



# Study abroad next fall: education, kangaroos

By **DEVERY SHEFFER**  
Staff writer

Throw some shrimp on the barbie and watch out for crossing kangaroos - Ohlone students are traveling to the land down under, this upcoming fall semester. They will be spending three months in Sydney, Australia to study abroad from Sept. 6 to Nov. 29.

Students who choose to go have until May 18 to turn in their application and their first payment installment of \$300. Students who do not make that date but still wish to go will be charged a \$100 late fee.

Altogether, the trip will cost students \$7,599 according to the program's pamphlet. This does not include flight, tuition or spending money. A seat on the group flight costs \$950 and for 12 units at \$20 per unit, the cost is \$240. What the payment does include is home stay with an Australian family, two meals a day and two planned field trips, along with medical and travel insurance. Students must also be able to pay for miscellaneous fees such as \$100 for a passport and \$450 for an Australian visa. Students are encouraged to visit the Financial Aid office in Building One for information on loans and grants to help fund the trip.

This upcoming fall the student group will be led by English Professor Mark Brosamer. The traveling teachers get the luxury of a paid ticket and an apartment to live in. But that does not mean they do not put in their share of hard work. They are solely in charge of all the marketing that goes into recruiting the students, not an easy job in the current economic state.

According to Brosamer, his marketing strategies include vari-

ous flyers, visiting classrooms, and setting up several informational meetings. A marketing plan is a key factor to the teacher's application to the committee who ultimately decides who will host the trip, according to Kay Harrison, the coordinator of the study abroad program. Harrison mentioned that Brosamer was chosen based on his extensive traveling and the fact that he previously took a group of Ohlone students to Cambridge, England for a semester.

This will be Brosamer's first time returning to the country since he was 17 years old. His previous travels include China, South America, and France. "[Your] education is not finished until you have a passport and use it," he said, emphasizing the importance of international travel.

What is fall semester here in the USA is spring semester in Australia. Students can expect good weather and they will get a week off from school for "Spring Break." Brosamer intends to spend his break in Tasmania, a southern island state of Australia, known for its natural environment. Business Professor Christine Bolt was the previous teacher who took students to Australia. She spent her break snorkeling in the Great Barrier Reef and exploring the Daintree Rainforest in North Australia.

Australia offers many opportunities to the students. There are two planned field trips, one to the Blue Mountains for hiking in the untouched wilderness and the other to the Royal National Park for a barbecue and a look at a "secret" waterfall and pool, according to the program's pamphlet. Brosamer said that he has been putting together an event calendar comprised of activities such as festivals and parades

that will be taking place during the stay in Australia. Other Australian highlights include Bondi Beach, the Hunter Valley wine country and Sydney nightlife. Bolt pointed out that a lot of what there is to do out there is fun, yet free of cost.

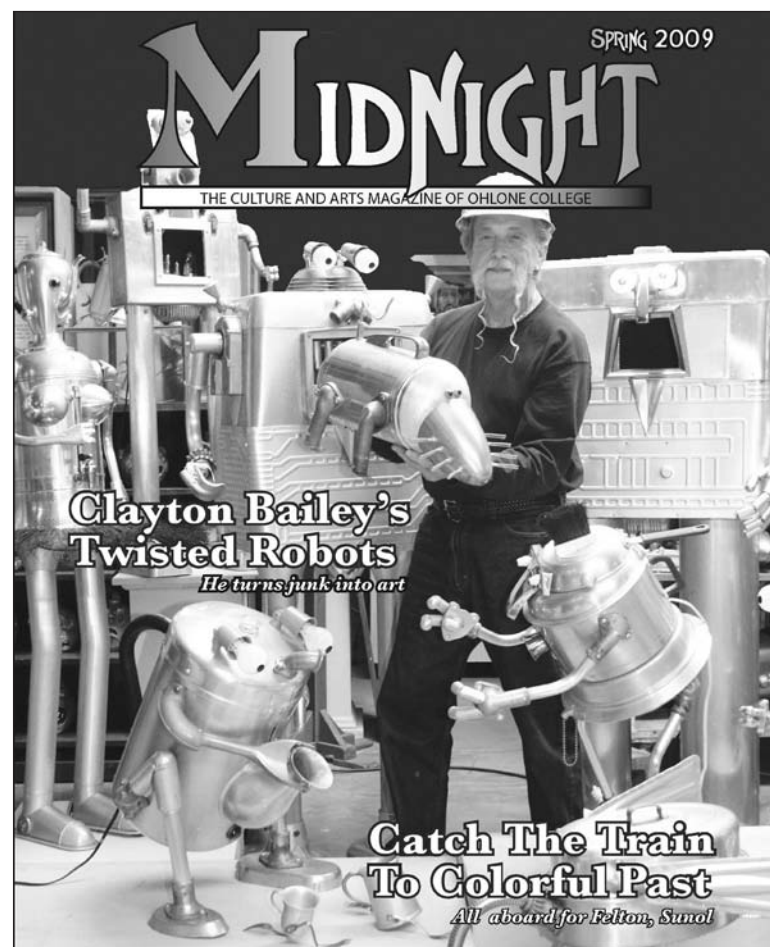
This is more than just a memorable experience for the students; the semester abroad may also provide a leg up in the job market. Harrison explained that intercultural communication is something highly valued by employers. It also demonstrates an ability to adapt and be flexible, something that might give you an advantage when interviewing for jobs.

Ohlone has offered students the chance to study abroad every fall semester since 1990. This upcoming fall will be the third semester that students have traveled to Australia.

"I have only good things to say," Bolt said of her experience in the land down under. Her favorite part of the trip was seeing the students mature and bond together. She described the people of Australia as friendly, helpful and upbeat.

Dispelling myths about each other's culture is something that Brosamer is looking forward to. He said that each culture learns stereotypes of one another based off Hollywood movies. Some things may be true, while others are nothing but a skewed perspective. The Aussies will ask hard questions, he said, and the students will have to learn how to respond.

According to Harrison, there are nine applicants for the semester abroad so far, in order for the trip to occur there must be approximately 20 students attending. Those interested in attending can contact Harrison or Brosamer.



## Midnight Magazine comes out Tuesday

By **NOAH LEVIN**  
Opinion editor

Journalism may be a challenged industry, but the stories that Ohlone loves to read will still be coming your way on May 11, with the release of *Midnight Magazine*, Issue 5.

I personally can say that this is THE BEST issue of our school fine magazine yet, with stories about a robot-building artist, therapeutic teahouses, historical train rides and even ghost hunting.

Our staff has worked tirelessly, and now we wish to share the fruit of our labors. So when you see us shouting and haranguing as we distribute *Midnight* in the Quad Tuesday, don't be alarmed.

Come to our table, say "Hi," and grab a magazine. Crack that sucker open and get a whiff of that "fresh off the presses" smell, and don't be afraid to read it, starting right then and there.

We've put a lot of our time, both in and out of the classroom, to bring our peers tales of wonder and interest from all over the Bay Area.

And nothing would delight us more than for the Ohlone community to enjoy the newest and finest issue of *Midnight* yet.

## Comedy Night brings home bacon for forensics

By **SEAN NERO**  
Staff writer

Students were invited to get their laugh on as Bay Area comedians performed during Comedy Night.

The Forensics Department invited five professional comedians from all across the Bay Area Friday, May 1, to perform, including Ohlone's own Sammy Obeid. The event cost \$5 to attend with all proceeds going to the Forensics Department.

Obeid, a professional comedian,

acted as host as well as the opening act of the event. Obeid was a finalist in Wild 94.9's best comic standing competition, eventually winning second place.

Obeid, who doesn't currently have a major, has participated in numerous comedy and standup events across the Bay Area.

The second act was San Jose resident Danny Cruzz. Cruzz's jokes focused more on his Hispanic ethnicity and many of the stereotypes associated with it. Cruzz captured

the crowd with gestures and numerous references to his ethnicity.

Next up was Corrine Anderson from Berkeley. The self-proclaimed "cougar" made jokes dealing with things from her relationship issues to being a single mother with children. Anderson was featured on Nick at Night's "Funniest mom in America" show, according to Obeid.

The fourth comic, Joshua Walters, was also from Berkeley. Walters had a unique approach to

comedy, doing everything from roasting audience members to becoming a human beat boxer.

According to his personal webpage, Walters is the creator of the Madhouse Rhythm which uses stage performances to tell his life story. Walters has also been a theater performer for a decade and he utilizes those elements into his comedic sets.

The last performer was Sacramento resident Tapan Trivedi, who used a myriad of comedic elements

in his set. Trivedi made use of the audience and improvised jokes well-based on what the audience members told him. Tapan has been featured on the Coexist comedy tour along with Obeid. This tour features five comics with different religious affiliations telling jokes in order to broaden a person's view.

The next event hosted by the Forensics Department will be Speech Night, Friday, May 8, in Room 2133.

It will cost \$5 to attend.

## EOPS recognized for helping students persevere

By **NAZIA MASTAN**  
Staff writer

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> year supporting educationally disadvantaged students on May 14. This state-funded program that was started during the Civil Rights movement has helped students from low-income homes and those who are underrepresented in the collegiate population due to their ethnicity or educational circumstances.

Unfortunately, many students who come to Ohlone are not able to assert themselves as education-

ally competitive students because of the fact that their high schools did not equip them with the necessary skills to succeed in a college environment. This is where EOPS has been able to help.

This 40-year-old program's goal is to help students with monetary assistance in the form of grants and scholarships, as well as tutoring and in-depth counseling. This is done to make sure that students are able to assert themselves confidently, which will allow them to succeed and meet their full potential in a competitive college environment, as well as throughout the rest of

their lives in the workforce, and beyond.

EOPS has aided students in realizing their educational goals and will be commemorating many of these students in its May 14 reception in the Jackson Theater. It will start at 5:30 p.m. and the ceremony itself will be held at 6 p.m.

Although EOPS will be celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> year here at Ohlone, instead of honoring staff members and people who have assisted the program in its many years here at Ohlone, the ceremony will highlight the accomplishments of the students who have benefited from

the program. This shows that the program has been of great importance to the Ohlone community, not only because of staff assistance but because the students have been extremely persistent about achieving their educational goals.

Program Director Debbie Trigg said, "EOPS students persist to a 80 percent higher degree than the rest of the general population." This is perhaps because of the in-depth counseling resources as well as moral support that the EOPS provides students.

The in-depth counseling gives more attention to the students than

general school counseling because it takes into consideration the diverse needs of the student, rather than just advising them on their educational future.

Although Trigg described EOPS as "the last hope for students that want to go to college because it constantly provides resources, workshops and grants to allow them to get through," the students who receive assistance from EOPS come out on top partly because of the help they receive from the program but most of all because of the determination that they equip themselves with.