



Itineris



Newsletter of Beta Theta Omicron
Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society

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President's Corner

As our fall semester comes to a close, I reflect upon all our hallmarks we completed and events we attended. I am grateful to all our officers and members who have made ΦΘΚ a part of their lives. I am proud of their dedication to service and giving back to our community. These past few months have been very productive for our chapter and we have grown together as an honor society and a cohesive team through our work in all our hallmarks. ΦΘΚ has enabled students of Skyline College to make an impact on campus and in our community. From donating new toys to raising money to fight cancer to cleaning our local trails and beaches to feeding the homeless in San Francisco, we have all contributed in making our community a better place.

Which brings me to report on our Feed the Homeless program; I am thrilled to announce that we have reached an important milestone. Our statistics show that we continue to progress month after month in 2007. In October we provided 850 families with meals and within 30 days, we reached over 1008 meals. I am working with senior group leaders on the possibility of expanding into other cities such as San Jose and Fremont. I have personally been involved with this project for over a year and I have seen the benefits of our labor. Many of the homeless people that I have fed realize the importance of our work and see that we are in fact making a difference. They have been very thankful and courteous of our efforts.

Moving onto our new service project, ΦΘΚ Toys for Tots is now in full swing—our collection bins are inside the Skyline Bookstore and in Building 2/admissions. Our early indications are that it will be a success. I wish to thank the students and faculty that have contributed to ΦΘΚ Toys for Toys. I am hopeful that many more Skyline students and faculty members will contribute to this important cause. These toys will be distributed to disadvantaged children locally and we need your donations. Our collections bins will be available for your new toy donation until December 14.

The highlight of our month has been our fall induction ceremony. On November 16, San Mateo County Supervisor Mark Church spoke eloquently about the merits of strong leadership and honored our new members from both Skyline and Cañada College. He also mentioned the importance of reducing our carbon footprint in order to preserve our environment for future generations. His speech was inspiring to our new members and officers. I thank our officers and advisers who participated in this event. They have made it an outstanding success.

In closing, I continue to encourage all eligible students to become a member of ΦΘΚ. With our \$100 Skyline Bookstore gift card rebate, you will earn \$35 dollars after the initiation fee. It is important to note that we are more than an academic honor society; all of our scholarship and service events inspire and influence people to do more to make our community a better place. Discover ΦΘΚ online on our website and learn more about us or by contacting me directly.

Happy Holidays and a prosperous 2008,
Best wishes to all,
Richard Chiang President 2007-2008

Your writing can win!

Do you have a favorite (fiction or nonfiction) essay or poem that you wrote for a class? You could be the next Nevada/California Regional Literary Award winner. Our own **Marcia Soares won in 2007.**

Email your essay as a Word.doc to Chris Case <case@smccd.edu> by January 15, 2008.

Why the Chapter donated a goat

to a needy family in Africa. The early-morning bleating of a dairy goat is a happy sound for children in countries like Haiti and Malawi. They know it's ready to be milked! A goat nourishes a family with fresh milk, cheese, and yogurt, and can offer a much-needed income boost by providing offspring and extra dairy products for sale at the market. It even provides fertilizer that can dramatically increase crop yields.



Contact Richard <richardchiang01@hotmail.com> to participate in our art project for Sri Lankan children.

In This Issue

Induction.....	page 3
An interview with a Skyline alumna	page 2
Holiday giving	page 4

Editor for this issue: Richard Chiang

An interview with a Skyline Alumna: Benefits of Being an Officer

Our alumni have transferred to many prestigious universities over the years. Many top universities show great interest in transfer students who have background experience in leadership activities and responsibilities. Phi Theta Kappa can help by building your resume towards those goals. The wealth of knowledge and experience you earn by being an officer will assist you in your future plans as well.

Richard Chiang, Chapter President, interviews former Beta Theta Omicron officer and All-California Scholar, **Emi Matsuura**. Emi recently transferred from Skyline College to the University of California Los Angeles as a chemical engineering major.

Richard: Why did you participate in Beta Theta Omicron?

Emi: Initially, I participated in Beta Theta Omicron because I simply wanted to put some extracurricular work on my application to U.C. and on my resume. The school I wanted to transfer to is very competitive, so I felt that I needed to have something different from other applicants.

Richard: Do you think the experience of $\Phi\Theta\text{K}$ helped you transferring?

Emi: I think it really did. I didn't do well in my first year of college and my cumulative GPA was not high enough to guarantee my admission to the school I wanted to go to—the engineering school at UCLA. One of Skyline's counselors even told me there was a possibility that I would not get in—so I should to apply more schools. The school is looking for hard-work students who pursue their educational goal but at same time they commit to community service as a member of an organization. Student organizations are quite active at UCLA so they look for students who take leadership in school and in community events.

“B Θ O is my special memory of Skyline College!”

Richard: Did membership in $\Phi\Theta\text{K}$ make any difference when you applied for jobs?

Emi: I haven't applied to any jobs just yet, but I am sure that the types of leadership qualities that you acquire from being an officer in B Θ O are the skills that any employer would value.

Richard: What did you gain through your experience as an officer of Beta Theta Omicron Chapter?

Emi: The most valuable gain for me was that $\Phi\Theta\text{K}$ work is good for others but also mad me feel good. I used to think that volunteer work just do good for others. As I committed more initiative to chapter activities, I started to see that doing good feels good. My favorite activity was a biology workshop that we did at Sunset Ridge Elementary School. To be honest, I was concerned about whether I could do this workshop, but I had good support from $\Phi\Theta\text{K}$ members and I really enjoyed the team work. The friendships I made with other officers are invaluable.

Richard: What has Beta Theta Omicron meant to you?

Emi: Beta Theta Omicron is my special memory of Skyline College!

Richard: How does UCLA compare to Skyline? Do you feel prepared?

Emi: UCLA demands a lot from students. The level of work I have to put on study is so much more than at Skyline College. It's important to study with a small group of students and to

help each other. But, it's also important to know how to release stress, since quarter system goes really fast and before I knew is midterms and finals were here. I think taking honors classes at Skyline College helped me to prepare for the level of work I am dealing with right now at UCLA.



This semester, B Θ O members continued Emi's Bottle Biology workshop for 3rd graders.

Fall Induction Ceremony

BΘO hosted the Fall induction ceremony for new members of Beta Theta Omicron and Beta Zeta Nu (Cañada College).

Congratulations to Skyline students inducted into Beta Theta Omicron on November 16, 2007

<i>Lana Alawwad</i>	<i>Nina Kwon</i>
<i>Karen Brehm</i>	<i>Niaka Lao</i>
<i>Daren Joyce Cabalona</i>	<i>Jacklyn LaQuindanum</i>
<i>Constance-Joi Calonge</i>	<i>Mary Leary</i>
<i>Lap Cheung</i>	<i>Rebecca Lee</i>
<i>Samantha Chin</i>	<i>Courtney Leung</i>
<i>Ricking Chiu</i>	<i>Binh Ly</i>
<i>Sandra Cianci</i>	<i>Matthew Maggiolo</i>
<i>Kyra Pamela De Guzman</i>	<i>Greg Manson</i>
<i>Michelle De Mesa</i>	<i>Ron Meyer</i>
<i>Christine Eco</i>	<i>Victor Ngayan</i>
<i>Valerie Evangelista</i>	<i>Denise Owen</i>
<i>David Fang</i>	<i>Elizabeth Parr</i>
<i>Yelena Fuks</i>	<i>Patrice Phung</i>
<i>Paige Fulmer</i>	<i>Talita Queiros</i>
<i>Duncan Girvin</i>	<i>Gavin Raftery</i>
<i>Lorrie Goodwin-Pineda</i>	<i>Angel Riley</i>
<i>Andre Green</i>	<i>Irene Saladino</i>
<i>Neil Hale</i>	<i>Danny Salamoun</i>
<i>Deirdre Hardy</i>	<i>Tamara Sayles</i>
<i>Leslie Hession</i>	<i>Daryl Schmaling</i>
<i>Lucila Hirata</i>	<i>Kristina Schuszter</i>
<i>Michael Hofler</i>	<i>Ekaterina Semonchuk</i>
<i>Khin Htwe</i>	<i>Cornelia Spearing</i>
<i>Ravi Kapur</i>	<i>Loretta Stuckert</i>
<i>Karamjit Kaur</i>	<i>Tatyana Sundeyeva</i>
<i>Kara Kernan</i>	<i>Bill Wu</i>
<i>Cheryl Koel</i>	<i>Tony Yu</i>



San Mateo County Supervisor Mark Church made the Induction special for new members of BΘO and their families. Before presenting the new members for induction into Phi Theta Kappa, the supervisor spoke to the about the qualities of a good leader and the importance of a commitment to civic engagement.

Supervisor Church told the audience that all leaders are not born to lead, leadership traits can be acquired but the path to leadership requires hard work. Qualities of a leader include:

Having **vision** of something larger than oneself

Influencing people. Rosalynn Carter said “A great leader takes people where they don't necessarily want to go, but ought to be.”

Listening to the concerns and arguments of others failure is not permanent, **learn** from failures

A leader has **integrity** and honors his/her word

Most leaders are not in the limelight but work **behind the scenes.**

He challenged Phi Theta Kappans to influence and teach others to make sound, sustainable environment choices. We humans must decrease our carbon footprint and Phi Theta Kappans can lead the way—by example.

What is your **Carbon Footprint**? Find out at www.climatecrisis.net/takeaction/carboncalculator/



Supervisor Church (second from right) with BΘO members.

Get involved!
Feed the homeless on Sunday
(see skylinecollege.edu/boo)

The 2007-08 Service Project, in partnership with Keep America Beautiful is
Operation Green:
Improving Our Communities

Toys for Tots

Between now and Dec 14, we will collect Toys for Tots. These toys will be distributed by local nonprofit agencies to children who might otherwise be overlooked during the holiday season. This is Toys for Tots 60th year collecting toys for disadvantaged children. <toysfortots2007.com/google07/>
Place new, unwrapped toys in one of the bins in the Bookstore or in Admissions

Make a Difference Day

Christian and Marcia deliver backpacks and calculators to Samaritan House October 27, 2007.

"We are very grateful to Phi Theta Kappa - Beta Theta Omicron for the donation. It is wonderful to see college students thinking about ways they can better the lives of others. We are very impressed"



Watch for upcoming events at <http://skylinecollege.edu/boo>

BOO

Beta Theta Omicron
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