Happy Holidays; Enjoy Your Vacation

Dr. Lewis wishes everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

One of the things I like best about the holiday season is that, in spite of how busy we are trying to finish the fall semester, we take time to plan various kinds of gatherings throughout the campus. Almost every division or area has an activity, such as a potluck, lunch at a local restaurant, or a white elephant gift exchange, and, of course, last week we had the traditional Holiday Reception hosted by my office. These events give us an opportunity to set aside the immediate tasks that occupy most of our time and simply enjoy one another’s company.

These gatherings are an integral part of our college. By helping us develop and nurture the personal connections that are so important in defining our campus community, they add to the “spirit of place” that makes us more than a collection of buildings.

At this time of year and especially this year, let us treasure this sense of community — among our colleagues and our students.

I wish you peace and joy during the holidays, and may we all share a wonderful 2002!

Grades to be Submitted via WebStar by January 5

The deadline to submit fall 2001 grades is January 5. For the first time in campus history, all grades will be sent in via WebStar — a great convenience since this can be done from campus or from home. WebStar is available for grade submission Monday-Friday, from 7 a.m.-midnight, and Saturday, from 7 a.m.-6 p.m.

Both Netscape and Internet Explorer work with WebStar, though the system is incompatible with IE version 6.0 and higher.

Instructions and a question-and-answer sheet were distributed to faculty and are available in Admissions and Records.

During finals week, the North Computer Lab (SEM-114) will be open Monday through Thursday (times listed at right) and staffed by someone who is able to provide assistance. The Teaching/Learning Center in Media Services will be available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., during finals week and on January 2-4, 2002.

The Staff Development Office (hours listed at right) is also available to assist with grade entry during the first week of January.

For help with records issues, contact either Akilah Allen (aallen@cypress.cc.ca.us or ext. 47433) or Margie Haas (mhaas@cypress.cc.ca.us or ext. 47431).

WebStar questions should be directed to Staff Development at staffdev@cypress.cc.ca.us or ext. 47236.

Help Submitting Grades is Available

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<td>M, 12/17</td>
<td>9-11:30 a.m.</td>
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Bootcamp for Developing Web Sites Set for January

The “Web Site Development Bootcamp” has been set for January 7-10, from 9 a.m.-noon. It will be held in the Teaching/Learning Center in Media Services.

It is ideal for anyone who is thinking about creating a Web site for one or more of their classes.

Sign up for this intensive four-day workshop to plan, create, and post your home page, syllabus, assignments, Web resources, and other information on the Cypress College website.

Learn Web skills in the morning and create in the afternoon.

The bootcamp is limited to 10 instructors by reservation. To enlist, call ext. 47324.

Students Can Still Register for Winter Intersession

It’s not too late to encourage students to sign up for Winter Intersession. Admissions and Records is registering students through December 20. Students can also sign up in January.

Winter Intersession runs January 2-18, with nearly 30 courses being offered. A complete listing is available in the “class schedule” section of the campus Web site and as part of Banner’s WebStar module.

Current students can simply visit the campus Web site and click onto WebStar to add classes. New students should complete an application and return it to Admissions and Records.

Speaking of WebStar, this semester — WebStar’s first — about 35% of students registered online. District Information Services reports that since registration began at the end of last month for spring and winter, a majority of students, just more than 50%, have used the Internet to register for classes.

Book Buyback Begins on Thursday at Bookstore

The Bookstore’s book buyback begins on Thursday and runs through December 21.

Please share this information with students, who may wish to trade their textbooks for some cash as the semester comes to a close.

On Thursday, the hours of operation are 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday buyback hours are 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

For December 17-20, the hours are 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., and for December 21, the hours are 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Please direct any questions to the Bookstore at ext. 47336.

Women’s Soccer Finishes Second in California

The women’s soccer team advanced into last weekend’s state final game, but couldn’t hang on to a 2-0 lead, falling in overtime to Long Beach City College, 3-2.

The loss was the team’s first of the season, which Cypress completed with a 24-1-2 record. The women rallied to defeat American River College 3-2 on Saturday to earn a spot in the championship game.

Last year, the Lady Chargers finished third in the state. The bronze medal followed back-to-back state championships, the first of which was also a national championship. This season was the first as head coach for Dave King, who took over for Ray Haas.

Learning Communities Help Students Succeed

Cypress College offers three learning communities to help students succeed: Freshman Experience, Black Studies and Athletics.

The learning communities concept is designed to provide support to students by linking assignments in cross-discipline courses. Instruction is also combined with tutoring and counseling services.

Learning Communities Coordinator Kimberly Wise says this is a fabulous opportunity for students interested in a focused curriculum. Please refer students to page 83 of the class schedule for more details. Learning communities counselors are Renee Snsensalo-Collins (Black Studies), Dana Bedard (Athletics) and Renay Laguana (Freshman Experience).