A loud “volcanic” eruption from a scientific experiment topped off a festive grand opening this spring of the Allan Hancock College science building. The ribbon cutting gave way to a host of activities including scientific and medical lab displays and tours of the $21 million, two-story, 44,302 square foot building. Nine scientific laboratories; a dental lab composed of seven patient operatories, each with computerized patient management software; and a nursing skills lab with a $75,000 computerized patient mannequin and eight hospital simulation units were some of the tour highlights.

Completion of the facility was partially funded by Measure I, the $180 million general obligation bond passed by voters in June 2006. The majority of the construction was funded by the state.

Other projects under way with Measure I bond funding include planning for a new “one stop” student services building, a new public safety training facility for fire and police, an addition to the Children’s Center, a multimillion dollar mainframe computer system, and various technology advances and upgrades to support student and operational needs.

The eight-member Measure I Citizens’ Oversight Committee continues to meet quarterly. Its next meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2008. Meeting agendas, notes and monthly updates regarding Measure I projects are online at www.hancockcollege.edu. Click “Measure I Info” on the homepage.
Welding class forges opportunities

Allan Hancock College welding instructor Hans Duus has forged a lot of one-of-a-kind lighting fixtures including chandeliers, wall sconces and hanging pendants for upscale Las Vegas casinos, but this spring he experienced a first. He hand-forged and installed a piece for the "Extreme Makeover Home Edition" TV show for a church in New Orleans damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

Duus has been teaching the next generation of metal workers at Allan Hancock College for about eight years. He teaches beginning blacksmithing — not horseshoeing, but forging metal, usually steel, into ornamental and functional pieces using four basic techniques: tapering, fullering, upsetting and twisting.

"You have to learn these basic things to understand what you're doing," Duus said.

Duus helped select the equipment used in his class. "It's probably one of the best equipped, best shops around for this level of training," he said. Students take his class to make art or to learn a trade.

Ryan Cassel is currently taking the garden art class as well as advanced welding. He is a carpenter. "I want to better myself to maybe someday do something with welding, to make myself more useful. My brother is in auto mechanics. There's always welding for cars," Cassel said. "People always told me having a welder as a carpenter is a good thing to do. I think it will help me later being able to advance myself."

"There are great career opportuni ties in it if you want to work at it," Duus said. "There is a demand in the industry for qualified people."

Starting salary around here is $10 to $15 an hour, said Raywell Snowden, the industrial technology department chair and full-time welding instructor. Experienced workers can earn more than $30 an hour.

Snowden built the welding program into what it is today.

Students can learn the fundamentals of working with metal and earn a certificate or an associate in science degree in welding technology. Some will continue to an apprenticeship program. Many will find work in the industry, which locally includes agriculture, manufacturing plants, packing sheds, construction, building erectors, tank builders, fabricators and trucking repair.

"The whole country is hurting for welders, along with machinists and other skilled laborers," Snowden added. "I think we have probably the biggest program in the region. We have classes that meet every night and every day, even on Saturday."

In the Garden Art class, knowledge of welding is not required, but it is useful. In one evening, students can create a hummingbird by welding parts together. Other projects include bird baths, flowers, sculptures, angel fish, seahorses, road runners and bells.

Deborah Graf took the class for fun. "Anybody can start in. They have projects and templates … actually, it's an inspiration to go through the scrap heap and see what I can find," she said. "I have a goal of being able to do some of this stuff at home."

About a dozen welding classes will be offered this fall from Beginning Welding to Ornamental Iron. See page 127 of the fall 2008 schedule. You can find the schedule online at www.hancockcollege.edu or at any campus location.

New meteorology course features real-time weather tracking

Allan Hancock College has joined forces with the American Meteorological Society (AMS) to teach an innovative meteorology course that studies weather as it happens. The course will rely heavily on the use of the latest weather data, maps, forecasts and satellite and radar imagery delivered via the Internet. Components of the course were developed by the AMS with funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Introduction to Meteorology (GEOG 110) will be offered beginning August 26 on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:35 p.m. on the Santa Maria campus. It is a great opportunity for farmers, ranchers, private pilots, boaters, outdoor enthusiasts and others to be better informed about the weather, what to expect, and why.

Online Weather Studies is partially delivered over the Internet into the college lab. Based on real-time weather, students learn hands-on by completing two laboratory investigations each week.

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With more than 20 years of experience in various meteorological applications, instructor Stephen Arnold is very excited about teaching the new course. "We receive a daily weather summary from a state climatologist each morning, and the lab is designed to work with current weather data each week," he said.

Field trips to a National Weather Service forecast office, the Vandenberg Air Force Base weather squadron and KSBY Channel 6 are planned.

The class meets both general education and California State University requirements.

For more information, contact Arnold at (805) 922-6966 ext. 2174 or at samold@hancockcollege.edu.

Commencement

Allan Hancock College celebrated its 87th commencement this spring at the Santa Maria campus. A total of 780 graduates earned 1,062 degrees in 59 different majors. Graduates ranged in age from 17 to 68 and represented a wide array of experience, perspective and diversity. A crowd of more than 2,000 family members and friends attended the ceremony.
Register now for fall 2008 classes

WebReg Online Registration
Through August 13, 2008
In-person Registration
August 18 & 19, 2008
8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. (Santa Maria & Lompoc)
9 a.m.-7 p.m. (Vandenberg AFB & Solvang)
Late In-person Registration
8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. (Santa Maria & Lompoc)
9 a.m.-7 p.m. (Vandenberg AFB & Solvang)

For those who are registering for distance learning (online, etc.), classes only, registration via fax or U.S. mail is also available August 14-28 for semester-length classes and Fast Track Term 1 classes, and August 14-October 22 for Fast Track Term 2 classes. For details, see page 42 of the fall credit schedule on the AHC Web site at www.hancockcollege.edu/click Class Schedule.

If you plan to earn a bachelor’s degree, start at Allan Hancock College. Call the University Transfer Center at 922-6966 ext. 3363.

FEES
All California residents pay $20 per unit, plus other minimal costs such as parking.
Financial aid is available to help students pay fees and related college expenses such as books, supplies and living expenses. Applications and information are available in the Financial Aid office.
For more financial aid information, call (805) 922-6966 or toll free 1-866-DIAL AHC (342-5242) ext. 3200.

Fall schedules available at all college locations or online at www.hancockcollege.edu

Who chooses Hancock?

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Who chooses Hancock?

Start here. Go anywhere.
Terry Dworaczyk, Ed.D. is a financial planner who owns an Ameriprise Financial franchise in Santa Maria. He has a master’s degree in business administration from Boston University, a doctor of education from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a CFP (Certified Financial Planner) designation. Terry is married and lives in Santa Maria.

Mary Harvey most recently retired from Allan Hancock College where she was a counselor for 16 years. She lives in Lompoc, where in addition to being actively involved as a volunteer for a number of nonprofit and governmental agencies, she enjoys outdoor activities.

Judy Markline retired from Allan Hancock College in 2004 after a 30-year career as an instructor in English and later as a dean. Judy is a founding Allan Hancock College alumna who spent much of her career tutoring three of her grandchildren in southern California.

Mark your calendars! Hancock Cup Golf Tournament

Monday, September 15, 2008
Santa Maria Country Club
Sign up to play or to sponsor.
For more information, call: (805) 925-2004

7th Annual Joe White Memorial Dinner & Auction
Saturday, August 23, 2008
Santa Maria Fairpark
For tickets and information, call (805) 345-5858

Our Fiscal Strength


Capital Projects

$210,397

- Bonded payments to Building Student Success campaign

$955,374

- Departmental funds
- General operations
- Capital improvements

Non-Scholarship Endowments

$753,953

- Program funding
- Foundation operations

SUSAN MOATS owns and operates a laser and cosmetic practice, Moats Laser & Skin Care, in Santa Maria. She is married to Michael Moats, a local dermatologist, and has been a resident of Santa Maria for 46 years. Susan’s personal activities include golf dancing, hula hooping and grandchildren.

DEANNSHEPARD, MD., FACSP is a board-certified eye surgeon in Santa Maria. He is acknowledged as a surgeon, author, teacher and inventor in eye microsurgery. Dennis and his wife, Franziska, have two adult children.

WENDY TEIXEIRA is an Allan Hancock College alumna who then transferred to Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. She is a sailor with Prudential California Realty and was awarded “Realtor of the Year” last year by her colleagues. She is married and has three great teenagers.

JEFF YORK is the President/CEO of CoastHills Federal Credit Union. He has worked in credit unions for 23 years, more than half with Disney credit union in Burbank and Orlando. He and his wife, Michelle, have three children and reside in Pinon Beach.
Superintendent/president José Ortiz is working to build a vision of a college that serves the needs of all students and the community we live in. Many of these needs require a financial commitment that is beyond the college's state-funded operating budget. And thus, the formation of a unique donor program known as the President’s Circle. The President’s Circle raises funds for college-related projects, identified by the president, that have no other funding source.

President’s Circle first-year highlights:
• Membership has grown to more than 100
• Projects include the purchase/installation of a wireless network inside the Student Center, and a commitment toward the purchase of works of “public” art for the Lompoc Valley and Santa Maria campuses.
• A textbook rental program for students.
• More than 60 President’s Circle members attended the PCPA world premiere of A Heart’s Desire, by playwright José Cruz Gonzales. The evening included a private reception in the Ann Foxworth Gallery prior to the performance.
• “Innovation Grants” will support building the new vision for AHC.

The President’s Circle welcomes all. Help shape the future of Allan Hancock College; contact the foundation office for details.
New on-campus winery expands the possibilities

“I hope to plant a vineyard on five acres of family land in a few years,” said landscape designer Josh Kaiser. “This class has definitely put me on a stepping stone toward my ultimate goal.”

Kaiser enrolled in Norm Yost’s Basic Winemaking class at Allan Hancock College. He is one of the first students to use the college’s new winery now located on the campus in Santa Maria.

“The class was unique and, for me, a great experience,” Kaiser said. “Norm not only is a well-respected vintner in the area, but he also lends a guiding hand. He teaches the basics and leaves it up to us to figure out the nuances. It’s a very hands-on class.” Other respected vintners and growers are guest speakers throughout the semester.

The new campus winery features six oak barrels currently containing Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Sangiovese-Merlot blend, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon and another Cabernet blend. Four glass carboys—typically used for home winemaking—each hold five gallons of Pinot Noir. Two kegs contain Merlot. Altogether, the class will produce about 200 cases of wine.

The students learned how to ferment the grapes using an old-fashioned basket press requiring manual labor. “These have been in use for thousands of years,” Kaiser said. “They are newly in vogue with artisan producers. These age-old methods have withstood the test of time.”

Last spring, Allan Hancock College became the first community college in the state to offer a class on organic and biodynamic viticulture and winemaking. This class follows the trend started in France 10 years ago to go one step further than organics into sustainability (a practice that dates back 2000 years to the Egyptians), said Alfredo Koch, coordinator of the viticulture and enology program. A new course on wine analysis is being taught by Darren Michaels, the general manager of one of two companies that do most of the wine analyses in Santa Barbara County. A third new course on vineyard irrigation began last fall.

““We’re providing a program here that is very accessible. It’s inexpensive and the instructors are experienced in the industry.”

- Alfredo Koch

“We’re providing a program here that is very accessible,” Koch said. “You don’t have to commit to two to four years like in some other programs. It’s inexpensive and the instructors are experienced in the industry. It’s really a great opportunity for people who would like to study in this field. You get the most important information because instructors have been studying all over the world and have the best information in the field.”

For more information about the viticulture and enology program, contact Koch at (805) 922-6966 ext. 3760 or akoch@hancockcollege.edu.

2007-08 Spring Sports Wrap-up

Eighteen Bulldog football players from the fall 2007 team signed to play at four-year universities.

The men’s basketball team had two players named to the All-WSC team. Wolfgang Geiler led the team in scoring, averaging 17.5 points per game and 16.8 rebounds. Dwayne Johnson averaged 11.8 points per game in conference play.

Three softball players were named honorable mention on the All-WSC team for the 2008 season: pitcher Monique Aguiar, infielder Shana Jackson and infielder Genica Mowatt; all are freshmen.

The much improved baseball team placed eighth on the All-WSC North squad. Relief pitcher Mickey Jannis was the only reliever named to the first team. Named to the second team were Jonathan Ramirez, an infielder; third baseman Corey Dotzler; outfielder Dane McLaughlin; and pitcher Sam Jones. Honorable mention went to shortstop Dave Anderson, outfielder David Harman and pitcher Sheldon Lechuga.

In track & field, Kenna Wolter finished second at the Southern California Regionals in the triple jump, but was unable to compete in the state finals due to an injury. Her jump in the SoCals was among the top ten in the state.

Retirees

Totaling 286 years of service, 10 Allan Hancock College employees who retired during the 2007-2008 academic year were recognized at the college’s annual end-of-year reception. Pictured from left are: retiree Dan Witmer, social science professor; 20 years; Allan Hancock College Superintendent/President José Ortiz; retiree Stan Otremba, administration of justice instructor; 38 years; Paul Fahey, learning disabilities specialist, 11 years; Robert Masaoka, political science instructor, 36 years; Ray Hobson, dean, academic affairs, 33 years; Steve Lewis, photography instructor and fine arts department chair, 34 years; Carol Anders, vice president of the AHC Board of Trustees, and retiree Wayne Johnsen, computer programmer, 36 years; Steve Lewis, photography instructor and fine arts department chair, 34 years; Carol Anders, vice president of the AHC Board of Trustees, and retiree Wayne Johnsen, computer programmer, 38 years; and Vicki Melville, academic services coordinator, 22 years.