three ballot initiatives on May 19, and passage is not at all

guaranteed. Two more ballot initiatives having to do with caps on spending, the so-called rainy day fund, and disputes over the calculation of Prop 98 revenues won't take effect in '09-'10, but will have serious long term implications on future budgets. The state's political and economic crisis will continue until the structural cause of both is resolved.

Behind the economic crisis is the political crisis. The 2/3 vote required to pass a budget and raise taxes places a political stranglehold on the state. It allows for a mean-spirited, ideological, conservative minority to derail the will of a more open-minded, moderate majority. The "tyranny of the minority" is something the framers of the U.S. Constitution warned us against, but which the state of California has

fallen prey to. This has caused the 8-month budget delay, the house-of-cards it's built upon, and the holding of the state hostage by one Republican whose vote was needed for the budget to be passed. We cannot afford to let the 2/3 requirement stand, and we should support every effort next year to get rid of it.

Why these secret proceedings?

California's Big Five also need to be taken to task for negotiating a budget deal behind closed doors and keeping everyone in the dark. The five of them, including two Democrats, isolated from their constituencies, late at night, put together a deal that at midnight the legislature voted on without having the necessary time to think through it and do their "due diligence."

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Chaparral

Printed 3 or 4 times per semester, the *Chaparral* is published by and for the entire staff of GCC. Primary funding is by the Glendale College Guild, AFT 2276. The newsletter is dedicated to providing timely information on the campus community about any issues that affect our college, higher education, and/or professional lives. Prose, poetry, art work and opinion as well as expository reporting are welcome. The pages of *Chaparral* are open to all faculty, staff, students and administrators. Submissions for publication should be word processed in IBM-compatible Word Perfect, MS Word or ASCII file format. No anonymous submissions will be published. Please e-mail articles to Mona Field (mfield). If you have

announcements you wish printed or any questions, contact Mona Field at x5473 or e-mail mfield.

The *Chaparral* Editorial Board is composed of volunteers and is open to any college staff members. The current board includes Mona Field (editor-in-chief), Susan Cisco (managing editor), Patricia Chamroonrat (production manager), Andra Verstraete and Phillip Kazanjian. Columnists are Guild President Gordon Alexandre (Gabbing and Grousing with Gordy), Academic Senate President John Queen (Speaking of the Senate), CSEA President Saodat Aziskhanova (CSEA Connection), Classified Council President Henan Joof (Classified Council Corner), Guild 2nd Vice President Phyllis Eckler (Adjunct Junction), and Alex Leon (Foundation).

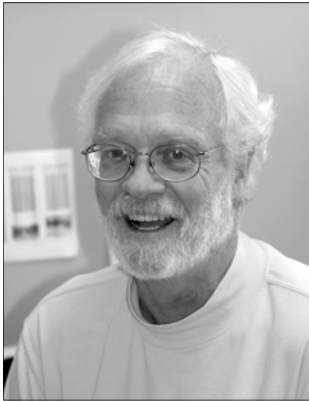
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The views expressed in the articles of the *Chaparral* are solely those of the contributing authors. They do not represent the views of Glendale College or the Guild.

Speaking of the Senate...

by John Queen, Academic Senate President



The technical assistance report from the team from the Community College League of California (CCLC) and the Academic Senate of the California Community Colleges (ASCCC) has been circulating on campus, and I thought I would address its analysis and recommendations. Dr. Levy and the Senate invited the team to do a presentation and offer advice on effective participation in governance, a service that the two organizations routinely provide upon request from community colleges from around the state.

One obviously important conclusion of the report is that the college is currently characterized by a pervasive sense of mistrust between faculty, staff, and middle-level management on the one side and the Board, the president and the senior staff on the other. A second is that the extent of this mistrust and the difficulties in shared governance are problems for our upcoming accreditation. Specifically, the report says if we hope to have our “accreditation reaffirmed,” we need to take

action on the recommendations that the team made. That phrase “accreditation reaffirmed,” by the way, does not necessarily mean “accreditation lost.” Reaffirmation is the best outcome for an already accredited college. The commission can decide to put the college on warning or on probation or on show cause (i.e., show the cause why the college should not have its accreditation removed), or remove accreditation. So to say that accreditation might not be reaffirmed is not the same as saying that the college will lose accreditation. On the other hand, we do want the best possible outcome for accreditation, so it is one more good reason to take the report seriously and act on its recommendations.

Now it is true that the technical assistance team was only here for a day, and it is possible to dispute some of the details of the report, but I think we can use the report as a rough gauge of how we appear to outside people knowledgeable about community colleges. It would appear then essential to respond to the recommendations that the report made.

4 Main Recommendations

There were four main recommendations: 1) to engage an outside facilitator to provide training in team building and communications among the college leadership; 2) to conduct an audit of current governance practices with a view to their conformity with current state laws and regulations; 3) to promote a culture of respect; and 4) for the Board to continue

with “annual development activities that review the roles and responsibilities of the board within the legal structure of participatory governance.”

Dr. Levy and I have already made inquiries about facilitators, and hopefully we can accomplish this recommendation before the end of this semester. The second recommendation to audit existing practices is in fact in process. The Campus Executive committee has been reviewing dozens upon dozens of Board policies over the last 2½ years, comparing existing Board policies to CCLC suggestions and our general understanding of shared governance as delineated in AB 1725. (AB 1725 refers to a bill that reformed the community colleges in 1988 and embodied the principle of shared governance—although that term never appears in the legislation. You can access the law at <http://www.faccc.org/ADVOCACY/bills/historical/ab1725.PDF>. The first 8 pages are the Legislative Counsel’s Digest and provide an overview.)

This recommendation was made because the team perceived a disconnection between our current governance practices and AB 1725. This was the part of the report that most concerned me when I first read it. I contacted Mark Wade Lieu, the ASCCC president who co-conducted technical assistance with Scott Lay of the CCLC, and asked him to elaborate. He said their main concern is that we do not have a

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by Saodat Aziskhanova, CSEA President

CSEA Update



Spring semester is upon us, and we don't have the pressure of FTES count this time. The tough economy, sad to say, helps us by bringing more students back to our campus, meaning more students for us, more than we can afford with our scarce resources.

Yes, we have a budget now and it is better than we anticipated; however, we are not at the point where we can talk about the current recession in the past tense.

It is a busy time for the CSEA. The CSEA Executive Board is helping our endorsed candidates for the Board of Trustees by working on a successful election. Please do not forget to exercise your fundamental right to vote on

April 7, 2009. It makes a difference to have trustees who understand the needs of both students and employees and who are not using Glendale College as a steppingstone to a higher political office.

We can spend funds, help with the distribution of lawn signs, stuff mailers and still fail if we do not vote on April 7. Imagine having a candidate we do not support taking a seat on the dais.

Classified Retreat offers expert speakers

A two-day Classified Retreat will take place during spring break. As always, confidential employees are invited to participate. We will have contract education workshops conducted by CSEA Labor Relations Representative Matthew Gentile and the CSEA expert in CALPERS regulations, Nadine Franklin, who often helps CALPERS professionals to interpret legislation. You do not have to plan to retire in the near future to know about your retirement benefits and how CALPERS works. Planning your retirement definitely would not hurt. Do not miss this opportunity to hear

Nadine Franklin, and with her busy schedule, we are lucky to have her speak at the retreat.

John Queen, Academic Senate President and Accreditation Coordinator, will be a speaker on the accreditation process, and we also will have a forum so you can ask questions and get answers from the very source—administrators.

Last year in my *Chaparral* article, I asked the college community to nominate a classified and a confidential employee or a classified manager for the John Davitt Award. Thank you to those who nominated. We've got a great response and had so many of you who took time from your busy schedules to nominate an employee for the award. The nomination form is available on the website <http://www.glendale.edu/davittaward/>. A person you nominate can be any employee you dealt with in the course of your college work and/or student matters. One good example would be the recent outpouring of messages regarding the Duplicating staff. You can put all those kind words into a nomination form and nominate an employee from that area. The deadline for the nomination forms to be submitted to the Human Resources office is April 1, 2009. 📖

In Unity,
Saodat Aziskhanova

Visit us on the web!
www.glendale.edu/csea

ADJUNCT JUNCTION

by Phyllis Eckler, 2nd Vice President, GCC Guild

Assembly Bill 381

Legislation Could Lead to STATE DISABILITY INSURANCE FOR ADJUNCT FACULTY



With an aging adjunct faculty population and limited contributions to pay for health insurance premiums available from districts, the interest in State Disability Insurance (SDI) is becoming an important issue for part-timers in the state. State Disability Insurance is usually a required deduction in the private sector. However, community colleges are not required to subscribe to this program. The collective bargaining unit or union, however, may negotiate this benefit for faculty members with the total cost being borne by the employee. Unions at community colleges have been hesitant to consider bargaining for a benefit that would cost 1.1% of a faculty member's salary. Most full-time faculty members receive some

disability coverage from the CalSTRS Defined Benefit Plan, although these "limited-term" benefits are only available for disabilities that are expected to last at least 12 months. Still, the higher number of sick days or the Catastrophic Leave pool that full-time faculty have access to sometimes leaves them less interested in joining SDI.

Benefits of SDI

There are good reasons that both full-time and part-time faculty should consider joining SDI. The State's plan offers employees short-term disability payments for a minimum of 10 weeks for pregnancy disability leave and up to 52 weeks for recovery from other non-work-related illnesses. This includes disabilities resulting from an injury, elective surgery (such as hip or knee replacement), childbirth, or mental illness that precludes that employee from doing his/her customary work.

Employees who pay into SDI are also eligible for Paid Family Leave (PFL) benefits. Paid Family Leave benefits will replace 55% of wages up to a maximum of \$917 per week (as of 2008) for six weeks in order to bond with a newborn baby, newly adopted or

foster child or to care for a seriously ill parent, child, spouse or registered domestic partner. An expectant mother could therefore receive several weeks of SDI benefits pre-delivery if medically necessary and six weeks of PFL paid benefits post-partum in order to bond with her child. Workers may also receive PFL benefits during leave that is taken all at one time or on an intermittent basis in hourly, daily or weekly increments.

Adjuncts: no work, no pay

The importance of SDI benefits for adjunct faculty is even more significant. Since part-time faculty are paid only when they are actually working, they are dependent on limited sick days to cover their income loss due to illness. Moreover, if they get sick between semesters, unemployment benefits (which they would normally have access to) will not be paid, since they are not able to work. If the adjunct faculty member had SDI benefits he/she would seamlessly transfer from unemployment benefits to SDI benefits.

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Gabbing and Grousing with Gordy

Democracy demands more transparency. We can certainly do better than this. And if this happens again, those responsible should be held accountable, either by voting them out of office or recalling them.

California faces a structural budget gap, and regressive taxes and smoke-and-mirrors won't solve the problem. Even the governor recognizes the fact that California has a revenue, not an expenditure, problem. There simply is not enough money to provide the services needed for a state as large as ours. The combination of significant budget cuts, modest tax increases, and borrowing against future revenues is not the right way to solve the problem, nor is it adequate. We need more progressive taxation or else huge budget deficits will plague us for years. So far, the only tax increases talked about are regressive, like increasing the sales tax or by raising tuition at community colleges to \$40 a unit, as called for by the LAO. These are tax increases on the poor and students.

"Taxes" is NOT a 4-letter word

We must take on the challenge to educate Californians on the need to raise taxes on those who can most afford to pay them. The wealthiest Californians must pay at a higher rate than they do now. Reinstating the 11% tax rate on the wealthiest, as it was in the 1980s, is a step in the right direction and would raise billions of additional revenues. In addition, we must revisit and modify Prop 13 so more property tax dollars can be generated. Allowing residents and commercial property owners who have lived in their homes or owned their property for 25 or 30 years to pay very low property taxes, even though their equity has tripled or quadrupled, is unfair to both newer home owners and to the state's future.

It is true that California is positioned to receive over \$30 billion in federal stimulus money. Of this amount, K-12 and higher education is supposed to receive about \$8 billion. This will help offset the deficit, but we don't know exactly when we'll get the

money or exactly what it will be spent on. More importantly, it is a temporary "fix" at a time when California has a permanent structural problem.

The CFT is engaging in extensive lobbying efforts along with the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) and Community College League of California (CCLC) to make sure the ongoing deficit is not solved off the backs of poor people and students. However, the education needed around taxes has to be done by us as we talk to friends, family members, colleagues, and neighbors in our communities and civic organizations. I think we have the ability to tackle both the political and economic challenges facing us, but the real question is whether we have the will to do so. California's future depends on a YES answer. 📖

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"GOOD TO BE HOME"

by Phil Kazanjian, Business Division

Recently, I had the opportunity to interview for the *Chaparral* our new Executive Director of the Glendale College Foundation, Lisa Brooks.

Lisa has a very interesting background. She was born in New Haven, Connecticut, but raised in Sydney, Australia, where she got her BA in Sociology at the University of New South Wales. She lived on a kibbutz in Israel for a while before traveling around Europe. Eventually, she ended up in London, where she worked with the parents of children with severe disabilities and other disadvantaged communities. During that period, she also earned her Masters Degree in Social Work and Administration from the London School of Economics.

Although Lisa was raised and schooled outside the United States, she says "it's good to be home." She returned to the United States after falling in love with the multiculturalism of Los Angeles, its warm climate and the endless optimism of the people. She moved to the Glendale area with her husband, a computer network provider, because of the beautiful mountains and the small town atmosphere.

Raising millions is her forte

As some of you can relate to, until recently, Lisa was a frequent freeway driver. While Lisa has lived in the area these past twenty-five years, the last sixteen have

been spent commuting to work at Jewish Family Service, a large non-profit social service agency, located in the Mid-Wilshire corridor in Los Angeles, where she served as the organization's fund-raising and communications strategist. Under her leadership, and in conjunction with the board and staff, Jewish Family Service raised \$27 million from grants, foundation support, individual donors and special events.

Lisa has long admired Glendale Community College and is in the process of getting to know the Foundation Board of Directors, as well as the faculty and staff. She says, "This is an exciting time to be involved with the Foundation. It has a strong history and a track record of raising funds. Today, there are so many needs. The transformative power of this college makes it a win-win for donor dollars. A thousand dollars here can change not only an individual's life but an entire family's trajectory. What four-year college can you say that about?"

"I am fortunate to have inherited a strong and committed College Foundation Board. One of my goals is to help us build even greater capacity to raise funds. I am also excited about the opportunities to interface with the college staff, and the local community chamber, and other boards and organizations that benefit our students and programs. I have loved the Glendale community for so long, so this is a dream come true. . ."



"Think positive"

I did bring up the difficult and challenging economy we find ourselves in, but Lisa's unhesitating response was "think positive." "We will work together as a team—faculty, staff, and board. While the next few years may bring its challenges, it will also bring great opportunities for this college, which has such a rich and deep history. I am honored to be a part of this effort."

I must admit, I was very impressed by her positive attitude, commitment and willingness to lead at a time of financial challenge to the college and our community.

She ended our conversation by asking me to let everyone know her door is open at the Foundation office, and she welcomes everyone to come by and meet her. She is also going around the campus now and meeting everyone she can.

I came away from the interview with the thought we may just have the right person as the Executive Director of the Glendale College Foundation at this very challenging time. 📖

Board policy that specifies how the Board and the Senate will consult on the “ten-plus-one” policy areas (again, from AB 1725—see the accompanying box). Here too, we are already in process with meeting this recommendation. Campus Executive has been considering precisely such a policy (proposed Board policy 8510, “Local Participation in Decision-making,” which also aims to specify the relationship between the Board and the Guild, CSEA, administrators, and students). Ironically, Campus Executive decided to table this policy until we consulted with the technical assistance team about the meaning of the terms “rely primarily” and “mutually agree,” which specify how the Board and Senate will consult on each of the ten-plus-one areas. Now that the team did a presentation on those terms, the Senate Executive is crafting a proposal on whether we will mutually agree or rely primarily in the policy areas. This will be brought to the Senate and then Campus Executive. In sum, we should have such a policy this semester.

The third recommendation is to foster a culture of respect. This is a goal much to be desired and does not automatically follow from the execution of the other recommendations. It will involve a good faith commitment on the part of all the constituencies on campus. The good news along these lines is that the report also reveals the positive impression that the team had of the college. The strong participation, involvement and connection of the various constituencies of the college were noted, as was the desire of these same constituencies to resolve current problems. I noticed something similar from the faculty perspective last semester with the survey on Standard IV (i.e., the accreditation standard on governance). While the full-time faculty were critical of how the various parts of the college were working together and the communication skills of the president, simultaneously they vigorously supported the statement that “governance works effectively.” In sort, we may in fact be closer to achieving this recommendation than might appear at first blush.

As for the fourth recommendation, annual reviews by the board of its roles and responsibilities, the board could easily incorporate this into its annual retreat. This could lead to interesting conversations not only among themselves (including the student trustee), but also between them and the administration, the Senate, the Guild, and CSEA. For example, a discussion of what distinguishes micro-

management from legitimate policymaking could benefit all sides, if conducted in a spirit of good will.

The burning question is, of course, what is to be done? The Senate has already discussed the report, and a Senate electorate meeting will also address it. I assume that the Senate will then pass a motion to implement the recommendations and that motion will be taken to Campus Executive and then the Board. The use of a facilitator, ongoing activities to build a sense of community, the continuation of the discussion and analysis of board policies (and administrative regulations) in light of AB 1725, and board development activities all seem likely proposals. We can then all tap into that vibrant and positive tradition of shared governance of which we are so justly proud to accomplish these goals. We of course need to acknowledge the turbulence of the past couple of years, but then turn the page to a new chapter in the college’s history.

“Ten-plus-one”

1. Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines.
2. Degree and certificate requirements.
3. Grading policies.
4. Educational program development.
5. Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success.
6. College governance structures, as related to faculty roles.
7. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports.
8. Policies for faculty professional development activities.
9. Processes for program review.
10. Processes for institutional planning and budget development.
11. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon.

A note on the accreditation process

As my discussion of the technical assistance report makes clear, accreditation casts its shadow over much of what we are doing today. As of this writing (March 20), the first drafts of the various sections of

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Davitt leads inductees for 2009 Hall of Fame

by Alex Leon, Sports Information Director



2009 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

“Unless Harley riding is a sport, I probably have no business being here tonight,” said former Superintendent/President Dr. John Davitt. “But since I am, I would like to thank several individuals from the college who have more to do with campus development and creating new athletic facilities than I ever did.”

Davitt’s comments as the last of six inductees capped off

a perfect night as five individuals and one team took their place in the Glendale Community College Athletic Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony and banquet took place Saturday, March 21, 2009 on campus at the J. Walter Smith Student Center.

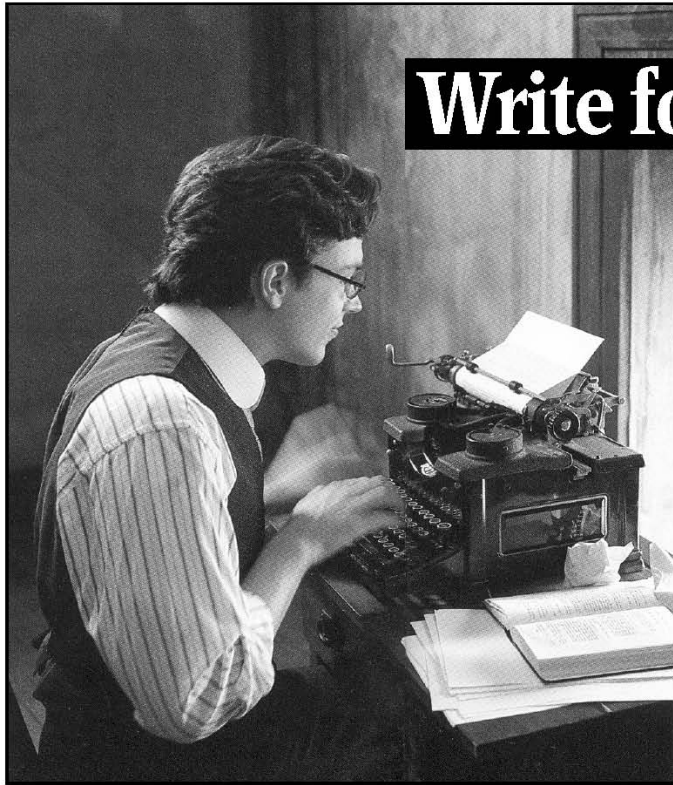
Jeff Nelson, George McGowan, Steve Moore, Tony Spino, the 1978 women’s volleyball team and Davitt were inducted that evening.

Nelson was the individual state champion in cross country for the Vaqs in 1980 and also

helped his squad win the team title. He held the high school record in the two-mile in 8:36.3 for almost 30 years until it was broken this past spring.

McGowan and Moore were All-American teammates on the 1967 football team at wide receiver and were also teammates at Glendale High. McGowan went on to become a record setting receiver in the Canadian Football League. He was named CFL Player of the Year in 1973 and was named to its hall of fame in 2003. After his

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Write for the Chaparral!

Do you have ideas for stories? What campus issues would you like to read about in the *Chaparral*?

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SPEAKING OF THE SENATE

the self-study are due. Teams of faculty, administrators, staff and students will then review these sections. Also participating in the review will be members of the accreditation steering committee (made up of members of those same constituencies).

A second draft is due in early May and, after preliminary review by the reviewers and the Standards committees

from the fall, the self-study will be circulated among the four standing committees (Academic Affairs, Administrative Affairs, Student Affairs, and the Campus Executive committee), the Senate, and campus-wide town halls and blogs.

In June, we expect to bring to the Board of Trustees a draft that should be substantively very close to the one the college will adopt. Formatting, the addition of graphics, and

stylistic polishing will proceed in the summer and into the fall. It is possible a third revision will be circulated in the early fall. The Board will consider the final draft at at least two of their meetings and it should go to the printer at the beginning of December. If there are any significant developments at the college between early December and the site team's visit in mid-March, we will supply them with an update. 📖

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ADJUNCT JUNCTION

The Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) is sponsoring a bill that has been submitted by Assemblymember Block to this year's legislative session that would allow faculty employees

to elect (vote) to provide the 1.1% deduction for all members of the local to join SDI or to allow only the temporary/adjunct members of the unit to choose to join SDI (present law requires ALL members of the local to agree to join SDI). The bill number is AB381(Block),

and you can find out more about this piece of legislation by contacting Andrea York ayork@facc.org at FACCC. Her direct number is (916) 447-8555 and she is anxious to hear from faculty about their comments, concerns and questions. 📖

To Faculty and Staff

Save the Date

Thursday, May 21

There is something new this year, so please save the date: May 21, 2009.

We will have a combined scholarship award luncheon and Dr. Davitt luncheon on campus in the J.W. Smith Campus Center Conference Room.

You will be able to meet and greet the deserving and outstanding students who will be receiving our scholarships and enjoy lunch catered by the Culinary Arts Department.

Judy Gorham, Patrons Club President
Carolyn Payne, First Vice President

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HALL OF FAME

playing days, Moore was a long-time assistant for the Seattle Seahawks.

Dr. Davitt was the Superintendent/President at the college from 1985 to 2006, and the athletic facilities improved greatly during his tenure, including the construction of the six tennis courts on Mountain St. and the renovation of Sartoris Field in 2005.


Spino was a student-trainer at Glendale from 1968-70. He

has been a trainer at UCLA for 35 years and has been on the staff of 19 NCAA Championship teams. He was also a trainer for the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks from 1975-79.

The 1978 women's volleyball team won the Western State Conference title and finished fourth in the state. The team was coached by Dianne Spangler.

"The spirit of the hall of fame was on display tonight and Davitt's comments about what is good and great about

the college was right on," said former men's athletic director Jim Sartoris. "Combine Davitt with a great women's volleyball team, George McGowan and Steve Moore, whom I coached and are great guys and Jeff Nelson who was one of the best runners we have ever had.

"And then you have Tony Spino, whose story practically brings you to tears. I don't know of any other school that puts on this kind of event that gets better and better each year." 

M I L E S T O N E S

Trudi Abram, division chair of Visual & Performing Arts, chaired a panel at the annual College Art Association National Conference in February. The panel presented new ideas in pedagogical practices in community colleges, including Trudi's own paper on Writing Online Courses. Trudi offers to consult with any colleague who wants to pursue online courses.

Denise Blue, adjunct instructor of English, just published *It is Out There: The Homeless Years* under her pen name, Denise B. In the book, she condenses ten years of living as a street person. The book is can be ordered from the publisher, PublishAmerica, and is also available through amazon.com.

The **GCC Concert Singers** were invited to sing with a massed choir of 600 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in downtown Los Angeles for the annual Mark Thallander Choral Festival. The director of the Concert

Singers, **Dr. Peter Green**, Associate Professor of Music, was asked to conduct one of the massed pieces. The GCC Concert Singers was the only choir asked to sing alone as well. They performed Haydn's "Te Deum" with the Conejo Valley Youth Symphony. Peter reports that it was a great honor singing to a full house of 4,000+ people!

Don Hodges is pleased and proud to announce the birth of his first child which took place on March 25, at 8:08 AM. Benjamin Hugh Hodges arrived at 7 pounds 1 ounce, and he is 22 inches tall. Both child and mother are doing very well. Congratulations, Don!

Dr. Allison Kolpas, daughter of **Sid Kolpas**, accepted a two-year post doctoral position in Mathematics at the University of Delaware. While she will teach mathematics, her primary role will be research in mathematical biology.

Jamie Kolpas, Sid's younger daughter, will be moving to New York City to pursue an MFA in dance.

Margaret Nadir's son, Garen Nadir, who graduated from GCC and then from UCLA in June 2008, has now been accepted to Loyola Law School. He wants to specialize in environmental law. He is also one of the three co-founders of the green garden at the entrance to the 134 freeway off Monterey Road in Glendale. Working with the city of Glendale, they are transforming the vacant lot into a green garden where neighbors will be able to grow fruits and vegetables.

For the Record

In the February *Chaparral* milestones, **Hasmik Sarkissian** reported that her daughter, Aniee Sarkissian, is receiving an M.S. from UC Riverside in March. The milestone said she completed her undergraduate studies at UC Irvine, but she actually graduated from UC Riverside. 📖



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