

## Accolades

### Report to the Board of Regents

November 2016

- Congratulations goes to **Dr. Jonda Halcomb, Dean of the Arts and Sciences Division**, who is collaborating with **Dr. Joe Fox with Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi's Department of Life Sciences** on a four-year interdisciplinary multi- Hispanic Serving Institution project titled "Experiential training in the use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) for agricultural applications." Funding is provided for \$16,000 to Del Mar College through a U.S. Department of Agriculture grant with the primary purpose of increasing the number of South Texas students graduating from associate degree-granting institutions and transitioning to earning Bachelor of Science or Masters degrees in fields related to the agricultural and biological sciences. Faculty and staff at partner institutions will provide undergraduate and graduate training in the use of UAS technology for precision farming in agriculture. Training will include internships and assistance in research projects aligned with UAS as a tool for soil, animal and natural resource sciences and will produce at least 15 Bachelor of Science and 10 Masters of Science graduates working in food, agriculture and natural resources-related fields. The grant runs through Aug. 31, 2020.
- **Dr. John Robert "Rob" Hatherill, Professor of Biology with the Natural Sciences Department**, has been selected as Del Mar College's 2017 Piper Professor nominee for consideration as an award recipient by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. Currently, Del Mar College has 10 named Piper Professors to its credit. Honorees are not only selected for their dedication to the teaching profession but also for their outstanding academic, scientific and scholarly achievement. Dr. Hatherill has exhibited his professional growth, accomplishments, and commitment to students in his teaching, extensive research projects, grant acquisitions and management, and student mentoring activities. Dr. Hatherill also is the 15th recipient of Del Mar College's Dr. Aileen Creighton Award for Teaching Excellence. The Foundation will name its newest Piper Professors from across Texas in May 2017. DMC is cheering for you, Dr. Hatherill.
- The **DMC Vikings Alumni Association** held their annual Blue and Silver Spectacular Awards Dinner and Ceremony last month to honor their newest inductees, who demonstrated stellar support for the College, its students and the community. This year's six award recipients include *Distinguished Staff*, **Tina Butler, Executive Assistant to the President**; *Distinguished Faculty*, **Benita Flores-Muñoz, Associate Professor of Child Development/Early Childhood with the Human Sciences and Education Department**; *Distinguished Friend*, **Ajit David, DMC Foundation Board of Trustees member**; *Young Alumni*, **Samuel Longoria, Vice President and 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**. Congratulations!
- *Continental Who's Who* named **Associate Professor of Computer Science Barbara DuFrain with the Computer Science, Engineering and Advanced Technology Department** as a Pinnacle Professional in the Field of Higher Education. DuFrain's expertise in computer science, gaming, geographic information programs and programming earned her an induction into WomenTech's Hall of Fame in 2013 and Outstanding Woman Educator of the Year in 2014. She is a member of the Association of University Professors and involved with the Christian Women's Job Corps. An alumna of Del Mar College, she earned her bachelor's degree from The University of Texas at Austin and master's degree from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and is currently working on her doctorate degree. Congratulations on your latest recognition!
- The **Disability Services Office** recently named the 2016 "Advocates of the Year" during their third annual recognition ceremony. Seven honorees were selected for actively serving students with "disAbilities." This year's

advocates include **Assistant Professor of Speech Dale Anderson, Assistant Professor of Legal Professions Gail Dorn, Assistant Professor of Economics Neetu Kaushik, Associate Professor of Child Development/Early Childhood Benita Flores-Muñoz, Assistant Professor of Industrial Machining Randall Glasson, Professor of Chemistry Dr. Charles Hinton and Associate Professor of English Dr. Paul McCann.** Granted to DMC faculty and staff members, the award recognizes these individuals' significant service through advocacy and support by providing memorable and meaningful experiences and demonstrating deep commitment to the advancement of students with varying disabilities. Kudos goes to this year's honorees!

- Del Mar College's **Regional Police Academy Summer Class of 2016** set another benchmark. Under the leadership of **Academy Director Stan Repka** and his faculty team, the cadets all passed on their first attempt taking the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) licensure exam. The achievement marks the College's 15th academy class in a row to continue the 100% first attempt pass rate trend on the state exam. The following cadets became eligible to serve as licensed peace officers in Texas: **Aaron Alaniz, Pablo Alaniz Jr., Adan Cruz, Shaun Farley, Ruben Garcia, Elizabeth Gomez, Marcus Lopez, Roberto Lopez Jr., Allen Mize, Aaron Ozuna, Danny Perez, Ronny Perkins and Jose Soto.** You make us proud, cadets!
- Del Mar College's **Art Program** with the Department of Art and Drama held a ceremony in the Joseph A. Cain Memorial Art Gallery to induct six students into the College's new chapter of the Kappa Pi International Art Honor Society. Students inducted into DMC's inaugural membership include **Andrea Del Angel, Victoria Gibbons, Emily Roberts, William Rodriguez, Fred Tinsley and Alexander Van Zandt.** Founded in 1911 at the University of Kentucky by a group of art students to discuss and critique their personal artwork, Kappa Pi has evolved more than 100 years later into the oldest honorary art organization with membership chapters including 70 colleges and universities nationwide, along with one international chapter.

## Events

- **Wednesday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m., Mariachi Del Mar in Concert, Wolfe Recital Hall, East Campus, Ayers at Kosar, free:** Mariachi Del Mar, the College's formal mariachi ensemble, will perform traditional and nontraditional music under the direction of David Irving, Professor of Stage Band and Guitar. For more info, call 698-1214.
- **Wednesday, Nov. 16, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 18th Annual Coastal Bend GIS Day, DMC Center for Economic Development, 3209 S. Staples, free:** Geographical Information Systems (GIS) technology touches everyone's lives daily to solve problems related to areas such as the environment, health care, land use, business efficiency, education and public safety. Attend sessions specifically designed to expand your understanding of GIS technology. The event features opportunities to learn more about GIS applications and to see their use in action. Co-sponsored by Del Mar College, Coastal Bend College, Laredo Community College, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, ESRI and the Coastal Bend GIS Users Group. Register online: <http://utsa.ecenterdirect.com/events/26005>. For more info, contact John Nelson at 698-1478 or [jnelson1@delmar.edu](mailto:jnelson1@delmar.edu).
- **Thursday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m., DMC Wind Ensemble and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Wind Orchestra in Concert, TAMU-CC Performing Arts Center, 6300 Ocean Drive, free:** The Del Mar College Wind Ensemble with DMC Conductor Dr. Abel Saldivar Ramirez and the TAMU-CC Wind Orchestra with Conductor Dr. Brian Shelton will perform a joint concert featuring music composed by V. Giannini, H. Owen Reed, Ferrer Ferran and more. DMC faculty member and trumpeter Dr. Scott Hagarty will perform as a guest soloist with the College's Wind Ensemble. For more info, call 698- 1214.
- **Friday, Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m., DMC Singer's Theater Presents "The Royals," Wolfe Recital Hall, East Campus, Ayers at Kosar, free:** Enjoy an evening of "The Royals," a comedy interspersed with selections from popular Broadway musicals, including "The Fantasticks," "My Fair Lady," "The Music Man" and arias from Gilbert &

Sullivan's operettas, "The Mikado" and "HMS Pinafore." Del Mar College Music faculty member Dr. Raphael Rada wrote "The Royals." Karen Kendrick will accompany the singers on piano. For more info, call 698-1214.

- **Wednesday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m., Holiday Brasstacular, Wolfe Recital Hall, East Campus, Ayers at Kosar, free:** Start your holiday celebrations with the Music Department as faculty and students present a Holiday Brasstacular. Enjoy festive brass music performed by the Corpus Christi Trombone Society, Faculty Brass Trio and student brass ensembles. Brass groups will perform seasonal favorites and more ... just in time for the holidays. For more info, call 698-1214.
- **Through Dec. 2, Del Mar College Printmaking Invitational 2016, Joseph A. Cain Memorial Art Gallery, Fine Arts Center, East Campus, Ayers Street, free:** See artwork produced by printmakers from across the country. Gallery hours are Mondays through Thursdays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m. to noon. For more info, call 698-1216.