Shuttle service will be provided from dorms to the campus. It is the clear intent of the College to continue student housing in apartment style living that will more easily accommodate families and single/private units.

4) The College plans new construction of over 100,000 square feet for new instructional areas, faculty offices, student services and some laboratories, although most labs will reside in Peralta Pavilion. This space will provide state of the art amenities to facilitate learning of all types.

Dear Students:
Some months ago, the Alta Bates Summit Medical Center announced that it will begin construction of a new Patient Tower in 2009 to meet state California seismic statutes by 2013. The planned tower will require the demolition of Bechtel Hall and Towne Court. The last planned semester of classes in current space as well as dormitory residency, is planned for spring 2009.

There are several important issues that will impact students:
1) HEC will be left intact. However, during construction, HEC classrooms along the breezeway will be vacated as construction noise will likely make them unusable for the period of construction.
2) Classrooms in Towne Court and the HEC breezeway will be placed either temporarily or permanently within the current campus perimeter, such that students will not be required to attend class off-campus.
3) The College is currently evaluating options for student housing off-campus, but within close proximity to the campus.
4) The College plans new construction of over 100,000 square feet for new instructional areas, faculty offices, student services and some laboratories, although most labs will reside in Peralta Pavilion. This space will provide state of the art amenities to facilitate learning of all types.

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SMC is Getting a Makeover

SMC is Getting a Makeover

Upcoming activities for you to take note of:
Fill out a “of the year” nomination form. Nominate a dedicated student, faculty, or staff! Turn it into the SBA mailbox in Bechtel Hall, or fax it in to 510-869-6525 or email it to SBA@samuelmerritt.edu. Last day to turn in forms is Feb 29.
Come join us for a Spring BBQ on Thursday, March 6 at noon to 1, on the Oakland Campus! Come enjoy BBQ chicken, Veggie burgers, salads (potato & mixed greens), chips, cookies, and a drink. We will be doing a raffle—you may win gift cards to Starbucks or Trader Joe’s, an SMC sweatshirt, or even an iPod Shuffle. Come one, come all!
Faculty, Staff, & Student of the

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Members of the International Student Health Club, as part of their Community Health rotation, donated much-needed clothing to a local drop-in center for the homeless in Berkeley.

The Multi-Agency Service Center (MASC), part of the larger Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS), serves Berkeley's homeless by providing a refuge during the day for people to obtain case management help, lockers, and camaraderie. According to Robert Long, coordinator for the MASC, they are in dire need of clothing. "Because the MASC is a drop-in center, and not an overnight center, it frequently gets overlooked when it comes to clothing donations," Long said. "But we need them as much, if not more, than any other place - people are always coming in and asking for a pair of socks here, a shirt there."

Members of Samuel Merritt's International Student Health Club, which is committed to promoting awareness for healthcare services in underserved communities both abroad and at home, recognized this need and started the drive. For more information or to join the club, please contact Nisha Thapa, at nisha.thapa@samuelmerritt.edu

-Evelyn Shober, ELMSN class of 2009

SMC Green Team

The SMC Green Team is up and running!

Our first meeting established that there was an interest and a desire to start a new program here at SMC.

At the first meeting, the Green Team established some short-term goals. Some of these goals include:

- SMC-wide recycling (paper, glass, aluminum, etc) in conjunction with city resources; education for students, staff, and faculty about incorporating a culture of saving energy/money by turning off lights, encouraging purchase and use of 100% recycled paper for printing; and encouraging the use of public transportation.
- Long-term goals include sustainability of the Green Team, policy changes incorporating language into SMC’s handbook about recycling and decreasing waste, and most importantly, involving campus organizations and community resources to maintain a greener campus.

The Green Team will have a booth at...
Who’s one of the newest members of the SMC family? It would be Dr. Jeanne Zeamba, Psy.D, Licensed Clinical Psychologist. As Director of Counseling and Student Wellness, Dr. Zeamba came to us after having spent 6 years at Santa Clara University. Her role here at SMC is to offer a full range of mental health and wellness services. The services would include counseling, which is free to students (up to 10 per calendar year), and other referrals as needed. She has started to put out a monthly health newsletter, “What the Health” and hopes to also put on workshops or presentations in the future. These workshops may include providing regular yoga sessions, massage therapy, and relaxation-type services for students. She would also like to put on presentations that promote health and health awareness to all students. In addition to providing workshops and presentations, she also hopes to work on a website where anyone can get quick, easy access to information regarding how to manage stress and anxiety and improve health.

Dr. Zeamba’s drive to promote health and wellness and her desire to help others came at an early age. “My mother would take us to homeless shelters and we would volunteer in soup kitchens and participate in Toys for Tots.” Her drive to help others during her undergraduate years at UC Santa Barbara resulted in her becoming a peer counselor for the University’s Health Center. She was distributing health information, providing counseling to her peers, and discovering through a mentor that psychology was what she needed to do.

Dr. Zeamba has come full circle from her undergraduate days when she was aspiring to do what her mentor was doing because today at SMC, she is doing just that. She is involved in teaching, counseling, providing health education, and much more.

When asked about providing the student body with some words of wisdom, Dr. Zeamba says, “I had a graduate professor tell us that you can’t read everything in grad school. You will be assigned a lot more than you can do. You can’t do it all.”

Words of wisdom, indeed! It is safe to say that Dr. Zeamba is here to stay and we’re certainly glad that she is here.

If you would like to see certain types of health and wellness workshops, please email Dr. Zeamba at jzeamb@samuelmerritt.edu. If you would like for her to include a health & wellness advice column in the Scoop, please contact scoops@samuelmerritt.edu.

-Margaret Kirkham ELMSN-FNP

Workstudy Student Recognized

Great Job, Farrah!

Kenny Roosevelt, Manager of Volunteer Services of Summit Medical Center regards Ma (Farrah) Coronel (BSN) as an exemplary volunteer/workstudy student. “She is enthusiastic, has an easy smile, and has good follow-through. Most importantly, though, she has ownership.” This ownership allows Farrah to be an effective liaison between caregiver and clinician. As a volunteer, she greets people and helps out families in the Family Resource Center on the third floor of Merritt Pavilion.

Farrah says, “Working in the Family Resource Center at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center has truly been an enriching experience. Everyday, I see people who are there to support their loved ones during a difficult time. All of them appreciate what the center provides for them….a calming healing atmosphere and our presence. I believe that spending time with family members at the Family Resource Center will help mold me to become a better nurse and person...something that will not happen from reading textbooks.”

Keep up the good work, Farrah!
students up to date on facilities planning and scheduling, proposing strategies to minimize construction disturbances and meeting your needs that facilitates your studies. I can be reached at 510-869-8921. My office is in Peralta Pavilion, Rm. 2817.

Scot D. Foster PhD
Academic Vice President and Provost
Samuel Merritt College

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The College views these substantial physical changes in the campus a monumental step forward in achieving our mission of "becoming a nationally recognized multi-specialty health education institution." We are also committed to achieving a more centralized "campus feel" for students and faculty. Above all, our focus during construction will be student-centered. To that end, construction crews will be required to follow clear rules in construction that minimizes disturbances to students and faculty.

As always, I remain available to meet with student leadership in keeping all

If you have any questions, suggestions, comments, please do not hesitate to let us know!
Contact Margaret Kirkham by email: scoop@samuelmerritt.edu.

Correction in last month’s issue of The Scoop: The Scoop erroneously reported KJ Henderson as having three children. KJ has four children, three daughter and one son. We sincerely apologize for the error.

Makeover at SMC

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the BBQ in which you can win raffle prizes and sign up for information about the Green Team.
During the BBQ, the Green Team will also be providing separate bins for recycling of glass, aluminum, paper, etc, so please do your part in helping to reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill.
For those interested in joining the Green Team, the next meeting will be held on March 13th in Bechtel Lounge. You may also check out SMC’s Green Team activities and ideas on Google Groups: http://groups.google.com/group/smc-green-team

Green Team

-Margaret Kirkham