

## Accolades

### Report to the Board of Regents

September-October 2016

- Del Mar College **Board of Regents Chairman Trey McCampbell** has been appointed to serve on the Financial Literacy Advisory Committee of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The focus of this advisory group is to recommend better options for students and their parents to finance successful college careers. A recent publication sponsored by the national Association of Community College Trustees, “A Closer Look at the Trillion,” cites the total outstanding student loan debt in the United States as \$1.18 trillion. McCampbell joins representatives from the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Council on Economic Education, the Texas Higher Education Board and other college and university representatives on this committee, which is one component of the new higher education plan *60x30TX*, designed to empower 60% of young Texas adults to earn higher education credentials by 2030. Congratulations, Chairman McCampbell!
- Highly coveted among Del Mar College faculty, the 2016 Dr. Aileen Creighton Award for Teaching Excellence was awarded to **Dr. John “Rob” Hatherill, Professor of Biology in the Natural Sciences Department**. First established in 2002 and named in honor of Dr. Aileen Creighton, Dean Emeritus of Arts and Sciences, the award represents the late educator’s legacy as a “master teacher” and serves as the benchmark faculty must emulate to receive the honor. As the 15th Creighton Award recipient, Dr. Hatherill supports students’ success by collaborating with other Natural Sciences colleagues and embedding undergraduate research and mentoring into the classroom to enhance their learning experiences rather than just teaching through traditional textbook methodology. Read more about Dr. Hatherill’s accomplishments at <http://bit.ly/2dtEaS6>.
- **Dr. Rito Silva, Vice President of Student Affairs**, testified before the Texas Legislature’s House Select Committee on Mental Health on Sept. 22 in the State Capitol and covered services Del Mar College’s Counseling Center provides to students. Topics Dr. Silva included were Personal Counseling, Wellness and Outreach, Crisis Intervention and Mandated Education Programming. Appointments for personal counseling for DMC students increased 429% from 198 in academic year 2015 to 1048 in 2016. The Center’s outreach efforts—including programs such as “Let’s Talk,” “Be Well,” “Zen Zone,” guided imagery, classroom presentations and new student orientations—increased by 817% between the two academic years. Dr. Silva reports that Chair of the House Select Committee on Mental Health Rep. Four Price, District 87, stated, “Del Mar College has done a really good job. My perception is the level of services you are providing at the Counseling Center and ability to track data is advanced compared to other community colleges.” **Rita Hernandez, M.A., LPC-S and Lead Counselor in the DMC Counseling Center**, and **Daniel Fischer, Director of the DMC Transition Center**, accompanied Dr. Silva to Austin.
- The Chamber of Commerce Foundation Leadership Corpus Christi program selected **Patricia Benavides-Dominguez, Dean of Student Outreach & Enrollment Services**, to participate as part of their Class #45. Thirty applicants are carefully screened and selected each year to complete the 10-month intensive training program, which kicked off in August. Leadership Corpus Christi prepares dedicated, visionary leaders with passion to improve the quality of life for all persons and institutions in the Corpus Christi community. Sessions are designed to educate current and future leaders on the issues and opportunities facing the city. Congratulations, Dean Benavides-Dominguez!
- Del Mar College’s forensic team, the **Vocal Vikings**, attended their first speech competition of the academic year at Texas State University in San Marcos just two weeks after classes started. **Professor of Speech Sarah Contreras** reported, “We only had one meeting the first Friday of the fall semester, welcomed several new students to the team, got speeches written and memorized and then polished performances.” Del Mar College was one of only three

community colleges—including San Antonio College and Tyler Junior College—that competed against some of the best teams from across the nation. Even so, **Vocal Viking Marian Massengill** won a sixth-place trophy in Persuasive Speaking. Way to go, Vocal Vikings! You're off and running!

- Kudos to **Mary McQueen, Executive Director of Development and the DMC Foundation**, and her staff for another successful “Stringers for Scholarships” Fishing Tournament held earlier this year. Partnering for a third time with LNV, Inc.—a local engineering, architecture and surveying company—the tournament raised \$42,000 for student scholarships. Anglers grabbed their bait and fished for speckled trout, redfish and flounder for prizes and a very good cause—Del Mar College students.
- Additionally, the Development Office received \$10,000 from the Coastal Bend Foundation in September. The funds include \$5,000 for varied equipment for the Surgical Technology Program with the Allied Health Department and another \$5,000 to support Del Mar College’s Prefreshman Engineering summer camp program, better known as TEXPREP. **DMC Regent Susan Hutchinson** serves on the board of the Coastal Bend Foundation and assisted during their presentation of funds to organizations across the community. Del Mar College thanks the foundation for their continued support.
- Advisors for Del Mar College’s Gamma Sigma Chapter of the international honor society Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) shared that **Summer 2016 Liberal Arts graduate Robert Robertson** received a \$48,600 Terry Foundation Transfer Scholarship to attend the University of Texas-San Antonio. The award equals to \$16,200 per year for three years and will cover the remainder of his studies toward his bachelor’s and master’s degrees. Next summer, Roberts will travel to Belize on an archaeological dig covered by another \$5,000 to \$15,000 based on location and duration for studies abroad. While attending Del Mar College, Robertson’s PTK advisors included **Dr. Tammy F. Donaldson, Assistant Professor of Reading with the Communications, Languages and Reading Department; Beth Hattox, Term Assistant Instructor in the Stone Writing Center; and Intern Counselor Johanna Torres** with the College’s **Counseling Center**.

## Events

- **Ongoing until December 2, Del Mar College Printmaking Invitational 2016, Joseph A. Cain Memorial Art Gallery, Fine Arts Center, East Campus, free:** Hosted by the DMC Art Program, the exhibit features artwork produced by printmakers from across the country. Gallery hours are Mondays through Thursdays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. For more info, call the Art Office at 698-1216.
- **Monday, October 17, Duo Recital Featuring DMC Music Faculty Percussionist Dr. Neil Sisauyhoat and Cellist Susan Sturman, 7:30 p.m., Wolfe Recital Hall, East Campus, free:** The program features an eclectic array of musical works for solo cello and solo marimba, such as Peter Klatzow’s “A Sense of Place for Cello and Marimba” and Caroline Shaw’s work entitled “Boris Kerner” for cello and flowerpots. Music selections also include works by Barriere, Saint Saëns, Sibelius, Piazzolla and Miyoshi. For more info, contact the Music Office at 698-1214.
- **Friday, October 21, Del Mar College MWF Jazz Band at the Texas Jazz Festival, 5:30 p.m., North Stage, Heritage Park, 1581 N. Chaparral, free:** As a Texas Jazz Festival mainstay, the College’s MWF Jazz Band will open the 56th Annual event under the direction of Music Department faculty member David Irving. Access Texas Jazz Festival information at [www.texasjazz-fest.org](http://www.texasjazz-fest.org) or contact Irving at 698-1616 or [dirving@delmar.edu](mailto:dirving@delmar.edu) for more info about the MWF Jazz Band’s performance.
- **October 28-29 and November 4-5, Del Mar Drama Presents “GUT GIRLS” by Sarah Daniels, 7:30 p.m., Sue Sellors- Finley Theatre, Fine Arts Center, East Campus:** Set in and around the cattle gutting sheds of London at the turn of the last century, GUT GIRLS looks into the lives of five hard-working, hard-living women who find themselves pulled by social and economic forces beyond their control. This production is funny, coarse, disgusting, and shocking. Most importantly,

- its themes of economic dislocation, disparity, class and gender are strikingly contemporary. (**Rated R for mature language, situations and themes.**) Tickets are \$10 for general admission; \$6 for seniors, military and DMC faculty/staff; and \$3 for students with a valid I.D. Sales begin online Oct. 14. Go to [www.delmar.edu/drama](http://www.delmar.edu/drama) for tickets and more info.
- **Tuesday, November 1, DMC Viking Alumni Association “Blue and Silver Spectacular” Awards Dinner and Ceremony, 6 p.m., Holiday Inn Downtown Marina, 707 N. Shoreline Blvd.:** As the fourth group to receive the Blue and Silver Spectacular Award, the 2016 honorees include *Distinguished Staff*, **Tina Butler**, executive assistant to the president; *Distinguished Faculty*, **Benita Flores-Muñoz**, associate professor of child development/early childhood in the College’s Human Sciences and Education Department; *Distinguished Friend*, **Ajit David**, DMC Foundation Board of Trustees member; *Young Alumni*, **Samuel Longoria**, vice president/ business banking officer with BBVA Compass Bank; *Distinguished Alumni*, **John Valls**, owner of Valls Consulting Group; and *Outstanding Alumni*, **Sandra Messbarger**, DMC Board of Regent.
- **Reservations for ticket sales and sponsorships are available through Friday, Oct. 21.** General individual tickets are \$50 per person. Sponsorships for Helmet, Viking, Blue and Silver levels also are available. To review sponsorships and benefits associated with each level, go to <http://bit.ly/2coKc4f>. All proceeds benefit the DMC Vikings Alumni Association and student scholarships. Contact the Development Office for ticket pricing for DMC employees at 698-1317.