



LA VOZ WEEKLY

VOLUME 43, ISSUE 16

The Voice of De Anza College Since 1967

FEBRUARY 16, 2010

NEWS 3

27-year-old program giving students units for work to be gone by 2011

DA FACES 5

Poffenroth finds communion with nature

Instructor of the week and environmental science instructor Mary Poffenroth

CAMPUS 6

A day in the life of a custodial staff member

Follow a day in Ha Nguyen's shoes as he cleans up our campus and your messes

OPINIONS 7

Online forum decorum

Sticks and stones may break my bones, but ... online comments will never hurt me? There's no need to get nasty when it's easy to be anonymous

OPINIONS 7

Education, acceptance are the true American ideals to embrace

Read news online at www.lavozdeanza.edu

Write to us at lavoz@fhda.edu

CROSSWORD 15

WIN FREE MOVIE TICKETS TO BLUELIGHT

The first ten readers to correctly finish our De Anza themed crossword puzzle and turn it in to the La Voz Weekly office in L-41 will get two free movie tickets to Bluelight Cinemas! Write a valid e-mail address on the submission and place in the box marked "Crossword Submissions" in our office Monday-Thursday, noon-4 p.m. Winners will be notified by Mon., Feb. 22.

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La Voz Weekly is a First Amendment newspaper, produced by students for the De Anza College community. La Voz Weekly is printed using soy based ink.

Food on Campus What does De Anza eat?



Organic foods rule in our cafeteria menus, but can be expensive and rely on changeable factors. Here's what De Anza eats.

Justin Taylor
Tamara Hahn
LA VOZ WEEKLY

Organic Coffee Beans. Check.
Biodegradable Cutlery. Check.
But when it comes to going completely green, De Anza College dining is still at the mercy of mother nature.

Patrick Gannon, director of the Hinson Campus Center, pinches off a small slab of salmon and tells in his hearty Irish accent why some of cafeteria food is

organic, and some is not. "Here's my philosophy: if there's an option to get a healthier choice, and it cannot be grown year-round. Also, weather phenomena such as rainstorms can restrict the

"Here's my philosophy: if there's an option to get a healthier choice, and it means paying a little bit more, usually, I will do it."

Patrick Gannon,
director of the Hinson Campus Center

means paying a little bit more, usually, I will do it." However, the supply of organic food can be unreliable, Gannon said, because seasonal foods supply of a given organic food and drive up its price to double or three times the normal value. "You're kind of dependent on nature," he said. "That's

See DE ANZA EATS ORGANIC, Page 4

Non resident student fees increase

Ryan Cornwell
LA VOZ WEEKLY

Non resident students will be paying \$3 less per unit, and students who are both citizens and residents of a foreign country will pay one additional dollar per unit as of July 1.

"The new rate totals \$131 per unit and includes a \$119 per unit tuition rate and a \$12 per unit capital outlay rate," said Andy Dunn, vice chancellor of business services.

This rate during the previous year was \$122 per unit, with an additional capital outlay per unit. Students who are citizens and residents of a foreign country are subject to the capital outlay fee.

"There are several tests that a district can go to in order to arrive with those rates," said Dunn regarding

the defining factors of how rates are set.

Bernata Slater, director of Budget Operations summarized the effect the previous year will have on the 2010-2011 non-resident student fee. "Expenses were higher last year" said Slater, "but our expense per student was higher the previous year, the total cost per student was higher the last year based on the prior year's expenses." "It's always looking at the prior expenses," said Slater. The rate is actually devised through a fixed equation that involves both



See FEE INCREASE, Page 3

Education Cuts

Writing, ESL, reading labs eliminated

Students who need extra help in college will no longer have these programs on their side

Briana Bronner
LA VOZ WEEKLY

After the spring quarter, the Readiness Lab will undergo an internal reconstruction due to continuing budget cuts, in the wake of a budget deficit of over \$10 million.

De Anza College is researching how to make academic support services more effective and part of this research led to a proposed reorganization of all Student Success Center programs.

Despite being recognized as one of four out of 109 California Community Colleges to be awarded the Hewlett Leaders in the Student Success Program for demonstrating promising and innovative approaches to student success in basic skills education, various programs will be lost.

Programs to be cut include the English as a Second Language Lab, which functions as a workshop to enable students whose second language is English to learn, discuss, explore and practice the linguistics of the language. In addition to the ESL lab, the writing and reading Labs are set to be cut as well. These labs are designed to raise students' skills to college-level standards.

Roughly half a million students arrive at California Community Colleges every year, and at least 70 percent are not up to college level standards. An average of 1,000 students enroll in these labs each quarter, according to De Anza's Student Success Center Web site. Each lab, consisting of eight to 10 students, one teaching assistant and one instructor, meets once per week. The close student-teacher atmosphere sets students for success when they enroll in English 1A.

As of January 2009, the Readiness Lab had over two-dozen teaching assistants ready to assist students each quarter, but after the reorganization and layoffs, there will not be any, said Kristen Skager, coordinator of the Reading Readiness Program.

"[Without teaching assistants] students will be affected dramatically," Skager said. "Instructors will feel more pressure because of the re-organization. We will do the best we can to support the students."

The result of the re-organization will be 11 fewer hours of class time a week. More reliance will be put on the tutorial center located in

See PROGRAM CUT, Page 4

Campus Events

Happenings@LaVozDeanza.com

Send event notices to Happenings@LaVozDeanza.com by noon Wednesday preceding the publication week. Please type "Happenings" in the subject line. La Voz does not guarantee publication. All events take place on the De Anza College campus and are free, unless stated otherwise.

Tuesday, Feb. 16

CONDOM SCULPTURE VOTING
Health Services, Campus Center
 De Anza Health Services invites students to stop by any time today to vote for their favorite condom sculpture on display. The winning artists will receive gift certificates to the De Anza College Bookstore.

Wednesday, Feb. 17

SPEAKER: DR. ANN AURELIA LOPEZ ON MIGRANT EXPERIENCES, NAFTA
1:30-3:30 p.m., Campus Center Room B
 Take a visual tour of farmworkers' lives as Dr. Lopez introduces participants to the migrant experience on both sides of the Mexican American Border, and talks about the impacts of NAFTA and globalization on our communities. An environmental scientist, she is the director for the Center for Farmworker Families and the author of "The Farmworker's Journey." For information contact Marc Coronado at Coronado.Marc@gmail.com or 408-864-8409.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: OPEN FORUM FEATURING DAVEY D
12:30-2 p.m., Visual and Performing Arts Center
 Davey D is a nationally recognized journalist, adjunct professor, hip hop historian, syndicated talk show host, radio programmer, DJ, and media and community activist. He is the co-founder and host of Hard Knock Radio which focuses on hip hop culture and politics, and the founder and webmaster of Davey D's Hip Hop Corner at <http://www.daveyd.com>. For information contact Michele Le Bleu-Burns at LebleuBurnsMichele@deanza.edu.

CONDOM SCULPTURE VOTING
Health Services, Campus Center
 De Anza Health Services invites students to stop by anytime to vote for a favorite condom sculpture on display. The winning artists will receive gift certificates to the De Anza College Bookstore.

Thursday, Feb. 18

15th Annual Lunar New Year Scholarship Luncheon
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Campus Ctr. A&B
 Celebrate the year of the tiger as the Asian Pacific American Staff Association hosts its 15th Annual Lunar New Year Scholarship Luncheon to benefit the APASA Scholarship Fund for De Anza students. Enjoy a delicious lunch, recognition of this year's APASA scholarship recipients and fun prize drawings. A take-out option is available for those who are unable to stay for the event. Cost is \$18 for staff and \$13 for students.

ACTIVIST FILM FESTIVAL:

'Fahrenheit 9/11'
5:30-8:30 p.m., Campus Ctr. Room B
 The fourth film in De Anza's Activist Film Festival is Michael Moore's 2004 controversial, award-winning "Fahrenheit 9/11," which looks at former President George W. Bush's war on terrorism and the news media's coverage.

Sunday, Feb. 21

HAN HAI ARTS PRESENTS CULTURES OF CHINA, FESTIVAL OF SPRING
6 p.m., Flint Center
 This performance features China's award-winning solo and group dance programs as well as bel canto and pop songs by the original dancing and singing masters. Tickets available from Ticketmaster from \$30-\$100.

Monday, Feb. 22

SPEAKER: MARILYN CHIN, AUTHOR "REVENGE OF THE MOONCAKE VIXEN"
1:30-3:30 p.m., Writing & Reading Center, ATC 309
 Join novelist/poet Marilyn Chin as she reads from her novel "Revenge of the Mooncake Vixen" and answers questions. The 1:30-2:30 reading is followed by a discussion until 3:30. Chin is a creative writing professor at San Diego State and has won multiple literary awards. For information contact Karen Chow at ChowKaren@deanza.edu or Ken Weisner at WeisnerKen@deanza.edu.

Wednesday, Feb. 24

NATIONAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE POETRY CONTEST INVITES ENTRIES
2 p.m. deadline, Faculty offices F11-F or Forum 3G
 Poetry for the Mind's Joy is a national poetry initiative to highlight the poetry generated at community colleges as well as the vital role played by community colleges in nurturing lives and minds. The poem must be one page and typed using a 12 point font. A cover page must include author's name, address, phone and e-mail address. Poems should be turned in to Bob Dickerson's office in F11-F or Ken Weisner's office in Forum 3G. For information contact weisnerken@fhda.edu or dickersonbob@fhda.edu.

Saturday, March 6

DE ANZA FLEA MARKET
8 a.m.-4 p.m., Parking Lots A & B
 The flea market is held on the first Saturday of every month. For information go to <http://www.deanza.edu/fleamarket/>.

Friday, March 12

DE ANZA DANCERS WINTER CONCERT
8:15-10 p.m., Visual and Performing Arts Center
 Enjoy the De Anza Dancers winter performance featuring De Anza dance students. Cost is \$15. For information contact Warren Lucas at LucasWarren@deanza.edu.

Saturday, March 13

DE ANZA DANCERS WINTER CONCERT
8:15-10 p.m., Visual and Performing Arts Center
 Enjoy the De Anza Dancers winter concert performance featuring De Anza dance students. Admission is \$15. For information contact Warren Lucas at LucasWarren@deanza.edu.

Sunday, March 14

SYMPHONIC WINDS WINTER CONCERT
2 p.m., Visual and Performing Arts Center
 Join De Anza music students for their symphonic winds winter concert. Admission is \$8 general, \$5 students and seniors. For information contact John Russell at RussellJohn@fhda.edu.

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CONCERT

7-10 p.m., Visual and Performing Arts Center
 The De Anza chamber orchestra concert features De Anza music students. Admission is \$10 general and \$5 students. For information contact Loren Tayerle at TayerleLoren@fhda.edu.

Saturday, March 20

UCSF ADMISSIONS WORKSHOP
9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., UCSF Campus, SF
 Students interested in applying to UCSF are invited to an admissions workshop to hear presentations on developing a competitive application, understanding the application process, a day in the life of a medical student and information about the UCSF School of Medicine post baccalaureate program. The workshop is at UCSF in Cole Hall at 513 Parnassus Ave., San Francisco. Cost is \$10. Register at <http://medschool.ucsf.edu/msaw> by Sunday, March 14.

Recurring/Future Events

ACTIVIST FILM FESTIVAL
 The Activist Film Festival presents movies about issues in our society. They will be shown every other Thursday from 5:30-8:30 p.m. in Conference Room B, and will be followed by discussion. For information contact izzyim@gmail.com.
Feb. 18: "Fahrenheit 9/11" (2004)
March 4: "Walkout" (2006)

March 18: "Capitalism: A Love Story" (2009)
April 8: "An Inconvenient Truth" (2006)
April 22: "Bowling for Columbine" (2002)
May 6: "Roger and Me" (1989)
May 20: "Milk" (2008)
June 3: "Food, Inc." (2008)
June 17: "Maria Full of Grace" (2004)

ASTRONOMY/LASER SHOWS
Star shows at 5, 6, 7:30 p.m.
Laser shows at 9, 10 p.m.

Fujitsu Planetarium
 The De Anza Planetarium offers star and laser shows every Saturday night. Astronomy shows, at 5, 6 and 7:30 p.m. cost \$8 for adults and \$6 for children; laser light shows at 9 and 10 p.m. cost \$9 for adults and \$7 for children. For a listing of programs, go to <http://www.deanza.edu/planetarium/>.

BALLET SAN JOSE DISCOUNTS
 De Anza students are invited to attend Ballet San Jose at a discounted cost of \$10 (tickets are normally up to \$85). Register at <http://studentsjballet.org>.

CALIFORNIA HISTORY CENTER
 The De Anza College California History Center exhibit "Roots & Wings: Saratoga Community Garden 1972-1987" features an oral history and photos of the Saratoga Community Garden, which flourished as an educational demonstration garden for children and the community from 1972 to 1987, providing an opportunity for visitors to connect with the ways of the garden and sustainable farming and to glean insights from nature. The 10 acre living classroom - with nature as an instructor - inspired thousands of children and adults during its 15 year life.

EUPHRAT MUSEUM OF ART
 The Euphrat Museum of Art exhibit "In Between: The Tension and Attraction of Difference" with special projects has been extended until Feb. 25. The exhibit examines Silicon Valley's varied and colorful growth through visual media and shared narratives. Hours are Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For information go to <http://www.deanza.edu/euphrat/>.

MASSAGE THERAPY CLINIC
 The massage Therapy Program clinical class is offering 45-minute massages Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9:15, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m. through March 18. Cost is \$15/students, \$20/faculty and \$25/community. To make an appointment call 408-864-5645. For information go to <http://www.deanza.edu/pe/massage/clinic.html>.

SUMMER TRIP TO ASHLAND
 The De Anza summer trip to Ashland will take place Aug. 26-30. Plays include Merchant of Venice, Ruined, Twelfth Night, Hamlet, Henry IV Part One, Pride and Prejudice and Throne of Blood. More information to be posted.

Skills Workshops

Skills workshops are small, interactive presentations and discussion on a variety of topics. Skills staff provide handouts and lead activities to help you improve study skills such as time management, textbook reading, concentration and memory, and English/math study strategies. All workshops are open to any De Anza student, but students enrolled in any skills class will be seated first. Sign up in advance in the workshop sign-up binder at the skills desk. Days and times are subject to change, so check in L47 for the most current schedule and for the room location.

Tuesday, Feb. 16 11:30 a.m., No Freakin' Speakin' Speeches 2:30 p.m., Textbook Reading 3:30 p.m., Concentration 4:30 p.m., Tests with Less Stress	Monday, Feb. 22 2:30 p.m., Communicating in Study Groups 3:30 p.m., Textbook Reading
Wednesday, Feb. 17 9:30 a.m., Engaging Ethics 11:30 a.m., Test Taking Tips 1:30 p.m., Time Management Strategies 2:30 p.m., Note Taking Strategies 3:30 p.m., Goal Setting and Motivation	Tuesday, Feb. 23 2:30 a.m., Making Effective Decisions 4:30 a.m., Anti-Procrastination 5:30 a.m., Engaging Ethics
Thursday, Feb. 18 11:30 a.m., Hot Topics, Cool Summaries 2:30 p.m., Writing Thesis Statements	Wednesday, Feb. 24 10:30 p.m., Concentration 1:30 p.m., Test Taking Tips 2:30 p.m., Get a Clue!
Friday, Feb. 19 8:30 a.m., Note Taking Strategies	Thursday, Feb. 25 10:30 a.m., Editing, Proofreading Skills 3:30 a.m., Memory Strategies
	Friday, Feb. 26 11:30 a.m., Anti-procrastination



Prefer television news to print news? Check out Video La Voz, La Voz Weekly's televised news program posted online every Monday at www.LaVozDeAnza.com

College and University Representative Visits

Appointments to meet with the university and college representatives listed below can be scheduled in person at the Transfer Center on the 2nd floor of the Student and Community Services Building or by calling 408-864-8841.

Tuesday, Feb. 16	University of the Pacific	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Campus Center	information table
Tuesday, Feb. 23	UC Berkeley	10 a.m.-2:15 p.m.	Transfer Center	drop-in
	UC Santa Cruz/UC Partnership	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Campus Center	information table
Thursday, March 11	UC Berkeley	10 a.m.-2:15 p.m.	Transfer Center	drop-in
Monday, Feb. 15	UC Davis	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	Transfer Center	by appointment
Monday, Feb. 22	UC Davis	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	Transfer Center	by appointment
Thursday, Feb. 25	Menlo College	10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Campus Center	information table
Tuesday, Feb. 23	University of East West Medicine	1 p.m.-3 p.m.	Campus Center	information table
Monday, March 1	UC Davis	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	Transfer Center	by appointment
Thursday, March 4	University of Phoenix	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Campus Center	information table
Tuesday, March 9	UC Santa Cruz/UC Partnership	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Campus Center	information table
Thursday, March 11	Menlo College	10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Campus Center	information table
Wednesday, May 5	National University	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Campus Center	information table

DE ANZA COLLEGE CAFETERIA

Monday, Feb. 15

- Chicken Noodle
- Vegetarian Combo
- Chinese Chicken
- Beef Stroganoff

Tuesday, Feb. 16

- Cream of Mushroom
- Margarita
- Spring Greens Salad
- Southwestern Fusilli

Wednesday, Feb. 17

- Minestrone
- Hawaiian Ham & Pineapple & Green Peppers
- Szechwan Beef Salad
- Comfort Station
- Roast Lemon Chicken, Stuffing, Smashed Pots

Thursday, Feb. 18

- Broccoli & Cheddar
- Mortadella Italian Sausage, Artichoke Hearts, Peppers, Pesto & Caesar
- Southwestern Chicken
- Broccoli Bow Tie Pasta
- Grilled Fish TBD

Friday, Feb. 19

- New England Clam Chowder
- Chef's Choice
- Pizza
- Fish Wrap

Monday, Feb. 22

- Vegetable Soup
- BBQ Chicken w/ Green Onions
- Chinese Chicken
- Beef Stroganoff

Tuesday, Feb. 23

- Tortellini Vegetable
- Vegetarian Combo
- Spring Greens Salad
- Southwestern Fusilli

Wednesday, Feb. 24

- Tomato Soup
- Chicken Pesto
- Szechwan Beef Salad
- Comfort Station
- Roast Leg of Lamb, Potatoes Au Jus Cous Cous, Roast Rutabaga

Thursday, Feb. 25

- Beef Vegetable
- Caramelized Onion & Meatball
- Southwestern Chicken
- Broccoli Bow Tie Pasta
- Salmon Chipotle Hollandaise

Friday, Feb. 26

- New England Clam Chowder
- Chef's Choice
- Pizza
- Fish Wrap

NEWS & CURRENT EVENTS

News In Brief

Event held for Haiti awareness

Aliyah Mohammed
LA VOZ WEEKLY

A fundraising event for Haiti was held Tuesday at 6 p.m. in Conference Room B. Seth Donnelly, a social studies instructor at Los Altos High School and humanitarian activist with the Haiti Action Committee was the keynote speaker, and spoke about the plight of the Haitian people.

Donnelly went to Haiti in 2004 to investigate the effects of a political coup that had occurred.

"I think since the Haitians revolted, other governments and corporations are purposely exploiting them and making them poor," De Anza College Student Trustee Isabelle Barrientos Vargas said.

Donnelly spoke about the news he had heard from his fellow activists on the ground in Haiti. "The airport is not functioning, so all the aid that is coming in is stuck there in the control of the 20,000 United States troops.

"It is not getting to the people," Donnelly said. "We are asking people to put pressure on Congress to get the aid out to the people."

For other ways to donate, visit;
 • www.whitehouse.gov
 • www.care.org/HaitiEartquake
 • www.habitat.org
 • www.oxfam.org
 • www.redcross.org
 Source: www.deanza.edu

Aliyah Mohammed is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at lavoz@fhda.edu.

Co - op dept. cut after 27 years

Justin Taylor
LA VOZ WEEKLY

The Cooperative Education program at De Anza College has been cancelled, adding another loss brought on by budget cuts.

The program began in 1982, and helps students apply classroom knowledge to practical work experience, said Carmen Pereida, cooperative education program Coordinator.

De Anza President Brian Murphy released an official statement, saying, "A recommendation has been made by the [Instructional, Planning, and Budget Team] to the College Council, which accepted this budget proposal as well as all other budget proposals, which were then accepted by me."

The proposal was decided by a 7-6 vote of through the IPBT. "It has been placed in escrow, which means it may have the potential to be around until 2011," Pereida said.

"A lot of students will be impacted by this, but the process was fair," Pereida said, adding that she enjoys working with students and is sad to see the program go.

For a complete list of positions being cut, visit NEWS at www.lavozdeanza.com.

Justin Taylor is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at lavoz@fhda.edu.

Fee Increase | Continued from page 1

attendance and expenses from the previous school year.

According to the equation that Dunn and Slater suggested, the capitol outlay rate would not rise any higher than \$12 per unit, based solely on calculations from the spending during the previous year.

"The capital outlay rate could be set as high as \$59 per unit, or 50 percent of the adopted 2010-2011 nonresident fee," according to a rate analysis written and submitted by Slater and Dunn to the Board of Trustees.

"We are trying to keep non-resident fees low because we are trying to stay competitive," said Slater. "Other schools have higher tuition."

The Foothill-De Anza district has

compared fees to those of other schools with the intention of drawing a higher number of students based on the lower tuition rate.

Foothill De Anza has the lowest rate of tuition for international students out of all the neighboring community college districts, according to a non-resident fee worksheet composed by Slater and Dunn.

"So we have a choice and we choose to stay below," said Slater. "Students are already paying \$1,575 and \$1,428 more for a schedule 12 unit band of classes."

Ryan Cornwell is a staff reporter at La Voz Weekly. Contact her at lavoz@fhda.edu.

David Lee
Age: 23
Hometown: Dahee, South Korea
 Lee began attending De Anza College in August of 2009 to study accounting. The cost of tuition "is so high for international students," Lee said.



REFUGIO GARCIA/LA VOZ WEEKLY International student David Lee

By The Numbers:

Action taken on Division Budget Reduction Proposals

- Reduction of non-core classes: **\$108,192**
- Reduction of elective classes: **\$96,000**
- Reduce course sections: **\$48,000**
- Reduction/eliminate conversation for Spanish for health professionals: **\$108,658**
- Reduction of math classes: **\$71,000**
- Decrease FTEF for athletics, eliminate personal trainer certification and eliminate football technique classes: **\$44,260**

POLICE log

- Towed vehicle, fire lane blocked Friday, Feb. 5
- Disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace Flint parking garage Saturday, Feb. 6
- Battery, Flint parking garage Tuesday, Feb. 9
- Medical aid, soccer field De Anza Wednesday, Feb. 10
- Burglary, coin-operated machine Lot A Thursday, Feb. 11

Corrections

From the 2/1 issue, two students, not one were selected to participate in Cinequest. The second is Alaric Holloway and his film "Vol de l'amour."

Transferring? Finish School YOUR Way!

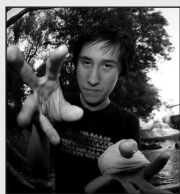
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Reality 101 Routine Insomniac



Reality 101
Corey J. Hogan
La Voz Columnist

After many sleepless nights in front of my television, I've grown to crave human brains. Now, many would attribute my undying hunger for the grey matter of my peers to my inability to sleep.

As stated in "Fight Club," an insomniac is neither awake nor asleep. In this unholy purgatory, reality becomes harder to stomach. Keeping these unorthodox hours allows me to freely flirt with 3 and 7 a.m. without burning the bridges I've crossed with the daytime.

This schedule's conception began when I was encouraged to start doing content analysis in the media, and has since developed into a full-fledged addiction, with dramatic physical withdrawal symptoms. Pairing this communications addiction to my newfound correspondence with staff reporter Kelsey Lester-Perry for a literary project has rendered my biological clock as a time bomb, with its detonation on an indefinite hiatus.

Now, any time after midnight, I'm either writing or watching Fox News, reinforcing the fact that any addiction is a one-way ticket straight to the gutter. In order to purge the unethical conniving nature of Fox News from my blood, I balance it with the six o'clock news on ABC. The fact that the information on this "fair and balanced" media outlet is passable as any form of truth is a terrifying, yet fascinating spectacle.

At times, the self-induced sleep deprivation really does feel like a horrendous chore. It may seem irrational to live an alternative lifestyle such as this, but it's become an experiment, using myself as the control and variable, and my creative output as the data. Thus far, the experiment has been successful. The drastic reduction of my waking hours has only lead me to conclude that in any given day, eight hours of sleep is simply way too much.

Dreaming is equally as intriguing when running on fumes. The dreams are short, concise and serve a purpose. They tend to be reminders of concepts that I've catalogued and left on the backburner of my subconscious. This allows for me to revisit the ideas I've disregarded in favor of the most pertinent. In a field where timeliness is a decisive factor, I've trained myself to prioritize thoughts in a hierarchy of importance, and organization has been a blessing and curse.

Although longevity should be a primary concern, it has been buried deep under many layers of drive towards streamlining the creative process, even if it means compromising the solidarity of my sleep cycle. Despite all the negative effects this bout of insomnia has brought on, at least I'm learning. Through the content analysis, I've come to a greater understanding of ethics in the media. I've also seen the effects of insomnia, and how sometimes the best work is done under the most stress, as well as the worst. And even if this experiment proves to be a failure, I can at least say with confidence that I didn't waste my time. It could always be worse.

Corey J. Hogan is the multimedia editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at lavoz@fhda.edu.

DE ANZA FACES

Instructor of the week

Poffenroth is a Natural

Aliyah Mohammed
LA VOZ WEEKLY

Getting in touch with her inner-self while belly dancing or doing yoga, or with the nature outside and around her while kayaking, biking, scuba diving and hiking, environmental science instructor, Mary Poffenroth feels a connection with nature everywhere she goes.

Poffenroth received her bachelor's degree in biology at San Jose State University and then took six months off to work full time before pursuing a masters in conservation biology with a concentration in ecology and organismal biology also at SJSU. Poffenroth has always loved nature and animals, but it was because of an inspirational teacher that she pursued biology as her major.

"It also came really easy to me. It's easier to follow the path of least resistance, so I went with what I did best," Poffenroth says.

While working toward her bachelor's degree, Poffenroth also worked at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Ames, participating in gravitations studies on rodents in order to understand how gravitation would affect humans in space. She also worked as a waitress and then, while earning her master's degree, remained in the job, while also working as an accountant for a non-profit organization and teaching a lab at SJSU.

Finishing school while working was not easy for Poffenroth, especially because she was the first in her family to attend college. Out of five siblings, two sisters and two brothers (one passed away as a child), she was also the only one to graduate from high school. However, in January 2007, not six months after she obtained her master's, she got a job with her friend and fellow instructor Tanya Diamond teaching envi-



COURTESY OF MARY POFFENROTH

Instructor Mary Poffenroth

ronmental science at De Anza. They had worked on their degrees, and college field work for their theses together.

One of the funniest experiences she had while on a field expedition was when she and Diamond "woke up at dawn to observe the bats, and one of the bats flew right up in Tanya's face, and then swooped away an inch from her face."

The environment is Poffenroth's passion - something she likes to share with her students both at De Anza and also at SJSU where she teaches human biology, and the "living world." Nature "is that spiritual part of us," she says. us," said Poffenroth, who

us," she says.

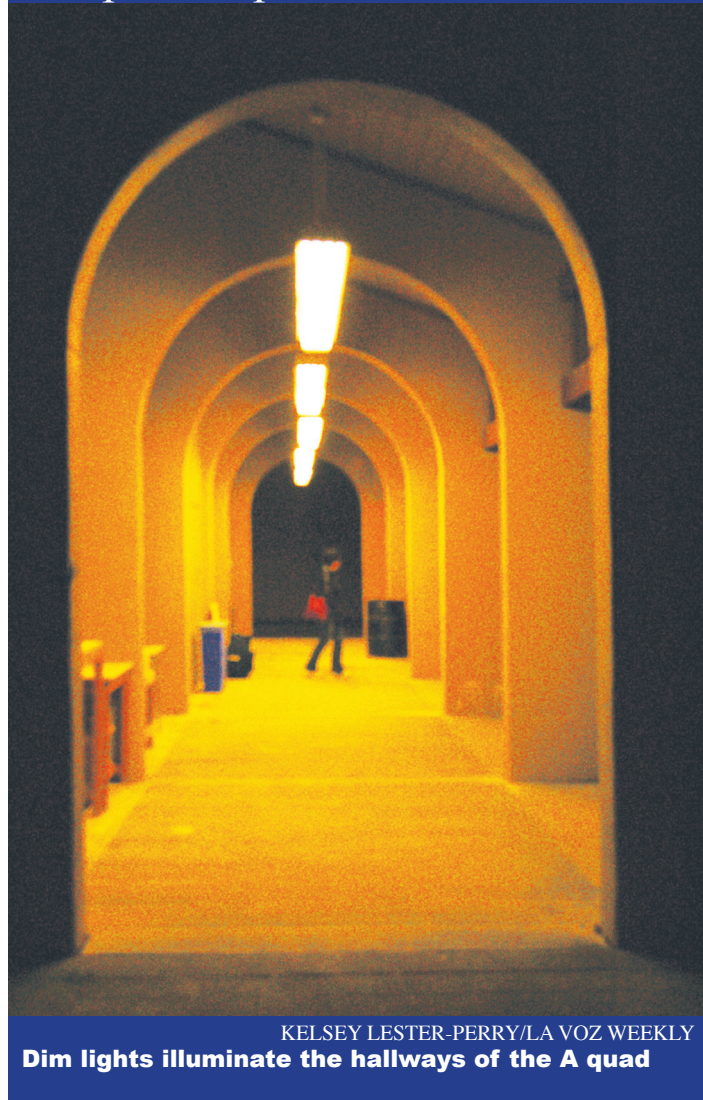
"You can't save something unless you care about it, and are close to it," Poffenroth says. In order to save the environment it is necessary to first go out and explore and connect with it.

Poffenroth is also a self-proclaimed workaholic.

"I love reading about nature, and how to create information into stories. I also love playing with my yorkie, Peanut." In her free time, she likes to watch "Supernatural" and listen to rock music from "Muse," "The Killers" and "Kings of Leon". She loves working on a college campus because a "it keeps you young."

Fellow environmental science teacher Tanya Diamond says that education, the environment and helping people are what keep Poffenroth motivated. She "loves working together she makes it very fun and inspiring. She always gives me great ideas and techniques for teaching," Diamond said. "She truly inspires and changes her students."

Campus Snapshot



Dim lights illuminate the hallways of the A quad

KELSEY LESTER-PERRY/LA VOZ WEEKLY

Aliyah Mohammed is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at lavoz@fhda.edu

Is it the economy, stupid?



Economics for Everyone

Stephen Zill
Contributing Columnist

Let's look back and give a brief evaluation of the economy during Barack Obama's first year of his first - and perhaps, only (?) - term as President. To paraphrase Ronald Reagan from some 30 years ago, is the economy better off than it was one year ago? Well, yes and no. Let's face it, especially for those out of work and or unable to find work - 40 percent of those looking have been doing so for over six months - I probably don't need to tell you things are still rather grim.

Yet there are signs of improvement. And I'm not making excuses for the Obama Administration, which in my opinion has made a few missteps on the road to recovery, but much like the partyer who overindulges the night before, our debt-driven binge has left the economy with a whopper of a hangover, hence it's not simply a matter of taking a couple of Alka Seltzers, a bit of rest, and "poof," everything's back to "normal."

Though still holding up well in terms of personal popularity, recently President Obama's approval ratings have dropped below 45 percent and his approval ratings on his handling of the economy and health care reform go from worse to worse, 41 percent and 35 percent, respectively.

Health care reform is currently in limbo and perhaps about to fall into Hades. The President's preoccupation with pushing this legislation through, took his eye off the worsening jobs picture, which the Administration underestimated the severity of. The official unemployment rate - which doesn't count underemployed workers and those not working, but not looking - still hovering around 10 percent higher than estimated if the stimulus had not been enacted!

Harkening back to one of Clinton's 1992 campaign themes, as of early 2010 the Administration's new motto is "Girls, girls, girls". No, wait, that's one of Slick Willie's own personal mottos. Umm, it's, "Jobs, jobs, jobs." That is, "job creation" is "our number one focus [for the year]," as more aggressive (aggressive enough?) steps are being taken to right the slightly improving yet still feeble jobs picture.

On a more positive news front, compared to last year around this time, the banking system, though still stingy, has seemingly stabilized, the domestic auto industry appears to have risen from the dead, industrial production on the whole is up, net job losses have slowed dramatically, core inflation remains negligible, and once again a team from the old NFL won the Super Bowl.

And in terms of real GDP, the economy has expanded for the last two quarters after contracting for four straight. Yes, it's been a rough first year when it comes to the U.S. economy for President Obama, but few called for Reagan's likeness to be carved into Mt. Rushmore during his first year or two in the Oval Office. Yet, whether or not this is indeed Obama's only term as President, ask Jimmy Carter and G. Bush Sr, is it, in the end, the economy, stupid? You betcha!

Stephen Zill is an economics professor at De Anza College.

CAMPUS CULTURE & LIFESTYLES

A day in the life of a custodial staff member

Alex Mendiola
LA VOZ WEEKLY



Deme Cabuag refills soap in the ATC building.

It is 6 a.m. on the De Anza College campus – just as the day's first custodial shift begins, yesterday's last shift is ready to go home from a long, hard night's work.

Over at the Hinson Campus Center, custodian Ha Nguyen arrives to open all the doors and to prepare the morning work for lead custodian Dennis Gates.

Gates begins his morning checking the calendar. The constantly-changing calendar is full of events that take place in the Campus Center daily. Information from the calendar tells Gates what and when things need to be done in the Center's conference rooms. Gates likes to allocate at least two hours getting ready for

events – sweeping the floors, moving walls, and setting up tables and chairs.

After Gates sees that rooms are prepared for events, he sets out on an continuous walk around the Campus Center checking deliveries, organizing custodial closets, picking up trash, scanning windows, busing tables and making sure the Center is following proper regulations. "When I'm traveling [the Campus Center], I'm cleaning too," Gates said.

During his trips around the Campus Center he is taking notes of problem areas for his custodial team. "It's important to look for possible problems. If you don't prevent it, you're going to have a problem on your hands," he said.

On one journey around the Campus Center, he already has almost a full page of notes for his team to empty certain trash bins, refill bathroom soap dispensers and sweep the floors of certain areas. "Sometimes, by the end of the day, I'll come home with some 10 pages of notes."

According to Gates, the campus center is not only one of the biggest buildings on campus, but it is also one of the busiest buildings. During the busy traffic hours from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., high volumes of people and sound challenge Gates and his team as they maneuver around the Campus Center and deal with problems.

At 11:30 a.m., Gates is called by the custodial operations manager, Emanuel DaSilva, about a spill that caused a student to slip near the entrance of the food court. After he swiftly maneuvers his way to a closet for a mop, he rushes over to quickly clean up

the spill.

Spills and messes often create a setback for Gates and his team. Gates explains that if he's not on top of everything, messes can cause serious danger. In the event of serious problems, Gates or his team put their lunch break on hold to clean.

By the end of the day, Gates and the custodial staff have demonstrated that their work is both a service to the school and a service to the students. Possible cuts in the custodial department would not only create a more hectic daily schedule for remaining custodians, but would impact students too, said DaSilva.



ALEX MENDIOLA(2)/LA VOZ WEEKLY
Dennis Gates disposes of the recycling produced by the Hinson Campus Center.

Alex Mendiola is a staff writer for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at lavoz@fhda.edu.

'Speed Dating': Romantic comedy sans comedy

Briana Bronner
LA VOZ WEEKLY

When a movie describes itself as a "hilarious romantic comedy," movie goers should expect just that, a romantic comedy – the classic Hollywood boy meets girl, boys loses girl, boy tries to get girl back by whatever means necessary scene, with some humor.

"Speed Dating" promos lied.

This film is not the typical love story. It's clearly written by men, because the film follows a male idea of "romance," which is not a refreshing breather from the average love story.

This casual, lightly Irish accented movie, set in the modern day, is more of an unfinished mystery than a romantic comedy. The characters aren't fully developed, the direction of the story isn't clear and the beginning started slowly. Instead of the movie coming full circle,

it raises too many questions and not enough laughter to be considered a comedy.

The film's star, Hugh O'Connor, ("My Left Foot," "Chocolat," "Bloom") plays James Van Der Bexton, a man approaching 30 who has just lost the love of his life, so he gets involved in speed dating without much success.

When he thinks he met a woman he can get involved with, he plays private detective to find out more about her. When the plan fails tragi-

cally, he ends up meeting a woman who he inconspicuously falls for.

With an unfamiliar Hollywood cast and an uncommon Hollywood storyline, it is no wonder that this 85-minute film wasn't pulling big advertisements on the TV screen. Instead of picturing this film for a Valentine's Day cuddle up, see it as a last resort, after television.

Briana Bronner is a staff writer for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at lavoz@fhda.edu.

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Different cultures are needed

Soheil Rezaee
LA VOZ WEEKLY

America is a nation that takes pride in its vast diversity and multicultural society due to people from around the world coming in search of the American dream. However, at times it feels like our society is culturally illiterate and often times we associate what's different as a threat to our way of life.

This is visible at the airports, all thanks to the "alertness" of the Transportation Security Agency. Too common are the stories of a traveler practicing his or her faith only to have a light bulb in a TSA operative's head go "click" and associate the cultural difference with Al-Qaeda.

Then there are the moments institutions of learning have experiences with cultural diversity. In grade school, children are taught that our society accepts the cultural differences of everyone. However, there are a few kids who are raised by intolerable bigots and are taught that it's acceptable to be hostile toward anyone that is culturally different.

A misunderstanding of cultural diversity is not limited to what immigrant communities introduce, but also toward a variety of American cultures. Americans seem to forget that the U.S. is a nation with a variety of its own cultures that have developed over

the course of history.

As Americans, we are at times culturally ignorant about ourselves. Americans in blue states assume that those from red states are ignorant NASCAR fans who are gun-toting, primitive and homophobic. On the other side, Americans from red states assume that those from blue states are latte drinking, pot smoking adulterous liberals.

At times, we fail to recognize the indigenous culture of Hawaii or the Cajun culture in Louisiana. What has made America such a diverse nation is the variety of indigenous and colonial cultures that have blended with a variety of other cultures that arrived with the families seeking the American dream.

The only way to end hostilities is to educate the youth, in middle and high schools, about the variety of cultures that make up America – in classes about cultures from all over the world.

Despite what bigots and the close-minded say, America is a multicultural society. We need to abandon the one culture myth and accept that America is one big multicultural society.

Soheil Rezaee is the investigative projects editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at lavoz@fhda.edu.

Don't tempt fate – that text can wait!

Briana Bronner
LA VOZ WEEKLY

Beep, beep – a text message is calling out for Annie to answer. She knows she shouldn't because she is driving. But she thinks to herself that it's not so bad because she has done it so many times before and believes she has it down to a science. She picks up the phone to see who it is – it's her boyfriend. She has to see what he wants, she thinks to herself. Before she knows it, in the midst of her response, she hits the car in front of her, killing the passenger.

This may sound like an extreme situation, only happening to other people and not you, but don't think for a second that is the case.

Distracted driving, such as talking on the phone without a Bluetooth, checking e-mail and texting delays a driver's reaction time. It carries the same impairment as having a blood alcohol concentration at the legal limit of .08 percent, according to a study put out by the University of Utah.

In addition, drivers using hand-held devices while driving are four times more likely to get into serious crashes, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

Drivers using hand-held devices while driving are four times more likely to get into serious crashes.

These statistics resonate with Utah resident Al Shaw. At 19, Shaw killed two men because he was texting while driving. It began as a normal day for Shaw, as he followed his usual car routine of texting and driving, when his car crossed a median and clipped another car, sending the other vehicle out into oncoming traffic. "Living with the nagging pain daily of knowing that I killed two people is terrible," said Shaw. "It never gets easier. This is something I could never forgive myself for."

Though the Annie story was fictional, Shaw's story is not. Our brains aren't trained to handle focusing on two things at once, says University of Utah researcher David Strayer, who has been studying distracted driving for 10 years.

"Many people think they're safe drivers. They think they can talk or text while driving and it's the other person who's at fault," Strayer said in an article from Oprah.com. "However, the truth of the matter is it's not where your hands are, it's where your head is."

Briana Bronner is the staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at lavoz@fhda.edu.



ILLUSTRATION BY BRANDON SELPH

Online forum decor

Let comments be dialogues, not attacks

Aliyah Mohammed
LA VOZ WEEKLY

Just scrolling through comments on the YouTube video for the tribute to Michael Jackson at the 2010 Grammy's, one can see what online forums and message boards have become. Michael Jackson's "Earth Song," a song about the earth and loving one another, has comments attacking not only the message of peace on earth, but also Michael Jackson's sexuality as well as his race.

On our own Web site (lavozdeanza.com), stories featured in the online edition become a source of discourse for our readers. The comments following a recent story about a woman who jumped off the Flint Center started off with sympathy for the woman and her family. But then comments turned.

One user's ignorant comment "you would just f--- off back to wherever you came from" and "the girl did everyone a favor," ignited a

is not one person talking – it is the sharing of two or more people's opinions and views. This is why forums were created – the early Internet forums could be described as a Web version of a newsgroup or electronic mailing lists – allowing people to post messages and comment on other messages. Developments, later on, emulated the different newsgroups or individual lists. This provided more than one forum dedicated to a particular topic.

We may not necessarily agree or feel comfortable with someone's views or opinions. However, this does not give anyone the right to attack the person. Having a civil conversation or argument about the issue is far more productive.

Let me break it down further. According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, civil means being "observant of the forms required by good breeding."

Civility often suggests little more than the avoidance of



flame war.

When a thread — or in some cases an entire forum — becomes unstable, the result is usually uncontrolled spam in the form of one line complaints, image macros or abuse of the report system. When the discussion becomes heated and sides do nothing more than complain and not accept each other's differences in point of view, the discussion degenerates into what is called a flame war.

To flame someone means to go off-topic and attack the person instead of their opinion. Likely candidates for flame wars are usually religion and socio-political topics or topics discussing pre-existing rivalries outside of the forum (e.g. rivalry between game console systems, car manufacturers or nationalities)

I find this entirely unacceptable. According to the Merriam Webster Dictionary, a forum is "a public meeting place for open discussion." A discussion

overt rudeness. So instead of name-calling and slinging mud at someone who does not agree or have the same views as you, you can maybe ask them to explain their point of view. And then tell them yours, and if nothing else, agree to disagree.

This is the United States of America – this country was founded because our founding fathers did not agree with the way the political system was run. We may not always agree with what others may say or do. However, this does not mean we should turn a place for reasoned and thought out discussion into a hotbed of hatred, discrimination and bigotry.

This is why I will repeat something my mother has said to me since I was a child, "If you have nothing nice to say, don't say it all."

Aliyah Mohammed is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at lavoz@fhda.edu.

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CABARET

a la community college

Vanessa Contreras
LA VOZ WEEKLY

“Apres Moi Le Deluge,” a modern cabaret show, is being held Feb. 26 and 27 at Gavilan College in Theatre 127.

Robert Pagan, the director of the musical, is living the theatre enthusiast’s dream. At 23, he has written, directed, and is putting together his own original live band musical.

The title of the project, “Apres Moi Le Deluge” (After Me Comes the Flood) originates from a Regina Spektor song.

Pagan says he chose to name his project after the song because the song itself enhanced the message he was trying to get across with his work.

Pagan says that out of over 100 projects he has been a part of, “this is my favorite one so far.”

The first project he directed was George Orwell’s “1984” in 2001.

The production will be held at

Gavilan College in Gilroy. Pagan chose this venue because the community didn’t get to see “enough experimental theatrical projects.”

Pagan explains that the story is about “the darkest secrets of youth that are not regularly talked about.”



These include drug abuse, depression, divorces and all the other pressures on today’s adolescents and college students.

The songs played in the performance are by some of today’s most popular artists such as Kelly Clarkson, Green Day and Regina Spektor.

The production also includes songs from such musicals as “Spring Awakening, Cabaret,” and “Once on This Island.” Pagan chose these because he wanted to production to sound “modern and relatable.”

Pagan says he gets his inspiration from theatre and young actors. He says he draws this inspiration from what he’s seen on the road as an actor.

Pagan hopes the audience can come out with respect and appreciation for the actors who put in so much work.

Pagan wants to get messages out that a lot of people are not openly talking about. Ideally, he’d like for his messages to be able to change the world.

Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m.

Be prepared: the show does have adult content and is a self-rated PG-13 performance. Admission is free but donations will be accepted.

Vanessa Contreras is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at lavoz@fhda.edu.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE “De Anza”

- Across:**
- President of De Anza
 - Learning center
 - De Anza literary publication
 - De Anza Alum who acted as Lois Lane
 - Elusive commodity on campus
 - On-campus concert venue
 - High society Spaniards
 - Health center sculpting materials
 - “La Voz” in English
 - Impending budget misfortune
 - Café in cafeteria
 - Discount on these products at the bookstore even if you don’t kiss them
- Down:**
- De Anza founding president
 - Previous name of Fujitsu planetarium
 - De Anza sibling
 - De Anza magazine
 - 2nd safest college in California
 - Number of fountains on campus
- Answers to last week’s crossword**
- Across:** 1. Sight 2. Vow 3. Candle 7. Herpes 8. Ring 10. Achy Breaky 12. love 14. lambintestines 16. pheromone 18. menageaotris
- Down:** 1. Sonnet 2. Venus 3. Cacao 4. Lupercalia 5. Rick 6. Blue Valentine 9. Sexintheicity 11. cupid 13. kiss 15. heartbeatmeasurement 17. heart

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