Opening Day 2000: Memorable ‘Millionaire’

“Regina” brings humor to Strategic Plan; 3 A’s supplant the 3 R’s as key standards.

Forget the three R’s. At Cypress College, we focus on the A’s: adaptability, accountability and accessibility.

Dr. Lewis keyed on those three concepts during her Opening Day address to the campus.

Adaptability is significant because of the changes happening around us, most notably: students’ demographics, skills, needs, interests, and attitudes; the infrastructure and EIS projects, which will bring an Internet backbone and a new computer system to the campus; staffing patterns; and new teaching strategies, learning communities and short-term courses.

Accountability holds even more importance for us today because the Partnership for Excellence Program is based on the premise and because the Accrediting Commission expects it. Accountability is a key element of the new strategic plan.

Accessibility is one of the core values of community colleges, where we happily accept the “top 100%” of our applicants. It is a Cypress College goal to increase outreach to diverse populations in our service area.

Admissions & Records Processing Grades, Signing Up Students

Dave Wassenaar passed along a “big thank you” to all instructors for getting their grades in on time. The Records department processed 43,774 grades for the spring semester and 2,646 bubble sheets. Akilah Allen, Tish Ball, Regina Ford, and Margie Haas collected, processed, and archived all this information from instructors.

As for this semester, Dave had this important information to share:

- STAR is open for students to drop classes;
- Adding students this week is done only by instructor signature on the add/drop form;
- September 1 is the last day for students to add full-term classes; and
- Summer school grades for students are available August 29 on STAR.
Athletics Learning Community Debuts This Semester

Kim Wise, Karen Watson and Dana Bedard are teaming on the project, which links the curriculum. In the first semester, athletes involved in the ALC are enrolled in English, math and counseling courses, which share topics among their assignments. Topics in the three courses overlap for reinforcement.

The ALC was put together because athletes who are transferring to universities must complete core requirements earlier than other students to meet eligibility and scholarship requirements, Wise said.

$1,000 Coke Scholarship Granted to 2 Students

Two Cypress College students have been awarded scholarships from the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation.

Vernecia Grimes and Monica Verma were notified this summer that they are among 400 recipients nationwide. The two were honored for their academics and record of community service.

Monica is a business student in her third semester here at Cypress. She is currently the president of the Associated Students. She plans to transfer to USC to complete her degree in business management or business administration.

“Throughout high school I always liked to be involved,” she said. “I became involved as soon as I got here. I’ve met a lot of great people.”

On campus, she has been involved in several service activities, including: Red Ribbon Week, the Thanksgiving Fest, Senior Day, blood drives and KinderCaminata.

Vernecia became a Cypress College student in 1998.

“I was trying to find what I really wanted to do,” she said. Just this summer, she enrolled in the Dental Assisting program and she now plans to transfer to Cal State Long Beach.

Vernecia has been the president of the Black Student Union. Off campus, she is in training to be a youth pastor. She works for the City of Anaheim’s Therapeutic Recreation Center, teaching arts and crafts, sports, and independent living skills to people with disabilities.

Monica and Vernecia each received $1,000 to assist in their higher education pursuits.

‘Doorways to Discovery’ Workshop Series Set for Fall

The Doorways to Discovery Workshop series has been set for the semester with six workshop topics presented throughout the fall.

The workshops – presented by the Adult Re-entry Program, the Career Planning Center, Title III, and the Workforce Prep Center – cover a variety of topics.

Here are the dates and topics:

- “Are You Ready to Graduate?” September 6; “Going Back to School at My Age?” on September 28; “How to Succeed in School and Still Have a Life: Time Management Skills,” October 5; “Get Me Out of Here!

Everything You Need to Know to Transfer to a University,” October 19; and “Ups and Downs of Single Parenting: How Do I Make Each Day My Best?!” on November 9.

Each of those workshops is held from 1-2:30 p.m. in Tech Ed 2, Room 204.

The final workshop – “College Major? I Need to Choose a Major?!?!” is scheduled for various times and dates during the semester.

More information about the Doorways to Discovery Workshop series is available by calling Deann Burch at extension 47120.