

GOOD PERSON OF SETZUAN

New play at Palomar inspires wonder, questions what it takes to be a "good person." **Page 5**



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Eighty-nine golden handshakes

Early retirement initiative saves money, leaves gaps in departments

MIKE PETERSON
THE TELESCOPE

Palomar's early retirement initiative has saved the college money, but the mass exodus has also had other effects on the campus.

"I do know that some departments have lost a lot of full-time faculty and the people that are left are really struggling to manage their programs," Faculty Federation co-president Shannon Lienhart said.

Twenty-eight, full-time faculty members retired as part of the Supplementary Early Retirement Plan (or SERP), with the classes they taught now being taken by part-time faculty members, Lienhart said.

"There's probably an additional 50 to 75 classes a semester now available for part-time faculty members to access," Lienhart said.

But there are problems with adjunct faculty taking on more of a department's classes, art professor Jay Schultz said.

Students have less continuity when adjunct professors are teaching the bulk of the classes and, because many of them teach



at different campuses, it's harder for students to get a hold of them, Schultz said.

And in a lot of cases, part-time faculty aren't compensated well for the extra work that they put in.

There are also several things that are expected of full-time pro-

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JAY SCHULTZ • ART PROFESSOR

fessors -- like developing class goals and preparation documents -- that adjunct faculty aren't able to tackle, Schultz said.

In the case of the art department, this means that the remaining full-time faculty members are taking up the slack.

The department lost both of its full-time painting and drawing professors, as well as its dean, Schultz said.

"When you don't have as many bodies to go around, you're basically understaffed," Schultz said. "So you end up having to do (the extra work) yourself, or it gets done late or doesn't get done."

Consumer Education is another

department that lost many of its full-time faculty, according to Shannon Lienhart.

Eight out of the 10 instructors in the Family and Consumer Sciences department -- which falls under consumer education -- are adjunct faculty, according to Palomar's website. Four out of the 28 faculty members who retired as part of the SERP were from the Consumer Education department.

Department Chair Solange Bushra Wasef declined to comment.

Nursing also lost three of their full-time faculty, but when asked about early retirement, nursing Department Chair Hope Farquharson said that her department hasn't been affected as much, owing to the unique nature of the nursing program.

Lienhart added that three new nursing professors were hired since early retirement, since the department is tightly regulated by the state.

Along with the 28 faculty, 16 administrators and 45 other staff members retired.

JUMP TO HANDSHAKES, PAGE 7

\$1.4 MILLION

Amount of money the college saved.

28

Full-time faculty who retired.

8/10

Number of Consumer Education teachers who are adjuncts.

50 TO 75

Classes a semester that are available for adjuncts to teach.



ADMINISTRATORS



STAFF



FACULTY

Beloved 'cowboy' professor dies at 73



Doug Durrant. Courtesy of Palomar Arts Department. Photo by Nico Ricoy

JOEL VAUGHN
THE TELESCOPE

Art Professor Doug Durrant, who retired this summer after 44 years at Palomar, died Sept. 26 of a heart attack. He was 73.

Faculty and students called Durrant an influential figure in the lives of his students, colleagues, and Palomar's art department as a whole.

In an email, the director of Palomar's art department Lily Glass described Doug as legendary for his cowboy-esque swagger, lingo, and, most of all, his stories.

"But what made Doug truly special was his love. He loved each and every one of his students. He heard their stories and remembered them," Glass said.

Fellow Art Professor Jay Schultz called Durrant the "institutional memory of the art department."

To many, Durrant will be remembered as the professor who

introduced them to a lifestyle of living and seeing beauty in the world through being an artist. One such student is Palomar graduate Sydney Moore.

"He just sat me down and asked me what career paths I wanted," Moore said. "I don't remember exactly what he said, but by the end of that first day I realized that he wasn't just saying 'be an art major,' his philosophy was to live as an artist."

Many people who knew him said he kept to that philosophy

Durrant told The Telescope in May that he was excited to spend his retirement traveling back to Texas, New Mexico and Arizona to reconnect with the places where he grew up and became an artist.

Student Dove Cochrane described Durrant as "a magnificent human being" who always tried to create a sense of community in his classes. Part of this was his willingness to push for a network of sup-

port among his students.

"You don't find that very often in other circles, it's very competitive," Cochrane added.

Not only was Durrant a figure of admiration among his students, but among his colleagues as well. One such colleague and friend was Karen Keimig Warner, who worked in the art media lab.

Warner described Durrant as a character who the students loved and whose teachings crossed stylistic and cultural media to encourage his students.

"I knew him in '71 as an instructor and he just always said good things about your work, he always built the students up," she said.

Alex Boston, a former Palomar student, said he is an example of how Durrant fostered a love for art in his students.

JUMP TO DURRANT, PAGE 7