

# HONORS

MT - SAC 09-10

M T . S A N A N T O N I O C O L L E G E

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- HTCC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS
- MEET THE STAFF
- FEATURED FACULTY MEMBER
- ALL USA
- NEW PHI THETA KAPPA OFFICERS
- HONORS TRANSFER DINNER
- NEW LOCATION

## IMPORTANT DATES

May 13—USC NORMAN TOPPING

MAY 13 – SUMMER REGISTRATION BEGINS

June 4 – Honors Celebration Dinner

June 12 – Commencement

## Mt. SAC Honors Students win awards at HTCC Research Conference at UCI!!

On Saturday, February 28, 2009, ten Mt. SAC students joined over 165 other community college students for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Honors Transfer Council of California Research Conference at UC Irvine. This conference offers students the opportunity to present faculty mentored research papers or projects that they have done in their classes. Students present their work, and have the chance to hear what their peers from other community colleges are doing in their honors courses. Volunteers from several colleges also moderate the conference proceedings, introducing the speakers. This year, Mt. SAC had 9 presenters—**Daniel Cuesta, Julia Garcia, Yannwen Liang, Genevieve Nguyen, Elisabeth Pettygrove, Adam Prohoroff, Priscilla Sugianto, Bijal Toprani, and Xiwen Wang**—who presented their research during the three sessions; Steven **Solano** par-

ticipated as a speaker in the Issues Forum, and 6 volunteer moderators (**Cheryl Jamison, Carmina del Mundo, Israel Correa, Julie Yang, Kelly Zheng, and Joan Tseui**) attend the conference. Also attending were faculty mentors **Dr. Linda Rillorta** and **Dr. Rebecca Hatch** from Sociology, **Linda Diaz**, Honors Academic Advisor and **Carolyn Kuykendall**, Director of Honors. **Xiwen Wang** and **Shirley Sui** were each winners of a \$300 HTCC Student Exceptional Achievement Award and **Priscilla Sugianto** won an award for Best Abstract (\$400), Best Poster (\$150), and a \$500 UCI Research Grant which she can use if she attends UCI next year. Next year's conference will be in early March and interested students should check in the Honors Center in late November for information on how to submit a paper to this fantastic conference.



Priscilla Sugianto

## Honors trip to the Getty Museum

On Friday, May 1st, approximately 10 honors students and faculty had a special guided tour and lunch at the Getty. The tour featured a discussion of 18th and 19th century art.

MEET THE STAFF



**Carolyn Kuykendall,**  
Director of Honors, has worked in Honors education since 1994 and is actively involved in state and national honors education programs. She has a Master of Arts degree in Literature from Chapman University. Her responsibilities include coordinating the application and admissions process for Honors, coordinating and developing Honors courses, and planning Honors events.

specializes in working with Honors and Transfer bound students. Linda, who has a MA in Counseling from Cal State Dominguez Hills, is a Mt. SAC institution, and has been helping students to realize their educational goals for over twenty years. She is a part of many campus events and is one of the people who really make Mt. SAC a community. Linda is available between 10 and 4 Monday through Thursday and the rest of the week she can be found in the Advising Center.



**Linda Diaz, Honors Educational Adviser,**



**Susan Baker, Honors Secretary,**

has been with the Honors Program for about 10 years. Her experience and helpful nature allow her to answer almost any question you have about the program. She maintains the list of Active Honors Students, so give her your contact information if it changes.



**Rebecca Hatch, Ph.D., Faculty Coordinator.**

Dr. Hatch has taught Sociology at Mt. SAC since 2000 and teaches honors courses in sociology. She earned her Ph.D. from USC. She also serves as an advisor for Phi Theta Kappa (PTK).



**Alexis Mesko,** is a former honors student at Mt. Sac and here to help you with whatever you need.

FEATURED FACULTY MEMBER

**John Brantingham**— English, Literature, and Journalism

Professor Brantingham is a former Mt. SAC student who loved his English professors here. He earned his BA in English from Cal Poly and an MFA in Creative Writing, Fiction, from CSULB. He has published “hundreds of poems, stories, and essays in America, Canada, and England” and has been nominated for three

Pushcart Awards— awards that honor the best work published by a publisher during the year. He has won a Pearl Award for fiction and his work has been read by Garrison Keillor on National Public Radio.

The English Department, with the leadership of Professor Brantingham, held its first Creative Writing Retreat on campus May 1-3. This Retreat brought some famous writers to campus to

interact with Mt. SAC students, giving them a chance to talk to and work with professionals in the field of writing.

Professor Brantingham has been teaching in Honors English for most of his career. His “mission is to do for my students what my professors did for me, to help them see that their lives have unlimited potential, and that they can do more than they expected.”

He is devoted to his craft and to his students and he loves that honors students always go beyond the minimum in terms of work and imagination. He concludes: “I love that they [honors students] are willing to learn and grow, and it’s exciting to work with a person with that kind of vision.”

# Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) NEWS!!!



Congratulations to **Adam Prohoroff** for being named to the First Team, All-California Academic Team and for being selected to be a member of the First Team, ALL-USA Academic Team this year. Twenty five students are selected for the All-California First Team honors based on outstanding academic performance and service to the college and community. Adam received his All-California Award in Sacramento on March 23. He was accompanied by **Dr. Ginny Burley**, Vice President of Instruction, and **Dr. Rebecca Hatch**, Faculty Coordinator for Honors. Adam received his All-USA Award in Phoenix, Arizona on April 5 at the American Association of Community Colleges Conference. He was honored by **Dr. John Nixon**, President and CEO of Mt. San Antonio Col-

lege for his contributions to the campus community and his academic excellence. Adam also won a stipend of \$2500, a medal, and publication of his honor in USA Today. **Carolyn Kuykendall**, Director of Honors, accompanied Adam to Phoenix.



**Bijal Toprani** was the recipient of a Third Team All-California Award, presented in Sacramento on March 23. She was one of only 25 awardees in the state to receive Third Team recognition. Overall, nearly 1500 students applied for the All-State and All-USA Awards, so Bijal and Adam are certainly to be congratulated for their fine service to Mt. SAC and for their excellent academic achievement.

In mid April, **Stephen Crawford**, **Carmina del Mundo**, **Brian Santa Maria**, **Moly Garneau-Reid**, and **Adam Prohoroff** attended the PTK International Convention in Grape-

vine, Texas. **Linda Diaz**, Honors Program Academic Advisor and **Carolyn Kuykendall**, Director of Honors attended the convention with the MT. SAC students. **Dr. Stephen Runnebohm**, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, was honored this year as an Administrator of Distinction for Phi Theta Kappa, the community college honor society.



During the month of April, PTK members are sponsoring a **food drive on campus** to help Second Harvest Food Bank. Please bring donations of canned goods to the Honors Center in Building 26A-1680. Also, Induction for new members was held on April 24.

## New Phi Theta Kappa Officers

Congratulations to the new 2009-2010 Phi Theta Kappa Officers!

**President**—Lisa Bastio

**VP of Scholarship**—Karthik Keni

**VP of Leadership** — Amit Bhanderi

**VP of Service** — Martin Medrano

**VP of Fellowship** — Brian Santa Maria

**Publicity** — Carmina Del Mundo

**Fundraising** — Brenda Diaz

**Secretary** — Kaitlin Boyko

**Finance** — Jialiang Mo

**Historian** — Kayla Godinez



## HONORS TRANSFER DINNER – COMING JUNE 4TH!

The honors transfer dinner is for honors scholars and honors faculty to celebrate academic achievement — be sure to reserve your space in the honors center today!

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
HONORS.MTSAC.EDU

**HONORS**  
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Congratulations to Wendy Zhen, our honors logo contest winner!

**MT. SAN ANTONIO  
COLLEGE**

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Honors Program  
1100 N Grand Avenue  
Walnut, CA 91789  
(909) 594-5611 EXT: 4665  
honors.mtsac.edu



Stop by building 26A room 1680 to check out our new honors office! The honors center is open Monday through Thursday from 10AM—4PM

## PHOTO GALLERY

