

# Monterey Peninsula College

## Math / Science Upward Bound

### Newsletter

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#### SPECIAL POINT OF INTEREST

**This summer we will be staying again at College Nine, R2. This is the newest residential hall in the beautiful Redwoods of UCSC, the University of California at Santa Cruz. Program dates this year will begin on June 29 and end July 29, 2007.**

#### STUDENT CORNER

Hey MSUB, Randy here. I came across a great article written by a former MPC College Readiness instructor. It's about skimming and scanning . . . but first read the following paragraph.

Apratneply it dsoen't mtaetr what oderr the ltetres in a word are, the olny ipmoratnt tihng is taht the firsrt and lsat ltetre be in the rhgit palce. The rest can be a toatl mses and you can stlil raed it whit uot a porbelm. Tihs is bacesue the hamun mnid deos not raed evrey ltetre by itlesf, but the wrod as a wolhe.

Did you get it? Neat, huh? Okay, the article . . .

Here are some techniques for reading your science text. Skimming involves searching for the main ideas by reading the first and last paragraphs, and noting other organizational cues, such as summaries, used by the author. Scanning involves running your eyes down the page looking for specific facts or key words and phrases.

Skimming and scanning are particularly valuable techniques for studying scientific text-

books. Science writers pack many facts and details closely together, and students react by shifting their reading speeds to the lowest gear and crawling through the material. Notwithstanding the fact that science textbooks are usually well-organized, with main points and sub-topics clearly delineated, the typical student ignores these clues and plods through the chapter word-by-word, trying to cram it all in.

It is precisely these characteristics, organization and density of facts per page, that make it so vital that you employ skimming & scanning techniques. To successfully master a science test, you must understand thoroughly the major ideas and concepts presented. Without such a conceptual framework, you will find yourself faced with the impossible task of trying to cram hundreds of isolated facts into your memory.

Similarly, scanning skills are valuable for several purposes in studying science. First, they are an aid in locating new terms, which are introduced in the chapter. Unless you understand the new terms, it is impossible to follow the author's reasoning without a dictionary or glossary. Thus, a preliminary scanning of the chapters will alert you to the new terms, concepts and their sequence. When you locate a new term, try to find its definition. If you are not able to figure out the meaning, then look it up in the glossary or dictionary.

Keep a glossary of your own in the front page of the book. Record the terms and their definitions or the page number where the definition is located. This is an excellent aid to refer to when you are reviewing for an examination, as it provides a convenient outline of the course.

Finally, if you practice these skimming and scanning techniques prior to reading a science chapter, you will find that not only will your intensive reading take much less time, but that your retention of the important course details will greatly improve!

Adapted from article by former MPC College Readiness Instructor Nancy Souza



## CAPTAIN SALAMANDER SAYS



### A Word to Students about You and Your Financial Aid \*

Hi, it's Steve, and I'd like to talk with you about financial aid. Yes, I know that you learned all this in high school from your counselor. Consider this a refresher.

I noticed when I was in college that there seemed to be a trend among freshman students who did not adequately prepare for entering college. That is, financial aid troubles. Failure to apply for financial aid by the deadline was usually the most critical error in the application process. After all that preparation you have been through, don't let this happen to you!

I'll just briefly touch on a few pointers that may save you some heartache and headaches. First, let's define what financial aid is. Financial Aid refers to money given or loaned to a student and their family to help pay for education after high school. There are two categories of financial aid. The first category is merit based aid, which is mainly scholarships, and they have nothing to do with the family's financial ability. Good luck with this kind and be sure to apply for them.

I will always remember how surprised and pleased one MSUB student was when she applied for a college scholarship and received it! I was as happy as she was!

The second category of financial assistance is need based aid, the kind that we need to talk about. There are three different types of need based aid: grants which are funds that *do not* have to be repaid; loans which are funds that *do* have to be repaid. Then there is what is usually referred to as work study, which are funds *earned* by a student working a part-time job on the campus, such as delivering campus mail.

Now that we've cleared all that up, the way that the government determines your award is by you filling out the FAFSA. This can either be submitted electronically or by mail. Once the FAFSA has been submitted and eligibility is determined, then an award letter will be sent to you.

In summary, four important things to keep in mind are: Making sure that you submit the FAFSA *before* your state's deadline. Understanding that the awards are need based, and that all other financial awards and abilities will be taken into account. Understanding how much school will cost, and last but not least, getting your parents involved (it's not how much they are willing to help, it's how much they are financially unable to help that matters to the federal government).

\* Modified from Facts on File, 2005

Life is good. Blessings upon You,  
Stephen B. Ruth, Ph.D. Associate Director

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Alumni, my experience at college has been well thus far. I have had good teachers at UNR (Nevada). They have helped me to advance in my education in good standing (I am a dual major in both biology and nutrition, clinical dietetics and my overall GPA is 3.95). They too have helped me to learn about my unique skills as a student.

Also, UNR has many supportive programs that help students academically as well as financially, which I have been fortunate to be a part of.

I would have to say that, overall, student life at UNR is very easy going. The environment is very beautiful, peaceful, and motivates me to learn. I wish you all the best at MSUB. Lots of Love, Keshia msub class of 1998

### ALUMNI UPDATES

I am in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho going to school at North Idaho College and am studying Business Administration.

In the winter I am a ski instructor and right now I am working at The Home Depot. That's about all that is going on with me right now.

(Tee is on right) Well, I am planning to go to Butte College, which is near my home, and then transfer to a university. That is pretty much it. I was thinking that I major somewhere either in auto industry or the medical fields. I am glad that you all are doing good and that life is treating you well.

God bless. Tee Thor class of 2006

Alejandra Guerrero (Alejandra is on left) says her favorite MSUB experience of Summer 2006 was the Monterey Bay Aquarium field trip. After she graduates from college, she would like to visit Spain and Italy.



Melani Spielman, MSUB '03 (below right, on beach). I am going to Leeward Community College in Hawaii, but I am planning on going to Windward Community College after summer because I like the campus there much more. My major at the moment is liberal arts, but mostly that is just to cover some credits before I go on because I am not really sure where I want to go in life . . . probably something to do with plants or bioengineering, maybe plant biology. I don't know exactly how to find the major that fits my total interests. Maybe I'll do double majors later on.

As for college its actually lots of fun. I get the freedom to choose my own classes and schedule and I am able to plan it so I leave room for work on my off days. You meet new people and there is a lot less censorship of ideas in college than there is in high school, so you get more realistic introductions into people's lives. You also get a more communicative connection with your teachers because they're not just dealing with a classroom full of rowdy kids who don't want to be there, we're all paying for them to impart knowledge. I am really enjoying the classes I am in, the teachers are interesting and the subjects are fun. I like how this all breaks away from the monotony of high school life; however, I will always miss my friends and the fun relaxed life I led back then.

I guess being responsible and an adult (well maybe only legally; I think we're all still kids at heart) hits you like a brick in the face. You stagger back a few steps, shake, fall down, maybe; then get up and realize everything changed. Goodbye old life, Hello new.

p.s I have no problems with being in a picture with Mark, as long as nobody thinks he is me. Mel

#### ALUMNI UPDATES

Hey MSUB, Mark Oliva, 02 & 03 (at left, on beach) My first year of college was an amazing experience. UCLA is a great place and has such diversity. it's awesome! I love it.

I'm doing things that I would have never thought I would be doing. I have found new passions, met many people from many different backgrounds and cultures, and expanded on my academic studies.

Best, Mark



Hi. How are you? I'm pretty good . . . Just living the normal life right now. Just the usual . . . School, Work, Tons of homework! Family / friend Time, Football games on Fridays . . . etc.

I'm currently working at an Elementary school right now. It's great so far since I love children. These kids are wonderful, they say the most unexpected things that make me laugh so much and their mind is just full of so much curiosity.

I can't wait to go to college now. Although I still have 1 3/4 of years left . . . I want to go and live on my own. Experience the new . . . my small town gets extremely boring usually and it gets me all mad. Hehe. Still a loooong time though.

I'm currently on a school break right now, we have six weeks of school and then one off throughout the year. It's alright but I'd rather stay in school right now since I was just getting used to the routine. But oh well! Bye! Sincerely, Karina Talamantes

msub class of '05



Daesha Johnson, below right, recently appeared in her local newspaper in Hawaii representing MPC MSUB and her summer 2005 experience. The article is titled:

"Kahuku High School student heads outward and  
Upward Bound to the Math and Science Program in Monterey, CA"

Daesha Johnson of Hale'wa, Hawaii and 52 other students from Washington, Nevada, California, Saipan, New Mexico, Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands had an opportunity to attend and complete the Math and Science Upward Bound Program in Monterey, California.

Daesha commented, "First of all I would like to thank God, and a special *Mahalo* to Dr. Stephen B. Ruth and Janine Wilson for selecting me to be a part of this wonderful program and for organizing and creating a great MSUB experience this year. Also, I'd like to thank Michael Villareal for creating a safe environment and protecting all the students of MSUB. Finally, I'd like to thank the administration and residential staff: for sacrificing time from their lives to prepare students that are willing to learn and take the next big step towards a college education." ~ August 17, 2005 *North Shore News*.

#### ALUMNI UPDATE

I am currently enrolled in college at: California State University, San Bernardino. I am a full time student in their Graduate program. I will be obtaining a Master in Public Administration with a concentration in Urban Planning. Estimated graduation date will be in June of 2008.

I currently finished my under graduate study at: University of California, Riverside. My major was in: Political Science / International Affairs. I just graduated this June of 2006.

I would like to let you know that MSUB has tremendously helped me out the last couple of years in school. Now that I graduated, I'm learning that the real world is tough, sometimes a lot. I am looking forward to my education though.

Dr. Ruth, I know we had a discussion a long, long time ago about obtaining a doctorate degree and that is something I am considering once I am done with graduate school. I'm still pondering the decision but would really appreciate some advice on the subject. I look forward to hearing from you about it whenever you have time.

I will see you guys one of these days soon when I can come up there. I miss you all and haven't been able to make it to the reunions since I've been a broke college student the last couple of years. Sincerely, Der Xiong msub 1999





A message from Janine Wilson, MSUB Program Specialist:

First off, I'd like to send my best wishes to each and every former MSUB student. In order for other students to follow in your footsteps and experience MSUB we need to track your educational progress each year and submit a report to the Department of Education. Were you in high school in 2006? If so, please help us by sending a copy of your spring 2006 high school transcripts via mail, email or fax.

Seniors remember !! It's that time of year to begin the CA university application process. The CSU Fall 2007 application timeline is Oct. 1 — Nov. 30, 2006 and the UC application timeline is Nov. 1 — 30.

Heads-up for Financial Aid Applications: FASFA— first come first served: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

If you are planning to apply for Financial Aid for the 2006 – 07 school year, be aware that the applications must be completed by March 2. Students can receive money up to \$8,300.00  
[www.calgrants.org](http://www.calgrants.org)  
[www.icanaffordcollege.com](http://www.icanaffordcollege.com)

- ♥ Congratulations to our 2006 High School Graduates!! Please let us know where you are going to college.
- ♥ Those students who are in college . . . drop us a line and let us know how you are progressing.
- ♥ 2006 College Graduates: GREAT WORK!!! Take time to write or email and let us know about your recent success. THANK YOU, MSUB ALUMNI!!!

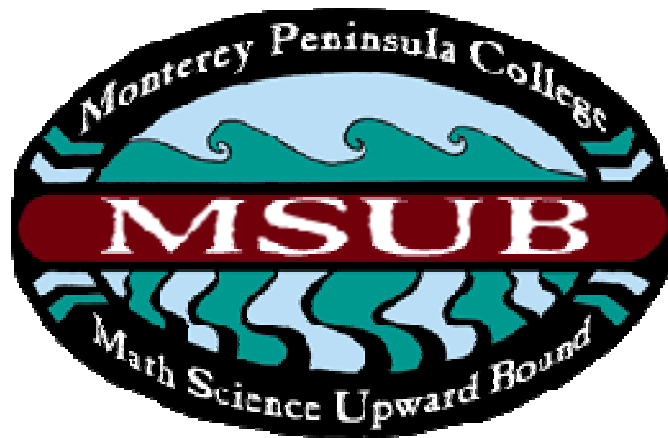
MSUB is a six-week summer academy held in a residential setting amid the towering Redwoods on the beautiful campus of the University of California at Santa Cruz on the Monterey Bay of the Pacific Ocean. Our Summer program will begin on June 29 and end July 29, 2007. For more information, contact our offices at 831-645-1306, or email [msub@mpc.edu](mailto:msub@mpc.edu) or visit our "work-in-progress" website at: <http://www.mpcfaculty.net/Trio/>

## Marine Science: The Inside Story . . .



**Life  
Is  
An  
Adventure  
Don't  
Be  
Left  
Behind  
In  
Your  
Education  
Join  
Us**

2007 Summer Program Dates are: June 29, – July 29



website for student applications:  
<http://www.mpcfaculty.net/Trio/default.htm>

**MPC**

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