

# The Spirit

September 2008

FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE



VOLUME I, ISSUE 7

## Paying it Forward



The development and transformation from students to nurses is what touches the heart of Cathy McJannet, SWC Director of Nursing and Health Occupations Programs. McJannet has found a way to combine two of her passions – nursing and education. When she is not teaching the next generation of nurses, McJannet is working at Sharp Coronado Hospital's Emergency Department, where she has worked for the last 18 years.

SWC's Cathy McJannet was recently featured in Sharp's employee magazine—*Experiences*

"Any nurse who truly loves the profession is happy to 'pay it forward' to the next generation of nurses. I love mentoring, nurturing and watching the growth of the new young nurses as they mature in the profession," said McJannet.

Through the support of Sharp Coronado and its staff, SWC students annually rotate through the various nursing units and assist the nursing program by regularly donating expired supplies for use in the nursing skills lab. Additionally, the students service their community by volunteering annually at a variety of functions such as the Flu Clinic, the Hospital Foundation Ball and Firestorm 2007. ■

## Professor Awarded Lifetime Achievement Award

A Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Max Branscomb, SWC journalism professor and *The Sun* advisor during the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual San Diego Chapter La Pluma Scholarship & Journalism Awards Ceremony. For many years Professor Branscomb has been a strong supporter of the California Chicano New Media Association (CCNMA), San Diego Chapter. His body of work also embodies the mission of CCNMA by striving to promote the diversity in new media by providing encouragement, scholarships and educational programs to Latinos pursuing careers as professional journalists.

Professor Branscomb has led his student journalists and the College's newspaper to become the best in the state and in the nation, as it is continuously honored by professional and academic organizations for its outstanding journalistic coverage. With the support of Professor Branscomb, SWC is a national leader at training students for success in the professional media and his leadership has provided life-changing experiences for Sun alumni and students.

Congratulations Max on this well-deserved recognition! ■



## JAGUAR FOOTBALL 2008 SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Oct. 25	Sat.	Victor Valley	Away	1 p.m.
Nov. 1	Sat.	San Bernardino	Away	6 p.m.
Nov. 8	Sat.	SD Mesa	Home	6 p.m.
Nov. 15	Sat.	Golden West	Home	6 p.m.

Do you have a story idea for



Send ideas to Nevada Smith at [nsmith@swccd.edu](mailto:nsmith@swccd.edu)  
900 Otay Lakes Road,  
Chula Vista, CA 91910  
[www.swccd.edu](http://www.swccd.edu)

## Travel around the World with SWC

The International Studies Office at SWC provides its students and staff with international education opportunities. The office is presently working on its Paris program for Fall 2009 after successfully filling the Florence, Italy program schedule for Spring 2009.

Working with members of the Associate Student Organization (ASO) the International Studies Office has developed a unique volunteer abroad program for Southwestern College students for spring 2009. The pilot program will offer students a Service Learning Component and will consist of working in a rural education project outside of Cape Town, South Africa.

Professor Cem Tont and Professor Norris Nagao have developed short-term programs for summer 2009. Professor Tont's program will journey through the Western half of Turkey, exploring the multiple religious and cultural practices of this ancient and intriguing culture. Professor Nagao has assisted in developing Explorando Japan, a 10-day program in Japan, which will explore the relationship between Japan and Iberian Europe during feudalism.

The International Studies Office is also preparing to host the SDICCCA study abroad program for spring 2010 in Italy and to Spain in fall 2010, which have been extremely successful programs in the past due to the tremendous work of SWC's faculty and staff. For additional information on the trip to Turkey email [IPGglobal@swccd.edu](mailto:IPGglobal@swccd.edu) and for details on Explorando Japan email [explorando.japan@gmail.com](mailto:explorando.japan@gmail.com). ■



## SWC Program Spotlight

SWC's volunteer Programs—AmeriCorps and Service Learning have been serving the community for 10 years. These programs provide an opportunity for students to participate in valuable volunteer activities to help the community, gain experience, earn an educational award, enhance classroom learning, and get course credit. The AmeriCorps students serve 450 hours to local preschools to help children increase their school readiness skills and be more prepared for Kindergarten. In return they receive a \$1,250 educational award for school costs. The Service Learning program connects classroom learning to volunteer service in the community and students serve 15 hours each semester at an agency that can meet learning objectives. This opportunity enhances the student's learning and meets real community needs. ■



## Connections in China

Dean Irma Alvarez traveled to China for 10 days in September with the International Chamber of Commerce to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual China World Trade Exposition. The travelers represented businesses ranging from real estate, venture capital, casino, consumer goods and geothermal energy development. Dean Alvarez went to China to look for opportunities for student and faculty educational exchanges between Southwestern College and Chinese educational institutions. She utilized interpreters to communicate with administrators and faculty members at middle school, high school and university levels. Additionally, she connected with the local representative of the Ministry of Culture in Xiamen, a beautiful port city that reminded Dean Alvarez of San Diego.

The group had the opportunity to enjoy sensational sites in three cities including the Forbidden City and the Great Wall near Beijing; the Trade Expo celebrated throughout the city of Xiamen; and a trip down the Li River near Guilin with breathtaking scenery and its famous night market. Dean Alvarez hopes someday to return to China to visit other cities and sites. ■

## Governing Board of the Southwestern Community College District

David J. Agosto, President  
Jean Roesch, Ed.D., Vice President  
Jorge Dominguez, Ph.D.  
Yolanda Salcido  
Terri Valladolid  
Leticia A. Diaz, Student Trustee  
June 2008–May 2009  
Raj K. Chopra, Ph.D.  
Superintendent/President

Contributors: Melissa Abeyta, Irma Alvarez, Karla Kirkwood, Brenda Mora and Nevada Smith