



Plans are set to improve student learning

Utilizing teaching and student support strategies to improve student learning, and consequently achievement and persistence, the SAC Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is the result of nearly two years of intensive work. The QEP Committee, including the president and members of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Leadership Team, led the process along with input from every campus constituency.

Identified best practices include learning styles assessment in curriculum development and instruction; student-centered teaching; faculty-student and faculty-faculty mentorship programs; learning communities; cooperative learning; peer tutoring/mentoring and supplemental instruction, and problem-based learning.



The first step toward achieving QEP goals is the establishment of the Raul S. Murguia Learning Institute (MLI). Starting with a semester-long orientation and best practices course required for new tenure-track faculty in Fall 2005, interconnected components to be phased in over a four-year period include graduate coursework, professional development workshops, mentorship support and master teacher program. Evaluation and refinement will be ongoing, with a fifth year report to SACS and institutionalization of MLI activities. For details, call Dr. Johnnie Rosenauer, MLI director, 733-2852.

Community Initiatives comes full circle

A year ago, the Family Learning Academy was launched as a project of the SAC Institute For Community Initiatives to increase high school graduation rates and the percentage of graduates who continue with college by involving the entire family. The project engaged students in a High School Peer Mentor/Tutor Program, and their families in a Parent/Community Educational Council, or Consejo, that was anchored at each of four high schools – Edison, Lanier, Fox Tech and Jefferson – to inform others about college-bound preparatory issues.

The following story about **Gerardo Adan Hernandez** and his mother **Sandi** is a perfect example of how the program is working toward generational change. During his senior year at Edison, Gerardo participated in the Academy as a peer mentor. His mother was an active “Promotora de Educacion” on the Edison Leaders for Excellence and Academic Development (LEAD) Council. In February, Sandi joined the staff in SAC’s Evening, Weekend & Distance Education (EWDE) Division as a community research specialist. Last month Gerardo graduated from high school, and this past week completed the Senior Summer Program at SAC, a complimentary program to Community Initiatives. In addition to attending the Orientation to College course, he earned college credit in Sociology 1301 and U.S. History 1301. He is attending SAC’s Summer II session and is already enrolled for the Fall semester. Gerardo also plans to give back to the community and his alma mater as a “Promotor de Educacion” on Edison’s LEAD Council.

Sandi (back row, second from right) is pictured here with Senior Summer Program students and (l-r) EWDE Dean **Ruben Flores**, Community Outreach Coordinator **Oscar San Miguel** and College Transitions Coordinator **Manuel Gonzalez III**. This year’s enrollment was up by 21 percent, with 236 students participating full time (enrolled for six or more hours).



Photo by Deborah Martin.

(Continued on back page)

Calendar of Events

Events are free unless otherwise noted.



Now through Sept. 2 2005 Student Show Art Exhibit, a highly competitive juried exhibit in the VATC Gallery. Artwork may be viewed during normal campus hours. Contact Joel Knocke, Visual Arts & Technology, 733-2898.

Friday, July 15

Last night for summer Friday night public shows at Scobee Planetarium, which will be closed July 16 - August 31 for maintenance and remodeling. Public shows return in September. For information contact: 733-2910 or visit www.accd.edu/sac/ce/scobee/MainMenu.htm.

Tuesday, July 19

Parenting Workshop: “The brain and the emotional well-being of children.” 1:30 to 3 p.m., Moody Learning Center rm. 177. Contact: Carolina Trevino, 733-2299 or womenctr@accd.edu.

Saturday, July 30

Hispanic Heritage Mural Dedication presented by SAC Hispanic Heritage Committee and community mural partner San Anto Cultural Arts. 2 to 6 p.m., Fiesta Room-Loftin Student Center. A bigger dedication ceremony will be held in October as a SAC Hispanic Heritage event. Contact: SAC Faculty Advisor/Mural Coordinator Carla Mendiola, cmendiola@mail.accd.edu or Martha Buchanan, 733-2826.

Saturday, August 6

Study Skills for Overcoming Math Fear and Failure, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with lunch break. Admission: \$35 (includes a workbook). Class size is limited - register now. Location announced at time of registration. Contact: Moody Learning Center, Suite 712, call 733-2052 or visit www.accd.edu/sac/bsep/review.htm.

www.accd.edu/sac/pr/calendar.htm

Campus filled with Spurs Spirit

During the NBA Championships, 14 departments entered the Spurs Spirit Door Decorating Contest sponsored by SAC Staff Council. *Best Overall* went to the "Obi-#1 Ginobili" door at the **Women's Center & Adult Re-entry Program** (MLC 177B), pictured far right. **Reports and Residency** (FAC 214) won *Best Originality* for its "Go Spurs Go!" door. Visit www.accd.edu/sac/staffcouncil/ to see all entries.



(Continued from front - Community Circle)

Approximately \$189,230 in financial aid, plus hours of individual attention, were given to these at-risk students who are not often considered "college material" by the over-loaded high school counselors. (The Jefferson, Edison, Fox Tech and Lanier, or JETL, schools received \$101,088.37 of the aid.)



"This program was great," said Edison HS graduate **Roderick Smith**, left, who was mentored by **Gerardo**, right, and also earned college

credit for U.S. History and Sociology. "It's like Head Start for college. I really liked the chance to experience college life before the major rush of Fall."

As testimony to the effectiveness of the program, using 2004 data as an indicator (71%), many of the 2005 program completers are expected to attend SAC in the Fall (final data to come by Sept. 1, 2005). Additionally, the \$50,000 First Generation In College (FGIC) grant that SAC recently received from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board will award \$1,000 scholarships to each of 50 outstanding Senior Summer Program participants to attend SAC in the Fall and Spring while each mentoring four high school students who are prospective FGIC and Senior Summer Program students.

San Antonio College Update

Editors John Hammond and Deborah Martin
 Contributing Writer Matthew Bartosh
 Photographer Leonard Ziegler

Deadline to submit items is 5 p.m. Monday. Send news to Public Relations, FAC 313, call 733-2147, or e-mail your items to jhammond@accd.edu or dmartin@accd.edu. The Update staff reserves the right to edit items.

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Nursing is top in Texas

The June 20 issue of *Community College Week*, featuring the 100 Top Associate's Degree Producers in the nation (2003-04), ranks San Antonio College as number one in Texas and tenth in the country in awarding associate's degrees in Nursing, with 202 degrees awarded. The preliminary figures are based on U.S. Department of Education data, and are considered complete and accurate for the institutions included.

Other rankings for SAC in Associate's Degree conferrals, compared with other ranked ACCD colleges, are as follows:

- All Disciplines - Hispanic American: #25 (382 degrees) [compared with St. Philip's College #64, with 231 degrees; and Palo Alto College #72, with 221 degrees]
- Communication, Journalism & Related Programs: #34 (18 degrees)

SAC student wins silver



SAC student **Patricia Arauza** recently returned from the SkillsUSA (national) Championships in Kansas City, Missouri, with a Silver Medal - 2nd place - in Dental Assisting-College/Postsecondary. The

timed competition included identification and theory stations, as well as extemporaneous speaking, hands-on exercises and 100 written questions. Students were also graded on their appearance in uniform. Though SAC has hosted three SkillsUSA state competitions, this was the first time for the college to send participants, which included only Dental Assisting students.



SAC Excellence★

Kudos to **Isabel Castaneda**, senior secretary for Distance Education, named SAC Employee of the Month for July.



Hooray for SAC student **Carol Kratochvil**, pictured between President Zeigler and Dean Johnson, who won a Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation \$1,000 scholarship.



Having volunteered with jail inmates in drug and alcohol recovery, she is studying Drug

and Alcohol Abuse Counseling with a goal to be licensed as a chemical dependency counselor. In January she will begin a 4,000-hour internship as part of the academic program. She has worked for 14 years as a comptroller of an oil and gas exploration company, but has had a longtime interest in a career as a chemical dependency counselor.

"Buena Ensemble (Good Together): Works and Global Collaborations by **Joan Fabian**" is an exhibition of work fueled and stimulated by working with international artists in the Netherlands, Belarus, Slovakia and Pakistan. The exhibition is on display through July 30 at ARC Gallery, 734 N. Milwaukee, Chicago, IL (312-733-2787) and will travel to Parsons Paris School of Design, France, in October 2005.

Also, "Vital Surge: The Work of Joan Fabian" will be on display from July 15 to August 26 at The Art League of Houston, 1953 Montrose Blvd., Houston, TX



(alh@artleaguehouston.org). Fabian, Image Resource Specialist at SAC, is supported by a recent Pollack-Krasner Foundation grant.

While The Ranger print version takes a summer break, college and district activities will be updated whenever possible through The Ranger Online at www.theranger.org.