Dear Jon Knolle:

We are happy to inform you that your college has been selected as one of 24 colleges to participate in the pilot phase of the Online Education Initiative (OEI). The pilot is scheduled to run from Fall 2014 through the end of Spring 2016. A variety of development activities will occur beginning in Fall 2014 as described below.

The goal of the OEI is to engage colleges in the implementation of resources that will improve student success in the California Community Colleges. All of the colleges involved in this effort will be asked to pilot processes and tools, and assist in the selection, development, and testing of the resources involved. There will be three groups of colleges working to develop and test the resources used by the project. **Your college has been select to implement the activities in group 2.**

Each group consists of eight colleges that will focus on one of the following activities:

- 1. Full Launch Colleges:
 - a. Develop and test the processes necessary to facilitate a seamless student experience in the Online Course Exchange across colleges and full implementation of the OEI. This includes but is not limited to: application/residency determination, course registration, matriculation, and the support services being piloted by the readiness and tutoring groups.
 - b. Review and inform the choice of a CCC common course management system (CCMS) through participation in the CCMS Request for Proposal (RFP) process.
 - c. Pilot the selected CCMS, associated processes and courses within the exchange.
 - d. Implement the first courses within the exchange in Summer 2015.
- 2. Student Readiness Staging Group:
 - a. Pilot a diagnostic assessment to help students evaluate their readiness for online learning.
 - b. Pilot dynamic tutorials designed to improve student readiness for online success.
 - c. Participate in evaluation of diagnostic assessment and readiness tutorials.
 - d. Participate in staging activities for entry into the course exchange.
 - e. Colleges begin readiness preparation work in November 2014 with participating colleges submitting candidate courses to the OEI for inclusion in courses in Spring 2014.
 - f. The readiness pilot will take place within the teaching colleges' own systems with their own students and CMS.
- 3. Tutoring Staging Group:

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- a. Review and pilot method of delivering effective online tutoring services for students in online classes and integrating statewide support services with local tutoring services.
- b. Develop a plan to promote robust and effective use of online tutoring services.
- c. Participate in evaluation of online tutoring pilot.
- d. Participate in staging activities for entry into the course exchange.
- e. Colleges begin tutoring solution preparation work in November 2014 with participating colleges submitting candidate courses to the OEI for inclusion in courses in Spring 2014.
- f. The tutoring pilot will take place within the teaching colleges' own systems with their own students and CMS.

All colleges will receive the following:

- Resources appropriate to their pilot group.
- Reviews of their online courses by trained faculty reviewers whose purpose is to provide feedback and assistance including instructional design support along with accessibility assistance.
- Professional development support as needed.
- Regular inclusion in decision-making processes with other pilot college staff and faculty and OEI Steering Committee members appropriate to pilot focus areas including overall project development as needed.

All colleges will agree to the following:

- Participation in the course review and update activities.
- Use of the *Open CCCApply* application by January 2015.
- Participation in the development of reciprocity agreements that will be needed to implement the project and ensure that all students receive the services necessary to facilitate success.
- Participation in virtual and in-person development team meetings for focus areas as needed.
- Participation in professional development activities as appropriate.
- Obtain the agreement to participate from the local Academic Senate.
- Provide data necessary to assess the effectiveness of the pilot efforts.

The members of the OEI Executive Management Team look forward to partnering with you in this groundbreaking opportunity. A follow-up email will include instructions and information regarding next steps as we move forward together. You will also be contacted by phone by one of the executive team members during the next two weeks. A tentative timeline for the development of the pilot phase is below.

Please visit <u>http://cccOnlineEd.org</u> for updates and information about the project.

We look forward to working with you!

Pat James and the Executive Team CCC Online Education Initiative

General Timeline:

1.

- August 2014: College Selection
- August 2014: Colleges respond to selection announcement; pilot groups are formed
- **August 2014:** Work with the Technical Implementation Group begins with participation in the development of the CCMS RFP phase
- **September 2014**: Colleges participating in the SRG begin work with the OEI Chief Student Services Officer
- **September 2014:** Colleges participating in the OTG begin work with the OEI Chief Academic Affairs Officer

Begin work on CCMS RFP and CCMS dentification and course enrollment	Student Readiness Staging Group	
processes dentification in Aug. 2014	Discuss selection of solutions in Oct. 2014	Tutoring Staging Group
Start Course review in Oct. 2014 Start SIS and course migration in an./Feb. 2015 Offer courses in CCMS in Summer 2015	Begin testing the SR solutions in Jan. 2015 Course review in Oct. 2014 Offer staged courses in Spring 2015 within colleges current CMS with their own students.	Discuss and provide feedback beginning Oct. 2014 Course review starts Nov. 2014 Offer staged courses in Spring 2015 within colleges current CMS with their own students.

The following considerations were used to determine college inclusion in the pilot:

- Use of Open CCCApply, a systemwide online application and identification system for California Community Colleges admission and financial aid (see http://home.cccapply.org/)
- Completion of second request for information
- Established online degree programs that could contribute knowledge and best practices based on experience

- Established professional development programs that assist faculty members with online education-oriented pedagogical and student services concerns
- Geographical location (north, south, central), and size of student population (small, medium, large)
- Diversity of course management systems (CMS), important for learning about the best practices, features and functions of the different systems in order to inform the ultimate selection of a common CMS
- Capacity, in terms of faculty and staff, to add more online courses

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 Pilot involvement in related CCC projects, the Common Assessment Initiative (CAI) (<u>http://cccassess.org/</u>) and Educational Planning Initiative (EPI) (<u>http://cccedplan.org/</u>)

CCC OEI Announces 24 Colleges for Pilot Launch of Statewide Program

The California Community Colleges (CCC) Online Education Initiative (OEI) has announced its selection of 24 colleges that will participate in the OEI's pilot launch phase slated to take place from Fall 2014 through Spring 2016. Additional colleges will be selected to participate in the OEI at a later date to be determined as it grows in its focused effort to provide more online education opportunities and education support services to students across the state of California.

The 24 pilot colleges are divided into the following groups:

Full Launch Colleges: Butte College, Coastline Community College, Foothill College, Shasta College, Fresno City College, Lake Tahoe Community College, Mt. San Jacinto College and Ventura College.

Student Readiness Staging Group: Antelope Valley College, Cabrillo College, College of the Canyons, Monterey Peninsula College, West Los Angeles College, Rio Hondo College, MiraCosta College and Hartnell College.

Tutoring Staging Group: Imperial Valley College, Ohlone College, Columbia College, Los Angeles Pierce College, Saddleback College, Barstow Community College, Mt. San Antonio College and Victor Valley College.

Criteria used to select the pilot colleges included:

- Use of Open CCCApply, a systemwide online application and identification system for California Community Colleges admission and financial aid (see http://home.cccapply.org/)
- Established online degree programs that could contribute knowledge and best practices based on experience
- Established professional development programs that assist faculty members with online education-oriented pedagogical and student services concerns
- Geographical location (north, south, central), and size of student population (small, medium, large)
- Diversity of course management systems (CMS), important for learning about the best practices, features and functions of the different systems in order to inform the ultimate selection of a common CMS.

Accreditation status

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- Capacity, in terms of faculty and staff, to add more online courses
- Pilot involvement in related CCC projects, the Common Assessment Initiative (CAI) (<u>http://cccassess.org/</u>) and Educational Planning Initiative (EPI) (<u>http://cccedplan.org/</u>).

The goals of the OEI are to engage these pilot colleges in the launch and implementation of a sophisticated online education system that will increase student access to online courses throughout California as well as improve student retention and success rates. For updates and additional information about the OEI, please visit <u>www.ccconlineed.org</u>.

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From:	Leslie Procive
Sent:	Monday, July 14, 2014 1:27 PM
To:	ALL USERS
Subject:	FW: 2014-15 MPC College Catalog now available on MPC website
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged

Sent on behalf of Michael Gilmartin, Dean of Instructional Planning.

Dear MPC community,

A pdf of the new 2014-15 MPC Catalog has now been uploaded to the MPC Catalog/Class Schedule webpage at the following URL: <u>www.mpc.edu/classes</u>

A printed version will not be widely distributed, and the document is available only online. If you desire to print out a copy, please note that a blank page has been inserted at the beginning of certain sections in order to preserve the section divider appearing on the right hand side when printed back to back.

Note that in the Index section at the end of the document in the web pdf, the page number references are linked to the actual page: Clicking on the page number will take you to that specific page.

Michael Gilmartin Dean of Instructional Planning 646-4099

From:	Amy Cavender
Sent:	Tuesday, July 15, 2014 10:38 AM
To:	ALL USERS
Subject:	Bookstore Move
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged
Expires:	Friday, September 05, 2014 5:00 PM

Good morning, Please see the message below from the bookstore, all questions should be directed to Marija Albano.

Have a great day!

A my Cavender acavender@mpc.edu (831) 646-3034 Monterey Peninsula College 980 Fremont Street Monterey, CA 93940

Dear Faculty, Staff & Student Body:

The bookstore is scheduled to perform its move from its current location near the gym to its newly renovated location in the Student Center! This move will take place between **Monday, July 28th through Friday, August 1st.** We will closed during this time and will reopen **Monday, August 4th** to continue business. During this close, students will **not** be able to purchase textbooks, testing supplies, or any other course materials. Please purchase these items in advance. Students will still be able to place orders through our website at <u>www.montereypeninsulashop.com</u> where their requests will be redirected and fulfilled by other locations within our Follett community. Students may still request in-store pick up at the time of online purchases and receive their orders in our new location when we reopen Monday, August 4th. If you should have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact our store at 831-657-4680.

Thank you,

MPC Bookstore Staff

Thank you,

Marija Albano Store Manager



Tel: 831.657.4680 Follett Higher Education Group #0496 MPC Bookstore 980 Fremont Street

From: Sent: To: Subject: Shawn Anderson Tuesday, July 15, 2014 6:28 PM ALL USERS MPC Theatre Opens OKLAHOMA!

SENT ON BEHALF OF GARY BOLEN

MPC Theatre Company Opens OKLAHOMA!



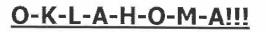
The MPC Theatre Company will celebrate the start of it's 60 year anniversary with the classic American musical, Rodgers and Hammerstein's **OKLAHOMA!**

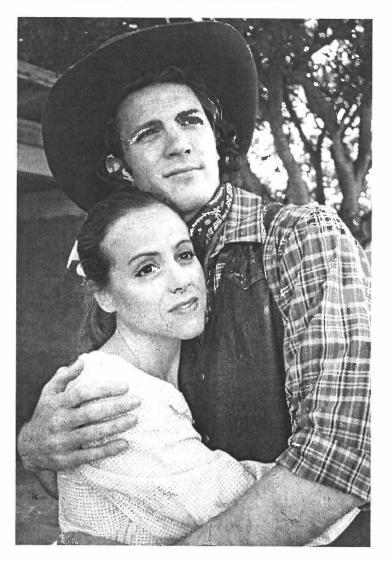
Set on the cusp of the territory's statehood, OKLAHOMA! has set the standard for American musical theatre since opening on Broadway in 1944 (and playing over 2000 performances!). With time-honored classics like "People Will Say We're in Love," "I Cain't Say No," "Surrey With the Fringe On Top" and, of course, the title song "Oklahoma!" this production is truly one where you will be "humming the tunes" as you leave (or as you come IN!!).

The production runs for two weeks ONLY, opening on Thursday July 17th and closing Sunday, July 27th. Performances are at 7:30pm Th. - Sat. and at 2:00pm on Sundays. This Thursday features a special, low-price opening night cost of only \$12.50 per seat!

For tickets, please contact Henry Guevara at <u>hguevara@mpc.edu</u> or at <u>MPCBoxoffice@mpc.edu</u>. You can call the box office at 646-4213 Wed. - Fri. from 3-7pm or order online at <u>www.ticketguys.com</u>.

Don't miss this timeless American Classic!





Gary Bolen

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Walter Tribley Friday, July 25, 2014 7:01 PM ALL USERS Please Welcome Mr. Earl Davis: VP of Administrative Services

Dear MPC

Please join me in welcoming Mr. C. Earl Davis as the Vice President of Administrative Services at Monterey Peninsula College. The MPC Board of Trustees unanimously approved Mr. Davis' 3-year contract at their regular meeting this week.

A little more information about Mr. Davis.

C. Earl Davis earned his Associates Degree from Chaffey Community College in Rancho Cucamonga, CA and Bachelors Degree from California Polytechnic University in Pomona, CA, with a major in Business and a minor in Information Technology Systems. He began his professional career with Deloitte, Haskins and Sells, an international CPA accounting and consulting firm where, for five years, he served a wide variety of clients including the University of California at Los Angeles, University of California at Irvine, and the University of California at San Diego.

Mr. Davis then worked for three years with American Medical International (AMI) during which time he combined his business and technology experience to serve as Financial Director of International Projects and Development for AMI's ten international hospitals and three management contracts in seven countries in South America, Europe, and the Middle East.

Mr. Davis transitioned his professional career out of the private sector and into education serving 12 years as the Assistant Superintendent of Business Services for Arcadia Unified School District followed by 11 years as the Vice President of Business Services for Chaffey Community College in Rancho Cucamonga, CA.

As you know, Mr. Davis has served as Interim Vice President, Administrative Services for Monterey Peninsula College since February 1, 2014. Mr. Davis stated that "I am very excited about the opportunity of joining MPC and bringing my background and experience to provide business leadership to address the challenges and opportunities MPC is facing. In the six months I have served as Interim Vice President here at MPC, I am very impressed with the professionalism and commitment of the MPC Governing Board, MPC Superintendent/President Dr. Tribley, and of the dedicated management, faculty and staff serving the students of the Monterey Peninsula and beyond."

I am very pleased to add Mr. Davis to our executive leadership team.

So...please give Earl a shout-out when you see him and welcome him to MPC.

Best,

Dr. T.

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

From: Sent: To: Subject: Amy Cavender Wednesday, July 30, 2014 9:39 AM ALL USERS Library Closed for Three Weeks

Hello,

The MPC Library will be closed from July 28 - August 17.

Upcoming open hours:

Open 8/18 - 8/22/14

M - W, 8/18-8/20, 8:00AM - 4:30PM

Thursday 8/21, closed for Staff Development

Friday, 8/22, 8:00AM - noon

Fall Semester Hours (8/25 - 12/19/14) M - Th: 8:00AM - 7:00PM F 8:00AM - noon Closed: Saturdays and Sundays

Have a nice summer!

From:	Walter Tribley
Sent:	Tuesday, August 12, 2014 10:27 AM
To:	ALL USERS
Subject:	FW: New MPC Website Coming Soon
Attachments:	new-website.pdf
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged

Dear MPC,

Please see the message below from the folks who are helping us redesign our website. I am quite excited about our "new look" and focus on students as the primary users of the web. Of course the process of redesign and launching of a website will have challenges and opportunities yet to be realized. We will meet those challenges and benefit from those opportunities. It is a work in progress and a wonderful step forward for MPC.

Many thanks to all of you and our students for working with the MPC Redesign Team and for their outstanding commitment to this effort. There was a clear intention to involve the campus community and other stakeholders in the process.

Happy surfing!

Dr. T.

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

Greetings Everyone

Over the summer our web redesign team has been busy preparing a new Website for MPC. We are putting the finishing touches on the website now and will go live this Wednesday 8/13.

The new MPC Website was designed from the ground-up based on feedback from faculty, staff, students, and the MPC community. You will find it to be organized differently than our existing Website putting things students need front and center.

Training & Support: If you are interested in learning how to update your program or department webpage or want to know more about the Website you can attend any of the following training opportunities:

- Wednesday 8/20 group training session from 10-11 a.m.
- Wednesday 9/20 group training session from 2-3 p.m.
- Friday 8/22 drop-in support in LTC 317 for MPC Online and the new MPC Website
- 8/25-8/29 **one-on-one support** is available by appointment (email <u>wrdesign@mpc.edu</u> to request a meeting)

Please see the attached document for a brief overview of how to navigate around the new website. We will also provide information sessions and updates during flex week activities.

- MPC's Web Redesign Committee

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Questions about the new website can be directed to wrdesign@mpc.edu

Theater preview: MPC opens 'Oklahoma!' while trickroping alum returns for fundraiser

Trick-roping alum returns for fundraiser July 26

By Jeannie Evers

A modern-day Will Rogers will help Monterey Peninsula College Theatre Co. rustle up some cash during its production of "Oklahoma!"

The play opens Thursday for a two-week limited run, truncated in part by college budget cuts that took effect July 1. It's a whole new world for the theater department, to rely more heavily on private funding — a world Chairman Gary Bolen says he and his staff are still navigating.

The theater has already surpassed its initial goal of \$50,000 since the announcement of the cuts came down in January. But Bolen says the theater needs another \$50,000 to finish out the season, which will also include performances of "Dracula" and "The Jungle Book."

On July 26, the theater will hold a pre-performance barbecue fundraiser featuring Will Roberts, a trick roper/gun spinner and former Cirque du Soliel performer who is an alum of the MPC Theatre. As it happens, Roberts played the role of Will Parker when MPC did "Oklahoma!" in the mid-1980s.

You may be tempted to call Will Roberts "Will Rogers" at some point, but he wouldn't mind. The 50year-old has made a career out of emulating the beloved cowboy actor, humorist and vaudeville performer of the 1920s and '30s.

Roberts came to Monterey from Illinois when his father was stationed at Fort Ord. He acted at Monterey High School and MPC, and got set on his current path after performing in "The Will Rogers Follies" at the Western Stage in Salinas. He later hit the road with a one-man show mixing rope and gun tricks with political and social humor.

"Basically I kind of just went the cowboy route," he said. "... I wanted to model the Will Rogers philosophy, morals, ethics and so on."

He's on the road again — he spoke as he was on his way to perform in Colorado — but for two and a half years he stayed put in Las Vegas as one of two cowboys in Cirque du Soliel's "Viva Elvis." The show ran from 2010-12, and Roberts was doing two shows a night, five nights a week with performers in their 20s and 30s. "It's how I kept my girlish figure," he said.

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His current act is all about returning to the simpler things, "trying to reconnect folks minus the phones," he said. "... I like to have a conversation, talk to folks about talking to each other."

Theater fits snuggly into that community-building philosophy, and he laments that the artform doesn't often get its due. One of the reasons he wanted to return to his old stomping grounds is to help promote an idea of "stages, not stadiums."

"When you talk about getting money or people behind art or sports, the NFLs are getting billions, the NBAs are getting billions for each player. ... I don't think you'll see five ballet dancers getting that," he said.

MPC is now in the same boat as other local theater companies fighting to stay afloat. In addition to joining other arts organizations "going after the same 10 people" for funding, Bolen said, the theater's staff and supporters have to learn how to sustain that model year after year.

"Private donors are asked to do what had been funded by the college," he said.

The theater lost 70 percent of its discretionary budget in the cuts — money for things like professional experts, royalties and repairs — and half of its staff. So even as the cast and crew get caught up in the excitement leading to opening day, the experience is clouded.

"One of the hardest things has been doing this and knowing we're saying goodbye to some good people," Bolen said. "We're losing these valued members, people who have helped the department for literally two decades, but we don't really have the time to stop and acknowledge them. ...

"It sort of personifies — literally personifies — the adage of 'The show must go on.' We're losing near and dear colleagues, but the show must go on."

So, about that show. Bolen promises no drop in quality or presentation from past MPC productions. The cast features many familiar faces from last year's "Les Miserables," notably Lori Schulman, who played Cosette.

"She has the most amazing voice I've ever heard," Bolen said. "Just an astounding, opera-quality voice."

As Laurey in "Oklahoma!" Schulman is paired again with her Marius of last year, Dale Thompson, playing Laurey's suitor Curly. Megan Root, who played the tragic Eponine in "Les Mis," goes comedic as Ado Annie, playing opposite Peter Hoffman as Will. Newcomer Morgan Vetter rounds out the main cast as Jud.

"Oklahoma!" was the first collaboration between composer Richard Rodgers and lyricist Oscar Hammerstein II and includes familiar songs like "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin" and "The Surrey with the Fringe on Top." The July 26 fundraiser, the "Oklahoma! Roundup and BBQ," starts at 5:30 p.m. and includes a performance by Roberts, Dickey's barbecue, Scheid Vineyards wine, local beer, a silent auction and a ticket to the show. The cost is \$125, which goes to the theater's Charitable Trust.

OKLAHOMA! >> Opens Thursday. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through July 27. Tickets are \$10-\$25; opening day tickets are \$12.50. (\$2 parking required on Thurdays.) The performances and fundraiser are at MPC, 980 Fremont St., Monterey. 646-4213. <u>www.mpctheatre.com</u>.

Contact Jeannie Evers at 646-4348.

What: Oklahoma! Roundup and BBQ fundraiser for MPC Theatre Co.

When: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, July 26

Where: MPC Amphitheater, 980 Fremont St., Monterey

Tickets/information: \$125, 646-4213, www.mpctheatre.com.

THE HERALD July 15, 2014

Letters

The homeless are our neighbors and our friends

I've read the dialogue about the "sit-lie" ordinance passed by the Monterey City Council recently, and while I don't presume to have the answer to homelessness, I do have an observation.

Lost in the rhetoric of whether or not this ordinance profiles some of the most disenfranchised people in our community, whether it is constitutional, or moral, we have lost sight of the fact that the homeless are our neighbors and our friends. By referring to them as "a 'blight" we are depersonalizing them which allows us to pretend that they are inherently different from those of us who are not facing similar challenges. We may also be missing the opportunity to form real relationships with folks who have much to offer in terms of life experience and resiliency.

I know a local homeless man who was blind. Through the kindness of people who were willing to come alongside him, he was directed to an eye surgeon who performed cataract surgery for free. He recovered from the surgeries in the home of this couple and became a treasured family member. He now works full time and is thriving.

The sit-lie ordinance builds walls. What if we build relationships instead?

— Lorrie Stiles, Monterey

High value placed on MPC Gentrain program

As a Monterey County taxpayer and, a senior citizen who considers himself a "life-long" learner who participates, and places high value on the Monterey Peninsula College Gentrain program, I was shocked to read <u>MPC Gentrain Society President David Breedlove's July 13 letter</u>, which suggests the possible demise of the program.

I assume part of the taxes I pay support MPC. If that's the case, it seems to me that the discontinuance of any program which is financially supported by a sizable portion of its student body warrants review in a more transparent forum. At the very least, in my opinion, I think the public should be advised as to the savings MPC expects to derive if it eliminates Gentrain and whether increasing the very modest current annual student fee might be a viable alternative to what would appear to be a unilateral decision to simply "cut" the program.

For those who care, and want to continue to grow and contribute, I would guess my sentiments are shared by many.

- Raymond Groo, Carmel

Appreciation for Tour de France coverage

I enjoyed reading the results of the latest stage of the Tour de France in The Herald on July 11.

As a recreational cyclist, I enjoy reading and watching the pros, no different than a sports car driver watching the race results. And then I thought, this was never available in any newspaper 15 years ago. One would have to scrounge obscure cycling journals to find results then.

Would this have happened without Lance Armstrong? I think not. It certainly didn't happen after Greg Lemond won three Tours. Armstrong may have doped, but so did others, so he was still the best of his peers, and he raised the awareness of cycling to a level that hadn't been seen in the United States in 100 years.

Thank you for the coverage, and thank you Lance Armstrong, whatever your baggage.

— John Massa, Salinas

We should be smart about our future

Kudos to the city of Monterey for its recent work moving forward on its specific plans to increase our regional economic vitality. And, a big salute to all hard-working business owners in Monterey and throughout Monterey County. It's exciting to see more events, festivals, restaurants, and other diverse retailers for us to enjoy as well as to engage our important visitors from around the globe. The new outdoor parklet seating in downtown Monterey is a great addition. We are investing in and revitalizing our region and we will all reap the benefits in many ways. A major concern, however, is why the city is planning to remove hundreds of parking spaces from the Fisherman's Wharf and downtown Monterey area and is considering a parking structure to be built in the middle of the Wharf parking lot eliminating attractive harbor views.

Why not improve the parking that we have while also encouraging alternative modes of transportation including bikes, buses, pedicabs and more.

Let us be smart about our future.

- Wendy Brickman, Monterey

THE SALINAS CALIFORNIAN July 16, 2014

'Oklahoma' primed for Thursday opening

By Dave Nordstrand

A standing ovation is the right way to bring the curtain down on one successful era and to raise it on another.

Only in the case of the Monterey Peninsula College Theatre Company, now celebrating its 60th year. more than wild applause and standing ovations will be needed.

The theater prepares to open its next presentation, "Oklahoma!" a classic American Rodgers & Hammerstein musical, on Thursday. It does so amid an uncertain future. The college has had to cut \$2.5 million from its budget. As part of that cutback procedure, 70 percent was taken from the Theatre Company's discretionary funds, money used for everything from advertising to postage stamps to professional experts.

Losses included layoffs of two full-time non-teaching positions and a trimming of the season from five main stage shows to three — "Oklahoma!" "Dracula" and "Jungle Book."

"We weren't the only ones cut, but we were the largest," said Gary Bolen, chairman of MPC's Theatre Arts Department. "As to what will happen next, the answer is, 'We have no idea what will happen.""

Except for "Oklahoma," fully-financed and on track for opening night.

A classic (1943) musical, it features a fresh-pressed western look and tumbleweeds tumbling across the golden plains. It's where, "the corn is as high as an elephant's eye" and, "the wind comes sweeping down the plains." Numbers such as "I Cain't Say No" and "People Will Say We're In Love" dot the score. Unfolding in Oklahoma in the early 1900s, it's the story of two cowboys competing with a travelling peddler and an evil ranch hand for the women they love.

Don't expect a typical musical, said Terri DeBono, a veteran UCLA-trained producer and director with MAC AND AVA MOTION PICTURES and a supporter of the MPC Theatre's efforts.

For example, the story takes a jarring turn when the farmhand proves to be a psychopathic murderer, who the heroic cowboy kills in self-defense. Dance is presented — not as an add-on — but as an integral part of the story line.

In the wake of recent budget cuts, staging works will obviously be more of a challenge, DeBono and others said.

Increased public support and sponsorship will have to play a greater role, Bolen said. That source, though, is limited. There are only so many dollars, and the competition for each one is intense, he said.

"We are all trying to get money from the same ten people," Bolen said. So such support cannot be the whole solution, he said.

Yet the show must go on, be it under blinking Broadway lights or across the MPC stage.

So Thursday, the curtain will rise on the college's Morgan Stock Stage, (980 Fremont St., Monterey), and intense mix of color, music and drama will swirl and blend.

The classic musical, and the theater's dramatic back-budget story, too, ought to appeal to Salinas area patrons. Teresa del Piero said. Del Piero is secretary treasurer of the Charitable Trust, working to raise money for the MPC Theatre Company. Though Monterey-based, for example, the theatre has always enjoyed support from Salinas Valley patrons. MPC Theater-goers from this and the Hollister area number in the plentiful range, del Piero said.

Then comes the play, "Oklahoma!" a story which unfolds in a rural landscape, a setting, in which ranchers, growers and farmers would see as familiar.

"So we're really hoping to tie in with the western theme that's unfolding in Salinas right now," del Piero said of the attention focused on the California Rodeo Salinas.

Many who think the theatre isn't carrying its weight lack an appreciation of the complexity for its teaching powers, DeBono said.

"It's a misunderstanding," she said. "People may think of the theatre as simply a hobby or for fun. They fail to appreciate the computer skills, for example, that it takes running that light board. They don't appreciate how a show is put on and how it has to turn around and buy paints and nails and screws and hire a designer. Nor do they appreciate the importance of communication skills that it develops.

"It's 60 years of theater, of classes and programs. It's for those who want to continue learning and being part of a show, maybe as a producer or director."

Not all is bleak. In the best western tradition, the public has ridden to the rescue just as "Oklahoma!" nears opening night. For "Oklahoma!" the \$50,000 needed to stage it was reached. One generous patron donated \$10,000. The budget cuts, on the downside, yielded significant consequences such as a reduction in production time. Normally, a summer musical runs four weeks. "Oklahoma!" gets two.

"I just hope there won't be additional cuts," del Piero said. "They cut the theater department to the bone. Cut it more than that, and there'll be no theater department.

"Our goal is to keep it alive."

Monterey Peninsula College is closed for the summer. Key administrators could not be reached.

To attend

What: MPC Theatre Company's Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!"

When: runs Thursday through July 27. That's Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays 7:30 p.m. Sundays, it's 2 p.m.

Where: The venue is the Morgan Stock Stage at Monterey Peninsula College, 980 Fremont, Downtown Monterey.

Extra: Also, on Saturday, July 26 at 5:30 p.m., there'll be the, "Oklahoma! Roundup" BBQ and Silent Auction. Plus a performance by Will Roberts, trick roper and MPC alum. Roberts has performed with Cirque du Soleil.

Cost & Contact: For tickets and information, visit the MPC Theatre Box Office, 3 to 7 p.m., Wednesday to Friday, MPC Campus, 980 Fremont, Monterey. Call: 646-4213 or email at mpcboxoffice@mpc.edu or visit <u>www.MPCTheatre.com</u>

THE HERALD July 22, 2014

MPC'S Great Books Program earning accolades Founder David Clemens to develop "Great Books and Civil Liberties" course By Claudia Meléndez Salinas

English professor David Clemens has always been excited about the educational possibilities of electronic media.

In the early '90s, he wrote music video criticism and how to use them in the classroom for a trade magazine. He was among the first teachers at Monterey Peninsula College to embrace online courses. And in 2009, he combined his concern with the apparent decline of liberal arts education with the college's drop in enrollment and administrator's desire to boost online offerings to create the Great Books Program, an online certificate that emphasizes the study of major literary works of Western civilization.

One of only two such programs in California Community Colleges, the Great Books certificate is earning some accolades. Last year, MPC signed an articulation agreement with selective Shimer College in Chicago for students who obtain the certificate. In June, the program was hailed as one of 50 "oases of excellence" by the American Council of Trustees & Alumni, a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C., that promotes academic excellence in higher education.

Most recently, Clemens was notified by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute that it will support his development of a course called "Great Books and Civil Liberties," an online course to be taught in the spring semester about the freedoms of U.S. civics: religious, economic, and political or civic liberties.

"I am excited about anything that helps more people experience the breadth and depth of Western culture," Clemens said in an email.

Clemens, 67, said he envisioned the Great Books Program as a response to the decline in courses dedicated to the great classics.

"The only way to shelter some literature classes is to be under a program umbrella," he said. "Students arrive in college now — from MPC to Columbia University — facing the same thing: they're so deficient in so many areas of knowledge and culture that you almost have to do cultural remediation. We created a program just to acquaint people with classic works of Western tradition, where our civilization comes from, where the ideas about the individual come from. Being online allowed us to go beyond the MPC student pool, and say 'Anyonc outside the community can take this course of study.'"

Clemens' work puts him at the intersection of several important conversations taking place in academia. One is the place of Massive Open Online Courses. Several universities have promoted the idea as a way of teaching high-demand courses without hiring more faculty — another way to save money. What's being debated is their effectiveness: Can a student really learn from a professor miles away and without the exchange of ideas typical of a classroom setting?

After developing a MOOC for Great Books, Clemens has found his own answer. Massive online courses can reach a lot of people with a desire to be exposed to certain topics without the need for credit. But they are probably not a good idea to help students who need recovery classes.

"The online classes are for students who are dedicated, devoted, interested in the subject," Clemens said. "I'd say online classes are best for boutique courses, courses that people take because they're interested in the subject."

Another said conversation is the value of a liberals art education: can colleges continue supporting teaching classic works of literature when societal emphasis is in producing engineers and accountants, people who can transition into high-demand careers?

Can California's community colleges, in their quest for transitioning students into four-year universities or the job market, in the face of limited resources, ignore the value of teaching courses that explore what it means to be human?

Humanities are "about human experience, which is not measurable, not observable. Today the move is all to turn things into data," Clemens said. "The premise is that all learning is observable and measurable, and that's nonsense. It's madness. Your internal life, what it feels like to be (you), it's not measurable, (it's) not even observable, it's internal."

And it's something that often can't be appreciated immediately. So the system doesn't want to pay for it.

It's a very serious battle in Clemens' estimation. And at 67, he doesn't seem to be willing to retreat anytime soon.

"We need as many people on the front lines as we can get, those who still believe in an idea of the human individual," he said. "I keep running into students who say, 'We started reading the "Iliad" and we suddenly realized this is a treasure.' They don't fill a classroom; in terms of money, they don't make any money. But one of the greatest things a student said to me was, 'When I'm in this class I feel more alive.' Humanities, they do make us feel more alive." For more information about the Great Books program, visit: <u>www.mpc.edu/academics/Humanities/greatbooks/Pages/default.aspx</u>.

Claudia Meléndez Salinas can be reached at 753-6755.

Several theater companies struggle with threats to their health and existence

By Walter Ryce

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Last weekend, Monterey Peninsula College Theatre Co. opened *Oklahoma!*, their first big main stage show since the <u>school's administration cut 70 percent of the program's discretionary budget</u> earlier this year. Theater Department Chair Gary Bolen says he was hoping to keep the quality from slipping, and he thinks this time he succeeded. But there are other declines that he can do little about.

They had one person in the box office to handle 279 attendees for the preview. They're relying on volunteers to raise money, and to get advertising and grant dollars. Their season once entailed four main stage and three studio productions; that's dropping down to three main stage shows. After *Oklahoma!* closes this weekend (it will run two weeks instead of three), they mount a play in October, then another in March next year.

"That's a long time for people to remember that you still exist," Bolen says.

He suggests that MPC Theatre Co. had been spared the austere financial punishments that pummeled other arts organizations during the recent recession.

"While not unique to arts organizations, [budget cuts] are new to us and, because of the timing of the cuts, we're way behind everyone else," he says. "Most granting organizations had a cut-off of last October for funding for 2014. In short – triple the work for one third the money and staff."

Bolen says any remedy to the cuts will involve community members who have stepped up to help, but that there is "zero" chance that the school will restore the budget. This is their new reality.

"This is such new territory for us that we are really only guessing to the actual impact beyond bad," he says.

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Earlier this year, when the Forest Theater was shuttered by the city of Carmel after it <u>failed a safety inspection</u>, the development sent its two producing theater companies – Pacific Repertory Theater and the Forest Theatre Guild – scrambling to salvage the shows it had planned to put on at the popular outdoor venue. In May, the Guild moved their *Swiss Family Robinson* to Pacific Grove High School. But the popular Films in the Forest summer series saw a setback: They tweeted June 28 that "Many of our sponsors have opted out due to the late start of the Films Series." (It's back, but extends to December. The first film, *Frozen*, plays this Saturday at Carmel Youth Center.)

As for PacRep, founder Stephen Moorer says, "We madly scrambled to squeeze both of PacRep's Forest Theater productions – *Shrek* and *The Winter's Tale* – into the Golden Bough." To make room, they moved one Circle Theatre production from September into late fall.

The Carmel Youth Center has come to their rescue too, letting them use their space for rehearsal, but Moorer says their School of Dramatic Arts (SoDA), which used to operate out of the Indoor Forest Theatre, is "still improvising."

He reports that promising news seems to be emanating from the city of Carmel, with a lead architect to bring the Forest Theater into code compliance due to be selected at the Aug. 5 City Council meeting. Moorer hopes the Forest Theater can remain on the fast-track toward renovation and re-opening. But at a <u>May 5 community</u> meeting, the specter of a public project dragging out for years – like Flanders Mansion, for instance – came up.

PacRep's fortunes are mixed right now. Moorer says audiences for family musicals, like *Hello Broadway!*, are up, but contemporary dramas – like the daring but unsettling *Evie's Waltz*, about teens threatening to shoot people – are not.

"It's a shame, really," Moorer says. "as many of the area's most compelling performances are delivered in these challenging, issue-oriented dramas."

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In June the *Weekly* reported news that Magic Circle Theatre, which in February 2010 had come back from a five-year absence and reopened for four years, was again going to <u>fold its operations</u>. On June 2, Artistic Director Elsa Con emailed a letter that had been sent to patrons explaining that a \$20,000 increase in workers compensation insurance, a \$20,000 shortfall in projected 2014 donations, and a drop in ticket sales that she attributes to the *Herald*'s decreased theater coverage, all added up to an untenable financial situation.

She also cited the need to "eliminate stress in my life for personal reasons."

Con told the *Weekly* that an appeal has been made to donors to raise the money for their final production, *The Mountaintop*, slated to run Aug. 15-Sept. 15. She adds this: "From my point of view, there is a consensus that ticket sales are down at all theaters in the area. Even San Jose Rep is closing after 35 years."

Back in June, Con wrote to her patrons, "It has been a good run. You have been wonderful audiences. The board and I, the actors and crew are very grateful to you for your enthusiasm and applause, and financial support. Yes, a very good run indeed."

She says that Magic Circle will effectively close Sept. 23, and that in the interest of "honoring its public trust," the theater, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is directing assets to other theaters and nonprofits. The building, which Con renovated, will continue to host live music shows until it is sold. The show, it seems, can't always go on.

Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce award winners announced

Finalists entered for business of the year award

By Phillip Molnar

This year's Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce winners are a mix of established businesses and new additions.

The chamber announced its 16 winners Thursday at the 28th annual Business Excellence Awards.

Recipients are now finalists for the Business of the Year award to be announced March 15, 2015.

The Wharf Marketplace, which opened in August, was a new addition in the "Retail, Wholesale, Distributors & Manufacturers" category.

"It's a great honor," said General Manager Brant Good. "... We want to be the best market in town."

The marketplace has a 10-year lease with the city for the historic Southern Pacific train depot. It has locally-grown produce, coffee, sandwiches and salads, wine and beer and other items.

Good credited his staff of six part-time and six full-time workers for the win.

More than 2,700 votes were cast in the chamber awards. The public and chamber members were encouraged to vote.

The vote total was the highest in the award's history, which chamber President/CEO Jody Hansen attributed to businesses getting the word out to customers on social media.

"Members are really getting it," she said. "I think it is exciting how everyone is engaged."

Other winners were:

- · Accommodations & Visitor Services: Portola Hotel & Spa
- · Advertising, Marketing & Media Services: Monterey County Weekly
- Art, Attractions, Entertainment, Event Services & Recreation: Monterey Jazz Festival
- Business Associations: Monterey County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Construction & Building Services: Scudder Roofing Company

- Education & Training: Monterey Peninsula College
- Financial & Insurance Services: Monterey Credit Union
- Food & Beverage: Tarpy's Roadhouse
- Government, Public Utilities & Transportation: Monterey Public Library
- · Healthcare, Wellness & Senior Services: Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula
- Nonprofits, Clubs & Organizations: Rancho Cielo Youth Campus
- Professional Services: Fenton & Keller, A Professional Corporation
- Real Estate & Property Management: Cannery Row Company
- Retail, Wholesale, Distributors & Manufacturers: The Wharf Marketplace
- Services to Businesses: Monterey Bay Systems
- Services to Residents: Cardinale Moving & Storage

Phillip Molnar can be reached at 646-4487.

MPC, union reach agreement to revamp child care center Changes to go into effect July 1, 2015, six workers to be laid off

By Claudia Meléndez Salinas

Monterey Peninsula College administrators have reached an agreement with classified union members that will allow for the restructuring of the Child Development Center.

The agreement paves the way for both parties to negotiate the effects of laying off six child care specialists positions. The workers will be laid off on July 1, 2015, when the restructuring will take place.

Instead of having six child care specialists, the reconfigured schools will have two "lab managers," an administrative assistant, and playground supervisors. As per the agreement, union representatives and administrators will hammer out job descriptions for the positions to be created.

The reconfigured school will also serve as a lab for early childhood education students, who will get college credits for their work at the center.

The agreement is being praised by both sides as a vehicle to keep the child care center open and eventually expand its operations to serve more students. It will also help MPC save money, as it's now subsidizing the child care center to the tune of \$280,000 a year.

"I want to acknowledge the union and district, which by working together they preserve services for children, female students," President Walter Tribley said. "It saves jobs versus shutting it down."

Loran Walsh, president of the Monterey Peninsula College Employees Association, also praised the agreement, saying it gives the employees a seat on the negotiations table.

"We have a lot of work to do to see how (the lab school) is going to work," Walsh said. "We're hoping that this agreement will be the showcase for how to do it right, and save the district \$300,000."

Walsh is thankful administrators agreed to the year-long delay to give community members time to learn how the new setup will work.

Also, the negotiation process will allow for all parties involved to visit lab schools that have inspired the idea for MPC. Colleges that have early childhood lab schools include Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, and UC Davis.

"We don't want to reinvent the wheel, we want the wheel to work here." Walsh said. "It's positive, we're moving in the right direction."

MPC administrators will continue looking for ways to tackle the college's deficit, which now stands at about \$1.8 million a year. The child care center had been eyed for cuts after financial support from the state dropped during the recession.

Although Gov. Jerry Brown restored \$50 million for early childhood education last year, the amount was significantly less than the \$1 billion in cuts undergone since 2007.

At least one parent had expressed concerns with the proposed restructuring, saying that students would not provide the same care that experienced child care specialists do now.

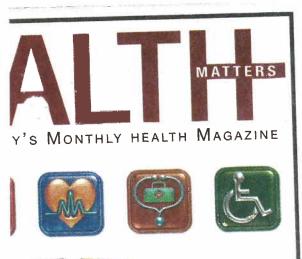
Tribley said that the staffing will meet industry standards.

"The level of staffing is not sustainable," right now, he said.

Eliza Gomez, program director of early childhood education for migrant education at the Monterey County Office of Education praised the plan as an innovative idea to support adult education.

"It's better to support adult education with parents having access to quality childcare," said Gomez, who saw a presentation by Tribley at a meeting of the Monterey County Child Care Planning Council. "This way, parents and their children are able to meet their educational needs."

Claudia Meléndez Salinas can be reached at 753-6755.





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JANUARY – New Years Resolution FEBRUARY – Heart Health MARCH – Beauty & Dental APRIL – Senior's Health MAY – Women's Health JUNE – Men's Health *JULY – Medical Profiles AUGUST – Hearing/Vision *SEPTEMBER – Medical Directory OCTOBER – Cancer NOVEMBER – Allergies/Pediatrics DECEMBER – Senior's Health

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CALIFORNIA AMERICAN WATER

THE HERALD August 15, 2014

Senior briefs: Gentrain courses start Aug. 26

By Herald staff

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Gentrain courses are being offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays this fall at Monterey Peninsula College, beginning Aug. 26.

The core of the Gentrain Program is a series of monthlong units on Western civilization. The course is divided into four units: Prehistory and Earliest Civilizations (to 1200 B.C.), Foundations of the Classical World (1200-500 B.C.), The Golden Age of Greece (500-300 B.C.) and The Roman Republic and Rise of Empire (500 B.C-14A.D.).

Each 50-minute lecture is presented at 9 and 11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in MPC Lecture Forum 103. Cost for non-credit attendance for the semester is 35. Non-credit attendance means no reading, homework or tests. Registration must be done online, preferably before the first class on Aug. 26. See <u>gentrain.org</u>, or help can be given at the first class attended.

The Gentrain Society also offers free Wednesday Lectures on an assortment of topics, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month, also in Lecture Forum 103.

SENIOR DAY RESOURCE FAIR IS AUG. 28

MONTEREY COUNTY FAIR >> The Senior Day Resource Fair will be noon to 4 p.m. Aug. 28 at the Monterey County Fair. Those age 62 and older will be admitted to the fair for free from noon to 3 p.m.

The Resource Fair will be in the Turf Club at the Monterey County Fair & Event Center, 2004 Fairground Road.

Sponsored by Central Coast Senior Services, Monterey-Salinas Transit, Alliance on Aging and Legal Services for Seniors, the Senior Day Resource Fair connects seniors with community resources from more than 30 senior-serving organizations. The fair includes free health screenings, computer and tech assistance, gifts, entertainment, and coffee and doughnuts while they last.

Business digest: MPC's Bolen to speak to P.G. Rotary

By Herald staff

BOLEN TO SPEAK >> Gary Bolen, chairman of the Monterey Peninsula College Theater Department, will be the guest at Tuesday's Pacific Grove Rotary Club meeting, at noon at The Inn at Spanish Bay, 2700 17 Mile Drive.

Bolen's talk will focus on the state of the theater. Lunch is \$20 and reservations may be made by calling Jane Roland at 649-0657 or 333-0491.

FILM INDUSTRY MIXER SET FOR WEDNESDAY

NETWORKING >> A film industry networking mixer, "Hollywood in Your Backyard," will be held 5 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Cannery Row Brewing Co., 95 Prescott Ave., Monterey.

Meet film industry professionals, learn more about the Monterey County Film Commission's role and get tips on how businesses and individuals can get noticed when film projects come on-location.

The event is free but reservations are required. For reservations email <u>info@filmmonterey.org</u> or call 646-0910.

FREE EXPORTING WORKSHOP SET SEPT. 3

SMALL BUSINESS >> A free small-business exporting workshop will be held 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sept. 3 at CSU Monterey Bay, University Center Ballroom, 100 Campus Center.

The workshop will teach businesses about the federal and local programs that provide financing, technical assistance and marketing programs for exporting. It will cover export loan programs, finding customers and the federal resources to help begin or expand exporting.

Register online at <u>csumb.edu/sbdc</u>. Pre-registration is required. The workshop schedule is subject to change. For more information, call 422-6232 or email <u>sbdc@csumb.edu</u>.

ROBERT SLAWINSKI AUCTIONEERS OPENS

WELCOME EVENT >> A ribbon-cutting event for Robert Slawinski Auctioneers will be from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Aug. 21 at 26384 Carmel Rancho Lane, Ste. 1, Carmel. The event is sponsored by the Carmel Chamber of Commerce.

Robert Slawinski Auctioneers has been conducting auctions of antiques and real estate for 25 years.

CCHRA OFFERING HIRING WORKSHOP

11-STEP TEMPLATE >> The Central Coast Human Resource Association will offer a September program, "Hiring – An Eleven Step Template," from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 11 at Corral de Tierra Country Club, 81 Corral de Tierra Road, Salinas.

This hands-on, interactive workshop will cover steps for lawfully completing the hiring process. Topics that will be addressed include understanding the legal requirements related to hiring and avoiding "bad hire" decisions.

Cost is \$25 for CCHRA members, \$40 for nonmembers and \$45 for all after the deadline. To register, see <u>www.cchra.org</u>.

THE HERALD August 15, 2014

Education bond crucial to supporting California students

By George Blumenthal and Eduardo M. Ochoa. Co-writers: Dr. Walter Tribley, Dr. Willard Lewallen, Dr. Steven M. Kinsella, and Dr. Laurel Jones.

Guest Commentary

California's schools and colleges need and support a General Obligation (GO) bond on the November 2014 ballot. Historically, schools and colleges have sought these bonds to help ensure that adequate facilities are available to serve the state's students and support workforce and college readiness.

Quality facilities are central to student success. In modern facilities, students are best equipped to receive the hands-on training and skills they need for workforce success. A GO bond is the most viable funding source to ensure educational institutions can address aging infrastructure and replace building systems that have outlived their useful life. GO bonds are also used to fund minor building renovations and projects to address code compliance like the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) and seismic strengthening.

During the recession-era budget cuts, schools and colleges focused funding on sustaining quality programs. Only the most urgent facilities needs were addressed. Large deferred maintenance projects, new facility construction and large infrastructure upgrades have been pushed to the wayside. Without an immediate education bond, schools and colleges will be looking at an overall funding need of billions of dollars to just address repairs on existing buildings. This doesn't even begin to address the need for new buildings that are necessary in order to serve a student population that must compete in a highly competitive global economy.

Not only will a statewide bond deliver the necessary facilities to prepare students for long-term success but it will also help provide immediate job growth, thus creating an economic stimulus for the state. An education bond would put real dollars on the street with construction jobs commencing quickly. Tens of thousands of jobs were created during the funding provided by the last statewide bond adding to the economic success of California.

The last bond voters passed to support building needs was in 2006 and the funds that came along with that have long since been depleted. Support of an education bond is crucial for ensuring students have their needs met from kindergarten through college and ultimately preparing them for the workforce. The Legislature and the governor need to do what is right for the state's students and send an education bond to the voters for consideration this fall.

Dr. George Blumenthal is chancellor, of UC Santa Cruz. Dr. Eduardo M. Ochoa is president of CSU Monterey Bay. Also co-writing this were Dr. Walter Tribley, superintendent/president of Monterey Peninsula College; Dr. Willard Lewallen, superintendent/president of Hartnell College; Dr. Steven M. Kinsella, superintendent/president of Gavilan College, and Dr. Laurel Jones, superintendent/president of Cabrillo College.

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Education bond crucial to supporting California students

SNA 12 a.m. PDT August 16, 2014

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Signed by:

George Blumenthal, chancellor, University of California, Santa Cruz Eduardo M. Ochoa, president, California State University, Monterey Bay Walter Tribley, superintendent/president, Monterey Peninsula College Willard Lewallen, superintendent/president, Hartnell College, Salinas Steven M. Kinsella, superintendent/president, Gavilan College, Gilroy Laurel Jones, superintendent/president, Cabrillo College, Aptos.