
In Progress

Kristen Habbestad is working with the Cerritos College Foundation to develop a media relations strategy to complement the SCCTT Capital Campaign.

Coverage

*Norwalk Community News*—January 5, 2007—Article about the Cerritos College Foundation receiving a donation from Boeing (from press release).

Press-Telegram—December 1 and 15, 2006—Brief mentions of the faculty art exhibit (from media alert).


*Whittier Daily News*—December 11, 2006—Brief about ESL classes offered at the college (from media alert).

*Long Beach Press-Telegram*—December 11, 2006—Article about men’s soccer team winning state championship.

*Orange County Register*—December 8, 2006—Brief about Tom Jackson taking helm as president of board of trustees (from press release).

*Norwalk Community News*—December 1, 2006—Brief about lowered class fees at the college (from media alert).

*Bellflower Bulletin*—December 2006—Article about lowered class fees at the college (from media alert).

*Orange County Register*—November 24, 2006—Article about area community colleges mentions Cerritos College.


Watts Times—November 16, 2006—Article about Auto Tech competition (from press release)


Related News
Press-Telegram—December 14, 2006—Article about Long Beach Community College’s new president signing a contract.
Class Fees Reduced at Cerritos College and Statewide

Spring Semester Begins January 8 with New Per-Unit Fee of $20

For Immediate Release: November 28, 2006

Media Contact: Kristen Habbestad, Public Affairs; (562) 860-2451, ext. 2287

Registration Contact: Rose Alegre, Admissions and Records; (562) 860-2451, ext. 2211

NORWALK, CA – November 28, 2006 – Cerritos College’s spring semester begins Monday, January 8, 2007 and offers students a newly reduced per-unit class fee of $20. Statewide, community college class fees have been reduced from $26 to $20 per unit.

Students may access a schedule of classes, complete an application and register online for a variety of Cerritos College classes by visiting www.cerritos.edu/admissions.

All eligible returning students have an option to either register online through MyCerritos or by using the automated Falcon Phone registration system at (562) 865-3276.

Cerritos College serves as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college’s district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs and South Gate. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently surpasses 20,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at www.cerritos.edu.

###
Cerritos College Offers Day and Evening ESL Courses

For Immediate Release: December 4, 2006
Contact: Joann Sugihara-Cheetham, (562) 860-2451, ext. 2892

WHAT: Cerritos College’s Liberal Arts Division offers classes in English as a Second Language (ESL) with the start of the spring semester on Monday, January 8, 2007. Classes are offered at beginning, intermediate and advanced levels, and are available for $20 per unit (most classes are three units). Several classes are offered during both the day and evening. Most classes meet twice a week and are available during both the 18-week session and the first and second 9-week sessions. ESL classes at Cerritos College offer:

- Pronunciation
- Accent reduction
- Oral communication
- Speaking and listening
- Grammar
- Reading
- Vocabulary
- Writing and structure
- American expressions and culture
- Spelling
- Editing

WHEN: 18-Week Session: January 8 – May 18, 2007
First 9-Week Session: January 8 – March 9, 2007
Second 9-Week Session: March 12 – May 18, 2007

WHERE: Cerritos College
11110 Alondra Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650

CONTACT: For more information, please contact Joann Sugihara-Cheetham at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2892 or by e-mail at jcheetham@cerritos.edu.

COST: $20 per unit; parking is $1 per day.

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###
Cerritos College Board of Trustees Holds Annual Organizational Meeting

For Immediate Release: December 7, 2006

Media Contact: Kristen Habbestad, Public Affairs; (562) 860-2451, ext. 2287

NORWALK, Calif. - December 7, 2006 – The Cerritos College Board of Trustees held its annual re-organizational meeting on Wednesday evening, December 6, electing new officers for the coming year. The board elected Tom Jackson, immediate past vice president and member since 2003, as president; Bob Arthur, past board president and member since 1995, as vice president; and Bob Epple, a board member who first served on the board in the mid-1980s, was appointed to the board in 2004 and elected again in 2005, as secretary.

The board presented outgoing Board President John Moore, a trustee since 1988, with an honorary plaque for his year of dedication and service to the board.

"John, we appreciate the fine example you’ve set through your presidency on this board for the past 12 months," said Jackson as he presented Moore with the plaque.

"We are extremely grateful for your diplomacy in guiding us through decisions and activities during the year, and we thank for your loyalty and dependability in representing the board not only at our meetings but also at community events."

Board President Jackson, of Norwalk, is a Cerritos College retiree, having served as a full-time faculty member in the college’s Business Education Division beginning in 1980 and until his retirement in 2002. He has also served as a board member for the Cerritos College Foundation since 2004. Jackson earned an associate’s degree in business and engineering from Long Beach City College before earning a bachelor’s degree in business administration from California State University, Long Beach. He went on to earn a second bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Southern California. He also holds a certificate in food-marketing management from USC. Prior to his academic pursuits, Jackson served in

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the United States Coast Guard.

Board Vice President Arthur, also of Norwalk, is a Cerritos College alumnus and longtime community member. In addition to his role on the college’s board, Arthur has served as a board member for the Cerritos College Foundation since April 1996. Arthur also served as mayor and councilmember for the city of Norwalk (1990-1994), as board member for the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (1991-1993) and as a board member for the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (1993-1997).

Board Secretary Epple, of Bellflower, is an attorney at law with a private practice in Bellflower. A 1973 graduate of Cerritos College, Epple later attended California State University at Dominquez Hills and received his juris doctorate degree from the American College of Law. A strong advocate for community colleges, Epple was first elected to the Cerritos College Board of Trustees in 1981 and served until 1988 when he was elected to the California State Assembly, where he served until December 1994. Epple remained involved with the college through his service on the board for the Cerritos College Foundation, a position he has held since February 1995. He was appointed by the board in 2004 to finish the term of his late wife Cheryl A. Epple before being re-elected in 2005.

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###
Cerritos College Foundation Receives Boeing Support

Scholarship Will Benefit Students Focusing on Special Education Training

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 14, 2006

Media Contact: Kristen Habbestad, Public Affairs;(562) 860-2451, ext. 2287

NORWALK, CA – December 14, 2006 – The Cerritos College Foundation recently received a $4,600 donation toward student scholarships from The Boeing Company. Steven Chesser, senior manager in Boeing’s Community Relations visited campus on November 28 to present the check to President Noelia Vela and Foundation Executive Director Steve Richardson.

The donation will go toward scholarships for students studying within Cerritos College’s Partnership to Develop Special Education Teachers (SETuP), new K-12 special education teacher preparation offered through the Cerritos College Teacher Training Academy (TRAC) Program that that gives 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. The interns have the opportunity to first observe and then complete 40 hours of work helping students with special needs in the area of math and science.

“Thanks to Boeing’s generous support of the teacher training program, Cerritos College is helping to provide more knowledgeable and experienced teachers in local special education classrooms,” said the Honorable Peter Espinoza, chairman of the Cerritos College Foundation board.

“We are grateful for Boeing’s willingness to partner with us in providing such a necessary financial gift.”
As part of the financial support provided by Boeing, SETuP interns’ enrollment fees and materials for a required class, “CDSE 50 – Survey of Special Education,” will be paid for in the spring 2007.

Cerritos College’s Teacher TRAC program offers many services, programs, and pathways for students interested in teaching K-12. For students interested in becoming an elementary school teacher, Teacher TRAC’s flagship program is a partnership with California State University Long Beach. The students build professional portfolios that will help them in their university careers, and in later job interviews and lesson plans. Teacher TRAC courses maintain impressive retention rates that range from 80% to 100%. Cerritos College’s Teacher TRAC Program received the 2005 Exemplary Program Award from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges. Since 2001, there have been more than 90 Teacher TRAC-credentialed graduates of California State University, Long Beach. As a student in the integrated, standards-based Teacher TRAC/CSULB program, students can earn their bachelor’s degree and multiple subject teaching credentials and complete their student teaching within four years. For more information about the program, visit www.teachertrac.com.

The Cerritos College Foundation, a non-profit organization, serves as a charitable vehicle for the community, individuals and alumni, to assist with financial support of Cerritos College beyond that which state funding supports. Visit the Foundation online at www.cerritos.edu/ccf.

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###
Cerritos College Receives $14K Grant from DaimlerChrysler

Funds Will Support College Automotive Program

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 14, 2006

Media Contact: Kristen Habbestad, Public Affairs; (562) 860-2451, ext. 2287

NORWALK, CA – December 14, 2006 – DaimlerChrysler presented the Cerritos College Foundation with a $14,000 grant this fall, benefiting the campus’ College Automotive Program (CAP), which provides students with technical learning and a pathway into lucrative automotive technician careers at more than 4,000 Chrysler, Dodge, and Jeep dealers. The funding will go toward the program’s marketing and outreach efforts to area high school students.

“We’re thrilled that these funds will go toward training and preparing our students for employment,” said Richard Aragon, instructor in Cerritos College’s Automotive Technology Program.

“It’s through the generous support of manufacturers like DaimlerChrysler that our programs are thriving. The students are the ones who truly benefit from these gifts.”

Cerritos College is the only college in California that offers CAP training. By hosting CAP courses for its students, Cerritos College and DaimlerChrysler provide students with training on current Daimler-Chrysler vehicles using DaimlerChrysler-authorized tools and procedures and prepare them for entry-level technician jobs at dealerships.

Upon completion of the program, students earn an associate’s degree in automotive technology (or similar study). Along with classroom instruction, CAP offers on-site training at sponsoring dealerships under the direction of technician mentors. Students rotate class time and internships until fulfilling the requirements to receive their degree.

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Cerritos College celebrates the 2005-06 school year as its 50th anniversary in serving as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college’s district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs and Southgate. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently surpasses 20,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at www.cerritos.edu, and view a celebratory site honoring the college’s 50 years of tradition, honor and values at www.cerritos.edu/50.

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Cerritos College Woodworking Technology Hosts Open House

For Immediate Release: January 8, 2007

Media Contact: Kristen Habbestad, Public Affairs; (562) 860-2451 ext. 2287

Event Contact: Jennifer Simpson, Woodworking Manufacturing Technology; (562) 860-2451 ext. 2986

WHAT: The Cerritos College Woodworking Manufacturing Technology Department will host an open house on Tuesday, January 9 and Wednesday, January 10, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. and again on Saturday, January 13, 8-10 a.m.

The Open House provides an opportunity for new and potential students--and those who are simply curious--to check out the 24,000 sq. ft. facility, receive help with enrolling, tour shops and equipment, enjoy refreshments and meet instructors and students.

WHEN: Tuesday, January 9, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, January 10, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
and Saturday, January 13, 8-10 a.m.

WHERE: Cerritos College
11150 East Alondra Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650
Room: WD-4, Woodworking Building. Free parking is available in Lot C-10.

CONTACT: For more information, please contact Jennifer Simpson at (562) 860-2451 ext. 2986.

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Cerritos College Foundation Receives Boeing Support

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During the 2006-2007 year, 12 SETAP interns were selected to work one-on-one with master teachers from area elementary schools who have expertise in special education. The interns have the opportunity to first observe and then complete 40 hours of work helping students with special needs in the area of math and science.

“Thanks to Boeing’s generous support of the teacher training program, Cerritos College is helping to provide more knowledgeable and experienced teachers in local special education classrooms,” said the Honorable Peter Espinosa, chairman of the Cerritos College Foundation board.

“We are grateful for Boeing’s willingness to partner with us in providing such a necessary financial gift.”

As part of the financial support provided by Boeing, SETAP Interns’ enrollment fees and materials for a required class, “CDSF 50 – Survey of Special Education,” will be paid for in the spring 2007.

Cerritos College’s Teacher TRAC program offers many services, programs, and pathways for students interested in teaching K-12. For students interested in becoming an elementary school teacher, Teacher TRAC’s flagship program is a partnership with California State University Long Beach. The students build professional portfolios that will help them in their university careers, and in later job interviews and lesson plans. Teacher TRAC courses maintain impressive retention and progression rates that range from 80% to 100%.

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For more information about the program, visit www.teachertrac.com. The Cerritos College Foundation, a non-profit organization, serves as a charitable vehicle for the community, individuals, and alumni, to assist with financial support of Cerritos College beyond that which state funding supports. Visit the Foundation online at www.cerritos.edu/fndn.

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Press Telegram
December 15, 2006

Press Telegram
December 1, 2006
Falcons soar to state crown

JC soccer: Huerta nets game-winner for Cerritos; Cypress women fall.

By David Felton, Staff writer
Inside SOCAL

FRESNO — Juan Huerta has a sense of timing that comedians and percussionists would kill for.

Huerta, a modestly used midfielder for the Cerritos College men's soccer team, scored only twice during his freshman season. But both goals gave the Falcons a 1-0 playoff victory, including Sunday's tally in the 36th minute of the COA Soccer Championship against Taft on a rainy day at Fresno Pacific University. Huerta beat Cougar goalie Victor Chinchilla to the near side from about 5 yards away on a pass from Eric Gonzalez and brought Cerritos its first-ever state soccer crown.

"Luckily I was right there at the spot," said Huerta, who last week scored in the 88th minute to beat El Camino in the Southern California Regional final. "It was the only chance I had. The defender was behind me and I turned around and luckily it went in."

Second-year Cerritos coach Benny Artiaga didn't think luck had much to do with it.

"It doesn't matter (against) what team, the scenario, (Huerta) just performs," he said. "He's made the most of every single minute I put him in. He stepped up in two of our toughest games. He's really a special kid."

Cerritos (20-3-5) closed its season with four consecutive 1-0 wins and goalie Miguel Lopez recorded his ninth shutout of the season.

Freshman sweeper Eusebio Alvarez was selected tournament MVP.

"Our defense shut out four of the best teams in California," said Artiaga. "And it's not just the back three and the goalkeeper. We defend with 11 guys. There's not a single player that does not defend."

For much of the game, and certainly after Huerta's goal, Cerritos' best defense was its aggressive offense. Instead of backing their midfielders into defensive positions, the Falcons looked to attack and forced the Cougars to defend.

"If we stood back, they would keep coming and coming," said sophomore defender Marco Pulido. "We had to pressure them, pressure them and keep (the ball) on (Taft's) side of the field."

Taft's best chance to score came in the 25th minute when Octavio Medina created some space for himself and launched a shot off the crossbar. Lopez (six saves) made a nice kick save on another Medina shot in the 19th minute and blocked a good attempt by Luis Astorga in the 40th minute.

With less than 10 minutes to play, Taft accelerated its offense and had three looks at the net. Lopez stopped a shot from a scramble in front of the net in the 82nd minute and two other shots sailed either high or wide.

And after four uneventful injury minutes, the final whistle blew.
That set off a wild celebration for the players and coaches at midfield and for a good number of Cerritos fans who made the trip north and braved a wet and chilly December day in the Central Valley.

"It's an incredible feeling," said redshirt sophomore Joshua Meyer, who was a freshman when Cerritos lost to Santa Ana 3-0 in its only other state final appearance in 2004. "Losing to Santa Ana always felt like unfinished business.

"From the beginning, I knew this was a championship team," Meyer added, "that it had what it takes to win it."

"We knew we had a very, very good team," agreed Pulido. "We knew we could take it all. We just needed to focus - and that's what happened."

Women

Santiago Canyon 2, Cypress 0: The Long Beach City College-Cypress stranglehold has been broken.

Second-half goals by Kathleen Benton and Megan Konishi led Santiago Canyon to its first state title, making the Hawks the only team other than LBCC or Cypress to win the COA title since 1996.

Santiago Canyon (25-1-1) outscored its playoff foes 24-0 and beat the Chargers (21-2-2) for the first time in three tries this year. The teams tied one Orange Empire Conference game and Cypress won the next.

Cypress was making its third consecutive state final appearance and lost for the second year in a row. The Chargers lost 2-0 to Long Beach last year and defeated American River 5-0 in 2004. Cypress also won titles in 1998 and 1999.

The Chargers received a penalty kick late in the first half but couldn't capitalize. Cassie McKay (Mayfair High) took the shot but Santiago's Katie Graul made the stop.

Hawks defender Kari Moore earned tournament MVP honors.
Tom Jackson to lead Cerritos College board

NORWALK — The Cerritos College Board of Trustees has elected Tom Jackson as its board president for the coming year. Jackson lives in Norwalk.

Other officers, named by the board in its reorganization Dec. 6, were Norwalk resident Bob Arthur as vice president and Bob Epple of Bellflower as secretary.

The board presented outgoing President John Moore of Cerritos with an honorary plaque for his year of service.

Jackson is a Cerritos College retiree, having served as a full-time faculty member in the college’s Business Education Division from 1980 until his retirement in 2002.

He also has served as a board member for the Cerritos College Foundation since 2004.

Jackson earned an associate’s degree in business and engineering from Long Beach City College before earning a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Cal State Long Beach.

He went on to earn a second bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in business administration from USC.

Prior to his academic pursuits, Jackson served in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Arthur also is a Cerritos College alumnus and a longtime community member. He has served as a board member for the Cerritos College Foundation since April 1996.

He also served on the Norwalk City Council from 1990 to 1994 and on the county Transportation Commission from 1991 to 1993 and then on the board of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority from 1993 to 1997.

Epple is an attorney with a private practice in Bellflower.

A 1973 graduate of Cerritos College, Epple later attended Cal State Dominguez Hills and received his juris doctorate degree from the American College of Law.

He was first elected to the Cerritos College Board of Trustees in 1981 and served until 1988 when he was elected to the state Assembly, where he served until December 1994.

Epple remained involved with the college through his service on the board for the Cerritos College Foundation, a position he has held since February 1995.

John Moore, right, outgoing chairman of the Cerritos College Board of Trustees, passes the gavel to Tom Jackson, who was selected to lead the board in the coming year.
ESL courses begin at Cerritos College

CERRITOS — Cerritos College will be offering English as a Second Language classes during the spring semester starting Jan. 8, at 11110 Alondra Blvd.

Classes are offered for beginning, intermediate and advanced levels for $20 per unit. Most classes are three units.

Most classes meet twice a week and several are offered during the day and evening.

For more information, call Joann Sugihara-Cheetham at (562) 860-2451, Ext. 2892.
CERRITOS

New president: The Cerri-
tos College Board of Trust-
ees selected its new presi-
dent Wednesday evening.
Tom Jackson, who served as
vice president and has been
a member since 2003, was
named to the new post. Bob
Arthur, a former board pres-
ident, was named vice presi-
dent, and Bob Epplers was
appointed secretary.

Serena Maria Daniels
714-704-3795 sdaniels@ocregister.com
Class Fees Reduced at Cerritos College

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Orange Coast College tops in 4-year transfers

Two-year college again sends more students to CSU than any other.

By MARLA JO FISHER
The Orange County Register
Friday, November 24, 2006

COSTA MESA – Orange Coast College transferred more students to California State University campuses last year than any other two-year college in California, according to state figures.

This is the second year in a row that Orange Coast has achieved the top ranking.

"Orange Coast has some really great counselors who give a lot of good guidance," said Zach Liberman, 22, of Orange.

Campus spokesman Jim Carnett attributed the college's success rate to its transfer center that helps students prepare for moving on to university coursework.

"We had a big transfer fair in September with more than 100 schools from around the country," Carnett said. "Then we had one last week with 25 schools."

Fullerton College was No. 4 at transferring students to CSU, according to the figures.

Statewide, all of California's 110 community colleges are under pressure to increase the number of students they successfully educate for two years, then send on to four-year universities to complete their degrees.

It is less expensive to educate a student at a community college for the first two years than at a university, so state officials are pressing for the transfer rate to increase.

Also, some campuses such as Cal State Fullerton are at capacity, and only have more slots available for upper-division students. For example, Cal State Fullerton has been accepting students at its new Irvine campus, which is only for juniors and seniors, after its Fullerton campus is full.

The state has created a dual-admission guarantee program, enabling students to select a university when they start school and then work toward transferring there from the beginning.

State officials are also finally creating a unified course numbering system that will make it easier for students to determine whether a particular course will be eligible to be transferred to their university of choice.

One common complaint among students is that they take a course, then find out later it is not transferable for credit to the four-year school they have chosen.

Carnett said that OCC is the No. 1 community college that transfers students to Cal State Long Beach, and the No. 2 college for Cal State Fullerton.
"We place a big emphasis on this campus on transferring. Our reputation is that transfer is one of our strengths," Carnett said.

"We assign resources to the transfer function and really try to give students all the support they need."

At Fullerton College, Ricardo Ramirez, the dean of student support services, also said his transfer center produces success.

"We have a transfer center with cultural activities that also incorporates a major academic operation," Ramirez said. "We have a very active, dedicating counseling department."

Contact the writer: 714-796-7994 or mfisher@ocregister.com

Top 25 transfer community colleges statewide

Transfers to California State University campuses from community colleges last year by rank, college and number of students who transferred. (Note that O.C.’s Fullerton College is No. 4)

1. Orange Coast College 1,313
2. De Anza Community College 1,280
3. Santa Monica College 1,266
4. Fullerton College 1,214
5. Mt. San Antonio College 1,194
6. Pasadena City College 1,154
7. Diablo Valley College 1,142
8. Fresno City College 1,101
9. American River College 1,099
10. San Diego Mesa College 1,089
11. El Camino College 1,068
12. City College of San Francisco 1,063
13. Grossmont College 1,042
14. Riverside Community College 1,008
15. Palomar College 971
16. Sierra College 951
17. Santa Rosa Junior College 884
18. Moorpark College 872
19. Southwestern College 869
20. Cerritos Community College 813
21. Los Angeles Pierce College 808
22. Glendale College 799
23. East Los Angeles College 792
24. San Joaquin Delta College 791
25. Long Beach City College 787
Herald American, Lynwood Press, Wave, East Edition
November 16, 2006

Talon Marks editor Tanya Bermudez and former editors Erick Galindo and Werner Gomez submit entries for one of the competitions held at the Southern California Conference of the Journalism Association of Community Colleges Nov. 3-4 at Cal State Fullerton. Cerritos College students won 33 awards.

Students win journalism awards

NORWALK  Cerritos College journalism students won 33 awards at the California Journalism Association of Community Colleges’ Southern California conference Nov. 3-4, at Cal State Fullerton, according to Kristen Habbesstad, the college’s media relations Coordinator.

Nearly 450 journalism students and their advisers from 29 community colleges attended the event. Only three other institutions won as many awards as Cerritos College — Southwestern, Santa Barbara and El Camino community colleges.

“Awards are nice,” said Rich Cameron, Cerritos College journalism instructor. “But ultimately what they represent is affirmation for the students that they are growing and learning the skills they need to compete for careers in media-related fields.”

Habbesstad said there are two types of contests. The first, called mail-in awards, represents work done by students for Cerritos College’s three student publications over the course of a school year. Students entered samples of their work from the 2005-06 school year.

The second type of contest — on-the-spot and bring-in awards — is conducted and judged over the weekend and tests students’ abilities under live, deadline situations.

Talon Marks, the student newspaper, won general excellence honors, as did its online cousin, talonmarks.com. The students in the program also produce an annual magazine called Wings.

First-place awards won by Cerritos students included:
• Mail-in competition: Online Photo, Tanya Bermudez; and feature photo, Bermudez.
• Magazine Cover Design: Benedict Orbase, Steve Rosa and Marisa Klug-Morataya; and Magazine Layout/Design: Benedict Orbase, Werner Gomez and Tanya Bermudez.
• Broadcast/Video Story: Jamie Caneda, Monica Ochoa, Tanya Bermudez and Benedict Orbase.

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College’s child center marks 30 years

1929 Staff Report

NORWALK — The Cerritos College Child Development Center will conduct a 30th anniversary celebration, open to the public, from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday.

It will take place in the Cerritos College Student Center, 11110 Alondra Blvd.

Festivities will include a slide show, entertainment and dinner, said Kristen Habbestad, the college’s media relations coordinator.

Tickets are $5 for adults in advance at the center and $6 at the door. Children are $3.

The Child Development Center is also offering T-shirts for sale. These are offered to alumni families at a discounted rate of $6 per shirt, Habbestad said.

Organizers of the anniversary celebration are seeking photos, newspaper clippings and other memorabilia related to its history.

To contribute photos or memorabilia, contact Judy Krause at (562) 860-2451.
Cerritos College to Host Auto Tech Competition for High School Seniors

Cerritos College is holding its seventh annual Auto Tech Competition, which is open to all Los Angeles County high school seniors studying automotive technology and who are under the age of 21 as of the start of the event January 2007.

Schools entering the competition must have at least a two-year accredited curriculum in automotive technology and must be willing to grant permission for the team to receive training at a sponsoring dealership and for the students and teacher to attend the local competition as well as the National Competition. Each school may enter up to four students to take the written test at and administered by Cerritos College Automotive Department Nov. 18.

The local competition will be held at Cerritos College at the end of January. The finalists of the local competition will continue to intern at a local dealership, studying a specific make and model in order prepare for the National Auto Tech Competition in New York April 10-11, 2007.

Information: (310) 578-7378 or (562) 595-4326.
Cerritos College hires director of automotive technology

NORWALK — Cerritos College has announced the appointment of Eli Jaramillo as director of the Southland Cerritos Center for Transportation Technology, according to Kristen Habbesaud, the college’s media relations coordinator.

He will head an automotive training center on the college’s local campus that will help provide a career ladder for automotive students and dealer employees from across the Southern California region, Habbesaud said.

Jaramillo joins Cerritos College after a 22-year career at Nissan North America. During the next five years, Cerritos College plans to invest $15 million in the expansion and renovation of existing automotive technology training facilities.

The new, automotive partners building will include state-of-the-art classrooms and training facilities, program offices for Northwood University and the Southland Motor Car Dealers Association, and fully equipped meeting facilities. Jaramillo will oversee development of the center and its affiliated programs.

“My vision is to have a turnkey center where we develop training modules to meet dealers’ training needs for existing and new dealership staff,” Jaramillo said. “Once realized, the [program] will be able to fit a dealership’s needs for qualified staff, all the way from the sales and service departments to the warranty and finance areas.”

The program is expected to help fill the need for automotive technicians in the area, Habbesaud said.

Jaramillo holds a bachelor’s degree in industrial arts, a master’s degree in vocational education and a master’s degree in educational administration, all from Cal State Los Angeles.

He began his career in the William S. Hart and Alhambra school districts, teaching automotive technology and auto body repair. In his new role, Jaramillo also will work to build the alternative-fuels program.

Jaramillo says the time is close for a boom in vehicles using alternate fuel.

“Compressed natural gas engines, hybrids and hydrogen fuel cells all bring us closer to a day when a majority of new vehicles will be using alternative fuels and/or alternative power in one form or another,” he said.

“Our students will be ahead of the curve by becoming familiar now with advanced transportation technologies.”
LBCC’s chief choice agrees to contract

By Kevin Butler

LONG BEACH — Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Long Beach City College’s choice to become its next superintendent-president, has reached a three-year contract with the institution, paving the way for him to succeed the retiring E. Jan Kehoe.

Oakley, currently executive vice president of administrative services at the college, will begin his new position Jan. 1 and will be paid an annual salary of $208,500.

The LBCC Board of Trustees last month chose Oakley, 41, over four other finalists.

“I’m very happy that we were able to come to an agreement on a contract and make it official,” Oakley said. “I continue to look forward to getting started in the new year.”

Before LBCC, Oakley served as vice president of college services at Oxnard College and manager of risk services at Costa Mesa-based Coast Community College District.

He received a bachelor’s degree in environmental analysis and design and a master’s degree in business administration from UC-Irvine.

Oakley praised Kehoe’s leadership. “She’s been a great president, a wonderful mentor and a good friend,” he said.

His first major task as superintendent-president will be to find ways to better help students coming to the campus academically underprepared, he said.

“We’ve got a lot of students who are coming to us in need of what we call basic skills education,” he said. “And our ability to deal with those students and help them get through the remedial education that they need is going to be a big challenge.”

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