Good news for March 2009

From a long list of accomplishments, the LAB program:
• received and distributed to high schools donations of equipment and supplies from two local biotech companies, Allergan and Xoma
• placed trained tutors in 8 LAB high school classrooms
• produced a "LAB Report" newsletter for Winter 2008
• is bringing 15 LAB students to Metabolex for a day of mentoring at their facility

After taking first place in Persuasive Speaking at the NCFA Regional Competition held at Chico State, Forensics Team member Andie Morhous will be representing Ohlone and the Northern California Forensics Association at the 140th annual Interstate Oratory Association tournament at the University of Mississippi in Oxford the weekend of April 23 and 24th. Andie is the first community college student to represent our region in over 2 years (usually a student from a 4-year institution has won).

Business Services and the IT department rolled out online pay advises for all employees that have direct deposit. This enhancement allows Business Services to stop printing, folding, stuffing, and mailing these forms. It will provide more up-to-date and archived payroll, benefit, and leave plan information to employees.

English faculty member Perri Gallagher will be speaking at the Annual Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) in San Francisco this month. Professor Perri’s presentation is titled "More Than Poetic Examination: Metaphors That Structure Online Instructor Views." Each year the convention draws college faculty members from around the world to gain knowledge of best practices in the field.

Professors Nancy Pauliukonis and William Wong, full time faculty members in our Deaf Studies Department, were invited to speak at the National Tsukuba University of Technology (NTUT), in Japan in January. The purpose for their visit was to work with university faculty who are testing methods of providing access to instruction in English for deaf international students.

The financial Aid office has been very active in outreach for new and continuing students. Of particular interest are five “Cash for College” activities that have been held this semester at our local high schools.

Eight new senators have joined ASOC, and ASOC is planning to attend the student march on Sacramento this month.

Counseling is holding its HS counselors conference tomorrow; they have a mega orientation day planned for May; and planning is in progress for Raza day.

You may have seen that our own Garrett Yee has been selected for promotion to Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. Trustee Yee, a board member since December 2002, has been activated twice for a total of 26 months, including a deployment to Iraq from July to December 2006. This makes him one of a few elected officials who have served in Iraq. In his current assignment, Trustee Yee is a Group Commander in charge of approximately 1300 soldiers stationed throughout the southwestern states and Hawaii.
Ohlone Newark campus is the winner in the Green Building category in the California Construction’s “Best of California” awards. As a result of that award, it is eligible for a “Best of the Best” award and is one of three national finalists in the Green Category. Winners will be announced by publication in this month’s issues of 11 regional publications as well as in Engineering News-Record.

And finally, the Board of Directors of Washington Hospital approved a one time additional grant allocation above the $1.5 million given to the college for 5 years. The $257,057 allow us to cover expenses through the cohort of nursing students which will complete the program at the end of this calendar year. In total, an additional 90 students will have been served. Thank you Washington Hospital!