



# insider

Staff News for Santa Rosa Junior College, November 1, 2002

## SRJC Meets Accreditation Standards

According to the summary report by the visiting Accreditation Team that visited SRJC October 22-24, the college has truly changed in many positive ways over the course of the last six years. The overall outcome of the accreditation review is particularly noteworthy.

At the closing review session on October 24, Accreditation Team Chair John Hurd reported that the team's assessment of SRJC revealed an institution of very high quality that serves the residents of our District on an exemplary level. SRJC's extensive self-study and the visiting team's meetings with faculty, staff, students, and members of the community gave reviewers sufficient evidence that SRJC has addressed each of the accreditation standards and that meets the standards of the Accrediting Commission overall.

The first of numerous commendations that Mr. Hurd highlighted was related to our highly committed faculty and staff that provide high quality instructional and student service programs that are well known throughout Sonoma County and across the state. SRJC was also commended for the positive change in the collegial climate, particularly when compared to the previous accreditation team's visit. Commendation was also given to financial management, planning, facilities, the work of the curriculum committee, and the support for faculty and student use of technology.

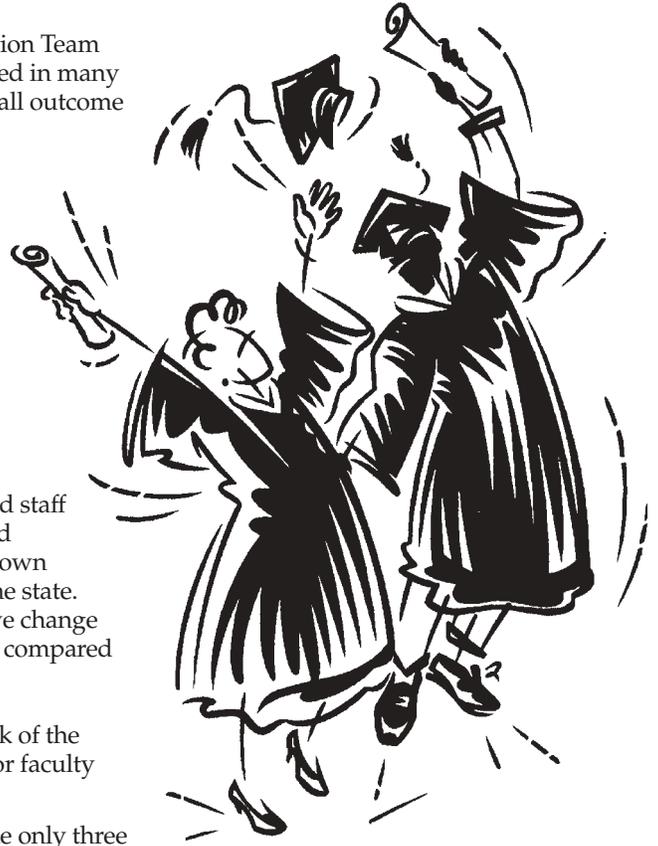
*"Our highly committed faculty and staff provide high quality instructional and student service programs that are well known throughout Sonoma County and across the state..."*

Mr. Hurd noted that the team would make only three recommendations involving: (1) the College's need to demonstrate that the issue of staff diversity in hiring and training are major priorities and that we will commit attention and resources to affect change in this area; (2) develop processes that assure that resource allocation decisions are linked to planning efforts that support the goals and priorities identified in the college's *Integrated Master Plan*; and, (3) develop a performance evaluation system for each employee group that eliminates the backlog of overdue evaluations and clearly defines timelines, accountability, criteria, purpose, and desired outcomes.

It won't be until sometime in December when SRJC will receive the detailed final accreditation report that will provide a more comprehensive summary of the team's visit. While it appears that the report will be limited to three formal recommendations, the final report will contain a number of statements that will bring to our attention other concerns or activities that we will need to study further, as well as a number of individual program commendations. Congratulations to the members of the SRJC community that helped make the self-study process and the accreditation team visit such a tremendous success.

## High School Students Attend Industrial Technology Day

On Friday, October 25, over 150 high school students attended Industrial Technology Day on the Santa Rosa campus. Hosted by the Auto Tech and Diesel Equipment Tech programs and organized by the Tech Prep Career Pathways program, students from 20 high schools explored the excellent employment outlook in these fields. Rotating through eight stations over the course of the morning, students learned about Auto and Diesel certificates, what auto techs and diesel techs do on the job, entry-level wages, local job prospects, and opportunities for career advancement. Representatives from Hansel Ford, Peterson Tractor, and Western Power & Equipment talked directly with students about career opportunities and also brought vehicles and heavy equipment for demonstration. The morning concluded with a raffle and pizza lunch.



## Staff Development Introduces the Friday Workshop Series

Opportunities for staff development will continue in spite of state cutbacks. At the classified staff and managers' retreat in June, ideas were explored to continue to make training opportunities available. The Classified Staff Development Committee enthusiastically announces a pilot project, the *Friday Workshops*.

Please let us know if you can attend the workshops that are planned or if the dates and times are a hurdle for you. Let us know what topics you would like to have included in the future, including training that you would like to offer. We will draw primarily upon SRJC staff and faculty for our staff development training, since we have great resources and talents at SRJC and must be attentive to funds. Direct your questions and comments, to the Staff Development Office at 527-4852 or email: [bgriffiths@santarosa.edu](mailto:bgriffiths@santarosa.edu). Check out our Web site for updates at [www.santarosa.edu/src](http://www.santarosa.edu/src) The initial schedule indicates that most workshops will be held from 2 - 3 p.m. on the first Friday of each month.

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### How to Create a PAF.

#### Learn the whole process, from HR to Business Services

Susan Muskar, Gina Waggoner, Eileen Cichocki  
Friday, November 1, 2002  
2:00-3:00 p.m.  
Maggini, Rm. 2701

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### Avery Labels - Creating Labels

Friday, December 6, 2002  
2:00-3:00 p.m.  
Maggini, Room 2701

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### On-line Financial Transactions

Eileen Cichocki, Linda Close  
(PDA) Wednesday, February 12, 2003  
10:00-11:30 a.m.  
Santa Rosa Campus, Room TBA

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### Online Financial Transactions

Eileen Cichocki, Linda Close  
(PDA) Thursday, February 13, 2003  
10:15-11:45 a.m.  
Petaluma Campus, Room: TBA

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### Committees 101: Learn about SRJC's committee structure and how to be an affective committee member.

Friday, March 7, 2003  
2:00-3:00 p.m.

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## We Tip Our Hats

**Joel Gordon**, Director of SRJC's Early Childhood Education Program, was commended in October in an official proclamation by the City of Santa Rosa "for his monumental efforts as a leader in child development, for his strength and his commitment to the community, and to congratulate him in his efforts to serve our community in many ways, which include his efforts to bring Dr. Bruce Perry to us to share his philosophy of power of the community – how healthy communities create healthy children." Joel and his staff organized an October 25-26 SRJC conference that drew nearly 1,000 parents, educators, and participants from numerous professional fields and organizations to address early child development issues.

## Arts & Lectures Series

Harpist, teacher, and author **Laurette Goldberg** will present "Bach, Couperin, Scarlatti: The Three B's of 18<sup>th</sup> Century Keyboard Music," on Monday, November 4, at 12:15 p.m. in Newman Auditorium on the Santa Rosa campus. Goldberg is one of the Bay Area's leading Baroque specialists. She has performed in the United States, Denmark, Australia, Canada, Europe and Israel, and is the founder of the San Francisco-based Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, a major international recording and touring institution.

**Ken Waldman**, Alaska's fiddling poet, will combine traditional Appalachian-style fiddling, poems about old-time music and dance, and stories about his travels through Alaska on Wednesday, November 13, at 12:15 p.m. in Newman Auditorium on the Santa Rosa campus. Waldman is a troubadour traveling across the country and building a national following for his music and wry, conversational poetry, which he has released as books, *Nome Poems* and *To Live on This Earth*, and as CD's, *A Week in Eek*, with banjoist and flute player Andrea Cooper, and *Burnt Down House*.

## Scott Ahrens Heads SRJC Tech Academy

Petaluma resident Scott Ahrens was recently selected to head the Santa Rosa Junior College Tech Academy in Petaluma. With over 16 years of private and public technical training experience, Ahrens holds a B.S. degree in computer and information science from Troy State University and a master's degree in business administration (M.B.A.) from Sonoma State University. Most recently he was a Consultant and Trainer for Globalnet Training, and formerly served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of a 120-employee technical training company. Welcome, Scott! You may contact Scott at 775-2864.

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