Building Students’ “Cultural Capital”  by Doug Lederman

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PITTSBURGH -- Students who are the first in their families to attend college face a set of disadvantages in terms of college enrollment, persistence and graduation -- a vexing problem, to be sure, since virtually nothing can be done retroactively to change their demographic realities. But are there attributes that commonly flow from being a first-generation college student that colleges can address? That possibility formed the basis of a session Monday at the Council of Independent Colleges’ annual chief academic officers’ institute here, where academic and student affairs administrators from dozens of mostly small private colleges discussed the concept of "cultural capital" and the extent to which their institutions can (and should) seek to build it in students.

The term, as framed by John M. Braxton (a professor of education at Vanderbilt University’s Peabody College) and based on the sociological concept crafted by Pierre Bourdieu, refers in this context to the extent to which incoming college students were involved in cultural activities such as reading books beyond schoolwork, attending concerts and plays, and visiting museums during their high school years. As is true with many traits, the degree of cultural capital that students have correlates with the educational level of their parents and the level of the students’ own high school academic achievement.

Read more: http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2013/11/05/can-colleges-build-students-cultural-capital-and-should-they#ixzz2joesmJgW
Dr. Trina Nahm-Mijo, is a Professor of Psychology, Dance, and Women’s Studies since 1979. Nahm-Mijo served as Chair of the Social Science and Humanities Division of Hawai‘i Community College from 1996-2003 and served as Chairperson of the General Education and Public Services Division from 1988-91. Dr. Nahm-Mijo is recognized nationally and internationally as a choreographer and performer who illuminates the poignancy of the human condition and provokes audiences to examine their relationship to social justice. Dr. Nahm-Mijo also was President of the Board of Family Crisis Shelter, Inc. (now Turning Point for Families) for 15 years and has started at least 20 programs and organizations in the area of innovative education, culture and the arts, women’s issues and mental health.

Taupouri Tangaro is an assistant professor and department chair of Hawaiian Life styles and Humanities at Hawai‘i Community College. He inspires students intellectually and spiritually to strive for excellence in whatever they do. Tangaro sees potential in all his students and takes time to support learning and success in and outside the classroom. His classes are comprised of Hawai‘i CC and UH Hilo students, administrators, faculty, staff and community members. Tangaro “is charged with bridging not only generations, but our sister campuses and our community. He is a visionary.” Students that experienced his teaching style and creative genius say that he is “truly a bright and rising star.”

Dance and Music Resident Artists from Hawaii

Our November resident artists included Trina Nahm-Mijo and Taupouri Tangaro, both from Hawai‘i. They presented a lecture on Contemporary Dance as A Tool for Social Change and an open workshop in Traditional Hawaiian Dance/Music and Korean Shamanic Dance. A professional performance, alongside new work by Bandelion, concluded the residency featuring Trina Nahm-Mijo and Taupouri Tangaro.

BOX OFFICE INFO

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PURCHASE IN ADVANCE

www.csueastbaytickets.com

Tickets are also available on the Hayward campus at the Pioneer Book Store

Upcoming Productions

Avenue Q
March 7, 8, 14, 15 @ 8 PM
March 16 @ 2 PM
CSUEB Dance Ensembles
May 2, 3, 9, 10 @ 8PM
May 11 @ 2 PM
Performance Fusion
Annual performance fusing theatre and dance
May 30
Jessie Amoroso ‘94

Jessie Amoroso (Costume Design) is in his fifth season at A.C.T. and is currently the costume director for the company. His Bay Area theatre design and styling credits include work at the California Theatre Center, New Conservatory Theatre Center (NCTC), The Julia Morgan Theatre, Solano Community College Theater, The Berkeley City Club Theater, the Marines’ Memorial Theatre, the Herbst Theatre, Herbst Pavilion and the Palace of Fine Arts. Other highlights include designing two world premieres for Brad Erickson at NCTC, most recently American Dream. At Theater Artaud he designed Caligula, featuring Nancy Carlin and at Z Space he designed A Round-Heeled Woman, starring Sharon Gless. He is a graduate of California State University, Hayward (now California State University, East Bay).

Belgica Paola Rodriguez ‘13

This Summer I was able to have a beautiful choreographing and community building experience with Jo Kreiter at the Quesada Gardens with the Girflly Summer program. Jo Kreiter invited me back as PR assistant and box office manager. She is an amazing artist and woman. I wanted to share this with all the Cal State East Bay people that helped me discover my love for Theater and Dance. She is equally as kind and also thinks outside the box. She reminds me a lot of why I enjoyed my years at Cal State East Bay. Jo Kreiter is a great Choreographer and Director; she does a lot for the bay area community, mainly young women of color. Thank you all for your continued support. Here are a few links, please enjoy.

https://www.facebook.com/events/167462203443527/
http://flyawayproductions.com/about/

H.E.L.P. 2013 Typhoon Haiyan Relief Benefit Show

In 2010, the CSUEB Theatre & Dance Department, in collaboration with ASI Presents and several CSUEB Student Organizations, presented A Haitian Relief Benefit Concert. The following year, a small benefit production, H.E.L.P. (Helping Everyone Live Peacefully) was put together to raise awareness and funds for the victims of the 8.9 Earthquake in Japan. This year, we brought the event back on an even larger scale as H.E.L.P. 2013. The Benefit Show was held on December 8, 2013. There was a raffle and silent auction. Following the Benefit Show, all audience members and volunteer performers gathered for a Candlelight Vigil. For more info:

http://help2013benefitshow.wix.com/community
These creative organizations and artists collaborate with our department in multiple, invaluable ways!

African and African American Performing Arts Coalition  
www.bcfhereandnow.com

AXIS Dance Company  
www.axisdance.org

Dandelion Dancetheater  
www.dandeliondancetheater.org

Friends of the Arts  
www.csueastbay.edu/about/foa/

Impact Theatre  
www.impacttheatre.com

Nina Haft and Company  
www.ninahaftandcompany.com

Shawl-Anderson Dance Center  
www.shawl-anderson.org

Hillbarn Theatre presented a reading – the West Coast premiere – of the new musical All the More to Love, by CSUEB Theatre Associate Professor Marc Jacobs on January 9 at 7pm. The show premiered at the Phoenix Theatre, AZ and was voted “Season Favorite” by the subscribers, garnering full houses and a host of local awards.

The Story: Magic happens at All the More to Love, Erna’s clothing store for plus-sized women -- and the occasional man. People left behind by the beauty industry blossom into glamour and love. An oil rigger gets in touch with his sensitive side, an opera diva gets revenge on those who won’t let the fat lady sing, a pair of sling back pumps seduce a repressed data analyst and a timid librarian becomes enshrined in a masterpiece by Renoir. In their search for transcendence and beauty, customers arrive at Erna’s doorstep, but no one leaves the same. All the More to Love celebrates the most diverse set of characters you’ll ever see on a musical stage.

The Creators: Music by Craig Bohmler and lyrics by Marion Adler (Winners of the International Prize for Best Musical of the year.)

Book by Marc Jacobs (San Francisco Bay Area Critics Circle Award for Best Director of a Musical)
In Memoriam

Doug Cattaneo passed in late November after several months of illness. His church, Fremont Community, celebrated his life on Saturday, December 7th, with family and friends.

At Cal State Hayward Doug earned his BA degree in Drama and then worked as Performing Arts Technician for thirty years. Former students, staff and faculty attended the memorial service. Upon hearing of Doug’s passing, many more have written tributes or commented in various Facebook posts and conversations, including the “CSUEB Theatrendance” Facebook.

As a youth, Doug attended Niles Elementary, Vallejo Mill and Logan High schools. He served in the US Air Force for four years, including deployment in Vietnam as a C-130 crew chief. Following his service, he attended Ohlone Junior College, where as fate would have it, he met his future wife, Ruth Fickenscher, during a summer theatre program. They married in 1974, having attended Cal State together.

Doug and Ruth raised four children, Stephen, Rebecca, Joseph, and Sarah, who now have three children of their own and lead successful careers. Ruth is a professional dresser, especially known for her work on the play “White Christmas” for which she managed dressing productions in New York, Boston, and Minneapolis.

At the service, Doug was remembered fondly by several colleagues from IATSE Local 107, where he conducted his equally successful and memorable career as a stage hand. As president of the local, Doug negotiated several hard-fought contracts and eventually served as a trustee for the Local 16 and 107’s pension fund. For many years he handled sound for Raiders games, half of the A’s and some Warriors games.

His contributions to his church were obvious to those attending the celebration. He began volunteering in 1975 and helped to design, install, and operate professional quality facilities that seamlessly blend stage and ceremony to serve the community in an every-day ministry.

Tireless in his contributions, Doug also volunteered to help high schools and community colleges with their sound and lighting projects.

Without knowing of Doug’s Air Force service, Cal State faculty and students might not have noticed the apt metaphor. He was their crew chief. He kept the University Theatre in the air. He made sure that a show was ready to take off, that a show landed and the stage serviced to be ready for the next flight. The pilots might be teaching, at a meeting, or in office hours, but Doug was there assuring that class after class of students was ready for their own job, their own flights.

The family has requested that memorial gifts be made in Doug’s honor to either: Fremont Community Church Audio Department, Wounded Warriors Project, or Ohlone College Woman’s Softball (c/o Donna Runyon). Find addresses online or contact the CSUEB Theatre and Dance office.