The Sabbatical Leave Committee consisting of Kenny Mencher, Art; Michele McDowell, Early Childhood Studies; Teresa Massimo; Curtis Bressler, Mathematics; Walt Birkedahl, Dean, Fine Arts, Business and Broadcasting; and Dr. James Wright, Vice President of Academic Affairs has reviewed the faculty sabbatical leave proposals for 2010-11, and recommends the following leaves be granted:

- Diane Berkland, Counseling, Spring Semester 2011
- Alison Kuehner, English, Academic Year, 2010-2011
- Susan Myers, Counseling, Spring Semester 2011
- Denise Owen, Art, Academic Year 2010-2011

An abstract of each faculty member’s proposal is attached.

RECOMMENDATION

The President/Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the recommendations of the Sabbatical Leave Committee and Dr. Wright.

DT: jw/ct

Attachment
Diane Berkland, Counseling, Spring Semester 2011
Diane plans to use her sabbatical leave to research and develop a transfer review course, utilizing available technological deliveries and environments, in order to provide a more transparent and stronger transfer program for Ohlone students beginning in 2011-2012. This leave will provide her the opportunity to visit and work with other colleagues who may be teaching a similar course, as well as speak with university contacts in determining their experiences of what knowledge and characteristics transfer students lack most. Denise will also consult with Ohlone’s online education program in order learn about online delivery formats and available tools to enhance the traditional classroom. This proposal supports College, Department, and program goals, and will integrate with existing programs including learning communities and online education, in order to demystify the transfer process.

During her sabbatical, Jennifer plans to obtain a Postsecondary Reading & Learning Certificate. As mandated by the State of California in AB 1725, instructors of community college reading courses must hold a Postsecondary Reading & Learning Certificate. With this certificate, she will be qualified to teach English 162 (Developmental Reading) and English 163 (Techniques of College Reading). Jennifer has already applied and been accepted into CSU Fullerton’s online Postsecondary Reading & Learning Certificate program. Since 2004, Jennifer has been working on a book of short fiction. So far, the book consists of five short stories, two of which have been published in literary journals. A sustained period of time and concentration would be invaluable to completing this project. Her goal is to have three more stories revised and published by the end of the sabbatical.

Alison Kuehner, English, Academic Year, 2010-2011
My sabbatical leave request is intended to achieve two goals: 1) to create a publishable textbook for developmental reading students (work already in progress), and 2) to continue research on basic skills students to understand--from the student’s point of view--what makes them successful in transfer-level classes. Both these projects would have immediate benefits for Ohlone College students and faculty: a textbook could be used in English 162 or 163 by Ohlone English faculty and their students, whereas understanding what helps--or does not help--basic skills students succeed in their transfer-level classes would be valuable information for English faculty and their students.

Susan Myers, Counseling, Spring Semester 2011
Susan will use her sabbatical leave complete an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership at San Francisco State University. This is an accelerated program and students are given one year to complete a dissertation research project. A sabbatical would be necessary to meet program graduation demands. Her dissertation research will focus on the improvement of community college counseling services, particularly for ethnically and culturally diverse students. The proposal directly meets stated college goals number #1 & #2, in that it will contribute to improved counseling services for a diverse student population. Susan’s anticipated outcomes are improves rates of success for the students of Ohlone College. Higher education research literature indicates the need for studies that evaluate community college counseling practices and the net impact on students, particularly for underrepresented racial and ethnic minority students.

Denise Owen, Art, Academic Year 2010-2011
Denise will focus her sabbatical leave on evolving design and educational methods and technologies that in her fields of art and interior design to update specific knowledge and hone skills necessary to stay relevant. On aspect of her leave will involve advanced academic study, including classes in studio art and contemporary art history to refine and expand her hands-on art skills and deepen her understanding of content and meaning in art. Denise will also engage in independent research and study to update her knowledge of sustainable design codes and research residential retrofits. She will upgrade her technical skills for WebCT and explore teaching methodologies to implement group-based projects in lecture classes. Denise also plans to travel to sites that will enhance her understanding of contemporary art and design.
addition to academic study, research and travel, Denise will focus on her own art and design work, producing art and design work while maintaining the rigors of a practice.