Come Discuss Bond Projects, Piazza

Thursday’s “Meet the Pres.” is an opportunity to talk about construction work.

Sessions of “Meet the Pres.” — the ongoing series of “60 Minutes” for open dialog with Dr. Lewis — don’t have an official agenda, so everything is on the table.

Two items certain to head the list of conversation, however, are the recently passed bond measure and the even-more-recent need to repair the piazza.

“Meet the Pres.” is scheduled to be held on Thursday, from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in B-320.

This is the final session of “Meet the Pres.” this semester.

Sponsored by Staff Development and the President’s Office, the “Meet the Pres.” series was designed so all staff and students could share ideas, agreements and disagreements with Dr. Lewis.

Those attending are welcome to drop in, or leave, at any time during the hour.

Drinks and dessert are provided; those attending are welcome to bring their lunch.

Measure X, which voters passed on the March ballot, will provide $62 million for projects at Cypress College.

The bond will provide money for construction of a student center, which will also house student services, a new library, maintenance facility and a child care center.

It will also fund renovation, remodeling, and modernizing of classrooms, laboratories, lecture halls and the theater.

Repair work on the piazza (some funded by the bond, some out of scheduled maintenance) was already scheduled before a portion of railing fell late last month.

That incident created the need for additional work to the upper level of the campus.

Survey Says: Transfers Do as Well at UC as Native Students

Community college students who transfer to a University of California campus do just as well academically as students who begin their education at the same UC school. Those findings are reported in a study released by the University of California in February.

The study was conducted as part of an agreement signed in 1997 by UC President Richard Atkinson and California Community Colleges Chancellor Tom Nussbaum. In the document, the two leaders agreed to increase significantly the number of students that are prepared for and transfer to a UC campus from a state community college.

While reviewing the performance of students following their transfer to the UC system, researchers from the University of California came to the following conclusions about the academic success of community college transfers:

1) Cross-sectional analyses show steady increases in the persistence and graduation rates of California Community College students attending UC.

2) Cross-sectional analyses show comparable academic performance (time-to-degree completion and GPA) between California Community College transfers and students who began their studies as freshmen at a UC campus.

3) When transfer students and UC natives are compared following their attainment of junior standing, the vast majority of students from both groups earn bachelor’s degrees within four years of achieving junior standing.

4) When transfer students and UC natives are compared following their attainment of junior standing, California Community College junior transfers complete 10% fewer degrees than native juniors.

5) There are virtually no differences in the upper-division GPAs of native juniors and junior transfers overall or by disciplinary category.

6) There are virtually no differences in the time it takes native juniors and junior transfers to complete their degrees after attaining junior standing at UC.

7) More native UC students select majors in Engineering/Computer Science and Life Sciences. More transfer juniors select majors in Humanities/Arts and Physical Sciences/Mathematics.
UPS Shipping No Longer Offered On Campus

In an effort to reduce costs and use existing resources wisely, personal shipping via UPS is no longer being offered through the mail room.

Use of the service had created a need for tracking, billing and accounting procedures.

Rather than creating a process — the kind that requires paperwork — it was determined that it was better to leave the shipping business to the many local alternatives: the U.S. Post Office and neighboring companies such as Mail Boxes, Etc.

The decision was also partly based on the tightening budget situation facing the campus because of the state budget crisis.

Slight Shifts in Top Ten Feeder High Schools

Cypress High School sends more students to Cypress College than any other high school according to the latest available data.

Cypress overtook Kennedy High School from the previous reporting period, 1999, when Kennedy sent two more students to our campus.

Rancho Alamitos and Los Alamitos (no relation) joined the top 10 list, while Gahr and Buena Park high schools departed.

Loara High School was the greatest mover, jumping from ninth to fourth and boosting the percentage of their graduates attending Cypress College from 13.3% in 1999 to 19.4% in 2000.

Western stayed put at third, but increased the percentage of its graduates attending Cypress College from 25.4% to 31.4%. Pacifica was another big mover based on percent, going from 16.5% to 21.5%.

Despite falling on the list from eighth to tenth, Savanna moved up from 17.5% of its graduating class attending Cypress College to 18%. Cerritos and Magnolia moved from fourth and seventh to seventh and sixth, respectively.

Unique Exhibit of El Toro Photos Being Created

Cypress College photography students are creating images of the controversial mothballed El Toro Marine Corps Air Station this month for an exhibit that will open on campus on April 25.

The work is a unique look at the idle base. Trustee Molly McClanahan and former trustee-turned-O.C. Supervisor Cynthia Coad helped secure access to the MCAS for Jerry Burchfield and his students.

“Given the current ‘limbo’ status of the base, it seems like an important time to create a photographic archive of this historically unique site,” Burchfield said. “The project ... will have lasting value to the public at large.”

After the formal campus exhibit, the work will be available for exhibition at other locations throughout Orange County. Ultimately, the photographic collection will be donated to the county as part of a historical archive.

Fifteen to 20 students will participate in the project with three faculty members providing guidance. The students will concentrate on photographing the grounds and buildings of the base.

Burchfield says the project won’t be political in nature.

The 13th Annual Juried Student Photography Exhibition at Anaheim Museum will be kicked off with a reception and awards ceremony on Thursday, May 9, from 7-9 p.m.

The exhibit and contest features awards in several categories, including an “open” category, digital photography and commercial work. Rookie of the Year honors are given annually to the best first-year photography student.