



**SAN ANTONIO
COLLEGE**

Create Your Tomorrow

Update

January 19, 2006

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Various events commemorate Black History Month



Black History Month activities at SAC will celebrate community and pay tribute to Black fraternal, social and civic institutions, February 2-28. Events are listed below and, unless otherwise noted, are free and open to the public.

Additionally, the SAC English

Department, Black History Month Planning Committee, and Student Financial Aid Office will sponsor the Sixth Annual Black History Month Essay Competition, open only to SAC students. Winners will receive SAC scholarships - three 3rd place prizes of \$300 each, two 2nd place prizes of \$350 each, and one 1st place prize of \$400. Essay entries (1,000-1,200 word limit) are due to the English Dept. office by Thursday, Feb. 23. Winners will be announced at the Read-In on Feb. 28.

Thursday, Feb. 2: Opening Ceremonies
12:15 - 1:30 p.m. in Loftin Student Center - Fiesta Room. Buffalo Soldiers will post the colors. The Latin Jazz Combo, directed by Alice Gomez, will perform African Rhythm and Chants. Contact: Carolyn Foster, cfoster@accd.edu or 733-2806 and Wynette Keller, whadnott@accd.edu or 733-2760

Tuesday, Feb. 7: Student Art Expo
9:25 - 10:40 a.m. in VATC rm. 120. Contact: Marleen Hoover, 733-2896 or mhoover@accd.edu

Wednesday, Feb. 8: Jazz on the Mall with Ron Wilkins
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Loftin - Fiesta Room. Contact: Rosie Carreon at 733-2731 or rocarreo@accd.edu

Thursday, Feb. 9: "African Masks and Masquerades: Visual Elements of Community Self-Help Groups."
9:25 - 10:40 a.m. in VATC rm. 120. In traditional African cultures, the mask, costume, and resulting parades and celebrations drew attention to societies organized for the benefit of their own members, and some items were imbued with religious or shamanistic powers. The lecture will look at these from an artistic point of view, and consider their function within their own cultures. Contact: Marleen Hoover, 733-2896, mhoover@accd.edu

Buffalo Soldiers Encampment (information tent)
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on mall area outside Loftin.
Contact: Judi Clark, 733-2641 or jlclark@accd.edu

Wednesday, Feb. 15: A Day of Celebrating Community
Music, food and fun, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Loftin Student Center. Contacts: Wynette Keller, 733-2760 or whadnott@accd.edu; Gloria Pimentel, 785-6073 or gpimente@accd.edu; Judi Clark, 733-2641 or jlclark@accd.edu; Gayle Brown, gaylebrown45@yahoo.com

Thursday, Feb. 23: Panel Discussion "Lift Every Voice - Involvement in our Social and Civic Organizations."
10:50 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. in Loftin - Fiesta Room. Contact: Wanda Lee Smith, 733-2550 or wsmith@mail.accd.edu

Tuesday, Feb. 28: African American Read-In
10:50 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. in Loftin - Fiesta Room. Also, winners of the Sixth Annual Black History Month Essay Competition will be announced during this event. Contact: Janice Clayton, 733-2512 or jlclayton@accd.edu

PALS web-based portal application launched

The web-based portal Personalized Access to Learning and Services (PALS) - has arrived for SAC and ACCD employees and students. Another advancement in technology, PALS is designed to help faculty and staff work more efficiently through a user-friendly and comprehensive portal to the web.



success of our students. I am confident PALS will become another useful tool to assist you in your important work."

Services in the new PALS system include web-based email and calendars, various on-line course tools, chat bulletin boards, file sharing, ACCD classifieds, and other information as appropriate.

Employees will use their former ePortal username and password with PALS.

To learn more, visit www.accd.edu/pals/ and for Technical Assistance, call Support Central at 220-1616.

"Our hope is that everyone will take advantage of this new system and use it to its full potential," said President Zeigler. "Our success as professionals, and collectively as a college, is tied to the

Calendar of Events

All events are free, except as noted.

Wednesday, Jan. 25
Faculty Potpourri: "One World: Influences" Mary Lou Russell, coordinator Noon, McAllister Auditorium. Contact: Music & Humanities, 733-2731.

January 30 - March 2
Telephone/Web registration for Flex II. On-campus late registration, March 2. Flex II begins March 6.

February 1
Application due for May 2006 graduation. Contact: Admissions, FAC 216.

February 1-10
Black History Month Art Exhibit at Northeast Campus. Artist Glen Franklin uses pen & ink, watercolor and oil to depict the full range of the Black American experience. Contact: Dr. Gloria L. Jones, gjones@accd.edu.

February 10-26
SAC Theatre presents "Anna in the Tropics" by Nilo Cruz, winner of the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Feb. 10-11, 16-18 and 23-25 @ 8 p.m.; Feb. 19 @ 2:30 p.m. - talk back session to follow; and Feb. 26 @ 2:30 p.m. McAllister Auditorium Admission: Free for all ACCD students, faculty and staff; \$8 non-ACCD students; \$10 General Adult Audiences. Contact: Paula Rodriguez, Director, parodrig@accd.edu, or Jeff Hunt, Chair of Theatre and Speech Communications Department, 733-2715.

Wednesday, Feb. 22
Spring 2006 Transfer Fair
9 a.m. - Noon, Loftin Student Center Fiesta Room. Contacts: Dr. Terry Walch, 733-2553, and Carmen Garcia, 733-2336 or Cgarcia2@accd.edu. Over 40 universities will disseminate information relating to transferring, financial aid, scholarships and housing.

For additional listings, please visit SAC Calendar of Events online at www.accd.edu/sac/pr/calendar.htm



Dimitriu drives engineering

San Antonio College's Coordinator of Engineering Dr. Dan G. Dimitriu played an important role in the annual Joint Mathematics Meetings of the American Mathematical Society (AMS), and the Mathematical Association of America (MAA), held at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, January 12-15.

Approximately 4,600 mathematicians attended the meetings that were held for the purpose of advancing mathematical achievement, encouraging research, and providing communication in the field.

Presenting "ACCESS: Advancing Community College Engineering Student's Success," Dimitriu was part of an MAA Poster Session on *Projects Supported by the NSF Division of Undergraduate Education*.

Dimitriu explains, "Project ACCESS aims to increase the number of associate's and bachelor's degrees in Engineering granted to minorities in South Central Texas. To begin students on the educational pathway, we developed the EDGE summer bridge program with funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF), to introduce high school students, predominantly Hispanic, to engineering careers while also providing college credit."



"With the development of new engineering and math courses, online courses, and infusing engineering/math courses with new methodology/technology, SAC is able to reach even more students. And with the two-plus-two course articulation agreements that SAC has with several 4-year engineering programs, Project ACCESS has significantly increased the number of students in SAC's Engineering Program and the number receiving associate of science degrees in engineering."

Institutional data indicates that the number of students taking engineering courses at SAC between 2001 and 2004 rose from 45 to 129, or an increase of 187 percent. Moreover, the number of students who declare Engineering as their major has increased by 61 percent, from 238 students in Fall of 2001 to 383 students in Fall 2004.

The number of SAC students earning associate of science degrees in Engineering has gone from 1 in 2002 to 7 in 2004, and the number of students who received certificates has gone from none to 5 in that same time period.



SAC Excellence ★



Congratulations to **Geraldo R. Guerra, Jr.**, Multimedia Specialist/Coordinator of the Business Computer Lab in the Business Dept. for being named January Employee of the Month for SAC and districtwide!

Hooray for **Dr. Rena Doering**, Associate Professor in Administrative Computer Technology who received the Post-Secondary Business Teacher of the Year 2005 Award for Region 20 of the Texas Business and Technology Educators Association.



Hooray for Child Development faculty member **Ana De Hoyas O'Conner**, who will be Opening Speaker at the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children (TAEYC) Winter Advocacy & Leadership Conference in Austin on Jan. 27. Her speech, "Speaking with One Unified Voice," will discuss how early childcare educators must speak with one voice that says, "Quality care for all children and all families, regardless of the program they are in, from Head Start and preschool to public and private schools, as well as demonstration sites such as the SAC Child Development Center."



Kudos to Psychology Professor **Bill Rose** for publishing "The Future of Existence: A Message From Tomorrow" (Llumina Press, 2005). The nonfiction book touches on the deepest and most poignant existential questions of the human soul about the meaning to life, God, life after life, and more. A book signing event is set for Saturday, Jan. 28, 2-4 p.m. at Barnes & Noble on Hwy. 281 north at Donella.

Bravo for **Elaine Marsilio**, a former student editor in SAC's Journalism and Photography Department, now a journalism senior at The University of Texas at Arlington. She was selected as one of six students in the country to report this spring, January-April, for the Scripps Howard News Service in Washington, D.C. The internship web site is www.shfwire.com.

In partnership with the Col. Victor J. Ferrari Learning and Leadership Development Center, the San Antonio College Continuing Education Training Network is offering classes at the center, located at 107 West Rampart Dr., south of North Star Mall.

The center, operated by the City of San Antonio, has as its mission to promote basic literacy and lifelong learning for the entire family. It offers free classes in such subjects as Basic Education, Elementary and Middle School Education in Spanish, GED, Citizenship, computer literacy, and budget and financial planning.

"We are hoping this partnership will form a bridge from literacy education to workforce training followed by bridging the gap from workplace literacy to college degrees for our fellow citizens," said Dean Tim Rockey.

The SAC Continuing Education classes offered at the Ferrari Center are in Allied Health, Private Security, Office Systems Technology, and English as a Second Language. Both CE and Ferrari Center classes are listed on p. 24 of the new CE Spring 2006 Bulletin.

For more information, contact Steve Sparks, the Director of Operations for Continuing Education, at 733-2652.

Friday Night Public Shows at Scobee Planetarium resume January 20.

6:30 p.m. "The Rocket Trip" family show
8 p.m. "Wonders of the Night Sky"

Views Through the Telescope follow the last show, at approx. 9 p.m. (weather permitting)

For ticket prices, call 733-2910 or visit www.accd.edu/sac/ce/scobee/MainMenu.htm

San Antonio College Update

Editors John Hammond and Deborah Martin
Photographer Leonard Ziegler

Deadline to submit items is 5 p.m. Monday. Send news to Public Relations, FAC 313, call 733-2147, or e-mail your items to jhammond@accd.edu or dmartin@accd.edu. The Update staff reserves the right to edit items.

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