Technology Center Begins to Rise

The John T. Chambers Technology Center, being built for the School of Engineering and Computer Science, has started to take shape with the steel framework and load-bearing walls offering a sneak peek at the newest Pacific building.

Beyond Our Gates... Into the Community

President’s First Forum: Healthcare

Josh Chipponeri
Contributing Writer

Today is the first of the five forums in President Eibeck’s Beyond Our Gates... Into the Community initiative. The focus of this event is healthcare. The objective in having these forums is to extend the scope of President Eibeck’s listening campaign into the community in order to uncover new ways for the University to partner with community projects.

At the O’Connor Woods retirement community in north Stockton, a panel of health care professionals from the Stockton/San Joaquin area made statements to President Eibeck and the audience concerning the strengths and weaknesses of health care in the San Joaquin region, and what their organizations believe should be the priorities for healthcare looking into the future.

The Community Panelists are:

- Mr. William J. Mitchell: Director, San Joaquin County Public Health Services
- Mr. Kenneth B. Cohen: CEO, San Joaquin General Hospital (HCNCC)
- Dr. Dale Bishop: Medical Director, Health Plan of San Joaquin
- Ms. Diane Vigil: Executive Director, Dameron Hospital Foundation
- Mr. Donald J. Wiley: President, St. Joseph’s Hospital (CHW)
- Dr. Amy Scriven: President, San Joaquin Dental Society
- Mr. Mike Steenburgh: Executive Director, San Joaquin Medical Association
- Dr. Marisella Guerrero: President, San Joaquin Pharmacists Association

Complimenting the area experts, the forum welcomed Mr. Donald C. Wegmiller, a recognized authority in the healthcare field. Wegmiller brought more than 35 years of senior executive experience to the discussion. His focus was on “Health Care Partnerships That Work.” He shared with the audience a number of examples of successful community partnerships.

Responding to the community panel’s presentations a similar panel of Pacific health care professionals from many of the university’s current health care programs engaged in a question and answer discussion of how Pacific might be a successful partner with the community.

Following this segment of the program, the audience was invited to participate in a town hall question and answer. This permitted other community organizations and voices to be heard on the subject of healthcare needs and priorities.

There will be four more forums in this series, one each month through May. These future forums will focus on the economy, energy and the environment, education, and arts and culture.

Check out the Pacifican Online! Keep up to date with the Pacific Tigers, get connected with the editors, or play some online sudoku! Love to twitter? Follow the Pacifican - www.twitter.com/thepacifican!
Movie Review: Public Enemies

Courtney Wood
Pacifican Staff Writer

Public Enemies may not turn out be the #1 most wanted film of all-time, but its renegade spirit will please those who are intrigued by mythologized criminals of America's past.

Johnny Depp stars as the infamous John Dillinger in this gun-toting gangster flick. The film follows the exploits of Dillinger and his gang, who robbed banks all over the Midwest during the economically depressed 1930s. The true story of Dillinger is interesting enough, but filmmakers, as they often do, feel the need to add a few embellishments to the story of America's first Public Enemy Number One.

Oddly, the film reveals hardly anything about Dillinger’s background or how he came to be the type of criminal that he was, opting instead to plunge the audience directly into the rhythm of prison breaks, robberies, and arrests that seem to have been standard to his chosen lifestyle. Similarly, little background is given concerning agent Melvin Purvis (Christian Bale), who was saddled with the task of hunting Dillinger down. Further character development would have definitely made the story more compelling for audiences.

Even without much room for character development within the screenplay, Depp manages to effectively craft Dillinger into a likable outlaw who, despite his breezy demeanor, is acutely aware that his days are numbered. Marion Cotillard also does well in the role of Billie Frechette, Dillinger’s love interest.

Public Enemies is certainly well-versed in action. Muzzle flashes, Tommy Guns, and getaway cars expertly highlight the film with sparks of excitement. However, these winning moments are scattered throughout the film, strung together by stretches of leaden scenes that cause the film to drag on for longer than necessary.

A positive aspect of the film is the soundtrack, which does well to develop the vintage setting of the film by featuring several classic blues pieces sung by the late Billie Holiday. The film also features the works of composer Elliot Goldenthal, which adds alternate doses of tension and vulnerability to the story.

The film was shot in HD digital, which is hardly noticeable on the recently released DVD; but when the film was in theaters earlier this summer, the digital format made the film look grainy on the big screen, which was a little distracting. Even with its digital format and long running time, Public Enemies manages to serve up a romanticized slice of history dotted with several truly shining moments.
Meeting your match on Myspace?

Ally Mengarelli
Pacific Perspectives
Editor

I haven’t had a MySpace in over three years—until recently, when I started dating a boy that spent a considerable amount of time on the site.

In an attempt to show my support in his extracurricular endeavors, I decided it was high time I resurrected my MySpace page. So I made an account, posted a few pictures—mostly blurry from my weak, bitty camera phone—and put my profile up. I put together a few sentences in the “About Me” and “Music” blurs, then went about adding my potential beau, one of my favorite musicians, and my real best friends.

I promptly forgot about it, failing to check my account until a couple days later when my inbox exploded with emails from MySpace, informing me I had friend requests from various people—all off which were middle-aged, balding men, the majority of which came from Australia or England. All sent me lengthy messages, asking for a chance to “get to know me.” This would have met my expectations had I signed up for a Match.com account (or a chat-room full of reality-television contestants), but I had half-heartedly made a MySpace account.

This leads me to ask: since when is MySpace a dating site?!

I mean if a guy sees a woman he finds attractive and wants to start talking with her, there are ways to go about it. There are unwritten rules, of sorts—a code of ethics. This “code” contains the following: first off, they have to be within the same state as you (preferably within the zip code, county, or city... which is not Australia, “Bob!”) and second, they have to be someone you would feel comfortable actually having a face-to-face confrontation with. Just because you are safe behind the faceless monitor of a computer doesn’t mean that you are invisible. Plus, if the person you are attempting to woo and/or seduce does happen to live in the same area, wouldn’t it be in their best interests to maintain a sense of respect? I mean, you could actually run into that person.

On a similar note, there have been debates over whether or not internet networking sites (such as MySpace and Facebook) inhibit people’s abilities to effectively communicate with others in a personal setting. There is also the issue over the impact such sites can have if used by children. For instance, if they grow up with less interaction with other kids because they are stuck in their rooms all day, messing around online, they might not develop the social skills one necessary for later in life.

I would have to agree with this theory, given some of the interestingly penned messages that were sent to me. Apparently, this applies to courting skills as well. Logically, you’d think if you were trying to hit on a girl who wasn’t there to date in the first place, you would think up something really cool to get her attention. None of the messages I was given were like this.

One particularly dismaying comment stands out among the rest. It was a message I got from a “27 year-old,” named Will who explained he was in the army. He relayed his interests to me, the most memorable of them being “carnivorous plants,” and “Warcraft.” Then he asked me if I heard about the 15-year-old girl “who got gang raped,” and asked, “what I thought of that.” Not only was I shocked at his choice in a conversation starter (nothing quite breaks the ice like gang rape and the complete subjection and violation of a woman’s dignity and body), but I was shocked that these types of people are able to date and—God forbid—procreate.

Fortunately, I have enough sense to block such men, but the sad thing is that some younger, more vulnerable teenagers will come across such perverts. It’s basically a playground for sexual predators... which is horrific given that MySpace is most commonly used and intended for a younger generation. Just the other day, my little cousin (15 yrs old) added me and I really began to get territorial... and frightened.

Should MySpace be taking more initiative to weed out these creeps? Write to the Pacifican with your feedback: pacificaneditors@pacific.edu

Pacific Fund Supports Investigation on Unique Valley Issues

by Kent Linthicum '09

University of the Pacific has been intrinsically linked with California’s Central Valley since its move to Stockton in 1924. Stretching over 42,000 square miles — the size of Tennessee — the Central Valley is one of the world’s most productive agricultural regions, with cities and towns dotted among its fertile orchards and fields.

In 2006, a collaborative partnership called the Partnership for the Assessment of Communities (PAC) was initiated by the Great Valley Center, a non-governmental organization, with a grant from the state. The purpose was to investigate social, political, health, and economic issues that are unique to the Valley. PAC is a collaborative social-science project among Pacific, the University of California at Merced and California State University at Fresno. The research team is made up of five faculty members from each university. Sociology Professor Marcia Hernandez and Political Science Professor Dari Sylvester are Pacific’s representatives.

The ten-year study will document conditions in the Central Valley and note changes in regional disparities. The team selected six areas for the study that represent both urban and rural areas and northern and central parts of the region. Sylvester and Hernandez employ students from Pacific to help collect data from the Magalia District of Stockton and Riverbank, a farming community in nearby Stanislaus County.

After receiving training in data collection, the students go into these communities for interviews. They learn interview techniques and how to build rapport with others. They also learn how to analyze the data collected. The research will help them to critically re-examine assumptions about areas they know and to explore the social, political and economic changes in the Valley from different perspectives.

Pacific Fund grants provided the resources to pay the students for their work, as well as the opportunity for undergraduate research. The students who participated all indicated they learned a great deal by working on the PAC project. The PAC experience extends students’ understanding of what it means to be part of a community and the importance of being an informed, engaged citizen. All of the students that were involved with PAC from University of the Pacific applied to graduate school.

This multidisciplinary project will provide valuable information on the quality of life in the Central Valley, about residents’ perceptions and experiences, and community problem-solving solutions. It has the potential of offering a unique contribution to local efforts to improve community health: economically, socially and environmentally.

2009-10 Pacific Fund Grants are now available to Pacific students and faculty on the Stockton campus. Pacific Fund Grants are made possible by the generosity of Pacific alumni, parents, staff, students and friends who support the Pacific Fund with annual donations. This year there is more than $275,000 available to be distributed.

Grants can be used for activities such as academic travel, competition fees, research funding, professional conferences, workshop fees, lab equipment and more. Each division and college sets the requirements on grant allocation, eligibility, application procedures and deadlines. Grants are distributed in varying amounts and are a request-for-proposal process. Funds are distributed through the Undergraduate Research Task Force, Student Life Division, and school and college Dean’s Offices. Contact the appropriate office or your Dean’s Office for more information and to apply.

Some deadlines are approaching quickly. For more information, please visit the Pacific Fund website at www.pacific.edu/pacificfund

UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
WEEKLY REPORT
January 3 - 9, 2010

BURGLARY
DELTA DELTA DELTA
1-4-10
Officers responded to a report where someone entered the house during winter break and removed several items from the resident. Several windows were left unlocked and the suspect gained access with a ladder left on the side of the house and entered through an unlocked window.

BURGLARY
PACIFIC HOUSE
1-8-10
Officers responded to a report where someone entered the house during winter break and removed several items from a resident. Suspect entered through an unlocked window that was left unlocked on the side of the house.

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MUSIC OR COMEDY
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