

Hieroglyphs

The “Old God” is a universal image in Maya art, and represents the wisdom, experience, and respect accorded the elders of all American native people. Among the Maya pantheon, the most important is Itzamnaaj (pronounced ‘Eat-Sahm-Nah), the patron of learning and writing. He usually wears an obsidian-mirror diadem on his forehead and sometimes appears as his alter-ego, the Celestial Bird Itzam-ye. His image on the LRC elevator shaft, designed by adjunct painting instructor Roberto Salas, is adapted from an illustration in the Dresden Codex, the most beautiful and rare of Maya books (only four Maya manuscripts survive today; all the rest were burned by Spanish friars in 1560), which was

a kind of almanac, listing eclipses, phases of Venus, the auspicious days for various tasks, etc. The hieroglyph repeated fourteen times across the front of the building is adapted from Stela D from Quirigua, Guatemala, a beautiful cast of which stands in San Diego’s Museum of Man in Balboa Park. It consists of the head of a chop-fallen (nearly-toothless) Old God wearing the obsidian-mirror diadem, which identifies him as Itzamnaaj. A Maya convention indicated the gods’ great wisdom by giving them enormous all-seeing eyes. His head is preceded by a sideways-T-shaped glyph element that reads Nah, meaning “house” or “temple.” Thus the glyph can be interpreted as “House of Itzamnaaj” or “Temple of Learning.” It was designed in the calligraphic style of ancient Maya books by Mark Van Stone, a professor of art history at Southwestern College.



The Sundial

The sundial was incorporated into the design from a historic reference to the Mayan culture’s use of the sun to measure time while representing the measurement of the students’ journey at SWC both daily and seasonally as they complete their education. The glass blocks represent the hours of the day as the point of the shadow cast by the steel blade lands on the blocks.

The top arc will tell the time in the winter solstice (December), the middle arc will tell the time for the spring and fall equinox (March and September), and the bottom arc represents the time at the summer solstice (June). When looking at the blade the first block to the left represents 7 a.m. As the days pass through the seasons the time shadow will fall somewhere on a vertical arc between the blocks that represent the same hour.

Friends of the Southwestern College Learning Resource Center

In 1983, the group known as Friends of the SWC Library/LRC was formed. In the past, the Friends have provided items—which the Library/LRC budget could not—such as silk plants and trees, fans, and some software licenses and books. Since 1998, they have sponsored an annual student essay contest offering \$100 prizes for up to five winners per year. In 1999 they contributed to bringing author T.C. Boyle to the campus for a discussion of his Tortilla Curtain. For the new LRC, the Friends have provided photocopiers and locks, software, live palm trees and other plants for the lobby, and support for the dedication of the building.



Telephone numbers (area code 619)

Dean of Academic Information Services: 482-6347
Friends of the Learning Research Center, Information: 482-6433
Library Circulation: 482-6397
Library Reference: 421-6700, ext. 5381
Staff Development: 421-6700, ext. 5708 or ext. 5678
Telemedia: 421-6700 ext. 5471 or 482-6372

Hours for Library and Computer Commons

Fall and Spring Semesters
Monday–Thursday 8 a.m.–7 p.m.; Friday 8 a.m.–noon
Closed weekends Library website: www.swc.cc.ca.us/~library

Hours for Multimedia Checkout

Monday–Thursday 7:45 a.m.–9:45 p.m.; Friday 7 a.m.–4 p.m.
Closed weekends

Hours for Teaching and Learning Center

Monday–Thursday, 8 a.m.–7 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m.–3 p.m.
Closed weekends
Staff Development website: www.swc.cc.ca.us/~staffdev



Main Campus

900 Otay Lakes Road
Chula Vista, CA 91910-7299
Education Center at San Ysidro
460 West San Ysidro Blvd.
San Ysidro, CA 92173-2410
Higher Education Center at National City
701 National City Blvd.
National City, CA 91950-1123

www.swc.cc.ca.us

Southwestern College Learning Resource Center



History of the LRC

For more than 13 years Southwestern College librarians and planners persisted in their efforts to convince state agencies that the college library, constructed as part of the original campus in the mid-1960s, needed to be replaced. In 1998, California voters approved new financing, which greatly improved the opportunity for state funding.

Located on the main campus, the new three-level Learning Resource Center—which incorporates the former LRC (media) and the library—houses library resources and services, including multimedia, plus Staff Development, teledia center, computer commons, staff offices, and conference and meeting rooms. It offers students a variety of study spaces, including group study rooms and several audiovisual viewing rooms, and a growing collection of print and nonprint materials. Photocopiers are available on the second and third floors.



Library and Multimedia Services

Located on the second floor east, library books can be borrowed for an initial four-week period and can be renewed unless they have been requested by another library patron. Although most library cardholders are Southwestern College students, faculty, or staff; public patrons are invited to inquire about our Community Borrowers card, which grants visitor-borrowing privileges.

Students can access video cassettes, CDs, CD-ROMs, DVDs, audio cassettes, sound filmstrips, and

sound slide sets by searching the library's automated catalog, and requesting the item from the Circulation Desk. They may use these media in private listening carrels or in group-study rooms on the second floor. Equipment Checkout, on the first floor of the LRC, provides multimedia equipment for faculty and staff. Also on the first floor, Media Production assists faculty and staff with services such as posters, flyers, personal websites, and digital media. They also reproduce videos for which permission has been obtained from the copyright holder

Locations

Archives: (by appointment) Floor 3
Circulation Desk: Floor 2
Circulating Books: Floor 3
Internet Access: Floors 2 and 3
Reference Desk: Floor 2
Law Books: Floor 2
Library Instruction: Floor 2 across the breezeway in Room L244
Library Catalog: Floors 2 and 3
Media (videos, audios): Floor 2
New Books: Floor 2
Paperbacks: Floor 2
Periodicals: Floor 2 Circulation Desk
Reference Books: Floor 2
Textbooks on Reserve: Floor 2, Circulation Desk



Computer Commons

Located on the third floor, the Computer Commons offers students access to 100 computer stations with standard computer tools for accomplishing class work and research. Students have access to periodical and information databases, the Internet, the Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint), the library catalog, and electronic books.

Teledia

Located on the first floor east, the facility is an essential step that will enable the Teledia program to keep pace with the changes occurring in this technology-driven medium. The Teledia curriculum was developed to provide students with an educational experience that reflects the broad spectrum of activities and information needed to function effectively in the rapidly changing field of media production. The new, state-of-the-art facility includes a new studio, control room, audio booth, a new lab for editing and postproduction, as well as several production suites perfect for group productions of various types of media.

The Teledia program has been particularly successful in preparing students for direct admission into San Diego State University's Television, Film, and New Media Graduate Program. Students who have completed an undergraduate course of study but are not prepared for the TFM program are often referred to SWC Teledia for foundation course work and production experience.

Teaching and Learning Center

The Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) is a gathering place where faculty and staff members learn, have conversations about learning, and receive support for learning. The Teaching and Learning Center provides access to professional resources, workshops, training, and the opportunity to develop and refine skills as well as experiment with innovative instructional methodologies.

The Teaching and Learning Center is a resource center designated for the faculty and staff of Southwestern College. Working in conjunction with Staff Development and Training Services, the TLC provides faculty and staff with training and access to a variety of professional resources. The center contains a wide selection of hardware, software, and equipment that support both Mac and PC platforms.

The TLC is part of the Staff Development Program and is coordinated and managed by the Staff Development Coordinator, the Training Services Coordinator, and the Staff Development Program Assistant. Many TLC activities may be used for hurdle, flex, or educational incentive credit.

