Calendar of Events

January
1 COLLEGE CLOSED – New Year’s Day
5-7 Student Leadership Conference, San Diego
8 18-Week Spring Session Begins
9 Student Welcome Night, Falcon Square, 5:30 p.m.
11 Student Welcome Day, Falcon Square, 11 a.m.
15 COLLEGE CLOSED – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
23 Club Information Day, Falcon Square, 10 a.m. and Social Sciences Patio, 6 p.m.
29 15-Week Spring Session Begins

February
16-19 COLLEGE CLOSED – President’s Day
20 Band Exchange Concert, Student Center, 7 p.m.
25 Music Faculty Gala, Burnight Theatre, 2 p.m.

March
2 Orchestra Exchange Concert, Student Center, 7 p.m.
5 Band Exchange Concert, Student Center, 7 p.m.
8 Pop Exchange Concert, Student Center, 7 p.m.
11 Daylight Savings Time Begins
12 Second 9-Week Spring Session Begins
13-15 Hoe Down Days, Falcon Square
21 Jazz Exchange Concert, Student Center, 7 p.m.
22 Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, Falcon Square, 10 a.m.
27 Academic Excellence Awards, Burnight Center Theatre, 7 p.m.
28 Choral Festival, Burnight Center Theatre, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.
30 Scott Henderson Memorial Scholarship Concert, Burnight Center Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

April
2-6 SPRING RECESS
6 COLLEGE CLOSED – Good Friday
12 Pop Exchange Concert, Student Center, 7 p.m.
17 Band Exchange Concert, Student Center, 7 p.m.
20 Orchestra Exchange Concert, Student Center, 7 p.m.
20 Senior Preview Day
24 11th Annual Mega Mixer, 5-8 p.m.
25 Jazz Exchange Concert, Student Center, 7 p.m.
30 Band Exchange Concert, Student Center, 7 p.m.

May
4 ASCC Awards Banquet, Student Center, 7 p.m.
12 Commencement, Falcon Stadium, 5 p.m.
12-18 Final Exams Week
15 Choral Exchange Concert, Burnight Theatre, 7 p.m.
17 Jazz and Pop Spring Concert, Student Center, 7 p.m.
18 Spring Band Concert, Burnight Theatre, 7:30 p.m.
18 Spring 2006 Semester Ends
21 First day of Summer Session
28 COLLEGE CLOSED – Memorial Day

CERRITOS COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION
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WILLIAM C. FARMER, JR.
Vice President of Academic Affairs/Assistant Superintendent
JO ANN HIGDON
Vice President of Business Services/Assistant Superintendent
STEPHEN B. JOHNSON, E.D.
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Building Futures Through Learning
Construyendo futuros mediante el aprendizaje
Tạo Dựng Tương Lai Qua Học Tập

Spring 2007

Student Leadership Prepares Leaders of Excellence
Campaigns Help Support Campus Pride and National Relief Efforts

Setting the theme for the 2006-07 school year, the Associated Students of Cerritos College (ASCC) championed a “Show Pride in Our Campus” campaign to promote a clean and beautiful campus and to encourage active participation from the entire Cerritos College community.

“...to appeal to people’s sense of pride in their campus home,” said ASCC President Joe Cobarrubio.

“With help from campus administrators, we’ve been able to create a collaborative effort among students, staff and faculty to help keep our campus looking clean, well-kept and free from graffiti and trash.”

The ASCC also reached out to support those beyond the Cerritos College campus by conducting two separate fundraising projects. In 2005, following the devastation caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to New Orleans and the Gulf States,

ASCC leaders were the first to encourage donations from the campus at large and succeeded in raising more than $2,600 for the Red Cross Hurricane Katrina Relief fund.

Again in 2006, coinciding with the fifth anniversary of September 11, 2001, the ASCC challenged the campus to raise funds for a memorial to be built at the site of Flight 93, which crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The ASCC distributed donation “piggy” banks throughout campus to benefit the memorial.

For more information about the ASCC and its programs, please visit www.cerritos.edu/activities.

Acknowledgements
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Editor
Margo Winners
Graphic Designer

New! Classes now only $20 per unit!
Excellence in Local Partnerships

Local Partners in Education Expand Resources, Career Possibilities

Cerritos College’s strong relationships with local K-12 and vocational schools support life-long learning and success at all stages of education. Each semester, the college hosts a meeting with area superintendents, board members and district officials to discuss ways of leveraging resources to improve services for students, and through that exchange of ideas a number of partnerships have formed.

One such collaboration is a new program offered through the Cerritos College Teacher TRAC Program and funded by the Boeing Foundation. The Partnership to Develop Special Education Teachers (SETuP) is a K-12 special education teacher preparation program that offers selected students the opportunity to explore working in an inclusive classroom with special-needs children. During the 2006-2007 year, 12 SETuP interns were selected to work one-on-one with master teachers from area elementary schools who have expertise in special education.

Cerritos College also hosted a second Special Education Symposium in October to provide professional development and instruction for Cerritos College students, faculty members and educators from local districts.

Cerritos College has a long-standing partnership with the Southeast Regional Occupational Program in providing ROP classes for high school students at the college’s campus in automotive technology and 3-D design. The college has also partnered with the Bellflower Unified School District to increase the number of low-income students entering and succeeding in post-secondary education through academic preparation and support.

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Cerritos College's Campus Transformation Committee, in coordination with the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee, worked closely with BP/Architecture, the campus’ master plan architect, to have an updated campus master plan approved by the board in late 2006. The revised master plan incorporates state funding opportunities and provides a means for the college to build a new Burnight Center Theatre that will replace the aging one. Originally, it was thought that the college would need local bond funds to update the existing theater. Last year, Dr. Noelia Vela, the college’s president, assembled a team—including the campus architect, a structural engineer, the director of facilities and the vice president of business services—to make a case to the state that the college needed state funds to replace the existing facilities. In June, the state’s facilities personnel examined the structure of the current building and felt that Cerritos College was a perfect candidate for funding that would allow replacement of the facility. Because of stipulations that come with the funding, the size of the new theater is restricted to the existing square footage, but will feature additional seating, more efficient use of space and a new location. The new Burnight Center Theatre will be constructed further south on the campus and near parking lot C-10 to afford more space for theatre parking and to create synergy between the Theatre Arts Department and nearby Woodworking Technology program—the woodworking shop and tools can be incorporated into set design and construction. Conversely, the leveling of the current Burnight Center Theatre will allow the creation of a more open “front door” and a drive-through drop-off location off Alondra Boulevard.

G.O. Bond Construction Paves Way for Future of Excellence

Synthetic-Turf Field Completed in Time for Football Season

A $3.5 million renovation of the football field helped brighten the stadium just in time for the first “kick-off” of the season. Contractor IC Improvements, of Toronto, finished installation just in time for the season-opening home game. The new surface, which features a giant, colorful falcon on the 50-yard line, is much more durable and can sustain frequent use. The Physical Education and Athletics Departments are now able to schedule more classes and practices on the field without the risk of incurring wear or tear or player injuries. The track surrounding the playing field is also in its final stages of installation. Once completed, the new synthetic track surface, called Mondo, will require much less maintenance and will continue to make Cerritos College an attractive venue for high-profile regional track and field competitions.

Design and Construction of New Pool

In fall 2006, the Campus Transformation Committee approved the architect to design a new, competition-standard swimming pool that will replace the aging current one. “We are so pleased to have a new pool. It will give our physical education class students, athletes, and community swim programs an improved experience. It will have a unique, specific area for adapted physical education class students as well,” said Instructional Dean of Physical Education/Athletics Dr. Dan Smith.

New Members of the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee

Joanne Sims, a member of the Bona-Fide Taxpayers Association, and Belinda Nolasco, a representative from the Associated Students of Cerritos College, have joined the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee. This committee was appointed by the Cerritos College Board of Trustees to oversee the college’s use of bond funds and to serve as a “check-and-balance” to ensure that the bond proceeds are only used for those projects included in the bond measure project list. Each committee member serves a term between of two years.
Cerritos College

Building Futures Through Learning
Construyendo futuros mediante el aprendizaje
Tạo Dựng Tương Lai Qua Học Tập

Phrases:

1. Building Futures Through Learning
2. Nhiệm Vụ của trường Cerritos College là Phục Vụ Cộng Đồng bằng cách Tạo Dựng Tương Lai Qua Học Tập

Cerritos College alumna Zulema Carrillo recently won a prestigious scholarship provided by the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) that will cover all her tuition, supplies and living expenses during a three-year primary care physician assistant program at the University of Southern California. NHSC scholars are required to serve their commitments in health professional shortage areas (HPSAs) where need is determined by designation score that considers factors such as the ratio of health care providers to the local population and the percentage of low-income population being served. Upon completing her studies at USC, Carrillo will be assigned to serve as a medical professional in an underrepresented community—which could be anywhere in the nation.

“I’ve always been interested in health care, and I always knew I wanted to be in the community,” she said.

Carrillo grew up in Whittier, California and entered the U.S. Navy after high school. She served as a Navy Hospital Corpsman for six years before beginning her studies in the Cerritos College Project HOPE program, an initiative aimed at increasing the numbers of underrepresented health care professionals. As a Project HOPE student, Carrillo also spent time organizing and volunteering at community health fairs. She later transferred to California State University, Long Beach to earn a bachelor’s degree in health science.

Carrillo was accepted into USC in spring 2006 and underwent a competitive interview and application process to officially become an NHSC scholar.

“I ideally would want to stay in Los Angeles,” she explained, “but I’ll go wherever they need me.”

For more information about Project HOPE, please visit www.cerritos.edu/hope.

Training and Instruction in Excellence
Forensics Team Develops Leaders, Takes Home Trophies

It’s the only team on campus with a nine-month season. The Cerritos College Forensics Team—founded in 1956, just as the college was in its infancy—is as competitive and rigorous as any physical sport, centering Bill Sparks, the team’s advisor. And the team brings home just as many trophies, if not more.

A debate team at a competition consists of two students from one school who argue a topic with another team. Cerritos College typically sends from seven teams to each competition. Between September and May each year, local and statewide competitions are held two and three times a month.

The students engage in parliamentary debate, which is based upon the rules of debate used in British government, and consists of four teams of two speakers each, with two teams each taking a side of the debate. Because of the origins of the style of debate, the two sides are often called “government” and “opposition.”

With the experience they gain in the forensics program, many Cerritos College forensics programs are accepted into prestigious four-year universities with strong forensics programs.

“We’ve sent several of our forensics students on to UC Berkeley, USC and Redlands University, all of which have stellar programs,” said Sparks.

In 2006, the Cerritos College team took home the Bronze Award in the Phi Ro Pi (the national debate organization) sweepstakes championships. Squad Captain Riley Schnitzius is returning for her second year.

“I’m excited about the team this year,” she said. “We’re forming new teams and figuring out our strengths. It’s going to be a fun year.”

For more information about the Cerritos College Forensics Team, please visit the Liberal Arts Division home page at www.cerritos.edu/la.

Excellence Makes Way for Student Success
Learning Communities Program Prepares Team Players for the Workforce

Established in 1996, the Cerritos College Learning Communities Program offers classes that integrate subject matter from two or more fields. Typically, the same group of students is co-enrolled in two or more courses, usually from different disciplines—for instance, history and art; English and career guidance; or political science and philosophy. Students enroll in both courses and receive a separate grade for each other. Other classes may be designed around a unifying theme, based on courses that reinforce the students’ special needs. In principle, students and faculty learn from each other.

“The semester I joined a learning community I began to really believe in my abilities and set higher standards for myself,” explained Guillermo Zelaz, a learning communities program student.

“The essence of learning communities is to allow individual students to be involved in a network of support for learning,” said Dr. Ana Torres-Bower, one of the program’s first faculty members.

In learning communities, students work in collaborative academic environments as valued team members. One of the aims of the program is to develop individual students into valuable team players for the work force. Research has shown that learning communities facilitate students’ transition into college culture, and that students who participate in learning communities are more likely to stay in college.

As part of the Washington Center National Assessment Program, the Cerritos College Learning Communities Program is one of 25 programs nationwide to participate in a study that will measure student’s success in learning communities. The program is also one of 15 colleges nationwide that are part of a Syracuse University four-year research project.

For more information about Cerritos College Learning Communities Program, please visit www.cerritos.edu/lcp.

Director of Bands David Betancourt Provides Leadership, Expertise in Neighboring Paramount USD

Each year, hundreds of Cerritos College students have the opportunity to learn from Director of Bands and Orchestra David Betancourt. Now, Betancourt is sharing his leadership and talents with younger students by participating in the Paramount Unified School District’s “Arts for All” program. Arts for All, adapted by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in 2002, is a 10-year initiative to restore comprehensive arts education to all county public schools.

Paramount USD was selected in late 2006 to receive funding to develop a three-to-five year comprehensive arts program that will help it to meet key criteria for quality arts education.

Cerritos College music students will perform several times each spring for a performance schedule, please visit www.cerritos.edu/music.

For more information about the Cerritos College Culinary Arts Program, please visit www.cerritos.edu/culinary.

Award-Winning Culinary Arts Instructor Michael Pierini Receives 2006 Excellence in Teaching Award

Michael Pierini has poured into his students all of his knowledge and love of cooking, and he’s inspired the students to do their best, said Instructional Dean of Health Occupations Jenine Nolan, who nominated Pierini for the award.

For more information about the Cerritos College Culinary Arts Program, please visit www.cerritos.edu/culinary.