Music (continued)

SCC
- Oct 27: Concert Band, Auditorium, 7:00pm
- Nov 2: World Music Ensemble, Auditorium, 7:30pm
- Nov 5: Pops Concert, A6, 12:10pm
- Nov 5: World Music Ensemble, Martin Luther King High School, Davis, 7:00pm
- Nov 6: Pops Concert, A6, 8:00pm
- Nov 7: Nadra Brahama Music Ensemble, Moffettow Studios, Davis, 8:00pm
- Nov 14: Nadra Brahama Music Ensemble, Sacramento Yoga Center, 8:00pm
- Nov 17: Concert Band, Auditorium, 7:00pm
- Nov 19: SCC Faculty Concert, A27/A6, 12:10pm
- Nov 22: World Music Ensemble, Davis Art Center, 6:00pm
- Nov 23: World Music Ensemble, Auditorium, 7:30pm
- Dec 1: Applied Music Recital, A6, 12:10pm
- Dec 3: Voice Recital, A6, 12:10pm
- Dec 3: Commercial Music Ensemble, A6, 7:00pm
- Dec 4: Voice Recital, A6, 8:00pm
- Dec 6: World Music Ensemble, Sacramento Marathon 23-mile mark, 9:00am
- Dec 8: Commercial Music Ensemble, Flagpole/A6, 12:10pm
- Dec 8: Concert Band, Auditorium, 7:00pm
- Dec 10: Choral Concert, A6, 12:10pm
- Dec 10: Jazz Band Evening Concert, A6, 8:00pm
- Dec 11: Choral Concert, Church of the Master, 8:00pm
- Dec 12: Christmas Choral Concert, Capitol Rotunda, 12:00pm
- Dec 13: Choral Concert, St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, 8:00pm

Performing Arts

FLC
- Dec 3: Evening of Dance, Dance Room (PE 203), 6:00-8:00pm

Theatre

ARC
- Oct 9 - 25: Footloose: The Musical, music by Tom Snow; lyrics by Dean Pitchford, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm, Sundays at 2:00pm, Thursdays at 6:30pm.
- Nov 20 - 29: Kinky and Do by Jane Martin, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm, Sundays at 2:00pm.

SCC
- Sept 25 - Oct 18: Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson, directed by Lori Ann DeLappe-Grondin, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm, Sundays at 2:00pm, Thursdays at 1:00pm.
- Nov 3 - Nov 1: Pinocchio, read by Doug Lawson, Storytime Theatre, Sundays and Saturdays at 1:00pm.
- Nov 20 - Dec 13: Peter Pan: A British Panto by J.M. Barrie and Christine Nicholson, directed by Luther Hanson, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm, Sundays at 2:00pm.
- Nov 28 - Dec 13: Sleeping Beauty, read by Doug Lawson, Storytime Theatre, Saturdays and Sundays at 1:00pm.
- Jan 22 - Feb 7: Local Playwrights’ Festival: Old City Cemetery Plays.

For more information call the college Public Information Offices:
- ARC: 484-8647
- FLC: 608-6993
- CRC: 691-7199
- SCC: 558-2442
**NEWSMAKER**

Venture chats with CRC’s new president, Debbie Travis.

**Art**

**ARC**
- Oct 15: Annie Murphy-Robinson, Artist Lecture Series, Room 162, 7:00pm
- Nov 19: Brenda Louie, Artist Lecture Series, Room 162, 7:00pm
- Dec 10: Anne Gregory, Artist Lecture Series, Room 162, 7:00pm

**FLC**
- Oct 2-30: Annual Visual Arts Faculty Exhibition, Library
- Oct 13 - Nov 3: Jim Estey’s Watercolor Class Exhibition, El Dorado Center Library
- Oct 29: Annual Visual Arts Faculty Exhibition Reception and Disability Awareness Art Show, Library, 5:00-7:30pm

**Music**

**ARC**
- Oct 21: Orchestra, Gibbons Park, 7:00pm
- Oct 28: Orchestra, 7:30pm
- Oct 29: Concert Band & Symphonic Band, 7:30pm
- Nov 1: Capital Jazz Project, 7:00pm
- Nov 3: Concert Choir & Chamber Singers, 7:30pm
- Nov 4: Vocal Jazz Ensembles, 8:00pm
- Nov 5: Instrumental Jazz Ensembles, 7:30pm
- Nov 6: Jazz Combos, 7:30pm
- Nov 8: Kario Singers (Guest Artists), 7:00pm
- Nov 23: Applied Music Student Recital, Room 512, 4:00pm
- Nov 25: Applied Music Student Recital, Room 512, 5:00pm
- Dec 2: Orchestra, 7:30pm
- Dec 3: Instrumental Jazz Ensembles, 7:30pm
- Dec 4: Applied Music Student Recital, Room 512, 12:30pm
- Dec 4: Orchestra, Natomas Crossroads Church, 7:00pm
- Dec 4: Jazz Combos, 7:30pm
- Dec 7: Capital Jazz Project, 7:00pm
- Dec 8: Concert Choir & Chamber Singers, 7:30pm
- Dec 9: Orchestra, 7:00pm
- Dec 9: Vocal Jazz Ensembles, 8:00pm
- Dec 10: Chamber Orchestra, Room 512, 12:15pm
- Dec 10: Applied Music Student Recital, Room 512, 7:00pm
- Dec 13: Capital Jazz Project, 7:00pm
- Dec 19: Chamber Orchestra w/Solano Choral Society, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Fairfield, 8:00pm
- Dec 20: Chamber Orchestra w/Solano Choral Society, Vacaville Performing Arts Center, 3:00pm

**CRC**
- Oct 1: Commercial Music Ensemble & Improv Group, 2:00pm
- Oct 12: Orchestra (dress rehearsal)
- Oct 15: Jazz Band & CSUS Jazz, Offsite, 7:00pm
- Oct 19: Orchestra & Concert Band, 7:30pm
- Oct 27: All-Choirs Concert, 7:30pm
- Oct 28: Concert Band & Guests: UOP Wind Ensemble, 7:30pm
- Oct 29: All-Choirs Concert, 7:30pm
- Nov 5: Commercial Music Ensemble, 2:00pm
- Nov 24: Contemporary Gospel Choir, 7:30pm
- Dec 1: Chamber Singers, EGCAT, 1:00pm, Offsite
- Dec 1: Jazz Band, 7:30pm
- Dec 2: Concert Band Holiday Concert, Downtown Plaza in front of Macy’s, 7:00pm
- Dec 3: Commercial Music Ensemble & Improv Group, 2:00pm
- Dec 3: Student Recital, 7:30pm
- Dec 4: Chamber Singers, Capitol Ronanda, 12:00pm
- Dec 7: Orchestra (dress rehearsal)
- Dec 8: College Chorus & Chamber Singers, 7:30pm
- Dec 9: Concert Band & Guests: Cosumnes Oaks High School Band, 7:30pm
- Dec 10: College Chorus & Chamber Singers, 7:30pm
- Dec 12: Jazz Band @ CSUS Winter Jazz, TBA
- Dec 14: Orchestra, 7:30pm
- Dec 15: Contemporary Gospel Choir at Parkview Presbyterian Church, 7:30pm

**FLC**
- Dec 10: Concert Band, time & location TBA
- Dec 11: Special Ensemble Concert, time & location TBA

**SCC**
- Oct 5: Jazz Combo, Flag Pole/ A6, 12:10pm
- Oct 13: Jazz Band Showcase, Flagpole/ A6, 12:10pm
- Oct 14: Choral Concert, A27, 12:00pm
- Oct 15: Jazz Band Evening Concert, A6, 7:00pm
- Oct 15: Choral Concert, St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, 8:00pm
- Oct 17: World Music Ensemble, Greenbelt Park, 2:00pm
- Oct 18: Choral Concert, St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, 8:00pm
- Oct 20: Commercial Music Ensemble, Flagpole/ A6, 12:10pm
- Oct 22: Commercial Music Ensemble, Auditorium, 7:00pm

**WHERE ARE WE?**


**MAKING A BIG SPLASH**

Venture chats with CRC’s new president, Debbie Travis.

**hot TICKETS**

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- Dec 11: Special Ensemble Concert, time & location TBA

**SCC**
- Oct 5: Jazz Combo, Flag Pole/ A6, 12:10pm
- Oct 13: Jazz Band Showcase, Flagpole/ A6, 12:10pm
- Oct 14: Choral Concert, A27, 12:00pm
- Oct 15: Jazz Band Evening Concert, A6, 7:00pm
- Oct 15: Voice Master Class, A27, 6:00pm
- Oct 16: Choral Concert, Church of the Master, 8:00pm
- Oct 17: World Music Ensemble, Greenbelt Park, 2:00pm
- Oct 18: Choral Concert, St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, 8:00pm
- Oct 20: Commercial Music Ensemble, Flagpole/ A6, 12:10pm
- Oct 22: Commercial Music Ensemble, Auditorium, 7:00pm
decisions over the next few years, it is possible that community colleges will emerge from the current budget crisis with a stronger focus on basic skills and college-level academics and vocational instruction— with other types of instruction relying more heavily on self-supported programs or entities outside higher education.

Well before the most recent cutbacks, the CCC system has faced a number of performance-related challenges. For example, according to the CCC Chancellor’s Office, about 90 percent of incoming CCC students are not proficient in transfer (university) level math or English. Additionally, studies have shown that often these students (most of whom are recent high school graduates) do not realize they require additional basic skills coursework until they undergo an assessment prior to registering for classes. Over one-third of students assessed as needing basic skills courses choose not to enroll in them. Of those that do, only about 60 percent pass a basic skills English course and just 50 percent pass a basic skills math course.

Recent reports (including some by our office) have argued that the CCC system needs to do a better job of providing early information and feedback to high school students on the preparation needed for success in community college. In addition, studies have highlighted student confusion about college-readiness standards, caused in large part by the system’s use of dozens of different standardized tests to assess new CCC students—as well as significant variations among tests both in terms of what is assessed and how much students are expected to know. Another problem involves underprepared students who avoid addressing their basic skills deficiencies and instead enroll directly in college-level courses (such as history and economics) for which they are not ready.

The state and CCC system appear to be moving toward policies that address several of these issues. For example, the CCC Chancellor’s Office is currently implementing Chapter 473, Statutes of 2008 (SB 946, Scott), which expands California State University’s (CSU) Early Assessment Program by informing high school juniors about their preparedness for community college. In addition, the CCC Chancellor’s Office also is working on a proposal to make available to colleges a common assessment test for incoming CCC students. In addition, the CCC Board of Governors has recently endorsed a plan by a statewide group on basic skills to impose, on a trial basis, systemwide English and math prerequisites on certain outside-discipline courses.

Recently, there also has been increased interest in the Legislature about how community colleges are funded. For instance, the amount of funding a district receives from the state depends largely on the number of students enrolled at a point early in the term. This funding policy creates incentives to get students “in the seats” early on, but has little to do with students completing courses or being successful in them. A new funding mechanism based at least in part on completions, rather than just enrollments, could provide a much stronger incentive for colleges to help students realize their educational goals.

“Given that community colleges currently lack the resources to serve everyone who wish to enroll in a class, a major issue today involves which missions, programs and courses to prioritize over others.”

From Afghanistan to SCC to UC Berkeley: a war veteran tells . . .

Two years ago, I left the military after six years and returned to college. I joined the Air Force when I was eighteen because I wanted to see the world and meet new people. I had no intention to go to school or pursue a degree, but after a few years of long deployments to foreign countries, I decided to start attending night classes at a local community college. My six-year commitment was soon approaching an end, so there was an opportunity to start college as a full-time student.

At the start of my first semester at Sacramento City College, I was incredibly nervous because I felt so much different from the other students in my classes. I had just left the military after being part of a controversial war, I was older, and I was on my own. However, I was also anxious and optimistic to begin something completely different to the monotonous routines and extremely early mornings from years in the military. I soon realized how educational success was solely in my hands, and that I also had the ability to shape my education in order to complement my personal desires instead of conforming to what the military demanded. Coincidentally, I went through an entire change of mentality in order to embrace curiosity, enjoy creativity, and discover my individuality. At that time, I still felt the mental constraints from maintaining years of strict adherence to an extreme type of conformity, being reliant and dependent upon others in order to succeed, and constantly being told when and how to do something. This left no room for creativity or appreciation for individuality, and transitioning away from this remains one of the hardest mental adjustments I have ever made. As a result, I have discovered new personal interests, individual growth, and developed a sincere desire to learn in each semester of college.

I have been extremely fortunate to attend college as a veteran because of the extensive benefits available through the Montgomery G.I. Bill. However, receiving these benefits leaves me with no excuse but to maintain focus and always be well-prepared for class. As a result, I have excelled through my education, and I’ll be continuing my pursuit at the University of California, Berkeley this fall studying political science. After graduating, I would really like to teach in one of the numerous areas across America where children often do not have a positive male figure in their lives. Teaching has always been something I knew I would dedicate a substantial part of my life to, so I plan to pursue a position with Teach for America after graduating. As well, I understand the complexities of the educational system, so I would like to be politically involved with those educational areas in need of improvement.

--Trevor Sparks
BUCKS FOR BOOKS

CRC recently held its semi-annual Textbook Scholarship Drawing, giving away twenty $250 checks to be used for textbooks. This year saw a record number of students sign up—1,359. This event continues to gain its popularity as more students learn about it and the CRC Foundation continues to pledge its support of $5,000 each semester to help. This semester, Frontier Communications generously donated an additional $250 scholarship for a total of 21.

POW...WOW

ARC’s Native American Resource Center sponsored a multi-tribe Pow-Wow last last spring which featured amazingly beautiful and intricately detailed Native American costumes. Events included traditional California and Aztec dancers, Native American food, drumming, crafts, and a native dance contest. Participants included members of many tribes, including Kiowa, Chumash, Paiute, Navajo,Oneida, and Ojibwe, among others.
Representative Doris Matsui recently hosted a small business development workshop at Sacramento City College. More than 200 current and future business owners turned out to learn more about doing business with local, state and federal government agencies and other educational and business opportunities available to them.

Embracing CRC

CRC’s new president, Debbie Travis, is homegrown and proud of it.

It’s an interesting time to become a California community college president. First off I am thrilled to have been selected as president of Cosumnes River College. You’re right, we are in unprecedented times for all of education including community colleges, but I think the community colleges are sort of coming into their own. Student demand is certainly high. There is more visibility for the roles, the functions, and the mission of community colleges nationally as well as here in California and so, from that perspective, I don’t think I could have arrived at any better time.

You've been with Los Rios for 20 years, so you really are homegrown. What were you doing prior to coming to Los Rios?

I look back over the 20 years that I have been with Los Rios and I am very grateful and somewhat awed by the ability to have held positions in the organization that have grown a lot of my skills and allowed me to interact with so many people that helped me be effective as an educator, as academic, and as a leader. Early on after I received my master's degree I was with Bank of America as a loan officer. So that was a wonderful time because that gave me the opportunity to go through some training related to finance and to interact with the business community and I think that set the stage well for me to move into the economic development arena in mostly the rural areas of Northern California. One of the things that I learned from that and I believe serves me well in education too is the need to know the community and to develop relationships.

How would you say your background has helped your various community college roles?

It has served me well to understand that a community needs to have physical, economic, social, cultural and educational resources. I could see how education and the programs and services that are provided clearly do have a direct impact on the community. Moving from the economic development area to career technical education which is what I did in becoming the director of occupational education and economic development and then moving into dean of instruction and then vice president of instruction allowed me to bring that perspective all the way through to that programs could be relevant, could be tied to the community, could be tied to business owners, and could be giving students what they needed to...
newsmaker interview continued from page 5

succeed directly either in transfer or an employment pathway.

You’ve seen that we’ve come a long way in 20 years. Do you think we still have areas where we can improve?

Yes, I think that one of the things that’s noted on our self study for Cosumnes River College concerns expanding programs. What we have learned is that education has wonderful processes, but they take time. So I think there is room for us to be more familiar, more responsive to trends in the community and determining what our students really need. It’s not always just about the programs, sometimes it’s about how they are delivered as well.

So you think we need changes not only in program development but in program delivery?

Yes, I do. I think we’ve been very progressive in our program development across the district and making sure that programs particularly in career tech areas and in our academic areas have become more interdisciplinary and the career tech programs are on the forefront of employment and labor market needs. But the other area where we need to pay attention is the type of students we have, what access they want to have to their education not only the programs themselves but the types of services. I think we are going to see not only locational development that we are doing with our centers but also modality changes in terms of how we deliver programs and services.

Our Research Department was just looking at distance education districtwide and it certainly is a growth area. Do you see that as a continuing trend?

I do see that as a continuing trend. I think all of the colleges including Cosumnes, have had a very rapid expansion in distant education offerings and sometimes it’s not that the courses are completely online, but that they’re in a hybrid mode. This gives students the opportunity to come to campus and feel like they belong but also gives them the opportunity to do a portion of their studies in a more flexible way.

You’ve been at CRC now for three months. Has there been anything surprising or unexpected in any way?

Intuitively, having been a member of the Los Rios community, I think I knew that CRC offered a collegial environment and a real sense of community. So while I wasn’t surprised, I was impressed at how that comes across in the people and in the activities and in their willingness to provide support to the entire campus family. There truly is a sense of community there – I knew it was there, but surprised at the extent and depth of it. The campus really believes that it is a total learning community.

This seems like a match made in heaven. What makes the college such a good fit for you and you for it?

That is a great follow up question. One of the things that intrigued me when I became the dean of instruction and then later the vice president of instruction at Sacramento City College was the idea of a learning community and how that translated into a student’s sense of belonging. Then when I went into my doctoral work I did my dissertation on learning communities. It is interesting that CRC already has that learning community and values college-wide dialogue. It’s all there and it is a perfect fit for me.

SCC HONORED

Sacramento City College was recently honored with the statewide John W. Rice Diversity and Equity Award for its Cultural Democracy program. The award was bestowed by John W. Rice’s daughter, Condoleezza Rice. The event took place in Sacramento at the California Museum. (Condoleeza Rice pictured with SCC’s Lisa Gauderian, right, and FACC’s Silvia Farias.)

GREEN FIELDS

A new book by FLC instructor, Alice Rush and co-author Jim Cassio, is being hailed as a “great go-to book for people new to green career fields as well as for those who are looking to expand existing expertise.” According to one reviewer, “Cassio and Rush have found a way to convey meaningful information about green careers through a thoughtful combination of statistics and real-world stories.” The book includes profiles of 90 green careers and includes interviews with more than 60 professionals working in the field.

FORGING AHEAD

ARC art professor, Laura Parker, has been elected president of the California Blacksmith Association. “I am very excited and flattered to be elected to this position,” Laura says. Her skills as an artist in metal has already been recognized by two outdoor installations of her sculptures on the ARC campus. She also is featured in a new book on artist-blacksmiths called From Fire to Form, from Schiffer Publishing, which showcases work that “may be traditional or groundbreaking in technique, but always in an artistic context.”