

## Council discusses outsourcing bookstore

By **TINA KARIMI**  
Staff writer

College Council discussed the future of the bookstore and the response to last week's budget forum during their March 8 meeting.

Currently, the bookstore is owned and operated by Ohlone College and staffed by students.

However, the college's Pur-

chasing and Contracts director, Mark Robbins, has received offers from outside vendors interested in running the bookstore.

Such vendors that run college bookstores include Follett Books, Barnes and Noble, and Nevada Books.

The college is in the process of issuing requests for proposals to interested vendors in order to

learn what they could potentially offer Ohlone.

Vice President Mike Calegari called the decision to explore the options available for managing the bookstore a "due diligence decision," which is being considered primarily to see what options are available.

"Our core mission is not retail operations," said Calegari. "The

bookstore is ancillary."

Another vendor may ostensibly be able to run the bookstore more efficiently, given the changes in the e-book market and educational technology.

The Council hopes to meet with constituent groups on campus and reach a "collegial decision" by the end of the semester.

Other colleges have put their bookstores in the charge of vendors, including Las Positas, which has a deal with Follett Books.

After considering such a deal, Chabot College decided to continue running the bookstore in-house.

The University of California Santa Cruz decided to hand control of its bookstore to an outside vendor, but ended up buying back its inventory after being displeased with the arrangement.

Santa Clara University's book-

store is run by Barnes and Noble.

The Council also discussed response to the Budget Forum at length.

Councilmember Martha Brown commented that she felt Ohlone was "suffering from a crisis of mistrust."

Vice President Jim Wright countered that there is a, "crisis of confidence in the state of California."

He continued, "there is a lot of frustration about California pulling back on its commitment to education."

The severe cuts to state funding for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services that Ohlone is required by law to provide remained a major topic of discussion. These cuts are contributing heavily to Ohlone's \$2.6 million budget deficit.

## Thumbs up, thumbs down on this year's Oscar gowns

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like one would with a towel after getting out of the shower. It would have had a similar effect, perhaps an even better one! I mean, the triangular top of the front of the dress looked like it was growing some sort of metallic mold on it. Speaking of growths, what about her hair? The woman had so much fake hair on her head that I couldn't believe that she was standing up straight. If only you had an idea of how heavy fake hair is. And what makes it worse, is how her extensions did not match her real hair color; her hair had a washed-out look to it, while the fake hair had a golden hue. All in all, as far as I'm concerned, Sarah Jessica Parker should have stayed home.

Let's talk about Cameron Diaz. She proudly wore an Oscar de la Renta gown and you could tell as she strutted down the red carpet she felt like she looked amazing. Though her hair and makeup were flawless, and her dress was sensational (honestly, would we expect anything less from Oscar?) I felt like the silver beading and sequins on the dress completely washed her out and that the red lipstick she wore was a desperate attempt to keep her from looking like a sheet.

To wrap up this fashion piece, let's end it with the highest possible note, the crowning jewel, and my pick for best-dressed of the night: Jennifer Lopez. Jennifer Lopez wore a structural Armani Prive

gown, in a shade of pink so pale it almost looked white, and she looked absolutely STUNNING in it. Some people didn't get the side attachment or the side train as I'm going to call it, because it's so unique and high fashion, but I think it was utter perfection. Lopez was smart about this dress too; she decided to go with a naked neck and kept her earrings and bracelet very simple, so that your entire focus would be on the dress.

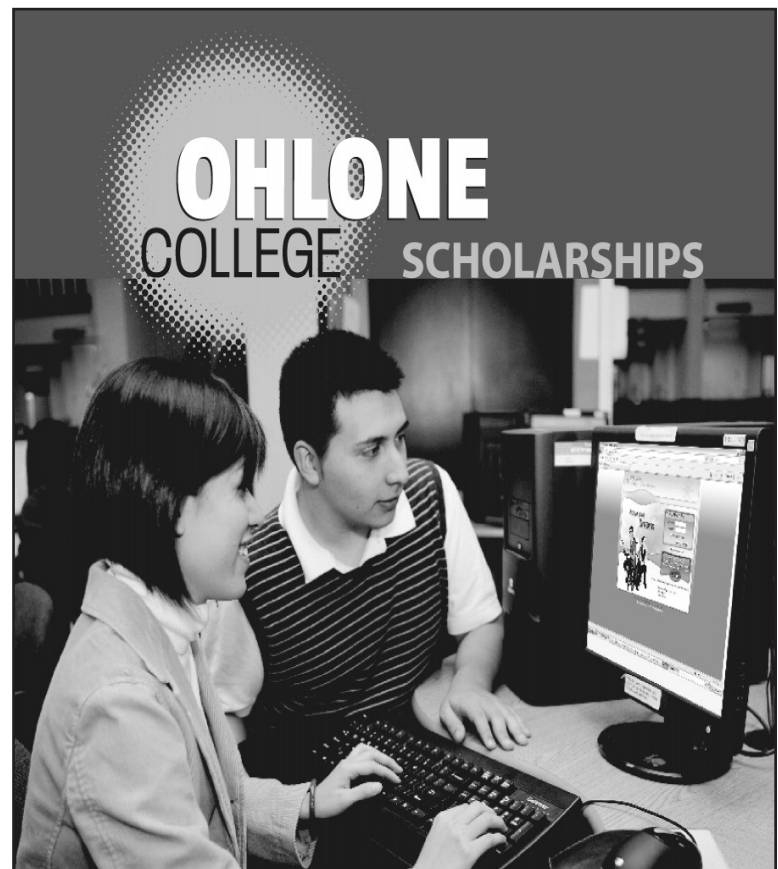
If you watched her, you could see how confident and sexy and proud she felt while wearing this gown, which in turn made her look even better in the dress! All in all, the woman who outshone all the rest of the stars was Jennifer Lopez!

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Starting this weekend,  
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