President’s Weekly Briefing—May 3, 2015

Walter Turner to Speak at Commencement
Social Sciences Professor Walter Turner will be the honored speaker at College of Marin's 88th annual commencement ceremony. I look forward to hearing Professor Turner’s inspiring words for this year’s graduates. More information to come about our esteemed colleague.

88th Annual Commencement Ceremony
May 22, 6 p.m.
Diamond Physical Education Center
Kentfield Campus

Disaster Relief for Earthquake Victims in Nepal
Given the diverse makeup of our student body, it has come to my attention that there are a number of students who have family and friends affected by the earthquake in Nepal. With more than 5,500 people confirmed dead and 11,000 injured, my heart goes out to our students who are struggling with the loss and devastation while being so far away from their loved ones. In a tragedy such as this one, people often want to know what they can do to help. A recent story on Public Radio International said that generally, the best way to help is by donating money to effective and efficient charities with an established presence on the ground. The story listed vetted organizations doing relief work in Nepal for anyone wishing to contribute.

New UC Information Center Website
Data on transfers by community college campus going back a number of years is now available online at the University of California Infocenter. This easy to use site allows anyone to see how many students have applied, been admitted, and enrolled in the University of California (UC) system. Data can be queried in a variety of different ways, allowing users to see specific information relative to COM students, as well as students from any other California community college. Data can also be queried for the entire UC system, or any individual UC campus by year. For instance, the site shows that for the 2014 academic year, 150 COM students applied, 104 were accepted, and 82 enrolled at a UC campus. For UC Berkeley specifically, 112 COM students applied, 39 were admitted, and 35 enrolled.
Upcoming Events

Final Presentation of the Student Success Speaker Series
The Student Success Speaker Series wraps up for the spring 2015 semester with an important presentation on substance abuse and addiction by Counselor Ginny Hanna. All are welcome to attend. Special thanks to Associated Students College of Marin (ASCOM) for generously providing refreshments for this lunchtime event. Contact Single Stop Coordinator Tara Arenas at (415) 457-8811 ext. 7761 for more information.

May 6, noon
From Use to Abuse to Addiction: Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco
Ginny Hanna, COM counselor
Student Services Building, cafeteria

Juried Student Art Show
Stop by and see works by our fine arts students currently on exhibit in the Fine Arts Gallery through May 14.

Drama Department Presents: The Seagull
By Anton Chekhov
Directed by Molly Noble

A masterwork by Russia’s well-known nineteenth century playwright Anton Chekhov features unforgettable characters caught up in the passions and pathos of everyday life. When famed actress Arkadina returns home to her family with a young lover, Trigorin, in tow; they become tied up in tragicomic triangles of romance, intrigue, and unrequited love. The play is viewed by some as a tragedy involving eternally unhappy people. Others believe it is a humorous, and at times bitter, satire poking fun at human folly. Attend a performance of The Seagull and decide for yourself.

May 8, 9, 15, and 16, 7:30 p.m.
May 10* and 17, 2 p.m. (*talkback with the director)
Studio Theatre, Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus
Tickets: $20 general, $15 seniors; $10 students/COM employees and alumni
College of Marin Symphonic Band: *America vs. the World!*
Directed by Trevor Björklund

Both celebrating and opposing the European traditions that inspired their music, this concert showcases composers of the American symphonic band sound. Free performance featuring a variety of works across the spectrum of musical reaction.

**May 6, 7:30 p.m.**
James Dunn Theatre
Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

**Jazz Ensemble**
Directed by Cayce Carnahan

Enjoy this free concert celebrating the music of Bay Area composers.

**May 7, 7:30 p.m.**
James Dunn Theatre
Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

**Transfer Recognition Reception**
The Transfer and Career Center will be hosting the Transfer Recognition Reception to honor and recognize our students who are transferring to four-year institutions. The event will be held Thursday, May 7, in the Student Services Building, first floor, Kentfield Campus. The evening will begin with light refreshments served at 5 p.m. followed by a ceremony at 5:30 p.m. to celebrate the students’ achievement and success. After the ceremony, students, their guests, and faculty and staff will enjoy a catered reception. You are invited to celebrate our students as they make their transition from College of Marin. For additional information, please contact Andrea Mann, (415) 485-9671.

**Thursday, May 7, 5 p.m.**
Student Services Building, cafeteria
Kentfield Campus
College Success Saturday
Graduating high school seniors are invited to attend College Success Saturday to learn about COM and get access to priority registration. Check-in and a light breakfast will begin at 8:30 a.m. followed by a morning of student and parent orientations, help with academic path planning, and campus tours. Faculty, staff, and student ambassadors will be available to answer questions and provide information. A financial aid workshop will be held from noon to 12:45 p.m. Parking is free for those attending the event. Call (415) 457-8811 ext. 7860 for more information.

Saturday, May 9
8:30 a.m. – noon
Check-in tables in front of Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

Fine Arts Department to Hold Open House
The Fine Arts Department will hold an open house for the College and community Saturday, May 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meet the instructors and students of the Fine Arts Department. There will be free demonstrations, food, activities, and tours of the Fine Arts Building.

Saturday, May 9
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Fine Arts Building, Kentfield Campus

Katrina Wagner's 2-Dimensional Art Fundamentals class will be having a display of milk cartons and line/texture books May 11-31 at Art Works Downtown, located at 1337 Fourth Street in San Rafael. All are invited to stop by and check out our students’ work.

May 11 – 31
Art Works Downtown
1337 Fourth Street, San Rafael

COM Symphony Orchestra
Directed by Tara Flandreau

Pianist Paul Smith joins the COM Symphony Orchestra as soloist for two performances of the bold and energetic Schumann Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 54.

May 9, 7:30 p.m.
James Dunn Theatre
Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

May 10, 4 p.m.
Unity in Marin
600 Palm Drive, Novato
Pause for Paws
Stressed out by the end of the semester? Come visit therapy dogs in front of the Learning Resources Center. Pet a dog and reduce your end-of-the-semester stress. Great for students, faculty, staff—and just about anyone! Free snacks and Scantrons will be available. The therapy dogs are back on campus this semester thanks to a partnership with the Marin Humane Society, COM libraries, and Associated Students College of Marin.

Wednesday, May 13
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Learning Resources Center, quad

Marin Oratorio Presents Partsongs and Paukenmesse
Directed by Boyd Jarrell

This concert features two distinctly different sides of the master of classical music. Haydn’s entertaining Partsongs; light-hearted gems about love, life, drinking, and God; will be accompanied by pianist Paul Smith and guitarist Michael Irvine. The profound and deeply moving Missa in Tempore Belli (Mass in Time of War), a musical journey in search of peace composed as Napoleon’s army advanced towards Haydn’s beloved Vienna, is often referred to as the Paukenmesse (Timpani Mass) for its coloristic use of drums to portray the cannons of war rumbling in the distance. The lively and dramatic Insanae et Vanae Curae (Mad and Vain Cares Invade our Minds) rounds out the program. The Marin Oratorio chorus and orchestra will be joined by guest soloists Christa Pfeiffer, Karen Clark, Mark Mueller, and Jeffrey Fields.

Saturday, May 16, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 17, 3 p.m.
James Dunn Theatre, Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus
Tickets: $20 general; $15 students, seniors, COM employees, and alumni
Box Office: 415.485.9687

All proceeds go to support Marin Oratorio.
College Chorus and Chamber Singers: *Madrigals Old and New*
Directed by Boyd Jarrell
Accompanist Jeffery Paul

Join as the College Chorus and Chamber Singers present a delightful survey of the rich tradition of madrigal singing in England. Music of Music of Dowland, Morley, Walmisley, and Sullivan will be featured.

**May 19, 7:30 p.m.**
James Dunn Theatre, Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

88th Annual Commencement
Our 88th Annual Commencement will take place Friday, May 22, at 6 p.m. in the Diamond Physical Education Center gymnasium. More information is available on the commencement webpage.

Ongoing Events

Art Exhibit Featuring Anita Toney and Diane Johnson
Watercolors by Diane Johnson and etchings by Anita Toney are on display at the Emeritus Center, Kentfield Campus. All are invited to join the artists for a gala reception Thursday, May 7, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Student Services Building, room 146. Exhibit runs through June 30, 2015. For more information call (415) 485-9313.

Sports

Baseball
The baseball team completed their final week of conference play with a 2-1 record, helping them secure the Bay Valley Conference (BVC) title. They finished the season with a 19-5 conference record and played three playoff games against Cabrillo this weekend. Cabrillo took Game 1 against the Mariners on Friday. The Mariners rallied in Game 2, winning 6-3 and forcing a second game Saturday afternoon. Unfortunately the season ended sooner than expected with Game 3 resulting in a loss that eliminating the sixth-seeded Mariners (26-12-1). Congratulations on a third straight BVC title and a well-played season!
Track and Field

The track and field team traveled to Merritt College the past week to compete in the Big 8 Conference Championships where several Mariners posted outstanding results. Sophomore Keily Campagna placed third in the 400 meter hurdles with a time of 1:09.74. Amanda Villareal finished seventh in the 100 meter hurdles with a time of 16.74 seconds. For the men, Khoumeini Benbouzid took third place in the 10,000 meter with a time of 37:21.64. Milton Jackson placed fourth in the high jump, peaking at 1.77 meters and Kevin Petersen took third in the javelin with a distance of 47.47 meters.

Have a great week,

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President