October 16, 2000 Newsletter from President Margie Lewis

THIS WEEK

16 • Monday
> 9-Week Classes Begin
> Language Arts Scholarship Book Sale, Humanities 2nd Floor, through Thursday.

17 • Tuesday
> "The Magic and the Real in Latin American Literature" lecture, L-216, 6-8 p.m.
> Other Views from the Edge artist’s reception, TE1 Photo Gallery, 6-9 p.m.

19 • Thursday
> Doorways to Discovery transfer workshop, TE2 Room 207-A, 1-2:30 p.m.
> Fahrenheit 2000 opening reception, Fine Arts Gallery, 7-9 p.m.

20 • Friday
> “Rocky Horror Show,” Campus Theater, 8 p.m. and midnight. Also 8 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday.

THEY SAID IT

“To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk.”
– Thomas Alva Edison

Strategic Conversation #3 is Next Tuesday

► ‘Student Success: What’s Our Consumer Report?’ is the Board roundtable topic.

You’re invited to talk with NOCCCD trustees and colleagues at Strategic Conversation #3, which is set for Tuesday, October 24, from 5-7:30 p.m., at Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park. Refreshments will be served from 4:30-5 p.m.

The RSVP deadline is this Tuesday, with forms or phone calls going to Tom Parisi at the School of Continuing Education on our campus. He can be reached at ext. 47038.

Titled “Student Success: What’s Our Consumer Report?” the strategic conversation will focus on how well we are fulfilling our promise to prepare students for further education, the workforce and career advancement. Problems that students confront in achieving academic success and identification of possible solutions will also be a part of the conversation.

The first part of the conversation will feature an overview of some exemplary programs – ones that “clearly demonstrate how the creative use of resources and personnel have promoted student success” – at Cypress, Fullerton and SCE.

The second portion of Strategic Conversation #3 will feature roundtable discussions to give participants an opportunity to identify challenges or barriers to student success. Several general areas of interest and identification of strategies to promote student success are expected to emerge from these discussions.

A strategic conversation is a process intended to encourage communication, interaction and trust among staff, community and the Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to gather information in an informal atmosphere, with the goal of assisting the Board in reaching policy decisions that will best serve students, staff and the community.

The first strategic conversation, in September of 1999, focused on the question “In what ways can technology enhance instruction offered by the North Orange County Community College District?” The result was a focus on exploration of four areas: learning, teaching, administration and student services.

Strategic Conversation #2, held earlier this year, provided a “Town Hall Session” which resulted in the development of eight topics and strategic statements, with a majority focused on “Promoting Student Success.”

Campus Bookstore Becomes ‘E-tailer’ With Online Sales

Forget waiting in line.

Cypress College students can now point-and-click their way to each and every textbook they’ll need, thanks to a joint venture between the campus Bookstore and efollett.com.

At http://www.cypress.bksrt.com, students will find an easy-to-navigate “e-tail” (that’s short for “electronic retail”) site featuring new and used textbooks as well as other course-support materials. Like the Bookstore itself, the Web site accepts Visa and MasterCard.

Unlike the physical Bookstore, students won’t have to wait in line, and they won’t have to leave home (or the office) to get their books, which are shipped to them for a nominal fee.

For safety’s sake, all transactions at the Web site are made via a secure server that protects the privacy of the purchaser’s credit card information. E-mail can be sent to the Bookstore at cypress@bksrt.com. (For a related story, see “Bookstore Inventory” on page 2.)
Strategic Plan for 2000-2004 Sheds ‘Draft’ Status

The Strategic Plan for 2000-2004 has shed the term “draft” after gaining approval from the Budget and Planning Committee and the President’s Administrative Cabinet. Approval came through all shared governance constituencies, and revisions were suggested by a variety of groups, including community members.

The document – which is now in the process of being printed and reproduced – sports updated vision and mission statements, and contains six “directions” for the college to seek in the coming years.

“Building a college-wide learning community for student success” is the new vision statement, which added “student success,” which is the cornerstone of Partnership for Excellence.

The new mission statement reads: “Cypress College is committed to promoting student success and contributing to intercultural understanding and the economic development of the surrounding community. The college offers certificate, degree, vocational, and transfer education, as well as developmental and student services programs, in a student-centered learning environment.”

The directions are:
• **Direction One:** Designing and enhancing classroom instruction to promote student success and certificate, degree, vocational and transfer education;
• **Direction Two:** Fostering excellence in a positive learning environment for student/staff success;
• **Direction Three:** Meeting the challenges of new technology and supporting its implementation, use and staffing;
• **Direction Four:** Empowering college students and staff to cultivate a campus that understands and embraces diversity;
• **Direction Five:** Developing and coordinating new and existing physical, financial, and human resources for greater efficiency and effectiveness; and
• **Direction Six:** Forming and maintaining collaborative relationships within the college and with other educational institutions and the community.

Information will be forthcoming about the formation of subcommittees for each of the above directions. Please consider participating on one of the committees.

Food Services Task Force Considering Proposals

The Food Services Task Force is considering bids from seven vendors, and plans to know by the end of the month if there is a quality proposal to forward to the Board of Trustees for approval.

In addition to reviewing the bids, members of the task force will be visiting locations run by the companies making the proposals.

The bids cover campus food services, the convenience store, vending rights and exclusive beverage contracts.

The RFP for a vendor – or a combination of vendors – to run the food, beverage, vending and convenience store services was developed because of a steadily growing deficit in those areas for the last decade. It is anticipated that these contracts will now generate income for Cypress College, as well as address students’ interests in having certain kinds of food available.

Bookstore Inventory Creates Closure Part of this Week

An inventory required to upgrade the Bookstore’s point of sale computer system will force the store to close Monday through Wednesday.

Because many nine-week courses begin during this time, textbooks for those classes will be sold at the refund window between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sca
crtons, bluebooks and pencils will be available in the Dugout and the Bursar’s Office. After 7 p.m. these materials can be purchased at the switchboard, located in the Security Office.

The timing of the closure is based on the limited availability of technicians from the vendor for the POS upgrade.

Questions and concerns should be directed to David Okawa, Bookstore manager, at ext. 47336.