The panel consisted of President/CEO Christopher C. O’Hearn, Vice Presidents John Nixon, Audrey Yamagata-Noji and Michael Gregoryk, Academic Senate President Phil Maynard, and Faculty Association President Terri Smith Long.

“I’m so pleased to be working with the people on this panel, all of whom are student-centered and understand our mission,” O’Hearn said as a preface to the discussion, which centered on campus construction, information technology, student enrollment, and faculty issues. “We work well together irrespective of our specialized jobs and whether we are administrators or faculty or classified members of the campus community.”

Instruction VP Nixon reported that student enrollment is “holding well, especially in comparison to most of the colleges in the state.” He noted that daily enrollment counts have fluctuated slightly above, and alternately slightly below, enrollment numbers of one year ago. As of the first day of classes, credit enrollment headcount stood at 23,244. He said Mt. SAC has experienced an increase in first-time students due to increased high school recruitment and marketing efforts. He also noted a drop in part-time student enrollment and a slight decrease in continuing students.

Administrative Services VP Gregoryk provided an update on campus construction, including the new Science Lab Complex, which is now 70% complete and expected to open in July.

Other projects well under construction are the Staff Center renovation, which is 35% complete, Art Building seismic retrofitting (95% complete) and the Music Building expansion, which is expected to be finished in the fall.

While the overall construction program is moving according to plans, Gregoryk noted that the rising cost of construction materials has posed problems.

“Our $221 million in construction bond money is not going as far as we thought it would,” he said. “So we are going to be looking at creative ways to get some of these remaining facilities completed.”

On the technology front, Gregoryk explained the College’s masterplan to replace ICCIS with a fully integrated information technology software system for the entire campus. The process includes setting up functionality teams to examine the uses of the new software and demonstrations by software companies. He hopes to have the Board approve a proposal in July.

(continued on next page)
Chancellor Applauds Governor’s State Budget Plan for Community Colleges

11.6% systemwide budget increase proposed, requiring no student fee hikes.

More Californians will be able to attend California’s 109 community colleges without paying any increase in enrollment fees this coming fiscal year if Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s state budget proposals are signed.

“The Governor proposes a year-to-year increase in the Proposition 98 base for the community colleges and no increase in enrollment fees,” said California Community College Chancellor Mark Drummond. “Overall, this is a highly positive and encouraging budget for the California Community Colleges. It is clear that the Governor values the community colleges and the crucial role they play in educating and training every segment of California’s diverse population.”

Drummond noted the Governor’s proposed increases for career technical education, per-student funding in community college districts, and additional support for growth and future enrollments.

The Governor proposes a year-to-year increase in the Proposition 98 base for the community colleges of approximately $606 million, which is an 11.6% increase from current-year funding. The overall increase in Proposition 98 funds for K-14 education is $4.3 billion. The community college share of Proposition 98 improves substantially from the 10.46% approved in last year’s Budget Act to an estimated 10.79% for the 2006-07 fiscal year.

With the community college student enrollment fee holding steady at $26 per credit unit, the specific proposed budget increases for the system includes:

• $264.6 million for a 5.18% cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA) for general apportionment;
• $15.4 million for a 5.18% COLA for specified categorical programs (consistent with prior budget acts);
• $148.8 million for 3% enrollment growth for general apportionment;
• $5.1 million for enrollment growth in specified categorical programs (consistent with prior budget acts) at the projected growth rate for the state’s adult population of 1.74%;
• $130 million for equalization;
• $30 million increase for an expanded initiative to improve career technical education programs and career technical education pathways between high schools, regional occupational programs and the colleges.

For the full community college budget breakdown, visit: www.cccco.edu

Opening Meeting (continued)

“This is going to enhance efficiency and effectiveness across the campus by enabling us to process, sort and access information and data in the many different ways we need them,” he said. “But it will be a big investment in terms of dollars and staff time to design, install and implement the new system.”

Student Services VP Yamagata-Noji, who is ending her interim term as VP of Human Resources, announced that the College will be hiring 31 new faculty members this spring in two hiring phases. She also discussed various process improvements now being implemented in HR.

The Opening Meeting also featured an exceptional performance by dance students as well as a surprise musical selection by the legendary “Temptations”—to promote the upcoming “Puttin’ on the Hits” show. Throughout the day, the faculty participated in a series of professional development workshops focused on teaching and learning.
Welcome to Our New Employees

Mt. SAC Board Officers Announced

Judy Chen Haggerty was elected President of the College’s Board of Trustees for a one-year term, becoming Mt. SAC’s first Asian American Board President. Dr. Manuel Baca was elected Vice President, and Rosanne Bader was elected Clerk at the Trustees’ organizational meeting in December.

Elected to the Board in 2001, Chen Haggerty was reelected to a second term in November. She has served as Vice President and Clerk of the Board and has been a longstanding supporter of Mt. SAC and higher education. Chen Haggerty is a Managing Director/Attorney for the law offices of Edward J. Haggerty, P.C. She is also a law professor at Rio Hondo College and the University of Phoenix.

Baca has served as a Trustee since 1999 and is a former Board President. Professionally, he is the Interim Dean of Business, Arts, and Applied Technology at Rio Hondo College. Baca is a career educator with nearly 25 years of experience in the state university and community college systems.

Bader was elected to the Board in 2003 after serving a 10-month appointment as a Trustee in 2001. She is a retired school administrator with 32 years of experience in education. Bader is also former President of the Mt. SAC Foundation.

The other Board members are Fred Chyr, Dr. David K. Hall (both former Presidents) and Student Trustee Christopher McKay.

Board of Trustees – (l-r) Dr. David K. Hall, Judy Chen Haggerty, Fred Chyr, Rosanne Bader and Dr. Manuel Baca.
This year, Mt. San Antonio College celebrates 60 years of educational excellence, having served more than a million students of all ages throughout California.

This milestone celebration will be launched at the 60th Commencement in May and will continue through the 61st Commencement next year. The highlight of this year-long commemoration will be the elegant 60th Anniversary Gala, set for Oct. 28 at the Nixon Presidential Library in Yorba Linda.

This event will look back on Mt. SAC’s six decades of accomplishment and distinction and will honor distinguished alumni from each decade since the institution opened in 1946. The gala ceremony will also pay special tribute to the College’s major supporters, friends, faculty, staff, and retirees.

In addition to the gala, a number of other anniversary events are being planned, including a big on-campus Birthday Party, and a student/faculty musical presentation of Pirates of Penzance, which will coincide with the Performing Arts Center’s 10th anniversary celebration.

To generate sponsorship support for these events, Mt. SAC has assembled an elite group of some 30 community and business leaders, who now form the Anniversary Honorary Committee. They were recently recognized at an elegant reception at the City Club in downtown Los Angeles, co-hosted by Frank Quevedo, VP at Southern California Edison.

As the official kickoff approaches in May, the Marketing & Communication Office will continue to provide information on activities and roll out marketing materials bearing the new anniversary logo. The College stationery and website will commemorate the occasion, and new anniversary street banners will grace Temple and Grand avenues. The SacBookRac will begin marketing logo gift items in the spring. Graduates’ diplomas will be embossed with the logo in ‘06 and ‘07.

“This will indeed be an extraordinary celebration worthy of Mt. SAC’s stellar institutional reputation,” said President/CEO Dr. Christopher C. O’Hearn. “The anniversary will also be a community celebration, as we will be joined by alumni, business and government leaders and our many, many friends.”
Anniversary Commemorative Items

All employees should have received their Anniversary Lapel Pins and are encouraged to wear them with pride. They should have also received the foldout ’06 Anniversary Calendar featuring the Commemorative Anniversary Mural, designed by College Art Director John Lewallen. Next year’s multi-page wall calendar will feature the various anniversary events held in 2006. The SacBookRac’s full line of logo items will be showcased in future issues of the Campus Connection.

If you have not received your lapel pin and calendar, please contact the Marketing & Communication Office at ext. 4121 or 5470.

2006 Anniversary Dates to Remember

Friday, May 19, 6:30 p.m.—60th Commencement & Anniversary Kickoff Reception

Thursday–Sunday, July 13-16—60th Anniversary Musical Production: Pirates of Penzance

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2:30 p.m.—Formal Faculty Convocation

Wednesday, Sept. 13, Noon—60th Birthday Party & Cake Cutting (on campus)

Saturday, Oct. 28, 5 p.m.—Grand Anniversary Gala, Nixon Presidential Library, Yorba Linda

The Commemorative Anniversary Mural depicts the evolving faces of Mt. SAC’s people, facilities, and distinction over the past 60 years.
Smith Honored with Electronics Instructor Award

Electronics Professor Harry Smith was recently awarded the prestigious Allan H. Maxwell Memorial Award by the California Council of Electronics Instructors (CCEI) at its fall conference held at the College of San Mateo.

The statewide award recognizes CCEI members’ outstanding contributions in electronics instruction.

Smith, who has taught at Mt. SAC since 1987, chairs the Electronics Department. He has advised the College’s Skills USA Club for the past eight years, preparing students for regional, state and national competitions in skills areas such as electronics, drafting, computer maintenance and welding. Each year, Mt. SAC vocational students advance to the national competition, having won four medals in the past four years including a bronze medal in electronics technology last year.

English Professor’s Poetry Read on NPR

English Professor John Brantingham recently had one of his poems, “Putting in a Window,” read by Garrison Keillor on National Public Radio’s daily Writer’s Almanac program. The program is broadcast on 320 stations across the nation.

Brantingham, who has taught English at Mt. SAC since 2002, has published fiction and poetry in dozens of magazines in the United States and England, including The Journal, Tears in the Fence, Pearl Magazine and The Chiron Review. He also recently published a chapbook of his poetry, Putting in a Window, available from Finishing Line Press.

AmeriCorps Students Fight Illiteracy

Mt. SAC recently inducted 23 students into its AmeriCorps Program during a swearing-in ceremony at which they pledged to fight illiteracy by volunteering as tutors at local elementary schools.

Through the AmeriCorps program, students in Mt. SAC’s Teacher Preparation Institute serve as reading tutors in first-through-fourth-grade classrooms at local elementary schools. The program exposes community college students to teaching while addressing children’s literacy needs.

“This is an opportunity for our students to gain valuable training in the classroom while serving the community,” said Mt. SAC AmeriCorps Program Director Dr. Kathryn Henkins.

Each student will serve as a tutor in one of six local elementary schools, including Ekstrand Elementary and Shull Elementary in San Dimas, Royon Elementary in La Verne, Korimer Elementary in La Puente, and Montrue Elementary and Pueblo Elementary in Pomona. The tutors provide elementary school students in regular classrooms and after school programs with one-on-one and small-group tutoring to help increase literacy skills. These students will provide a combined total of 12,000 hours of tutoring to children.

The Mt. SAC students also assist in community service projects, including family literacy workshops, Cesar Chavez Day celebrations, and Young Authors’ Week.

Now in its sixth year at Mt. SAC, AmeriCorps, a national community service option for young people, funds the tutoring program. More than 2 million Americans work through AmeriCorps each year, meeting critical needs in education, the environment, public safety, and homeland security.

Dr. Kathryn Henkins
HOLLYWOOD Comes to Mt. SAC

Alumnus/ location manager chooses campus as scene for new movie.

With such a famous name, Mt. SAC alumnus Scott Fitzgerald commands a lot of attention in Hollywood. So it’s not totally surprising that he would generate excitement when he brought a full-scale film crew operation on campus last semester to shoot a scene for the movie, Chronicles.

Now a Warner Bros. Assistant Location Manager, Fitzgerald was looking for a television studio circa 1968. That search led back to his college alma mater, where Mt. SAC’s Learning Technology Center provided the perfect studio setting for this detective drama about the Zodiac killer. Chronicles stars Robert Downey Jr., Anthony Edwards (ER), Brian Cox (Murder by Numbers) and Mark Ruffalo (Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind).

“What we were looking for wasn’t a huge TV studio,” Fitzgerald said. “We had a certain era in mind, and the producers just loved the way Mt. SAC’s control room was right by the studio just like the old TV studios used to be.”

Fitzgerald, who was a liberal studies student over 10 years ago and played center and forward under Men’s Basketball Coach Ralph Osterkamp, said Warner Bros. had looked at several other studios, including KCET, before deciding on Mt. SAC.

“When you’re out scouting locations, you’re looking for the style and the look of the architecture,” Fitzgerald said. “People like seeing new things, new locations, and they want to be the first to shoot at a particular location.”

But sometimes, you go for what you know, Fitzgerald said. And he remembered working as a student in the television studio at Mt. SAC.

During the four days the film crew was at Mt. SAC, the College’s television studio was transformed into KGO-TV in San Francisco, circa 1968. The control room was gutted, and vintage equipment installed. The studio embraced the emblem of the ‘60s early morning program depicted in the film, and the information booth at the west entrance to the College was fitted with the call letters for the television station. But the response by Mt. SAC staff was the unexpected added bonus that impressed the crew, producers and director David Fincher (Fight Club).

“The whole crew here at Mt. SAC—Technical Services, Campus Events and Public Safety—is just great,” said Fitzgerald. “They were willing to help us out in just about every way possible, and the director was really impressed with how helpful the College has been.”

In the scene filmed at Mt. SAC, police detectives try to lure the killer into calling an early-morning program at television station KGO-TV.

“They were hoping to get the Zodiac killer to call in to run a wiretap on him,” said Fitzgerald.

The scene covers eight pages of the script and is very important to the story line of the film.

“The scene at Mt. SAC most likely will not end up on the cutting room floor,” said Fitzgerald. “This is a pivotal scene.”

After leaving Mt. SAC in the mid-’90s, the West Covina native transferred to the University of La Verne and majored in television broadcasting. He also worked for a community cable station in La Verne for a year until a key connection at ULV landed Fitzgerald an opportunity at Warner Bros and work on his first movie, Swordfish, featuring John Travolta. Since then he’s worked on television commercials and a number of films, including Mr. & Mrs. Smith with Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie.

“I have fun doing this,” he said. “You get an adrenaline rush doing this.”

But despite his success and the allure of Hollywood, Scott Fitzgerald remains a Mountie at heart. “People forget that this college has so much to offer,” he said. “Mt. SAC is a great school, the best of the best. You couldn’t ask for more, and it’s a real gem for the community.”
Dr. O’Hearn was honored by the National Council of Negro Women for co-sponsoring the first Black College Fair at Mt. SAC.

The audience solved this “whodunit” mystery in Mt. SAC’s intimate theater.

Arts Division Dean Sue Long (c) congratulates Music Professor Steve Wilkerson and his wife, Andrea Baker, for being inducted into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame.

Jazz recording artist Lanny Morgan was the special guest musician for the Mt. SAC Jazz Band’s fall concert, Synergy of Jazz.

Mt. SAC art students got into the spirit of the season with their annual holiday ceramics sale in December.
A.S. Holiday Tea

SacBookRac’s Holiday Tea

Administration’s Holiday Tea

8th Annual Wassail Dinner & Concert
Mt. SAC to Put on the Hits This Weekend

Where can you see stars such as David Bowie, Gwen Stefani, Frank Sinatra, U2 and Motown greats on the same stage? The answer is “Puttin’ on the Hits,” the Faculty Association’s annual star-studded scholarship fundraiser. The three showtimes are this Friday, Feb. 3, at 8 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 4 at 4 and 8 p.m., at the Clarke Theater.

Donning authentic costumes, Mt. SAC employees and students will impersonate famous celebs and lip sync their hit tunes with fully choreographed routines.

Tickets are $20 for general admission. Seniors and students can get a special $15 at the Saturday matinee performance. Proceeds will go to student scholarships. Last year, the event raised more than $15,000.

“We want to pack the house at all performances this year,” said show producer Joan Sholars. “We want to raise a record amount of scholarship funds for our students.”

For tickets, call the Mt. SAC Performing Arts Box Office at ext. 2050 or order online at www.4tix.org.

“Rhapsody” to Recreate Choreography of Gregory Hines

The popular dance company, Rhapsody in Taps, will be on its toes at the Clarke Theater, presenting a special tribute to the legendary Gregory Hines on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 8 p.m.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, the Los Angeles-based touring company will recreate Hines’ choreographic work, “Toeing the 3rd and Fifth,” which he created for the troupe in 1990.

Under the direction of Linda Sohl-Ellison, Rhapsody in Taps performs its exhilarating repertoire to live jazz, African drumming and original music, ranging from blues to swing. The performance also includes “Dat’s Right,” choreographed to a medley of songs by Harry Belafonte, and “Riptide,” which features counterpoint tapping to an African percussion score.

Tickets are $30 for box seats, $25 for general admission, $20 for seniors and Mt. SAC students, and $15 for children under 12.

For tickets and information, call the Performing Arts Box Office at ext. 2050 or order online at www.4tix.org.

High Rollers Prepare for “Mountie Carlo Night” Feb. 10

The Shilo Hilltop Suites in Pomona will be transformed into a New Orleans Mardi Gras set, featuring casino-style games for the Mt. SAC Alumni Association’s “Mountie Carlo Night” on Friday, Feb. 10, from 6 to 11 p.m.

Alumni, faculty and staff, and community members are invited to try their luck at blackjack, Texas Hold’em, roulette, and craps during an evening of reunions and new acquaintances.

The $35 ticket price includes chips for gaming, dinner, and dancing. Tickets are available at www.4tix.org. Proceeds go to the Mt. SAC Foundation’s student scholarships program and support programs for special campus projects.

A silent auction will also be held, and auction gift items are currently being sought.

For more information or to donate an auction item, call Alumni Relations/Special Events Coordinator Kari Virding at ext. 5443.
FEBRUARY

3-4, 8 p.m. — "Puttin’ on the Hits" Faculty Association student scholarship fundraiser, Clarke Theater. Special matinee performance Feb. 4, 4 p.m.

4-5, — Mt. SAC Softball Invitational, at the Mt. SAC softball complex.

10, 6-11 p.m. — "Mountie Carlo Night," Mt. SAC Alumni Association event, at the Shilo Hilltop Suites, Pomona.

11, 8 p.m. — Music Department Showcase, Mt. SAC faculty and students perform classic works, Music Recital Hall.

11, 6-11 p.m. — "Rhapsody in Taps," professional dance performance, Clarke Theater.

14 thru March 9, — "Below the Surface," art exhibit, at the Mt. SAC Art Gallery. Opening reception Feb. 14, 4-6 p.m. Gallery hours: Tues.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Tues., 5-7:30 p.m.

22, 6:30 p.m. — Mt. SAC Board of Trustees Meeting, Administration Bldg. 4-235.

25, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. — CA$H for COLLEGE FAIR, Student Life Center, Bldg. 9C.

MARCH

3-4, — Mt. SAC Swimming Invitational, men’s and women’s community college teams compete, at Mt. SAC pool.

3-4 & 10-11, 8 p.m. — "Harvey," Mt. SAC Theater production, Clarke Theater.

22, 6:30 p.m. — Mt. SAC Board of Trustees Meeting, Administration Bldg. 4-235.

24, 8 p.m. — 5th Annual Spring Thing, performances campus choral groups, Clarke Theater.

Why Weight? Get in Shape!

For only $65 a year, Mt. SAC employees can stretch their limbs without stretching their budget.

Our Exercise Science & Wellness Center offers you state-of-the-art equipment, yoga, aerobics, step, body contouring and convenient hours, 7 days a week.

Look and feel better in 2006!

Call today: ext. 4625