

# COUNSELING CONNECTIONS



MISSION COLLEGE Counseling/Matriculation

Fall 2005, Volume 18, Number 1

## New Counselors On A Big Mission



*Elise Johnson*



*Thuy Trang*



*Priscilla Jones*

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The Mission College Counseling Department welcomes three new faculty members this Fall. Elise Johnson, Priscilla Jones, and Thuy Trang each bring knowledge, energy and a desire to ensure that the students of Mission succeed in their academic endeavors.

Elise Johnson is the college's newest Matriculation Counselor. Johnson earned her M.Ed from the University of Virginia. She has worked for more than 13 years in the fields of counseling and teaching and is eager to continue her career at Mission.

"I like what I do for a living and I find much gratitude in being here," Johnson said. "I am looking forward to contributing to the college and making a difference so that students succeed."

Priscilla Jones earned her M.A. in Educational Counseling from Sonoma State University. Jones is the college's new Crisis Intervention Counselor.

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# Campus News

## Mission College Transfer Night

November 1, 2005

4PM-7PM

Center Space

### Meet With Representatives From The Following Campuses\*:

#### CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITIES:

East Bay/Hayward	San Francisco
Monterey Bay	San Jose
Sacramento	Sonoma

#### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA:

Berkeley	Merced
Davis	San Diego
Irvine	Santa Cruz

#### PRIVATE COLLEGES:

Academy of Art	Embry Riddle
Chapman	Ex'pressions
National	Cogswell
Golden Gate	St. Mary's
Dominican	John F. Kennedy
University of S.F.	Menlo

*\* Confirmation of attendance still pending for some campuses*



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## Research Better & Save Time

*by Pat Hernas, Outreach Librarian*

One of the first steps in many of your class assignments is researching a topic. If you are looking through 30,000+ hits from a Google search you are not doing research—you are wasting time! Save time by learning how to research better.

The Mission College Library offers a one-unit course to help you learn how to research faster, better, and with better results. The time you invest in the course will pay you back over and over in your college career and beyond.

**In Library 10: *Basic Information Competency*** you will learn how to efficiently find, evaluate, organize, cite and present information. In Spring 2006, the Library is partnering with Counseling 12A and Reading 961 to provide a Learning Community titled ***Working for Change***. At the end of the term students in the Learning Community will have improved their reading skills, learned new research skills, and explored various career options (and how to research jobs!).

The faculty of Mission College, like all faculty across community colleges in California, know the value of good research skills. **Information Competency will be a graduation proficiency requirement beginning in Fall 2006.**

Knowing how to find good, reliable information will help you not only in your studies but in many aspects of your life, from finding appropriate health information to researching the best car to buy. Learn how to research and save time!

## Psych Tech Program

The Mission College Psychiatric Technician program is a non-impacted program for health workers. There are positions available in the justice system, facilities such as Crestwood as well as Agnews. The Application deadline is:

**November 4, 2005.**

Students must be enrolled in BioScience 22 this Fall or have completed an equivalent class in the past.

Please come to one of the Information Sessions listed below for more information:

**Nov. 17th @ 12:00PM Room N1-202**

**Dec. 8th @ 11:30AM Room N1-202**

## New Counselors

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Jones' illustrious career includes working in both the higher education and mental health fields.

"I plan to be an effective contributor to the building of an exemplarily educational community," Jones said. "I will provide student support services to meet the needs of each student I encounter."

Thuy Trang joins Mission as the college's new Bilingual/Vietnamese Counselor. Trang holds an M.S. in Counseling from San Francisco State University. Her previous career stints include working with the EOPS program at San Jose City College and teaching career classes at Cañada College.

"I believe in meeting each student where they are and then begin to move from there," Trang said. "I want the student to leave with something . . . a sense of knowing what to do next . . . to be in a better spot and feel more empowered to achieve success."

The Counselling Department welcomes these three talented counselors to Mission.

## Mission's New Mission: "It's Not Impossible"

*by Stephanie Kashima , Instructor  
Department of English as a Second Language*

Hunter College of the University of New York, University of Puerto Rico at Utuado, and Mission College. One might not guess that these institutions have something in common, but they do. They are all recipients of a Title V Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program Grant. These federal grants are awarded to Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) to expand their capacity to serve Hispanic and low-income students.

Mission College qualifies as an Hispanic-Serving Institution because 27% of our students are Hispanic and 52% of those students are low-income. Mission College received a five-year development grant of \$2.7 million to conduct outreach to underserved communities, improve learning outcomes for Hispanic and other underprepared students in the Basic Skills area, and develop a more welcoming and supportive environment for Hispanic students.

Project Director, Lin Marelick, former Dean of Workforce Development, lost no time in putting the grant activities in motion. Lin said, "I'm thrilled to be working on this project. The writing team that submitted the grant was headed by Jane Patton who did a fantastic job on getting this funding, and Dianne McKay got the project off to a great start. The college and community will seriously benefit from this funding."

With Lin's team, made up of Connie Morales, (Title V Student Services Coordinator), Stephanie Kashima (Coordinator of Pedagogy Activities), and Tanesha Gipson (Coordinator of the Welcome Center Activities), Lin has put the grant activities into full swing. First steps were to initiate the mailing of promotional materials to 3,000 Hispanic households. In addition, Morales will hire four student ambassadors to assist in outreach to the underserved community of Hispanics, African-Americans and Native Americans. Gipson has developed a plan for the Welcome Center based on input from the Title V Advisory Committee, the Facilities and Safety Committee, the Associated Student Body, and the Governance and Planning Committee. The Welcome Center will be located in the Lobby of the Main Building. It will serve as an intake center for the target population to receive special assistance in the admission, registration, financial aid, and the general college navigation process.

## New Mission

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A Spanish bilingual counselor will be available 20 hours per week to assist students with these and other needs. The Pedagogy Team have made significant progress toward their goal of planning Pilot Courses to be offered in the Spring. Additional goals are improving current tutorial services and lab instruction. The team consists of Myo Myint, Kathy Moles, Marsha Chan, Julaine Rosner (a team leader), Rick Hobbs (a team leader), James Kittock, Pat Lavallo, Linda Retterath, Clement Lam, John Nakahama, Karl Ting, and Carmen Musat. In the process of planning the Pilot Courses, faculty will be writing student learning outcomes and objectives for their Pilots.

In addition, faculty will be writing instructional activities to reach those objectives and using research-based methods to write assessments and rubrics. Further, they will be integrating cooperative learning, culturally responsive pedagogy and study skills into the instruction of each course. As all of these activities take place, the Title V Advisory Committee, a college-wide committee formed in 2004, has acted as an invaluable guide and resource for the direction of the grant. The process by which the grant activities are being carried out has been cooperative and collaborative from the first steps resulting in a broad sense of ownership of this grant's activities.

It is the hope of Lin Marelick and others that the good work supported by this grant will eventually serve as a model for the institution in improving all services and instruction to the underrepresented.

## Think Global Studies

*by Fernando Soriano, Mission College Student*

During Spring Break 2005, the Global Studies France class led by Professor Anna Brichko, joined students from Colorado, Kentucky, and Florida on a whirlwind tour of Paris, Loire Valley, and Normandy regions of France. Their trek began on a Saturday at the San Francisco Airport with eleven students, most of whom have taken French courses at Mission College. The tour consisted of a regimented schedule that made it possible to see as many historical and popular sights as possible. These tours were interspersed with opportunities for interaction between Mission students and locals, and exposure to the culture and food of France.

Historical highlights included trips to the Louvre Museum, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, Mont Saint Michel, and Omaha Beach where upwards of 9,000 U.S. soldiers of World War II are buried. For those who had already visited these sights, the Musée D'Orsay, Luxemburg Gardens, La Defense, Saint Chappell, and the Saint Germain Cathedral proved to be a good diversion from the guided tour. Since seven days of spring break would not allow an in depth visit to every point of interest, a guide pointed out the most popular sights of Paris on a bus tour through the city. Tours outside of the capital went through castles of Loire Valley, famed cathedrals, and mansions of former kings, nobles, and historical figures.

The culinary experience in France proved to be as much of an adventure as the tours. Morning and evening meals were provided. However, lunch and late night desserts and beverages at the cafes along the main boulevards added variety and a chance to watch locals and tourists. A gastronomical highlight of the trip was a cooking class in the city of Tours. Students donned their chef hats and under the direction of French chefs, cooked a fantastic meal of Japanese pearl soup, duck, stuffed baked potatoes, and – crème brulee. Many agreed that it was the best meal that they enjoyed while on the trip.

Interaction with locals provided many opportunities to use French language skills that most students had acquired at Mission. The merchants, bus drivers, and local folks seemed to be pleased that our group endeavored to speak their language. Very helpful and forgiving of attempts to communicate, the French people proved to be a memorable part of the experience.

Though the Global Studies French class began in a classroom at Mission College, the visit to France was the most educational part of the course. Upon the return to California, many students began planning next year's visit to southern France; a good indication that the trip was an enjoyable and successful experience.