

LETTERS

# English class offers views on gun controversy

EDITOR:

If Ohlone police officers are allowed to carry guns on campus, how will the campus community and/or atmosphere be affected?

Nowadays, many colleges are arguing about the campus police and what kind of steps should they take to fulfill the police requirements and Ohlone is one of them.

It is really easy to get guns and drugs and it's getting hard for our police department to control it. Especially in colleges, where we never know if any of the students are carrying guns.

In this kind of situation, if something happens, it will be really hard for the campus police to control it because they will not have anything that will help them get in control. So, the Ohlone campus police would be allowed to carry guns because they are exactly as the other police officers and they are

here to protect us and the environment.

They should be allowed to carry guns on campus but with some restrictions, including that they will take the gun out only if it's necessary or when it's hard to control the situation.

It might will affect the students such as they will not fight any more because they know that the cops are there and none of the gang fights will happen and all the students will feel secure because the police are armed.

If Ohlone police don't have guns and something happens, maybe it will end up taking someone's life. Ohlone police should carry guns so that every parent will feel secure that their children are going to study, not fight, or get involved in some violation, or die.

VIPAL SOOD  
English 151B/Ms. Virgil

EDITOR:

Outfitting Ohlone guards with firearms will be a big mistake.

First of all, it will affect the atmosphere on campus, creating an unpleasant environment for students and teachers.

Surrounded by guards with concealed weapons, students will not feel any safer, but rather more uncomfortable. After all, Ohlone is not a prison.

What is the purpose of outfitting guards with firearms? Are they going to shoot down students who refuse to pay their parking tickets? We hope not, but in a stressful situation, anything can occur.

For example, an Ohlone guard and a student get into an argument that leads to a shoving match. As the tension continues to arise, the guard reaches for his gun. As a result, the student will be shot. In some

situations, if not the guard, the student will grab the gun and shoot the officer.

If the guard didn't carry a firearm, such terrible accidents wouldn't happen. Having a gun within reach will provoke guards to use it in any situation.

Instead, they should first try to solve the problem without using weapons. If the Ohlone officer encounters a more difficult situation, then he can call for assistance.

Allowing police officers to carry guns on campus would only create more problems, because, as we all know, "violence begets violence."

Ohlone guards should not be allowed to carry guns on campus. It will only bring more harm than good.

YULIANA JOHNSON  
English 151B/Ms. Virgil

# World Forum targets democracy, terrorism

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ons by the Iranian government.

Zunes said freedom and democracy in the Middle East hasn't been supported in the past by the American government.

Terrorism, Zunes stated, is born when people are oppressed and democracy is denied. "We are creating terrorists faster than we can kill them," he said. With militants actively being supported by the U.S. government, Zunes questioned how clear America is really being with its intentions.

Afghanistan has major health

problems such as polio and tuberculosis, but security is so poor that volunteer medical personnel such as Doctors Without Borders had to evacuate in fear of their own security. Working conditions are no longer safe and the doctors cannot perform properly.

Safety was a topic that Zunes touched upon often when talking about Afghanistan. "It is not safe there," he said. "Women are oppressed and fear being rape, kidnapped or killed if they leave their homes. Opium growers are being given government protection and

warlords are running the majority of the country."

Zunes said that 10,000 unnecessary deaths in Iraq were due to a war declared under false pretenses. The Bush administration used the search for weapons of mass destruction as a justification for the war, yet Bush officials have admitted that weapons of mass destruction were never recovered from Iraq. And yet America is still occupying that country.

Zunes spoke for nearly an hour and then had time to answer only four questions. Several people were

still waiting to ask questions when Treadway, brought the session to an end.

Afterward, Zunes signed copies of his book, *Tinderbox - U.S. Middle East Policy and the Roots of Terrorism*. There was a line of people asking questions and discussing among themselves what Zunes had said in his speech. He answered questions of those who were cut short for time earlier.

One med student thanked Zunes for addressing issues that he said, "we cannot bring up." He said the FBI pulled out a classmate of his

for speaking out against the war. Ohlone professor Dr. Jeffrey Watanabe asked if Zunes thought America would have declared war on "Iraq if they were not the second largest oil country in the world?" Zunes responded, "My short answer is, no." When asked why he never brought up oil in his talk, Zunes replied, "There was no time to go into speculation." Zunes said that by controlling the tap, America has leverage with oil.

The next World Forum is scheduled for April 6. The topic will be China, U.S and the global economy.

## Security cameras going in

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keep watch on the parking lots, the Quad, outside of Building One, and many other locations.

The work that is currently being done is setting in the wiring, and working in and around the buildings to get the setup finished for the cameras to arrive. The cameras are weather resistant, equipped with fire resistant wiring.

Images from all the cameras will feed into police headquarters in Building 20. When the wireless network for the school is finished the cameras may be remotely accessed via laptop in patrol vehicles.

The bid for the program was \$296,874.

## Math test set

The Student Math League will meet for the national competitive exam this Friday, March 4, from 3 to 4 p.m. (and again from 4 to 5 p.m.) in Room 2133.

The best way to prepare is to study every problem from the last exam. Copies can be found in the Math Learning Center, with solutions. Contact Math Instructor Geoff Hirsch for further information, at Ext. 6247.

## Donation from NUMMI

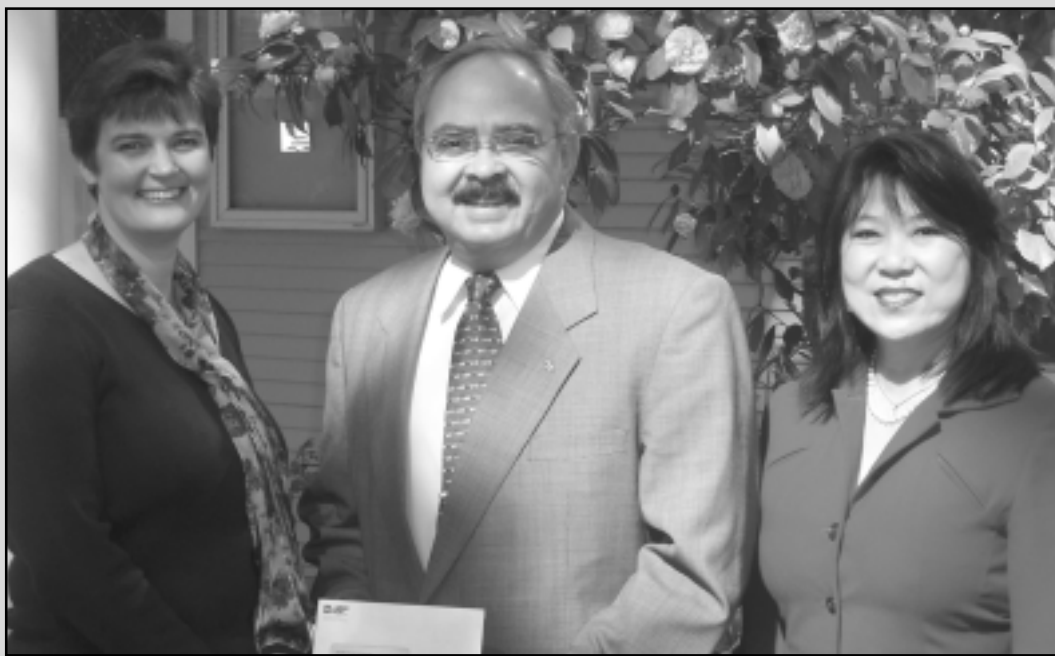


Photo by Charlie Hebison

Rhonda Rigenhagen, left, assistant manager of Community Relations for New United Motor Manufacturing Inc., gives Ohlone Police Chief Steve Fajardo a check for \$5,000 for emergency response activity at Ohlone. At right is Dr. Josephine Ong-Hawkins, director of the Ohlone College Foundation.

## Film festival deadline May 6

By JESSICA LOSEE  
Staff writer

Video submissions for the Fourth Annual Ohlone College Film, Video, and Multimedia Festival will be accepted until Friday, May 6.

The festival, set May 21, is open to independent filmmakers from the Bay Area.

Categories for the festival include Short Film, Animation, Advertisement, Music Videos, and a special category for High School student entries.

The film must be an original work, no longer than 15 minutes, and in DVD, DV, or VHS format.

The festival was started in 2002 and is sponsored by the Fine and Performing Arts Program. It was created to provide a forum for students to share their work.

According to Gary Kauf, head of the Television Department, the festival received 75 entries last year; he expects even more this year. This is partially due to the fact that the date for the festival has been pushed back to allow students who have finished films in classes to submit them.

## Mentoring for transfers to Berkeley

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UC Berkeley and wants to, "give back to both Berkeley and Ohlone College." She is a former Ohlone student who, at one point, doubted if she had what it took to walk the halls of UC Berkeley as a student.

Abbott lived in Hong Kong for 15 years where she started up a lingerie company. She then moved on to working for *Nature* magazine as a marketing and ad manager in Southeast Asia. *Nature* eventually sent her to Australia, where she lived for five years. Following her heart and the man she fell in love with, Abbott finally moved to Fremont and found her way to Ohlone, where she discovered her UC potential through the encouragement of a UC Berkeley mentor.

Starting Point Mentorship Program, "demystifies the whole experience of transferring," Abbott said. Abbott said she wants to provide transfer information to students that orientation doesn't necessarily cover - areas such as living arrangements, campus environment and what it takes to apply.

"This is a little service that I like to take part in," Abbott said.

If you are interested in signing up, go to the Transfer and Career Services in Building 1, Room 1405A. Scheduling is flexible and you can even acquire information via email. This program also is a bonus on your application to UC Berkeley.