Welcome to the Spring 2001 Semester

We’re “Building a college-wide learning community for student success.”

Welcome to the Spring 2001 semester at Cypress College! After a break of several weeks, I hope we are all ready to refocus our energy on helping our students learn and succeed. As we work to achieve our Vision of “Building a college-wide learning community for student success,” may we always remember that we are here for students.

A good reminder of this fundamental truth is contained in the following quotation (unfortunately I do not know the source):

The Student is . . .
• The most important person at our college. Without students, there would be no need for our positions.
• Not a cold enrollment statistic but a flesh and blood human being with feelings and emotions like our own.
• Not someone to be tolerated so that we can do our thing. They are our thing.
• Not dependent on us. Rather, we are dependent on them.
• Not an interruption of our work, but the purpose of it. We are not doing them a favor by serving them. They are doing us a favor by giving us the opportunity to do so.

Today’s students have many choices. Within just a few miles there are other community colleges, four-year institutions, and a variety of private institutions, all of which are eager to enroll students. In addition to these educational choices, the low unemployment rate means that employers are busily recruiting students for jobs.

In this environment it is important that Cypress College stands out as a college that offers high-quality instructional programs and student services, as well as a supportive and welcoming environment. Please join me in doing everything possible to make Cypress the place where students come because they know we will do all we can to help them achieve their goals.

Have a great semester!
— Margie Lewis

— Arthur C. Clark
Author of 2001: A Space Odyssey

Electricity Problems Continue; Conservation is Crucial

The state’s ongoing electrical problems make conservation vital — especially during periods when Cypress College has been asked to reduce its power usage.

The penalties for using electricity during an interruption are astronomical: 100 times our normal rate. We have accumulated more than $150,000 in these additional costs since July 1, and no end to the crisis appears to be near.

Please do everything possible to avoid using electricity during outages so that we can continue to serve our students.
New Cal Grants Available for Transfer Students

The state’s Cal Grant Program has just been expanded to guarantee financial aid to students meeting eligibility requirements. Now is the best time to apply. For those who meet the guidelines and complete a free application before January 30, state officials say there’s a “great” chance that they’ll receive up to $8,000 (for first-time recipients).

Even students who don’t meet all the guidelines may still qualify since competitive Cal Grants are given to 22,500 students in the state each year. All Cal Grant applicants must meet these basic eligibility requirements: Be a California resident; be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-resident; meet U.S. Selective Service requirements; attend a qualifying California postsecondary institution, such as Cypress College; be enrolled in at least 6 units; maintain satisfactory academic progress; have a family income and assets below the established ceilings; not be in default on any student loan; and not owe any federal or state grant refund. For more information, call the Financial Aid Office at ext. 47114.

Multicultural Video Program Set for Spring Semester

The Center for Intercultural Understanding will debut a Multicultural Video Program this semester as a continuation of the Viewing Diversity Dialogue programs that have taken place during the past couple of years.

The program is a response to student suggestions.

Two films have been selected for this semester: America’s Multicultural Heritage and Great Religions of the World. Viewing of the films has been set for February 6 and March 7, respectively, from 6-7 p.m., in H-131. The videos are less then 30 minutes long, and a group discussion slated to follow the showings is scheduled to last a half-hour.

Office 2000 is $30 With Microsoft Campus Agreement

All faculty and staff can purchase a Microsoft software package that includes Office 2000 Professional for just $30, plus tax, shipping and handling, thanks to the Microsoft Campus Agreement negotiated with all California Community Colleges.

Office 2000 Professional is a suite of Microsoft applications which includes Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Outlook, Publisher, Small Business Tools and Internet Explorer 5.0.

In addition to the Office suite, the package also features Frontpage 2000, Windows 98 SE Upgrade and Windows ME Upgrade.

Other package configurations are available. No package is more expensive than $30 ($36 with the tax, shipping and handling figured in).

A programmer’s package features Visual Basic, Visual C++, and other languages.

Also available is the hot-off-the-CD-burner Office 2001 for Mac, which contains Word, Excel and PowerPoint for just $25.

Purchase of the software includes home and work rights. Forms are available in Media Services.

Doorways to Discovery Workshop Series Scheduled

Six workshops have been scheduled this semester as part of the Doorways to Discovery series, which is presented by the Adult Re-entry Program, Career Planning Center, Title III and the Workforce Prep Center.

The workshops are: “Are You Ready to Graduate” on February 6; “How to Succeed in School and Still Have a Life: Time Management Skills” on February 27; “Oh No! Not Another Test! — Become Test-Wise Using Effective Test Taking Strategies and Techniques” on March 14; “Now What did She Say? A Guide to Effective Listening and Note Taking” on March 27; “So Many Books... So Little Time: Effective Text Book Reading — Saving Time While Remembering More” on April 3; and “Self Esteem: I’m Okay, You’re Okay — Aren’t We all Okay?!?” on April 24.

All workshops are presented in Tech Ed 2, Room 204 from 1-2:30 p.m. Presenters vary. A complete listing, with workshop details, is available in the Career Planning Center, or by calling ext. 47120.