



El Camino College COMPTON CENTER



PROVOST NEWS

DR. LAWRENCE M. COX

MAY 2009

Message from the Provost

This is the time of year when we celebrate the success of our students!

Our students are a source of pride for all of us – their success is a reflection of our success. Our students receive scholarships and awards for their hard work and accomplishments.

Our students are completing CTE programs and finding rewarding jobs and careers in a number of areas. Some are transferring to a college or university leading them to their future goals. We are pleased and honored to be a part of each student's academic achievement.

Please take time from your busy schedules to celebrate the success of our students by attending the many end-of-year activities and events happening throughout campus.

This is the time of year when we all are reminded why we do what we do every day -- to help our students achieve success!

Board of Trustees Meeting

The next meeting of the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, at 6:00 p.m. in the boardroom at Compton Center. Closed session begins at 4:00 p.m. for anyone wishing to address the Board on closed session agenda items. The Board Agenda is posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting at www.district.compton.edu and www.compton.edu.

Pomp and Circumstance

Please join our students for the El Camino College Compton Center commencement ceremony and reception. Scheduled for Thursday, June 11, at 5:30 p.m., this year's program has a change of venue from the Tartar football stadium and will take place in the quadrangle. Approximately 175 students have met the requirements to participate.

We are extremely honored to have Cruz Reynoso as our commencement speaker. He served as associate justice of the California Supreme Court from 1982-87, and was the first Latino to hold that position. He has dedicated

his life to public service as a champion for civil rights, immigration policy, government reform and legal services for the poor.

Mr. Reynoso has received numerous awards and acclamations during his illustrious career. In 2000, then president Bill Clinton recognized Cruz Reynosa with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor. He has also received the Hispanic Heritage Foundation's Hispanic Heritage Award in Education and the American Bar Association's Robert J. Kutak and Spirit of Excellence Awards for his considerable contributions toward increasing cooperation between legal education, the practicing bar and the judiciary. Last year he received the University of California, Davis Medal of Honor, the university's highest tribute to accomplished individuals.

Reynoso is professor of Law Emeritus at UC Davis School of Law, having joined the faculty in 2001 as the inaugural chair holder of the Boochever and Bird Chair for the Study and Teaching of Freedom and Equality.

He has served as the associate general counsel to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunities Commission, as vice chair of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and as a member of the Select Commission on Immigration and Human Rights.

As an internationally known civil rights leader, then President-elect Obama appointed Cruz Reynoso to be part of his transition team for the Justice and Civil Rights Agency Review committee.

Mr. Reynoso is a native of Brea, California. He is a product of the community college system and received his associate's degree from Fullerton Junior College. Mr. Reynoso earned a bachelor's degree from Pomona College and a law degree from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law—Boalt Hall.

Compton Center graduates and all who attend the commencement are certain to be awed and inspired by this exceptional individual.

Women's Conference is Approaching



Compton Center is hosting a women's conference entitled, "Yes I Can," on Thursday, May 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the student lounge. The purpose is to empower young women between the ages of 15 and 21 by providing them with information about education and career opportunities and available resources. Approximately 200 young women are scheduled to attend. For many of them, the day will mark their first time on a college campus.

The conference will provide presentations by financial aid, CalWorks, the transfer center and others. The format will include stations in the areas of auto technology, welding, nursing, fashion and childcare and child development. A dance performance is part of the day's activities, and lunch will be provided.

Joyce Duren, outreach specialist, says: "Following the success of last year's event, in this second year we will highlight career technology programs which lead to jobs in well paying technical fields."

For information, contact Joyce Duren at 310-900-1600, ext. 2202 or via e-mail at jduren@elcamino.edu

High School Reception

Compton Center is once again welcoming high school students to campus. The reception is scheduled for June 9 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the student lounge.

Ricky Shabazz, director of outreach and relations with schools, will greet the students and outline the process for registration and concurrent enrollment. During dinner, a panel will make presentations regarding counseling, financial aid, the transfer center, career and technical education programs, EOP&S, CalWORKS and athletics. A question and answer period will follow.

The final portion of the program includes breakout sessions to include: what Compton Center offers students, an application workshop, a CAHSEE presentation and financial aid assistance.

For information, contact Ricky Shabazz via e-mail at rshabazz@elcamino.edu or by calling 310-900-1600, ext. 2763.

Compton Center Golf Invitational

Faculty, staff, administrators and friends of El Camino College Compton Center athletic programs are invited to participate in the Inaugural Compton Center Tartar Golf Open on Friday, June 12 at The Links at Victoria in Carson. Registration and check-in are at 6:00 a.m. There is a shotgun start at 7:00 a.m. Lunch is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. with awards and a raffle to follow at 1:00 p.m.

The cost for registration is \$125 per player. This includes greens fees, a cart, tee package, continental breakfast and lunch. The deadline for entries is Monday, June 5.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the "Program for Athletic Student Success" and the first Compton Center Athletic Hall of Fame. Our goal is to assist the student-athlete in developing strong academic skills, a commitment to community service and a competitive spirit while exhibiting good sportsmanship.

Compton Center currently hosts 11 athletic intercollegiate teams and anticipates an additional three women's teams in coming years. We have a proud history of an outstanding athletic program that fostered national championships in football, state championships in basketball and track, and many conference titles. We are poised to continue that proud tradition.

Albert "Lefty" Olguin, athletic director, says: "We look forward to establishing a golf tournament to assist us in fundraising for our academic program needs, as well as provide the opportunity to further develop relationships with our business community."

Your support and participation in the Inaugural Compton Center Tartar Golf Open insures a win-win for everyone. For information, contact Lefty Olguin at lolguin@elcamino.edu or Alice Hawkins, athletics assistant, at ahawkins@elcamino.edu or by calling 310-900-1600, ext. 2940.

Summer and Fall At Compton Center

Please encourage students to check out the summer and fall schedules online. The first five-week session begins June 15, the second five-week session begins July 20 and the eight-week session begins June 22.

Returning students may register for summer and fall starting May 11. New student registration begins on June 1.

Faculty Council High Commendations

During their meeting on May 7, the Faculty Council passed formal resolutions of commendation for the staff in the office of Outreach and Relations with Schools, and the Compton Center Bookstore.

The resolution for the outreach team lauded their hard work and diligence helping to contribute to the increase in enrollment, the re-establishment of a regular presence at feeder high schools and for maintaining an ongoing relationship with counselors, instructors and administrators resulting in the accommodation of on-site admissions. The council acknowledged by name, Ricky Shabazz, Joyce Duren, Alicia Zambrano, Johnny Conley, Priscilla Beas and Marques Goodwin.

The Compton Center Bookstore and Debra Robertson were commended for leadership in substantially improving the book ordering process for professors and for providing accurate amount of needed texts for students in all sections. The Bookstore staff members were recognized for their tireless efforts to provide outstanding and gracious service, innovative ways to purchase books and for stocking logo items for students to show pride in their school.

In Memoriam

We fondly remember Mr. Joe Benny Williams, a classified union leader at Compton Center for nine years and a district employee for 26 years, who passed on April 16, 2009. He will be missed by all who knew him. We extend our sincere condolences to his family.

Title V Mini-Grants Provided

According to Dr. Nelly Rodriguez, director of the resource development office (Title V), "The purpose of the mini-grant competition was to encourage faculty and staff to engage in the grant writing process and to provide seed money for pilot programs that have the potential to receive funding from other sources, such as foundations, corporations or government entities."

The projects were to be designed to improve the instructional process to achieve student success, retention and/or graduation rates or bring added value to our students. Two workshops were held in March, and the deadline for submitting proposals was April 1.

The Title V mini-grants program committee selected the six grantees to receive a total of \$11,500 to pilot the following programs:

- The Financial Aid Office will receive \$1,500 to start a scholarship writing project. (Grant writers: Giselle Gamino and Mytha Pascual)
- The Athletics Department will receive \$2,000 to launch the athletics media design training project. (Grant Writer: Alice Hawkins)
- The Athletics Department will receive \$2,000 for the PASS Project with emphasis on persistence and improving grade point average of student-athletes (Grant writers: Albert "Lefty" Holguin and Genia Baker)
- The Theatre Arts program will receive \$2,000 to develop a comprehensive videolog student project. (Grant writer: Dr. Pieter Jan Van Niel)
- The Theatre Arts program will receive \$2,000 to develop a pipeline program for theatre arts students. (Grant writer: Dr. Pieter Jan Van Neil)

- The English department will receive \$2,000 for the Published Author on Campus Project to support student success in reading and writing courses. (Grant Writer: Dr. Ruth Roach)

Congratulations to all participants and awardees!

For information, contact Dr. Nelly Rodriguez, at 310-900-1600, ext. 2970 or via e-mail at nrodriguez@elcamino.edu.

Summer Math Academy is Offered

A three-week stress-free math class is being offered this summer starting August 3 through August 20, from 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Students will learn how to study to prepare for math tests and acquire skills and confidence to succeed at El Camino College Compton Center.

For information, contact Dr. Jose Villalobos, mathematics instructor and basic skills coordinator, 310-900-1600, ext. 2424 or by e-mail at jvillalobos@elcamino.edu

First Year Experience

We are pleased to announce that this fall at Compton Center the First Year Experience (FYE) program will be implemented. It is a learning community developed through linked classes and a team of instructors and counselors working collaboratively to increase student success with a high level of attention paid to each student.

Faculty members teaching classes in the FYE program include Toni Wasserberger, Pat McLaughlin, Celia Arroyo and Chris Halligan. Under the direction of Keith Curry, dean of student affairs, with the assistance of the staff of outreach and relations with schools, the transfer center and counseling, plans are well underway to recruit program participants.

Students in the program will learn study skills, have access to key campus resources, explore a major and create a career plan, interact in a multicultural environment and take advantage of electronic technology.

Program benefits include early group registration, taking learning community courses, developing strategies for success in college, learning from First Year Experience faculty, taking field trips and hearing guest speakers.

Please encourage students to contact Elizabeth Martinez, transfer center coordinator, at 310-900-1600, ext. 2764, to schedule an appointment to attend an information session. More about FYE can be found at www.compton.edu.

Academic Awards Tea



The annual Academic Awards Tea was held on Sunday, May 17 in the student lounge. This event celebrated the academic achievements of our Compton Center students who are graduating with honors and recognized scholarship recipients.

The program included a welcome by our provost, Dr. Lawrence Cox; musical presentations, featured alumni, honors award presentations by Dr. Jane Harmon, administrative dean of academic affairs; scholarship award presentations by Mytha Pascual, director of financial aid; and closing re-

marks by Dr. Thomas Fallo, El Camino College superintendent/president.

Thank you to everyone who made this special event a success. Congratulations to all of our honorees and their families!

New Nursing Simulation Lab Looks Like the Real Thing



El Camino College Compton Center's nursing program provides real world clinical type scenarios right on our campus in room E-50. The new wireless, high fidelity, human patient simulation lab, which has the look and feel of a hospital unit, had its grand opening in April. The open house was filled with Compton Center nursing students and more than 30 visiting students from a local vocational program, who are potential candidates for bridging into the RN program.

The wireless lab consists of three adults, a child, a newborn and a birthing simulator. The most advanced wireless human patient simulator is "iStan," affectionately

known as "Stan." He is a star in his own right, as he has appeared on Grey's Anatomy and The Doctors. Stan closely mimics the anatomical workings of the human body--he actually breathes, cries, sweats and bleeds. He was the first "patient" of the day and presented with abdominal pains. Blas Gonzales, a third semester nursing student, took his medical history through a two-way conversation, examined him and determined he needed further assessment to make a diagnosis and recommend treatment.

Later that day, everyone gathered around to watch the "birth" of a baby. Compton Center nursing students tended to the "patient" who was in labor, and a nursing instructor guided them in the process. Students were also responsible for the care of the "newborn."

The wireless patient simulators make it possible to generate authentic care experiences in real time from basic assessment to complex multi-organ failure for students at all levels of the nursing program. The simulation lab closely resembled grand rounds at a metropolitan teaching hospital.

Wanda Morris, dean of health and human services and assistant director of nursing at Compton Center, says: "We provide an individualized approach to meet the needs of each student. The simulation lab will prepare our nursing students with real life experiences so they may perform more effectively and confidently in a clinical setting and in an emergency situation."

One student, Anielka Balizun-Moreno, remarked that the simulation lab provided her with "a good visualization of a hospital setting." She said: "It decreased my anxiety and helped me a lot." Another student, Andrea Arceri, agreed



that having the skills and experience before you go into a hospital helps her learn “the signs and symptoms to look for” on an obstetrics rotation.

Shirley Thomas, a nursing instructor, says: “This new technology facilitates a continuity of learning between the classroom and the clinical setting, and students can return to the lab for additional practice to gain confidence.”

For information about the nursing program, call Kayla Ellis at 310-900-1600, ext. 2700.

ASB Election

The results are in for the new officers for fall 2009. Tanya Breshers will serve as president and as student trustee. Opal Williams is ASB vice president. Commissioners include Maria Ramos, financial aid; Brandy Flanagan, Activities; and Lisa King, public relations. We congratulate our new leaders and wish them well in their respective positions. Watch for an active campus life for our students in the coming year.

Another item on the ballot was Measure A, an initiative regarding whether or not to pay a voluntary \$10.00 student services fee per semester to fund increased student services, programs and activities. It passed with 73% of the votes.

Educators Visit Compton Center

A basic skills external review committee visited Compton Center April 30, May 1 and 2. Dr. Jane Harmon, interim administrative dean of academic affairs indicated that the team explored all aspects related to under-prepared students. A report is anticipated by the end of May and will be used for the development of a five-year plan.

Financial Aid e-services Lab

Please help spread the word to students that Compton Center’s financial aid e-services lab has 20 computers available for completing an application for admission, to register for classes online, view unofficial transcripts and educational plans, check the status of financial aid, retrieve *MyECC* e-mail and view financial aid award letters. E-service provides an online orientation to financial aid and the ability to search and apply for grants, scholarships and loans; complete promissory notes and review the status of a Cal Grant application.

Other services provided at the financial aid office include the option to pick up and submit financial aid forms and scholarship applications, and meet with a financial aid advisor.

Please remind all students to update their current e-mail account information so they may receive important notifications.

Compton Center’s financial aid office is located in room E-12 and is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For information about e-services, contact Henry Ross, financial aid program specialist, at 310-900-1600, ext. 2935, or at hross@elcamino.edu.

Calling all Alumni

Did you attend Compton Center or the former Compton College or know someone who has? We want to hear from you! The Resource Development Office invites all alumni of our Compton campus to register in our Alumni Database. Help us get the word out.

Registered alumni will have the opportunity to be informed of events and activities at Compton Center, receive invitations to alumni functions, participate in leadership opportunities, and much more.

The Resource Development Office looks forward to hearing from you. To register, please contact Nelly Rodriguez at nrodriguez@elcamino.edu.

Share Your News

We want to keep you informed of the news in our campus community. We also want to hear from you. We know there is no shortage of good news at Compton Center—so keep us in the loop.

Know a student who won a scholarship? a professor who just published an article or a book or received an award? a staff member honored by a professional organization? someone on our campus who has been recognized for work in the community? Help us spread the good news!

Please e-mail your news items to Ann M. Garten, community relations director, at agarten@elcamino.edu.