SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CAMPUS WIDE

BAT EXCLUSION PLAN

Prepared By:
DGM Environmental, Inc.

Date: 02/04/07
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For
Solano Community College
Bat Exclusion Plan
Executive Summary
Dated: 02/04/07

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Solano Community College
Bat Exclusion Plan

INTRODUCTION

The following summarizes DGMs “Bat Inspection and Exclusion Maintenance Plan” dated 01/04/07 and attached as Appendix A of this report.

DGM Environmental, Inc. (DGM) was directed to assist Solano Community College (Solano CC) with the development of a plan for the exclusion of bats from the Campus buildings located at 4000 Suisun Valley Road.

On December 29, 2006 DGM conducted an on-site exterior investigation to determine the extent of Bat intrusion of the subject buildings and to formulate a plan for their exclusion. During this investigation the interior of the Theater (building 1200) was inspected to develop a specific plan to eliminate the urine odor and occupant exposure to fecal/urine matter.

FINDINGS

Campus wide
The species of bats to be excluded during this project are Mexican free tail as determined by Mr. Diehl of Sierra Bat Exclusion. Visible evidence indicates the bat population is distributed throughout the Campus buildings with a high likelihood of colonies in the following buildings: Theater, Gym, Campus Police, and Maintenance/warehouse.

Theater Interior
Urine residue was physically detected on the various attic catwalk surfaces as well as through out the second floor control room and stairwell. Bat and rodent droppings were found within the attic atop the ceiling and HVAC duct systems.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Short Term    February – May 01, 2007
Initiate the bat exclusion of Campus buildings. Prioritize buildings according to function and concern for the attraction of bats during other building exclusions.

Start the process of exclusion on the buildings housing children to minimize their exposure to bats during the exclusion work. Proceed to the buildings either known or presumed to contain bats (Theater, Gym, Campus Police, and Maintenance) only upon the completion of all other buildings.
Appendix

A
January 04

Frank Kitchen
Solano Community College
4000 Suisun Valley road
Fairfield, CA 94534

RE: Campus-wide Bat Inspection and Exclusion Management Plan

Dear Mr. Kitchen,

INTRODUCTION

DGM Environmental, Inc. (DGM) was directed to assist Solano Community College (Solano CC) with the development of a plan for the exclusion of bats from the Campus buildings located at 4000 Suisun Valley Road.

Bats have been reported on Campus for many years, apparently inhabiting the Theater roof system to the extent of causing adverse urine odors within the building and a concern for the general wellbeing of the building occupants and Theater patrons.

INVESTIGATION

On December 29, 2006 DGM conducted an on-site exterior investigation to determine the extent of Bat intrusion of the subject buildings and to formulate a plan for their exclusion. During this investigation the interior of the Theater (building 1200) was inspected to develop a specific plan to eliminate the urine odor and occupant exposure to fecal/urine matter.

The inspection was conducted by Dwayne McAllister of DGM, Dave Diehl of Sierra Bat Exclusion and Tereso Meza of Meza Environmental.

During our investigation, common points of entry were inspected for broken or poorly-fitted screens, loose or missing roof tiles, places where flashing or boards have come loose and locations where pipes or wiring enter buildings.
Visual detection of black or brown stains from body oils or droppings around cracks or crevices are other methods used to determine the presence of bats and their general roosting locations.

FINDINGS

The species of bats to be excluded during this project are Mexican free tail as determined by Mr. Dichl of Sierra Bat Exclusion. Visible evidence indicates the bat population is distributed throughout the Campus buildings with a high likelihood of colonies in the following buildings: Theater, Gym, Campus Police, and Maintenance/warehouse.

Campus-wide Building Exterior

The typical building roof systems throughout the campus are Mansard style facades (tile) with flat roof construction. Exceptions include buildings: 1100 (portables with flat roofs), 1200 (flat upper roof above stage), 200 (flat roof with tiled multi-peaks), 400 (portable with flat roof), 1700 (flat upper roof above gym), 1900 (metal storage shed).

Evidence of bat intrusion was found throughout the campus buildings, typically in the following locations:

- Mansard roof facade - upper metal cap
- lower metal screening / broken tile

- Flat upper roofs - metal flashing

- Portables / flat roofs - gutter line
- fascia board

Other intrusion issues found:

- Drains atop roof tile
- Tile Openings
- Penetrations
- Construction Openings
- Air Conditioners
- Downspouts
Concrete/stucco

Trees and Foliage adjacent buildings (damage building exterior as well as provide access for bat intrusion)

Rollup Doors (require top skirt)

Previous unsuccessful attempts to exclude bats using foam based products

Theater Interior

The primary complaint within the Theater building relating to bats was reported be an unpleasant (bat excrement) odor at varying levels though out the building. At the time of our investigation, the Lobby area was found to have the most pungent odor. Note; during our initial visit in December or 2006 the odor was prevalent through out the backstage area as well as the second floor control room.

Our inspection focused on the catwalk areas above the audience portion of the building. This area correlates to the buildings exterior mansard roof façade with the most obvious signs of bat intrusion. Mr. Rick Diego of Solano CC provided access to this area and valuable information as to the College’s current efforts to control the bat problem.

Urine residue was physically detected on the various attic catwalk surfaces as well as through out the second floor control room and stairwell. Bat and rodent droppings were found within the attic atop the ceiling and HVAC duct systems.
RECOMMENDATIONS

Short Term  January - April 15, 2007

Initiate the bat exclusion of Campus buildings. Prioritize buildings according to function and concern for the attraction of bats during other building exclusions.

To eliminate the concern of cross rabies from bat to cat during the exclusion process, DGM recommends all cats be removed from the campus as soon as possible. To ensure full access to the subject buildings, all trees and/or foliage should be trimmed or removed prior to exclusion work.

DGM recommends implementing the following exclusion plan for the sequencing and methodologies needed to humanely exclude bats from the Campus.

1. Start the process of exclusion on the buildings housing children to minimize their exposure to bats during the exclusion work. Proceed to the buildings either known or presumed to contain bats (Theater, Gym, Campus Police, and Maintenance) only upon the completion of all other buildings. The intent of this sequencing is to greatly reduce the potential of bats entering or roosting on buildings not previously affected and/or housing the general population of the Campus.

   Phase 1 - 200 Children’s Center, 400 Childcare, 1500 Math & 1600 Home Ec
   Phase 2 - 300 Science
   Phase 3 - 100 Library
   Phase 4 - 500 Business & 600 Administration
   Phase 5 - 800 Nursing/public service & 700 Humanities
   Phase 6 - 1400 Student Center
   Phase 7 - 1300 Fine Arts
   Phase 8 - 1800 (A&B) Trade
   Phase 9 - 1100 Special Services/Campus Police
   Phase 10 - 1200 Theater
   Phase 11 - 1700 Physical Education
   Phase 12 - 1900 Warehouse/Maintenance
2. Use the following exclusion methods as recommended by Bat Conservation International (BCI).
   a. Prior to disturbing the building exterior, the interior will be inspected and any openings in the ceiling system will be addressed. Openings may be covered with heavy duty polypropylene mesh or corrected if possible (missing ceiling tile).
   
   ![Fig. 1](image)
   ![Fig. 2](image)

   b. One-way devices constructed from lightweight polypropylene netting (<1/6" mesh) (fig. 1), or tube-type excluders (fig. 2) for evicting bats from buildings. Excluders should be placed at all active entry points on the building and should remain in place for at least 5 to 7 days.

   c. While the excluders are in place, visually inspect all potential entry points along the entire building perimeter (all levels) and seal with silicone caulking, caulk backing steel wool, or heavy duty polypropylene mesh. In some cases, sealing may require repair or replacement of old, deteriorated building materials. This replacement work must be coordinated with the removal of exclusion methods to avoid trapping bats within the building and/or voiding the exclusion warranty of this project.

   d. Remove excluders after the bats have been excluded (no longer than 10 days), and then exclusion points should be sealed with silicone caulking, caulk backing steel wool, or heavy duty polypropylene mesh.

3. Provide adequate notification to the Campus population and surrounding neighbors.

   **WARNING**

   **DO NOT HANDLE BATS**

   **BATS ARE KNOWN TO CARRY RABIES**

   Solano Community College is currently undertaking a "Bat Exclusion Project" to humanely evict bats from our Campus.

   During this process the Bats will do their best to re-enter the buildings. When the Bats can't get in along the roof line, they might be attracted to open doors and areas emitting heat (classrooms and offices).

   Please keep all doors closed as much as possible from dusk till dawn!

   If a bat enters a room or is found on Campus (dead or sick) contact the office of Frank Kitchen, Director of Facilities at (707) 864-7176 or Campus Police at (707) 864-7000.

   **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO KILL OR CAPTURE THE BAT!!!**

App. B
Theater (building 1200)

DGM recommends the interior of Building 1200 be cleaned using environmental control methods to ensure worker safety and the proper disinfection of the subject building. Specifically the following issues need to be addressed:

1. Clean up Guano in the interior plenums located above the lobby / audience areas using HEPA vacuum and appropriate disinfection methods.

2. Seal all openings within plenum using proper exclusion methods. Note; openings such as the cracked drywall in the stairwell leading to the control room require correction.

3. Disinfect all accessible surfaces within the subject building using HEPA vacuum and appropriate disinfection methods.

4. Steam-clean all fabric and carpet located within the subject building using microbial growth inhibitors.

5. Bird netting to be addressed to seal below and ensure proper attachment.


Accordingly, DGM recommends scheduling the interior cleanup in conjunction with the building’s exterior exclusion to maximize the effectiveness of the disinfection process.

Long Term: April 15, 2007 – April, 2012

Upon the completion of the Campus-wide exclusion DGM recommends initiating an ongoing “Bat Maintenance Program” to address to following:

1. Annual inspections to ensure integrity of the Campus buildings for bat exclusion or evidence of bat nesting.

2. Training of employees for proper exclusion methods when performing routine maintenance work on building exteriors.

3. Providing materials and equipment to be used if evidence of bat intrusion occurs.

4. Notifying the facility occupants to not prop doors open during the morning or evening hours, since the heat will lure the bats into the building.
Contract language, for all work impacting the Campus buildings, which requires proper sealing of all penetrations in accordance with the bat exclusion plan.

Thank you for allowing DGM to assist you with your consulting needs.

Sincerely,

_____________________________
Dwayne McAllister
Certified Asbestos Consultant
DGM ENVIRONMENTAL, INC
Bldg. 1200 – Penetration and foliage

Bldg. 1200 – Bat urine stains on wall

Bldg. 1200 – Metal flashing with urine stains on wall

Bldg. 1200 – Dave Diehl of Sierra Bat confirming urine stain

Bldg. 1200 – Mansard roof facade

Bldg. 1200 – Bat and rodent droppings
Bldg. 1200 – Roof drain requiring exclusion

Bldg. 1200 – Stairwell to 2nd fl. control room. Cracks in wall with urine odor

Bldg. 1200 – HVAC equipment atop lower roof, note opening in metal cap

Bldg. 1200 – Rodent and Bat droppings atop HVAC duct.

Bldg. 1200 – Trees adjacent roof line requiring trimming

Bldg. 1200 – Rodent and Bat droppings atop plenum ceiling
Bldg. 1200 – 2nd floor Control room

Bldg. 1200 – Trees and foliage requiring either trimming or removal

Bldg. 1200 – Daylight into attic behind Control room via concrete separation

Bldg. 1100 – Portables with signs of bat intrusion

Bldg. 1200 – Attic behind Control room via concrete separation

Bldg. 1100 – Gutter line requiring exclusion
Bldg. 1100 – Fascia board requiring exclusion

Bldg. 100 – Gap between façade and concrete wall structure

Bldg. 700 – Unsuccessful exclusion using styro-foam stuffed into random tile

Bldg. 300 – Damaged stucco requiring exclusion

Bldg. 800 – Construction openings, require coordination for completion

Bldg. 400 – Childcare center
Bldg. 400 – Air conditioner requiring exclusion

Bldg. 1700 – Mansard façade requiring exclusion

Bldg. 1700 – Physical Ed building

Bldg. 1900 – Maintenance Bldg.

Bldg. 1700 – Downspout requiring exclusion

Bldg. 1900 – Maintenance Bldg. suspect bat intrusion location
WARNING

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Please keep all doors closed as much as possible from dusk till dawn!

If a bat enters a room or is found on Campus (dead or sick) contact the office of Frank Kitchen, Director of Facilities at (707) 864-7176 or Campus Police at (707) 864-7000.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO KILL OR CAPTURE THE BAT!!!!
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DO NOT ATTEMPT TO KILL OR CAPTURE THE BAT!!!!
January 31, 2007

Mr. Frank Kitchen  
Solano Community College  
4000 Suisun Valley Road  
Fairfield, CA 94534-3197

Proposal #: 2007.2001.R1

Re: Campus-wide Bat Exclusion

Dear Mr. Kitchen:

DGM Environmental is pleased to submit this proposal for the performance of bat exclusion services for the project referenced above.

PROPOSED SERVICES

1. DGM shall provide Project Coordination, Management, Labor and Materials necessary to complete the work of this project based on the recommendations outlined in the “Campus-wide Bat Exclusion Plan”.

2. The scope of work will be focused on completing the Campus-wide exclusion on or before May 01, 2007. The Theater decontamination shall be completed either within schedule (prior to May 01, 2007) or immediately thereafter.

3. The work of this project shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00am and 5:00pm.
COMPENSATION

It is proposed that the fee for the performance of the services outlined above be as follows.

**Theater Decontamination**
(Time and Material (T&M))

Bat Exclusion Expert 12 @ $200.00/hr $2,400.00
Bat Exclusion Site Management 90 @ $150.00/hr $13,500.00
Bat Exclusion Specialist 576 @ $85.00/hr $48,960.00
Materials (cost plus 15%) Est. $15,000.00 $15,000.00
Steam Clean (cost plus 15%) Est. $10,000.00 $10,000.00
**Total Estimate Cost** $89,860.00

**Campus-Wide Exclusion**
(Lump Sum Per Building)

100 (admin & financial aid) $29,336.47
200 (children) $37,389.62
300 (math & science) $30,918.34
400 (children’s programs) $5,752.25
500 (business & computer) $18,694.81
600 (administration) $20,851.90
700 (humanities) $22,002.35
800 (health occupation) $15,818.69
1100 (portables) $27,323.18
1200 (theater) $51,770.24
1300 (Fine Arts) $18,119.58
1400 (student center) $29,336.47
1500 (math) $17,544.36
1600 (assessment center) $20,132.87
1700 (gym) $47,456.06
1800 (trade & tech) $43,717.09
1900 (maintenance) $15,243.46
1900 (maintenance shed) $5,752.25

**Total Estimate Cost** $457,160.00

Total project estimate: $547,020.00

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed proposal, please feel free to contact me at (209) 938-7554.
Sincerely,

Dwayne G. McAllister
Cal-OSHA Certified Asbestos Consultant
Certificate #92-0213
Frank Kitchen  
Solano Community College  
4000 Suisun Valley road  
Fairfield, CA  94534  

RE:  Budget Estimates for  
Campus-wide Bat Exclusion and theater Building Decontamination  

Dear Mr. Kitchen,  

DGM Environmental, Inc. (DGM) was directed to assist Solano Community College (Solano CC) in developing schedule and budgetary estimates for the work referenced above.  

The following schedule is based on the assumption that all work should be completed no later than April 15, 2007. *Maternity season for the subject bats ranges from May 01 to August 31, dependent on the weather conditions.*  

**Bat Exclusion – Campus-wide**  

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<th># of Days</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Finish Date</th>
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<td>500 &amp; 600</td>
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<td>02/15/07</td>
<td>02/21/07</td>
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<tr>
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<td>700 &amp; 800</td>
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</table>

Based on the project duration of fifty one (51) days and an unknown quantity of materials needed to complete the work, DGM estimates the cost to range from $520,000.00 to $650,000.00.
Theater (building 1200) – Interior Cleanup

Based on the requirements outlined in our report dated 01/04/07, DGM estimates the cost to range from $75,000.00 to $100,000.00.

Bat Maintenance Program

Based on the requirements outlined in our report dated 01/04/07, DGM estimates the annual cost to range from $7,500.00 to $15,000.00.

Thank you for allowing DGM to assist you with your consulting needs.

Sincerely,

Dwayne McAllister
Certified Asbestos Consultant
DGM ENVIRONMENTAL, INC
BATEXCLUSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Our experience in the delta and/or valley regions of California is the general public is aware of bats and their benefits. However, to ensure a positive relationship with the general public, DGM recommends enlisting the following:

1. Campus wide announcements and updates
2. Web (SCCD Home and/or Bond page)
3. Contact Media with story as a public announcement
4. Posting Warning Signs on Campus
5.
Release 01
Re: Bats in our Belfry

It seems like every spring we experience an invasion of bats in some areas of our campus. This year is no different except we are undergoing the construction work associated with the Bond Measure. As a component of this work we have incorporated a plan to humanely exclude the bats from our buildings.

The “Bat Exclusion Plan” was developed to provide a safe environment for our students, staff and public with minimal disturbance to instructional areas. This plan includes:

1. Prior to the bat exclusion work on the building exterior, the interior will be inspected and any openings in the ceiling system will be screened.
2. Warning signs regarding bats will be posted on all buildings for the duration of exclusion work.
3. The exclusion of bats entails sealing openings on the building exterior. Note, if bats are detected, appropriate screening will be put in place to ensure the bats are able to leave but not reenter.

This project is critical and urgent. All bat exclusion activities must cease during maternity season (May 01 to August 31).
Release 02
Re: Bats in our Belfry

Every spring we experience an invasion of bats in some areas of our campus. This year is no different except we are undergoing the construction work associated with the Bond Measure. As a component of this work we have incorporated a plan to humanely exclude the bats from our buildings.

The “Bat Exclusion Plan” was developed by experts to provide a safe environment for our students, staff and public with minimal disturbance to instructional areas. This plan incorporates the recommendations of the Bat Conservation International (Batcon) and includes:

1. Prior to the bat exclusion work on the building exterior, the interior will be inspected and any openings in the ceiling system will be screened.
2. The following warning signs regarding bats will be posted on all buildings for the duration of exclusion work.

WARNING
DO NOT HANDLE BATS
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DO NOT ATTEMPT TO KILL OR CAPTURE THE BAT!!!!

3. The exclusion of bats entails sealing openings on the building exterior. Note if bats are detected, appropriate screening will be put in place to ensure the bats are able to leave but not reenter.

This project is critical and urgent. All bat exclusion activities must cease during maternity season (May 01 to August 31).
Hello everyone. What an exciting time with our two basketball teams down in San Diego for the state tournament. I wish it was located closer so we could all cheer them on, but we'll just have to root for them and patiently await the results (or sneak a listen over the web cast). If you saw Roxanne's e-mail yesterday, you know that the men's team defeated College of the Desert and is now in the final four. What an accomplishment! I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing continued success to them and best of luck to the women's team this afternoon (they play at one p.m.). We are immensely proud of both teams no matter what the final outcomes.

Spring Festival of Bands
There are so many events that occur at the college and in the community that I can never attend as many as I would like. However, last night I was fortunate to attend the Spring Festival of Bands presented by the Fine Arts Division. Three bands participated in the concert. Two of them were high school bands from Manteca: The East Union High Symphonic Band and the Sierra High Symphonic Band. The third band was Delta's Symphonic Wind Ensemble. Art Holton is the conductor for Delta's band and he organized the event. Both high school bands were very good and my wife and I thoroughly enjoyed their performances. The best, of course, was the Delta band and they exhibited a virtuosity and professionalism that was truly impressive.

Art mentioned at the performance that today Delta will be host to a high school band competition. Bands from approximately 25 high schools will be at Delta to participate in this event. The bands will each play for a short period of time and will also attend a session with a master teacher. I'm sure it will be a fine event and will assist Delta in recruiting musicians from our local high schools.

Tracy/Mountain House Center
Planning for the Tracy/Mountain House Center is pretty much on track. We approved the design schematics for the main building and are quite close to having a final version of the exterior. In the next few weeks, we will be working with a three-dimensional computer model of the center to try to put the finishing touches on the design. We have made a number of modifications so far that, in my opinion, have improved the look and feel of the new center. This building will be located in a highly visible position near the 205 freeway. We want to make sure that it stands out and makes a bold statement in its own way, just as the main campus did when it was constructed over thirty years ago.

Cunningham Remodel/Addition
In the ongoing effort to evaluate the best way to use our bond dollars, our bond team has been spending considerable time analyzing various issues. A significant item that was discovered is that it will actually cost more to renovate and modernize Cunningham than it would be to demolish it and build a new classroom structure. The item that really increases the cost of remodeling is the science labs. The cost of remodeling the labs is much more than what it costs to construct new labs. As a result, the bond team put forward a proposal to the Facilities Committee to tear down Cunningham and build a new structure.

The bond team is also recommending that we tear down the Forum Building and incorporate lecture halls into the new science building and/or into the new Student Services Gateway Building. The usage of the

3/15/2005
Forum Building is only 27% of capacity, which obviously means that the building is severely underutilized. We believe we can provide lecture space in rooms that are more flexible and that can accommodate classes of various sizes rather than being stuck with a room that only has one configuration.

Tearing down buildings may sound radical, but if you look at our campus now, one of the major drawbacks is the cloistered feel of having these massive buildings all situated one on top of the other. The demolition of Cunningham and the Forum building will achieve another purpose, and that is to open up the center of the campus and to create a new pathway into the central quad or commons area. There is much more detail to these plans than I can describe in just a few paragraphs. All of this information will be put on the bond website as it is developed and goes through the various stages of planning. I am excited about these plans and pleased that the Facilities Committee is embracing a far reaching vision of what this campus can look like in the future.

SJDC Biennial Alumni Invitational
A few weeks ago, I mentioned the great show that was held at the Horton Gallery, which was a retrospective of the work of Joe Mariscal. Well, our curator, William Wilson has done it again with a brilliant show by a former student and local artist, Miguel Guerrero. The show is a wonderful blend of sculpture and prints that cover a wide range of subjects. Just like Joe’s show, it is the type of exhibition that makes you want to keep coming back to take another look at the various pieces. The dragonfly sculpture alone is worth a visit as you rarely see such a large piece with a water feature in gallery exhibits. The exhibition of Miguel’s work runs through the end of the month and I encourage you all to go over to the gallery and take it in.

Bats in Our Belfry
It seems like every spring we get an invasion of bats in some area of the campus. This year is no different as we have already had a bat infestation in the upper floors of Holt. The infestation in Holt was larger than some of the previous ones we have seen. The M&O staff are taking a number of steps to control the problem as follows:

1. They have relocated affected classes and faculty to new locations.
2. A contractor has been hired to clean and treat the spaces with a chemical disinfectant.
3. The contractor is evaluating the ceiling/roof conditions and will advise corrective action.
4. M&O will obtain “bat habitats” to place on campus in an effort to reduce future invasions. The bat habitats were designed by CalTrans to deal with bat populations on highway/bridge projects.

The preliminary timeline for most of these corrective actions is about two weeks.

Kudos
One of our former students in the DSPS program, Barbara Toler, who is legally blind, transferred to UOP and has been maintaining a 3.60 GPA in all of her coursework. I received a copy of a letter sent to her by the Dean of the School of Education at UOP in which he praises Barbara for her academic performance and notifies her that she is on the Dean’s Honor Roll for the fall and spring semesters of the last academic year. Congratulations to Barbara! What a pleasure to hear of former students who are thriving after (and because of) Delta.

Congratulations are also in order for Jane Dominik. For the third year in a row, Jane has been nominated to be included in the latest edition of Who’s Who Among American Teachers. To be considered for inclusion in this publication, you have to have been nominated by a student, who has also been distinguished in some way (most frequently by making the National Dean’s List or other such publications). There is no doubt that Jane is a scholar, a masterful teacher, and a person of the highest integrity. Keep up the great work Jane!

3/15/2005
During the week of March 7th - 11th, 2005, Delta experienced a number of observations of bats coming into the classrooms and offices of Holt 4th floor, which totaled eight (8) bats. As part of our responsibility to provide a safe environment and comply with state and local environmental health and safety regulations, Delta staff captured the bats, filled out the appropriate forms, and took the bats to Campus Police. Animal Control at the City of Stockton was then contacted for pick-up. Since eight (8) bats were collected, Animal Control contacted San Joaquin County Environmental Health.

As a result, San Joaquin County Environmental Health has since contacted Delta College and is currently working with Human Resources and Maintenance regarding the bat issues. The San Joaquin County Environmental Health Department has given Delta College direction to immediately extricate the bats from the buildings on the campus for the safety of the students, staff and public.

Human Resources and Maintenance have developed an environmental friendly work plan to eliminate the bats from the campus buildings with minimal disturbance to the instructional areas. This plan will include the following: (1) interior lighting in offices and classrooms with roof lines will be screened; (2) screening of exterior lighting in the hallways; (3) warning signs regarding bats will be posted on stairwell doors; and (4) sealing all openings around the fascia boards of the all buildings. If bats are found living within the fascia boards the appropriate screening will be put in place to ensure that the bats are able to leave but unable to return.

As part of their inspection, San Joaquin County Environmental Health expressed serious concerns regarding the bat population on campus, and indicated that they posed a serious health concern that needed to be immediately remediated. The college does not have the discretion to not comply with this public health and safety requirement, and we are working with a consortium of interests to develop an immediate work plan to achieve compliance humanely and expeditiously. The "Delta cats" have become part of the culture of the campus, and we are determined to include all interested parties in developing a solution to the concerns expressed by the county while also recognizing our obligations and responsibility to comply with health and safety laws.

These projects are critical and urgent, given the deadlines mandated by San Joaquin County Environmental Health. Please be aware of the equipment, personal working on the project, and the importance of ensuring that the staff, students, and public have a safe environment at Delta.

Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

Kim Myers, SPHR
Vice President of Human Resources and Employee Relations

This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <campusannouncements@sjdccd.cc.ca.us>. The intended use of this address, campusannouncements@deltacollege.edu, is to allow Employees to have a method of conveying non-business related information to all Delta College employees who wish to participate in
Delta College warns students of bat infestation around campus

By Bobby Wilson
San Joaquin News Service
Last updated: Friday, Apr 01, 2005 - 11:34:51 pm PST

STOCKTON -- San Joaquin Delta College posted signs this week warning people about the Stockton campus' problem with bats.

Stockton animal control picked up eight of the nocturnal mammals during the day from March 3 to March 10, said Carl Borgman of the San Joaquin County Environmental Health Department.

The fact that the bats were found during the day -- near the Holt building -- indicates they could have been sick with rabies, said Borgman, a supervising health specialist.

Rabies is an acute disease of the nervous system that is transmitted through the bite of a rabid animal and typically characterized by increased salivation, abnormal behavior, eventual paralysis and death.

"Rabies would be 100 percent fatal once the symptoms are manifested," Borgman said.

The signs on campus tell people not to handle bats because they're known to carry rabies. The signs also tell people whom to contact if they spot or come into contact with the flying creatures.

Delta officials didn't return several calls Friday. However, students expressed mixed reaction when asked about the bat situation.

"It is scary," said Sara Jamshidi, a 22-year-old sophomore.

By contrast, Kandiss Ulm said she isn't worried about the bats.
Bats and cats must go
Delta campus combo called unhealthy; group seeks feline home

By Greg Kane
Record Staff Writer

STOCKTON — The San Joaquin Delta College campus has gone to the bats.

County health officials in March gave the school 60 days to get rid of the estimated 6,000 bats hiding in dark eaves, holes and crevices across the campus. Since then, workers have been busy sealing holes, cracks and other crevices where the winged rodents could slip inside college buildings.

Bats aren’t the only creatures whose college days appear to be numbered, however. The county has also ordered the school to remove dozens of feral felines that live on campus, saying the combination of cats and bats increases the risk of transmitting rabies and other diseases.

“Most cats will go after a bat just like they’re birds,” said County Health Officer Karen Furst. “There’s no way to keep the bats away from the feral cat population, so we need the feral cats removed to make sure there won’t be any commingling.”

Delta officials agreed to remove the cats by Sunday, said Kim Myers, the school’s vice president of human resources and employee relations. But not everyone’s happy with the loss of the campus cats.

Members of the Delta Friends of Campus Cats — an organization that controls the school’s cat population by spaying, neutering and vaccinating strays — say the removal will erase seven years of progress. Founding member Jacek Kos...

Please see BATS, A11

Scramble

Var on two fronts

Rumsfeld goes to Iraq
"I figure if it was that big of a danger, they wouldn't let us in the buildings," said the 21-year-old while reading the sign posted on one of the glass doors leading into the college library.

At this point, Borgman said, the county is not asking Delta to close buildings, but the county instructed the school to exclude the bats.

Delta hired a private company to rid buildings of bats by blocking entry points with nets, Borgman said.

Borgman said he suspects that most of the larger buildings have bats, adding that they like to hang out in warm locations such as attics and in the eves at the top of buildings.

If rabid bats were discovered at Delta, Borgman said, it would have to close.

He said bats are only tested when humans come into contact with them. And so far there are no reported cases of that at Delta, Borgman said.

A few years ago, a customer picked up a bat at a fabric store on March Lane in Stockton. The county tested the bat and determined it had rabies, Borgman said.

As a result, the building was closed until extensive remediation was completed. Workers replaced wooden siding with stucco and sealed all openings at the top of the building to prevent bats from entering, Borgman said.

"Because we got a step on the process, we hope this will not happen at Delta College," Borgman said.

Student Luz Castillo said she plans to be vigilant on campus, especially when she is walking in stairwells at night.

Last fall, she said, a bat was found in a classroom she was taking a night course in.

The 18-year-old said the class was moved to another room.

For more information, call 954-5835 or 468-3822.

Contact reporter Bobby Wilson at bwilson@tracycypress.com.
BATS

Continued from A1

Jacek Kostyrko, a math instructor at Delta, said the number of stray cats on campus has been reduced by more than 50 percent since the group started operating in 1998. "We have put a lot of effort at no expense to the college to monitor the cat population," Kostyrko said. "In one decision, it was totally wiped out."

Kostyrko and his wife, Zosia, spent the early-morning hours on Tuesday checking some of the 18 steel cages that had been set out for the feral cats. As of Tuesday, they had found and removed around 20 cats, about two-thirds of the feral population.

The dilemma, Jacek Kostyrko said, is where to put all the cats once they're trapped. The group wants to find homes for the animals, but their untamed nature makes them unsuitable as house pets, he said. Yet they can't survive in the wild outside the campus' controlled environment, he said.

"These are cats that are used to being fed," Kostyrko said. "They can't protect themselves from predators effectively."

The couple declined to say what they're doing with the cats until they've found new homes.

The Kostyrkos are afraid that the school will trap and deliver the cats to the San Joaquin County animal shelter, where they could be euthanized if they aren't placed with new owners.

Myers said the school is taking every possible step to protect the animals' lives when removing them from the campus.

"We're kind of the middleman here," Myers said Tuesday. "We're trying to broker an amenable resolution."

What Kostyrko doesn't understand is why the cats need to be removed in the first place. Most of the monitored strays, which can be identified by a notch on the ear, have been vaccinated against rabies, he said.

"I can't see how bats and cats relate to each other," he said.

Myers estimates there are approximately 6,000 bats in and around the campus' buildings. Removing the bats involves sealing and screening small holes that the bats might have used to move in and out of buildings.

Once the buildings are sealed, one-way passages are set up that allow the bats to exit but not enter, Furst said.

"When they fly out to go feed at night, they can leave," she said. "But when they come back in the wee hours of the morning, they can't get back into the buildings."

The exclusion results in a larger than normal number of bats flying around the campus, Furst said. If a bat infected with rabies or some other disease is grounded somewhere on campus, an unvaccinated cat could wind up becoming infected, she said.

Kostyrko believes the edict to remove the cats means the end of the Delta friends organization. After finding homes for the 30 or so cats now on campus, he has no plans to continue monitoring the new strays that he believes will inevitably make their way onto the campus.

"We feel these are our cats," he said. "We want to rescue the cats that have lived on campus so far."

Wisconsin may make feral cats unprotected species...