

Red Mountain phone system provides emergency alert

The phone system at Red Mountain now has the ability to send out emergency messages to every phone on the Red Mountain campus. How does it work? Administrators and College

Safety have access to a special phone number. When the number is dialed, a loud buzzing sound will be heard on every phone (regardless of if the phone is in use) and will be followed by a message.

This technology is made possible through Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP), available on CISCO IP phones. VOIP telephony transmits voice communications over a network using open-standards-based Internet Protocol.

A second emergency system has also been implemented at Red Mountain, which allows College Safety to monitor 9-1-1 calls. Previously if 9-1-1 was dialed, College Safety had no way to identify from which phone on campus the call was made. The new system notifies College Safety immediately that a call was made and from which phone so that they can respond with more accuracy.

When will this technology be available at Southern and Dobson? A few departments at Southern and Dobson already have the CISCO IP phones, and plans are in progress to have the entire phone system converted. The current plan is to make sure that every department has at least one CISCO IP phone in their area. Thereafter, phones will be converted in sections (approximately 1,000 phones need to be replaced).

For more information about VOIP please visit www.mc.maricopa.edu/its.



Emergency alerts can be broadcast on CISCO IP phones.

The Bulletin is published by the Office of Institutional Advancement every other Thursday from September to April for employees of Mesa Community College. Please visit www.mc.maricopa.edu/alumni for submission deadlines and publication dates.

Coordinator, Communications and Alumni Relations, **Marcy Snitzer**, marcy.snitzer@memail.maricopa.edu, 461-7792; Assistant, Communications and Alumni Relations and Lead Photographer, **Jennifer LaForge**, jenner@mail.mc.maricopa.edu, 461-7794; Public Relations Assistant, **Yvonne Schmidt**, yschmidt@mail.mc.maricopa.edu, 654-7703; Writer, **Karen Peters**, karen.peters@memail.maricopa.edu; Graphic Designer, **Cindy Brown**, cindys@mail.mc.maricopa.edu

Mesa Community College, 1833 W. Southern Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85202



The Maricopa County Community College District is an EEO/AA Institution.

APR 14 '05 the Bulletin



Celebrating 40 Years

MCC's first yearbook, named *Jacali*, was published in 1965. Yearbook publication ceased in the late 70s.

Call center established to better serve students

A new automated Student Services call center has been established to better direct students to the three most requested student service departments: Registration, Financial Aid, and Cashier Services.

A warm and friendly voice will greet callers with the following message, asking them to pick from a selection of departments.

“Welcome to Mesa Community College. You have reached Student Services. Please listen carefully as our menu options have changed.

For Registration press 1
For Financial Aid press 2
For Cashier Services press 3
To repeat these options press 9”

After the caller has selected their choice, they will be routed to the correct department. This new system will help alleviate some calls to the PBX operator and provide more guidance for students. The new buzz word for this kind of automated

system is IPCC which stands for Internet Protocol Contact Center.

Currently the message is spoken in English; however, options are being explored for other languages to accommodate MCC's diverse community.

For more information about the call center, please contact Bill DeHaan at 461-7284.



MCC International Film Festival Highlights Mexican Women Directors

The provocative films of some of Mexico's most talented women directors highlighted Mesa Community College's (MCC's) second annual International Film Festival which ran Sunday, April 3 through Thursday, April 14 at Pollack Tempe Cinemas in Tempe. All films were in Spanish with English sub-titles.

"Directoras Mexicanas: A Festival Celebrating Mexican Women Directors" celebrated four

renowned directors – Maria Novaro, Eva Lopez Sanchez, Marcela Fernandez Violante, and Marisa Sistach, and their most recent contributions to the cinematic world. Last year, the film festival highlighted Iranian women directors and drew a great deal of interest from the public with more than 1,800 people attending the two-week festival. Festival organizers hope to attract even more film aficionados based on the reputations and powerful work of these Mexican women directors.

"I love foreign films and know there are quite a few film festivals out there, but I believe ours is very special because we're devoted to showcasing diversity – even within other cultures, for example, the woman's point of view," said Don Castro, an MCC English Department faculty member and the festival director.

Castro noted that another highlight of the film festival was that the directors were available after their film's 6:30 PM showing to participate in an informal

question-and-answer period with the audience. They also provided a personal introduction prior to each 9:30 PM showing. In addition, Ana Cruz Navarro, president of Women In Film and Television (WIFT), Mexico Chapter, gave a free public lecture on Monday, April 4 at 3:30 PM in the MCC Library Reading Room to discuss the films and directors who were showcased during the festival.

"As an audience, we love to hear directors or actors talk about their films and the filmmaking process; that's why DVDs with the added 'behind-the-scenes' clips are so popular," Castro said. "Here, Arizonans had the chance to ask questions and talk to four internationally renowned filmmakers about these great works of cinematic art."

Mesa Community College sponsored this year's festival in cooperation with the Cineteca Nacional de Mexico, which is devoted to the preservation and promotion of Mexican cinema; the Mexican chapter of Women in Film and Television (WIFT) International; and IMCINE, the Mexican Film Institute. The festival is made possible in part by a grant from the Arizona Humanities Council as well as a grant from the Maricopa Community College District (MCCD) International and Intercultural Education Office.



Don Castro (left), MCC English department faculty member and director of the International Film Festival, poses with Ana Cruz Navarro, President of Women in Film and Television (center), and Dr. Gail Mee, Vice President for Academic Affairs (right).

End of semester events

It's the end of the semester, and lots of events are happening. Be sure to keep informed by checking the online events calendar at <http://we.mc.maricopa.edu/events>.

2004-05 MCC Catalog wins silver

Our school colors may be red, white, and blue, but the 2004-05 MCC Catalog is clearly a silver – winner that is! The catalog received silver in the Paragon Awards, sponsored by the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations. Community colleges nationwide submit their best work to a group of peer reviewers to identify the best of the best. The catalog category reviews the cover concept as well as content and layout. Congratulations MCC!



Retirement contribution rate increases July 1

Employees contributing to the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) will notice an increase in the amount deducted from each pay check starting July 1, 2005. Employees contribute a percentage of their salaries each pay period to the ASRS; that contribution is matched by their employers. Due to a variety of factors, including past benefit increases, mid-term investment returns, and changing demographics, the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) will be increasing

contribution rates for fiscal 2005-06 and 2006-07.

As required by state statute, the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) adjusts its

contribution rates every two years to ensure the pension plan, retiree health insurance supplemental plan, and long-term disability plan remain fiscally sound.

Rates for 2005-06 and 2006-07 are outlined below.

	Current Rate	New Rate
Retirement and Retiree Health Insurance Plans	5.2%	7.75%
Long Term Disability Plan	.50%	.50%
Combined Contribution Rate	5.70%	8.25%

For more information about the benefits of ASRS, please visit www.asrs.state.az.us/web/index.do or call 602-240-2000.

Source: www.asrs.state.az.us/web/index.do

