

News for the faculty and staff of Cal Maritime

In this issue: New Sim Center • New Furniture for Dorms • EAP Reaches Out to Community School • CMA Hosts Breakfast for Prospective CSU Students • 5th Graders Tour Campus • Jim Wheeler Rides to Seattle • Tom Morgan Wins Degree On-Line • New Faces on Campus • Faculty Development Opportunities • Crossed the Final Bar • Events Calendar

Making Way for the New Sim Center

The Cal Maritime Receiving Warehouse and Facilities offices, across from the Sailing offices and Boat House, have been a fixture of the campus for 30 years, but they disappeared under the onslaught of a wrecker's claw in less than a day, Tuesday, May 23. Another couple of days saw the sorting of the debris pile to remove recyclable materials and then everything was carted away.



The Simulation Center  CAL MARITIME

The razing of the facility is the first step enroute to a brand new \$12-million campus Simulator Center. When completed in the summer or early fall of 2007, the Center will house the Academy's existing Bridge and Radar simulators and add a second bridge trainer with a 360-degree projection capability, two small-vessel bridge simulators and a gas turbine and liquid cargo simulator. The facility will also house over a dozen offices for faculty and staff involved in the simulator program.

According to Center Director **Phil Arms**, expanding enrollments, coupled with expanding training requirements for licensure in deck and engineering disciplines, make the expansion of campus simulator facilities a real priority. "Limiting the number of cadets involved in a particular simulator exercise is crucial to a quality learning experience, so we need sufficient resources to give them adequate hours of training prior to graduation and licensure.

And it's not just our cadets," Arms adds. "We're a key resource for continuing education. West Coast vessel officers and marine pilots must periodically renew their radar certifications and our simulator facilities are often used for testing exercises."

As noted in the [March issue of *CURRENTS*](#), Facilities Management relocated its operations to the E-Lot at the end of the Upper Service Road. The Facilities Center includes a Trades Shop building, a Carpenter Shop, and the relocated Receiving Warehouse. The Facilities Management department provides services including building operations, maintenance and repair, grounds maintenance, custodial services, waste recycling, hazardous materials management, locksmithing services, motor pool, special events support, and alteration and improvements.

Student Team Helps Dorm Furniture Replacement Effort



Cadets Scott Abel, Laneesh Salahuddin, Helen Longo, Kevin Waisanen, Julie Dodson, Mark Allen, and Charles Lawrence breaking down old dorm furniture for recycling and disposal

A team of student workers is engaged in a big four-week project -- removing and breaking down old dormitory furniture – some of it up to 30 years old. It's part of a phased program, begun in 2003, to replace furniture in all of the Academy's 226 dorm rooms. This final phase, involving 85 rooms and a budget of \$443,000, is scheduled for completion by late June.

Diane Rawicz, Director of CMA Services, has been overseeing the effort. She explains that expenses related to dormitories are paid for by student fees and under California State University system rules, fees cannot be adjusted without student input. A presentation was made to the campus Fee Advisory Board, making the case for the need for new furniture, and the students agreed to a 5% fee hike to cover the expense. The student crew has been removing old furniture from the rooms. Wherever possible, efforts were made to donate or recycle materials and equipment. Dismantling of wardrobe closets alone required the removal of 72 screws on the piano hinges holding each unit's double doors. (We know what you are wondering – it's 12,240 screws and 340 hinges.) Once they got a rhythm going, crews were able to break down a single wardrobe in about 30 minutes.

New furniture will be arriving in early June and must be fully installed in advance of a summer residential conference starting June 21st. Each room will get two beds, wardrobes, desks, dressers, side tables and chairs. All of the furniture will require assembly upon arrival. Doors will have to be adjusted for proper fit and swing, shelves and lighting will be attached to each desk and all of the packaging will be hauled away for disposal.

Cal Maritime EAP Reaches Out To Community Teachers

Have you heard about EAP? It stands for Early Assessment Program - a collaborative effort among the California Department of Education, the State Board of Education and the California State University System. Cal Maritime Assistant Admissions Director **Dennis Purification** explains that EAP is designed to help eleventh grade students statewide determine their readiness to handle college-level math and English.

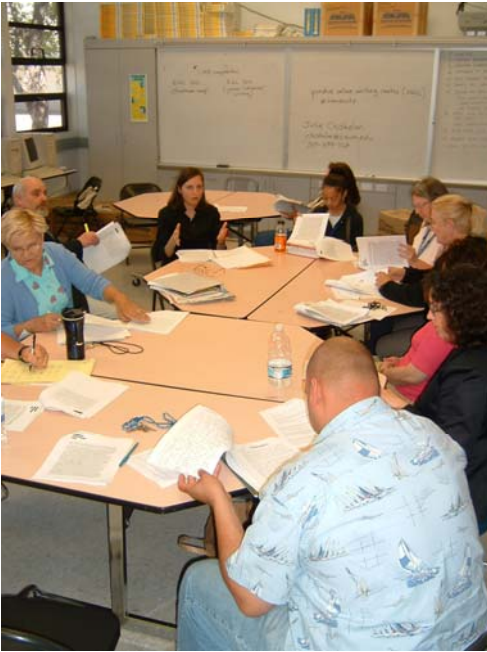
“Students who are thinking about going on to college can take an optional 30-question test at the same time they take their required California Standards Test near the end of their junior year,” he notes. “It helps determine their readiness to do college-level work in math and English. If they do well, they may skip math and/or English placement tests. Alternatively, the test can also alert students to adjust their senior-year coursework to strengthen these skills.

“CSU’s goal is to reduce the number of students who enter our campuses needing remedial math and English,” he adds. “Remediation courses add to CSU costs and while they are often necessary to assure students get needed skills, the work doesn’t count toward a bachelor’s degree.”

Cal Maritime’s EAP committee members include: **Purification**; **Shayna Sullivan**, Director of the Center for Excellence and Learning; **Dr. Julie Chisholm**, Lecturer in Communications and Literature in the department of Global and Maritime Studies; **Lloyd Kitazono**, Chairman of the Math and Science Program; and **Mike Cheap**, Director of Assessment for the Vallejo School System. Collectively, they have been examining new initiatives to help improve math and English skills at the high school level.

A recent meeting with English teachers at Vallejo’s Hogan High School is part of that initiative. At the meeting Chisholm explained that EAP and the CSU want to network with teachers and education administrators in neighboring communities, and share concerns, ideas and possible solutions to common challenges – in this case weak English and grammar skills.

Chisholm presented the results from a recent post-semester writing assessment: modern technology is too often hindering rather than helping students. Easy access to e-mail and computer spell-checkers fosters sloppy habits in written grammar, punctuation and organization.



Julie Chisholm (center-left) talks with Vallejo High School English teachers.

The teachers agreed, telling Chisholm their students know how to type, but often don't know how to write. E-mail is one of the most popular forms of communication today, but students freely admit they rarely proofread e-mails before they send them. That lack of attention to detail shows up in their written assignments for school.

Computer spell-checkers often miss compound words, and the improper use of punctuation, capitalization, plurals, homonyms and some contractions. That leaves students relying on the computer to correct concepts they themselves don't fully understand, and leaving them unable to spot errors remaining in the end result.

Chisholm offered several suggestions for combating this problem in the future:

- First, instructors need to talk with students about this problem and make them more aware of how technology can limit their skills in writing, organization and grammar. Poor skills in this area can affect grades. In the workplace, it can limit job growth and advancement potential.
- Students need more assignments requiring writing by hand, and not computer, in order to fully test their skills in spelling and grammar.
- Regular refresher examinations should be given to attack the most common mechanical errors such as plurals, punctuation, run-on sentences or sentence fragments, compound words and homonyms.
- Finally, teachers need to make sure basic English mechanics are an important part of final grades to guarantee that students don't "slip through the cracks."

Chisholm said the exchange with the Vallejo teachers was a positive one. "We all share a common passion for education. It was not our intent, as CSU faculty, to come in as the sole source of expertise in these areas. We had a good exchange of ideas which we hope will help us collectively achieve some real successes in improving English skills, reducing remediation time and expense, and opening up new educational opportunities for students."

Purification said the EAP group is now working to establish outreach contacts with area math teachers to facilitate a similar exchange of ideas.

EAP Breakfast Guides Prospective Students And Parents



Cal Maritime Admissions Director Chris Krzak addresses 11th grade students and parents interested in applying to CSU campuses or Cal Maritime specifically.

Nearly four-dozen high school juniors and their parents were on campus Saturday, May 13th for a free educational breakfast in the Dining Hall's Wardroom, sponsored by the Academy's Early Assessment program. The session, featuring presentations by Cal Maritime Admissions Director **Chris Krzak** and Assistant Director **Dennis Purification**, was open to any students and families interested in attending one of CSU's campuses. The program is part of the ongoing statewide CSU EAP community outreach initiative.

Assistant Admissions Director Dennis Purification explains CSU admission standards.



Purification presented detailed information covering requirements and deadlines for applying to any of California's 23 state universities. Krzak focused on requirements for applying to Cal Maritime. The talks covered enrollment deadlines, the courses students must take in high school and the combination of SAT and grade-point averages they must achieve in order to be admitted. Additional information was presented on financial aid issues.

Krzak explained that Cal Maritime is a specialized school and competition for admission is intense. "Because our Marine Transportation major is so popular, and because it requires the use of expensive resources like our simulator facilities, space for new admissions is limited. Under those circumstances," he added, "students wanting to apply to such majors should be sure they take all required courses, that they have good grades and that they apply early."

5th Grade Vallejo Students Tour The Campus



Approximately 50 fifth-grade students from Vallejo's Patterson School were on campus Thursday, May 25th for a half-day tour. The program, designed to get younger students thinking about future educational opportunities beyond elementary levels, included an orientation to the Academy and its programs and tours of classrooms, the dining hall, the library, dorms, laboratories and simulators. Cadet Daisy Ruvalcaba, GSMA '09 (R) was the guide for this group.

Jim Wheeler Departs For Seattle



Cal Maritime's **Dr. Jim Wheeler**, seen here chatting with Vallejo *Times Herald* reporter **Sarah Rohrs** and Academy Athletic Director **Marv Christopher**, set out on his planned bike ride from the Academy to Seattle, WA, Friday morning, May 19th. The ride is designed to raise scholarship funds for Academy student athletes.

Wheeler says he already has pledges of over \$7,000 and hopes to raise more between now and the completion of his journey on Saturday, June 3rd.

A contingent of Pacific Northwest Cal Maritime alumni plan to gather that day to greet him. Some will ride with him on the final leg. Once he finishes, all will join him for a festive picnic to honor his achievement. Wheeler's route includes daily legs of about 50-75 miles, with one longer day of over 90 miles through a remote section of Oregon. Faculty, staff and friends of the Academy can follow the course of the ride at a special website --- <http://csumathlete-scholar.org/> If you would like to contribute to the Wheeler scholarship drive, send your donation to **Maria Cundick**, c/o the California Maritime Academy Foundation and be sure to note that it is for that specific fund.

Tom Morgan Earns Bachelor Of Science Degree Online

Let's face it. Working for a university, we all think we're got a few smarts, but the plain fact is that without those wizards of computers and the Internet who know how to keep our software functioning and keep us on-line, in touch with each other and the world, and safe from spam and viruses, we'd all be toast.

But even **Tom Morgan**, Cal Maritime Information Systems Equipment Specialist, knows that education is a lifelong learning experience. That's why he set out to learn more.

On April 1, 2006, Morgan received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis on Information Technology (Summa cum Laude) from Colorado Technical University. The degree came after 18 months of concentrated on-line study. Tom said CTU's Degree Completion program normally takes 15 months, but was extended a bit due to his cruise duties last summer.



The program included a combination of individual and group projects and discussions, including twice-weekly communication with the Instructor and regular interaction with classmates, along with Whiteboard lecture materials. Tom said his class included students from all around the world and many members of the military pursuing their degrees from remote locations and on flexible schedules which enabled them to study when time allowed. There were deadlines on completion of assignments and he said the intensity of the program required a high degree of focus and discipline.

New Faces On Campus



Oleg N. Kilafly – began work April 15, 2006 as a Waterfront Department Equipment Specialist 1, Specialized Equipment. Oleg has extensive experience working on boats and ships in Eastern Europe and the Black Sea. He saw the Academy sign on I-80 and decided to see if we needed someone with his experience. Today he works with other members of the Waterfront Department, making sure that all of the complex machinery in the Cal Maritime fleet is well maintained and operating smoothly.

Also hired April 9th as a Lecturer Business Administration was **Krischan C. Rana**, currently on first cruise. A photo will, therefore, await a future issue of *CURRENTS*.

Faculty Development Update

By Dr. Bunny Paine-Clemes, Director of Faculty Development
bclemes@csum.edu, x 1148.

Conferences, Workshops, and Proposals:

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People

Dates: June 13, 20, and 27

Place: On Campus

Time: Training each of those days would be scheduled from 9am-4pm. Let Tera Bisbee know ASAP if you are interested and can commit to attending all three days of training.

New England Assessment Fall Forum

Proposal Submission Deadline: July 5, 2006

Date of Conference: November 3, 2006

Place: College of the Holy Cross

Theme: *Closing the Loop: Using Findings for Improvement*

For information visit the NEEAN website at: <http://www.neean.org/> and click on the blue-highlighted “Call for Proposals due July 5” for the Adobe Acrobat document.

Contact Martha Stassen at mstassen@acad.umass.edu if you have any questions.

Workshop on How to Write and Publish: If you’re interested in Tara Gray’s system as explained by Tim Lynch on March 1, you might want to do what he did and take her workshop, *Publish & Flourish—Become a Prolific Scholar*. The next opportunity is **July 6-7, 2006**, in Disney World. Visit <http://www.taaonline.net/convention/index.html>, or contact Tara Gray, tgray@nmsu.edu, 505-646-1013.

26th International Conference on Critical Thinking

Date: July 25-28, 2006

Place: Doubletree Hotel and Executive Meeting Center, Berkeley Marina

Theme: “The Art of Designing Deep Learning.” For more information, see these links

2006 Conference (Main)	Pre-conference July 23-24	Registration Fees
Conference Theme	Comments from previous years	Register Now
Conference Sessions	Definition of Critical Thinking	Conference Hotel
Conference Leaders	Academic Credit	Visit UC Berkeley

Assessment Conferences: A compilation of assessment-related conferences is available at the Assessment in Higher Education website: <http://ahe.cqu.edu.au/conferences.htm>.

Call for Papers:

Innovate: A special issue of *Innovate* will publish articles on the Net Gen, sometimes called Echo Boomers or Millennials. How can educational institutions plan now for the challenges these students present? What will be effective teaching and learning strategies for this generation? How are the students using technology? What are the expectations of this generation? How might they transform higher education during their matriculation? These are some of the questions well worth trying to answer.

Guest editors of this issue are Terry Calhoun, of the Society for College and University Planning, and Chris Davis of Baker College. Follow their submission guidelines at <http://www.innovateonline.info/index.php?view=submit>, and send your manuscript to both (terry.calhoun@scup.org; chris.davis@baker.edu) as well as to jlm@nova.edu by **July 30, 2006**

Submissions Welcomed by Faculty, Administrators, and Staff for Edited Collection

Title: *Knowledge Economy: The Commodification of Knowledge and Information in the Academic System*

Focus: Investigating the ways "the academic economy drives the purposes, processes, and outcomes valued from Academics, individually and collectively."

Requirements: Proposals of 500 words or less for chapters of 3,000 - 7,000 words

Deadline for submissions: July 15, 2006

Editors: Tomas R. Giberson, Ph.D. Oakland University, Michigan
Gregory A. Giberson, Ph.D. Salisbury University, Maryland

"The competing and often contradictory demands placed upon us are often at odds with the traditional notions of liberal education. . . . [T]he [utilitarian] 'value' of higher education has taken on new meaning, which often contradicts its traditional goals: critical and intellectual development, and civic engagement.

Questions that may be addressed include, but are not limited to:

Scholarship

- How has the commodification of knowledge influenced the research you engage in and the scholarship you produce?
- How is your behavior as a scholar influenced by the "number" and/or "quality" of publications required for tenure?
- How is your scholarly production consumed by the university and other institutions and individuals, and how does that influence you as a professional academic?
- How has the increasing pressure to secure external funding through grants and the like impacted what and how you conduct research and scholarly inquiry?
- How does the pressure of publication affect the pedagogy within graduate and undergraduate education?

Teaching

- How does/did your perception of the professional implications of student evaluations influence your teaching in pursuit of tenure?
- How has your teaching been affected by the expectations of students, peers, and administrators?
- How are your teaching strategies influenced by the number of classes/students you teach in a given semester?
- How is your pedagogy influenced by the mission of your institution?
- How has your teaching been influenced by other external factors, local or otherwise?

Service

- How do service requirements influence your work as a teacher and/or scholar?
- How are service requirements for faculty accounted for in terms of tenure and promotion by the institution?
- How do service requirements influence your behavior in productive and non-productive committees?
- How do service commitments on the part of untenured faculty affect their bid for tenure?

Other

- How are the actions of your institution influenced by national rankings in teaching and research?
- How do federal, state, institutional, and unit-level budgets affect your behavior as an academic?
- How has the academic economy forced you to compromise your personal and professional goals?
- How have increasing expectations for productivity and assessment across generations influenced your relationship with other faculty?

“Your submission [may be anonymous but] must include a brief description of your institution, department, and your placement within the tenure process, along with reasons why using your name with your submission would cause problems. We hope that tenured faculty will want their names attached to their submission.”

For questions or to submit a proposal, contact Tom Giberson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Human Resource Development, Oakland University, 248/370-2625, knowledge_economy@hotmail.com

Summer Reading:

Visit the Faculty Development Web-CT site for many links and articles about scholarship and pedagogy. Also visit the CMA library for many books on assessment, course design, and teaching tips.

Crossed the Final Bar

The Maritime Academy family was saddened by the recent passing of two individuals with strong ties to the institution:

Captain Ralph Swany '33

Captain Swany passed away Wednesday, May 3rd. He was a member of the Academy's first graduating class, served in the Merchant Marine in WWII, as Captain of the Academy's training ship for a decade following the war, and as an active captain for Chevron until his retirement. His family has requested that donations in his name be made to the Cal Maritime Foundation to support the Academy's historic archives.

Mark Sekelick

Mark Sekelick, Professor of Marine Transportation, died May 14th. Sekelick joined the Cal Maritime Faculty in 1988, and represented the Academy as a member of the California Faculty Association. The Sekelick family has requested that donations in Mark's name be made to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. Information about the organization can be found at www.pancan.com

More detailed profiles of both men are planned for the fall issue of *Cal Maritime*.

Upcoming Events at Cal Maritime

June 28	<i>Golden Bear</i> Returns from First Cruise
July 1	Second Cruise departs – Returning August 29
July 29	Summertime at the Maritime Series – Norton Buffalo & the Knockouts
August 19	Summertime Series – Little Charlie and the Night Cats
August 29-	Freshman Pre-Orientation (28-29)
Sept. 4	Freshman Move-in (30) and Orientation (31-4)
Sept. 5	Fall Semester Begins
Sept. 15	B.C. Kingsbury/Cal Maritime Invitational Golf Tournament
Sept. 9	Summertime Series – Tommy Castro Band
Oct. 7	Summertime Series – Hotel California (Eagles Tribute)
Oct. 7-8	Homecoming

CURRENTS is published monthly by Cal Maritime's Office of Public Relations. Please direct questions, suggestions or items for the next issue to Doug Webster, Director of Public Relations, X1720 or dwebster@csu.edu. Deadline for material is generally the last day of the month preceding the issue date. Whenever we can, we're happy to photograph events for inclusion in *CURRENTS*. Please give us as much advance notice as you can, including information about the event, date and location.

Back issues of *CURRENTS* and *Cal Maritime* magazine are posted on the Cal Maritime website (www.csu.edu) in the News and Events section which can be hot-linked from the home page.

