FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 14-22, 2007

In Progress
On Tuesday, March 20, Kristen Habbestad assisted a reporter and camera operator from a local cable access show (channel 36, Time Warner cable) in filming and interviewing instructors and students in the automotive technology program. The show will air in a few weeks.

Coverage
Wave Community News, Herald American—February 15, 2007—Promotional brief on upcoming Black History Month event

Bellflower Bulletin—March 2007—Short promotional feature on the Chinese Lunar New Year celebration

Bellflower Bulletin—March 2007—Short promotional article on Scott Henderson Memorial Concert

Norwalk Community News—March 16, 2007—Article about the rededication of an Artesia fire station, with a photo of Dr. Vela, who was present.

Norwalk Community News—March 16, 2007—Article about a recent Cerritos College baseball win.

Norwalk Community News—March 9, 2007—Article previewing Scott Henderson Memorial concert.


Norwalk Community News—March 16, 2007—Article on a win for Cerritos’ baseball team and the single-game home run record a Cerritos student tied during the game.

Norwalk Community News—March 9, 2007—Article on the American Association of University Women recognizing three Cerritos College students.
Norwalk Community News—March 16, 2007—Article on Cerritos College receiving an award from an international honor society for its programs preparing teachers to enter their careers

Norwalk Community News—March 16, 2007—Article on three Cerritos re-entry students honored by a community organization in Norwalk (from press release)

Norwalk Community News—March 9, 2007—Article on composites chair Terry Price receiving the Outstanding Engineering Educator Award

Norwalk Community News—March 16, 2007—Article featuring the Lunar New Year celebration

Related news
Long Beach Press-Telegram—March 14, 2007—Article covering a 10 percent rise in tuition at CSUs, to take effect for the 2007-08 school year.

Cerritos College to Host 7th Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Walk March 22

Event, Sponsored by Campus Fitness and Wellness Department, Educates Men and Women about Breast Cancer and Celebrates Survivors of the Disease

For Immediate Release: March 12, 2007
Media Contact: Kristen Habbestad, Public Affairs; (562) 860-2451 ext. 2287
Event Contact: Carrie Gleckner-Edwards, Cerritos College Fitness and Wellness Department; (562) 860-2451 ext. 2876

WHAT: The annual walk serves to raise awareness about the breast cancer and to celebrate survivors of the disease. Marijean Piorkowski, instructor in Cerritos College's Physical Therapist Assistant Program and a breast cancer survivor, will serve as a guest speaker for the event.

All are welcome to attend and walk the course. Special prizes will be awarded to the three highest donors, and a spirit award will be presented to the division/group with the most participants (faculty and students). Pre-registration for the walk is encouraged and appreciated. Please click here to download a flier and a pre-registration form, which should be completed and returned to the Physical Education Department before Tuesday, March 20.

WHEN: Thursday, March 22 at 11 a.m. Check-in begins at 10 a.m. (pre-registration is appreciated).

WHERE: Falcon Square, Cerritos College
11110 Alondra Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650
A map of the campus is available at www.cerritos.edu/guide

CONTACT: For more information, please contact Carrie Gleckner-Edwards at extension 2876 or at cgleckner@cerritos.edu.

COST: There is no cost for participation, but donations are encouraged. Please make checks out to the “Susan G. Komen Foundation.”

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Cerritos College Re-Entry Students Recognized for Achievements

Soroptimists International of Norwalk Honors Students with Awards, Financial Assistance

For Immediate Release: March 14, 2007

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

NORWALK, CA – March 13, 2007 – Three Cerritos College re-entry students were recognized Sunday, March 11 by the Soroptimists International of Norwalk at its annual scholarship tea. Alicia Calzada of Norwalk received the Women’s Opportunity Award for 2006-07, along with a $2,000 cash grant. Melanie Murua and Christina Bocanegra, also from Norwalk, were honored as well, and received $500 and $300 respectively. The award is given to women who are the primary income providers for their families.

“These women have all overcome significant obstacles to arrive at the place where they are today,” said Gail Vasquez Connolly, Soroptimists member and coordinator of Sunday’s event.

“We are proud to honor their accomplishments and encourage them to continue pursuing their dreams.”

“Re-entry can be difficult at times, but each of these ladies has risen to the challenge,” said Cerritos College Re-Entry Resource Specialist Esther Choi.

“I know each one is very deserving and will put the award to good use.” Soroptimists International is an organization with the mission of improving the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world. Chartered in 1953, the Norwalk chapter of the Soroptimists carries out this mission through workshops, community involvement, and awards recognizing outstanding members of the community.

The Cerritos College Re-Entry Resource Program provides many services for adults returning to college, including support groups and information regarding college services, job placement and community resources. For over 20 years, the program has assisted adults in successfully returning to the academic environment.

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Cerritos College Students Take Top Awards at State Forensics Tournament

For Immediate Release: March 14, 2006

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

NORWALK, CA – March 14, 2007 – Students Tariq Bruno and Riley Schnitz each took home four medals and led the Cerritos College Forensics Team to seventh place among 28 competing colleges during the 2007 California Community College Forensic Association’s State Championship Tournament, held March 7-11 in Woodland Hills.

Bruno, who is in his first year of competition, won both highly coveted “Overall Top Speaker” awards at the tournament and was the only student out of 235 competitors to earn four gold medals. Schnitz, who serves as president of the Cerritos College team, finished just behind Bruno, also winning four medals.

“Our team performance this year was impressive because we entered only eight students, and Tariq’s achievement was incredible,” said Cerritos College Director of Forensics Bill Sparks.

“I started directing the program 12 years ago,” continued Sparks, “and this is the first time I’ve had any students win four medals at the state championship. To have two students win four medals is truly amazing.”

The tournament involved 235 students from 28 colleges. Cerritos College placed seventh behind Moorpark, Orange Coast, El Camino, L.A. Valley and Glendale colleges. Last year, Cerritos College placed eleventh in the tournament, which is held annually.

Bruno received gold medals in the following categories: Parliamentary Team Debate, Parliamentary Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Extemporaneous Speaking and Impromptu Speaking. He also won the Collins/Tabor Speaker Award, which is given to the student who wins the most sweepstakes points.
competing in four different events. The Collins/Tabor Speaker award is presented in honor of former
director of forensics at Cerritos College, Ron Tabor. Bruno also received the Keeling/Fricker Speaker
Award, given to the top overall speaker who wins the most points in the tournament.

Schnitz won gold in Parliamentary Lincoln-Douglas Debate, silver medals in Extemporaneous and Im-
promptu Speaking categories, and a bronze in Informative Speaking.

Cerritos College Forensic team member Fadi Almachraki received a gold medal in Parliamentary Team Debate,
along with teammate Bruno, and a gold medal in Parliamentary Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Team members Angel
Castellanos and Larry Williamson each won a bronze medal in Parliamentary Team Debate. Also competing for
Cerritos College were Jesus Caro, Enrique Mijares, and Danny Torres. Sparks and Assistant Director of Cerritos
College Forensics, Danny Cantrell, both coached the team.

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News Release

Cerritos College Foundation to Host Annual Chamber “Mega” Mixer on April 24

11th Annual Event Will Feature “It’s a Jungle Out There” Theme

For Immediate Release: March 16, 2007
Media Contact: Kristen Habbestad, Public Affairs; (562) 860-2451 ext. 2287
Event Contact: Janice Cole, Cerritos College Foundation; (562) 860-2451 ext. 2526

WHAT: The Cerritos College Foundation will host its 11th annual Chamber Mega Mixer on Tuesday, April 24, 5-8 p.m. in the Cerritos College Student Center. The mixer will feature an “It’s a Jungle Out There,” and participating chambers include Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Lakewood, La Mirada, Norwalk, Paramount and Santa Fe Springs.

Since it began, the Chamber Mega Mixer has grown each year to feature booths from local businesses, along with several of the college’s award-winning programs. The mixer’s traditionally casual and entertaining atmosphere provides networking opportunities, door prizes and drawings, and a delicious cuisine prepared by the Cerritos College Culinary Arts Program.

Reservations for exhibitor tables will be taken beginning Monday, March 26, 2007.

WHEN: Tuesday, April 24, 2007
5-8 p.m.

WHERE: Cerritos College
Student Center
11110 Alondra Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650

A map of the campus is available at www.cerritos.edu/guide

CONTACT: For more information, please contact Janice Cole or Kimberly Corbitt, Cerritos College Foundation, at (562) 860-5451, ext. 2526 or ext. 2539; e-mail them at jcole@cerritos.edu or kcorbitt@cerritos.edu.

COST: Admission and parking for the event is free. Parking is available in Lot C-10 only, located off 166th Street next to the strawberry field.

Exhibitor tables will be sold at $145 each on a first-come, first-served basis. Only 45 tables are available, and reservations begin Monday, March 26, 2007. A credit card is required to reserve a table.

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.

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Artesia’s Old Fire Station 30 Rededicated in City Ceremony

The Artesia Historical Society moved another step forward in its effort to give substance to the recently designated Historical District of Artesia with a rededication and groundbreaking ceremony of Old Fire Station #30 located on the northwest corner of 187th Street and Corby Avenue.

The station, which is adjacent to the Artesia Museum, is in the process of being restored with retiring Mayor John Lyon serving as project leader. “The future we dreamed about yesterday is here today,” he said, “and will give us a chance to share our history with our residents and visitors today and tomorrow. But first, we will need volunteers to complete the restoration.”

The Historical Society will develop the site as a Fire Station museum.

Bloomfield said both the museum and fire station will tie the roots of the city’s history together and will continue to grow. Present at the dedication were members of the Historical Society, councilmembers Larry Nelson and Sally Flowers, and Councilmembers-elect Tony Lima and Victor Manalo. Others present were Joe Harkema, Hogan Willeford, Fred Earl, and Dale Binn. Harkema was an engineer at the station and worked there from Nov. 1, 1950 through Mar. 27, 1971. Willeford was station captain from 1952 through 1958, when he was reassigned to Norwalk for two years. He returned to Artesia in 1960, where he worked until his retirement in 1968. Earl served in the Artesia Fire Department as a volunteer, later joined the Los Angeles County Fire Department and became a full-time firefighter. Bin served during the 1950 and ’60s.

The history of the first Artesia Fire Station goes back to 1934 when it was built on East 186th Street. There was one regular fireman on duty for a 24-hour shift. Volunteer “call men” were used to assist the fireman.

In 1949 a new location was secured for the station, now operated by the Los Angeles County Fire Department, on Corby Avenue. In 1985, the station was moved to a new structure on Pioneer Boulevard, its present location, in the city of Cerritos. For several years the Corby Station housed the Artesia Chamber of Commerce.

The MTA easement, which runs between the Artesia Museum and the fire station, will be incorporated as park-like grounds for the Historic District.
Cerritos Scores In Bottom Of The Ninth To Win

The Cerritos College baseball team remained undefeated in South Coast Conference play, as they scored a run in the bottom of the ninth inning on Saturday to post a 3-2 win over El Camino College. The victory also improves the Falcons to 17-4 on the year, and they will now square off against East Los Angeles College (17-5, 3-2) at home on Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.

In the ninth inning, freshman Guillermo Garcia (Artesia HS) led off with a walk before the Warriors went to their bullpen to call on Percy Perez. Sophomore David Gurbach (Aliso Niguel HS), regularly a pitcher but was inserted into right field earlier in the game, successfully sacrificed Garcia to second base. After an out and a walk were recorded, Perez uncorked a wild pitch, which moved runners to second and third. Freshman shortstop Jerry Pena (Los Altos HS) then slapped a 2-2 pitch for a base hit, scoring Garcia to end the game.

El Camino got to Falcon starting pitcher Robbie Domínguez (El Rancho HS) in the first and third innings for a run, but he settled down and retired 12 in a row in the middle innings before surrendering a walk to Robbie Estrada to lead off the eighth inning. Freshman Miguel Flores (St. John Bosco HS) came on in relief and worked out of the inning. However, in the ninth inning, he allowed a walk, while an error put two runners on base with one out before he set down the next two. With the run in the ninth inning, Flores picked up the win and is now 5-1 on the year. Although he didn’t earn the win, Domínguez did surrender just four hits and struck out eight batters.

Cerritos tied the game at 2-2 with two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning. Pena, freshman first baseman Trever Blood (La Mirada HS) and sophomore catcher Phil Rodriguez (Norwalk HS) all hit back-to-back singles to lead off the inning and load the bases. Flores followed with a run-scoring single, while Garcia tied the game with a one-out base hit. The Falcons then hit into a double play to end the inning.
College Music to Present 9th Annual Scott Henderson Memorial Scholarship Concert

Cerritos College Music to Present 9th Annual Scott Henderson Memorial Scholarship Concert. Performance proceeds will benefit the Scott Henderson Memorial Scholarship Fund.

WHAT: The Cerritos College Music Department will present the 9th annual Scott Henderson Memorial Scholarship Concert on Friday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. The performance will feature the students of the Cerritos College Applied Music Program. All proceeds collected during the evening event will benefit the Scott Henderson Memorial Scholarship Fund.

WHEN: Friday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m.
WHERE: Cerritos College's Burnight Center Theatre
11110 Alondra Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

A map of the campus is available at www.cerritos.edu/guide.

COST: General admission is $10; admission for seniors and students with current I.D. is $5.

CONTACT: For more information, please contact Rosemarie Medina in the Cerritos College Music Department at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2629.

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College History Chair Presents at United Nations

Dr. John Haas Participates in Panel to Discuss UN Promotion of Tolerance

Cerritos College History Department Chair Dr. John Haas presented at the United Nations in New York on Thursday, February 22.

The U.N. briefing commemorated the 15th anniversary of the repeal of resolution 3379 wherein the General Assembly “determined that Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination.” The briefing was attended by about 150 representatives of NGOs (non-governmental organizations), UN and permanent mission staff.

Dr. Haas took part in a panel discussion as director of Cerritos College Global Consortium, along with Dan Gillerman, permanent representative of Israel to the United Nations, and Harris Schoenberg, NGO representative, Center for United Nations Reform. The group discussed how and why the chain of events surrounding the resolution occurred, reviewed past and current instances of anti-Semitism and offered a variety of perspectives on the ongoing Israeli-UN relationship, the Middle East conflict and possible solutions for ending pervasive discrimination.

Ambassador Gillerman noted that the adoption of the “Zionism is Racism” resolution, as resolution 3379 is commonly referred to, drove the final “nail in the coffin” of relations between Israel and the United Nations for many years. In addition, the passage of the resolution resulted in a multitude of unanticipated negative consequences adversely impacting the integrity, values, and overall standing of the United Nations.

Gillerman also stressed that it was important to focus on the significant steps the United Nations had made to revoke the odious resolution and promote Israel, and delineated the many initiatives taken to remember the Holocaust and condemn anti-Semitism, including the 2004 Seminar on Anti-Semitism, the 60th Anniversary Celebration of Liberation of the Death Camps in March 2005, the historic international declaration inaugurating a Holocaust Museum in Israel, and the monumental General Assembly resolution designating 27 January as Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Professor Schoenberg stressed the long and difficult struggle that was involved in revoking the “Zionism is Racism” resolution, which he participated in for sixteen years. He applauded all those who contributed to the struggle.

Dr. Schoenberg added that the resolution subsequently received backlash from fifty newspapers in the United States and more press throughout the world. He recounted the condemnation of the resolution expressed by a number of world leaders after its passage, including many new African leaders who recognized Zionism as an inspiring force fueling their decolonization movements. He suggested that the resolution had many unintended consequences, including the promotion of international terrorism, discrimination, and anti-Semitism. It also hindered the ability of the United Nations to combat real forms of racial discrimination. The progress for the repeal was slow and gradual, requiring coalition-building and patience.

Professor Haas noted the importance of focusing on positive measures that the United Nations had taken in promoting tolerance and cooperation and effectuating change. As a professor of history, he conceded that we “must go back to go forward” and explained the efforts he had made to set up a dialogue. He described the program he used in his classroom to promote a dialogue between his American students and students in New Zealand. He told a story about a student who had brought the class together by reminding them of their common needs. Dr. Haas said his primary goal as a professor was to connect students to colleges all over the world to help them develop broad perspectives on global issues. Professor Haas concluded on an optimistic tone, stressing that these international dialogues and presentations would hopefully lead future global leaders to abandon their egos and build a better world.
Phil Rodriguez Hits Three Home Runs In Win

Sophomore catcher Phil Rodriguez (Norwalk HS) tied a Cerritos College baseball record by hitting three home runs and drove in seven runs, as the Falcons recorded a 9-0 South Coast Conference win at Compton College on Thursday. The win improves Cerritos to 16-4 on the year, while they remain on top in the conference at 4-0. The Falcons will now host El Camino College on Saturday at noon.

The three blasts by Rodriguez tied the record of most home runs hit in a season, set by Mike Ash back in 1962. In addition, his seven RBIs also ties a school record with four other players, with the last being Isreal Torres in 1999. With all of the attention being drawn to Rodriguez for his hitting exploits, some should be saved for freshman pitcher John Ortega (Downey HS), who struck out 14 Compton batters in seven innings. The 14 punch-outs tied for fifth on the school's single-game record list, and he shares that total with John Honeycutt, who struck out 14 Moorpark hitters in 1971.

After a scoreless three innings, Falcon sophomore outfielder Andrew Baslow (Chatsworth HS) and freshman first baseman Trever Blood (La Mirada HS) drew walks before Rodriguez hit his first round-tripper, which turned out to be all the offense the team would need. He clubbed two-run home runs in the sixth and seventh innings before getting hit by a pitch in the ninth inning. Rodriguez was then removed for a pinch-runner.

Getting on base for Rodriguez was Blood, who scored twice, while sophomore outfielder Nick Armstrong (Marina HS) had three hits, but scored once. Sophomore second baseman Jose Serrano (Artesia HS) had a two-run single in the sixth inning, while freshman shortstop Jerry Pena (Los Altos HS) had two hits.

Ortega worked out of a jam in the first inning by striking out the last two batters to end the inning, while he struck out the side in four different innings. After the Tartars loaded the bases with no outs in the sixth inning, he struck out the next three batters and followed that by punching out the next three batters in the seventh inning.
AAUW to Recognize Cerritos College Students

By Edna Ethington

The Local Scholarship Committee of the La Palma/Cerritos American Association of University Women is hosting their Annual Student Recognition Brunch on Saturday, March 24, at 9 to 11 a.m. in the Board Room of Cerritos College. Cerritos College is located at 11110 Alondra Boulevard at Studebaker in the city of Norwalk. The AAUW will be providing refreshments for Cerritos faculty members, the students, and family members of the students. The public is also invited to attend the brunch. For more information, contact Francine DeFrance, La Palma/Cerritos AAUW member and dean at Cerritos College at (562) 598-9064.

Monetary stipends and recognition certificates will be presented to selected women students who will be graduating from Cerritos this year and plan to attend a four-year college or university. Faculty members who recommended the students will introduce the students who will be selected for recognition by AAUW Local Scholarship Committee members.

The Local Scholarship Committee of the La Palma/Cerritos AAUW has been awarding scholarships and certificates of recognition to women students at Cerritos College for over ten years. The scholarships often have been the first academic recognition that these women have received, and they become role models for others in their family. They frequently are the first ones in their families to get a college education.

The La Palma/Cerritos AAUW has sponsored a number of fundraisers for local scholarships at Cerritos College, including a garage sale in the fall of 2006 and a bus trip to Pachanga Casino on March 2, 2007. The two events raised about $1,500 and will be presented with other funds donated by AAUW members at the brunch. Co-chairs of the Local Scholarship Committee are Diane Merrick and Diane Hutson. Hutson’s husband, Jay, was a valuable helper on the bus trip.
Teacher TRAC Director Sue Parsons addressed members of the Board of Trustees at Wednesday’s meeting. Parsons displayed the national award that the program received from Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society during the National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs (NACCTEP) Conference March 2-4 in New Orleans.

The Phi Theta Kappa Teacher Preparation Program Award recognized Cerritos’ exemplary efforts to prepare students for careers in education. In addition to Parsons, the Gabriela Gonzales, a teacher education student, and Cerritos College President Dr. Noelia Vela attended and were on hand to accept the award.

Dr. Vela said that Teacher TRAC’s receiving this award characterizes the program’s “high level of excellence with its faculty and staff as well as its students.” Board President Tom Jackson agreed. Jackson felt that this award recognized the program’s high level of achievement, “but it also recognizes the program as a product of Cerritos College” and the level of commitment Cerritos College offers to students who want to be teachers.

Afterward, students who are currently in the Teacher TRAC program said that the award is meaningful because of what the faculty does not only for them but for all future students. Alexandra Torres, liberal arts major, said that she has been influence to become a teacher by those who work at Cerritos. Having just found out that Cerritos College won this award, she commented that it is great for the program “because everyone is so helpful and are willing to help out when necessary.”

Erika Flores, liberal arts major agreed. She was there to support the program itself and other who are involved. She has attended Cerritos for one year and feels that what Teacher TRAC does is let students gain experience for their chosen career. Flores said that the reason she wanted to become a teacher is because she loves to interact with people and will teach elementary school. As for why elementary students she commented, “You’ll catch them when they’re young.”
Soroptimists International of Norwalk Honors Students with Awards, Financial Assistance

Three Cerritos College re-entry students were recognized Sunday, March 11 by the Soroptimists International of Norwalk at its annual scholarship tea. Alicia Calzada of Norwalk received the Women’s Opportunity Award for 2006-07, along with a $2,000 cash grant. Melanie Murua and Christina Bocanegra, also from Norwalk, were honored as well, and received $500 and $300 respectively. The award is given to women who are the primary income providers for their families.

“These women have all overcome significant obstacles to arrive at the place where they are today,” said Gail Vasquez Connolly, Soroptimists member and coordinator of Sunday’s event. “We are proud to honor their accomplishments and encourage them to continue pursuing their dreams.”

“Re-entry can be difficult at times, but each of these ladies has risen to the challenge,” said Cerritos College Re-Entry Resource Specialist Esther Choi. “I know each one is very deserving and will put the award to good use.” Soroptimists International is an organization with the mission of improving the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world. Chartered in 1953, the Norwalk chapter of the Soroptimists carries out this mission through workshops, community involvement, and awards recognizing outstanding members of the community.

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College Composites Chair Receives Outstanding Engineering Educator Award

Cerritos College’s Manufacturing Department Chair Terry Price was presented with the 2007 Outstanding Engineering Educator Award in recognition of his dedication and support to young engineering students by the Orange County Engineering Council (OCEC) at its annual honors and awards banquet on February 17.

Price has taught and provided creative leadership at Cerritos College over the past 50 years. He has made numerous contributions to the college’s state-of-the-art program and has been recognized on numerous occasions for the quality of his teaching as well as his efficient administration of the program.

Price’s classes are known for their relevancy, clarity and utility. The graduates of his program have been eagerly sought by numerous agencies of Federal Government (NASA, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Coast Guard, Federal Aviation Administration, Sandia National Laboratories), major defense companies (Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Rockwell International, Northrop Grumman) and other major industrial companies (Honeywell, Rain Bird, Medway Plastics, Gillette, Cambro Plastics) and many other companies across the country.

Price has also played a key role in assisting innovative student projects for aspiring engineers completing their senior or graduate programs from Cal State University Fullerton, Cal State University Long Beach, Cal State University Northridge and Cal Poly Pomona. Fabricating their projects at Cerritos College has enabled synergistic relationships between these institutions of higher learning.

“These projects have allowed students to work out their problems and develop them into viable solutions with contemporary plastic and composite materials through taking and completing focused short-courses here, enabling them to fabricate what was needed in plastics and state-of-the-art materials and processes, disseminating the latest techniques developed in the industry. He was involved with writing successful grant proposals for development of the programs at Cerritos College and was involved with professional programs for individual companies. He is an active and involved member of several professional societies and has been recognized on numerous occasions for his dedication to developing professionals for the composites and plastics industry.

The OCEC is an umbrella organization representing all engineering, scientific, technological societies, academia and corporations in and adjacent to Orange County and celebrates National Engineers’ Week (February 18-24) with a celebratory banquet. This event honors the outstanding individuals and projects for their accomplishments during the past year.

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Lunar New Year Celebration

By Norma Palacio

The Lunar New Year Celebration was held at the Student Center on Saturday. More than 300 people attended the event in honor of the year of the Boar. The event was sponsored by Cerritos College and Chinese Culture Association of Southern California and affiliated Cerritos Chinese School.

There were 20 performances during the event that honored the Lunar New Year. Among the 20 performances were the Lion Dance, Beijing Opera, Taiwan Aboriginal Dance, Green Mountains, Chinese Musical Instrument-Pi Pa, Snow in the Early Spring.

In addition, there was also a traditional Fashion Show that featured Cerritos College President Dr. Noelia Vela, Dr. Mary Sieu, Harvey Lindo, Vivian Liu, Carol and Olympia Chen. After her performance during the fashion show Dr. Vela said that it was an honor to participate in the Lunar New Year Celebration.

“I was invited to participate and it was fun to do so,” she commented. Furthermore, she said that she wore a Chinese hair piece that was fairly easy to handle but she was worried that it might fall out. This was not the only fashion show in which Dr. Vela has participated. She explained that before coming to Cerritos, she was president at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose and that she had also participated in their fashion show. Also in attendance were board members John Moore, Bob Hughlett, Ted Edminton, and Vice President of Student Service Stephen Johnson and Vice President of Academic Affairs William Farmer Jr.

Farmer explained the reason behind having the Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration, “The Academic Affairs office is looking into offering academic courses such as Chinese language courses some time in the near future.” There are other courses that are being discussed as well but Farmer declined to elaborate further.

As for the event itself, Farmer said that the turnout was impressive and enjoyed watching Dr. Vela walk down the runway during the fashion show. He added that having an event such as the Lunar New Year Celebration is a great way to connect with the Chinese population and was delighted that Cerritos College had built a relationship with the organizers of the event.

Danita Kurtz, International Student Association adviser, agreed that it was a great turnout, and she was also pleased that Cerritos College had developed such a close partnership Association of Southern California and the Cerritos Chinese School because it is a great way to reach out to others within the community.
**Black history event:** The Cerritos College Black Student Union presents “A Summons From the Past: A Command for the Future,” an event honoring Black History Month, at 7 p.m. in the Cerritos College Student Center, 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk. The evening features guest speakers and a keynote by Cerritos College President Noelia Vela. (562) 860-2451, ext. 2271.

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**Cerritos College to Host Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration**

*Event will Feature Music Concerts, Dance Performances and Cultural Workshops*

NORWALK — Cerritos College, the Chinese Culture Association of Southern California and the Cerritos Chinese School will host a Chinese New Year Celebration on Saturday, March 10, from noon until 4 p.m. at Cerritos College Student Center, Cerritos College, 11110 Alondra Blvd. in Norwalk.

“The Year of the Boar” will be celebrated through various performances, exhibitions and workshops. Performances will include a drum and symbol demonstration, icon dancers, a martial arts displays, Chinese music and more. Workshops on Chinese language, calligraphy, cooking, folk dancing and other topics will be offered.

Event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Danita Kurtz in the International Student Center at ext. 2151 or at dkurtz@cerritos.edu.
Cerritos College Music Presents 9th Annual Scott Henderson Memorial Scholarship Concert

Performance Proceeds will Benefit the Scott Henderson Memorial Scholarship Fund

NORWALK — The Cerritos College Music Department will present the 9th annual Scott Henderson Memorial Scholarship Concert on Friday, March 30th at 7:30 p.m., Cerritos College’s Burnight Center Theatre, 11110 Alondra Blvd. in Norwalk.

The performance will feature the students of the Cerritos College Applied Music Program. All proceeds collected during the evening event will benefit the Scott Henderson Memorial Scholarship Fund.

A map of the campus is available at www.cerritos.edu/guide.

General admission is $10; admission for seniors and students with a current I.D. is $5.

For more information, contact Rosemarie Medina in the Cerritos College Music Department at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2629.

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.
CSU’s 10% fee increase is approved

All but one of the trustees vote in favor of rise for 2007-08 school year.

By Kevin Butler, Staff writer

LONG BEACH - Despite students' objections, the California State University Board of Trustees on Wednesday approved a 10 percent student fee increase for the 2007-2008 academic year.

All but one of the trustees present at the meeting supported raising fees for undergraduate students by $252 per year and for graduate students by $312 per year.

After the increase, the basic university fee for undergraduates will be $2,772 per year. Graduate students will pay $3,414.

In addition to the basic university fee, students pay campus-based fees, averaging $679.

About $38 million in fee revenue will be set aside for financial aid to the neediest students. About 115,000 out of the 417,000 CSU students will receive financial aid to cover their fees and will not pay the fee increase, officials said.

The fee increase is necessary to "sustain an outstanding university system," said Board of Trustees chair Roberta Achtenberg.

"We need those resources, unfortunately," she said. "I don't disagree that the state should be providing a greater level of funding, but currently they are not."

Achtenberg said the fee increase is needed in part to pay for the costs of an ongoing effort to raise employee salaries to market rates in order to remain competitive.

The CSU system and the California Faculty Association - the faculty union - are in a bargaining stalemate for a new contract, with salary issues being a major point of contention.

The labor dispute resulted this month in CFA members' participation in the union's first strike authorization vote.

CFA president John Travis disputed the idea that a fee increase was needed to provide an adequate faculty salary increase, saying that the university could find the resources elsewhere.

"We don't think (the fee increase) is necessary," said Travis, a professor at Humboldt State University. "We've been commenting a lot over the past several months about the ability of the CSU and the individual campuses to find resources when they want to."
Both sides are awaiting the release of a final version of an independent fact-finder's report this week, after which the parties will have 10 days to come to an agreement.

If after 10 days the two parties have not reached a contract agreement or mutually decided to continue talks, the union could begin job actions.

If the state provides additional general fund revenue to the CSU beyond that laid out in the governor's proposed budget unveiled in January, the Board of Trustees would reduce or eliminate the fee hike, depending on the amount of new money received.

An additional $65.2 million of state general fund revenue would be required to eliminate the fee increase.

Students at the meeting told trustees that the fee increase would be unfair and burdensome.

Alma Carlson, a senior at Cal State Long Beach, told trustees that she has seen class sizes increase at the campus, harming her education and straining professors.

"Basically, it is completely unfair and dishonorable to increase our tuition but provide low-quality education at the same time," said Carlson, a music and communications major.

Carlson, who plans to move on to graduate school in communications, said she receives financial aid but not enough to cover the full cost of her education.

She said she works as a studio musician, tutor and private music instructor to support her schooling, and she may have to add another job to help pay for the fee increase approved Wednesday.

In certain cases, class sizes have increased at CSULB this year because the university enrolled 700 more full-time-equivalent students than the university was funded for, said David Dowell, CSULB vice provost.

In addition to the basic university fee increases, CSU students have had to contend with the rising cost-of-living and higher textbook prices, registration fees and parking fees, said Payam Shahfari, a student at Cal State Fullerton.

"These costs have caused the loss of students who come from working-class families who can't afford the fee increases," he said.

The trustees on Wednesday also approved plans for a new dining facility at Cal State Long Beach. The $5-million project entails demolishing the existing CSULB Outpost food services building and replacing it with a larger facility.

And the trustees approved the compensation package for interim Cal State Dominguez Hills president Boice Bowman, who will be paid an annual salary of $200,000 and a $5,000 monthly housing allowance.
UP IN ARMS: At the UC Board of Regents meeting at UCLA, students raise their fists in silent protest of fee hikes. Activists said some students will have to work longer hours and borrow more.

UC, Cal State approve fee hikes

Tuition will climb at least 7% in the fall. The universities say the increases make up for shortfalls in funding.

By Larry Gordon
and Richard C. Paddock
Times Staff Writers

University students will pay 10% more in fees at Cal State campuses in the fall and at least 7% more in the UC system to make up for what officials say are shortfalls in state funding.

The raises were approved Wednesday over the protests of students, who complained that charges have nearly doubled in a decade without regard to the escalating costs of textbooks and housing.

But education leaders stressed that there was no fee hike last year and that the 23 Cal States and the 10 University of California campuses remain a bargain compared with other states' schools and especially compared with private colleges. They also said financial aid would cover extra costs for needy students.

The Cal State Board of Trustees, which met in Long Beach, voted to raise basic full-time undergraduate fees by $252, to an average of $3,451 for the year.

That overall figure will include $2,772 in universitywide fees and $679, on average, in campus-based charges. Room, board and books are extra. Cal State graduate fees would increase $312 to $3,414.

The UC Board of Regents, gathered at UCLA, raised fees 7% for most students. That amounts to $435 for undergraduates, who will pay an average of $7,347 in the next academic year, not including housing and books.

Most UC graduate students will pay $483 more, or an average of $9,481 before other costs. Fees will rise 10% at five UC law and business schools.

The moves affect a large swath of students: the Cal State system enrolls about 417,000 stu-

[See Fees, Page B7]
The fee increase amounts to "the systematic destruction of our public education system," Payam Shahariar, a senior at Cal State Polytechnic, told the trustees. A business-management major, he said that those costs, along with books, parking permits and housing, were putting poor students and that finances were not keeping up.

At the UC meeting, dozens of students stood and raised their fists in a silent protest, then shouted "The fee increase now!" as they left the meeting.

Administrators at both systems said their decisions were forced by fiscal shortfalls in Sacramento and they pledged to roll back all or parts of the hikes if more money is appropriated to the legislature and governor. Last year, proposals for 10% hikes were canceled after the state budget gave higher education extra funds.

Officials stress that no needy student will be denied an education because a third of the new fees changes will go toward financial aid. Out of 146,000 of the 475,000 Cal State students will not pay any increase, and Allison Jones, assistant vice chancellor for student services and academic affairs, and UC said 40% of its undergraduates would not have to pay any of it.

The only Cal State trustees to vote against the fee plans was Melvin Thomas, a Sacramento-based attorney. She said she wanted the university to hire an outside consultant to examine all spending and revenue and determine whether the fee raise "is the best and only cure of action."

But Roberta Archenberg, chairwoman of the Cal State board, said the university could not wait if it was to keep all its programs alive and afford pay raises, including whatever central expenses from the central state's mandated talks with the faculty union.

We need these resources, including student fees, to maintain an outstanding university," she said.

Several UC regents expressed frustration at the need to impose a fee hike this year. The UC board approved the increase by a vote of 13 to 6.

"It's the most amazing decision the regents face," said UC President Robert C. Dynes, who recommended the hike and voted for it. "Nobody wants to raise fees."

"The reality is the system is under-funded," said regents board Chairman Richard Bloom, a San Francisco investment manager and husband of U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.). He voted for the increase.

State officials say that many other states have shifted more of the cost of education to the students than California has.

Cal State says it charges about half of the average fees at 10 comparable universities nationwide. For example, the State University of New York at Albany set student fees at $6,747, and Georgia State University at $4,830 this year.

UC administrators point out that its undergraduate fees come at $6,843 this year and the University of Michigan at $6,223.

But student activists note that the cost of living in California is significantly higher, especially at urban campuses, and UC students pay more than public university students in other states. More students will have to work longer hours at jobs and borrow more, they say. "The high fees, high financial-aid model is not working. Students have to face this problem every day," said Bill Schuster, president of the UC Student Assn. "Students have to face this problem every day."

The increase, for example, will be $2,111 at the UC Davis law school, where base fees will be $35,479 a year without housing. The largest of those jumps will be at UCLA's business school, where a hike of $2,340 will bring fees to $35,317.

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