



MENDOCINO COLLEGE

FOUNDATION *News*

Spring 2005

"Pursuing excellence in education and service" ...in partnership with Mendocino College since 1985

▼ *Foundation Gala Attracts College Supporters*



Above: Foundation supporter David Clark pours wine for the many participants at this year's Gala. Below: Foundation Vice President Tom Day (upper left) oversees activities, including auctions, music, wine tasting and dinner.

The Ukiah Valley Conference Center was filled to capacity with over 220 guests attending the annual Mendocino College Foundation Gala on Saturday, April 9. The evening's program included music by the College Jazz Band under the direction of instructor John Parkinson, with featured vocalist Paula Samonte. Net proceeds from the event are anticipated to exceed \$14,000. The Foundation will use these funds to provide student scholarships, enrich instructional offerings, and enhance program and staff development at Mendocino College.

Channing Cornell, Gala Committee chairman, characterized the event as "a definite success." He noted the generous support of Mendocino and Lake county wineries as contributing to the enjoyment of the evening. Cases of wine were donated for the reception and dinner by Barra of Mendocino, Brutocao Cellars, Elizabeth Vineyards, Esterlina, Graziano Family of Wines, Lolonis Winery, Mendocino Wine Company, McNab Ridge Winery, McDowell Valley Vineyards, Navarro Vineyards & Winery, Steele Wines, and Wildhurst Vineyards.

The sumptuous buffet was catered by the Blue Bird Café. Before, during, and after dinner the auctions generated eager attention by bidders, with 31 items in the silent auction and 12 items selected for the live auction ably handled by volunteer auctioneer Ed Nickerman. Total auction activity brought in \$7,000, more than doubling the proceeds from the 2004 Gala auctions.

Cornell credited his Gala committee of Foundation board members for making this year's stellar event so successful. The 2005 committee included Kristi Barrington, Peggy Campbell-DeBolt, Rhonada Clausen, John Bogner, Tod Kong, and Neelam Salmen. Plans are already underway for the 2006 Gala, which will be held on a Saturday night in late April.

Student Scholarships ▼



Mendocino College received 172 applications from students for scholarships for the 2005-06 school year. The Spring Awards Ceremony is Friday, May 13, 6 pm, in the Center Theatre. The Foundation provided \$48,700 in scholarships for the current 2004-05 school year. Scholarships are provided to students who have a strong desire to improve themselves through education and who need financial assistance to achieve their goals.

DANDING GAN

Recipient of a \$1,000 Foundation Promise and a \$1,000 Academic Excellence Scholarship

What are your current education plans at Mendocino College?

Right now I'm just mostly taking general education classes, getting them out of the way, and then will concentrate on the other classes after I transfer.

What are the two top things that you most appreciate about Mendocino College?

First, I appreciate the fact that the classes are small; this provides a better learning environment for students and allows the teacher to pay closer attention to the progress of each individual student. Second, most teachers are highly qualified and professional, they know what they are doing, and this works towards the benefits of the students.

Who are two faculty or staff that have most affected you?

Debra White (full-time math professor), for her exceptional teaching method and style, her ability to make even the duller subject interesting, and for being wonderful and supportive; and Bob Alto (full-time speech/humanities professor), for his simple yet profound advise.

What are your plans after Mendocino College?

I plan to transfer to Humboldt State University and pursue a degree in Forestry.

How has receiving these scholarships affected your educational plans?

Well, I didn't have to work as much and could allocate more time to my studies.

JANNEÉ DALE

*Recipient of a Part-Time Faculty and AAUW-Ukiah Scholarships
Works at the college as a Program Assistant for the Disability Resource Center*

What are your current education plans at Mendocino College?

I'm a psychology major. I plan to take the necessary classes at Mendocino College to fulfill an AA degree in Psychology as well as lower division transfer classes to transfer to a CSU or UC campus.

What are the two top things that you most appreciate about Mendocino College?

Mendocino College has amazing and inspirational instructors. I also really appreciate the beauty our campus possesses.

Who are two faculty or staff that have most affected you?

Riba Taylor (Part-time English Instructor) has been extremely inspirational to me. Upon my decision to pursue an education I was a bit intimidated and without Riba's persistence and acknowledgment of my anxiety and assuring me to take small steps, I wouldn't have continued. She is an amazing instructor who really knows how to teach. Susan Anderson (part-time counselor for the Disability Resource Center) has been my significant support person for the past year. I admire her inspiration, positive energy and individualism. When there is any personal doubt, Susan helps me realize there is no goal that is out of my reach.

What are your plans after Mendocino College?

I still have not made up my mind for my future after finishing classes at Mendocino College. I most definitely want to get a BA in Psychology as well as Counseling but from what college, I have yet to decide.

How has receiving these scholarships affected your educational plans?

The scholarships I received helped to pay for all my books and materials as well as a few living expenses for myself and my son.



Lehner is New College President

Following a nation-wide search, extensive work by a Screening Committee, and public forums for the three final candidates, the Governing Board of the Mendocino-Lake Community College District announced at their April 13 meeting that Kathryn G. Lehner has been selected as the next Superintendent/President of Mendocino College effective June 15. Ms. Lehner will succeed Tom Kesey, Interim Superintendent/President, who filled the position following the retirement of Dr. Marilyn G. Brock in August 2004.

Ms. Lehner has been employed by the College as the Vice-President of Academic Affairs for the last two years. She earned her baccalaureate from the University of Kansas, with a major in accounting, and an M.B.A. from the University of New Mexico. Prior to joining Mendocino College, Lehner worked at Pike's Peak Community College in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where she served as an instructor and in progressive administrative capacities as an assistant dean, division dean, and associate vice president of education services.



"I look forward to working with the Mendocino College Foundation as it enters a new era of managing increased investments and seeking a permanent staff member to handle the daily affairs of the organization," states Lehner. "It is crucial, especially in these difficult financial times, for the Foundation, the College Board of Trustees and the College administration to work collaboratively on developing additional funding sources for our students and the College programs."

Leave a Legacy

We don't always take the time to reflect on our lives, the paths we have chosen, the help we have received in our times of need or the opportunities provided to us by the unselfish gestures of others. It is in that light we can think once more about the George Szanick bequest to the Mendocino College Foundation. It is a vivid example of the impact a gift can make in creating opportunities for our students as well as our efforts to sustain the economic and academic vitality of the college we care so much about.

While there is much to celebrate about this gift, perhaps there is one sad thing about this type of bequest, and that would be that countless recipients never have an opportunity to personally thank their benefactor. However, it may be this very fact that makes this type of generosity so meaningful beyond the monetary aspect. While we cannot always thank a benefactor personally, we can honor their gifts and legacy by following their example and helping others through the wonderful act of giving. This produces a multiplier effect that provides a tonic as our community College struggles with the dilemma of ever decreasing public funding while being asked to provide ever expanding opportunities.

Through a planned gift to the Mendocino College Foundation you will have an impact not only on the opportunities the College provides, but also on the lives of the persons that are touched by your generosity. If you have given in the past, we say thank you for your support and contribution to a touching legacy.

—Mark DeMeulenaere

Foundation Board of Directors

From the President



On Saturday, April 9, the Mendocino College Foundation held its annual Gala to raise funds for scholarships and the needs of Mendocino College. The Gala was well attended and most enjoyable. The Foundation board is so appreciative of our community's support of this major event. The Foundation has had great success this year in raising money for scholarships and other programs of the College. We have had the good fortune of working with Tom Kesey, Interim President. Tom has spent a great amount of time guiding the Foundation as we grow. As the college welcomes a new president, we thank Tom for all his efforts on our behalf. We also welcome Tommy Thornhill as a new member of the Foundation board.

The Foundation has a strong desire to present itself as a viable and active support system for one of California's finest community colleges. Representatives from Mendocino and Lake counties comprise our board of directors and our affiliate group, the Friends of the Mendocino College Library, making this goal possible. I cannot say enough about the outstanding work of these two organizations, and would like to invite anyone who might wish to contribute financially, or donate your time, to help us support our fine College. Any interested person may contact me at (70) 468-3071.

—Donna Berry

Foundation President



**Mendocino College
FOUNDATION**

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Donna Berry, President; Tom Day,
Vice President; Thomas W. Kesity,
Secretary (Mendocino College Interim
Superintendent/President)

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FINANCIAL REPORT

A summary of the Finance Committee's last available audited Financial Statement of the Mendocino College Foundation, Incorporated, as of June 30, 2004 is below. Copies of the financial statements are available in the Superintendent/President's office of the Mendocino-Lake Community College District, Room 1071, 1000 Hensley Creek Road, Ukiah, 468-3071.

ASSETS

Cash & investments	\$ 2,579,396
Donated properties	\$ 733,196
Other Assets	\$ 133,063
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 3,445,655

NET ASSETS

Reserved	\$ 866,721
Available for scholarships & other uses	\$ 2,578,934
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$ 3,445,655

The budget for the 2004-2005 fiscal year ending projects income of \$151,000. Projected expenditures are:

Salaries and operating expenses	\$ 53,370
Scholarships	\$ 48,700
Other grants and program support	\$ 48,930
TOTAL DISBURSEMENT	\$ 151,000

Members of the Finance Committee are: Jim Angell, John Behnke, Donna Berry, Jack Daniels-Chair, Tom Day, Tom Kesity, Tod Kong, and Tommy Thornhill.

2005 FOUNDATION MEETINGS: June 8, Lakeport; September 14, Ukiah; and December 7, Ukiah. All meetings begin at noon and are open to the public.

For more Foundation information, visit us at www.MendocinoCollege.edu