GOOD NEWS FOR APRIL 14, 2010

Ohlone Anthropology Professor, George Rodgers is serving as the president of the Society for Anthropology in Community Colleges this year. This year’s theme for their annual meeting is "Sustainable Teaching in the 21st Century: Can Anthropology Have an Impact on Environmental Stewardship?"

There are a number of events planned next week to celebrate Earth Week. Highlights at the Newark campus include a solar demonstration, worm composting at home, building the Ohlone biodynamic garden, a microeconomics sustainability debate, and an interesting display of Ohlone’s junk mail. There will be a group trash pick up at the wetland area on the Fremont campus.

Jim Pham, Ohlone adjunct faculty in Computer Science, passed his Ed.D. final defense at Alliant International University.

The second annual Classified Professional Development day was held on March 30. This activity began with an Appreciation Breakfast served by our administrators. Managers had an opportunity to thank their respective divisions for their hard work during the past year and their continued willingness to work together to provide excellent services to students. Following breakfast, staff attended a variety of workshops.

Student Sayyaf Masood has been selected to represent Ohlone at this year’s National Community College Aerospace Scholars at NASA’s Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. National Community College Aerospace Scholars offers an opportunity for students across the country to participate in an online interactive learning community culminating in an onsite experience at NASA. Students have the opportunity to work with NASA scientists and engineers during their visit.

New parking permit vending machines have been installed on the Fremont campus. These machines operate on wireless technology and are capable of accepting cash or credit/debit cards. The new machines should require less staff time for repairs and should increase the satisfaction of those looking to purchase daily parking permits on the Fremont campus.

Dr. Paul Belasky, Professor of Geology, has just had two long articles published in peer-reviewed international volumes in geology and the history of science, one in Germany, one in the US.

The first group of Learning Alliance for Bioscience or LAB program students to come to Ohlone is nearing the end of its first school year. These students have been active participants in the LAB Learning Community, meeting weekly to provide mutual support, and hosting speakers such as academic counselors and visiting scientists to guide and inspire their studies. Six of these students earned scholarships this year, and several are on track to receive their biotechnology certificates in 2010.

May Chen, Ohlone Tai Chi and Qigong instructor, has been chosen as the 2010 Tai Chi Master of the Year by the World Qigong Congress. She will be honored at their event and the American Qigong Association Conference in San Francisco.
Researcher Mike Bowman reports that 54% of Ohlone students intending to transfer do so within six years. This is the third highest rate of the 27 Bay Area colleges behind Foothill and De Anza with 58% and 57% respectively.