Photos of Japan revived after 40 plus years





From 1955 to 1964, David Beckman was a Baptist missionary in a small Japanese village called Ushitsu. While David lived with his family on the Noto Peninsula, he used his camera to capture a few thousand images of daily life in Japan. He had earned the trust of his new neighbors and enjoyed the freedom to take pictures wherever he wished. He kept the negatives.

David's son, Daniel, was only 3 when the family moved from their Sacramento home to

the fishing village in Japan. Daniel adapted easily because he had already learned the language from his Japanese mother.

Today Daniel Beckman is an engineer at Motorola and a student at Mesa Community College. He enrolled in Photoshop classes, which triggered an interest in bringing his father's old negatives to life in print. Even though the negatives had been protected in glassine envelopes, many were damaged by dust, moisture, and mold.

Daniel's efforts to revive the photos have been remarkably successful. He researched his project on the Internet and learned to develop special effects with varying tones of black ink. "You know Americans," he said. "We're always trying to figure things out—do something different."

With the latest in computer technology and a fair amount of artistic energy, Daniel has created a black-and-white photo display in

two categories, Women at Work and Children of Noto. The photos represent pieces of Japanese history: shrines of Buddha, a cremation procession, workers in rice paddies, children at play, and women carrying large containers of night soil (human excrement collected from house to house to be used as fertilizer in the rice fields).

Daniel's unique Japanese photographs are currently on display at the District Office until April 1 and will move to the Kirk Student Center at MCC's Southern and Dobson campus later this semester.



Daniel poses with a photo of himself (as a child) playing a game with boys in Japan.
Daniel's father, David Beckman, snapped this photo while he was serving as a missionary in Japan, 1955–1964.

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MARAMENTAL Bulletin

ASU president speaks to COE

On February 13, Dr. Michael Crow, president of Arizona State University (ASU), addressed members of the Commission on Excellence in Education (COE) at Mesa Community College. For an attentive audience, Dr. Crow outlined his vision for education in Arizona.

Dr. Crow said his impression is that Arizona, the Phoenix area, and Maricopa County have made a great commitment to higher education and that the Maricopa Community College system is possibly the best in the country. It operates at a very high level, he said, then added that the universities are not functioning as well. "The university system is not competitive at the level it should be," Dr. Crow said.

ASU's president expects this to change. "We are in the beginning stages of a transformation to restructure the system," Dr. Crow said. "Regents and presidents are working on three phases to bring about enhanced competitiveness."

- 1. Independence—expanding the ability of the state's universities to make independent decisions on substantive issues.
- Identity—differentiating the missions of the state's three universities: Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona, and ASU.
- 3. Entrepreneurial modeling—selling the universities' ideas in the marketplace and relying less on state appropriations.

Dr. Crow narrowed his scope to ASU, pointing to issues that need attention: ASU is not competitive nationally; we are unprepared for the social changes we are living in right now; we are vastly underpowered in research; and we underperform on many of the key indicators.

ASU's president expects change in these areas as well. Dr. Crow defined new or expanded roles for ASU Main campus, ASU East, ASU West, and the Phoenix Downtown Center as part of a bigger education picture for the state's largest university.



ASU President Michael Crow pauses for a photo with Dr. Christine Wilkinson (left), Senior Vice President and Secretary of the University, ASU, and Dr. Gail Mee, Dean of Instruction, Mesa Community College

Dr. Crow concluded by reaffirming that Arizona's K-12 schools, community colleges, and universities must move together at the same high level, each maintaining their own focus, to ensure a strong education system in Arizona.

Arizona governor maps economic plan

A Who's Who crowd of educators, city leaders, government officials, and community partners met for breakfast at Mesa Community College on February 19. Guests arrived early to hear Gov. Janet Napolitano outline her plan for surviving the current economic downturn while maintaining Arizona's position of strength for the future.

Master of ceremonies Don Henninger (publisher, *The Phoenix Business Journal*) introduced Chuck Backus, provost for ASU East and chair of the East Valley Partnership, and Vic Linoff, chair of the East Valley Chamber of Commerce Alliance. Both leaders expressed a desire to work with the governor to improve the business and economic climate in the East Valley.

Arizona's Challenge

Gov. Napolitano presented the facts: The state is \$300 million in the red for this year, with an expected deficit of \$1 billion next year.

The Governor's Plan

For this year's \$300 million deficit, most state agencies have already cut their budgets 15 to 27 percent. To tackle next year's

\$1 billion deficit, Gov. Napolitano plans to consolidate small agencies and make only those spending cuts that do not threaten vital services. Fiscal measures on her agenda include revenue bonding and the sale and leaseback of a number of state assets.

"I'm doing exactly what a business or a family would do," Gov. Napolitano explained. She framed a scenario: Two-income family; one wage earner loses his job. Grandma is in a nursing home, two kids are in college, and Susie needs an operation. What will I do? "I am going to get the income back," she said. 'I will take a second mortgage on my home to bridge this difficult situation. I will get through the hard time, build for the future, take care of the family.

Gov. Napolitano responded to audience questions about leadership, government, business, healthcare, and



Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano speaks to MCC employees, city leaders, and government officials about her plan to tackle the state's budget crisis.

education. Funding for education must remain strong, she said; it is an investment in the state's future. "The community college system is one of the jewels we have in Arizona, and it will only grow in importance," she added. Its role goes beyond retraining and addresses much more urgent issues, such as the nursing shortage.

Arizona's Future

The governor predicts modest growth while Arizona gets back on its feet. "We have a lot of opportunities in this state," she said. "We are building a new Arizona—an Arizona poised to succeed."

Napolitano to speak at Women's History Month Luncheon

MCC is privileged to welcome Governor Janet Napolitano as the featured speaker at our Women's History Month Luncheon on March 26, 2003. Governor Napolitano will speak to this year's theme, "Women Pioneering the Future. Jule Dicken, Chair of the Women's History Month organizational committee, stated "The governor received numerous invitations for Women's History Month activities; we are thrilled that she accepted ours!

Seating is limited, so attendees are required to obtain a ticket, free of charge, through Career and Re-Entry Services. Two types of tickets are available: full luncheon or video viewing in the Employee Lounge (does not include lunch). MCC students, faculty, and staff have an opportunity to obtain tickets before they are made available to other MCCCD employees and the community. Please contact Career and Re-Entry Services at 461-7254 for additional information or to learn about other Women's History Month events.

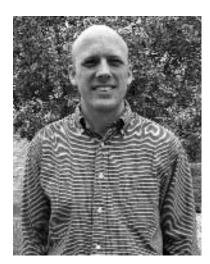
Bits Snippets

Can you name an MCC counselor from the early 70s who later became a president of a Maricopa Community College?

Answer to last issue's trivia question: MCC changed the location of the graduation ceremony in 1990 in order to make the event more intimate and personal to the students.

Submit ideas for "Bits & Snippets" to Marcy Snitzer at marcy.snitzer @mcmail.maricopa.edu.

MCC's nationally recognized Model U.N. program



MCC Political Science faculty member, Brian Dille, is the man behind the highly successful Model U.N. program. The model U.N. program is recognized internationally.

The Model United Nations (U.N.) program at Mesa Community College is a nationally recognized program among both universities and community colleges. MCC's program is highly regarded and is known for the caliber of students that it attracts. It has achieved international acclaim, receiving invitations for conferences as far away as Siberia, Russia.

Model U.N. is a simulation in which students participate in sessions modeled after the United Nations. Student participants advance their understanding of the principles and means by which international relations may be maintained while developing a greater understanding of the nations of the world, the relations between them, their policies, and the nature of their work in the United Nations.

Students take on roles as diplomats of various countries and research current issues in that country. The focus then shifts to persuading diplomats from other countries to accept their position so a resolution can be passed. The skills students learn in this process help them to grow professionally, learn research skills, improve their writing, and enhance their public speaking and negotiation tactics. The most important skill they get out of this conference is the ability to get a consensus out of a room of

more than 50 people. Now that's satisfaction!

This past February MCC hosted the 5th Model U.N. conference for local high schools under the supervision of Brian Dille, MCC Political Science faculty member and Model U.N. program coordinator. Most of the East Valley schools that participate in this conference offer Model U.N. as a club; other schools have chosen to incorporate the program into their curriculum. Brian began working with Model U.N. at MCC about three years ago when he took over the program for retired faculty member. Neil Merrell. This is "fun for me as an instructor, I get to see the lights come on,' Brian stated.

This April MCC's Model U.N. will be one of four schools to host the 53rd Annual Session of the Model United Nations Far West (MUNFW) conference in San Francisco, California. MCC will represent South Africa and Algeria.