FOR THE WEEKS OF MAY 5— MAY 26

In Progress

Aya Abelon is working to produce the next issue of In Sight, the college’s biannual community publication. In Sight will go out to homes in July.

Abelon is also working on arranging a Court Reporting faculty interview for the July taping of the TW cable “Community Challenge.”

Coverage


The Downey Patriot — May 2, 2008 — Informational brief on free acting classes offered by Cerritos College Adult Education (from press release).

The Downey Patriot — May 2, 2008 — Article on Cerritos College film student winning Merit Award (from press release).


Talon Marks — May 7, 2008 — Article on the Cerritos College Nursing Department featured on American Health Journal episode


Norwalk Community News / Los Cerritos Community News — May 9, 2008 — Article on CACT’s Exemplary Innovation Award (from press release).

Orange County Register — May 10, 2008 — Informational brief on Marshall Reddick seminars by Cerritos College Community Education.

Pasadena Star-News / San Gabriel Valley Tribune / Whittier Daily News — May 14, 2008 — Article on commu-
nity college stay on track in the budget crisis with the comments of Abelon.


The Downey Patriot — May 16, 2008 — Informational brief on free acting classes offered by Cerritos College Adult Education (from press release).

The Downey Patriot — May 16, 2008 — Informational brief on Fuel Prices seminar (from press release).

Norwalk Community News / Los Cerritos Community News — May 16, 2008 — Article on Dr. Vela appointed to AACC board (from press release).


Norwalk Community News / Los Cerritos Community News — May 23, 2008 — Informational brief on “The Fantastic Five!!!” by Cerritos College Theatre Department (from press release).

Norwalk Community News / Los Cerritos Community News — May 30, 2008 — Article on Cerritos College Mega Mixer by the Norwalk Chamber.

Norwalk Community News / Los Cerritos Community News — May 30, 2008 — Article on Cerritos College Foundation scholarships (from press release).

The Downey Patriot — May 30, 2008 — Article on Jasmin Gonzalez, the first exchange student from Cerritos College to ICP (from press release).

The Downey Patriot — May 30, 2008 — Informational brief on free acting classes offered by Cerritos College Adult Education (from press release).

Related News

*Long Beach Press Telegram—May 3, 2008—Article on CSUDH’s new (CSU’s first Latina) president.*

*Long Beach Press Telegram—May 4, 2008—Article on the weak job market boosting grad school applications.*


*Long Beach Press Telegram—May 14, 2008—Article on CSULB possibly raising the enrollment cap.*

*Long Beach Press Telegram—May 15, 2008—Article on CSU trustees approving student fee increase.*

*Long Beach Press Telegram—May 15, 2008—Article on Long Beach City College official running for the City Council.*

*Los Angeles Times—May 22, 2008—Article on a student trying to raise gay awareness at a black male college.*

*Los Angeles Times—May 22, 2008—Article on Santa Ana College faculty providing financial assistance to students*
Scholarships Give Wings to Student with Learning Difficulties

Student Receives Kurzweil and High Tech Center Scholarships for Students with Disabilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 1, 2008

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

NORWALK, Calif. - May 1, 2008 - The Cerritos College Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) Department’s Instructional Support Center awarded Kurzweil LearnStation and High Tech Center Scholarships to a Cerritos College Student, Analie Cardoso, during the Cerritos College Foundation board meeting on Thursday, March 20, 2008. Mary Hunt, central intake and services specialist, along with Dr. Lucinda Aborn, dean of DSPS, presented Analie with the scholarships.

Established in 2007, the Kurzweil Scholarship awards the Kurzweil LearnStation software to students who have demonstrated proficiency on the scan and read software. The Kurzweil assistive technology program promotes the concept of universal design for learning by allowing students to interact with text by hearing, seeing, and creating personal study guides. In addition, it supports academic success for students with learning difficulties and a variety of learning preferences.

The DSPS High Tech Center Scholarship awards the assistive technology software toward the purchase of an assistive technology program to students who have completed training and need financial assistance in obtaining the supportive technology. To apply for these scholarships, students must be able to express how the scholarship will assist them in their learning process toward their academic and career goals.

"It's an honor to present you with this scholarship, Analie," said Hunt. "We are very proud of your hard work and dedication, and we want to support your future."

Cardoso, of Artesia, graduated from Cerritos High School in 2005 with honors and a 4.0 GPA. She is the first person in her family to attend college. Majoring in psychology, she plans to transfer to a four-year...
university. With a keen interest in helping mentally-ill patients, she hopes to pursue her doctoral degree in that field.

“I can scan textbooks and transfer them to audio files, and I can even listen to them on my iPod,” says Cardoso. “Receiving this scholarship means so much to me. I have been using the program in the High Tech Center of the Disabled Students’ Instructional Support Center, and I’ve seen my grades improving.”

“Having this program at home in my own PC will make a significant difference in my study.”

Cardoso also said that these scholarship opportunities are not well-known to students. She hopes that she can help spread the word so more deserving students become aware of these technology scholarships that promote universal learning strategies.

For the Kurzweil LearnStation and High Tech Center Scholarship information, please contact Mary Hunt at (562) 860-2451 ext. 2409 (Monday-Thursday) or at mhunt@cerritos.edu.

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###
Cerritos College Nursing Department to Be Featured on TV Show May 7

“American Health Journal” Tackles Nursing Shortage Problem

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 1, 2008

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

NORWALK, Calif. – May 1, 2008 – The Cerritos College Nursing department will be featured in an “American Health Journal” TV episode which highlights California’s nursing shortage crisis. The show will air on KOCE-TV, Channel 50 on Wednesday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m. and again on Friday, May 9 at 1:30 p.m. It will also air on KVCR-TV, Channel 24, San Bernardino and the Inland Empire on Tuesday, May 13 at 7 p.m.

The interviews of students, faculty, alumni and policymakers will be featured along with Cerritos College’s top-of-the-line nursing facilities and equipment.

“We are facing a severe nursing shortage in California,” says Cerritos College Nursing Department Chair Dr. Charlene Fobi, who was interviewed in the show. “In order to increase the retention rates of nursing students, the faculty at Cerritos College have identified and implemented measures to support student academic attainment and promote student success.”

Along with Dr. Fobi, among those who were interviewed include Cerritos College Nursing Instructor Kelli Brooks; Debbie Malumed, M.D., Member of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges; Downey Regional Medical Center Vice President of Nursing and Chief Nursing Officer Heather Conwell and Senator Jack Scott.

“Our collaboration with American Health Journal is about having the right content for a great television show,” said Mark Wallace, director of public and governmental relations at Cerritos College. “With the Skills Lab, our nursing faculty and students, and with the guests we were able to bring to the show, we were able to effectively show the community college role in addressing the nursing shortage in California.”

The multi-award winning “American Health Journal,” hosted by Roger Cooper, is shown on KOCE-TV, public television for Orange and Los Angeles Counties, and on KVCR-TV, public television serving the Inland Empire. The program also airs on the Healthy Living cable channel and is syndicated on public television stations in over 30 media markets across the country. “American Health Journal” is a weekly program covering the leading issues in health care and prevention. This episode of American Health Journal was made possible in part by a generous grant from the Cerritos College Foundation.
The Cerritos College Associate Degree Nursing Program began in the 1964/1965 academic school year with the admission of 17 students. Currently, the program admits 60 new students each semester with the progression of approximately 175 students thus totaling 240-250 students in the program at one time. Since its inception, the nursing program has graduated approximately 3,500 students. The new state-of-the-art skills lab facility of approximately 22,000 square feet is large enough to accommodate all students in the program. This interdisciplinary facility prepares students to successfully transition from the academic environment to the workforce environment. Visit the Cerritos College Nursing Program website at [http://cms.cerritos.edu/registered-nurse](http://cms.cerritos.edu/registered-nurse).

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###
Cerritos College Court Reporting Program Offers Quick Start Classes

Classes Offer Hands-on Introduction to Stenotype Theory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 2, 2008

Program Contact: Cerritos College Court Reporting Program; (562) 860-2451, ext. 2746

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

WHAT: During the summer session, the Cerritos College Court Reporting Program will offer “quick start” theory classes utilizing hands-on steno machine instruction to complete the Theory book in only 12 weeks. These classes are open to anyone wishing to pursue a career in court reporting or captioning. Per-unit fees at Cerritos College are only $20. (Out of state non-resident tuition fees are $181 per unit and international student fees are $190 per unit. Refer to Cerritos College's Schedule of Classes for complete fee information.) Students will also need to provide their own steno machine (purchased or rented) and purchase books to accompany the course.

For more information about the new theory course offered by Cerritos College's Court Reporting Program, please visit www.cerritos.edu/courtreporting or call (562) 860-2451 ext. 2746.

WHEN: Cerritos College’s summer 2008 session begins Monday, May 19 and runs through Friday, August 8.

WHERE: Cerritos College
11110 Alondra Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650

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

COST: Classes are $20 per unit for state residents.

CONTACT: For more information, contact the Court Reporting Program at (562) 860-2451 ext. 2746.

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###
Cerritos College CACT Receives Prestigious Exemplary Innovation Award

Award Recognizes the Partnership That Helps At-Risk Youth

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 6, 2008

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

Norwalk, Calif. – May 6, 2008 – Cerritos College announced today that its Center for Applied Competitive Technologies (CACT) received the highly coveted Exemplary Innovation Award in recognition of its role in preparing at-risk youth for careers in manufacturing during the California Community Colleges Economic and Workforce Development annual conference Thursday, April 24.

Exemplary Innovation Award was established to recognize excellence in project development as it relates to market responsiveness and innovation. The award recognizes highly innovative and unique projects unlike any other that are responsive to a specific and critical need within the business community and can be replicated at other sites around the state.

Cerritos College CACT, in conjunction with the College of the Canyons CACT, created “FastTracks Manufacturing Boot Camp Program” that prepares at-risk youth for high paying, upwardly laddered careers in manufacturing. Industry partners El Proyecto del Barrio and Aerospace Dynamics International, Inc. further enhance the program.

The program is offered at the College of the Canyons and has graduated more than 80 students of which 92% have been placed in career field employment. After watching its success, other industries are discussing the possibility of using this same technique to help get entry level candidates into their fields.

Since its inception, the Cerritos College CACT has received many awards, with the 2008 Exemplary Innovation Award being the latest.

“It is a great honor to receive such a prestigious award,” said Jose Anaya, CACT Director at Cerritos
College. “The success of the Cerritos College/College of the Canyons CACT partnership has proven that coalition between community colleges, local businesses and industry leaders can help bring young people into manufacturing careers.”

For more information about the Cerritos College CACT program, please call Jose Anaya at (562) 860-2451 ext. 2510 or visit the Cerritos College CACT website at www.cerritotrainsu.com.

The Cerritos College CACT is part of an initiative of Economic and Workforce Development by the California Community College Economic Development Network. The CACT program was instituted as an overall purpose of advancing California’s economic growth and global competitiveness through quality education and services focusing on continuous workforce and business development, and technology deployment. CACT was developed to bring the resources of California’s 109 Community Colleges together to service California’s businesses and industries.

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###
Cerritos College to Present Seminar on Money-Saving Options for Gas Price Crisis

“Fuel Prices: What can you do?” Seminar is Packed with Useful Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 7, 2008

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

Event Contact: Community Education; (562) 467-5050 ext.2521

WHAT: Shocked by the skyrocketing prices at the pump? Cerritos College will offer a one-night seminar on the rising cost of fuel and what can be done for the current gas price hike. Entitled “Fuel Prices: What can you do?” the seminar will explore the latest regarding energy and transportation, the pricing of petroleum, gas prices and how you can ease the crunch on your pocketbook. Also joining in the seminar is an expert from CALSTART, a private organization dedicated to clean, renewable energies and increasing energy efficiency. Handouts and give-aways will be available for the attendees to take with them.

WHEN: Wednesday, May 21, 2008  7-9 p.m.

WHERE: Cerritos College
Auto Technology AT-26B
11110 Alondra Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650

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

CONTACT: For more information and to sign up for the seminar, please contact Community Education at (562) 467-5050 ext.2521 or www.cerritoscommunityed.com.

COST: $10 including snacks and refreshments

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###
Cerritos College Dental Hygiene Program Celebrates 100% National Board Exam Pass Rate

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 8, 2008

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

NORWALK, Calif. – May 8, 2008 – Cerritos College announced today that its dental hygiene students achieved a 100 percent passage rate on the National Board exam given in the spring 2008. The college’s combined class score was 86% that was also higher than the national average of 83%.

"The philosophy of the dental hygiene program is a TEAM approach, says the Dental Hygiene Program Director Adelle Krayer. “The team includes students, faculty, administration, support staff and our counselors, and the goal of the TEAM is success! We are very proud of the fact that we accept 24 students into the program and we graduate 24 students.”

The national board exam is given twice a year. It is an all day written exam that is representative of many years of study. From here, the dental hygiene students will advance on to take their State Board exams in June.

The Cerritos College Dental Hygiene program is accredited by the American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation. The program has received full accreditation status each seven year accreditation cycle. The Dental Hygiene Program is a two-year degree program. Upon completion of the program, graduating students will receive an Associate in Arts Degree in Dental Hygiene and will qualify to take the National and State Board Dental Hygiene Examinations. Successful passage of the examinations qualifies the graduate to practice dental hygiene in the State of California. For more information about the Cerritos College Dental Hygiene program, please contact Dani Carroll at (562) 860-2451 ext.2569.

###
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 13, 2008

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

NORWALK, Calif. – May 13, 2008 – Cerritos College’s Teacher TRAC (Training Academy) program honored 52 Teacher TRAC program students Thursday, May 8 as they moved closer to gaining a bachelor’s degree and teaching credential from one of its partner CSU campuses. The new group of graduates joins the growing party of over 300 Teacher TRAC graduates.

Honoring Teacher TRAC students at the recognition ceremony were the Cerritos College Board of Trustees, senior members of Cerritos College administration, Sue Parsons, director of Teacher TRAC, Dr. Marquita Grenot-Scheyer, associate dean for graduate studies, college of education at California State University, Long Beach, former Teacher TRAC students, Teacher TRAC faculty members, a representative from the office of State Assemblymember Tony Mendoza and friends and family of the students. Each graduate received a certificate and a commemorative golden apple in recognition of their completion of the first leg of the Teacher TRAC program.


Scholarship awards were also presented during the event. Carmena Moreno, Kristin Parker and Jaime Sandoval each received an Eruditio Scholarship for $500 each; Abdul Rahman received a $2,500 D. Franklin Wright Scholarships, Leslie Garcia received a $1,000 Fred Gaskin Scholarship that includes a $1,000 match from CSULB; and Alejandra Alvarez received the Esther Espinoza Scholarship in the
amount of $1,000.

Ana Ortiz, a Teacher TRAC alumna from the class of 2006, provided cheery closing remarks and encouraged the class of 2007 to keep alumni tie strong and to be proud of themselves for their accomplishment.

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. 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. More information on how to be a part of CTE Teacher TRAC is available at www.teachertrac.com or at 562.860.2451 ext.2212.

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###
Cerritos College Honors Graduates at 2008 Commencement Ceremony

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 13, 2008

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

NORWALK, Calif. - May 13, 2008 - Cerritos College honored 700 graduates during its 51st annual commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 10. The Cerritos College Board of Trustees and administration presented degrees and certificates earned during the 2007-2008 academic year. Dr. Raul R. Rodriguez, a premier designer for the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena and an alumnus of Cerritos College, served as the commencement speaker and encouraged graduates to keep moving towards their dreams.

###
Cerritos College Summer Session Begins May 19

Additional Sessions Begin June 16 and June 30

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 14, 2008

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

NORWALK, CA – May 14, 2008 – Registration is underway for Cerritos College’s summer session that begins Monday, May 19, 2008. Students may access a schedule of classes, complete an application and register online for a variety of classes by visiting www.cerritos.edu/admissions.

Classes for the summer 2008 sixteen week session will run Monday, May 19 - Friday, August 8, 2008. The first 6-week and 8-week sessions begin May 19. An 8-week intrasession runs June 16 - August 8, and a second 6-week session is available June 30 - August 8.

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.

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###
Cerritos College Praises Unprecedented $70 Million Private Gift for California Community College Students

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 15, 2008

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

NORWALK, Calif. - May 15, 2008 - Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger announced last week that the California Community Colleges (CCC) has received a commitment of $70 million to support private scholarships for its students from the San Francisco-based Bernard Osher Foundation. The commitment is made as part of the Osher Initiative for CCC students and represents the single largest gift to a community college system in the nation and among the largest gifts ever made to higher education. Chancellor Diane Woodruff joined the Governor in making this historic announcement.

The support our local community college students will receive with this philanthropic gift is enormous.

“We are entirely pleased that the Osher Foundation’s historic gift to California community college students will bring highly valuable scholarships to students right here at Cerritos College,” said Dr. Stephen Johnson, vice president of student services at Cerritos College, upon receiving the bright news. “Each $1,000 scholarship will make it possible for a student to attend Cerritos with much less worry about expenses.”

“The Osher Foundation scholarships will contribute to the well being of all members of our community. Many more students will pursue their part of the California dream—be it in biochemistry, automotive repair, teaching, business, nursing or any of the roughly 200 areas of study offered by Cerritos College—and we will all be better off.”

The Cerritos College Foundation Executive Director Steve Richardson agrees.

“The Cerritos College Foundation is excited about this unprecedented gift and looks forward to rising to the challenge of matching donated dollars,” said Richardson. “Though attending a community college is the most affordable path to higher education, many of our students face a number of challenges, particularly financial, to stay on that path.”

“Donations like this from the Bernard Osher Foundation will help fill such an important need for our students – the opportunity to apply and receive scholarships and awards to help fund their education.”

The Osher Initiative includes two separate monetary commitments that will assist students with $1,000 scholarships at each of California’s 109 community colleges. A $50 million gift will support endowed
annual scholarships at CCCs, $25 million of which is forthcoming immediately to fund an endowment managed by the Foundation for California Community Colleges (FCCC).

The remaining $25 million will be contributed to the endowment on a two-to-one match fundraising effort with the FCCC, the CCC System Office and state’s community colleges to raise a matching $50 million over the next three-years. The goal is to build a total $100 million endowment for annual student scholarships. When fully funded, it is expected that at least 5,000 scholarships will be awarded each year.

In addition to the $50 million gift, the Osher Initiative provides $20 million to support endowed scholarship programs for community college students transferring to the California State University and UC campuses.

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###
News Release

Cerritos Community College District • 11110 Alondra Blvd. • Norwalk, CA 90650 • www.cerritos.edu

The Fantastic Five!!! Storms Cerritos College

Theatre Students Present Summer One-Act Plays

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 19, 2008

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

WHAT: The Cerritos College Department of Theatre presents The Fantastic Five!!!, the Summer One-Acts Friday, June 20. The program is co-directed by Forrest Hartl, adjunct theatre faculty and Georgia Well, department chair for theatre department. The show will consist this year of five individual one-act plays written, directed, designed and acted by students. The titles of the five plays are: Freely Given, Apples n’ Oranges, Modern Art, Brotherhood of War, and Pro.

WHEN:
Friday, June 20 at 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 21 at 8 p.m.
Thursday, June 26 at 8 p.m.
Friday, June 27 at 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 28 at 8 p.m.
Sunday, June 29 at 2 p.m.

WHERE: Burnight Studio Theatre
Cerritos College
11110 Alondra Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650

COST: general admission: $12
Cerritos College students, staff, seniors, middle and high school students with ID: $10
children 5-12 years: $8

Tickets may be purchased online at www.cerritos.edu/theatre (credit card only) or in person at the box office in front of the Burnight Center Theatre Mon - Fri from 1 pm - 5 pm only. (Cash or Check only)

CONTACT: For more information, please call (562) 467-5058 or visit www.cerritos.edu/theatre
Group Sales: ext. 2638

###
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 20, 2008

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

NORWALK, Calif. – May 20, 2008 – Cerritos College’s Project HOPE (Health Opportunities and Pipeline to Education), and premiere sponsors Health Net, Orange County’s Credit Union (OCCU), Verizon and Office of Supervisor Don Knabe recognized 66 graduates of the Project HOPE program on Thursday, May 8 during the program’s fourth annual graduation banquet entitled “Ensuring Diversity in the Health Professions.” The ceremony celebrated the graduates’ program completion, entrance to health programs, and transfer to four-year universities.

The Project HOPE Class of 2008 included over 15 students who were admitted into nursing programs, pre-health professional students who will be transferring to various CSU and UC campuses, including California State University, Long Beach; California State University, Los Angeles; UCLA; UC Berkeley; UC Irvine; and UC Davis, and 15 students who earned certificates from the Cerritos College Mental Health Worker Program. The increase in number of Project HOPE graduates over the last five years speaks to the program’s success as a support program for students entering health fields.

“We are proud to honor these dedicated graduates for their hard work and commitment to serving underserved communities,” said Project HOPE Director Graciela Vasquez. “We wish them the best with their educational goals and future careers in healthcare.”

A recent grant from the College Access Foundation of California allowed for the unprecedented presentation of multiple-year scholarship awards, each worth $10,000, to three Project HOPE transfer students: Khoi Pham, Alvaro Lizcano, and Nancy Perez who was also the event’s student speaker. “As a first generation college Latina student and third eldest of seven kids, college presented many academic and financial challenges. I know this is to be true for many of my peers, where college is unfamiliar territory and success is unattainable,” said Nancy. “This is why programs like Project HOPE are so important to students like us – students who otherwise would not have the confidence and motivation to succeed.”
Additionally, Mr. Clemente Gonzalez, Regional Director for Aetna, presented Project HOPE graduate Vanessa de Leon with the Aetna named scholarship, a perpetual scholarship made possible through an endowed donation for Project HOPE pre-health professional students. Dr. Ismael Nuño, Chief Cardiac Surgeon for LA County + USC Medical Center presented Lavene Mays with the annual Catharine Ann Nuño Memorial Scholarship; Leticia Mata, Assistant VP of Community Education and Development for OCCU presented Lissette Walle with OCCU’s Community Service Award; and Georgina Maldonado of Health Net awarded two scholarships to Jessica Marcado and Sandra Mardonovich.

The event master of ceremony was Ignacio "Nacho" Rojas, Jr., immediate past chair for the Project HOPE advisory committee and program coordinator of the Parent Academy for the Los Angeles County Office of Education. Dr. America Bracho, executive director of Latino Health Access in Santa Ana, California, was the keynote speaker.

Additional event sponsors included Caceres Medical Group, Cerritos College Foundation, Coast Plaza Doctor’s Hospital, Interstate Poultry, Inc., L.A. Care Health Plan, Mental Health America of Los Angeles, Norwalk Lions Club, The California Wellness Foundation, and the Honorable Jesse Luera of the City of Norwalk.

Cerritos College’s awareness of its diverse student population and changing community needs contributed to the birth of Project HOPE six years ago through Title V federal funding. Project HOPE is designed to increase the number and success of Latinos and other underrepresented students entering the health professions. The program is committed to remediing the Latino health care professional shortage by encouraging Latino youth to pursue education opportunities that lead to professional health care careers and helping them overcome challenges facing Latino students, such as the need for financial assistance for education.

Project HOPE is dedicated to increasing the number of Latinos and other underrepresented groups entering, matriculating, and completing health careers. The project aims to create an academic pipeline facilitating the success of minority students in this competitive field. Program activities include: student services geared toward health careers; teaching strategies and courses that increase retention and success of Latino students and other minorities; organized workshops, conferences and research opportunities; community service venues; and peer and professional mentoring. For more information about Project Hope, visit www.cerritos.edu/hope.

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Chugh Firm Presents Accounting Scholarships to Cerritos College Students

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 27, 2008

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

NORWALK, Calif. – May 27, 2008 – Two Cerritos College students were each awarded with $1,000 scholarships during the May 8 Cerritos College Foundation Board meeting.

Students Alejandra Cruz Rossil and Joshua Ickes were received The Chugh Firm Accounting Scholarship presented by Navneet Chugh. Chugh, an attorney-at-law and CPA, established the scholarship to support promising accounting students. Chugh is the managing partner of The Chugh Firm and a member of the Cerritos College Foundation Board of Directors.

As an accounting major, Rossil, of Lakewood, has earned a GPA of 3.5 and secured an internship at one of the world’s largest accounting firms. Rossil is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the Business Club, and the Economics Club. She has plans to eventually transfer to USC where she will pursue both her bachelor’s and master’s degree in accounting.

Ickes has also excelled as an accounting major at Cerritos. He has consistently made the Dean’s List and maintains a GPA of 3.7. While attending Cerritos College in 2000, Ickes joined the Army and spent time in Europe and Kuwait before being honorably discharged in 2005. He immediately re-enrolled at Cerritos and is now preparing to transfer to Cal State Fullerton. Upon graduation from Fullerton, his goal is to pass the CPA exam and join one of the big four accounting firms.

The Chugh Firm is an international law firm that provides companies with corporate, tax, litigation and immigration services. Offices are located in Cerritos, Northern California, the East Coast, and India. Visit The Chugh Firm online at www.chugh.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. Visit the Foundation online at www.cerritos.edu/ccf.

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Cerritos College Foundation Presents Greater Harbor Area Employer Advisory Council Scholarship

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 27, 2008

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

NORWALK, Calif. – May 27, 2008 – The Cerritos College Foundation presented two students with the Greater Harbor Area Employer Advisory Council Scholarship during its May 8 Board meeting.

Students Beatriz Ramirez and Julia Willett were each presented with a $500 scholarship by Steve Richardson, Foundation executive director.

Established by the Greater Harbor Area Employer Advisory Council to stimulate students who will be moving toward business careers, this scholarship is awarded to outstanding students who are full-time business majors, with a 2.5 GPA.

While Beatriz Ramirez, of Norwalk had worked in the business management field, she realized that she was unable to advance unless she had her degree. She decided to focus on school and began work on her associate’s degree in accounting at Cerritos College. Attending school full time, working part time, serving as President of the Accounting Club and raising two young daughters, Ramirez has maintained a GPA of 3.8. She plans on transferring to either USC or Cal State Fullerton where she will pursue her bachelor’s degree. She hopes to work for one of the Big Four accounting firms and eventually return to school to pursue her master’s degree.

Julia Willett decided to return to school after the company she spent 13 years working for was sold. Pursuing a degree in accounting was a natural decision for Willett. She has excelled in her classes, earning an impressive 4.0 GPA while raising two teenagers. Willett hopes to eventually earn her master’s degree and begin working in the private or non-profit sector as a financial analyst or controller.

“I’m honored to receive this scholarship. I have received several recognitions and I’m very excited for my future now,” said Ramirez.

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. Visit the Foundation online at www.cerritos.edu/ccf.

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Cerritos College Foundation Gives Over $11,000 in Scholarships

Students are Honored at Foundation’s May Board Meeting

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 27, 2008

Media Contact: Aya Abelon, Public Affairs; (562) 860-2450 ext.2287

NORWALK, Calif. – May 27, 2008 – The Cerritos College Foundation presented ten individual scholarships to Cerritos College students at its board of directors meeting on May 8. Altogether, $11,100 in scholarship money was awarded to the students.

“Congratulations to all of you for your accomplishment,” said Foundation Board Chairperson Carol Baker. “We are very proud of each one of you who are committed to your education.”

Sherry Coulter, of Norwalk and Lori Dominguez, of Bellflower, who was not able to attend the presentation, each received the $300 Albert Ostroff Scholarship. This scholarship was established by Instructional Dean of Humanities/Social Sciences Francine De France, in memory of her father Albert Ostroff.

Brian Huezo, of Buena Park and Juan Cruz, of South Gate, were each awarded the $250 Cassidy Family Scholarship, which recognizes two outstanding graphic design students.

Yezenia Barboza, of Bellflower, received the $500 Broderick/Commeford Scholarship, which was awarded to assist developmental students in their educational pursuits.

Latrese Theus received the Assistive Technology Scholarship, which awards students with equipment.
such as scanners or learning systems. Latrese received the Kurzweil Learning System which provides a comprehensive reading, writing and learning software solution.

Gloria Gallardo, of Downey and Katelyn Hamasaki, of Hawaiian Gardens, who was not able to attend the presentation, each received the $500 Randy and Elmer Dobson Scholarship. This scholarship was awarded for the first time and is designed to reward outstanding history majors.

Julia Willett, of Long Beach and Beatriz Ramirez, of Norwalk, each received the $500 Greater Harbor Area Employer Advisory Council Scholarship. Established by the council, this scholarship helps business students as they pursue their education. Beatriz Ramirez also received the $3,000 Marion Hyde Scholarship. Also awarded for the first time, this scholarship was established by Diane Keenan, Cerritos College economics professor, as a way to honor her mother Marion Hyde.

Karolyn Dee, of Norwalk and David Santos, of Huntington Park each received the $500 Robert W. Collins Scholarship for Administration of Justice Students.

Mona Abassi, of Paramount, Mata Uluivuda, of Artesia, and Feilong Li, of San Gabriel who was not able to attend the presentation, each received the $500 International Business Panel Scholarship. The recipients were honored last month for their outstanding academic achievements at the International Business Panel.

Finally, Alejandra Cruz Rossil, of Lakewood and Joshua Ickes, of Paramount, each received the $1,000 The Chugh Firm Accounting Scholarship. Recently established, the Chugh Firm Accounting Scholarship recognizes outstanding business accounting students.

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. Visit the Foundation online at www.cerritos.edu/ccf.

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Cerritos College CACT Receives Prestigious Exemplary Innovation Award

Award Recognizes the Partnership That Helps At-Risk Youth

NORWALK — Cerritos College announced recently that its Center for Applied Competitive Technologies (CACT) received the highly coveted Exemplary Innovation Award in recognition of its role in preparing at-risk youth for careers in manufacturing during the California Community Colleges Economic and Workforce Development annual conference on April 24th.

Exemplary Innovation Award was established to recognize excellence in project development as it relates to market responsiveness and innovation. The award recognizes highly innovative and unique projects unlike any other that are responsive to a specific and critical need within the business community and can be replicated at other sites around the state.

Cerritos College CACT, in conjunction with the College of the Canyons CACT, created “FastTracks Manufacturing Boot Camp Program” that prepares at-risk youth for high paying, upwardly laddered careers in manufacturing. Industry partners El Proyecto del Barrio and Aerospace Dynamics International, Inc. further enhance the program.

The program is offered at the College of the Canyons and has graduated more than 80 students of which 92% have been placed in career field employment. After watching its success, other industries are discussing the possibility of using this same technique to help get entry level candidates into their fields.

Since its inception, the Cerritos College CACT has received many awards, with the 2008 Exemplary Innovation Award being the latest.

“It is a great honor to receive such a prestigious award,” said Jose Anaya, CACT Director at Cerritos College. “The success of the Cerritos College/College of the Canyons CACT partnership has proven that coalition between community colleges, local businesses and industry leaders can help bring young people into manufacturing careers.”

For more information about the Cerritos College CACT program, please call Jose Anaya at (562) 860-2451 ext. 2510 or visit the Cerritos College CACT website at www.cerritostroinsu.com.

The Cerritos College CACT is part of an initiative of Economic and Workforce Development by the California Community College Economic Development Network. The CACT program was instituted as an overall purpose of advancing California’s econ-
Adult education program offers free acting classes

NORWALK – The Cerritos College Older Wiser Learner (OWL) Program is now offering two new acting classes.

The “Acting for Commercials and TV” class offers tips for working in the world of television and commercials. The class explores all aspects of the industry, from getting an agent, headshots and auditioning skills, to working on a set and taking directions. The class meets every Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon at the Activity Center in La Mirada, located at 13810 La Mirada Blvd.

The “Acting for Stage plus Overcoming the Fear of Public Speaking” class helps students to be a more effective communicator and develop a better appreciation of theatre and the performing arts. The class meets every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon, also at the Activity Center in La Mirada.

Classes are free and are open enrollment classes accepting students at any time.

For more information, contact Sally Greer at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2489.
Film student wins big at media competition

- Short film wins top prize at statewide media competition.

NORWALK — Cerritos College film student John Cha was honored with the highly-coveted Media Arts Merit Award on April 17 at the annual statewide Media Arts Competition, the school announced this week.

Cha’s short film, “Neverending,” was selected from a field of 52 entries by a faculty screening committee and an industry panel of judges. He will be receiving the Final Cut Studio 2 suite from Apple Computers as his prize.

The annual competition is conducted by the Multimedia & Entertainment Initiative (MEI) of the Economic and Workforce Development Program of the California Community Colleges. The entries for the competition come from community colleges across California.

“I never thought I would win something like this,” said Cha. “I was extremely shocked to be even considered for the competition. It was an honor to win the Merit Award.”

Born in Los Angeles, Cha grew up in Cerritos most of his life. The returning sophomore was always interested in film since he was a child.

“My mom would drop me and my brother at a movie theater and we would spend the whole day there,” recalled Cha. “I was always amazed at the different worlds I was taken into.”

Cha shot “Neverending” in the course of one weekend—a very stressful weekend according to him. Fueled by Red Bull and a mere two hours of sleep, Cha learned the hard way the process of filmmaking.

Cha’s instructor, Steven Hirohama, served as the chair of the film/video competition.

“I wasn’t involved in selecting or voting for any of the films, but I knew from having screened all of the submitted entries that John’s film would do well,” said Hirohama.

“He took a rather complex, well-written story and executed it extremely well. John re-edited his film at least three times having consulted with me at each of those stages.”

Hirohama also encouraged Cha and gave him advice and support throughout the process.

“Professor Hirohama even encouraged me to enter into competitions,” said Cha. “It was truly rewarding to have a professor who took extra time to push me forward.”

On the Web: http://cerritosfilm.org
Learn art of court reporting

NORWALK — The Cerritos College Court Reporting Program will offer “quick start” theory classes using hands-on steno machine instruction for

12 weeks during the summer session at the campus, at 1110 Alondra Blvd.

These classes are open to anyone wishing to pursue a career in court reporting or captioning.

Per-unit fees at Cerritos College are $20 for residents, $181 for non-residents and $190 for international students.

Students will also need to provide their own steno machine (purchased or rented) and buy books to accompany the course.

The summer session begins May 19 and runs through Aug. 8.

For information, visit www.cerritos.edu/courtreporting or call (562) 860-2451 Ext. 2746.

A map of the campus is available at www.cerritos.edu/guide
Nursing Department featured on TV show

By: Cerritos College Public Relations Office

The Cerritos College Nursing department will be featured in an "American Health Journal" TV episode which highlights California's nursing shortage crisis.

The show will air on KCET-TV, Channel 50 on Wednesday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m. and again on Friday, May 9 at 1:30 p.m.

It will also air on KVCR-TV, Channel 24, San Bernardino and the Inland Empire on Tuesday, May 13 at 7 p.m.

The interviewees of students, faculty, alumni and policymakers will be featured along with Cerritos College's top-of-the-line nursing facilities and equipment.

"We are facing a severe nursing shortage in California," says Cerritos College Nursing Department Chair Dr. Charlene Fobi, who was interviewed in the show.

"In order to increase the retention rates of nursing students, the faculty at Cerritos College have identified and implemented measures to support student academic attainment and promote student success."

Along with Dr. Fobi, among those who were interviewed include:

- Cerritos College Nursing Instructor Kelli Brooks;
  - Debbie Malumud, M.D., Member of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges;
  - Downey Regional Medical Center Vice President of Nursing and Chief Nursing Officer Heather Conwell and
  - Senator Jack Scott.

"Our collaboration with American Health Journal is about having the right content for a great television show," said Mark Wallace, director of public and governmental relations at Cerritos College.

"With the Skills Lab, our nursing faculty and students, and with the guests we were able to bring to the show, we were able to effectively show the community college role in addressing the nursing shortage in California."

The multi-award winning "American Health Journal," hosted by Roger Cooper, is shown on KCET-TV, public television for Orange and Los Angeles Counties, and on KVCR-TV, public television serving the Inland Empire.

The program also airs on the Healthy Living cable channel and is syndicated on public television stations in over 30 media markets across the country.

"American Health Journal" is a weekly program covering the leading issues in health care and prevention.

This episode of American Health Journal was made possible in part by a generous grant from the Cerritos College Foundation.

The Cerritos College Associate Degree Nursing Program began in the 1964/1965 academic school year with the admission of 17 students.

Currently, the program admits 60 new students each semester with the progression of approximately 175 students thus totaling 240-250 students in the program at one time.

Since its inception, the nursing program has graduated approximately 3,500 students.

The new state-of-the-art skills lab facility of approximately 22,000 square feet is large enough to accommodate all students in the program.

This interdisciplinary facility prepares students to successfully transition from the academic environment to the workforce environment.

Visit the Cerritos College Nursing Program website at
Float designer is graduation speaker

NORWALK — Raul Rodriguez, award-winning float designer and a Cerritos College alumnus, will be the main speaker at the college’s 31st annual commencement ceremony at 5 p.m. Saturday at Falcon Stadium, 11110 Alondra Blvd.

About 700 students will take part in the ceremony, but some 1,500 degrees will be awarded, said Ays Abelson, the college’s public affairs coordinator.

Degrees and certificates earned during the 2007-08 academic year will be presented.

Rodriguez has won more awards than any other designer in the history of the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena.

He also was the designer for the opening stage set of the World’s Fair in New Orleans, art director for the “We the People 200” parade in Philadelphia, served as a consultant to the Olympics in Los Angeles in 1984, and as conceptual designer for Disneyland’s 50th anniversary parade, “Walt Disney’s Parade of Dreams.”

In addition to his work on various parades and decorating public spaces, Rodriguez also illustrates books and enjoys public speaking.

He has an honorary degree in fine arts from Redlands University. Rodriguez was raised in the Whittier area and attended Santa Fe High School.

Award-winning float designer Raul Rodriguez, shown with his macaw, Sebastian, will be the main speaker at the Cerritos College graduation ceremony Saturday.
Cerritos, Bellflower tutoring gears up students for college

1927 Wave Staff Report

Cerritos College reports that its GEAR UP partnership with the Bellflower Unified School District, led by the Office of School Relations, has achieved outstanding results this year, a college representative said.

GEAR UP is a grant-funded project of the Bellflower district with a goal to increase the number of low-income students entering and succeeding in post-secondary education through academic preparation and support, said Ava Abelson, the college’s public affairs coordinator.

To improve student achievement and enhance Bellflower’s college-going rates, Cerritos College provides tutors and delivers programs and services including campus tours and workshops.

The college also provides a presentation entitled “College: Making It Happen” in both English and Spanish to educate parents of the importance of planning ahead for college.

In a future addition to the program, Cerritos College will work toward curriculum alignment between the college and Bellflower district to administer college placement tests to students at the 10th-grade level.

The collaboration was initiated by Dr. Noelia Vela, president-superintendent of Cerritos College, working with Dr. Jeannette Johnson, director of state and federal programs at BUSD, said Shirley Areco, coordinator of school relations at Cerritos College, who oversees the program.

Since the program began in 2005, the number of tutoring hours has gone from 95 hours per week to 259 hours per week.

The number of presentations and workshops, including college fairs, campus tours, in-class presentations and financial aid presentations, has increased from 10 to 25 per year, considerably exceeding the required 10 per year.

“GEAR UP is necessary in our communities because it builds a bridge between the K-12 system and the community college system, creating a seamless education,” says Virginia Vo, GEAR UP assistant coordinator who facilitates the program under supervision of Areco.

“Through our partnership with Cerritos College, many students and parents have participated in campus visits to Cerritos College and heard the presentation ‘College—Making It Happen,’” said Bright Muller, program administrator for the Bellflower Unified School District.

“This program helps raise students’ awareness of and aspiration for a college education,” Vela said.

“It builds that bridge and communicates to students and parents that a college education is achievable. We appreciate working in partnership with our colleagues at Bellflower Unified to enhance the future of students,” Muller said.
Cerritos College CACT Receives Prestigious Exemplary Innovation Award

Award Recognizes the Partnership That Helps At-Risk Youth

Cerritos College announced that its Center for Applied Competitive Technologies (CACT) received the highly coveted Exemplary Innovation Award in recognition of its role in preparing at-risk youth for careers in manufacturing during the California Community Colleges Economic and Workforce Development annual conference Thursday, April 24.

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The Cerritos College CACT is part of an initiative of Economic and Workforce Development by the California Community College Economic Development Network. The CACT program was instituted as an overall purpose of advancing California’s economic growth and global competitiveness through quality education and services focusing on continuous workforce and business development, and technology deployment. CACT was developed to bring the resources of California’s 109 Community Colleges together to service California’s businesses and industries.
HOME EVENTS
Saturday home improvement and craft clinics at Home Depot. Tiling floors and walls: This clinic teaches you how to install ceramic tile over backboards on floors and walls. You’ll learn the basics of tile selection as well as how to avoid common mistakes. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Installing a deck: Learn how a deck’s purpose decides its design as well as which materials to use. 1-2 p.m. May 10, 17, 24 and 31. Free. At Home Depot locations in Orange County.


Basic electrical repairs. Learn how to do small electrical jobs - switches, outlets, basic circuitry, and install indoor and outdoor lighting fixtures. $69 plus $5 materials fee payable in class. May 10, 9 a.m. Santiago Canyon College, 8046 E. Chapman Ave., Orange. 714-628-4960 or www.sccollege.edu/cs

Marshall Reddick seminars. Profiting with fix-uppers. Learn about a government loan program that will provide the money to buy and fix property. Learn how to select the best locations, purchase properties wholesale, determine fix-up costs and rehab yourself if you choose. Contact school for registration fees, plus a $25 materials fee. May 10, 9 a.m. Cerroitos College, 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk. 562-467-5050 x2521 or cerritoscommunityed.com

Creative effects for digital scrapbooking. Learn how to create artistic digital scrapbook pages. You will learn how to use the more creative features of Photoshop 5. $110. May 10, 9 a.m. Orange Coast College, 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa. 714-432-5154 or occtickets.com

Ninth annual Open Doors home tour. Sponsored by the Huntington Beach Educational Foundation. May 10, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. $50 includes tour and lunch. May 10, 10 a.m. Art Center, 538 Main St., Huntington Beach. 714-964-2252, Shannon Maddux or hbe4kids.org

Bathroom design and remodeling. Basic residential and commercial bathroom design and remodeling from concept to installation. $365. May 12, 6:30 p.m. UC Riverside Extension, 1200 University Ave., Riverside. 951-827-5801 or onlinereg. extension.ucr.edu

Newport Harbor High School home and garden tour. Includes seven homes in Newport Beach, a catered lunch and an afternoon reception. May 15, 10 a.m. Newport Theatre Arts Center, 2501 Cliff Drive, Newport Beach. 949-515-7444 or www.newportherborhigh.com

Old Town Tustin’s Promenade and Home and Garden Tour. Tours of historic homes and gardens, tree walk, quilt show, architectural walk, art show and vendors. $25 day of event, $20 presale. May 17, 9 a.m. Old Town Tustin, El Camino Real and West Main Street, Tustin. 714-731-5701 or www.tustinhistory.com

Bathroom remodeling workshop by Sea Pointe Construction. Learn design and construction basics. Topics covered include function, layout, special features, lighting and finishes. $20 preregistered, $25 at the door. May 17, 9 a.m. Sea Pointe Construction, 576 Wald St., Irvine.

www.seapointe.com/designworkshops.htm
Community colleges can be a buffer

Courses at schools assist students on university path

By Tracy Garcia

WHITTIER — As proposed state budget cuts prompt Cal State and UC officials to consider turning away thousands of qualified students this fall, local community colleges say they’re in a good position to absorb these students and keep them on track toward earning their degree.

As such, both Rio Hondo College and Cerritos College in Norwalk are expanding their classes this summer, offering a combined 1,500 courses from May through July for $60 per unit.

“The summer is always a crucial time for us,” said Ayako Abele, spokeswoman for the 20,000-student Cerritos College.

“Usually, most four-year university students are interested in taking summer classes at community colleges,” she said. “So we always try to offer more, especially now in this time of budget crisis.”

Last month, UC and CSU officials painted a grim financial picture for incoming students if the governor’s proposed $4.5 billion cut to education is approved.

Ten thousand CSU students will have to be turned away in the fall, officials said, while UC campuses will be over-enrolled by 4,000 students. Student fee increases may also be considered.

CSU Chancellor Charles Reed has said the cuts would have “devastating effects on the people of this state, now and for years to come.”

“If we want California to be competitive in the global economy, then funding for higher education needs to be a priority,” Reed said.

Although the state cuts would also affect community colleges, officials at Rio Hondo and Cerritos say they’re not in danger of having to cut enrollment or courses anytime soon.

“Even if the proposed cuts are realized, our college has strong and adequate financial reserves to meet the needs of students” — even those who weren’t originally planning to attend Rio Hondo, said Teresa Dugythus, vice president of finance.

“We are committed to keeping the college opportunity pipeline open,” said Ted Martinez Jr., president of the 20,000-student Rio Hondo College.

“We can provide a smooth transition and help ensure that no student is derailed on their journey to higher education.”

Already, Abele said, Cerritos has begun seeking increased numbers of UC and CSU students enrolling in summer courses, “and we are expecting more.”

On top of the 600 courses it is offering this summer, Rio Hondo also has different sessions and start times to accommodate student schedules.

The first session runs from June 9-July 9; another runs from June 9-June 12; a “late-start” session runs from June 22-Aug. 15, and the second summer session goes from July 7-Aug. 15.

At Cerritos, summer sessions run from May 19-June 27; May 19-July 11; June 16-Aug. 8; and June 30-Aug. 8.

Statewide, community college officials have said they fear they won’t be able to serve more than 50,000 students next year if Gov. Schwarzenegger’s cuts go through.

But local officials say they’ll monitor the situation closely over the next month, especially with today’s much anticipated release of the governor’s May budget revision.

“Everything keeps getting revised,” Abele said. “But at this time, we’re not planning to cut classes or make any other kind of cuts.”

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Our Town
Compton's Joey Spraggins Featured in Bus Ads, Billboards
Cerritos College graduate chosen to be the face of school's dental program

By Cheryl Scott
Editorial Staff Writer

If you ride the buses, you may see one of your neighbors smiling down at you from the advertising panel. Joey Spraggins, who graduated last year from Cerritos College's dental program, was chosen by the school's faculty to be pictured in its advertisements.

She was chosen because of her beautiful smile and infectious, upbeat personality, according to the faculty.

Spraggins, who is now working for an orthodontist in Cerritos, told The Bulletin, "I haven't actually seen the ad yet. This weekend I plan to take my daughter to see a billboard in Hawaiian Gardens, so I'll see it then. I can't imagine how it will be to see a picture of myself that big, staring down at me in a public place. I'm sure I'll be something I'll remember for a long time.

She says that patients who come to her office, where she works frequently tell her they've seen her in the ads. "People from everywhere say they've seen them," she said. "They recognize me when they walk in the door.

Spraggins is a single mom who went back to school to earn a degree in dental assisting. She had been working as a manager at Bally's Fitness, but decided that she wanted to pursue the career that had always interested her.

"I first started out on a medical track while I attended Long Beach David Starr Jordan High School for its excellent medical program called AMS (Aspirations in Medical Services) Academy," she said.

She graduated from the program in 1994, and enrolled at Fullerton College as a biology major on the advice of her counselor. "I soon realized that this was not what I wanted to do either," she said. "I've always been interested in dental care. Teeth are what people see first in your face when you smile. But as a single mom working full-time, it was not easy to go back to school.

"I had a lot of family support," she said. "My aunt recommended Cerritos College because of its excellent dental program. I moved in with her, and my mom took care of my daughter Sydney so I could go full-time. Because of them I was able to finish the program in just over a year."

An instructor at Cerritos College suggested that she try one class to see how she liked it. "I loved it," she said. "I enrolled full-time and really focused on becoming a dental assistant. But I had a great time while I was at it. I guess you could call me the class clown. We all had a great time, the other students, the instructors and myself." 

Spraggins graduated from the program with a 4.0 grade average. She loves her current job, but has decided to further her education. "I plan to get a bachelor's degree and a teaching credential," she said. "I want to become an instructor in the dental assistant program at Cerritos College."

Why not become a dentist?

"Well, that would take at least six or eight years," she said. "I don't think I would be fair to Sydney to take that much time away from her. I'll be very happy teaching in the program that I attended.

Spraggins says that she always knew what she wanted to do but it took her a few tries to get there. "I've always wanted to work in the field of dentistry in some capacity," she said. "But life never seems to take a straight road. There seem to be a lot of detours along the way to what you really want. One day I decided I was just done with the detours and it was time to get onto my true path in life. That's what I've done and I'm very thankful to Cerritos College for giving me the great education and training that has gotten me this far. But it's only the beginning."

"Joey's positive and infectious disposition, combined with her passion and confidence in her profession will make her an outstanding teacher and mentor for future dental professionals," says Lydia Cosio of Cerritos College.
Cha wins student film award

NORWALK — Cerritos College film student John Cha has received the Media Arts Merit Award at the annual statewide Media Arts Competition.

His short film “Neverending” was selected from a field of 52 entries by a faculty screening committee and an industry panel of judges. He will receive the Final Cut Studio 2 suite from Apple Computers as his prize. The annual competition is conducted by the Multimedia and Entertainment Initiative of the Economic and Workforce Development Program of the California Community Colleges. Entries come from community colleges throughout California.

“Neverending” is a psychological drama about redemption. A man contemplates his shortcomings with his ex-girlfriend. He goes through this journey, where his mind plays tricks on him, thinking about the past, Cha said.

Born in Los Angeles, Cha grew up in Cerritos and is a sophomore at Cerritos College.

“I was always interested in films. My mom would drop me and my brother at a movie theater and we would spend the whole day there,” Cha said.

Cha hopes to become a cinematographer.

Cha’s instructor Steven Hirohama, served as the chair of the film/video competition.

The Downey Patriot
May 16, 2008

Adult education program offers free acting classes

NORWALK — The Cerritos College Older Wiser Learner (OWL) Program is now offering two new acting classes.

The “Acting for Commercials and TV” class offers tips for working in the world of television and commercials. The class explores all aspects of the industry, from getting an agent, headshots and auditioning skills, to working on a set and taking directions. The class meets every Thursday 10 a.m. to noon at the Activity Center in La Mirada, located at 13810 La Mirada Blvd.

The “Acting for Stage plus Overcoming the Fear of Public Speaking” class helps students to be a more effective communicator and develop a better appreciation of theatre and the performing arts. The class will focus on exercises to effectively cure public speaking fears and the opportunity to work with short scenes from contemporary playwrights from the American theater. The class meets every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon, also at the Activity Center in La Mirada.

Classes are free and are open enrollment classes accepting students at any time. For more information, contact Sally Greer at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2489.
Seminar discusses problems at the pump

NORWALK – Cerritos College is offering a one-night seminar on the rising cost of fuel titled, “Fuel Prices: What can you do?,” on Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m.

The seminar will explore the latest regarding energy and transportation, the pricing of petroleum, gas prices and how you can ease the crunch on your pocketbook. Also joining in the seminar will be an expert from CALSTART, a private organization dedicated to clean, renewable energies and increasing energy efficiency. Cost for the evening is $10.

The seminar will take place in Auto Technology AT-26B at Cerritos College, 11110 Alondra Blvd. in Norwalk.

For additional information, call (562) 467-5050, ext. 2521, or visit www.cerritoscommunityed.com.

President Vela Elected to National Association Board

Dr. Noelia Vela, president/superintendent of Cerritos College, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). She was elected by the 1,200 member institutions to serve a three-year term on the board.

“I have served on a number of different AACC commissions since 1993 and I consider it an honor to be nominated, elected and to serve on the AACC Board,” said Vela.

The AACC, with its national office in Washington, D.C., is the primary advocacy organization for community colleges at the national level and works closely with directors of state offices to inform and affect state policy. The association has ongoing interaction with key federal departments and agencies including the U.S. Departments of Education, Labor, Energy, Homeland Security, Commerce, the National Science Foundation and members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives. The 33-member board governs the activities of the association that represents over 11 million students.

Dr. Vela currently serves on the Boards of the National Institute of Leadership Development and the National Community College Hispanic Council. Dr. Vela serves as a member of the AACC Global Education Committee and has served as a member of the AACC Research Commission for two three-year terms and has served three years as a member of the President’s Academy Executive Board responsible professional development and training of community college presidents. She is currently a member of the Community College League of California Legislative Committee.

At Cerritos College Dr. Vela has led the college a comprehensive review of its board policies and procedures, the development of the college’s 2005-08 strategic plan, the development of the campus transformation plan that is replacing aging facilities in almost every area of campus with new, state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories, and technical facilities.

Credited to Dr. Vela’s leadership is a nearly 40% success rate of funded state, federal, and private industry grants pursued by faculty and the expansion of a number of programs in support of student support services and learning. In 2006-07 the college was awarded over $1.9 million. Additionally, numerous partnerships with local unified school districts have strengthened educational programs, provided tutoring and college prep programs, supported new cultural partnerships, and expanded the partnerships the college has with business and industry.

This expanded activity level in career and technical education (CTE) at Cerritos College got the attention of Lt. Governor John Garamendi. At his request, he visited campus in January 2008 to tour CTE programs at the college and then he held a “meet the experts” talk where college faculty and staff, and business and industry partners answered questions about the future needs for CTE education.

This meeting led to an additional meeting in the Lt. Governor’s Sacramento office that included Dr. Vela and Cerritos College trustees discussing in detail the community college role in the state economy and career and technical education.

Dr. Vela’s election was confirmed at the annual convention of the AACC in Philadelphia last week.
Talk scheduled on gas prices

NORWALK — Shocked by the skyrocketing prices at the gas pump? Cerritos College is offering a one-night seminar on the rising cost of fuel and what can be done about it from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at its auto technology building (AT-26B), 11110 Alondra Blvd.

Also speaking will be an expert from CALSTART, a private organization dedicated to clean, renewable energies and increasing energy efficiency.

Handouts and giveaways will be available. For information and to sign up, call (562) 467-5050, Ext. 2521 or log on to www.cerritoscommunityed.com

Future teachers move to classes at CSLB

NORWALK — Cerritos College’s Teacher Training Academy program honored 52 students May 8 as they advanced to classes at Cal State Long Beach next fall for their final two years before earning a bachelor’s degree and teaching credential.

The new group of graduates joins the growing party of more than 300 graduates, said Aya Abelon, the college’s coordinator of media relations.

Tying part in the program were the Cerritos College Board of Trustees, senior members of Cerritos College administration, Sue Parsons, director of the academy, Marjuta Gremel-Scheyet, associate dean for graduate studies in the college of education at Cal State Long Beach.

Each graduate received a certificate and a commemorative golden apple in recognition of their completion of the first leg of the teacher training program, Abelon said.

Among the scholarships presented was the Eruditio Scholarship for $500 given to Carmina Moreno, Kristin Parker and Jaime Sandoval.

Abdul Rahman received the $2,500 D. Franklin Wright Scholarship and Leslie Garcia received the $1,000 Fred Gaskin Scholarship that includes a $1,000 match from Cal State Long Beach.

Alejandra Alvarez received the Esther Espinoza Scholarship for $1,000.

Ana Oriz, a graduate of the program in 2006, provided closing remarks and encouraged the class of 2007 to keep alumni ties strong and to be proud of themselves for their accomplishment.

Cerritos College’s teacher training program offers many services for students interested in teaching, Abelon said.

For students interested in becoming an elementary school teacher, the flagship program is a partnership with Cal State Long Beach.
700 receive degrees at Cerritos graduation

NORWALK — Cerritos College honored 700 graduates during its 51st annual commencement ceremony May 10 at Falcon Stadium.

The Cerritos College Board of Trustees and administration presented degrees and certificates earned during the 2007-08 academic year.

Raúl Rodríguez, a float designer for the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena and an alumnus of Cerritos College, served as the commencement speaker and encouraged graduates to keep moving toward their dreams.

The program also included selections by the Cerritos College Concert Band, directed by David Betancourt, including the processional, “Pomp and Circumstance” by Sir Edward Elgar, and the recessional, “Stars and Stripes Forever,” by John Philip Sousa.

The Cerritos College Community Choir, directed by Anna DeMichele, presented several vocal selections while Noelia Vela, president/superintendent of the college, gave the welcome and introduction of officials.

Jason Macias, president of the Associated Students of Cerritos College, introduced Rodríguez.

Presentation of the graduates was by Bryan Reece, faculty senate president, and Vela.

Giving out certificates and degrees were Cerritos College board members Bob Arthur, president; Bob Espola, vice president; Reece and M.L. Bettino, dean of academic affairs.
The Fantastic Five!!!
Storms Cerritos College

Theatre Students Present Summer One-Act Plays

WHAT: The Cerritos College Department of Theatre presents The Fantastic Five!!!
The Summer One-Acts Friday, June 20. The program is co-directed by Forrest Hart, adjunct theatre faculty and Georgia Well, department chair for theatre department.
The show will consist this year of five individual one-act plays written, directed, designed and acted by students. The titles of the five plays are: Freely Given, Apples a Oranges, Modern Art, Brotherhood of War, and Pro.

WHEN:
Friday, June 20 at 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 21 at 8 p.m.
Thursday, June 26 at 8 p.m.
Friday, June 27 at 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 28 at 8 p.m.
Sunday, June 29 at 2 p.m.

WHERE: Burnight Studio Theatre
Cerritos College
11110 Alondra Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650

COST: general admission: $12
Cerritos College students, staff, seniors, middle and high school students with ID: $10 children 5-12 years: $8
Tickets may be purchased online at www.cerritos.edu/theatre (credit card only) or in person at the box office in front of the Burnight Center Theatre Mon - Fri from 1 pm - 5 pm only. (Cash or Check only)

CONTACT: For more information, please call (562) 467-5058 or visit www.cerritos.edu/theatre
Group Sales: ext. 2638

Cerritos College serves 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 200 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently nears 20,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at www.cerritos.edu.
Cerritos College Mega Mixer

On April 22, 2008, Cerritos College hosted the 5th Annual Mega Mixer. The Norwalk Chamber participated in the event; there was a great turnout of attendees as well as exhibitors. With a country western theme of “Round Up”, each booth was decorated in their best western decor, which added for an interesting evening.

There were over two hundred attendees who were treated to samples of the delicious food provided by the college culinary arts department. With a wide variety of appetizers, pastas, and desserts the Culinary Arts students got a chance to show some of their masterpieces.

The event provided many opportunities for networking with the attendees as well as other exhibitors; offering a wonderful chance for the diverse businesses and organizations to meet and discuss the ways they could create strategic partnerships with each other to grow and improve their businesses.

The Norwalk Chamber would like to thank Cerritos College for once again putting on such a great event, and we cannot wait to participate in the Cerritos College Mega Mixer again next year!
The Cerritos College Foundation presented ten individual scholarships to Cerritos College students at its board of directors meeting on May 8. Altogether, $11,100 in scholarship money was awarded to the students.

"Congratulations to all of you for your accomplishments," said Foundation Board Chairperson Carol Baker. "We are very proud of each one of you who are committed to your education."

Sherry Coulter, of Norwalk and Lori Dominguez, of Bellflower, who was not able to attend the presentation, each received the $100 Albert Ostroff Scholarship. Instructional Dean of Humanities/Social Sciences Francine De France established this scholarship, in memory of her father Albert Ostroff.

Brian Huenz, of Buena Park and Juan Cruz, of South Gate, were each awarded the $250 Cassidy Family Scholarship, which recognizes two outstanding graphic design students.

Yecenia Barbosa, of Bellflower, received the $500 Broderick/Corbinford Scholarship, which was awarded to assist developmental students in their educational pursuits.

Larose Theus received the Assistive Technology Scholarship, which awards students with equipment such as scanners or learning systems. Larose received the Kurzwell Learning System that provides a comprehensive reading, writing and learning software solution.

Gloria Gallardo, of Downey and Katelyn Hananuki, of Hawaiian Gardens, who was not able to attend the presentation, each received the $500 Randy and Elmer Dobson Scholarship. This scholarship was awarded for the first time and is designed to reward outstanding history majors.

Julia Willet, of Long Beach and Beatriz Ramirez, of Norwalk, each received the $500 Greater Harbor Area Employee Advisory Council Scholarship. Established by the council, this scholarship helps business students as they pursue their education. Beatrice Ramirez also received the $2,000 Marion Hyde Scholarship. Also awarded for the first time, this scholarship was established by Diane Keenan, Cerritos College economics professor, as a way to honor her mentor Marion Hyde.

Karyn Dye, of Norwalk and David Santos, of Huntington Park each received the $500 Robert W. Collins Scholarship for Administration of Justice Students.

Ordinance
Cont. from page 12

The California Megan’s Law database is available for online search at www.meganslaw.ca.gov.

The entire municipal code for the City of Cerritos is freely available online at www.codepublishing.com/ca/cerritosltdhtml. It is current through April 24, 2008. Chapter 9, which contains the new sex offender residency ordinance, deals with “Public Peace, Safety and Morals.”
A semester in New Zealand opens her eyes

NORWALK – It was her interest in international relations and other cultures that brought Jasmin Gonzalez to halfway across the world.

Gonzalez, a 20-year-old political science and history major from Norwalk, spent a semester studying international relations at International Pacific College (IPC) in Palmerston North, New Zealand as the first exchange student from Cerritos College to study at IPC.

The most challenging part of her exchange experience was that she had no friends, family or any familiar comforts 8,000 miles away from home. As terrifying as it may sound, it also thrilled her because of all the possibilities of making new friends, enjoying new experiences and exploring new places.

"The first thing I did as soon as my luggage was unpacked was put on my hiking shoes and explore the amazing green hills surrounded by the mountain ranges near the campus," said Gonzalez. "I was never a hiker back home, but just being in a different country like New Zealand and adopting a 'let's try anything' mentality made me want to try new and unexpected things like hiking, cave abseiling, jumping into Lake Taupo, one of the biggest lakes in the North Island, and gliding from tree to tree on a fox trot glider.

"Going to New Zealand with a positive and open-minded attitude helped me in experiencing the most of what New Zealand has to offer, from a valuable education, to meeting new people, and gaining new experiences."

IPC has been a prime institution for cross-cultural interaction, according to Nick Kremen, executive dean of Cerritos College's Community, Industry and Technology Education division. Kremen was instrumental in negotiating an exchange agreement with the college several years ago.

So far, Cerritos College has accepted three IPC students and sent one student, Gonzalez, to IPC.

"I am delighted to hear that her experiences at IPC has increased her awareness of what's happening around the world," said Kremen. "We will continue to provide students with the opportunities to study overseas at our partner institutions."

Daniin Kurtz, coordinator of International Student Services at Cerritos College, agrees.

"The semester Jasmin spent at IPC is invaluable," said Kurtz. "Studying abroad gives students self-confidence and opportunities to learn new cultures, customs and politics firsthand."

Cerritos College has another link with IPC – a program called the Global Consortium. Led by the history professor Dr. John Haas, the Global Consortium gives students the opportunity to participate in teleconferences with students from other college and universities all over the world, including IPC.

Gonzalez has been involved in almost all the teleconferences Haas has done. When she heard of the study-abroad opportunity with IPC, she knew it was meant for her.

According to Gonzalez, the international relations classes at IPC presented the history and politics of various countries. Her study at IPC sharpened her career focus in political science.

"The idea of study abroad can seem overwhelming," said Gonzalez. "But in reality, it is very rewarding and, in my opinion, is something that every student should experience at least once in their educational career."
Free acting classes for seniors

NORWALK — The Cerritos College Older Wiser Learner (OWL) Program is now offering two new acting classes.

The “Acting for Commercials and TV” class offers tips for working in the world of television and commercials. The class meets every Thursday 10 a.m. to noon at the Activity Center in La Mirada.

The “Acting for Stage plus Overcoming the Fear of Public Speaking” class helps students to be a more effective communicator and develop a better appreciation of theatre and the performing arts. The class meets every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon, also at the Activity Center.

Classes are free and are open enrollment classes accepting students at any time. For more information, contact Sally Greer at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2489.

History major lands $500 scholarship

NORWALK — Downey resident and Cerritos College student Gloria Galarza received the $500 Randy and Elmer Dobson Scholarship at the school’s board of directors meeting on May 8.

The inaugural scholarship is intended to recognize “outstanding history majors.”

Galarza was one of 10 students to receive scholarships May 8. A total of $11,100 in scholarship money was awarded to students that day.
Garcia makes history
CSUDH swears in Cal State’s first Latina president

By Shelly Leachman

A bit of history came to pass in Carson on Friday as Cal State Dominguez Hills
inaugurated its first female leader — and
the first Latina campus chief in the CSU
system.

Born in Brooklyn to working-class
Puerto Rican parents, Garcia is the product
of public education and one of the few type
of student that Dominguez Hills serves.
President Mildred Garcia described herself as “humbled, honored, excited and filled with great joy” upon
being officially installed in the job she
actually assumed nine months ago.

“I stand on the shoulders of those who
came before me and I walk in the path of
the great leaders who helped shape this
institution,” Garcia said in her remarks,
which culminated in a two-hour formal but
light-hearted ceremony of musical and
vocal performances, a dramatic reading
and a diverse array of well wishes.

Garcia was hailed by past and present
colleagues and friends as, among other
things, a “great leader” and a “self-made
intellectual” who is socially, culturally and
politically astute.

Keynote speaker Evelyn Hu-DeHart, his-
tory professor and director of the Center
for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in
America at Brown University — and a
longtime friend of the woman called
“Milli” by those closest to her — opened
her address by touching on the upcoming
“historic opportunity” to elect either a
woman or an African-American to the
White House.

“There are some of us here who probably
thought we’d never see the day. But you at
California State University, Dominguez Hills,
have already made history. You have selected
(Garcia) ... a woman and the first Latina in the
CSU system, as president.”

— EVELYN HU-DEHART, history professor and director of the
Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America at Brown University

Ending her remarks with a unique gift
to Garcia “for the trail she is blazing,”
Hu-DeHart performed an a cappella ver-
sion of “Oh God, I’m Not Wearing Any
Undies” — an ode to acceptance and
multiculturalism that was appropri-
ate for the occasion and its guest of honor.

A first-generation college student who
put herself through bachelor’s, master’s
and doctoral programs, working along the
way in jobs including waitress and
dry-cleaning clerk, Garcia has long called
Dominguez Hills a perfect match for her
background and values.

Reiterating that belief on Friday, she
took the memory of her parents and
their efforts to impress upon her the
importance of both education and pride in
one’s heritage even as, she recalled, mostly
white classmates asked her questions like,
“Do you know Santana?”

A guidance counselor told her she’d never get into
college. “I see myself in these students,” Garcia
said, again drawing comparisons between
her own journey and that of those who
populate the university she now leads and
calls “my beloved Dominguez Hill.”

Garcia closed her address by paraphrasing
philosopher Henry David Thoreau, say-
ing: “If one advances confidently in the
direction of her dreams, and endeavors to
live the life she has imagined, she will
meet with a success unexpected in
common hours.”

“For me,” she added, “this is success,
unexpected, and I thank you for this aw-
some responsibility and opportunity.”

scott yerby / staff photographer
inauguration of CSUDH President Dr. Mildred Garcia was held Friday morning on the Carson campus. Garcia proudly displays the Toro symbol. The Toro is the school’s mascot.
Sour job market boosts grad school appeal

Facing one of the worst job markets in years, many college graduates will head back to school in the fall to bag an advanced degree in fields such as law or business while they wait out the hard times.

As for those students toying with the idea of going back for their MBA, this economy is the perfect time to do it. By the time they finish a two-year program, we're out of this recession, and they're back in the marketplace.

— Peter Goliath, director of the career center for the University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business, which received more applications for its MBA program in February than it did for all of 2007, said Peter Goliath, director of the school's career center.

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2-year college system chief is named

An education reformer and state senator being forced out by term limits will become the new chancellor Jan. 1.

BY LARRY GORDON
and PATRICIA McGUIREY
Times Staff Writers

State Sen. Jack Scott, an education reformer who served as president of two colleges, has been named the new statewide chancellor of the California community college system.

The Alhambra Democrat, 74, will be forced by term limits to leave the Senate when his term expires in December and will take over the chancellor's job Jan. 1.

His oversight of the 109 colleges will come at a time of state budget cuts and pressure to improve the relatively low rates at which students finish their two-year degrees or vocational training.

Scott, chairman of the Senate Education Committee, said he looks forward to the challenge, particularly in improving the colleges' finances.

"The chancellor is the spokesperson for community colleges in California and the advocate for them before the Legislature," he said in an interview Thursday. "That is a very important role. Funding is crucial."

Scott said he wants to boost tutoring and counseling so more students can transfer from community colleges to four-year schools and complete their credentials in such fields as health care.

"I think we want to work hard not only to get them to come, but we want to make sure we have programs in place to assist them in succeeding," he said.

Scott was the author of numerous laws that benefited community colleges during his four years in the Assembly and eight in the Senate.

A historian with a doctorate from Claremont Graduate University, he taught at Pepperdine University and was president of Cypress College for nine years and of Pasadena City College for eight.

His Senate district includes Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank and parts of Los Angeles.

Scott will succeed Diane Woodruff, who has served as interim chancellor since July 2007.

The vacancy originally occurred when Marshall "Mark" Drummond quit the post last year to return to his former job as head of the nine-campus Los Angeles Community College Districts.

Drummond reportedly was frustrated in Sacramento because the state chancellor has much less power than that wielded by the heads of the University of California and Cal State systems.

Lance Izumi, president of the California Community Colleges' Board of Governors, said Scott was one of about 20 people who applied for the job and was the only person interviewed by the board because a screening panel rated him so highly.

"He brings a breadth of experience as a legislator, teacher, administrator and CEO in the community college system," Izumi said. "He's got a lot of friends on both sides of the aisle."

Izumi and other board members said Scott was not hired because of his insider status, however. They said that this year's budget cuts to the college system will have been decided before he takes the helm.

"Jack is the champion of the community college system in the Senate," said state Sen. Gloria Romero (D-Los Angeles). "He really is the heart and soul of the community colleges. He represents the passion that students feel when they first step foot on a community college campus."

Scott will be paid $190,000 per year as chancellor.
CSULB may boost enrollment

UNIVERSITY: As applications boom, Cal State will consider raising its 25,000-student cap and adding housing.

By Kevin Butler

LONG BEACH — The California State University Board of Trustees today will consider raising the enrollment cap at Cal State Long Beach by 6,000 full-time equivalent students.

A board committee on Tuesday certified a state-required environmental impact report of a plan to boost enrollment of part-time and full-time students whose course loads equate to 8,000 full-time students.

The increase, projected to occur gradually over the next 16 years or so, is being sought to meet growing demand for entry to the popular campus, which this year received a record 72,000 applications.

As part of the plan, the university will build additional parking structures and student housing. The CSU also will ask the state to contribute about $320,000 to the city of Long Beach for improvements at intersections around campus in order to help ease traffic impacts from the expanded enrollment.

The campus master plan also calls for replacing dated classroom and laboratory buildings.

The campus plan “allows for gradual growth over the years, with replacement of antiquated buildings and the addition of parking structures that will lessen significantly the impact to the campus and the surrounding areas,” said CSULA spokeswoman Toni Beron.

The current cap of 25,000 was imposed as part of the campus’ Master Plan in 1977, Beron said.

Since then CSULB enrollment has gradually increased to its current level — about 24,000 full-time equivalent students, she said.

“Now it’s taken a long time for us to get to 25,000 from 1977 to now,” said Beron, adding that CSULB enrollment is projected next year to top 25,000 full-time equivalent students for the first time.

Fee increase weighted

The board today is also scheduled to consider a controversial proposal for a 10 percent student fee hike next academic year.

The board, meeting in downtown Long Beach, will consider the fee increase to help offset state funding reductions.

If approved, full-time undergraduate fees would increase by $375 to $3,048 per academic year.

Adding in the $720 average auxiliary fees, students would pay $3,768.

Full-time graduate students would see base fees rise $424, to $3,794 per academic year.

The fee increases are projected to bring in $110 million in revenue, one-third of which would be set aside for need-based financial aid to assist students with the fee increases.

The fee hike would be the fifth in seven years at the CSU, representing an 113 percent increase over that period.

Also today, the CSU board will consider a proposal by trustee John Garamendi — the state’s lieutenant governor — to cap student fees and limit future fee increases to the rate of inflation.
CSU trustees approve 10% student fee hike

EDUCATION:
At CSULB, the increase for full-time undergraduates will be $276 per year.

By Kevin Butler
Staff Writer

LONG BEACH — The California State University Board of Trustees on Wednesday approved a 10 percent increase in student fees next academic year in an effort to help offset anticipated state funding cuts.

The board, meeting at its downtown Long Beach headquarters, voted 15-3 in favor of the increase, a response to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger’s proposed budget, which includes cuts to the CSU system.

Fees for full-time undergraduate students will increase by $276, to $3,048 per academic year.

Fees for full-time CSU graduate students will jump $342, to $3,756 per academic year.

“Fees are a non-discretionary expense,” said CSULB President F. King Alexander.

The increase, he said, will result in a $200,000 increase in revenues for CSULB.

“One-third of our students,” Alexander added, “are under the federal poverty line.

Even the smallest increases can make the difference between attending or not attending college.

The 10 percent fee hike is an attempt to balance the university’s budget and maintain programs.

The board approved a state-required environmental impact report of a plan to gradually boost enrollment of part-time and full-time students whose course loads equal those of $3,756 full-time students.

Last fall, nearly 35,000 full-time equivalent students attended CSULB.

To accommodate the planned growth, the university will build additional parking structures and student housing.

The campus master plan also calls for replacing dated classroom and laboratory buildings.

Kevin Butler, Press Telegram, 562-490-1398

FEES
FROM PAGE A1

Adding in the $749 average campus-based fees students paid this year, full-time undergraduates will pay $3,797 beginning this fall.

The fee increase is projected to bring in $110 million in revenue, one-third of which would be set aside for need-based financial aid.

Wednesday’s fee hike marks the fifth CSU increase in seven years, representing a 118 percent rise over the same period, during which the university has seen several rounds of state budget cuts.

UC President Mark Yudof, who sits on the CSU board and voted against the fee increases — said the hikes will hurt the state’s economy and further the “privatization” of public universities.

The state should find more revenue for higher education, rather than relying on student fee increases, said Garamendi, who urged his colleagues to vote down the increase in order to send a message to the state government.

“But I think we need to make a stand and simply say, ‘Don’t come here. Don’t expect this problem to be solved by taxing students,’ ” he said.

But even with the increases, CSU campuses remain more affordable than similar institutions nationally, he said.

Elizabeth Hoffman, a CSULB lecturer in the English department, said she is worried about the impact on students.

“I think they will have to work more hours, and it will be harder for them to study, and students will be discouraged,” she said.

“And we will lose students.”

Trustees also voted down Garamendi’s proposal to cap student fees and limit future fee increases to the rate of inflation.

Board members also voted unanimously to lift the enrollment cap at Cal State Long Beach by 6,000 full-time equivalent students.

The board approved a state-required environmental impact report of a plan to gradually boost enrollment of part-time and full-time students whose course loads equal those of $3,756 full-time students.

Last fall, nearly 35,000 full-time equivalent students attended CSULB.

To accommodate the planned growth, the university will build additional parking structures and student housing.

The campus master plan also calls for replacing dated classroom and laboratory buildings.

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LBCC official weighs a run in 1st District

By Paul Enkster

LBSU BEACH — The 5th Assembly District primary election is still two weeks away, and the November general election isn’t even on the radar yet.

But at least one local political entity is weighing the Jan, 2009 council run-off of termed-out LBSU Mayor Benjie Louvet.

Robert Garcia, the current director of media and public relations at Long Beach City College, confirmed rumors that he may make a council bid if Louvet wins the 9th Avenue seat.

“A lot of my neighbors have talked to me about it, and it’s certainly something that I’m considering,” Garcia said.

“I live in a neighborhood, I love Long Beach, and I think that my experience serving as president of my neighborhood association has really opened my eyes to the big issues that are in some of the downtown neighborhoods.

The last year Long Beach had so much pressure was in the 1st District, which includes part of downtown, neighborhoods most of our downtowners are just north of the Port of Long Beach, but before Garcia and others can pursue the council seat, Louvet would have to defend a soon-to-be member of the council, Tony Reyes, of the 5th District.

Garcia may run for the City Council’s 1st District.

Louvet, considered by many to be the front-runner for the 5th race for a third term, is part of a powerful local political family in which her husband, Fasto Louvet, has led the way; she has raised more campaign money than anyone, has a longer list of endorsements, including that of state Democratic Party, and the 4th District is barely Democratic which means any Republican candidate will face an uphill battle.

Garcia may not have the same political connections as Louvet, but she does happen to be a board member for Children Today, a charity organization run by Louvet’s younger son, Josh Louvet,.

Council bristles at airport costs

Progress on the city’s planned terminal expansion at the Long Beach Airport seems to have been the subject of the FOMPS board and lengthy airport task force sessions.

The improvements project has moved about as fast as a 747 taking off from a terminal gate, after being beset with legal challenges and community opposition for years.

On Tuesday, council members expressed reluctance to approve new funding for the project, fuming at the delays and insisting that we don’t want to go any further with the improvements.

City officials had asked the council to approve a doubling of a $33 million financing tool that was approved in 2004 for capital projects. The additional $33 million would be used for design and planning work in the airport and would be paid for by parking fees and increases in ticket prices.

But council members Fire, Geppetti, and Patrick O’Donnell expressed concerns about spending more without knowing exactly how much the entire project will cost.

O’Donnell said the council should delay its vote until it gets a report on exactly that.

“We’re not going to be able to do that anymore, I’m very concerned that we don’t have that preliminary design,” O’Donnell said.

City officials have said the terminal improvements are expected to cost $75 million to $100 million, while new parking garage will cost another $80 million.

Consultant Gary DeLong helped bring about a compromise, adding exactly how much the city needs to take the next step and it is in the $50 million range. The council was told the $50 million would work, though it’s $10 million less will be requested later.

The council unanimously approved Delong’s motion to which O’Donnell added that a report on all funding sources for the airport improvements be presented within 60 days.

Construction on the parking garage is expected to begin this summer and to be completed in 90 months, after which the two-step process of expanding the terminal would begin.
Black college faces its own bias

The ‘Morehouse man’ is a paragon of virtue and strength, a leader destined for great things. But can he also be gay?

By Richard Faussent
Times Staff Writer

Michael Brewer, a senior at Morehouse College, was standing purposefully around this storied campus on a hot spring day, his heavy frame dripping sweat, his hands clutching a small stack of fliers.

“No more hate,” the fliers read, in a stylish typeface. “No more discrimination. No more.”

“What’s up, brother?” Brewer said in a lifting, cheerful voice as he approached a fellow student in a dark business suit. “Take one of these. If you will.”

The young man gave the flier a glance. It was promoting what was perhaps the most ambitious week of gay rights events in the history of Morehouse, the only historically black all-male school in America.

“What the hell is this?” he asked under his breath. He laughed and threw it in the trash.

But Brewer had already moved, unfazed, into the lobby of Wheeler Hall, where he was taping up posters. The events had been his idea, and he knew they wouldn’t go over well with everyone.

“Morehouse is like this enclave where Stonewall never happened,” Brewer said, referring to the 1969 New York protest that galvanized the gay rights movement. “It just doesn’t exist in this realm of [See Morehouse, Page A15]
Black college faces its own bias

By Jennifer Wiltse

On a mission: Openly gay senior Michael Brown, right, leads a student walkout of Morehouse Collegefavoring statute of homosexuality. The historically black school was once regularly hit by the Princeton Review as a "gay-unfriendly" campus, but according to Brown, "the tide is definitely changing.

The tide has changed in more than one way for Morehouse and other historically black colleges. "There’s a sense that the civil rights movement has become more inclusive," said Brown, the first openly gay student to graduate from Morehouse.

On May 22, 2008 (cont’d)

Morehouse, Page 53

(Beneath, from Page 41)

The new ad campaign has played a key role in bringing black students to Morehouse — a campus famed for its black students' commitment to civil rights. "We're really happy to see this," said one student, who requested anonymity. "It's great to see Morehouse growing.

On May 22, 2008 (cont’d)

Long Beach Press Telegram
May 22, 2008 (cont’d)

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On May 22, 2008 (cont’d)

Morehouse, Page 53

(Beneath, from Page 41)
Faculty assists students financially

By Tony Barboza
Press Enterprise

Chemistry professor Jeff McMillan is sick of seeing otherwise capable students drop his courses because it costs too much to go to school. So much so that he is opening his wallet.

McMillan and about a dozen other faculty and staff members at Santa Ana College have started a scholarship fund that they hope will raise money for low-income students to afford their classes.

Starting this fall, each will fund a student's course fees for a year — about $500 for a full-time schedule. Professors say the donation comes with the satisfaction of knowing the student their money is helping.

"I won't be just some mysterious person writing a check," said McMillan, who is sharing sponsorship of a student with another professor.

The Opportunity Scholarship will be awarded to students with extreme financial need. Instructors will recommend students who have great potential but are struggling to pay for school. Each student will be paired with one of the faculty sponsors, who will serve as a mentor.

1 See Students, Page 55
Faculty gives students a hand

It’s frustrating to know that I could get better grades if I didn’t have to work all the time.

— Maximina Guzman, student government president at Santa Ana College

“Tell you, ‘Oh, no, you have to work. Why go to school?’” said Maximina Guzman of her parents, one of several students who work to pay for their education.

Many of the students are first-generation college students, and the only way to subsidize their education is with highly competitive, private scholarships.

“Six hundred dollars to most people may not seem like a lot, but for a student who doesn’t have any extra income to spend, this may be the difference between going to school or not,” said Robert C. Chang, president of the College of the Canyons Foundation.

Chang said he had not heard of any college having a program like the Canoga Foundation.

“A lot of people are not citizens — and she and her parents came to the United States illegally when she was 3 — she is not eligible for financial aid. The biology student has paid her own way, working full time at a hotel gift shop and moonlighting as a packer.

Guzman said her grades have suffered because she has to balance homework, two jobs and family obligations. She usually finds time to study only between 10 p.m. and 3 a.m.

If she is awarded a scholarship, she could cut down on weekend work hours, she said.

“Thinking about how I could get better grades if I didn’t have to work all the time,” she said.

High competing priorities affect many low-income students, especially Latinos — about half of the 23,000 students at Santa Ana College. Many of their parents did not go to college, and the pressure to work rather than go to school is strong, students said.

“If you grow up in the Hispanic community, your parents expect you to work if you go,” said Guzman.