Business Infrastructure Incubation
Orange County Business Council President Lucy Dunn served as co-host to a discussion regarding business infrastructure incubation. System Office Vice Chancellor of Workforce & Economic Development Van Ton-Quinlivan and Spectrum Knowledge executive Dr. Vu Pham were with us to discuss how Orange County can create the infrastructure for business incubation focused on professions of the future. The intent of the regional discussion was to create a concept to build more entrepreneurial and emerging business elements for our service area that supports the needs of business and provides career pathways for students. It was a lively discussion and I am excited to get started on this new approach to workforce development.

Coastline Academic Senate Meeting
I would like thank Dr. Pedro Gutierrez and the Coastline Academic Senate for including me in their meeting this week. I felt that it was a great discussion about the requirements and deadlines for accreditation. I am appreciative of the team and their willingness to come together to learn about the requirements and the urgency required to meet the deadline. Further, I was able to have an open discussion regarding Coastline and its unique role within the District. Being non-traditional, Coastline is home to innovation and a great asset to our District. We are so fortunate to have such a powerful mix of tradition and innovation within our own college family. I look forward to continuing these types of discussions at Coastline and throughout the District.

Measure C/M Citizens’ Oversight Committee
This week marked the final meeting of the Measure C Citizens’ Oversight Committee (COC) and the beginning of Measure M. I would like to thank Trustee Lorraine Prinsky and Trustee Jerry Patterson for attending the meeting and providing congratulations and thanks to our COC and the Measure C Programming Team. Measure C was the beginning of new campus structures and infrastructure. Measure M will continue with a refined mission of rebuilding and rehabbing for the next generation of teaching and learning. Each member of the Board of Trustees, the COC and the Programming Team received a small award noting the successful completion of Measure C and the over $400-million invested in our campuses. Thank you all for your contribution to the future!

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Focus Day Marks Beginning of Measure M Campus Construction

Representatives from Orange Coast College and the Coast Community College District officially broke ground for construction of the college’s $35 million Interdisciplinary Complex during Focus Day activities this week. The building, funded by the Measure M Bond, will open in fall 2015 and will house facilities for computer sciences, math and business.

It is just the first allocation of $698 million approved by voters last fall for a variety of campus improvements in the Coast Community College District. Also on the drawing boards at OCC are new facilities for Literature and Languages, Social Sciences, a new chemistry building and student center. OCC’s share is expected to be $435 million.

Focus Day activities also included ribbon cutting for the college’s $4.8 million Music Department renovation, which included $2.2 million in funds from the District’s earlier Measure C bond issue. The Music Department upgrade features a new recital hall constructed in former rehearsal space. The new hall has fixed seating for 77 people, stage lighting and state-of-the-art acoustics, according to Joe Poshek, dean of Visual and Performing Arts. In addition, all rehearsal spaces have been completely redesigned and acoustically adapted for their specific functions.

In addition, the college also purchased eight new Steinway grand pianos, six upright practice pianos and 26 digital practice keyboards. The Music Department also redesigned its music library for both instrumental and choral music. The renovation also included improved heating and air conditioning in classroom facilities.

OCC broke ground on the Interdisciplinary Complex on Friday. From left are Dennis Harkins, David Grant, Bob Mendoza, Lorraine Prinsky, Mary Hornbuckle, Jim Moreno and Doug Benoit.
New Director Brings Years of Experience to OCC Theatre

Orange Coast College’s newest theatre arts instructor will bring decades of experience to the Drama Lab stage when he directs students in the fall production of “The Elephant Man.”

William Mittler, one of the founding members of Fullerton’s renowned STAGES theatre, is mostly known for his playwrighting, but he is also a theatre tech, director and actor. In 2005 he began teaching classes at Fullerton College, and now an instructor at six community colleges, including Golden West and OCC.

“Elephant Man,” a Tony Award-winning play written in the 70s by Bernard Pomerance, was one of the first plays Mittler ever saw on stage. He plans to make OCC’s production “feel more modern” for audiences who “expect things to move a little faster.” He plans to include live music and shadow puppetry using four projectors. The performance is recommended for mature audiences. The play will run on OCC’s Drama Lab stage November 8-17.

As a director, Mittler said he emphasizes communication between the characters. His goal is to “get actors to speak to each other, and allow the actors to discover the words, how to listen and respond.”

Shortly before the semester began, Mittler traveled to New York, where his adaptation of the Mary Shelley novel, “Frankenstein” will be produced in 2015. His play is set in America. Mittler researched the author’s original work, which is a thinly disguised “coming to terms” with her suspicion that her husband was having an affair.


He lives in Anaheim Hills with his wife, Tina, who manages the Curtis Theatre in Brea.

OCC Slates Vet Net Ally Training for Faculty and Staff on September 27

OCC Student Services will host a half-day Vet Net Ally Training on Friday, September 27th, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Student Center Lounge. Interested faculty and staff members should sign up by Friday, September 20th, by email to skilaykocruz@occ.cccd.edu.

Marshall Thomas, director of Veterans Services at California State University, Los Angeles, will lead the workshop, which is sponsored by the California Community Colleges Mental Health Grant.

The four-hour seminar is designed to raise awareness about the unique diversity student veterans bring to college campuses. Faculty and staff who attend the seminar will receive a VET NET Ally logo to display in their office, classroom or working area to let student veterans know that they are sensitive to their needs and prepared to act as an “ally” to help them succeed.