



the wheel

Covina Rotary Club - District 5300 - Chartered March 8, 1923

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This Week: Natural Sciences at Mt. SAC...

Joining us today are Mt. SAC Dean of Natural Sciences, Matthew Judd and Biology Professor, Cindy Shannon. Matt and Cindy are here to talk with us about STEM education at Mt. San Antonio College.

Matt and Cindy will also be talking with us about Dr. Deborah Borocho Discovery Science Day. “Debbie Day” is a special day in when local kids (including kids from Covina schools!) come to campus for a bunch of “sciency” activities that are both educational and fun!

The theme this year is **CSI Mt. SAC**, emphasizing crime scene investigation and solving crimes using science and math. You, your kids and your grandkids will all get a kick out of this fun day at the college. Discovery Science Day is Saturday, May 10 from 8 AM to 2 PM. Contact Bill Lambert for more info.

Last Week: Understanding

Mt. SAC’s Budget

The club welcomed Mt. SAC VP of Administrative Services Mike Gregoryk to talk with us about the budget situation at the college. We learned that Mt. SAC has more than held its own in the face of a pretty tough state budget situation over the last few years. Mike is a member of President Bill Scroggins’ leadership team, and handles “the business” of Mt. SAC. Facilities Management, Fiscal Services, Event Services and even Payroll are the areas that fall under Mike’s watchful eye.



Next Week: Get Ready for a Field Trip!

Some of you may have noticed Mt.SAC focused themes thus far in the month of April. If you picked up on it, you are exactly right! And next week we’re taking it a step further by hosting lunch on campus in Founders Hall. Our presenter will be Dr. Bill Scroggins, President and CEO of the College. As an added bonus, after lunch we have been invited to see a show at the Mt. SAC Randall Planetarium.

STEM Education: What does it mean?

Why is it important?

With this week’s presentation on Discovery Science Day at Mt. SAC, it might be interesting and useful to put STEM education in context. The term STEM refers to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. It is an area that the US used to excel in, but of late our nation has slipped. Efforts are underway across the nation and at all levels of education to put the US back at the top when it comes to research, innovation and invention.

There are hugely important economic factors at play as it relates to STEM Education. According to the US Department of Commerce, “STEM workers drive our nation’s innovation and competitiveness by generating new ideas, new companies and new industries. However, U.S. businesses frequently voice concerns over the supply and availability of STEM workers. Over the past 10 years, growth in STEM jobs was three times as fast as growth in non-STEM.” There is universal agreement that STEM education is important—degrees and certificates in these areas lead to high paying jobs for people in our communities.

