

The Spirit

June 2008

FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE

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SWC Dean Honored with Phenomenal Woman Award



Southwestern College (SWC) School of Arts and Communication Dean, Donna Arnold, will be awarded the *Phenomenal Woman Award* at an upcoming luncheon that will honor extraordinary women who have excelled in their careers and in the community. Arnold was nominated by a committee of local African American leaders who identified Arnold and other notable women who have served the community in an unselfish way and have given back to public service. *The Phenomenal Women* are being honored for giving themselves to the betterment of others' lives on Saturday, July 19th.

"I am grateful for the thoughtfulness of the community in honoring me," said Arnold. "I have served the community in many capacities of public service and will continue to do so, even as a phenomenal woman!"

Congratulations Donna!

SWC Textbook Rental Program Receives Kudos from Chancellors Office

Southwestern College's innovative Textbook Rental Program was recently recognized by Diane Woodruff, State Chancellor for the California Community Colleges System, as a model for a creative way to improve textbook affordability. Noted for its leadership and organizational efforts, SWC's program was referenced in a list of recommendations made to the Board of Governors on ways to combat the rising cost of textbooks.



Initiated in the spring of 2006 in direct response to concerns from students regarding the cost of books, SWC's program was the first of its kind implemented at a San Diego County college/university. The program is a collaborative effort between the ASO and the Campus Bookstore and illustrates the College's collective commitment to student success. ■

SWC Jags PCC Champs



The Southwestern College Jaguars made their first appearance to the California community college championships hosted by Fresno City College late last month. The Jaguars had an impressive 40-14 record when they fell one game short of the state community college baseball championship this season. Prior to reaching the state's final four, the Jaguars became the champions in the Pacific Coast Conference.

Bravo Jaguars!

Do you have a story idea for *The Spirit*?

Send ideas to Nevada Smith at nsmith@swccd.edu

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SWC Counselor and Student Honored by Soroptimist International of Coronado

SWC Counselor Diana Avila and student Amelia Hudson were recently recognized by Soroptimist International of Coronado as women who have made a difference in the lives of other women.

Diana Avila was honored with the *Making a Difference for Women Award* and received \$1,000 to donate to a non-profit of her choice. She selected Women's Work! National Network for Women's Employment. Amelia Hudson was awarded a *Women's Opportunity Award*, which is a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to use for her college expenses.

Dr. Jean Roesch, Governing Board Vice President, is an active member of Soroptimist International of Coronado. Roesch joined the two ladies and their families at a luncheon, which was held at the Coronado Island Resort last month, where the awards were presented.

"I am honored by the award for work that I enjoy and results that I have witnessed in single parents and homemakers who have graduated from Southwestern College to improve their lives and their family's lives," said Avila, who has worked at the College for 24 years. "It was also nice to have my family see me get an award. My son and daughters were really proud on that day." ■

SWC Male Athlete of the Year Striving Ahead



The Male Athlete of the Year at SWC has all the characteristics you need in a champion athlete. Curtis Mitchell had a short but everlasting career at Southwestern College. Mitchell is a talented young track star originally from Daytona Beach, Florida who has won numerous awards and honors at SWC. Mitchell won the State Championship in 100m, 200m and

Athlete of the Meet. Additionally, he won Athlete of the Year for Track during the Foothill Conference.

"Curtis is extremely bright and full of possibilities," said SWC Track Coach, Tonie Campbell. "He's driven, focused and extremely hungry for success."

Mitchell spoke highly of SWC and of the life lessons he learned at the College. The teachers and students are what he will miss when he attends University of Southern California in the fall to major in business. Additionally, Mitchell is preparing for nationals in Ohio to compete in the 2008 USA Junior Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

Congratulations & Good Luck Curtis!

SWC Photography Professor Makes Art of Photography

Photographs by Matt Truitt, SWC professor of photography, were accepted into this year's Art of Photography Show held at the Lyceum Theatre Gallery. The organizers of the event received more than 12,000 entries from 46 countries but only 102 pieces were chosen to be displayed. Truitt's photographs were juried by Carol McCusker, Curator of Photography at the Museum of Photographic Arts in Balboa Park.

"It was an international juried competition and it was very competitive between amount of entries and accepted works," said Truitt. "It was a fun experience for me... the opening reception was huge, I haven't seen an art exhibit so packed on opening night before as this one was."

The Art of Photography Show is a world-class international exhibition featuring all forms of photographic art in its fourth year of annual photographic exhibition. The purpose of the Show is to sell the works exhibited, maximize media attention for the artists who are juried in the exhibition, to promote the art form and to provide benefits to the exhibiting artists.

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SBA Honors Two of SWC's Own

Two Southwestern College (SWC) employees were recently recognized at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Awards Luncheon. The Home-Based Business Champion of the Year Award was received by



Cynthia Nagura. Nagura's award recognizes the collaboration between two SWC programs – the Family Resource Center and the Small Business Development and International Trade Center (SBDITC) in the development and implementation of the Microenterprise Family Childcare Program.



Additionally, the Delores Braswell Award: Advocating Woman in Business was awarded to Barbara Sedwick-Billimoria who works with the Small Business Development and International Trade Center

at SWC. Sedwick-Billimoria has been affiliated with the SBDITC as a counselor for more than 10 years.

Job Well Done!