

MARINA MOMENTS



Newsletter Issue No. 2, October 2021

Dear [FNAME] Customer [Guest], welcome to Marina Moments, the official newsletter of the Marina Education Center!

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Message from the MPC Superintendent/President, Dr. David Martin



Dear MEC Campus Community,

As we enter our 6th full week of classes, I want to take a moment to thank all of you for the great work that is happening this semester. Although many of us are working and learning from remote locations, the connections our campuses continue to make with each other are amazing!

Our communities are learning and receiving support services in a variety of modalities as we collectively continue to reopen MPC through the fall 2021 semester. What makes all this work even greater is that it's being done collectively as a campus through one singular lens—students first!

It is also a very busy time for current and future planning for MPC! At a recent Board meeting, our Trustees received a presentation regarding enrollment management and future ideas for our Educational Center at Marina. Over the next several months, MPC's campus community will focus on four areas specific to the Educational Center at Marina: general education and transfer degree completion pathways, allied health professions (nursing, medical/dental assisting, etc.), hospitality professions, and student services and support. As these critical planning conversations throughout our district take place in the coming months, I would encourage everyone to participate and share your thoughts and ideas for the future of MPC's Educational Center in Marina.

It's been wonderful "seeing" and seeing (literally) so many of you over the last five weeks. MPC is off to a superb start this virtual semester and I thank you all for making this happen!

Have a great semester, Lobos!

David
David Martin, Superintendent/President

Message from Board Chair Yuri Anderson and the Governing Board of Trustees



The Board of Trustees is committed to investing in the development of our facilities on the former Ft. Ord, particularly our gem at the Marina Education Center. This investment will look like increased course offerings, staff presence, and ultimately bond funds, to ensure the MEC is able to provide start to finish educational programs for our students. Additionally, we are committed to ensuring the MEC's offerings meet the needs of our diverse Marina community today and into the future. I sincerely appreciate my colleagues for hearing my call to invest in our Marina community.

Student Services

Student Health Services



LeAnn S. Contapay, BSN, RN, PHN

LeAnn Contapay is our College Nurse and Student Health Services Coordinator from Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula. LeAnn was born and raised here in Monterey where she earned an Emergency Medical Technician certification from Hartnell College, an Associate Degree in Nursing at Maurine Church Coburn School of Nursing at MPC, and a Bachelor's of Science degree in Nursing from California State University Monterey Bay along with a Public Health Nursing and Emergency Nursing Pediatric Certification.

Prior to her nursing career, LeAnn worked for the Pebble Beach Company and McCall Motorworks for over a decade coordinating world renowned events here on the Peninsula to include the AT&T Pro-Am, Pebble Beach Invitational, and the McCall Motorworks Revival at the Jet Center.

LeAnn has a special interest in advocacy for survivors of sexual assault and firmly believes in the importance of trauma informed care and empowering patients on informed decision making. LeAnn works closely with the Monterey Rape Crisis Center building stronger collaborative efforts to better serve and support our survivors at Monterey Peninsula College.

LeAnn cares very much for her community and feels blessed to be able to work with the college that started her educational journey in nursing. She takes pride in the role she plays and partnerships built with our Monterey County Health Department's Behavioral Health, Epidemiology and Immunization Units, CSUMB's social work and nursing programs, and being a part of Montage Health's vaccination response team where they vaccinated over 50k community members.

In her spare time, you will find her hiking in Big Sur, watching the Niners play at Levi's Stadium, hitting some golf balls at one of our driving ranges, dancing to old hula songs in her garage, jamming out to some 90's R&B in her car, watching her daughter play some D1 level softball, or eating cake at Rosine's.

Stop by and visit LeAnn at the Student Health Services office on the Monterey Campus (STS-101) or check the Marina Education Center's calendar for her office hours in Marina. Please call MPC Student Health Services for any questions or to make an appointment at 831-646-4017.

MPC Student Health Services offers a wide range of services to include the following:

- Care for Acute Illness & Injuries
- Nurse Consults, Blood Pressure & Glucose Screenings
- Tuberculosis and Spirometry Tests
- Gender Neutral Bathroom
- COVID-19 PCR Testing & Assistance with COVID-19 Vaccine Appointments

- Condoms & Pregnancy Tests
- Individual/Couples Therapy- Confidential
- Wellness Workshops & Presentations
- Insurance Information
- Medical & Mental Health Resources & Referrals
- COVID-19 Case Management for Positive Cases on Campus
- Confidential Support & Advocacy for Survivors of Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence/Stalking
- Check out our FREE [Online Health & Wellness Magazine](#)

Connect with LeAnn at the MEC

Faculty Spotlight



Brian Brady

Adjunct Faculty
English as a Second Language, Humanities Division

What do you teach at the Marina Education Center and how long have you been with Monterey Peninsula College?

Currently, I am teaching two classes of English as a Second Language (ESL). One is a reading/writing class at level 3 and the other is a speaking/listening class at level 2. I have been an instructor at MPC for more than twenty years now as I began in the fall semester of the year 2000.

What do you like most about teaching at the Marina Education Center (MEC)?

Teaching at MEC is less hectic than the main campus. The campus is new and the design is very unique and pleasing. Also, it is more convenient for most students.

What drew you towards or inspired you to work in your field?

I began teaching in Australia in Speech and Drama. The classes were for students – both teenagers and adults – to improve their speech with using the techniques of a drama class. Then I moved to Japan and taught ESL at a school that used drama classes to teach English. It was a match made in heaven for me as it combined my desire to facilitate the students English ability while using something with which I was comfortable using.

When you're not working, how do you like to spend your free time?/What is an interesting or fun fact about yourself?

When I have free time, I like to go for long walks to keep healthy or read a book. Also, I like to go for walks along Marina Beach as it has a calming effect. I have directed an English play with a full Japanese cast. The play was Our Town, by Thornton Wilder.

How have you adapted your curriculum and teaching methods to support students who are learning from home?

Since the pandemic hit, I have made PowerPoints for each of my classes. During the Zoom meeting, I follow the PowerPoint and then upload it to Canvas for the students to review and maybe ask questions at our next class meeting. I like the Breakout Rooms in Zoom as it allows me to put students in pairs and I can join the Breakout Room to check that each student understands what to do and answer any questions that the students may have.

What is the most impactful piece of advice you ever received in relation to your expertise and field of study?

'Be patient and always remember that the students (mostly) are trying their best.'

What would you like students to know about you and what advice do you have for students interested in taking your course(s) and/or taking classes at the MEC?

My desire to assist students to improve their abilities in all parts of English – speaking, listening, reading, writing, grammar and pronunciation is very strong. It is great to see the improvement the students make from the beginning of the class to the end. When you are studying, you should review all points presented in class and make sure that you understand each part before you move on to the next point. This means that you should ask questions often. Treat questions as your friends and remember, if you don't make mistakes/errors then you don't need to be in the class. The relaxed atmosphere at MEC means that taking classes here is less stressful.

Student Corner

MEC Activities

Visit the calendar on our website to see when you can meet with a representative from the Financial Aid, Student Health Services, and Counseling offices. You can also view any upcoming and recorded MEC events and activities.

MEC Event Calendar

Student Employment Opportunities

Looking for work on or off campus? Many options are available, such as part-time, full-time, and quick cash opportunities. Learn more through MPC's Student Job Center.

MPC Student Job Center

Community Partners

Monterey County Workforce Development Board

Sandra Marentes is originally from the bay area and moved to Monterey County in 2011 to make this her home. Her current position is as a Talent Engagement Specialist. She has worked for the Workforce Development Board of Monterey County in various positions for over 7 years in all different parts of Monterey County.

She has reached out to different communities and builds bridges with different resources in order to serve and help the community with employment and career planning goals. Sandra considers herself to be a passionate community servant with the ability to motivate and inspire individuals in identifying their potential to continue to share this passion to serve others.

The Monterey County Workforce Development Board has opened a Career Center at the Marina Education Center. Job seekers can access a variety of employment and training resources.

Services and Information :

- Resume Development
- Job Search Strategies and Related Workshops
- Career Coaching
- Computer & Internet Access
- Pre-Certification Online Training
- Labor Market Information and Career Exploration Assessment
- Current Job Listings

Community Resources

Marina Food Resources

Housing Resources

Brain Teaser

Turn me on my side and I am everything. Cut me in half and I am nothing. What am I?

Issue No. 1, August 2021 Newsletter Answer: Time

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