Railing-Repair Project Moving Forward

Work hasn't yet begun to allow engineers time to address all safety concerns.

No doubt you’ve noticed that the temporary fences are still up around the piazza railings on campus. It was certainly hoped that the emergency repair would have happened by now.

While everyone has been very patient regarding the inconvenience the fences have caused, now seems like an appropriate time for a progress report on the planning and repair work.

Here is a peek at the problems that have been encountered so far:

A team of structural engineers have been working on this project since March 22, the day after two sections of railing collapsed. There is no quick fix because of the weight of the cement railing (10,000 pounds per section), and the means and methods that would guarantee a secure attachment to the piazza.

The engineers have identified a design that would work — however, it would also present other building code violations. Correcting those problems would present a design that would no longer look like the other section of cement railing.

The cost for the first design has been estimated at approximately $700,000. The design must be approved by the State Department of Architecture and then approved by the State Chancellor’s Office for use of emergency money.

This emergency money is actually the swapping of two electrical projects that have been approved by the State for Cypress College. These electrical projects will now be resubmitted to the state next year for approval.

Because of the design of the retrofit, another team of engineers will be consulted for a second opinion.

The part of the railing that has been removed over Lakeshore Drive will have temporary railing installed so that the temporary chain-link fencing on the ground can be removed. This should happen over the next couple of weeks. Administrators and the Physical Plant crew are thinking of the inconvenience for all of our students and we really want to make the removal of the temporary fencing happen soon — but not at the risk of anyone getting hurt.

We ask that you be patient as we take a little extra time to decide the best course of action for the future safety of students and staff.

Self-Protection Workshop Set for Thursday by Women’s Club

“Learn How to Protect Yourself” — a workshop scheduled by the Isis Club for Women — will be held on Thursday, from 5-7 p.m. in H-131.

Isis kicked off its formation with the “Celebration of Women” on campus in March. In promoting this week’s workshop, the club cites some compelling statistics, which were provided by the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network:

- A woman is raped every two minutes.
- Of every four rapes, one takes place in a public area or garage.
- Sixty-eight percent of rapes occur between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.

The event is co-sponsored by the Social Science Division.

Flex Credit Offered for Tidal Wave II Workshop on Friday

Flex credit — and a couple of free meals, for that matter — are available at the Tidal Wave II workshop titled “Teaching Effectiveness and Student Diversity.”

The workshop will be held this Friday, from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the Fullerton College Faculty Lounge. It is a spirited exploration and discussion of teaching strategies available to enhance future students’ mastery of course material.

For information and to RSVP, call Laurie Barrett at ext. 27788.
Annual Student Art Exhibit Opens on Thursday

A reception and open house will mark the opening of the college’s annual Student Art Exhibit on Thursday, from 6-8 p.m. in the Cypress College Art Gallery.

The exhibit highlights student work created during the 2001-02 academic year. Works in the show range from paintings to jewelry to graphic design to ceramics to photography to computer graphics and more.

Along with the student art, the reception will feature a variety of food and music.

Both the open house and the reception are open to the public and campus community.

Admission is free.

Photography Exhibit a Look at Drake’s Career

To mark the occasion of his upcoming retirement, the Photography Department is exhibiting David Drake’s work in the TE1 Building gallery space.

The show — “The Creative Spirit in Portraits” — remains installed through May 25. It features black-and-white photographs from a series of portraits of artists that he has been working on for many years. In conjunction with the portraits he has included small paintings, drawings and sculptures by some of the artists whose portraits are on display.

Drake has been a professor of photography at Cypress College for 32 years. This is his last semester as a full-time instructor at the college. He is retiring, but will come back in the fall to teach a single class as part of our adjunct staff.

He was department chairperson for many years and played an integral role in the development of the photography program. He is an excellent instructor and well liked by students. He has a special love for the history of photography and portraiture. Many of our staff are his former students.

He is a graduate of Art Center School of Design in Pasadena, worked as a photographer in the aerospace industry for several years and then came to Cypress College as a full-time instructor in 1970.

Students Receive Scholarships from NASA, AGS

Two Cypress College students have been rewarded with prestigious scholarships.

Richard J. Wynder has been selected as the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory Undergraduate Scholar. He will receive two scholarships of $500 over the next two years from JPL in Pasadena.

As part of the honor, he is also encouraged to apply for the space agency’s Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship at either JPL or Caltech.

Inez Lee was honored at the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society Spring Convention with the Ed Walsh Service Award, which includes a $370 scholarship.

Lee is president of the campus AGS chapter. Some 525 students and advisors, representing 61 community colleges, participated in the three-day convention in San Jose.

Job Placement, Tech Prep Set Fair for May 14

The campus Job Placement and Tech Prep offices have scheduled a job fair for May 14, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. around the Pond. The event is expected to draw major employers and local companies. Call ext. 47052 for information.

BRIEFLY

Reminder: the End-of-the-Year BBQ is set for Thursday, from 11:30-1 p.m. on the Pool Deck. RSVP’s were due on May 3, but if you hurry, Staff Development may still be able to accommodate you.

The Classified Appreciation Party Pancake Breakfast is on May 13, from 7:30-9 a.m. in the Theater Lobby. Call Staff Development for information at ext. 47324.

The recent Student Activities blood drive exceeded expectations with 51 units collected. The group had hoped to collect at least 45 units, but was concerned about the target when the location had to be changed at the last minute. Student Activities members passed along their thanks to all participants.

Student Activities is hosting an open house on Tuesday, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The center, which is located on the second floor of Gym 2, has recently been remodeled.

The semester’s last “College Major? I Need To Choose A Major!!?” workshop is set for this Wednesday, from 2:30-4 p.m., in TE2-203. The workshop is designed to introduce students to the process of selecting a college major or occupational field. Participants will be given a brief interest inventory to assist in clarifying a major. For information, call ext. 47120.

For nearly a half-million students, Cypress College has been a springboard to their dreams. Come to Cypress College and Go Places!