



**ACCREDITING  
COMMISSION  
for COMMUNITY and  
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association  
of Schools and Colleges*

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April 15, 2014

Dr. Walter Tribley  
Superintendent/President  
Monterey Peninsula College  
980 Fremont  
Monterey, CA 93940

Dear President Tribley:

Monterey Peninsula College staff has brought to my attention that the College will be offering eight new degrees. The information provided by the College indicates these degrees do not contain new courses or substantial changes, but instead reformat the existing curriculum. This development is in response to the Student Transfer Agreement Reform Act, also known as California State Senate Bill 1440, which mandates that California Community Colleges (CCC) develop transfer degrees to facilitate the successful transfer of students from the CCC system to the California State University System.

The new Associate Transfer Degrees are:

Administration of Justice AS-T	Art History AA-T
Business Administration AS-T	Computer Science AS-T
History AA-T	Physics AS-T
Political Science AA-T	Studio Arts AA-T

Based on the description Monterey Peninsula College has provided, these programs are not substantively new and will not necessitate a substantive change review by the Commission. Thank you for bringing this to our attention and please let us know if there are any changes in the information provided by the College.

Sincerely,

Susan B. Clifford, Ed.D.  
Vice President

SBC/mg

Cc: Dr. Celine Pinet, Accreditation Liaison Officer  
Ms. Martina Fernandez-Rosario, U.S. Department of Education

## Meghan Cromien

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**From:** Leslie Procive  
**Sent:** Monday, April 14, 2014 8:32 AM  
**To:** ALL USERS  
**Subject:** School of Nursing Awarded NSNA's Stellar School

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

MPC community:

I am sending you a quick note to share a bit of good news: Sue Hanna and some of our nursing students are returning from the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) 62nd annual convention in Nashville where MPC's Maurine Church Coburn School of Nursing was awarded NSNA's Stellar School recognition. Only 23 schools in the nation have received this distinction, most of them are BSN programs, and only one other school is located in California.

This program recognizes NSNA school chapters for their ongoing involvement in NSNA and their commitment to shared governance and professional development. Nursing students have been active in the legislative process both at the state and national level for many years (researching, debating, passing resolutions in support of specific evidence-based practices about nursing school curricula, e.g. "In support of increased awareness and optimal management of monitoring systems and their alarms.").

Sue Hanna, nursing faculty, completed a special course for faculty advisors in support of the effort. The MPC NSNA chapter has demonstrated commitment to professional development and community outreach. At the California state convention in the fall in San Jose, the chapter was presented with two awards: "best community service project", and "best breakthrough to nursing" projects (recruitment).

Celine Pinet, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Monterey Peninsula College  
980 Fremont Street  
Monterey, CA 93940-4799  
(831) 646-4034  
[cpinet@mpc.edu](mailto:cpinet@mpc.edu)<<mailto:cpinet@mpc.edu>>

## Meghan Cromien

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**From:** Leslie Procive  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 16, 2014 9:02 AM  
**To:** ALL USERS  
**Subject:** FW: MPC Success Story

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Sent on behalf of Celine Pinet

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Dear MPC community;

I'd like to share something that happened to me over the weekend. I am sharing this with the hope it will bring you pride, as it did me.

I was on my way to visit a friend in San Jose and stopped on the way to pick up coffee. While I was waiting in line, an individual noticed my MPC t-shirt. She asked me a few questions and then started telling me about her experience with the college. She said, and I quote: "Monterey Peninsula College holds a special place in my heart. I started my college education there and ended it with a Ph.D. from Stanford." She proceeded by telling me how much she appreciated what the college had to offer and how it changed her life.

We are in the midst of significant budget challenges and we face some difficult decisions. This former student's voice is a reminder that our core and purpose remain strong. We may not have all the resources or material things we need – and our richness lives in our spirit of excellence, caring, and commitment. Our wealth is measured in who we are and what we continue to offer: Opportunities for students to realize their potential, opportunities for students to pursue their educational dreams, and opportunities for students to see how they can make a difference – a positive difference for us all.

Warmly,

Celine

## Meghan Cromien

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**From:** Shawn Anderson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 22, 2014 9:39 AM  
**To:** ALL USERS  
**Subject:** The Monterey Bay: A Leader in the Blue Economy. Conference with Congressman Sam Farr - Seaside, CA - 4/25

*SENT ON BEHALF OF SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT DR. WALT TRIBLEY*

Dear MPC Community,

As we know, the Monterey bay region is a leader in marine science and technology. This Friday, the Monterey Bay International Trade Association and Congressman Sam Farr are hosting an event to highlight that and demonstrate how the county has become a global leader in such sectors as abalone farming, aquaculture science, kelp farms research, climate change and sea level rise research and water quality as well as other "breakthrough" technologies, products, and services addressing other facets of the marine science industry.

The Monterey Bay: A Leader in the Blue Economy event is being held Friday, April 25, from 9AM-3:30PM at the Monterey College of Law facility on Ft. Ord. In addition to presenters from MPC's MATE Center, Congressman Farr will give a special presentation about the Monterey Bay marine science community and some of the challenges and opportunities the region faces as a world leader in this sector. The details are online at <http://www.mbita.org/events/brandingthemontereybayregion2014.html>. This is the 4th conference on the Brand Monterey Bay (BMB) program featuring a leading industry in the Monterey Bay region.

If your schedules permit, I encourage you to attend.

Thank you!

Dr. T

## Meghan Cromien

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**From:** Meghan Cromien  
**Sent:** Monday, May 19, 2014 10:42 AM  
**To:** Meghan Cromien  
**Subject:** Group Assignments in MPC Online - MPC Online Coffee & Conversation - May 2nd  
**Attachments:** Group MPC Online Coffee & Conversation .ics

**From:** Leslie Procive  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2014 3:36 PM  
**To:** ALL USERS  
**Subject:** FW: Group Assignments in MPC Online - MPC Online Coffee & Conversation - May 2nd

Sent on behalf of the MPC Online Support Team.

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Greetings MPC Faculty

We are pleased invite you to this week's **MPC Online Coffee and Conversation** which will be held **Friday, May 2nd from 11:00 a.m. - Noon in LTC 317**. Join us this week for a conversation about **Group Assignments in MPC Online**. This week's conversation is facilitated by Steve Bruemmer, MPC's Online Instructional Technology Specialist.

This conversation is intended to help **understand how to effectively facilitate group discussions and assignments**. Our conversation will include the following topics:

- How to setup and define groups and group members
- How to establish group discussion forums
- How to create group assignment submissions

A fundamental goal of MPC's Institutional Committee on Distance Education is to support the development of high quality online learning environments that facilitate student engagement and promote learning. Learn more by visiting <http://mpconline.mpc.edu> and clicking the link to Faculty Training & Support.

Join us for a great conversation — and doughnuts! **No registration required**. Add this event to your calendar by clicking on the attached calendar icon.

- Jon

.....  
**Jon Knolle, Ed.D.**  
*Associate Dean of Instructional Technology & Development*

Monterey Peninsula College  
980 Fremont Street  
Monterey, CA 93940-4799  
(831) 646-3030  
[jknolle@mpc.edu](mailto:jknolle@mpc.edu)

## Meghan Cromien

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**From:** Walter Tribley  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 08, 2014 4:21 PM  
**To:** ALL USERS  
**Cc:** Vicki Nakamura  
**Subject:** Employee Recognition

Dear MPC,

I am pleased to request nominations for two special recognition awards that will be presented at the annual Employee Recognition event on May 30. Since 2006, the MPC Foundation has sponsored the annual **Classified Recognition Award**, and in 2008, the Foundation added support to recognize **"Difference Makers"** at MPC who have had a significant impact at the college. Descriptions for each award are provided below, and I ask for your nominations in each category. Please email your nominations to me with an explanation about how the nominee meets the criteria for the award. Nominations for both types of awards must be received by **Friday, May 16, by 5:00 PM.**

Thank you,

Dr. T.

### **MPC Classified Recognition Award**

Sponsored by the MPC Foundation

*Who are Eligible:* MPC Classified Employees

*What:* An annual award presented to one MPC Classified employee, including a modest monetary award

*When:* To be presented at the annual Employee Recognition Ceremony on Friday, May 30

*Criteria:* Award will be presented to an employee who exemplifies excellence in job performance and "goes the extra mile". Award will be based upon:

1. Attendance
2. Attitude
3. Friendliness/all-around good person
4. Effect of their work will be campus-wide

*Process:* President will solicit nominees from all employees. Nominees will be reviewed by the President and Vice Presidents and one employee selected to receive the award.

*Deadline:* Nominations are due **Friday, May 16, 2014, 5:00 PM.**  
Email your nominations with an explanation about how the nominee fulfills the above criteria to: [wtribley@mpc.edu](mailto:wtribley@mpc.edu).

## PRIOR RECIPIENTS

2013 Honoree – Paula Norton

2012 Honoree – Laura Worley

2011 Honoree – Anne Marie Illien

2010 Honoree – Christine Hunsley

2009 Honoree – Linda Pridmore

2008 Honoree – Helmut Schonwalder

2007 Honoree – Brenda Kalina

2006 Honoree – David Albright

## MPC Difference Makers Awards

This spring, Monterey Peninsula College continues the tradition begun in spring 2008 to recognize the College's Difference Makers. MPC Difference Makers are classified, faculty, and management employees who have made a significant impact on the college during the academic year. Examples of "significant impact" can be defined as:

- "Going above and beyond the call of duty" to ensure student and/or instructional needs are met
- "Going above and beyond the call of duty" to help MPC realize its institutional goals
- "Going above and beyond the call of duty" to help plan or facilitate outreach activities

The names of the Difference Makers and their contributions will be announced at the Employee Recognition Ceremony on May 30. Recipients will receive a modest monetary award. The Monterey Peninsula College Foundation is underwriting the financial award.

### **Nominations may be made by any supervisor at MPC.**

A nomination is comprised of an email detailing the employee's contribution(s) over the previous academic year.

**Nominations are due by Friday, May 16, at 5:00 pm (send to: [wtribley@mpc.edu](mailto:wtribley@mpc.edu)).**

A committee comprised of two administrators, two faculty members, and two classified staff members will review nominations and select up to three honorees.

## PRIOR RECIPIENTS

YEAR	RECIPIENTS	DEPARTMENT
2013	Eddie Gil de Montes (Classified) Henry Marchand (Faculty) Christine Wood (Classified)	Graphic Arts English Chemistry
2012	Dan Beck (Management) Alethea De Soto (Faculty) Georgina Leyva (Classified)	Theater Matriculation Marina Ed Center
2011	Beth Benoit (Classified) Song Monroe (Classified) Brian Streetman (Classified)	Life Science Social Science English Skills and Study Center

2010	Fred Hochstaedter (Faculty) Kali Viker (Confidential)	Earth Sciences Human Resources
2009	John Kalina (Classified) Deb Schulte (Faculty) Leslie Turrini Smith (Faculty)	Information Technology Nursing School Earth Sciences
2008	Gary Bolen (Faculty) Lavester Boykin (Classified) Andres Durstenfeld (Faculty) Jeannie Kim (Faculty)	Theater Information Technology Biology English

Walt Tribley, Ph.D.  
 Superintendent/President  
 Monterey Peninsula College  
 980 Fremont St.  
 Monterey, CA 93940  
 831-646-4060



## Meghan Cromien

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**From:** Leslie Procive  
**Sent:** Monday, May 12, 2014 9:21 AM  
**To:** ALL USERS  
**Subject:** Faculty & Staff Survey for Accreditation Self-Study

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Sent on behalf of Celine Pinet and Catherine Webb, Accreditation Self-Study Co-Chairs

Good morning!

MPC is preparing for the writing of our accreditation self-study next year. To help inform the writing, we are administering a faculty and staff survey this month. The survey was originally developed at MPC when we were engaged in our previous self-study during 2008-09. We revised some of the questions to reflect recent changes in the accreditation standards. Most of the survey questions remain the same, so this will provide us with rich longitudinal data. The survey is comprehensive and addresses all of the accreditation standards.

We truly value your input. Your honest feedback will provide the accreditation writing teams with important information about what works well at MPC and what areas need improvement. Please be assured that your responses are anonymous, and results will be reported in the aggregate only.

You may access the survey at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Accred\\_Sp2014](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Accred_Sp2014). Please complete the survey by **Friday, May 23**.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Catherine Webb and Celine Pinet  
Accreditation Self-Study Steering Committee Co-Chairs

## Meghan Cromien

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**From:** Leslie Procive  
**Sent:** Monday, May 12, 2014 3:03 PM  
**To:** ALL USERS  
**Subject:** FW: Recording Desktop Video Lectures - MPC Online Coffee & Conversation 5/16  
**Attachments:** Recording Desktop Video Lectures - MPC Online Coffee & Conversation.ics

Sent on behalf of the MPC Online Support Team.

\*\*\*\*\*

Greetings MPC Faculty

We are pleased to invite you to the final **MPC Online Coffee and Conversation** of the spring semester this **Friday, May 16th from 11:00 a.m.-noon in LTC 317**. Join us this week for a conversation about **Recording Desktop Video Lectures**. This week's conversation is facilitated by Steve Bruemmer, MPC's Online Instructional Technology Specialist.

We will discuss new tools and technologies that are now available to MPC faculty for recording desktop lecture videos for online courses. Our conversation will include the following topics:

- Review of new video cameras, document cameras, and headsets available for checkout by MPC faculty.
- How to record and edit desktop lectures using Screencast-O-Matic.
- Uploading videos to 3C Media Solutions and requesting captions for accessibility.
- Incorporating video clips in MPC Online.

A fundamental goal of MPC's Institutional Committee on Distance Education is to support the development of high quality online learning environments that facilitate student engagement and promote learning. Learn more by visiting <http://mpconline.mpc.edu> and clicking the link to Faculty Training & Support.

Join us for this semester's final conversation — and enjoy coffee and snacks! **No registration required.** Add this event to your calendar by clicking on the attached calendar icon.

- Jon

.....  
**Jon Knolle, Ed.D.**  
*Associate Dean of Instructional Technology & Development*

Monterey Peninsula College  
980 Fremont Street  
Monterey, CA 93940-4799  
(831) 646-3030  
[jknolle@mpc.edu](mailto:jknolle@mpc.edu)

## Meghan Cromien

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**From:** Carlis Crowe-Johns  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 14, 2014 7:33 AM  
**To:** ALL USERS  
**Subject:** Classified Appreciation: Annual Ice Cream Floats  
**Attachments:** Rootbeer Float Flyer 2014.pdf

**Subject:** Classified Appreciation: Annual Ice Cream Floats

Kali F. Viker, M.S.  
HR Analyst  
Monterey Peninsula College  
831-646-3038- Phone  
831-646-3012- Fax  
[Employment Opportunities at MPC](#)



# 12TH ANNUAL CLASSIFIED ICE CREAM FLOAT DAY!!

## SCOOPS OF APPRECIATION

The MPC administrators are hosting a Float Party for Classified employees to acknowledge their significant contributions to the College. You have a choice of soda flavors served over vanilla ice cream in a souvenir glass.

**WHO: ALL CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES**

**DATE: MAY 19, 2014**

**TIME: 11:30AM-1:30 PM**

**LOCATION: FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE**

Can't make it because you are not scheduled to work during this time? Email: [Kviker@mpc.edu](mailto:Kviker@mpc.edu) to arrange an alternate delivery!

Contact Human Resources for more information.

Kath Viker, 33038

## Meghan Cromien

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**From:** Walter Tribley  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 14, 2014 2:44 PM  
**To:** ALL USERS  
**Cc:** Rebecca "Beccie" Michael; Vicki Nakamura; Shawn Anderson  
**Subject:** 2014 MPC Employee Recognition Ceremony and Luau  
**Attachments:** Employee Recognition announcement 5-2014.pdf

Dear MPC:

I am pleased to invite all employees to this year's Employee Recognition Ceremony and Luau on Friday, May 30. The recognition program begins at 11:00 AM at the MPC Theater. Lunch will follow at the amphitheater and is being provided by instructor Molly Jansen and MPC Hospitality students. There will be additional fun activities to enjoy at our beautiful new pool. Please see the attached announcement for details.

**Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 20 to reserve your lunch, by clicking on the link, [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BBQ\\_2014](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BBQ_2014) and filling in your name.**

If you experience any problems with the survey link, contact Meghan Cromien ([mcromien@mpc.edu](mailto:mcromien@mpc.edu)). Thank you for RSVPing – the information will help us plan the quantity of food and drinks needed.

Hope you will join us,

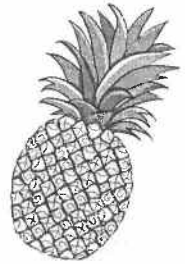
Walt



# 2014 EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY AND LUAU

Friday, May 30, 2014

11:00 AM, MPC Theater



*Please join us to celebrate your hard work and honor your colleagues with retiree tributes, recognition and service awards.*

Lunch follows at the MPC Amphitheater

PLUS Fun Activities and Games at the NEW Pool

*Featuring:*

**MPC Difference Makers Awards**

**MPC Foundation Classified Employee Recognition Award**

**2014 Retiree Tributes**

Julie Bailey • Dianne Conway • Pat Fauth • Elizabeth Harrington •  
Harold Hutchins • Lola Jerez Moya • Sigrid Klein • Ed Lake •  
Barbara Lee • Rod Oka • Donna Russo • Helmut Schonwalder •  
Bryan Singleton • Randy Smith • Victoria Thompson • Bruce Wilder

**Awards for Long Service**

*(see next page for a listing of these dedicated MPC employees)*



**RSVP by MAY 19** (by clicking on this link: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BBQ\\_2014](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BBQ_2014))

*to reserve your lunch, being provided this year by Molly Jansen &  
MPC Hospitality students*

# MPC Service Pins Will Be Awarded to:

(Employees with appropriate years of service as of September, 2014)



## *Academic*

### 10 YEARS SERVICE

Grace Anongchanya (8/2004)  
Wendy Bates (7/2004)  
Thu Duong (8/2004)  
Frances Fulton (8/2004)  
Anita Johnson (8/2004)  
David Joplin (8/2004)  
Bonnie Kirk (2/2003)  
Jon Mikkelsen (8/2004)  
Jonathan Osburg (8/2004)

### 15 YEARS SERVICE

Gary Bolen (8/1999)  
Alyce Di Palma (10/1998)  
Robert Evans (2/1999)  
Michael Gilmartin (1/1999)  
Dorian Hanner (9/1999)  
Lynn Iwamoto (8/1999)  
Vince Lewis (8/1999)  
Tuyen Nguyen (8/1999)  
Mary Ellen Okelberry (6/1999)  
Sharon Osgood (1/1999)  
Todd Ritsema (8/1999)

### 20 YEARS SERVICE

Tracie Catania (8/1994)  
Mark Clements (8/1994)  
Christina Rondez (2/1994)  
Kathleen Rozman (8/1994)  
Christine Vincent (2/1994)

## *Classified*

### 10 YEARS SERVICE

Margarita Caballero (11/2003)  
Gustavo Carvalho (1/2004)  
Terrie Murphy (10/2003)  
Linda Sasaki (6/2004)  
Susan Villa (1/2004)

### 15 YEARS SERVICE

Suzanne Ammons (1/1999)  
Lillian Gorham (6/1999)  
Gaely Jablonski (9/1999)  
Linda Logsdon (4/1999)  
Nancee Powell (2/1999)  
Arnold Seibel (2/1999)

## *Academic*

### 25 YEARS SERVICE

Jacqui Boomer-Adams (4/1988)  
Eileen LaMothe (7/1988)

### 30 YEARS SERVICE

Gail Bartow (8/1984)  
Terria Odom-Wolfer (8/1984)  
Don Phillely (8/1984)  
Lawrence Welch (6/1984)

### 35 YEARS SERVICE

Allston James (9/1979)

### 45 YEARS SERVICE

Marguerite Moore (2/1969)

## *Classified*

### 25 YEARS SERVICE

Brenda Kalina (10/1987)

### 30 YEARS SERVICE

Renee D'Aquisto (2/1984)

*Mahalo!*

## Meghan Cromien

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**From:** Sigrid Klein  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 15, 2014 8:59 AM  
**To:** ALL USERS  
**Subject:** FW: Invitation to attend the "Annual Recognition Celebration" hosted by CalWORKs, EOPS/CARE & TRiO/SSS  
**Attachments:** Acknowledgement Form SP14.doc

Sent to you on behalf of CalWORKS, EOPS/CARE & TRiO/SSS. Please direct any inquiries to Grace Anongchanya at [ganongchanya@mpc.edu](mailto:ganongchanya@mpc.edu)

**From:** Grace Anongchanya  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 14, 2014 6:08 PM  
**Subject:** Invitation to attend the "Annual Recognition Celebration" hosted by CalWORKs, EOPS/CARE & TRiO/SSS

Hello,

You may have already received an "Evite". **If you have**, you can bypass the rest of this email. We apologize in advance for the duplicate invitation, some folks are unable to receive an "Evite" via their email.

**If you have not received an "Evite"**, please see information for the event below, and RSVP at the following link...<http://www.evite.com/l/GF1k5C4rkr>

Note: Students please submit "Acknowledgment Form" by this Friday, May 16th (office closes at 12pm). Form is attached and available on the 2nd Floor of the Student Services Bldg, STS 217 or see your Counselor.

~Annual Recognition Celebration Committee



# YOU'RE INVITED

## ANNUAL RECOGNITION CELEBRATION

Host: CalWORKs, EOPS/CARE &  
TRIO/SSS

Phone: 831-646-4246

When: Friday, May 23 at 2:00

Where: MPC MUSIC HALL, M  
parking)  
980 Fremont St  
Monterey, CA 93940



Please join us in celebrating the academic achievements  
and successes of our CalWORKs, EOPS/CARE,  
and TRIO/SSS students.

Family, friends, and the MPC community are invited to attend this  
wonderful and celebratory event.

Students please dress "Business Casual".

*Light Refreshments to Follow*

**RSVP by Friday, May 16th**  
please contact 831-646-4246 for more info

Note: Students please submit an "Acknowledgment Form" by Friday,  
May 16th (office closes at noon). Forms available on the 2nd Floor  
of the Student Services Bldg, STS 217 or see your Counselor.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

This form is to be submitted to the program you are affiliated with: CalWORKs, EOPS/CARE, and/or TRiO/Student Support Services Office, no later than noon on Friday, May 16th.  
The "Annual Recognition Celebration" will be on Friday, May 23rd, in the Music Hall at 2pm.

Yes, I plan to participate

Number of guest(s) planning to attend

No, I am not able to participate

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SID # \_\_\_\_\_  
(as you would like it to appear on your degree)

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

MPC Certificate/Associate Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Transfer College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

Transfer Major: \_\_\_\_\_

List Special Accomplishments (i.e. Dean's List, Scholarships, Club Affiliations, etc.):

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You will have an opportunity to have your dedication and/or "thank you's" read by a staff member at the "Annual Recognition Ceremony". Please write a brief statement (1-3 sentences).

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## The Value of the Humanities

A book by a British professor fails to find good arguments for teaching the humanities.

**By David Clemens**

From its title, the casual reader might expect *The Value of the Humanities* to be a love letter to art, music, and literature. However, this book is not for the casual reader. It is written by a specialist, Oxford professor of English Helen Small, for other specialists who are trying to stay afloat in today's university.

Small identifies five arguments commonly used to explain why the humanities should continue to receive public funding at a time when other majors lead more obviously and directly to employment. Her goal is "to put the arguments through their paces: to work out the strengths and weakness of each kind of justification, and to see what is left standing at the end."

That she does, devoting one chapter to each of the five arguments (you can hear her present her chapters in a 40-minute video [here](#) and a six-part podcast [here](#)).

Surprisingly, she finds that all of the arguments for the humanities are weak. And, she argues, in a government-funded educational system (in this case Britain's), when the state is doling out "finite public resources," it is futile to use weak arguments when your competition is the National Health Service and national defense.

The humanities are regarded as not *necessities* (health, food, clothing, shelter, safety, etc.) but as just one of many "desirable goods," luxuries, and when the economic ship is sinking, you jettison the luxuries.

In Chapter 1, Small revisits the "two cultures" debate between C. P. Snow and F. R. Leavis. In "The Two Cultures" (1959), Snow said there are two ways of engaging the world, the scientific and the literary, and the fully-educated person should combine them by understanding both vocabularies and ways of seeing. Leavis countered that humans are defined by language and by cultural achievements (art, music, literature) which predate mere scientific description and analysis. He felt that literary culture surpasses and is just more important than scientific knowledge since it is what makes us human.

In 1959, the question was whether career and technical education should be allowed in humanities-driven universities. Neither Snow nor Leavis imagined today's almost total eclipse of literary culture, in both the universities and in society. Small allows that some disciplines in the humanities can be thought of as distinct from other disciplines, and at times even useful, but "the humanities" is too broad a category to be defensible.

Next, Small tackles the argument that the humanities are in fact useful (an argument she made in the first chapter). She tells of how Matthew Arnold once described higher education idealistically as producing "sweetness and light." Today, however, cash-strapped higher education has surrendered to practical logic: "How can you use it? What does it cost? What is it good for?" Small agrees with Louis Menand that in universities today, the humanities serve "almost exclusively to reproduce the profession." Literature professors only make more literature professors. Small believes that, like "sweetness and light," praise for the humanities quickly becomes trite.

In her third chapter, Small considers the argument that the humanities "have a contribution to make to our individual and collective happiness." Happiness sounds good but by what instrument do you measure individual, much less collective, happiness? Small realizes that the greatest amount of happiness for the greatest number

sounds laudable but it always seems to run afoul of reality when we start asking “who decides” and “how will this be done?” As she says, “we have been here before.”

Small next examines the argument that many defenders of the humanities, including me, have made, that the humanities are good, or even necessary, for democracy. A campaign in Britain calls this “Democracy Needs Us.” Small betrays a bit of elitism when she writes, “Indeed, the remedial work—teaching basic competence and coherence in expression—may be as real a contribution to a democratic culture as the higher work of criticism.” Actually, teaching reading and writing produces many more judicious citizens and voters than the “higher work” of literary theory.

Small suggests that “the more general protections of democracy look rather less obviously in need of higher humanities training.” When I created a [great books program](#) my goal was to expose as many people as possible to the fundamental texts of Western governance and the Western imagination, but Small asks whether such a goal isn’t the responsibility of K-12.

She has a point. The jargon of advanced literary theory (the book is full of it) sounds like doubletalk to the general public and repels many potential students. If phrases like “a kind of Derridean logic of the supplement” get your tea kettle boiling, this book has lots more. And Small admits she doesn’t even want to recast her specialist book for the general reader, preferring to write “about the academic profession for the academic profession.” That academics no longer speak the language of the tax payer, or want to, is part of the humanities’ problem.

Small’s fifth and final argument concerns whether “the humanities matter for their own sake.” She has little patience for the idea of “intrinsic value” because to argue for it requires words for such unobservable and unmeasurable qualities as “intuition,” “the sublime” and “ineffable.” University chief financial officers don’t speak this language, so why waste your time? Besides, all kinds of things have value for their own sake.

Small’s original goal was “to work out the strengths and weakness of each kind of justification, and to see what is left standing at the end.” Turns out that what is left is rubble.

However, I would argue that Small’s takedown of the value claims for the humanities is both dangerous and wrong.

Dangerous because she highlights weaknesses and soft spots without repairing them or suggesting a new direction. Her book, then, becomes an instruction manual for how to carve the humanities out of the budget.

Wrong because her overriding concern seems primarily to keep public money flowing to humanities programs and humanities faculties. This is the wrong tack. Education begins with the student, that frequently bewildered individual who makes almost no appearance in Small’s 204-page book. We get 20 pages on John Stuart Mill, a visit to the [Sokal Hoax](#), an extended discussion of Matthew Arnold, 300 footnotes, and a 13-page bibliography with nary a student in sight. The question isn’t how to keep harvesting public funding but how to breathe life into students.

Consider Professor Mark Edmundson. In *Why Teach?* he speaks directly to first year students about the effect the humanities have on them:

The reason to read Blake and Dickinson and Freud and Dickens is not to become more cultivated or more articulate or to be someone who, at a cocktail party, is never embarrassed (or can embarrass others). The best reason to read them is to see if they know you better than you know yourself.

Similarly, in *Education’s End*, philosopher Anthony Kronman asks “what is living for?” and says, “It is the question Socrates (who died for philosophy) and Jesus (who died for humanity) installed at the center of our civilization and that we face in our individual lives.”

The humanities are not about training but about being. The greatest compliment I ever received on a student evaluation was “When I’m in his class, I feel more alive.” American philosopher Joseph Campbell famously wrote

People say that what we're all seeking is a meaning for life. I don't think that's what we're really seeking. I think that what we're seeking is an experience of being alive, so that our life experiences on the purely physical plane will have resonances with our own innermost being and reality, so that we actually feel the rapture of being alive.

Making us feel more alive is what the humanities, and only the humanities, do. Professor Small pays scant notice to this benefit.

The humanities are not about politics, or usefulness, or even happiness. I would argue that the humanities also are not luxuries but necessities. The humanities inspire us in the original sense of "breathe life into." Students are hungry for life, and the humanities offer the beating heart of life's tensions, contradictions, and beauty.

I'm sure Professor Small would find my language hopelessly Romantic, while I find hers just hopeless.

# Monterey Peninsula College marks National Poetry Month with week of events

*By Herald staff*

**Monterey** >> Monterey Peninsula College's creative writing program is celebrating National Poetry Month with readings from local poets, an afternoon of student works and an exhibit of celebrated writers' favorite poems.

- "Bridging the Bay: Poetry of the Monterey Region," 8 p.m. Friday in the Sam Karas room of the college library.

Published poets Simon Hunt, Jennifer Fellguth, Dane Cervine, Brandi Kary, George Lober, Marie Butcher and Joshua Converse will read from their works.

Butcher, Kary and Converse have ties to MPC. Butcher and Kary are instructors, and Converse is an alum who founded the Great Books Club while a student.

Kary will teach the college's first-ever semester-long poetry writing workshop in the fall.

"I have wanted to do this for quite awhile, and hope to make it an annual event," creative writing instructor Henry Marchand said in an email. "There are so many gifted poets around us, it's a pleasure to be able to bring them together for the public to meet, hear and enjoy."

- "Building Bridges: Poetry Exhibit," Friday through April 30 in the MPC library.

Inspired by Robert Pinsky's "Favorite Poem" project, this special exhibit features the favorite poems and written commentaries of faculty and participants in the college's Guest Authors series, including Christopher Moore, Craig Johnson, Jane Smiley and Tess Taylor.

- "Tongue and Pen: An Afternoon of Student Poetry, Spoken Word, Slam and Open Mic," 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesday in Lecture Forum 103.

This free event joins students from MPC and CSU Monterey Bay. It was organized by Kary and Valerie Guardiola, an MPC alum who now attends CSUMB.

The event is open to the public, but some of the work may not be suitable for small children.

## Monterey High, MPC dance instructor retiring after 25 years

Laurie Leslie-Groves taught for 25 years

*By Dennis Taylor*

**Monterey** >> Developing dancers, like growing flowers, is a nurturing process that requires time, patience and a lot of TLC. The blossoms have made the process exhilarating for Laurie Leslie-Groves, whose one-year, interim commitment to teach dance at Monterey High School turned into a 25-year career.

The 56-year-old Groves expects to choke back a few tears on April 25 and 26, when the curtain falls on her final production at the school, "Dancin' ... from the Heart," the annual spring concert. If not for a nagging back and shoulder injury, she says she would have taught forever.

"I'm not the kind of instructor who teaches from a chair, pointing this way or that way. I do everything with the kids," she explains with a laugh. "Sometimes after teaching all day long, I'm barely walking the next day. The morning is all about the hot tub. This was a hard decision, and it still is, but I think 25 years has been a good run."

The Monterey High dance program was created in the 1960s by Carol Surman, whose model was heavily focused on community outreach, with a goal of enabling underprivileged children to dance. She stepped down in 1988, after Groves arrived with a resume that included a teaching credential from San Francisco State, a masters of fine arts in dance from UC Irvine, and stage experience that included two off-Broadway touring companies ("42nd Street" and "Cats") in New York, and an education in multiple disciplines from the likes of Nicole Fosse, Donald McKayle, Buzz Miller, Lucas Hoving, and Luigi, among others.

She immediately fell in love with Surman's model, which included a Monterey Bay Dance Company that made annual performing tours of the area's elementary and middle schools (a tradition that endures more than four decades later). Groves — then Laurie Leslie — quickly added a twist of her own, arranging annual bus trips to UC Berkeley so her students could watch the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and see what professional dance looks like.

Groves also has taught at Monterey Peninsula College, which opened its doors to high school students interested in taking their dance instruction to another level. She credits Lyndon Schutzler, chairman of MPC's physical education department, for keeping student dance programs alive on the Monterey Peninsula.

"Lyndon and Monterey Peninsula College deserve all the credit for supporting dance and keeping the consistency of the after-school dance program and the Monterey Bay Dance Company in place," said Groves, whose job with Monterey Peninsula Unified School District was shelved for several years by budget cuts.

"Laurie, with her high school program, has really been kind of a match made in heaven for MPC," Schutzler said. "It takes a real special person to draw those kids in and give them a place to belong."

The Monterey and Seaside High dance programs fell prey to budget cuts several years ago, during which Groves focused her attention on MPC's after-school program and the Monterey Bay Dance Company. But she found a friend of the arts four years ago when Marcie Plummer took over as principal of Monterey High and put dance back into the curriculum.

"I came from a district that had a very strong dance program — something I believe in very strongly — and when I got here, Monterey High didn't have one," Plummer said. "So I sat down with Laurie and asked her to help me write a curriculum to start a dance program. We sat in my office until after midnight a couple of nights in a row to get it done."

"She said, 'Hey, Laurie, let's write a career pathway in dance — a (University of California)-approved career pathway,'" Groves said.

Groves restarted the program the following year with one class, but now has 80 dancers at three levels of dance education.

What Plummer understands, Groves said, is that dance makes a student smarter. The New England Journal of Medicine identified dance as the No. 1 activity to increase brain cognition at any age, she said.

But the budget cuts and the lengthy absence of a dance curriculum had taken its toll, she said.

"One vivid memory from my 25 years was returning to Monterey High, touching the curtain at Harmon Stage, and having it crumble in my hands," Groves said. "Light fixtures were falling apart. Athletic equipment was stacked in a huge box on the stage. The whole place



was in very bad shape, but Marcie Plummer was determined to hold the spring concert at our own school — not at MPC — so the hard work and the grant writing began."

Thanks to the support of Plummer and the generosity of donors — foundations and individuals — the facility has been restored to its former glory, and Monterey High's dance program, itself, has become self-sufficient.

"Our program is completely self-supporting. It's not like we're handed these big budgets — we're handed nothing," Groves says.

Eighty students and some featured guests will perform about 30 dances — classical ballet, contemporary, hip hop, musical theater, Spanish and multiple other genres — during the two-hour show. Many of Groves' seniors are expected to go on to bigger things, dancing or teaching professionally. Others have simply emerged from their adolescent shells through dance.

"It happens all the time, and that's the best part for me," Groves says. "For teenagers, there's so much judgment, so much focus on body image and other things. Self-esteem can be a real issue. Then, all of a sudden, you see some shy kid come out of that shell through this opportunity for self-expression that they've never had before, and it's an amazing thing to see."

# Matt Kish chased his Moby-Dick muse with the tenacity of Captain Ahab.

by Walter Ryce

Matt Kish grew up with a head full of images – of comic book exploits and 1970s album covers, of children’s books and early video games like *Kid Icarus*, of monster movies and sci-fi paperbacks. They stayed there in his head, swirling around until he siphoned them out in a ceaseless fount of fantastical drawings, part comics, part modern art, symbolic and hieroglyphic, inscrutable but purposeful.

Now the images live outside his head.

Today Kish is 44 and works as a librarian in the Dayton Metro Library in Ohio. He spoke with the *Weekly* by phone from a stairwell in the library with a window view of the park outside.

“When I’m reading fiction, I’m seeing the action and characters in my head,” he says. “Seeing comics was like this explosion in my head, the images and the text, and they were working in sync together.”

He started posting his drawings on a blog called [Spudd64.com](http://Spudd64.com), beginning with work he created in 1993. There’s work he did for hire – an album cover for David Krejci, a book cover for Seth Fishman. There’s also work he did for himself – distressed photographs, DIY comics and zines. He had never attended art school, but he could not stop drawing.

He had seen a graphic novel by Zak Smith, a page-for-page illustration of Thomas Pynchon’s *Gravity’s Rainbow*, and he admired the “audacity” of it. He wanted to do that for a beloved book of his own. On Aug. 5 of 2009, at his drawing desk in a cramped closet in a room he and his wife rented in a shared house, he began to illustrate Herman Melville’s *Moby-Dick*, all 522 pages of it, a page a day, 522 days – a project that began with wide-eyed aplomb but turned out to require the ascetic discipline of a monk.

“I had no idea it would turn into a book,” he says. “I was keeping it private.”

Until he started posting the [illustrations on a blog](#) for friends and family to track. Others caught on and encouragement flowed in. So did interviews and blog reposts. Another illustrator, Sophie Blackall, introduced Kish to an agent, and though Kish was only halfway through the 522 pages, that agent suggested a book. In 2011, [Tin House Books](#) published *Moby-Dick in Pictures: One Drawing for Every Page*.

Kish comes to Monterey Peninsula College on Thursday, April 17, to talk, as part of the school’s storied [Great Books Program](#), on the subject of “The Marriage of Great Books and Visual Art.”

In the introduction to his book, Kish explains why he chose *Moby-Dick* (he had read the American masterpiece eight times at that point): “To me, *Moby-Dick* is a book about everything. God. Love. Hate. Identity. Race. Sex. Humor. Obsession. History. Work. Capitalism. I see every aspect of life reflected in the bizarre mosaic of this book.”

After a foreword, the illustrations begin, accompanied by snippets and sentences excerpted from the novel – one piece of text per each page of the Signet edition, illustrated in a wild array of styles, in colored pencil, collage, acrylic paint, ball-point pen, masking tape, marker. For canvas, he uses salvaged sheets

of random invoices and diagrams which weave into his own drawings of Ahab, the whale, harpoons, religious symbols, sailors, robots, aliens, weather, oceans and monsters. Together, like that symbiosis of words and illustration of his revered comics, they make up an arresting array, page after page of art that evokes punk posters or Mayan symbols or street graffiti.

"I feel most comfortable with calling them illustrations," Kish says. "I'm a self-taught artist. I've been drawing ever since I can remember. In my 20s there was a time when those who had earned [art] degrees felt they had paid their dues in art schools and I had no right to call myself an artist."

He describes himself as a librarian first, but will accept illustrator. For a long time he had dreamed of having an art gallery show but had no takers because, he reasons, he's not formally trained: "That made me sad because I always wanted the opportunity to see my work on a wall where people could see it," he says.

When *Moby-Dick in Pictures* was published, illustrations from the book won him that dream – a gallery show in Portland, at Powell's Books, the largest independent bookstore in the world.

"About 150 pages were hanging. I got to see the gallery first before anyone was in there. To see the work on the walls... to see the images related to one another, symbols repeated, themes working through multiple pieces in the gallery, I felt I had done something really successful, something worth looking at."

BrainPickings.org named the book one of the 11 Best Art and Design Books of 2011. "Equal parts visual mastery and creative bravery" wrote *The Atlantic*. Two years and another book later (Kish illustrated Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*), and he's still savoring the conversations. One topic that comes up often: How did he do it?

"It's a long, complicated answer, but I can distill it down to a basic thing," he says. "It sounds like a platitude, but it's a true thing: I did what I love."

**MATT KISH speaks at the MPC Great Books Program 7pm Thursday in the Sam Karas Room, LTC, Monterey Peninsula College, 980 Fremont St., Monterey. Free. [www.mpcfoundation.org/great-books-program/](http://www.mpcfoundation.org/great-books-program/)**

## MONTEREY COUNTY BUSINESS COUNCIL'S FRIDAY FACTS

**APRIL 18, 2014**

### **Dr. Richard Kezirian to receive MPC President's Award**

Dr. Richard Kezirian has been named recipient of the 2014 Monterey Peninsula College (MPC) President's Award. The President's Award is presented annually to a community leader who has made significant contributions to the Monterey Peninsula, who has helped fulfill the college's mission of providing educational opportunities to the diverse population served by MPC.

The award will be presented at the 8th annual President's Address to the Community on May 16 at the Monterey Conference Center, when MPC Superintendent/President Dr. Walter Tribley will give his "State of the College" address, outlining MPC's accomplishments, challenges, and future plans.

A former MPC faculty member, Kezirian taught in and served as chairman of the History Department, was a GenTrain instructor for 12 years and co-chaired the College Council. He has served two terms on the MPC Foundation Board of Directors and is the founder and primary organizer for the annual Lobo Hall of Fame event recognizing distinguished MPC alumni.

"Dr. Kezirian is an outstanding advocate for MPC, sharing his passion for education and the critical role that the college plays in our community," said Dr. Tribley.

Past President's Award recipients are Bert Cutino, Peggy Bates, Sherman Smith, Dr. Jim Tunney, Dr. Peggy Downes Baskin, Kip and Jay Hudson, and John Mahoney.

HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE THE MOOC

David Clemens

Worry pervades higher education. Voices whisper, “Where are we going?” Helium keeps leaking out of the higher education bubble: too much cost, not enough benefit, constricting SLOs, competition from for-profit schools and Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). Will there be creative destruction, or just destruction? Are we the last professors at the soon-to-be administration-only colleges? Whither accreditation? Whither tenure? Whither the liberal arts? No one can read the tea leaves.

Charles Darwin suggested that one must adapt to changing conditions or yield to those who can; Clayton Christensen made the same point about business and education. That’s why, on a chilly day last fall, I found myself standing against a green screen, broiling under TV lights, squinting to read off a tiny Teleprompter that scrolled just eight or nine words at a time with no punctuation. I had been standing in this spot for two hours; my legs ached, I was getting hoarse, and every time I spotted a cue on the mini-prompt, I had to look down to advance the next PowerPoint slide on an off-camera laptop, take a slow breath for editing purposes, then resume my lecture. Later, post-production would edit out the head bobbing and composite the green screen so that my background would appear to be the small Doric temple on the National Mall. It was exhausting and nerve-wracking, but all in a day’s work making my MOOC.

Five years ago, when I started the Monterey Peninsula College Great Books Online Certificate Program (described [here](#) and [here](#)), I had three goals. First, to shelter my college’s endangered traditional core curriculum under a “certificate” umbrella. Second, to boost enrollment by making courses and the certificate available online. And third, to combine the first two so as to expose as many people as possible to what Robert Hutchins called “The Great Conversation,” those key works of literature, history, philosophy, and science that define and express Western civilization.

But you don’t jump from *Family Guy* into Proust. First, I would have to establish in students an understanding of why great books matter, what constitutes a great book, how reading differs from watching, how great books and democracy are related, and I would need pre-emptively to identify and respond to critics of great books, as well as teach how to read a challenging book (after Mortimer Adler). My tactic was more PBS than Ph.D., a revival of middlebrow learning popularized by multi-episode TV programs such as Kenneth Clark’s *Civilisation*, Jacob Bronowski’s *The Ascent of Man*, and Robert Hughes’s *The Shock of the New*, formatted to exploit the new delivery systems of the Internet. I created a multi-lesson course, *Introduction to Great Books*, for online delivery. Then I built a website; I opened a Facebook site; I blogged; I promoted with GoogleAds; I recorded guest speakers and put them on YouTube. With this new media DNA, it was inevitable that I should eventually MOOCify my course.

But grassroots MOOC-making is not easy. The heavyweight MOOC hosts (Coursera, EdX, Udacity) affiliate with elite universities (Stanford, MIT, Ivies) while I teach at a small community college. The big boys want “profess-stars” who can draw tens if not hundreds of thousands of students with name recognition alone. That would not be me. For the same reason, the giants have little or no interest in the withering liberal arts. Instead, the MOOCiverse is dense with STEM and CTE courses because they are high-demand, high-traffic, job-related, and easily adapted for online delivery. Finally, a major league

MOOC can cost upwards of \$250,000 to create. My school's tuition is \$46/unit; quarter mil courses are a non-starter.

Part of the MOOC genesis and ethos was "free education for all." That's what "Open" means: no placement tests, no prerequisites, no residency requirements, and badges or certificates that replace college credit. Y'all come! Of course, total availability means no cost, and no cost means no revenue for the sponsoring institution, a concept that lives at the dangerous intersection of Altruism Avenue and Economic Suicide Boulevard. Turned out I had contrived a perfect edu-storm: a course in a subject widely considered passé, at a huge cost, producing no income!

Happily, there's still room on the planet for a cockeyed optimist.

Instead of giving up, I looked around and found that there are other, less glamorous, MOOC hosts, and picked one: San Francisco-based Udemy.com. Even though under the radar, Udemy still claims 8,000 courses and two million students, employing a kind of market/apprenticeship approach. Anyone can sign up to teach a course in anything because Udemy is not affiliated with a university or consortium of universities. Instructors can teach, and charge, whatever they want, and Udemy hosts, promotes, and takes a cut that averages around 30%. My work on behalf of great books is evangelical and *pro bono*, but I realized I would have to charge *something* to make it worth Udemy's time to market the course since 30% of nothing is nothing. Because I couldn't grant college credit, I stripped out the writing assignments, the six textbooks, and the mandatory discussions, leaving just me to provide congenial lectures and pictures à la Clark, Bronowski, and Hughes.

Udemy proved pretty *laissez faire* but stressed one design feature—make 60% of your content visual (computer screens are not essay-friendly). Shoestring MOOCers often use a webcam resulting in a cheesy, homemade YouTube effect but I wanted something high def and professional-looking. My college simply doesn't have the technological muscle to produce, much less host, a MOOC. but the local cable access channel (Access Monterey Peninsula or AMP) was the answer with its studio, lights, cameras, production and post-production expertise. Still, I had never made a MOOC and they had never shot one, so we held hands, said a prayer, and jumped off the high board.

Squinting and sweltering, I recorded eight lectures in front of a silent, imaginary audience, adding the PowerPoint slides to highlight important quotes or images. Then AMP went to work, adding music and the Greek temple background, editing out my ducking to advance the slides, and helping with the uploading to Udemy, all at a fraction of the cost for a big boys' gold-plated MOOC.

Maybe, in time, my MOOC will prove intriguing enough to act as a funnel into my college credit course and online certificate program.

Are MOOCs "the answer" to higher education's myriad problems? Probably not. MOOCophobia is misplaced; nothing can surpass Socratic dialogue or shared inquiry around a table. No one has ever been *inspired* by a PowerPoint slide. On the other hand, I learned a lot from Kenneth Clark, Jacob Bronowski, and Robert Hughes. That's why I've learned to stop worrying and love my MOOC.



# State rule keeps students from retaking beloved MPC photography class.

Elsa Embler

Four days into Courtney Musser's backpacking trip in Sequoia National Park, a 30-pound boulder fell on her foot. She spent the next 24 hours shouting for help, meditating and bleeding through countless layers of gauze and makeshift bandages. While her hiking partner went for help, she couldn't do so much as hobble somewhere to pee. "I thought I was going to die," she says.

After being airlifted to the hospital and forced into the waiting room for hours, Musser finally got some medical attention. But it was too late for her left big toe, which had to be removed.

That's when she began taking photos. Working in the Monterey Peninsula College darkroom helped her heal both physically and emotionally. "Photography is one of the only things that washes everything from my mind," she says, "something all the drugs I was on couldn't do."

For three semesters, Musser has been repeating black-and-white film photography classes taught by MPC instructor Greg Mettler. As a former student myself, I understand her loyalty. Mettler does more than just teach techniques for good-looking photography; he emphasizes the importance of personal expression over technical perfection and encourages conceptual photography, creating deeper meanings in the imagery.

That approach is producing impressive results. In just one of Mettler's classes, six students won prizes – including first, second and third place – in last year's Weston Scholarship competition.

Musser's access to that lifeline could be in jeopardy, as the state bans community college students across California from repeating fine-arts courses.

The new regulation, implemented by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, is intended to stop students who "needlessly repeat courses," according to a press release. The rule went into effect in fall 2012, but MPC offered enough similar classes that students could maintain access to the darkroom under Mettler's instruction for up to four semesters without enrolling in the same class twice. Now, students like Musser are running out of options.

Mettler's all-day Saturday class, which immerses students in darkroom processing, explores an art that's endangered in a digital world. It's also become a creative community.

"Saturday class with Greg became a home base, an anchor for my week," former student Grant Walter says.

Eduardo Sandoval, a student and dedicated photographer, has a special take on the process. About a year and half ago, he fell in love with long-exposure photography. Ever since, he's prowled the outdoors, often in the dead of night, looking for subjects. He leaves the camera lens open to collect light for minutes or hours, creating a misty, surreal photographic effect. He says MPC provided the foundation for his art; he recently built his own darkroom to continue with it.

Students like Sandoval say they learn the most during class critiques, when students show and discuss their work. Musser explains: "The photography department is so tight-knit, and they *want* to see you excel. The input that is given is whole-hearted and always sparks thought-provoking conversations."

Mettler is now seeing the effects of the restriction. His Saturday class lost attendance so sharply administrators canceled the course for spring. He doesn't expect it to return anytime soon.

"Night and weekend courses were historically enrolled with community members retaking courses," Mettler says. "Turning down anybody who is passionate to create art is a real shame."

Dean of Instruction Micheal Gilinartin says the decision was the state's, not the college's: "The money paid by students [in tuition] goes back to the state, which gives us funding per full time student."

Mettler's repeat students, many of whom are not pursuing degrees, may be left without access to a working darkroom. That includes Vivianna Curiel, who took Mettler's Saturday class every term for three years straight.

"Each semester I learned and gained something from it," she says. "It's scary to know that will have an end."



# Palma, MPC grad David Fales set for NFL draft

Ex-Palma, MPC quarterback Fales has high hopes

*By John Devine*

**SAN JOSE** >> This time next week, the childhood dream of David Fales could come true. The former Palma High and Monterey Peninsula College quarterback could be on an NFL roster.

"I remember Mark Baker asked me when we were 10 what I wanted to be when I grew up," Fales said. "I told him I want to play in the NFL."

All signs suggest Fales will be picked in this week's NFL draft. How high he will go and to which team is open to debate.

"I've heard everything," Fales said. "I don't get into what people are forecasting. No one knows. It's out of my control."

Fales, who started for San Jose State the past two seasons, has spent the past three weeks working out with Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Alex Smith in San Jose. He says it has kept him too busy to feel nervous about the draft, which starts Thursday.

"If anything, I'm excited to see where I'm going to go to work," Fales said. "I really haven't had a lot of time to get nervous."

Over the past four weeks, Fales has had private workouts with a handful of NFL teams, including most recently the New England Patriots and St. Louis Rams.

The 49ers worked him out during their Pro Day, when he wore Smith's old No. 11.

"Alex has given me so many pointers," Fales said. "He's an awesome guy. Really down to earth."

Fales has realized the importance of keeping his cellphone charged. Over the last couple of days, it has been blowing up with calls from several teams wanting to make sure they have the correct number for him.

"The (Denver) Broncos and (Houston) Texans really seemed to like me in talks," Fales said. "I just want to get into a good situation. The teams that I have worked out for went real well."

Fales has made an impression on a lot of pro personnel people after throwing for 8,382 yards and 66 touchdowns in just two seasons at San Jose State. One draft board has him as the 10th best quarterback in the draft. He excelled at the NFL Combines in February and has continued an upward swing.

"The fact that the (date of the) draft was pushed back helped get my name out there," said Fales, who holds the single-season school record for touchdown passes at Palma. "But in terms of teams that are interested in me, they already know."

Fales seems to have answered any questions critics had about his arm strength.

"I never let that stuff get to me," Fales said. "I think the teams that worked me out walked away thinking I can make every throw and there isn't a problem with arm strength."

While Fales felt good about all of his individual workouts, he didn't get a sense of any team liking him any more or any less.

"It's just an awesome opportunity to be in this position," Fales said.

The 23-year-old Fales called his Pro Day workout with the 49ers one of his best experiences, getting a chance to work with head coach Jim Harbaugh. In turn, Harbaugh has reportedly said he's a big fan of Fales.

"It was just a great experience getting a chance to throw with their quarterbacks coach and coach Harbaugh," Fales said. "Getting that one-on-one interaction. I got to pick their brains a little bit."

Harbaugh did tell Fales that the 49ers will likely draft a quarterback with one of their 13 picks.

"He didn't say it would be me," Fales said.

Fales had his last private workout over the weekend with the Bears, who are in need of a backup quarterback after Josh McCown left to join the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

The Patriots and Broncos would seem like good fits, running offenses that are geared toward Fales' strengths and featuring two veteran Hall of Fame quarterbacks who could serve as mentors to Fales.

"I will be happy wherever I land," Fales said.

Former Raiders and Tampa Bay coach Jon Gruden believes Detroit would be a good fit for Fales. In addition, Fales' former offensive coordinator at San Jose State is now with the Raiders.

"I'm more excited that the wait is finally over," Fales said. "It's been a month of training with no specific offense to work with."

Fales isn't sure what he's going to do during the draft, but watching it won't be part of the plan.

"I don't want to be sitting in front of my television with my family and freaking out, wondering when I'm going to get drafted," he said.

With his dad and brother flying in, Fales isn't sure where he will be during the three-day draft which begins on Thursday.

"I just might go play a round of golf," Fales said. "I need a distraction. All I need is my cellphone."

# Hugs and Hisses: A helping hand to entrepreneurs

*Monterey County Herald*

**HUG** >> To the Startup Challenge, a great venue for budding entrepreneurs who came together last week to learn and share ideas about new and innovative businesses. The event, held at the Monterey Institute of International Studies, showcased a wide variety of startup business ideas from local folks with some creative new ideas. "The idea of the awards is to motivate entrepreneurs, to educate and connect them with the business community," said Brad Barbeau, the master of ceremonies for the event. As an associate professor of entrepreneurship, Barbeau knows well that success in today's economy requires the skills and knowledge of how to combine innovation with old-fashioned business know-how. The event was a competition, but everyone who participated came out ahead.

**HISS** >> Governor Jerry Brown may have a point when he says that there was little California could have done to prevent Toyota from moving its U.S. headquarters from Torrance to Plano, Texas. But more troubling is that the Toyota move is part of a larger trend that lowers state revenue and adds to the jobless rate. High state taxes and excessive regulation combine to make things challenging for California businesses, and some are pulling up stakes and heading to other states. Add to that a high cost of housing and any observer can see that California is losing out to cheaper, more competitive locales. That's not to say that the state should obliterate all of its tough regulations. For example, emission standards on automobiles have significantly improved the air quality in the state's most populated areas. But the governor and the Legislature ought to consider the needs of the private sector and at least recognize that the state's reputation for being anti-business must change.

**HUG** >> To three Monterey County schools for being named to the list of "distinguished" schools by the state Department of Education. Carmel River, Robert Down and Frank Ledesma schools earned the distinction for implementing practices that have helped them narrow the achievement gap. To be honored, schools must demonstrate consistent academic progress in all their demographic subgroups — African-American, Latino, lower-income and

English-learners, among others. As a "distinguished" designee, the three schools are called on to become mentors to other schools who seek to replicate their success.

**HISS** >> California's graduating seniors are finding it tougher and tougher to gain admission to the University of California, where admission rates are plummeting. Part of the issue is the increasing number of applications from out-of-state and international students, who typically pay three times the tuition and fees of in-state students. UC, for its part, has to be attracted to the financial benefit of admitting more students from out of state, but a number of in-state students have a right to complain. Of course, there are good options for those who don't make it — look no further than Monterey Peninsula College or CSU Monterey Bay.

**HUG** >> To former Senator Alan Simpson, a political maverick, for his singular take on the matter of whether abortion should be legal. Speaking at the Leon Panetta Lecture Series in Monterey last week, Simpson offered the opinion that abortion is a deeply personal issue and that "I don't think that man legislators should even vote on it." Equally interesting is the audience reaction of sustained applause.

# County Clipboard

## ROBLEDO TO SONOMA STATE

Monterey Peninsula College center Kelsey Robledo has committed to Sonoma State.

The 6-foot-1 post averaged 8.7 points and 7.8 rebounds a game for the Lobos, who won 17 games this past season.

Robledo, who prepped at San Benito, shot 53 percent from the field.

Sonoma State plays in the same conference at CSU Monterey Bay.

Last year three of Robledo's teammates at MPC earned basketball scholarships: Brionna Sullen (Sterling College, Kansas), and Jasmin Rowland and Alexis Warne (University of Maine).

## Far From Saved: MPC Theatre Company's New Normal

BY KRISTA ALMANZAN

Friday is opening night for *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* at Monterey Peninsula College. The Tony Award winning musical follows six awkward and overachieving high schoolers as they try to win the championship

It's also the last production before drastic budget cuts kick in for the theatre department. Earlier this year, it was facing a proposed cut of 82% of its budget and the elimination all four non-teaching staff positions, a result of the college's need to address an ongoing deficit.

"That would've effectively ended our program," said Gary Bolen, MPC Theatre Arts Chairman. In the end what happened was a compromise of sorts. Bolen's department gets to keep two of its non-teaching staff, and his budget was cut by roughly 75%.

"People are saying, well your department is saved! And my response is no we're not. We're far from saved. We still need everyone's support. It's not just that one time, here's \$100. We need people support over the next ten years," said Bolen.

This is the beginning of the new normal for the MPC Theatre Company. Instead of seven or eight shows a year, it will do three or four, and even then, making that happen is going to depend largely on public support.

"We're trying to think outside of the box," said Terese Del Piero, acting President of the MPC Theatre Company Charitable Trust. She's working on a laundry list of ways to recruit volunteers and raise money: from a barbeque before the upcoming production of *Oklahoma* to selling more advertisements in the program, growing the theatre's endowment and raffling off a tablet computer.

The trust also raises money through ticket sales. In the past, all its efforts brought in \$60,000 to \$100,000 a year to support the program. Now it needs to raise \$200,000 annually with fewer shows.

Del Piero is banking on the Theatre Department's sixty year history in the community. She says not only has it touched people who took classes or attended shows, but also many community actors like herself. MPC performances features a combination of MPC students and community members who enroll at MPC just to participate in the show.

"So we're really looking to those people who have been touched by MPC Theater Company, maybe it was 20 years ago, maybe it was 30 years ago, to come back and help in this fight for funding," said Del Piero.

For every year the department has been around, the thought is there's someone like actress Amanda Schemmel. She's playing Olive Ostrovsky in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. She's a senior at nearby CSU Monterey Bay, but has found her home taking theatre classes and performing at MPC.

"All my friends are here. They're my family down here. They're what has not made me homesick. I really don't know where I'd be without the theatre program here," said Schemmel.

As Gary Bolen gets ready to adjust to MPC Theatre Company's new normal, some advice he gives to students seems most appropriate.

"I tell my students the only reason to have a career in the theatre is because you must, meaning you won't be content doing anything else because it can be a heartbreaking profession, but it's also just amazingly rewarding," said Bolen.

For the Theatre Company to carry on in this heartbreaking profession, it's first goal is to raise \$50,000 by July 1st when the cuts kick in. It's just \$10,000 away. And in addition to financial contributions, the Theatre Company needs volunteers to do everything from usher at shows to help plan events.



# Monterey Peninsula College opens 'Putnam County Spelling Bee'

*By Herald staff*

**MONTEREY** >> Here's your chance to recapture that feeling of Mom posting your smiley-face-marked spelling test on the fridge.

Four volunteers will be brought on stage each night to take part in the titular competition of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," a musical comedy opening Friday at Monterey Peninsula College. The Tony award-winning Broadway hit centers on six overachieving outsiders of middle school age, pretty much the worst period of life.

If you decide to relive those days as a volunteer, there's a chance you'll make it to the end of the competition — whether you're an ace speller or not.

"Being very smart, I arranged for some 'volunteer volunteers' to assist us in rehearsal so we could learn how to orchestrate the outcome of each performance," director Gary Bolen said in a news release. "I got information from each of the volunteers on the evening of rehearsal, relayed it to the two performers (Megan Root and Matthew Pavellas) who play the characters who control the sequence of spelling events. Together we decided which of the volunteers we wanted to eliminate first and which to hold on to the longest. It worked perfectly — not one single time did it come out the way we tried to orchestrate it!

"... It taught them very quickly to adapt and go along with the premise of the show, which is that anyone can win the bee."

Volunteers should expect to take part in some dance numbers, too. But not to worry: Choreographer Jill Miller came up with moves that are easy to pick up.

An added bit of flavor is local references, from financial matters to winks at life in Pacific Grove or Carmel.

"I think that really helps personalize the show for the audience," Bolen said. "They're involved on every level."

A preview performance at 7:30 p.m. Thursday is \$12.50. Regular performances are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through May 25. Tickets are \$10-25.

Performances are at the Morgan Stock Stage on campus, 980 Fremont St., Monterey. For tickets, call 646-4213 or see [www.TicketGuys.com](http://www.TicketGuys.com).

## Point and Shoot

As one who has “needlessly” repeated Photo 1A and Photo 1B with Monterey Peninsula College instructor Greg Mettler, I have experienced deep frustration with the state guidelines banning students from repeating fine arts courses (“State rule keeps students from retaking beloved MPC photography class,” May 1-7). The fine arts are under attack as it is and this is one more nail in the coffin. There is a community (note the term “community”) of people of all ages who wish to develop and grow their skills in any number of the arts and whom would like to do so under the tutelage of talented instructors such as Greg Mettler. With respect to photography in particular, a darkroom is not something that everyone has at home. MPC has a working darkroom that should be made available to the community. We are taxpayers, we are part of the community, we are willing to pay the tuition (and perhaps even more) in order to pursue our passions. When spaces remain empty in arts courses, don’t cancel the class, open it up to members of the community for an additional fee. The state, and the colleges, need to put the community back into community colleges or stop calling themselves by that name. It’s time to start thinking outside the box in order to keep colleges solvent and relevant. *Helen Ogden | Pacific Grove*

# Fales drafted by Bears in sixth round

Chicago takes Palma, MPC graduate in sixth round

*By John Devine*

**Monterey** >> The countless hours of throwing spiral after spiral, perfecting his precision, hitting targets in stride. For David Fales, a path to the NFL did not happen overnight.

"People have no idea how many hours David put in," Palma football coach Jeff Carnazzo said.

The former Palma High and Monterey Peninsula College quarterback was chosen Saturday in the sixth round of the NFL draft by the Chicago Bears.

"I'm just kind of soaking it in and relaxing," Fales said. "I talked with (Bears) coach (Marc) Trestman and Jay Cutler. I'm looking forward to getting out there and learning the offense."

Fales, 23, spent the day with family and friends. He'll leave Thursday for Chicago to take part in the team's first mini-camp.

"I gotta go get me a Bears cap," Fales said.

The Bears, who were in need of a backup quarterback after Josh McCown signed with Tampa Bay, were the last team to work out Fales prior to the NFL draft at San Jose State.

"I think the teams that worked me out walked away thinking I can make every throw," Fales said prior to the draft.

Soldier Field, the Bears' home, is notorious for its gusty winds and frigid temperatures in the winter.

"He's an efficient quarterback that's smart," ESPN analyst and former Jets and Chiefs head coach Herm Edwards said. "He can make throws in tight situations. Guys like him. I like him."

Bears general manager Phil Emery told the Chicago Tribune earlier this week that the team does not believe in drafting late-round quarterbacks with the intent to develop them into a starter.

Fales will battle for the backup job with Jordan Palmer and Jerrod Johnson. Palmer has thrown 15 career NFL passes while Johnson has never played in a regular-season game.

Fales and Palmer actually trained together in the off-season last year.

"It's a shame he has to go play in the cold," Edwards said. "He better get a big jacket. But he could not have picked a better guy to play under."

Edwards was speaking of Trestman, a former 49ers and Raiders assistant, who is in his second year as the Bears head coach.

Regarded for his development of quarterbacks, Trestman has tutored the likes of Steve Young, Bernie Kosar and Rich Gannon.

"Marc must have seen something he liked in David," Edwards said.

Fales was the 11th quarterback taken in the draft. A familiar name who also was taken in the sixth round a few years back was New England quarterback Tom Brady.

Fales kind of had an inkling the Bears were going to draft him after the 49ers passed early in the sixth round.

The Bears will visit San Francisco the second week of the regular season.

"Every now and then my agent would text me an update," Fales said. "I'm excited to get out there and learn that offense."

In his conversation with Trestman, the offense the Bears run fits Fales' strengths and talents.

"He told me the reason he liked me is every throw I made during a workout at San Jose State is every throw I will have to make as a Bear," Fales said.

#### SAN JOSE STATE RECORDS

Fales torched opponents in two seasons at San Jose state, throwing for 8,382 yards and 66 touchdowns, shattering single-season and school career records.

"To have someone drafted from Palma is special for me as a coach," Carnazzo said. "What makes it more special is his work ethic paid off."

Fales is the first Palma graduate to be drafted since current Chieftains line coach Chris Dalman was chosen by the 49ers in the 1993 NFL draft. Dalman, who was also drafted in the sixth round, spent eight seasons with the 49ers.

Palma graduates Michael Gasperson and Elliott Vallejo were undrafted free agents who played in the NFL — Gasperson with the Philadelphia Eagles and Vallejo with the Arizona Cardinals during their Super Bowl run in 2009.

Prior to arriving at San Jose State, Fales redshirted his first season at Nevada, where 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick was entrenched at the position.

#### GROOMED AT MPC

Fales gave up his scholarship and spent two seasons at MPC, where he was groomed by head coach Mike Rassmussen, becoming one of the more efficient quarterbacks in junior college.

Asserting himself the minute he arrived at San Jose State, Fales flew under the radar during his two years, despite being among the nation's leaders in passing yards and touchdowns.

"He's been underestimated his entire career," Carnazzo said. "Don't underestimate David Fales."

Fales, who holds the Palma single-season school record for touchdown passes, saw his stock rise this year with solid efforts at the Senior Bowl and NFL Combines. Individual workouts erased doubts about his arm strength.

"His accuracy is incredibly impressive," Carnazzo said. "We saw that at the high school level. What people don't know yet is his tremendous leadership qualities."

This is the third straight year a Monterey County athlete has been drafted. Two years ago Seaside grad Mason Foster went in the third round to Tampa Bay.

And last year former Seaside and MPC product Ty Powell was chosen in the seventh round by Seattle.

#### SEAHAWKS DRAFT KIERO SMALL

Fales wasn't the only player with a county connection chosen on Saturday. Former Hartnell College All-State linebacker Kiero Small was selected in the seventh round by Super Bowl champion Seattle.

Small, who had over 100 tackles in each of his two seasons at Hartnell, spent the last two seasons at the University of Arkansas as a fullback.