



*Mt. San Jacinto College*



# the TALON

PREMIERE ISSUE

Established 2012

1 November 2012

## THE FUTURE IS NOW

MSJC OPENS HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING

*Emily McKellar*

EDITOR IN CHIEF <<<<

The Sept. 14 grand opening of Mt. San Jacinto College's Humanities & Social Sciences Building did more than cut the ribbon to the 34,000-square-foot facility—it also celebrated a more accessible and flexible future for students.

"These buildings have a lot of built-in flexibility," Dr. Richard Rowley, dean of Academics, said in a speech during the ceremony. "We know we're going to grow."

According to attendance records, MSJC has experienced a 75 percent increase in enrollment over a 10-year period ending in 2009. A year later, the college received an \$11.2 million state-funded grant to accommodate the influx of new students.

Now the Humanities & Social Sciences building, also known as the 400 building, fits large classes with ease compared to the insufficient seating and desk space of the aging portables.

"We brought in chairs and tables that can be configured in different ways, so that actual adult students can use them," said Rowley.

The two-story building holds classes for the majors of English, political science, sociology, psychology, anthropology, communications and more. In total there are eight classrooms, seven science and computer laboratories, two assembly rooms, 16 offices and meeting rooms.

GKK Works, a consultant firm from Irvine, designed the building in collaboration with various MSJC faculty members and



A SPOTLIGHT ON OUR FUTURE

PHOTO COURTESY OF MSJC

administrators.

"Paramount flexibility is the most important thing for future changes," said Chris Kay, formerly with GKK Works. He explained that architects wanted to design a building that

*"Paramount flexibility is the most important thing for future changes."*

*Chris Kay*

would function for different students, different classes and different technologies throughout the years.

Although the building was opened for the fall semester, some parts are still being completed and will be opened within the next year.

One part of the building that is still in the works is the Communications Center. The spacious room located on the second floor will serve as a media library, tutoring center and a

place for students to practice speeches.

Dr. Suzanne Uhl, associate professor and co-chair of the Communications Department, described this center as being her "baby." She researched over 20 communication labs across the country and interviewed their directors in order to help design a state-of-the-art communications center.

One of the unique features of this lab is its "smartboard" technology, located in one of the center's four "breakout" rooms, where students can practice giving speeches.

In this particular room, students will be able to plug in their flash drives, film themselves giving a speech on a built-in camera, and then put their speech online or take it home to be analyzed.

Uhl said this new technology will help her cover more ground in her classes. "With all four breakout rooms in use, I can get done in one hour what takes me two to three weeks

SEE HUMANITIES PAGE 3 >>>>

facebook

facebook.com/msjctalon

INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE TALON?  
EMAIL MSJCTALON@GMAIL.COM

1



Dear Faculty and Students of Mt. San Jacinto College,

We are pleased to present our new student-run publication, THE TALON, produced by the Eagle's Eye Journalism Club on the Menifee Valley campus.

THE TALON is a platform for MSJC and the community that has been established to promote a diverse student voice, involvement from the college, and creative collaboration.

Since our college does not offer journalism courses, our club would like to reach out to as many contributors as possible. We are looking for articles to print in our news, features, sports, and opinion sections.

We are open to all student and faculty submissions, such as club columns, political articles, features on outstanding students and professors, budget updates, MSJC news and events, student life pieces, and more. Please submit a request prior to writing your article, as we cannot guarantee all submissions will be published.

We will publish THE TALON once more this semester, December 3rd. The paper will be distributed on the Menifee Valley and San Jacinto campuses. **The submission deadline for our next issue is November 21st.**

The Eagle's Eye encourages everyone to contribute to THE TALON. As MSJC's first student news publication in a decade, our goal is to represent the student voice as much as possible. Please note the submission deadline for our next issue is approaching fast, so please get in touch with us as soon as possible.

If you would like to attend a meeting, we meet every first and third Friday in room 911, and every second and fourth Friday in room 851. All meetings are held from 12:30 to 2 p.m. on the Menifee Valley campus. We will also be represented at every Inter-Club Council meeting (ICC). Our office is located in room 2007.

For questions and contributions (articles, photos, advertisements, etc.) email us at [msjctalon@gmail.com](mailto:msjctalon@gmail.com). Also feel free to stay updated on our club at [facebook.com/msjctalon](https://facebook.com/msjctalon).

Thank you,

*Emily McKellar*

Emily McKellar  
Eagle's Eye President  
Editor-In-Chief of THE TALON

to accomplish in class," she said.

While the communications center will not be open until next fall, the anthropology lab will be ready for students to use in the spring semester. With this laboratory and the others, MSJC will be able to offer new courses in forensic anthropology and archaeology.

"This lab will allow students to be more hands on," said Erik Ozolins, associate professor and chair of the Anthropology Department. "We weren't able to offer physical anthropology labs before, but now we have the space to do more activities."

The accommodating features of the 400 building also help students get involved in extracurricular activities. One of the building's assembly rooms will be used for the Visiting Writers Series, where invited authors will read

some of their work and answer questions from students.

"We won't have to struggle for space anymore," said Rickianne Rycraft, associate professor and chair of the English Department. "It's nice, cozy, and the perfect environment for students to meet writers."

Students showed guests around the new building after the grand opening ceremonies. Honors mentors, such as David Torres, were the designated tour guides. They pointed out additional features of the building, such as its energy efficiency, sustainability, and its drought-tolerant "Xeriscape" garden.

"I love the new building, its overall design and its practical application to the many fields it serves," said Torres, a clinical psychology major. He is taking Honors Cultural

Anthropology in the new building, but said, "when the Communications Center opens and get staffed, that will perhaps be my favorite room to utilize."

The Friday night festivities also took place during the MSJC Foundation's Sunset Jazz and Wine Fest, which raises money for school programs, student scholarships and faculty mini-grants.

Mary Lucas, president of the Mt. San Jacinto College Foundation Board, attended the festival to see the new building and expose the community to the foundation. She and her husband were students 47 years ago when only the San Jacinto campus existed.

"It was just four buildings, dirt and tumbleweed," Lucas said of the original campus. "Now when I come onto this campus, I think the kids are so lucky."

## OPINION

# Candidate vying for Congress talks education at MSJC

**Jeffery Patterson**  
PUBLIC RELATIONS AND  
POLITICAL SCIENCE COLUMNIST >>>>

As college students, the one thing we value is education, but how can we make certain that our value in education is protected, upheld, and taken care of?

We can vote on policy and politicians that can affect our lives.

Dr. Raul Ruiz is one of those individuals. A Democrat, he is campaigning against Mary Bono Mack, R-Palm Springs, for Congress in the 36th District of California, which covers a vast portion of the Mt. San Jacinto College District.

Recently, Ruiz spoke to a group of students and senior citizens in the theatre of MSJC's campus in San Jacinto.

During Ruiz's speech he stated, "There are three necessities to achieve our dreams to progress as a community, and as a district: jobs with dignity and a livable wage, education for our youth, and healthcare."

Those in the audience raised questions about education, cuts to programs and grants and tuition increases.

Students who listened to his speech were most concerned about education in regards to programs being cut and tuition increases that have made it more difficult to get the education that is primary for their future.

Ruiz responded to their concerns by saying, "It bothers me because I would not be standing in front of you if it wasn't for the educational opportunities I had."

Ruiz then got specific and talked about a proposal he had for education.

"One of the programs that I will propose is a loan-to-scholarship program that will allow you to go out, get your education and start your career," he said.

**"There is only so much you can do through the books."**

**Dr. Raul Ruiz**

This pipeline program would provide money, internships and summer programs to students who already know what they want to major in and what kind of career they want.

"Initially your financial aid is a low-interest loan, but when you finish through that pipeline program and go back into an underserved community, then that loan turns into a scholarship," Ruiz said.

A program like this would be a great fit for students who begin college and know exactly what they want to major in and what their

career will be, but this is often not the case.

Most students discover who they are by taking a variety of classes and being exposed to different disciplines. A pipeline program would limit this opportunity because anything outside the program would be unavailable.

On the other hand, all students could potentially benefit from this type of program if they were allowed to join at any point in their educational career. Once a student figures out what they plan on doing with their life, this program would help them graduate with a career.

In the meantime, Ruiz advised students to get more involved in their educational careers.

"There is only so much you can do through the books," he said. "The majority of your learning will be from experience and participating in the process."



POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR OMAR HASSAN WITH CANDIDATE DR. RAUL RUIZ AFTER HIS SPEECH TO STUDENTS ON SJC.



by *Sandi M. Colby*

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

# Meet Your President

The district of Mt. San Jacinto Community College can be described as many things, but easy to manage isn't one of them. With a student population significantly exceeding 20,000 over a territory of 1,700 square miles, Superintendent/President Dr. Roger Schultz must be diligently on top of things.

Fortunately, he enjoys the challenge and excitement of working in a college district that sometimes feels more like four or five districts in one. Schultz prefers to stay busy, "bouncing around on different projects," such as creating courses that range from automotive repair to viticulture, and supporting programs like Performing Arts and Biotechnology. One of his favorite aspects of MSJC is the diversity within the region and student population.

Schultz joined the MSJC family in 2001 after receiving a master's degree in Communications Management from the University of Southern California. He jokes that he should be chasing stories as an investigative reporter or working as an executive for a network. He never planned on becoming president of a community college. He also has a doctorate in Philosophy/Leadership for

Higher Education from Capella University.

Schultz's first exposure working at a college was when he accepted a job as a USC outreach recruiter. After that, he worked for Long Beach City College in several positions, including student services and dean of admissions. He enjoyed these roles because it allowed him personal interaction with students, something he really loves but gets less of now that he is an administrator. Schultz does, however, get to help students "make their dreams come true" and "transform lives for the better." He admitted that hearing graduation speeches and student success stories always brings a tear to his eye.

As president, Schultz wears numerous hats. He is a "facilitator of creativity and innovation" and a leader who mobilizes the college faculty to "support the mission of educating and preparing students for life." His official job description is to "enforce the policies of the board and ensure that we meet the statutory requirements as a state educational institution in accreditation," but Schultz also operates as a school cheerleader, motivator and amateur psychologist.

He wants to make sure he and the entire staff of the college does what is best for current and future students. Schultz also believes in leadership by example. He is just as likely to be seen helping set up at school functions as he is leading an important strategic planning session.

Kathy Donnell, director of the superintendent and president's office, describes Schultz as the most "caring people person" she has ever met. She also pointed out that he "really wants everyone to have a say in what goes on (at MSJC)," because he makes his decision based on what is best for the whole school.

Since Schultz's number one priority is students, he is working on ways to become more accessible to them. One way he hopes to be more interactive is through an informal lunch meeting held every four to six weeks with the Student Government Association and interested students. Currently, Schultz is only available to students who make an appointment to see him and to clubs that invite him to their meetings, depending on his schedule. Outside of appointments, he appreciates it when students approach him while he is walking around campus.

ADVERTISEMENT



## Pizza and the Meaning of Life



Explore questions of God and life in a non-judgmental atmosphere

We welcome all students, faculty and staff of MSJC

JOIN US FRIDAYS 12 noon to 2:00 p.m., Room 503 for...

FREE Pizza and Soda (1<sup>st</sup> come 1<sup>st</sup> served) and



A respectful discussion of the basic teachings of

## WORLD RELIGIONS



led by  
**Stephanie Lape, M.A., MDiv.**  
Professor of Comparative  
Religions



# PTK Saves Lives

Phi Theta Kappa teamed up with LifeStream to collect 202 pints of blood during Mt. San Jacinto College's Welcome Back Barbeques held in August.

LifeStream collected 116 pints on the San Jacinto campus, and 86 pints on the Menifee Valley campus.

The total amount of blood donated has been estimated to save 23 lives.

"The blood drive has always been PTK's baby," said club president Sarah Stebbings. "PTK's been around for so long, and it's amazing that we were able to break the record for the most pints collected."

Due to the success of these blood drives, PTK is planning on bringing three blood mobiles to both campuses next semester.

"Every year, LifeStream and Red Cross have been getting less and less donations, so hopefully we'll be able to break another record," said Stebbings.

The need for blood donations has increased exponentially over the years. More than 500 donations of life-saving blood are needed each

day to meet emergency needs in Southern California alone, but less than 38 percent of the U.S. population is deemed eligible to give blood.

Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh 110 pounds or more. College students are ideal donors because of their age range and health, so PTK hopes that more students will consider giving blood.

"The college age group, from 18 to 30, is typically difficult to mobilize and get them involved to think about someone else," said Shayla Esarey, public relations officer for PTK. "Students have the tendency to get tunnel vision."

Once donations are received, all of the blood goes directly to people in need. Esarey hopes that this fact will mobilize more potential donors.

"It does help people in very real ways," she said.

PTK is a chapter of a renowned community college honors society that has been present at MSJC for over 15 years.



"What's so great about PTK is that we strive to get as many students involved with their school and community," said Stebbings. "We host events like our holiday food and toy drive and the blood drives."

PTK supports the college by promoting excellence in academics, fellowship, community leadership and service.

"Statistically, the student success rate is higher when students feel connected to their school and community when they have a support network," said Esarey. "I think that's best achieved by becoming involved."



LEARN HOW TO JOIN AT [WWW.MSJC.COM/PTK](http://WWW.MSJC.COM/PTK)

YOUR 2012 BETA DELTA OMEGA OFFICERS

TM

pelicanbayshu.com

Art from Within

Clothing

Find us at [facebook.com/PelicanBaySHUinc](http://facebook.com/PelicanBaySHUinc) and Like our page!

TM

# OPINION N

## Proposition 38

### *Gilbert Van Buskirk* and the State's Education CONTRIBUTING WRITER <<<<

This November, voters have two very distinct choices that will ultimately determine the condition of the state's public school system for the next decade. Governor Jerry Brown and Molly Munger have both put forth their vision to remedy that which ails the state's education system. Munger, a former civil rights attorney and education advocate, has put her money where her mouth is and designed a bill that she believes is the best choice for parents who care about their children's education. She is personally bankrolling her initiative as she believes strongly that the state's education is sorely lacking in adequate funding and children are at risk. Unfortunately, Munger's bill has not fared well in public support and has been highly criticized. Governor Brown has made ardent efforts to ensure that Munger's proposal would be placed down ballot as the belief that measures placed further down the ticket garner less support. With so much at stake, maybe a close look at Munger's Proposition 38, also known as Our Children Our Future, is warranted.

The Our Children Our Future program (Proposition 38) estimates that it will raise over \$10 billion a year for 12 years. It does this by increasing personal income taxes by one percentage point on a sliding scale and directly injecting those funds into local schools. A typical family of two that is making \$55,000 or less would pay no additional taxes. Income over \$55,000 will be taxed on a progressive scale; 0.26 percent being the lowest tax bracket and 2.06 percent being the top bracket for incomes \$10 million and over. For homeowners and middle income earners who itemize, the fund is designed to be tax deductible on federal returns. The money would be deposited in the California Education Trust Fund (CETF) where it is sequestered from the budget process and monies would be distributed to schools. The fund is structured to allocate 10 percent of the CETF to early childhood education, 60 percent

to K-12, and 30 percent to State Bond Debt. The funds to the schools are sent on a per pupil basis where 99 percent of the money will follow the student and 1 percent can be used for administrative costs. Of the block of funds allocated to K-12, 70 percent would be used for Per-pupil Educational program grants (\$4.28 billion); 12 percent would be used for textbooks, technology, and training grants (\$734 million); and 18 percent would be put towards Struggling Students Grants (\$1.10 billion). Prop 38 is structured so that one can easily determine their local schools funding allocation by logging on to the website and entering in a zip code.

*"With so much at stake, maybe a close look at Munger's Proposition 38, also known as Our Children Our Future, is warranted."*

In Contrast, Prop 30 primarily acts as a barrier that attempts to shield education from escalating public safety costs. Embedded in the title of Proposition 30 (Temporary Taxes to Fund Education. Guaranteed Local Public Safety Funding. Initiative Constitutional Amendment) boldly emphasizes the priority of the bill. Funding for education is temporary whereas the state's constitution is amended to guarantee bloated public safety costs. It too would raise income taxes but for only those with incomes \$250,000 and over with an increase in the state's sales tax by a quarter percent. The Realignment of 2011, along with the state's rising pension costs, has been placing significant stress on the state's budget. Estimates from the Legislative Analyst's Office

project the state will only raise approximately \$6 billion a year from 2011-2012 through 2016-2017 with even smaller amounts for 2018-2019. In the years that the revenues fall short, voters are expected to approve another round of tax increases to make up the difference.

The key distinction between Proposition 30 and 38 is how much is raised and how the money is appropriated. Proposition 38 is targeted at K-12. Proposition 30 appropriates 11 percent of the total funds collected for education to the state's community college system. However, there are some that believe that because the funds are placed in the general fund, it is possible that schools may not see any extra funding. If costs from the Realignment and public safety exceed projections, it is possible that even by inflating the general fund, there could be little to no increase in education funding. Governor Brown's proposal has also garnered support from powerful interests. Many of the state's unions and several corporations have all backed Proposition 30. Viacom International (NY) put their chips on the table to support the governor's proposal. If the endgame is to ensure adequate funding to the state's youth through the K-12 system, Proposition 38 is superior to Proposition 30. Strong accountability is set in place to prevent the misappropriation of funds and approximately \$4 billion more than Proposition 30 raised to fund schools.



“It’s about kids and about this community”

facebook.com  
/guyromeroformsjctrustee  
Find me on Facebook

# Vote **GUY** **ROMERO**

## FOR MSJC TRUSTEE 2012 AREA 5

### MY IDEAS

- I. Put students first
- II. Encourage technology
- III. Partner with local businesses
- IV. Academics, arts & athletics
- V. K-12 and MSJC partnerships
- VI. Rethink 5 year goals



### ABOUT ME

I am currently the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services for the Murrieta Valley Unified School District. I have served as a teacher, coach, and administrator in the Murrieta Valley Unified School District since 1980. I am the current president of the Santa Rosa Plateau Foundation. I promise to serve the students of MSJC with integrity and a commitment to excellence.

*Guy Romero*

# VoteGuyRomero.com



Our daughter's graduation from CSULB



Local students



Our niece's high school graduation

# Student Trustee says YES on 30

For the past four months I have worked hard on spreading awareness for the Prop 30 tax measure proposed by Governor Jerry Brown. I've focused on this bill to protect the interests of students and their educational goals.

California community colleges in the last four years have seen a substantial cut in state funding due to the budget crisis. State officials have cut a majority of other statewide programs in order to make ends meet but with very little success. Their next step is to try to cut community colleges statewide to broaden the cuts to all public services, including higher education and K-12 programs. The only solution this November is to take a closer look at Prop 30. This measure consists of tax raises for individuals making \$250,000 or more in a three tier tax increase of 1-3 percent increments depending on an individual's wealth. There is also a statewide tax that adds a .0025 percent raise in all state taxes. For the person making less than \$250,000 a year, this is very minor as it's a total 25 cents to every \$100 that person spends.

Prop 30 is tied to what they call an Education Protection Account, which is audited by state officials and tied to Prop 98 of the Fiscal Responsibility Act. Prop 38 does not take

financial responsibility into account, so politicians can write a blank check. Prop 30 is not only about higher education, because it also effects police and fire.

Beginning January 2013, 267 sections of applicable courses on all four MSJC campuses will be cut. With the passing of the Student Success Act, AB1456, any freshman student with an educational plan will get priority registration to fill section seats in front of outside individuals who may be trying to come back to college for career services. This is significant in affecting all students at colleges who are trying to enter already full classes and sections they are required to have for diploma and certificate attainment.

Additional to the section cuts, all classes at MSJC will adopt a 16 week schedule versus an 18 week schedule which we currently have. This will affect you as a student in learning the full scope of class materials being lectured. MSJC staff will also be affected with a 7.3 percent work reduction from the schedule change which has already been hit with furlough days this last year. Students must act now to ensure our class sections and let California congress know that higher education is not to be bargained with. Education is the key to solving

the fiscal issues here in California, where students who can create businesses are instead being held in college due to fiscal hardships. Help us to ensure the future of California education and emergency services this November.

Vote "YES" on Proposition 30!

*Michael Fish*

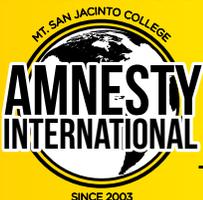
MSJC Student Trustee  
Student Senate Representative District IX



PHOTO COURTESY OF MSJC

# HUMAN RIGHTS NOW!

BY AARON HANSEN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



If you happen to familiarize yourself with the international community via the news, then you are probably aware of the name, Amnesty International. This worldwide organization zealously defends victims of human rights violations in accordance with internationally backed laws, sometimes transcending those boundaries to advocate for the oppressed and forgotten.

When the American hikers were detained in Iran for purportedly spying on the despotic regime, whom did they reach out to? Well, actually to former president Bill Clinton, but nonetheless, Amnesty International was in the vanguard of protest against the regime in Iran for many human rights violations, including the aforementioned.

Another prominent dissident and pro-democracy leader is Aung San Suu Kyi of Burma, also known as Myanmar. She went against the established regime in her country and faced over two decades of house arrest. Amnesty International advocated for her and the Burmese people daily for the duration of her incarceration.

For the past eight years at Mt. San Jacinto College, we have been proud to represent, and be a local extension of, Amnesty International. We advocate for the same issues as the organization, but our club also delves into a vast array of other topics, such as the death penalty, women in the workplace, immigration in the U.S., privatizing water, capitalism and socialism, Israel-Palestine conflict, and more. The primary medium we use to convey these pertinent issues is through the Amnesty International Film Series, shown on the Menifee Valley campus.

As president, my goal is to bring awareness by showing films our club has selected about relevant topics, and then hold discussions after the viewing. By showing these films, we do not intend to propagate certain social or political views. The point is to initiate the audience to engage in meaningful discussions. So far the viewer participation has been excellent.

The Amnesty International Club meets every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. in the back of portable 2007. We would like to thank everybody for their support in the fight for human rights, and we hope to see you at our next viewing!

# vote TOM ASHLEY

FOR MT. SAN JACINTO COLLEGE TRUSTEE AREA 5

## ideas

1. **Effective and Transparent Leadership**
2. **Expand Strategic Course Offerings**
3. **Efficient and Beautiful Facilities**
4. **More Permanent Faculty**
5. **Restore Funding**
6. **Athletics**



# YES on 30

**OVER  
20**  
YEARS WORKING  
IN EDUCATION



for a brighter future



facebook.com/votetomashley

Endorsed by MSJC Professors Jim Davis, Tom Donovan, and John Seed.

**VOTETOMASHLEY.COM**

# SMART START

BY REGINA YOUNG

Students complete semester long course in only 11 days

## STAFF WRITER

Coming to a community college directly after high school, I knew there was one thing I would be missing out on: the so called “college experience.” So when MSJC gave me, along with 50 other students, the opportunity to spend part of my summer at the University of California, Riverside, I took it.

The third annual Smart Start Transfer academy gave students the choice to take either an Anthropology or Philosophy course for credit, as well as the opportunity to live in the on-campus dorms. The entire experience was absolutely free of charge; the catch was that the entire program, including whichever three-unit class we chose, had to be completed in—that’s right—11 days.

I chose to take Philosophy, and after spending the better part of my summer engulfed in the words of Socrates, Plato, Marx and Descartes, I packed my suitcase and headed off to UCR with the notion that I had made a huge mistake in choosing to take this class with such a tight time constraint.

The first day was full of the dreaded icebreaker games, with the promise that by the end of the 11 days we would be closer to our classmates than we could ever imagine. I expected dinner that night to be similarly awkward, but we were all too busy stuffing our faces at the cafeteria “buffet” that not much more than names were exchanged.

After a summer of sleeping in until noon, we all seemed a bit groggy by the time we arrived to our first class meeting the next morning. Class was nothing like what I had experienced at MSJC. Yes, our class size was roughly the same, but something about learning in a lecture hall built to fit 400 people outweighed our 40 person classrooms back home.

As the days progressed, I began to feel more at home at UCR. I have to admit that being surrounded by huge brick buildings with a bell tower chiming in the background made me feel scholarly.

Going to bed at 4 a.m. became a regular occurrence for SSTA members, and the four little dorm walls we each called home became more and more welcoming as the days progressed. I had never realized how much I appreciated having my own bathroom at home

until I was forced to share four stalls and a curtained off shower with an entire hall of girls. I developed new priorities: Sleep>food>showering. I had literally never been so tired in my life. When ten-minute class breaks turned into ten-minute power naps, there was little room for judgment when someone showed up to class in their sweats with bags under their eyes.

While the academic side may not be the highlight of the experience, it definitely cannot be overlooked. Philosophy is one of those courses that everyone should take at some point in their college career. It gives students the tools to dig deeper into their own enlightenment and raises some of life’s most difficult questions. This class really taught me how to think, and forced me to reconsider my opinion about this world.

It is true that I will remember the late night conversations and inside jokes over the eight hour lecture days, fighting over the last iced coffee at 2 a.m. during the all night study sessions, and the meal-time tradition of singing “Happy Birthday!” to whoever fell victim that day to reciting vocabulary terms.

Aside from the mind boggling topics discussed in the monstrous UCR lecture halls, the time spent in the SSTA program gave me something much more valuable than three free units. It gave me a chance to make new friends and experience college from an entirely new perspective. This program also gave me the much-needed reminder of why I am a college student. Aside from the obvious educational gain, the college experience is allowing me to grow as an individual, open my mind to new experiences and make a smooth transition into the next stage of my life.



## ADVERTISEMENT

submission  
deadlines

**ISSUE TWO: 11/21**  
on stands 12/3

**DUE BY MIDNIGHT TO MSJCTALON@GMAIL.COM**



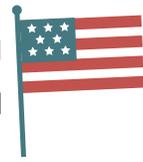
MSJC TALON IS OPEN TO ALL STUDENT & FACULTY CONTRIBUTIONS.  
PLEASE SUBMIT REQUEST FOR APPROVAL PRIOR TO FINAL SUBMISSION.

WE MEET  
1ST&3RD <sup>ROOM</sup> 911  
FRIDAYS  
2ND&4TH &  
FRIDAYS  
<sup>ROOM</sup> 851 12:30-2PM  
ON THE MENIFEE VALLEY CAMPUS



COME TO ROOM 2007  
FOR BUSINESS CARDS

# VOTE YES ON YOUR FUTURE



BY JEFFERY PATTERSON Public Relations & Political Science Columnist

This year California voters have two propositions to choose from that will either make or break higher education. Prop 30 and Prop 38 both raise taxes to support education, but only one of them is fair.

Prop 30 will create funds for all levels of education. Prop 38 will only help fund kindergarten through grade 12. This cuts off funding for community colleges, cal states, and universities. There is no justice in supporting one part of education, and severing the other.

Prop 30 will begin increasing taxes on single individuals who have an income of \$250,000 or more. On the other hand, individuals making \$7,316 or more will pay higher taxes under Prop 38.

Now ask yourself, as a college student where do you fall in this bracket?



Others might argue that Prop 30 will raise taxes on everyone by increasing state sales taxes by one-fourth of a cent. This is only 25 cents for every \$100 that we spend. This sales tax increase gives us a choice to save our money or invest in our economy.

Prop 30 raises taxes for everyone and supports all levels of education, while Prop 38 raises taxes for everyone but fails to invest in everyone.

According to California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, California has the "largest system of higher education in the nation, with 2.6 million students attending 112 colleges," but Prop 38 fails to acknowledge this.

If Prop 30 does not pass, community colleges will lose six billion dollars in funding. Mt. San Jacinto will have to cut 267 classes if Prop 30 doesn't pass. If each class has 40 students, our community college will have to shut its doors to 10,680 students. If Prop 30 does pass, MSJC will gain 33 classes.

Other people argue there is no accountability for where the money raised from Prop 30 will go, but there is.

The 89 percent of money raised by Prop 30 will go to grades K-12 and be distributed every three months by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to county offices of education, school districts, and charter schools. The

remaining 11 percent will go to grades 13 and 14, and will be distributed every three months by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

Also, these county offices of education, school districts, charter schools, and community college districts will have to hold open sessions when they determine spending. This means the public will see where the money goes. They cannot use these funds for salaries or benefits of administrators or any other administrative costs. The money can only be used to improve the education of all students from K-14.

Prop 38 funds grades K-12, but does not take into account the future education of these children. If it passes, Prop 38 will last for 12 years. That is 12 classes of students graduating from high school who may not get college courses.

If Prop 38 was fair, we would see equal distribution of money to all levels and not only to K-12. It forgets about the 2.6 million students in education, and asks us to pay more taxes without investing in education. Prop 38 is the wrong choice for the voters of California.

This is why college students need to do our part and vote on Nov. 6. Spread the word about Prop 30, and ensure that this proposition passes for the sake of our futures.



## WWW.MSJC.COM/BUDGETWATCH

Learn about how the budget crisis affects you and what you can do about it.

# MSJC JOIN STUDENT GOVERNMENT

ON THE MENIFEE CAMPUS IN ROOM 1016B  
ON THE SAN JACINTO CAMPUS IN ROOM 1114  
OR EMAIL [NBRAIS@MSJC.EDU](mailto:NBRAIS@MSJC.EDU)



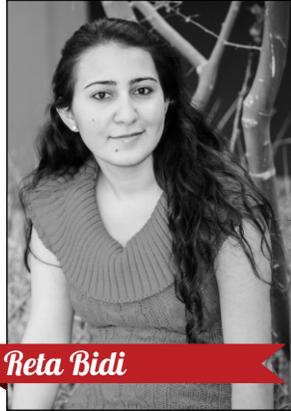
# WH WE ARE

## Eagle's Eye Journalism Club



*Emily McKellar*

**EDITOR IN CHIEF**



*Reta Bidi*

**VICE PRESIDENT**



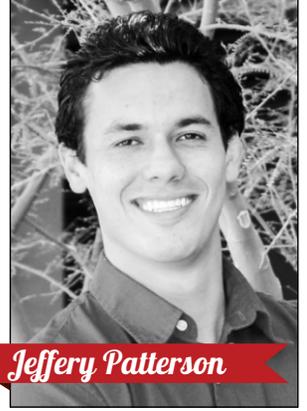
*Matthew Payne*

**MARKETING DIRECTOR**



*Shawnees Peacock*

**CHIEF TALON OFFICER**



*Jeffery Patterson*

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**



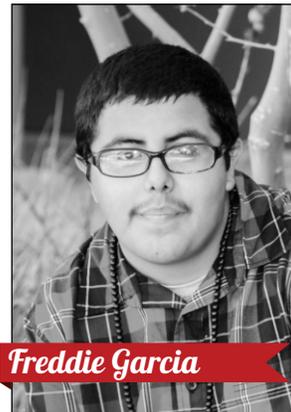
*Christina Flores*

**SECRETARY**



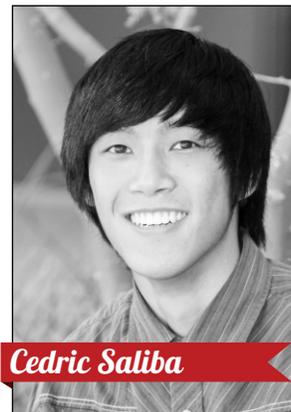
*Regina Young*

**TREASURER**



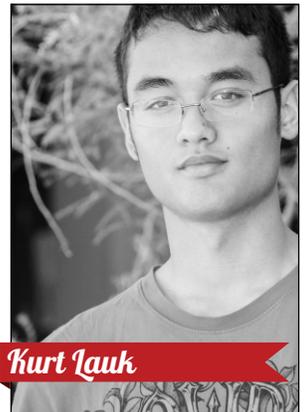
*Freddie Garcia*

**PHOTOGRAPHER**



*Cedric Saliba*

**STAFF WRITER**



*Kurt Lauk*

**STAFF WRITER**



*Tianna Klaput*

**STAFF WRITER**



*Alex Cuatok*

**ADVISOR**

**This could be you!**

**Become a staff member of The Talon**

**E-mail us to find out how!**

## CONTRIBUTORS

**Marissa Milloy**

*Guest Editor*

**Michael Fish**

*Student Trustee*

**Gilbert Van Buskirk**

*Political Science Club*

**Aaron Hansen**

*Amnesty International Club President*

**Sandi M. Colby**

*50th Anniversary Movie Project*

**We would like to extend a special thanks to Karin Marriott and the Administration of Mt. San Jacinto College for their continued support.**

OPINIONS PUBLISHED IN THE TALON ARE THOSE OF THE INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THOSE OF THE ENTIRE NEWSPAPER STAFF, MT. SAN JACINTO FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS OR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES. THE TALON WELCOMES ALL ARTICLE CONTRIBUTIONS. CONTRIBUTIONS MUST BE APPROVED BEFORE FINAL SUBMISSION. ARTICLES MUST BE A MINIMUM OF 500 WORDS AND INCLUDE THE AUTHOR'S NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION. SUBMISSIONS MUST BE EMAILED TO [MSJCTALON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MSJCTALON@GMAIL.COM). THE TALON RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CONTENT AND GRAMMAR AND WILL NOT PRINT LEWD OR LIBELOUS SUBMISSIONS. LETTERS MUST BE E-MAILED PRIOR TO THE SET DEADLINE (IN THE CASE OF THE NEXT ISSUE, NOV. 21) TO BE CONSIDERED FOR INCLUSION. ALSO SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO [MSJCTALON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MSJCTALON@GMAIL.COM)