

Ricardo Soto Nominated for OC Teacher of the Year

Ricardo Soto, chair of OCC's Music Department, is the Coast Community College District nominee for 2015 Orange County Teacher of the Year.

Soto joined the OCC faculty in 2001. In his nomination, the Academics Senate noted that Dr. Soto "is student-centered and depends upon actively engaging students in their learning." Letters

of nomination praised Soto for his commitment to the youth in the community and for being an inspiration to his colleagues and students.

Soto received his doctorate in Choral Conducting from the University of Southern California in 1993, graduating magna cum laude. He earned his master's and bachelor's degrees from California State University, Fullerton. In addition to conducting the OCC Symphony, Soto teaches music history, theory and musicianship. Previously, he served on the faculties at Cal State Fullerton, where he conducted the Men's Chorus and Opera Orchestra, and at the University of California, Irvine, where he conducted the Men's and Women's Choruses.

In Fall 2000 he made his Orange County Performing Arts Center debut, conducting Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors." Soto also conducts music clinics and is a guest conductor of honor choirs and orchestras.



Dr. Ricardo Soto

Science Night Draws More Than 4,500 Kids From OC

Orange Coast College's 15th annual Community Science Night drew thousands of attendees from across the county, with children and their families gathering in the Science Quad to participate in hands-on science experiments and demonstrations.

Kids from 25 local elementary schools attended the free event, which had a theme of "From the Sea to the Stars." Popular attractions included an ice cream-making demonstration with liquid nitrogen, a dinosaur exhibit, a volcano demonstration, a math bingo activity, and stargazing through high-powered telescopes.

Kids were able to pet sea creatures in the marine science area and observe plants under microscopes in the horticulture area. Guests also were offered free sonograms, and were able to listen to the breathing and heartbeat of a robot.

Food and carnival games were provided, and more than 120 student volunteers worked the event, with Circle K Club students leading the charge.

Departments participating in activities include horticulture, technology, aviation, biology, chemistry, physics, geology, allied health, consumer and health sciences, and marine science.



Kids from all around OC experienced the wonders of science.

Calendar

■ Nov. 6 — Ebola and Infectious Diseases Health Summit

Robert B. Moore
Theatre, 8:30 a.m.

■ Nov. 7 — Art & Architecture Around the World

Robert B. Moore
Theatre, 5:45 p.m.

■ Nov. 8 — Football vs Golden West

Le Baird Stadium, 6 p.m.

■ Nov. 10 — Veterans Day Observance

OCC Quad, 11 a.m.

■ Nov. 13 — Open Mic Night

Starbucks patio, 5 p.m.

■ Nov. 14 — Men's Basketball vs Miramar

Peterson Gymnasium,
5 p.m.

■ Nov. 19 — College Fair

Watson Hall, 10 a.m.

■ Nov. 19 — Women's Volleyball vs Saddleback

Peterson Gymnasium,
7 p.m.

■ Dec. 3 — Studio Hour Dance Presentation

Robert B. Moore
Theatre, 7 p.m.

■ Dec. 5 — Poinsettia Annual Sale

Horticulture area, 10 a.m.

OCC Inducts 6 Into Athletics Hall of Fame



Orange Coast College inducted four former athletes, two coaches and one unforgettable team into the Athletics Hall of Fame on Saturday, Nov. 1.

The four athletes are Billy White (football), Sheldon Blockberger (track and field), Kiwi Winkler (women's volleyball) and Becky Barmore (women's tennis). Joining these fine athletes are former Track and Field Coach and Athletic Director Fred Hokanson and Dottie Duddridge, who coached women's tennis and helped create OCC's dance program.

In addition to the individual honors, Coast also acknowledged the Pirates' 1963 national champion football team — the first team ever inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame.

OCC Student Pianists Take 1st Place at CAPMT Auditions

Two Orange Coast College music students took first place at the prestigious California Association of Professional Music Teachers Ensemble Auditions, held on Oct. 12.

Minh Pham, a Westminster resident, performed the "Concerto in D Minor for 2 Pianos" by Francis Poulenc with Yuri Minami, an international student from Japan who currently resides in Costa Mesa.

The student musicians have been invited to perform at the CAPMT State Conference at Cal State LA in February.

The students spent months practicing together in Music 102, which has two grand pianos. Both Pham and Minami plan to major in piano performance and will audition for four-year music programs this spring.

Pham began studying piano for the first time as an OCC student two years ago — it is his first instrument. "This is the hardest part," he admitted, "being able to catch up" with other students who have been playing piano since they were youngsters.

Pham is a native of Vietnam, but moved to the

United States 11 years ago. He graduated from Garden Grove High School and decided to attend OCC because of the reputation of the college's music program and its faculty — especially helping students transfer to four-year programs.

Unlike Pham, Minami began playing piano at the age of two in Japan, where her mother has a private piano studio. Upon arriving in the U.S. she attended a language school to improve her English. While she was there, she heard about OCC's music program.

Someday Minami hopes to be a concert pianist. "I love performing the piano in front of the audience. I feel like I am at the top of the mountain — or something close to it. I love that feeling."

Dr. Harkins Joins Community College Baccalaureate Delegation in China

President Harkins joined the American delegation for the 2014 China-U.S. Vocational Education Forum in Dalian, China, in late August. The delegation was led by Beth Hagan, executive director of the Community College Baccalaureate Association, and included representatives from 10 colleges across the nation.

President Harkins was one of two delegates from California to attend the forum, which explored partnerships with Chinese vocational technical colleges and baccalaureate-conferring U.S. community and technical colleges.

Thirty-four Chinese colleges have now signed or intend to sign memorandum of understandings to create articulation agreements with baccalaureate-conferring community colleges. These will enable cohorts of Chinese students to begin their education in China, obtain their first degree and then complete the final year of their baccalaureate degree program in the U.S.



Dr. Harkins with the American delegations in Dalian, China

Taussig Photo on Display in Paris

The photography of Arthur Taussig, professor emeritus who taught at OCC from 1972-2003, is on display at the Fotofever in Paris Nov. 14-16 at the Carrousel du Louvre. Taussig's work is part of the submission by the Stephen Cohen Gallery, Los Angeles.

The gallery, which opened in 1992, specializes in vintage and contemporary photography. Cohen is founder of one of the oldest photo fairs, Photo L.A., which first opened 24 years ago.



Copyright Arthur Taussig, 2013; Courtesy Stephen Cohen Gallery, Los Angeles.

OCC to Host Ebola Information Session

Orange Coast College will host an Ebola and Emerging Infectious Diseases College Health Summit in early November. The event is sponsored by OCC's Student Health Center.

Ebola is a viral disease that is spread through bodily fluids. The disease, originally from Africa, has claimed the lives of more than 5,000 people in West Africa during the current outbreak. To date, nine people in the U.S. have been treated for Ebola.

OCC's College Health Summit is set to discuss protocols for potential cases of Ebola on college campuses, and is aimed at preparing staff with helpful information about how to proceed in the event a student or employee is exposed to the disease. Faculty, staff and administrators from any college or university are encouraged to attend.

The event will feature Dr. Michael Huey, Assistant Vice President and Executive Director of Emory University Student Health and Counseling Services in Atlanta. Emory University is the home of the Centers for Disease Control.

Other speakers at the summit will include Dr. Carmen Rexach, Professor of Anatomy and Physiology at Mt. San Antonio College, and Dr. Michelle Cheung, Deputy Medical Director of the Epidemiology Division at the Orange County Health Care Agency.

Coast Crew Fans Gather to Launch New Racing Shell

On a brilliant Friday afternoon in mid-October, an impressive group of people gathered at the boathouse to dedicate the newest racing shell in the Coast Crew fleet, the Joseph M. Thomas.

Keynote speaker Dave Grant delivered an entertaining history of Jill and Joe Thomas' long association with the program. He recalled how Joe had asked for assistance in learning to row his single many years ago, which began a long friendship both with Dave and many members of the team.

Over the years, the Thomases have given four racing shells to Coast. One of those shells, the Legend, was the primary racing shell used by the 1987 Coast Varsity Crew that included eventual Olympian and World Champion Fred Honebein. Another, also known as the "Joe Thomas," was donated 24 years ago and still is in use today for training Coast Crew novice rowers.

Dave's talk was followed by a few remarks from Jill Charlotte Thomas, the daughter of Jill and Joe. She spoke of Joe's love of the music of Wagner, and of her nickname for him, "JT." She read a short quote from Joe's favorite play, Hamlet, and then popped the champagne cork over the crowd and emptied the bottle on the bow of the shell.

With the command of "Hands on the JT!" the shell was launched for the very first time and rowed by the members of the 2014 National Champion OCC Novice Eight.



Jill Thomas christens new racing shell.

Former OCC Student Named Reporter Of Decisions for CA Supreme Court

Former Orange Coast College student Lawrence W. Striley was named the 25th Reporter of Decisions for the Supreme Court of California. Striley, who has more than 18 years of experience as an attorney, began his new role in early October.

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Striley has 12 years of experience in legal publishing, and previously was the director of content development, editorial manager and legal editor at legal research provider LexisNexis. He also has worked in private law practice in West Virginia and Colorado.

Striley attended OCC in the early 80s, and after receiving his associate's degree transferred to Long Beach State, where he received a bachelor's degree in radio/television/film. From there, he attended Washington & Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, where he received his law degree.

The Reporter of Decisions is responsible for supervising the preparation of more than 12,000 California Supreme Court and Court of Appeal opinions each year. Appointed by the court, the reporter ensures the editorial integrity of all opinions from filing through publication and posting, and reviews the accuracy of the editorial information included in both the advance sheets and bound volumes for published opinions.

Marketing and PR Dept Wins Regional Awards

Orange Coast College's marketing and public relations department won two Medallion Awards from the National Council of Marketing and Public Relations.

Medallion Awards recognize outstanding achievement in communications at community and technical colleges throughout the U.S. OCC is part of the NCMPR's District 6, which includes Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah and areas around Guam.

Coast was recognized with a silver award for its Visual & Performing Arts Brochure for 2013-2014, and a gold award for its feature article on the school's corpse flower blooming in late June.

Trike-A-Thon Raises Money for Children's Center

OCC's Harry and Grace Steele Children's Center hosted their annual Trike-a-Thon in late September. The event raised more than \$2,000 for classroom supplies and materials.

Children who participated solicited donations from family and friends to ride their bikes, trikes and scooters around a track



Children ride trikes for fundraiser.

spanning the length of the center. Teachers and staff set up water stations and a "car wash" along the way, as well as pennants that were hand-painted by the children.

SSSP Update

Student Success & Support Program (formerly Matriculation) is a process that enhances student access to California Community Colleges and supports student efforts to be successful in their educational endeavors. The goals of SSSP are to ensure that all students complete their college courses, persist to the next academic term, and achieve their educational objectives through the assistance of the student-centered core services: admissions, orientation, assessment and testing, counseling, and student follow-up.

Highlights of OCC's SSSP Plan

- Orientation: Both online and in-person orientations are offered to better serve new students, including online students, international students, athletes, and non-traditional students.
- Placement Testing: Improved on-site testing options are available, including evening, Saturday and walk-in testing. New tablets and software for off-site testing at high schools (Freshman Priority Registration Program) make testing more convenient for students.
- Education Plans: Electronic education plans (DegreeWorks) sessions will be offered in multiple modes, including workshops, small groups, walk-ins, counseling appointments, during selected courses and off-site at high schools.
- Counseling Hours: SSSP has funded an increase of over 10,000 hours for student counseling. Counseling will be provided through appointments, group sessions, drop-in sessions, off-site sessions and over email.
- Technology: SSSP has expanded its use of technology to provide improved and accommodating service to students, including Success Navigator (an online assessment of holistic college preparedness for new students), StudentLingo (online workshops), SSSP Virtual Help Desk (supports student access to SSSP core services and helps students navigate new requirements), and SalarySurfer (CCCCO website for career exploration).
- At-Risk Students: Services for at-risk students include specialized counseling, workshops, support groups, online services (StudentLingo and SSSP Virtual Help Desk), group sessions for registration assistance and education planning.