

**Outreach, Business and Community Development
Cabinet Roundtable
September 9, 2009**

Professional Continuing Education

Current registration for the September 2009 Real Estate Sales course is running 60 percent higher than a year ago. So far, we have 24 registrants for the class that starts September 8. Last fall, 15 people took the class. This uptick in real estate registrations started this summer when 11 people took a 2-week 10-session full-day course. It was the first time that we ever offered the course during the day in the summer. We did this to compete with a popular MAECOM class schedule.

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Lifelong Learning

The 2009 Elder Campus Vacation, held during the week of August 17-21st, reached 110 registrations, marking the second straight year of achieving capacity enrollment. This year's event truly was a "The Best of Elder Campus," as it included a line-up of four of our most popular instructors from prior years. Our course lineup included *Ancient Greece 101*, *Short Stories*, *Remembering World War II: The Politics of History and Memory* (taught by History Department faculty member Laura Neitzel), and *The Music of Five Great American Composers*.

Taking advantage of a 'slow' week on campus, larger lecture classroom spaces were utilized. These offered the opportunity to not only raise our maximum capacity for each course, but also provide a comfortable, stimulating, state of the art instructional area for our attendees and instructors. And while these rooms required our registrants to travel out of the cool temperatures of the SLC and through the August heat to MAS, no one seemed to mind.

The week concluded with a special sit-down breakfast buffet held in the Navesink rooms. Judging from both the formal evaluations, as well as the many informal comments shared by the students during the week, this annual program has become a much anticipated OBCD event.

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SBDC

On August 21st the NJSBDC at Brookdale Community College coordinated an SBA "Meet The Lenders" Workshop, which provided small businesses and entrepreneurs with the opportunity to meet one-on-one with SBA's top lenders to discuss the availability of SBA guaranteed loans by their institutions. Seventy-one people attended the workshop including 8 participating lenders. In addition to the lenders and SBDC other guest speakers included the Small Business Administration and S.C.O.R.E.

Contact

Center for Entrepreneurial Excellence: The center is progressing at a good pace after four meetings with a very participatory advisory group of approximately 20 businesses. A business plan for the center is currently being developed. In collaboration with the academic Business Department the Center will host its first event which will introduce students to the world of entrepreneurship and small business. The event is scheduled to take place on **November 19**, 2009 from 11:45 – 1:00 in Larrison Hall.

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HGHREC: Holocaust, Genocide, Human Rights Education Center

In recognition of International Peace Day, HGHREC will welcome Desire' Karangwa, a Tutsi survivor of the genocide in Rwanda on Monday, **September 21st**. Desire' is a faculty member in the Environmental Health Department at Kigali Health Institute in Kigali, Rwanda. He was born and lived with his family in the western Province in a small village called Cyangugu bordering the Democratic Republic of Congo. During the 1994 Tutsi Genocide, Desire' traumatically lost his parents and baby sister. At a very early age, he became the guardian and parent of his two brothers and one sister. His older sister was fortunate to get out of Rwanda and now lives in Canada. Through the very difficult years, he managed to go to college and earn a degree in environmental health while caring for his siblings. His younger siblings are now finishing high school or are in college and he continues to act as their sole guardian. Desire' will share his personal experience during the genocide, his life experience since that time and the current situation in Rwanda in a small group presentation in the Twin Light Room 1, SLC, 7pm.

HGHREC will premiere a compelling and groundbreaking epilogue to the highly acclaimed play *The Laramie Project*, which is one of the most performed plays in America. In conjunction with the Tectonic Theater Project, the creators of both plays, and 100 theaters across the country and at international sites in Hong Kong, Spain, Canada, Great Britain and Australia, this performance will take place on **October 12th**, the anniversary of Matthew Shepard's death. The epilogue focuses on the long-term effect of his murder on the town of Laramie, exploring how the town has changed and how the murder continues to reverberate in the community. The play also includes new interviews with Matthew's mother Judy Shepard and Matthew's murderer Aaron McKinny, who is currently serving dual life sentences.

Prior to the performance, there will be a live stream introduction from the Tectonic Theater Project and following it, there will be a live stream /Twitter Q&A with the creators of the play. The performance will take place in the Navesink Rooms, SLC, 7:30pm and will be directed by Darrell Willis.

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Marketing

The Gateway to Opportunity project, the result of the 2008 MUG Retreat to develop marketing strategies to attract non-traditional students to Brookdale, is ready for its virtual phase. Non-trads are looking for career training and Brookdale offers a full range of learning experiences from GED/ESL to master's degrees through Communiversity. However, the general perception is that Brookdale offers only Associate degrees. The virtual resource will be a portal on the Brookdale Home page that will provide potential students/customers with easy access to information about all of Brookdale's programs. There is a great deal of information about Brookdale's programs already on the website, but prospective students need a single information resource to easily find that information.

A graphic with clickable links will illustrate the continuum of learning. Each page will have an overview of the programs offered with hyperlinks to enable potential students to access detailed information. The Career Tracks page identifies short-term career training programs offered by OBCD that can provide part-time employment opportunities for students pursuing a degree. For example, Certified Bookkeeper/Accounting, Certified Security Guard/Criminal Justice and CHHA & CNA/Nursing. The website content was developed by Riina Van Rixoord in consultation with the other members of the Gateway to Opportunity Committee: Mary Christian Clark, Carl DeJura, Sue Craig, Katie Shea, Kristin Worthley, Candice MacLusky, Nancy O'Shea, Linda Mass and Norah Kerr-McCurry.

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