Forty years ago founding Cabrillo President Bob Swenson and Vice President of Instruction Floyd Younger began a tradition of teaching excellence by hiring a fresh crop of enthusiastic and talented instructors. That first generation of teachers helped create the hallmark that would define Cabrillo in later, and sometimes leaner years—the hallmark of instructional excellence and innovation in program development. Thanks to several factors including the availability of Partnership For Excellence funds, a record number of state and federal instructional grants, the strong fund-raising capacity of our Foundation, and of course the passage of Measure C, the college is now in a better position to support instructional excellence and innovation. As a result we are experiencing a teaching and learning renaissance under the leadership of Vice President of Instruction Claire Biancalana. This fall the college has successfully launched an impressive list of new projects and programs designed to improve teaching and learning. These projects engage the talents of faculty and staff across disciplines, and are infusing our classrooms with new energy.

Cabrillo has never rested on its many laurels, and we can not slow down now in this regard. Our students are coming to us with greater needs, and we are sending them on to jobs or universities that are demanding increasingly higher level competencies. I believe that Cabrillo is well-positioned to meet these challenges. In addition to new funding sources, we have excellent leadership in both our instructional and student services areas, and among our faculty. As part of Cabrillo’s luminous 40 year history, we have inherited the privilege of ensuring that future generations of students continue to reach their potential through excellence in the classroom. To this end, each of us plays an important part in making Cabrillo today a truly great educational resource for generations to come.
TRANSFORMING INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICE TO RAISE STUDENT COMPETENCY: THE LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT MODEL

This summer seventeen Cabrillo College faculty members began an innovative yearlong pilot project aimed at improving student achievement. The project has been funded in part by a generous $75,000 grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

I’d like to recognize the dedicated faculty who took two weeks from their summer vacation to participate in this innovative project including project director and English instructor Marcy Alancaig, Culinary Arts and Hospitality Instructor Eric Carter, Faculty Senate President and Dental Hygiene Instructor Rebecca Arnesty, Nursing Instructor Debora Bone, History Instructor Rosemary Brogan, Philosophy Instructor Nancy Brown, Mathematics Instructor Sally Dauphin, Psychology Instructor David Douglass, Early Childhood Education Instructor Ophelia Garcia, Disabled Students Program and Services Instructor Dick Griffis, Computer Science Instructor Steve Hodges, Mathematics Instructor Sue Holt, Medical Assistant Instructor Charlotte Jenson, Computer Science Instructor Jojo McCloud, Political Science Instructor Rory O’Brian, English Instructor David Sullivan, and Chemistry Instructor, Harry Ungar.

The Learner Outcomes project will be implemented in three phases beginning this semester. We can look forward to spring 2000 for the published summaries of the new effective strategies for defining and assessing learner outcomes.

Cabrillo’s New Assessment Center

Our new model Assessment Center is located on the first floor of the library/learning resources building. The center offers many physical and technical improvements. Students no longer have to schedule appointments in advance, or be subjected to sitting for hours through a timed test. In addition, the new center’s technology eliminates the need for number two pencils, scantron cards, and paper. The testing software utilizes dynamic branching capabilities, which means that as questions are answered correctly, the test becomes increasingly more difficult. Our center has attracted numerous site visits from other colleges and is a state model.

FAST TRACK TO WORK

I am very proud of the progress being made by Cabrillo’s Fast Track To Work Program. The program has been recognized by the State Chancellor’s Office as a model for other community colleges. The collaboration between Cabrillo and outside agencies has resulted in the addition of substantial new services for Cabrillo students including two on-site HRA eligibility workers, a full-time mental health counselor for Fast Track students, and a full-time job developer who helps our students find employment.

Program Manager Dena Taylor, Co-ordinator Leticia Gonzalez Ponce and staff have done an outstanding job helping students through the complicated transition from welfare to work.
EXPANDED CISCO ACADEMY
Starting this fall Cisco Systems has asked Cabrillo to expand its Cisco Academy and become the premier training center for Northern California, from Fresno to the Oregon border. This significant coup can be attributed to Computer Science Instructor Rick Graziani's outstanding efforts as the Regional Cisco Networking Academy Director. Currently, Cabrillo is training nine other schools in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties. This semester over 150 students are enrolled in Cisco Networking Academy courses, and the waiting lists are long. Rick gave a recent presentation on the "Curriculum in a Box" that he developed to train other Cisco academy instructors at the International Cisco Networking Conference in Houston, Texas. His model is being used at regional academies across the United States and in Great Britain.

LADDERS
The LADDERS project has grown out of Cabrillo's Fast Track to Work program and further endeavors to address the challenges of Welfare reform. The goal of the LADDERS Project is to create a comprehensive, integrated workforce preparation system that provides the means for Cabrillo students and county residents to move toward economic independence. Program Director Rachel Spencer is providing leadership for this innovative new project.

NEW ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM
The State Chancellor's Office has given approval for our Drafting Technology Program to be reorganized as the new Engineering Technology Program. Program Director and Instructor Gary Marcocci based his recommendations for the program change on 25 site visits to major employers of engineering technicians in Santa Cruz County.

NEW HUMAN SERVICES OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM
This fall we have launched the new Human Services Occupational Program. This new program will prepare students for work in the human services area. Dean of Instruction Rock Pfotenhauer and Division Chair Mary Cardenas spearheaded this effort by bringing together faculty from neighboring community colleges to develop the curriculum for the new program and worked with employers to develop the learning outcomes.

ECE MODEL DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM
Our ECE department has received a $200,000 grant from the California Department of Education to enhance facilities so that child care workers around the San Francisco and Monterey Bay areas can learn the newest ideas in early childhood education. The grant was written by ECE Instructor Janis Keyser, who is filling in as Children's Center Director this semester.
CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Thirty-nine construction projects were completed last year including new roofs on most buildings, replacement of the old louvered windows in classrooms, new paint, heating repairs, water main valve replacement, parking lot repairs and resurfacing, new multimedia classrooms, a new weight room, and general improvements to the college infrastructure among others. In addition, more than 40 separate projects currently are under way, ranging from rebuilding our swimming pool to installing elevators, and remodeling the 800 Building to erecting new modular structures. Commencing this year major construction projects include the Performing Arts Instructional Center, the new Watsonville Center, rerouting Cabrillo College Drive, a new campus entrance, and second levels in student parking lots A and B. Altogether over the next 10 years, we will invest approximately $100 million on the Aptos campus, and over $10 million in the Watsonville and San Lorenzo/Scotts Valley areas.

I am not aware of any other community college in the country making this kind of investment in their campus. There are many challenges inherent in managing multiple projects of this size and scope. We are very fortunate to have a skilled team leading this enormous effort. I’d like to thank Pegi Ard, Vice President of Business Services for her outstanding leadership, and Facilities Development Manager Michael Maas, and Facilities Development Supervisor Joe Nugent. While these improvements are needed, the reality of living in a construction zone will be an ongoing challenge for all of us. A great deal of planning and consideration is going into making these transitions as smoothly as possible. It is inevitable that some level of discomfort will be experienced by all. I ask for your patience. We all may be called on to make an occasional sacrifice in our personal convenience in order to accommodate the transformation.

800 Building Construction
Catalyst to congratulate the college and community on this successful venture. History Instructor Sandy Lydon presented a brief and entertaining history of Cabrillo as only he could do.

Rachel Mayo, Watsonville Center Director, has done an excellent job of laying the groundwork in the community for the new center. Furnishing and equipping the new Watsonville Center will be a challenge. None of the state, federal or local bond funds we have received can be used to pay for equipment or furnishings. In order to meet this need, the Cabrillo College Foundation will launch a $920,000 fund-raising campaign in order to purchase the necessary equipment for the new center including computers, science laboratory, multimedia equipment, and other furnishings.

We are very fortunate to have two extraordinary Chairs for this campaign effort Marshal Delk, Monterey Bank President and Ann Saldo, former Watsonville Mayor, educator, and longtime Cabrillo supporter.

WATSONVILLE GROUND-BREAKING

On September 14, 1999, exactly 40 years since Cabrillo first opened its doors to students at temporary quarters in the old Watsonville High School building, Cabrillo hosted a Ground-breaking/demolition ceremony at the site for the new Watsonville Center. Approximately 70 guests attended the event including founding Cabrillo President Bob Swenson, Founding Board Members Hal Hyde and a host of other dignitaries and media representatives.

Watsonville Mayor, Oscar Rios, gave an inspirational speech regarding the importance of Cabrillo to the revitalization of the downtown area. Cabrillo Board member Rebecca Garcia shared her personal experience of how difficult it was as a young Cabrillo student and Watsonville resident to negotiate the miles and cultural differences between Watsonville and Aptos in the '60s.

Economic Development Agency representative Dianne Church was on hand to congratulate the college and community on this successful venture. History Instructor Sandy Lydon presented a brief and entertaining history of Cabrillo as only he could do.

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ACCOLADES

Jane Gregorius, VAPA Instructor, has been selected as one of two Distinguished Artists of the Year by the Santa Cruz Art League. An exhibition of her work will be held through November 26 at the Art League.

Executive Assistant to the President Cheryl Zozaya has been appointed to the Civil Service Commission of Santa Cruz County. The commission ensures that merit employment principles are followed for employees within the civil services system.

Felix Robles, Flac Division Chair, completed an intensive Strategics Program this summer offered by the Cambridge Group for the American Association of School Administrators. Felix also participated in two summer-intensive workshops with the League for Innovation on “Creating Visions for Innovation” and “Service Learning: The Right Tool for Learner Centered Teaching.”

Over the summer, the UCSC Educational Partnership Center held a reception to honor those who have helped strengthen UCSC’s partnership with colleges and schools in the area. Cabrillo recipients of Educational Service Awards were President John Hurd, Deans Bette Hirsch and Rock Pfotenauer and Schools Outreach Coordinator Renata Funke. These awards were granted in honor of service in the collaborative effort to improve education in the region.

The Modern Language Association (MLA) Executive Council has appointed Bette Hirsch as Chair of the Advisory Committee on Foreign Languages and Literatures for the term 1999-2000. The MLA is a professional organization for college English and foreign language instructors. This committee has never before had a chair from a community college. The chair has been always someone from a university.

Harry Ungar, Chemistry Instructor, published an article in the May issue of Syllabus. Syllabus is a magazine that is published monthly and focuses on the role of computers in education. The article, titled “Molecular Visualization,” appears in the “Science and Medicine” section of the magazine.

Susan Brown, Music Instructor, has been chosen once again as an ASCAP Award recipient. These awards made by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, reflect a continuing commitment to assist and encourage writers of serious music.

FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS (continued from page 4)

were given to Chemistry Instructor Dale Scoggin, Equal Opportunity Program and Services Director David Trevino, and Early Childhood Education Instructor Julie Olsen Edwards. Dale Scoggin received his award for the ongoing commitment and resourcefulness, and for his heroic efforts in overseeing the completion of the 600 building remodel. For her work developing the Rosmarie Griener Peace Library, and her tireless efforts to promote joy in diversity and anti-bias awareness, Julie Olsen Edwards also received an award. David Trevino was nominated as one of Cabrillo’s unsung heroes having worked quietly and unpretentiously helping students succeed.