



# insider

Staff News for Santa Rosa Junior College, February 22, 2002

## NISOD Excellence Awardees Announced

Cheryl Dunn, College Skills Instructor and Coordinator of the Learning Assistance Center, at SRJC's Petaluma campus, and ESL Instructor Gino Muzzatti have been selected by the faculty to receive the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award. The honorees will be honored at the NISOD International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence being held May 26-29, 2002, at the University of Texas, Austin. In nominating Gino and Cheryl, their SRJC colleagues pointed to the "supportive, safe, and structured environments" that each instructor has created for their students.

The NISOD award recipients were selected by the SRJC's Faculty Recognition Committee based on NISOD nomination criteria including: teaching excellence, sensitivity to student needs, outstanding program and/or curriculum development, leadership within the campus community, and team development or development of effective teaching materials or teaching techniques.

Gino's nomination letter from the ESL faculty notes that, "Gino has worked hard to anticipate the needs of ESL students and to extend and adapt our curriculum and resources to serve this special community. An example of his effort is the development of an ESL computer course to help bridge the technology gulf for beginning computer users."

Cheryl's nomination emphasized that in addition to teaching developmental math to students who are new to academics and often insecure about their abilities, Cheryl also is responsible for recruiting, hiring, scheduling, and training lab staff and tutors for the Basic Skills Math and English labs and the Learning Assistance Center.

The Faculty Recognition Committee expresses gratitude to the College for recognizing the outstanding contributions of faculty colleagues through their nominations for the NISOD award. The Committee will soon seek nominations for the Academic Senate Awards program, which will recognize outstanding SRJC faculty in April.

## Sabbatical Leave Applications Due February 22

All regular faculty members who are applying for a sabbatical leave for the 2003-04 academic year must submit their applications directly to the office of the Assistant Dean, Letters and Social Sciences not later than this Friday, February 22 by 5:00 p.m. For those who need a sabbatical application, call Becky Brown at ext. 4626 or pick an application up in Room 1576 in Emeritus Hall.

## Women in the Middle East Lecture Set for March 11

As a part of Women's History Month, Cross culturalist and international lecturer Noel Hargreaves will speak on "A Woman's Perspective on the Middle East," Monday, March 11, 2002, from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m., in Newman Auditorium on the Santa Rosa campus.

The Hargreaves lecture is co-sponsored by the Santa Rosa Junior College Foundation, the Arts and Lectures Committee, the Student Affairs Office, and the David Del Monte Lectureship Endowment.



## SRJC Academic Senate Faculty Recognition Awards

The Faculty Recognition Committee is seeking nominations for the 2002 Academic Senate Faculty Recognition Awards. The categories are Unsung Hero, Outstanding Contributions by Adjunct Faculty Member, Staff Development, Professional Achievement, Curriculum Development, Publications, and Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Education. All faculty including counselors, librarians and other allied faculty are eligible for nomination.

Faculty, staff, and students may nominate faculty. You may submit more than one nomination for each award, but please submit a rationale for each on the nomination form. Send all nominations to Margaret Bond, Behavioral Sciences. If you did not receive a nomination form in your mailbox, please request one from Margaret Bond via Email ([mbond@santarosa.edu](mailto:mbond@santarosa.edu)).

The deadline for nominations is March 8, 2002. The awards will be presented on Thursday, April 11, 2002, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in the Doyle Student Lounge.

## Paula Burks Named Employee of the Month for February

Clearly, Paula Burks loves assisting students and faculty at SRJC. Since joining the staff in 1991, she has worked diligently to ensure that students and faculty have access to high-quality instructional collections. Paula's colleagues have recognized her exceptional contributions by nominating her as Employee of the Month. At the February 12 meeting of the Board of Trustees she was honored for her dedicated service to the College. She received several gifts from the College and her department to spotlight her contributions.

As one of the hardest working librarians on staff, Paula supervises Technical Services, a large, complex and demanding department that oversees efforts to acquire, collect, and catalog book and periodical collections for students and faculty.



Instrumental in establishing an SRJC archive collection, Paula oversees the College's valuable historic photos and documents. She also works on the front lines at the Library reference desk, assisting students in their search for information and materials. As one colleague describes Paula, "She is a part of that clever tribe of resource detectives" whose ability to explore and research information "significantly contributes to students' success by teaching them how to best use the library." Paula notes, "I like the sense of completion that comes from seeing the progression of work as it moves through the department and from ordering books and periodicals, receiving these materials, cataloging, checking them in, and seeing them placed on library shelves to be used by students. I am challenged and excited about continuing to strengthen the archives, including collection development, processing, and providing access to this important collection."

Paula was instrumental in the development of the successful New Faculty Orientation that supports newcomers as they integrate into the college community. Since 1997, she has served as the New Faculty Development Coordinator. Paula's committee

participation includes the Staff Development Projects Committee, the Staff Development Coordinating Committee (currently serving), the PDA Committee, (currently serving), the Faculty Professional Development Committee, Faculty Recognition Committee (currently serving), the Archives Advisory Committee (currently serving), and the Faculty Fund for Advanced Studies Committee (currently serving).

Commenting on the use of technology in her work, Paula said, "I think most people would be surprised at how many different computer and automated systems we use in Technical Services. We use the new campus automated purchasing system to order books and we have access via the Internet to automated services of vendors of library materials. Staying on top of these systems and setting up interface between them is a real challenge!"

Paula's no-nonsense, cut-to-the-chase approach is well balanced with her soft-spoken Texas charm. Born in Abilene, Texas, she attended Lake Highlands High School in Dallas, earned a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and a Master's of Library Science at North Texas State University (currently the University of North Texas), and a Master's in Sociology at Sam Houston State University. Paula started her professional career in the cataloging department at Sam Houston State University and eventually served for seven years as the head of cataloging at the university. In 1988, she moved to California where she assumed a position at Sonoma State University as head of cataloging. In 1991, Paula was hired by SRJC as the Technical Services Librarian.

One of her colleagues commented that Paula "has a real bounce to her step, and exudes a good sense of humor and incredibly proactive energy." She is a fabulous cook, hosting staff Christmas parties and the New Faculty Luncheon. Her love for animals led her volunteer service at the Rohnert Park Humane Society for over 10 years, and, with the 'permission' of her own cats, Harriet, Ernie, and Grandpa, she has fostered many stray cats. She enjoys hiking, reading, working out, and camping. Her husband Bill Edwards works as a programmer analyst at Korbel Winery.

When Paula heard the news about being named Employee of the Month, she was shocked and surprised. "I became a little nervous about the fanfare that surrounds receiving this recognition, but I am very pleased and honored to be selected as Employee of the Month, especially when I think of all the people who have received this honor in the past."

"I really do think that SRJC is a special place to work. The emphasis placed on providing outstanding instruction and services to students on campus is very important to me in my daily work. I also must recognize what a great group of people I work with in our libraries. The Library and Media staff, the other librarians, and our dean, Will Baty, are simply the best!"

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