



## Food for Thought

By NAZIA  
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Columnist

The youth of America is on the political rise once again. California had its most marginal vote for President Obama largely due to the massive voting turnout of the young demographic. And in my eyes, the biggest proponents of this turnaround are the high school and college students across America.

You may be thinking, what can I do? Why would anyone listen to me? But I'm sure you have heard the conscientious lyrics of The Beatles, Bob Marley, just two of the numerous artists that influenced the baby boomer generation to take action during the late '60s.

I know a thing or two about how politicians perceive students because having worked with Mayor Wasserman and in the offices of Congressman Stark and Senator Feinstein, I've come to see that the opinions of active young individuals are highly valued because we're the ones who will really go out on a limb to get the facts straight and the truth about issues.

It's because we are the future of America and we're slowly opening our eyes to a vision of a country run by our own ideals.

There are a lot of things we should be thinking about and we do have a say. Let's start really small, local; things that affect us every day. Where? Ohlone.

If you are an Ohlone student, you're bound to see budget cuts taking a deep toll on our scholastic environment.

There are students sitting on the floor in classrooms. Class sections have been cut, which has prevented our ability to choose from the plethora of classes we deserve to have.

It also affects those students who are trying to transfer because the reduction of sections may reduce the number of units we can take and whether we get our 60 units in a timely manner to be able to transfer.

Professors sometimes refuse to take in more students because it affects their ability to effectively teach such a large number. I mean how many tests and quizzes can one person really grade?

I'm sure you also remember the debacle surrounding the potential firing of an essential member of Ohlone's staff from the Transfer Center. I really liked Ohlone's approach to handling these situations, speaking out.

Administrative decisions are made by a group of people that have Ohlone's best interests at heart, but students should have a say in how our money is spent, and methods to curb spending as well.

The activity that the Civic Engagement Club did last week was great and hopefully they will have an impact on California legislators. I really hope there were things that students suggested should be done, instead of just explaining how the cuts are affecting them. Speaking out is the first step, however there are many more steps to climb at Ohlone... "To Be Continued."

# Council struggles with budget cuts

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semesters since they are considered to be more important to full-time students.

In this way, the college would be able to preserve the "bread and butter classes" that students need.

The budget cuts may affect deaf students in particular because it might mean a reduction of resources.

This year, based on the services Ohlone provides to deaf students,

the college qualified for \$1,162,252 in funding from the state.

Instead, it received only \$218,942, a 49 percent cut that leaves a large hole in the budget.

These are not cuts that Ohlone can absorb by cutting classes, and it is required by law to provide services to the deaf community, such as interpreters.

According to Roberts, "We remain committed to offering these programs, however, and the fund-

ing will have to come from another source on campus."

One way that Ohlone plans to deal with the problem is by encouraging deaf and hard of hearing students to take classes together in order to share interpreters.

However, due to the number of deaf students, the limited amount of interpreters, the variety of classes, and the necessity of juggling the schedules of students who take

classes at different campuses, it promises to be challenging to organize the services.

Demand for classes is growing within the deaf community on campus as well, since students are often redirected from other community colleges to Ohlone.

Across the board, high demand for classes and limited supply promises to be a problem that students and Council members will have to face at their next meeting on Feb. 22.



Photo by Paul Mueller

**Paul Mueller shot this picture of his daughter prior to her surgery for hip dysplasia.**

## Photography professor, published

By DAVE SHEFFER  
Staff writer

Professor Paul Mueller was given his first camera at the age of 15 and hasn't stopped taking photographs for more than 30 years.

He has taught photography at Ohlone for 10 years. And as a parent, he loves taking pictures of his daughter Sadie, just as any parent does.

His 3-year-old daughter Sadie had hip dysplasia; her left femur was not connected to her hip socket. The surgery involved reshaping both the femur and the hip socket and then connecting the two.

Mueller said he took pictures because it seemed to be a story to tell.

He found out about the Emory University photo contest while his daughter was recovering from the surgery. He edited the book into a pdf file that he sent off to Emory University to give himself a deadline on finishing the book, which is so important in the field of photography when so often photographers don't have any kind of deadline at all.

The contest was about the essence of home and so he felt that home is family and difficulty is a reminder of how important things are.

Mueller won second place out of more than 130 photographers and 700 photos that were submitted to Picturing Home: Friends of Emory Visual Arts Juried Photography Exhibition. Mueller said he did

not expect to win second place; he didn't think the contest was more than an exhibition at Emory University.

The staff of Ohlone has been very supportive of his award due to an announcement going out to teachers, however his students are generally unaware that he won an award, so he is happy that this article will inform so he will not have to.

His wife has been supportive of the project throughout the entire process, which is a good thing since she is in most of the pictures and his daughter being 3 years old, has yet to grasp the concept that there are pictures of her in the book.

Only three copies of the book were made since they were handmade; one is for Mueller and his

wife, one is for his daughter Sadie and the third was sent into Emory University Gallery.

The book sent to Emory University will be returned to him and he will end up with an extra copy of the book that he is unsure about what to do with.

Mueller's advice for budding photographers is to photograph constantly, ask for honest advice, look at photos constantly, and do not get hung up because it takes a lot of bad photos to make good ones.

Mueller says that one of the best things to come out of this experience is his new love of hand printed books. He said that it is great to have something to hold that is tangible and that it was a humbling experience.

## Board discusses Deaf Center

By EAN TAIJERON  
Staff writer

One of the first items of the Board of Trustees meeting Wednesday was to pass a proclamation to recognize Black History Month. Then, Malik Erin, a representative to the African American Club, accepted the proclamation from Trustee Teresa Cox.

Erin said, "I would like to thank you all for this recognition of Black History Month, because it is not only

African history, but also American history."

There will be a ceremony on Thursday, Feb. 11 honoring Black History Month at noon, in the Cafeteria.

Discussions on the Ohlone College budget update for Ohlone term 2010-'11 included government plans to subtract large sums of funds at the state level, such as billions of dollars from the prison system, and a vast cut from welfare; to assist relieving current and future cuts on

education in California.

Dean Genie Gertz, of the Deaf Students Division, charted the evolution of her department to the Board. Gertz gave a brief history of the deaf students at Ohlone. The Deaf Students Division first began with 30 students in the 1970's.

As the division continued to blossom, Ohlone became more recognized locally and eventually on a worldwide level due to our excellence in the field of Deaf studies.

Gertz analyzed some of the net benefits and aspirations of the deaf studies department here at Ohlone.

Gertz continued that another advantage of this division is that the ASL Interpreters Preparatory Program (IPP), which instructs hearing students to be interpreters, also provides practical work experience for deaf students.

The Board will continue to address the on-going budget concerns at their next meeting in March.