Welcome to the 2005/2006 academic year! I am especially pleased to welcome our new faculty, staff and administrators (listed in a separate article) to the SCC family.

College preparations are complete for the WASC accreditation visit the week of October 18. The team representing the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges will be on campus to evaluate the college’s current status and help us prepare for the future.

As you know, the district’s general fund apportionment is determined by our enrollment/FTES. Thanks to your hard work and willingness to accommodate students, combined with continuing education expansion, I’m confident that we’ll reach our district enrollment growth target of 2.5 percent.

In construction news, the library should be completed in March 2006, with the building opening to students in the fall. Project architect LPA is proceeding with working drawings for the new science building. At the same time, a campus grading plan will be submitted to the Division of State Architecture.

By the end of the year, an electronic marquee will be installed off of Chapman Avenue. The computer-programmable sign will allow the college to announce events and accomplishments to the public.

Real estate and building material costs have escalated rapidly since bond Measure E passed in 2002. Real estate purchases (such as the Orange Education Center and Peltzer Pines property) and building costs were much higher than originally anticipated, which means that Measure E dollars will run out before we have completed our entire “wish list” of master plan facilities. The district will consider other methods to fund these buildings, including the use of capital campaigns and private donations.

I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year.

Sincerely,
Juan Vázquez, President
Celebrate TGIF

Everyone is invited to attend the third annual Santiago Canyon College TGIF celebration on Friday, November 18, 2005. This year’s event will be held in the college’s newest facility, the student services and instruction building. The annual fall fundraiser features a holiday auction, raffles, hors d’oeuvres and entertainment. Proceeds benefit student scholarships and foundation-supported programs.

“Last year TGIF (which stands for Treasures, Gratitude, Involvement and Friendship) raised $28,400 to support student scholarships, emergency book loans, and a wide variety of programs,” said Patti Cole, director of college advancement. “We appreciate the community’s generosity that enables us to provide vital financial assistance and support services for our students.”

Continuing in the tradition of celebrating those who have been part of SCC’s success (faculty, staff, students, community volunteers, friends and donors), this year’s event will honor an outstanding individual or group with the Hawk Spirit of Excellence Award. Past winners who exemplify the SCC spirit include Don Crevier of Crevier BMW and Steve Wolff of Steve Wolff & Associates.

Mark your calendars now, then watch for information in the mail or visit the website at www.sccollege.edu/foundation for more information.

Datatel Implementation Project Begins

At its June meeting, the RSCCD Board of Trustees authorized the purchase of a new information system from Datatel, Inc. The Colleague Administrative Information System purchase will be funded by $1.63 million from bond Measure E. Following a competitive bid process, Datatel’s Colleague system was selected as the best match for the district’s needs. Presently used by half of California community college districts, the system is expected to streamline student information, human resources and fiscal services operations.

“Santiago Canyon College faculty and staff are excited about transitioning from a legacy of not-quite-connected computer applications to a modern integrated system that is web-based and user-friendly,” said President Juan Vázquez. “In particular, the sophisticated student information system will provide data to help students, faculty and staff manage and track an increasingly complex set of student records as our college enrollment continues to grow.”

District Information Technology Services (ITS) will oversee the implementation process that is expected to take three years. Three teams will be established to begin four months of extensive planning before starting the transition:

- The Strategic Steering Group (SSG) will include the Chancellor’s Cabinet
- The Tactical Steering Group (TSG) will include the SCC and SAC college presidents’ cabinets
- The Operational Steering Group (OSG) will include district-wide representatives from student services, instruction, human resources, and fiscal services

Components of project implementation will include:

- Project team training
- Functional process decision-making
- Legacy (current) system data conversion
- Technical setup
- Testing and documentation
- Functional process training
- Live operation preparation
- Live operation simulation
- Live operation

As required, the district is preparing to allocate back-up staff to assist with the project.
Largest Grant in College History Awarded

The college was awarded a $1.8 million grant to help students achieve academic success. The Title III grant funding (provided by the federal government to strengthen developing institutions) will begin in October 2005 for a period of five years. The grant incorporates four components to help SCC students achieve success, including assistance with English, reading and math, subjects that are frequent stumbling blocks.

“This grant represents a wonderful opportunity to improve learning for all Santiago Canyon College students,” said Mary McMullin, dean of arts, humanities and social sciences. “Faculty from different disciplines will work together to develop and implement programs and services that promote student success.”

The four components of the grant are: student learning outcomes (including ongoing training for faculty); the academic success center for students to strengthen their readiness for college classes; the state-of-the-art math study hall (MAsh) to provide one-on-one and computer-assisted instruction; and the development of learning communities that provide students with a research-based approach to integrated learning.

The grant will be coordinated by Melinda Womack, speech communication professor and department chair. She will work closely with faculty facilitators from various disciplines to implement the components of the grant.

SCC Faculty and Staff—The Best in OC!

Why do students choose SCC over other community colleges? Our convenient location is one reason. Another is that SCC gets high marks from students for being a friendly, welcoming environment where faculty and staff go out of their way to provide personal attention.

This new quarterly column will highlight offices and individuals who provide the friendly, helpful service that our students value so much. And the winner for fall is...admissions and records!

Admissions and records is usually the initial contact for new students, so it’s especially important that this first impression of the college be a good one. This fall admissions and records staff assisted students in a cheerful, efficient manner that kept lines moving quickly. The office extended hours of operation until 9:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, to serve evening students.

Registrar Denise Pennock has a tradition of sending new students on their way with a smile by telling them, “Congratulations—you’re now a college student!”

If you’d like to nominate an SCC office or individual who provides excellent service (to students, faculty, staff or the external community), please send to deasy_annmarie@sccollege.edu.

Members of the admissions and records office were in a festive mood after learning that they were named the friendliest office on campus for fall 2005.
There are some familiar faces and some brand new ones as SCC adds faculty, classified staff and administrators to the family. In alphabetical order, they are:

- **Rosa Aguirre**, test proctor, Orange Education Center
- **Patricia Alvano**, associate registrar, OEC
- **Carmen Atallah**, part-time instructional assistant, OEC
- **Joanne Benschop**, articulation officer
- **Diane Caughren**, administrative secretary, business, math and sciences
- **Terrence Collins**, custodian, OEC
- **Shawn Cummins**, exercise science/cross country and track and field coach
- **Douglas Deaver**, philosophy
- **Nahla El Said**, chemistry
- **Corinna Evett**, English
- **Lourdes Fajardo**, Spanish
- **Jane Francis**, mathematics
- **Alicia Frost**, mathematics
- **Joseph Geissler**, librarian
- **John Hernandez**, vice president, student services
- **Nick Magalousis**, anthropology
- **Larry Mercadante**, interim athletic director
- **Linda Miskovic**, director, admissions and records
- **Antonio Munoz**, custodian, OEC
- **Mary O’Neil**, director, OEC Child Development Center
- **Kyanne Perbix**, counseling assistant, counseling
- **Syed Rizvi**, director, financial aid
- **Nooshan Rafii**, political science
- **Amanda Romero**, part-time student services specialist, outreach
- **Craig Rutan**, astronomy/physics
- **Irene Scroggins**, administrative secretary, admissions and records
- **Amy Styffe**, administrative secretary, career education
- **Andy Tran**, skilled maintenance worker
- **Jose Vargas**, vice president, continuing education
- **Gloria Vildosola**, administrative clerk, OEC
- **Leyvi Villegos**, student services specialist, OEC
- **Alison Williams**, mathematics
- **Yurica Yamaguchi**, part-time student activities specialist, student activities
- **Armida Zul**, custodian, OEC

### SCC Calendar

**September 20**
- Singer J.J. Heller, sponsored by ASB
  - 11:00 a.m., A/B Quad

**September 20**
- Identity theft workshop
  - (sponsored by ASB/financial aid)
  - 3:00 p.m., E-203

**October 14**
- 8th Annual Chancellor’s Ball
  - 6:00 to 11:00 p.m.
  - The Grove of Anaheim

**October 25**
- Faculty Excellence Award Lecture
  - “The Future of the Book in the Electronic Age: New Directions in Art, Literature and Information” by Leah Freidenrich
  - 12:30 p.m., D-101

**November 1**
- Scholarship application period begins

**November 18**
- TGIF Fall Fundraiser
  - 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.
  - Student services building

**November 24-25**
- College closed for Thanksgiving holiday

**December 16**
- 10th Annual EOPS/CARE holiday celebration
  - 11:30 a.m., D-121
Counseling and student support services is a dynamic division that plays an important role in students’ academic success. Division faculty and staff provide a variety of services and programs that include academic, career and personal counseling, career planning and study skills instruction, EOPS/CARE, CalWORKS, comprehensive testing, a transfer center, career center, and job placement and adult reentry services.

“The division is great because of the people who work here,” says Dean Ruth Babeshoff. “Their dedication, hard work and progressive ideas enable us to assist students in achieving their academic and career goals.”

Administrative secretaries Diane Durdella and Debbie Hjorth perform a myriad of divisional duties (such as budget tracking, record maintenance, calendaring, and monitoring changes in class schedule and curriculum data). Also, they are integral in assisting the dean in the management of multiple programs. The division also supports a number of other activities such as matriculation, KinderCaminata, job and career fairs, overseeing the college-wide student assistant budget, providing counseling for the Early Decision program, EOPS summer program and more.

“Faculty and staff in the division provide many critical services,” said Vice President of Student Services John Hernandez. “They help students to find employment, transfer to universities, and they provide the personal counseling that supports academic success. These core functions facilitate student learning and persistence, and contribute to the educational experience of our students.”

A recent remodeling project created five new counseling offices as well as new and expanded space for the transfer center, job placement and career center. A grand opening will be scheduled later this fall.

Administrative secretary Debbie Hjorth, Dean of Counseling and Student Support Services Ruth Babeshoff and administrative secretary Diane Durdella are pictured in the division office. The division provides many services to students that facilitate learning and persistence, such as job placement, transfer to four-year universities, personal counseling and more.
Kudos and News Briefs

Nicholas Magaloussis (anthropology) contributed a chapter entitled, “Mission San Juan Capistrano: A Quarter-Century of Research” to the book Archaeology Without Limits that was published by Labyrinthos in May 2005. The chapter was a final report on many years of archaeological field work and study that resulted in the establishment of a formal modern museum at the mission site, innovative archaeological methods for preservation, and many educational projects.

The career education division hosted a free Southern California regional workshop on June 3 at the district office for forty-one local private and public sector educators on the need for electrical certification training.

Congratulations to Robert Melendez (outreach) and Lucie Gonzales (academic success center) who were married on June 4, 2005 in San Juan Capistrano.

Lynnette Beers (English) chaired a panel entitled, “Travel of the Mind” at the June 2005 Virginia Woolf Conference held at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon. Following the panel, Beers led a discussion with a group of conference attendees.

Debra Coleman (business, math and sciences division office) was honored with the Pen of Excellence Award in CSEA’s 36th Annual Statewide Newsletter Competition. Coleman produces CSEA Chapter 579 Rancho Santiago Community College District’s monthly newsletter as part of her duties as chapter public relations officer.

Fifty-five incoming EOPS students completed the intensive, five-week EOPS Summer Success Program in July. Students learned study skills and took courses in educational, personal, cultural and career exploration, earning six units of college credit.

On August 10, the career education division hosted the third annual water conference at SCC. Dubbed the Educational Extravaganza, this year’s event was the largest ever, attracting 650 water industry participants. Thanks to all the faculty, staff and water utility science students who volunteered to help staff the event. The cooperative model pioneered at SCC with the American Water Works Association (AWWA) California/Nevada section, has been so successful that the AWWA is replicating it in Northern California and Nevada later this year.

Cari Cannon (psychology) was invited to be the keynote invocation speaker at the Norco Campus of Riverside Community College District on September 22. The subject of her speech is “How to Flunk Out of a Community College,” also the title of her tongue-in-cheek book published by Kendall/Hunt.

On September 27, the continuing education division is hosting its first Community Resource Fair. Held in the new Orange Education Center conference rooms, the fair will be open from 10:00 a.m. to noon and again from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The event features public non-profit agencies who will provide community resource information to students. Sponsors include the SCC Counseling Department and continuing education counseling, outreach and ESL departments.

Faculty excellence award winner Leah Freidenrich’s fall lecture is scheduled for October 25 at 12:30 p.m. in room D-101. Her lecture topic is “The Future of the Book in an Electronic Age: New Directions in Art, Literature and Information.”

Jim Gates (water utility science) was featured in the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) publication People.interactive. The article entitled “Once a Teacher, Always a Teacher” appeared in the Spring/Summer 2005 issue. Gates had a 33-year career at MWD as a chemist before coming to SCC in 1998.

Congratulations to Dean Sandy Mayo (business, math and sciences), who received her Ed.D. (in educational leadership with an emphasis in higher education) from USC’s Rossier School of Education. Her thesis was entitled “Formal or Informal Organizational Structure: Learning the Ropes to Get Work Done.”

John West (anthropology/sociology) is putting the finishing touches on his new book, There are Always Blue Skies. Published by Kendall/Hunt, the book extolling the virtues of positivity in the face of adversity will be available by the end of the year.