From the President: ‘Welcome Back’

A former student’s letter is a poignant reminder of the many lives we touch.

Happy New Year and welcome to the Spring 2002 semester! It’s good to have faculty, staff, and students back on campus and ready to re-engage in the important work of teaching and learning.

One of the first e-mails I read when I returned from the winter break was from a former student, John Gerace. John said, “The reason I’m writing you this e-mail is while I didn’t receive any academic inspiration in high school, I certainly did while attending Cypress College. I’m writing now because I guess it took my 20-year high school reunion to be put in a state of retrospection and appreciation. I’ve been fortunate to have achieved a certain degree of success thus far in my career and have an incredible amount of appreciation for three professors I was so fortunate to have while at Cypress: Tom Lubin, Helen Chen, and Barbara Marshall. ... Even though I continued to struggle academically while at Cypress, these three professors were an incredible inspiration to me and to whom I owe so much of what I achieved both academically and professionally after my experience at Cypress College. ... I am deeply grateful for the education Cypress College provided me with ... “

John went on to say that after leaving Cypress, he earned a BS in Chemistry from UCI and an MBA from Pepperdine. He has done biomedical research with Allergan, Inc., holds four US patents, sold laboratory automation and DNA synthesis equipment for Beckman Coulter, and is now in charge of Beckman’s Tactical Marketing for Research Automation for the Americas.

Every day those of us who work here at the college have the opportunity to touch the life of someone like John. We can provide the encouragement and inspiration that turn a struggling or indifferent student into one with goals, knowledge, and skills. “I touch the future, I teach” was the motto of teacher-astronaut Christa McAuliffe. How incredibly fortunate we are to share in that endeavor.

May this opportunity to touch the future inspire all of us as together we pursue our vision: To build a college-wide learning community for student success.

CypressCollege.edu is New Campus Web Site Address

Cypress College has a new — and prestigious — address for the campus Web site. Visitors to the Cypress College Internet site may simply type CypressCollege.edu in any Web browser to be instantly connected with the college.

College employees should now use the CypressCollege.edu address on business cards and other official communications. It will also begin appearing on campus documents as they are developed.

Thanks to the quick efforts of the Academic Computing staff, the new .edu address also works for e-mail. For example, submissions for @Cypress may now be sent to mposner@CypressCollege.edu. E-mail addresses and the first portion of Web addresses are not case-sensitive, so capitalization is not important. However, to make the address easier to read, both C’s should be capitalized when publishing the address.

Both CypressCollege.org and http://www.cypress.cc.ca.us will continue to function.

The campus gained access to the “.edu domain” after a lobbying effort by Educause prompted the US Commerce Department to open registration to community colleges. Previously, only four-year degree-granting institutions were officially permitted to use .edu addresses, although some community colleges had registered .edu addresses before those rules were enforced.
College Update: A Brief Look at What Happened During the Winter Break

With so much work completed and news rolling in, it's almost difficult to call Winter Break a "break." Here is a look at what has been going on.

EIS/Banner Implementation, Grade Submission
Well, it worked. A great majority of faculty submitted their fall 2001 grades online and on time. After a few minor glitches, students are now able to logon to the WebStar site and see how they did in their fall classes. Dave Wassenaar, dean of Admissions and Records, passed along a huge "thank you" to the faculty and to the A&R staff for completing this transition to Web-based grade submission. The Staff Development Office's efforts in helping faculty with the new computer system during the waning days of 2001 turned out to be a tremendous help.

State Budget
The good news is that there appears to be some money left over from the state's long-term electricity-purchase contracts. However, the energy crisis has helped produce a 2002-03 state budget with a $12-plus billion revenue shortfall. Last week, Governor Davis offered his budget proposal which is a first draft and is likely to undergo significant changes before it is approved; the Community College system is also involved in lobbying efforts to protect our interests.

Governor Davis's proposal avoids raising taxes or student fees. The community colleges — and education generally — emerged as one of the governor's highest priorities, according to state Chancellor Tom Nussbaum. Davis honored the Proposition 98 guarantee, and actually increased the overall level of funding for community colleges. The budget proposal contains both gains and losses for community colleges. Here are the details:

Augmentations:
- 3% for enrollment growth ($118.7 million)
- 2.15% for Cost of Living (COLA) ($88.8 million)
- $57 million for Part-time Faculty Compensation
- $49 million for Scheduled Maintenance ($22.9 million) one-time funding from Prop. 98 Reversion Account
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- $5 million for Teacher and Reading Development
- $7 million for Part-time Office Hours

Base Funding Restorations (some of which address programs funded out of the Proposition 98 Reversion Account):
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Base Funding Reductions (passed along with Chancellor Nussbaum's warning to "please sit down before reading this"):
- $58 million reduced from CalWORKS (leaving $7 million for child care)
- $26.8 million reduced from Matriculation (leaving $44.5 million for this program)
- $19.8 million reduced from Telecommunications and Technology Infrastructure (leaving $24.5 million for this program)
- $10 million reduced from the Fund for Student Success (leaving $6.2 million)
- $8.8 million reduced from the Economic Development Program (leaving $36.8 million)
- $5.2 million reduced from the Faculty and Staff Development Program (leaving nothing)
- $1 million reduced from the Nursing Program Expansion (leaving $3 million)

The proposed reductions total about $130 million and the total reductions are more than $40 million in excess of the amount proposed for COLA. On the other hand, the total proposed augmentations for the system are far in excess of the base budget reductions — the Governor's budget indicates a net $104 million augmentation.

"We should temper our concerns regarding these base budget reductions in the knowledge that most other areas of state and local government suffered overall base budget reductions," Nussbaum said.

Re-organization Goes Into Effect in Fall
The management re-organization developed last semester goes into effect in the upcoming fall term. It provides for individual deans for the Fine Arts, Vo Tech, and Science, Engineering and Math divisions. Business also gains a dean with no other instructional duties, though the dean will also oversee Admissions and Records. The dean of P.E./Athletics will assume administrative oversight of Student Activities and the dean of Language Arts will oversee the Library, Grants, Economic Development, VTEA and Title III become the responsibility of the Vocational Educational dean. The director of Campus diversity will assume administrative support role for the Learning Communities, the Puente Program, Study Abroad and the Center for Intercultural Understanding. Changes to the campus organizational chart are highlighted below, with a plus sign showing additional duties and a minus sign indicating a specific responsibility has been removed.

continued on next page
For Information, call ext. 4704.

A full Head Start Program is also available and free to eligible children ages 2-6. The center serves children of Cypress College students, employees, and members of the community, ages 2-6. The center is free to children of Cypress College students, employees, and members of the community, ages 2-6.

The center provides a developmental preschool curriculum with opportunities for children to explore, create, and learn through safe play indoors and outside. The center is free to children of Cypress College students, employees, and members of the community, ages 2-6.

Amber players N.amed:

Event on February 23

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Campus Personnel Changes

Pat O'Brien is returning to campus to serve as the interim dean of Nursing and College Health Services and a director of Institutional Research. O'Brien, who retired as a faculty member in the division four years ago, will serve in the position until the new dean of Nursing and College Health Services is hired.

The theater rigging project is now underway, with contractors currently demolishing the old rigging. This project will be ongoing during the spring semester with a target date of April for opening.

The art department offices that were located in the Transfer Center have been renovated to open into the hall across from the Gallery. The Transfer Center should move back into the newly renovated area by the end of the month.

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‘Key Messages’ Developed for Campus Marketing

You may have already noticed a subtle change to the top of the @Cypress nameplate: five new phrases which were developed to communicate who we are and what we represent to students.

The phrases — commonly known as “key messages” — were developed through research conducted by the campus Research Office and by consultants working for the Noel-Levitz enrollment management firm.

Marketing instructor Patti Kishel and Public Information Officer Marc Posner completed the verbiage as part of the 5% MORE committee’s work.

Here are the new key messages:

**Educational Excellence** — Students and staff are proud of the many top-quality academic and vocational programs at Cypress College. Our students say Cypress College is a good place to build skills and connect with others. Many feel their confidence grow. Graduates say that after completing a program at Cypress College, they feel well prepared for their next step, whether that’s a career or the university.

**A Great Environment** — Students often comment about the warm, personal and friendly experience at Cypress College. They say they feel safe at the college, and enjoy the atmosphere. Students like that teachers remember their first names and say “Hi” on campus. They also enjoy the casual environment, beautiful grounds and ample parking. And they rave about the relaxing duck pond.

**Personal Attention** — Cypress College classes are always taught by highly qualified faculty members. Students think their teachers are excellent and willing to go the extra mile for them. Faculty members like Cypress College because they love to teach. The result is personal attention and one-on-one interaction between students and their instructors. Many students say they came to Cypress College for that reason alone.

**Value and Quality** — Ask a Cypress College student if they’re getting a good deal and you’re likely to hear this response: “My friends are paying a fortune for the same education. It’s not only the exceptionally low cost of just $11 per unit, either. Students say they know they’re getting a top-quality education and transfer credits, too.

**A Fun Experience** — You can’t quite call Cypress College a party school. At least not in an official publication. But students say they find lots of opportunity for involvement. The campus has a vibrant arts community and several top-notch athletic programs. Not to mention all the attractions — like Downtown Disney and Knott’s Berry Farm — that are just a stone’s-throw from the campus.

Last semester, the 5% MORE committee developed the slogan of “Go Places” for the campus.

The slogan is commonly used with the phrase: “For nearly a half-million students, Cypress College has been a springboard to their dreams. Come to Cypress College and Go Places!”

So Cal Job Fair, Campus ‘Hire Me’ Workshops Set

The Southern California Community Colleges Job Fair will be held on Saturday, January 26 at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott. The event runs from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

More than 17 full-time faculty positions are available within the District (listed at left). Applicants will be sought at the job fair.

Adjunct faculty seeking full-time positions may also be interested in two “Hire Me” workshops covering tips on the NOCCCD hiring process.

Part I “Perspectives on Hiring: Application, Letter of Interest and Resume Writing” is presented on Thursday, January 31 from 6-8 p.m. in H-131 (this is a revised date and time). It is presented by counselors Kelly Carter and Renay Laguana.

Part II “Perspectives on Hiring: The Interview” is set for Thursday, February 7, from 6-8 p.m. in H-131. It is also presented by Kelly Carter, and features President Margie Lewis, Wayne Freeman, a Vocational/Technical instructor, and Diane Henry, dean of Physical Education.

For information and reservations, call Staff Development at ext. 47324.