Financial Aid Deadline Approaches

March 2 is a critical date for students to have the best opportunity at the funding.

Most of the funds provided by the federal government for student aid come from four major programs:
• Federal Pell Grants
• Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)
• Federal Work-Study
• Federal Stafford Loans

About $28 billion in financial aid comes in the form of grants and low-interest loans. To get their share of this education money, students begin the process by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (commonly known as the FAFSA).

The best opportunity for timely and accurate submission is to go online and submit it electronically to the U.S. Department of Education via http://www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Although applications are accepted through the end of June, students are encouraged to meet the March 2 priority deadline.

The FAFSA is used to determine the key element in any financial aid application: financial need.

It’s not widely known, but there is state financial aid — administered by the California Student Aid Commission.

State aid, for the most part, is reserved for California-resident students with financial need as determined by the information contained on their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

In addition, the well-funded Cal Grant programs require academic qualification as derived from the Student Aid Commission Grade Point Average (GPA) Verification Form.

Both the FAFSA and GPA Verification must be postmarked by March 2 each year. For continuing Cypress College students, GPA verification is automatically electronically submitted by the college.

For the convenience of our students, the Financial Aid Office has computer stations available for FAFSA submission.

The office is located in Tech Ed II Building, Room 209. Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Faculty and staff are encouraged to share this information with students.

Maximum First-Time Accreditation for Sonography Program

Cypress College’s Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program has been awarded its initial accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

The three-year accreditation is the maximum granted for a first-time accreditation.

“The commission recognizes you and your colleagues for your commitment to continuous quality improvement in education, as demonstrated by your participation in program accreditation,” wrote Sondra Flemming, president of the commission, in a letter to Dr. Lewis and the faculty involved in the program.

In addition to the commission, accreditation standards are established by the American College of Cardiology, the American College of Radiology, The American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine and several other medical professional organizations.

@Cypress is published each week. If you would like to have items included, please contact Marc Posner in the Public Information Office at ext. 47006 or mposner@cypresscollege.edu.

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Margie Lewis, President
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@Cypress

I Didn’t Know That!
The Human Services Department in the Social Science Division offers certificate classes at the Social Services Agency in Santa Ana. Although these classes are specially designed for County of Orange employees, they are open to all and can assist students in completing the requirements for a Human Services certificate.

Candidates Forum Set

A candidates forum, set for February 25 will feature several people seeking state Assembly and Senate seats — including current state Assemblyman John Campbell.

It will be held in H-131, from 2-5 p.m., and is sponsored by the Associated Students.
Cypress College Hosts  
2004 Primary Election Candidates Forum

As citizens in a democracy, one of our most basic responsibilities is to exercise our right to vote. As the vehicle for carrying a large portion of our citizens into adulthood, it is a basic responsibility of our higher education institutions to encourage and facilitate widespread participation in the electoral process. The 26th Amendment to the U.S. constitution ratified in 1971, granted 18-year-olds the right to vote. The voting rate for this group reached an all time low in 1998 when only 17 percent of college-age voters cast ballots.

To address the ongoing apathy among young voters, the Associated Students of Cypress College in cooperation with faculty members from the Language Arts and Social Science Division are pleased to announce we will be holding the 2004 Primary Election Candidates Forum. This event will be held February 25, 2004 from 2:45-5:00 pm in Humanities Lecture Hall 131. We have invited candidates running in the Senate and Assembly contests. This bipartisan activity will present an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to address the candidates directly. To increase student participation in this event, we respectfully request your cooperation. Please announce the event to you students or possibly incorporate the event into your course content. We hold a very important opportunity to bring the campus community and the candidates for office together to examine and discuss the issues that will shape our state in the years to come. If you have any questions feel free to contact: Karen Johnson extension 47167 or Elsa Garcia extension 48116.

We thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

With great appreciation,

Karen Johnson  
Student Trustee NOCCCD

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senate Candidate Confirmation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. John Campbell</td>
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<td>2. Joe Snyder</td>
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<td>3. Timothy Lee Johnson</td>
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<th>Assembly Candidate Confirmation</th>
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<td>1. Norm Westwell</td>
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<td>3. Ruben Ross</td>
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<td>4. Bea Foster</td>
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<td>5. Ross W. Johnson</td>
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Tentative Confirmation:  
Claudia Alvarez: Democratic | District 69

Confirmations as of 2/28/04
You are invited to participate in the new 2004 Edition of Cypress College Leadership Enhancement And Development Series.

The series starts next Friday, February 27 with Dr. Margie Lewis as the presenter.

Because this is a new workshop series, those of you who earned professional growth and development credit or equivalent unit credit toward advancement on the pay scale last year can earn credit for this year’s series. Note that we have added new sessions on conflict management and conflict resolution, as recommended by last year’s participants.

All sessions will begin at 12 noon and end at 1:30 p.m., except on March 26 and April 16, which are 2-hour seminars.

We will meet in the Food for Thought Café (formerly Culinary Arts Dining Room).

Please bring a brown bag lunch and drink.

Please call ext. 47324 to make a reservation or send a return e-mail to staffdev@cypresscollege.edu. We want to have enough packets for everyone.
**Cypress College**  
**Leadership Enhancement And Development Series:**  
**CC LEADS 2004**

All sessions will begin at 12 noon and end at 1:30 p.m.,  
except on March 26 and April 16, which are 2-hour seminars.  
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 27, 2004</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Leadership</strong></td>
<td>Dr. Margie Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 12, 2004</td>
<td><strong>Building Relationships</strong></td>
<td>Virgil Adams, Social Science</td>
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<td>March 26, 2004</td>
<td><strong>Conflict Management &amp; Emotional Intelligence</strong></td>
<td>Virgil Adams, Social Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16, 2004</td>
<td><strong>Conflict Resolution</strong></td>
<td>Virgil Adams, Social Science</td>
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<td>April 30, 2004</td>
<td><strong>Campus Organizations—An Alphabet Soup:</strong></td>
<td>Representatives from AS, AFU, AS, CSEA, DMA, and UF</td>
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<td>May 14, 2003</td>
<td><strong>Campus Leadership &amp; Shared Governance:</strong></td>
<td>Panel of experienced campus leaders</td>
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REWARDS:

**Full-time faculty** who attend outside their contract hours may earn 1/2 equivalent unit credit toward advancement on the pay scale for every 10 hours of workshop attendance.

**Classified staff** who attend outside their contract hours can earn 1/2 unit professional growth and development unit credit for every 9 hours of workshop attendance.

**Part-time faculty** who complete the workshop series will earn a certificate of completion.
# FEBRUARY

Black History Awareness

at Cypress College

## 2004

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
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- **Theme:** *“Overcoming Obstacles, Striving for Success”*
BLACK HISTORY MONTH
“OVERCOMING OBSTACLES, STRIVING FOR SUCCESS”

BLACK FILM FESTIVAL: All films will be shown in Humanities Building Room 108 from 3-6 p.m. as a part of the Black Studies Learning Community. Join us!

• Carmen Jones: This film is a classic musical with a murderous twist that features phenomenal stars during the 1930’s. Showing on Thursday, February 19th.
• Panther: This film is a historical overview of the beginning and end of the Panther party and their involvement in the Civil Rights Movement. Showing on Tuesday, February 24th.
• School Daze: This film, set on a college campus, explores many controversial racial issues within the black community. Showing on Thursday, February 26th.

BLACK STUDENT UNION “MIXER”: Don’t miss out on an opportunity to mingle with the Black Student Union in the Culinary Arts Dining Room from 5-8 p.m. The BSU has invited other Afrocentric clubs from neighboring institutions, representatives from the business community, and you!! There will be a few speakers throughout the evening, and refreshments will be served.

Dr. THOMAS PARHAM will be here to speak on Wednesday, February 25th in room Library, 216. Dr. Parham is a fabulous speaker and is the Vice President of Counseling at University of California at Irvine. Dr. Parham brings a lot of experience and enthusiasm to share with the students and faculty at Cypress College.

An AFRICAN FASHION SHOW will occur on Friday, February 27th in Fine Arts 304. Come support this event sponsored by the Black Student Union and you will enjoy insight into fashion and culture. Tickets are $5.00; see Kim Wise in Humanities 223, Fola Odebunmi in Humanities 271, or a member of the BSU.
Crane Arrives

The crane that will perform pile driving arrived on campus late Thursday afternoon. By Friday afternoon it was set up and casting its shadow onto the pond.
All That Noise

At some point in the coming week — weather permitting — this piece of equipment will begin making a lot of noise. Four indicator piles will be driven as construction begins on the Library/Learning Resource Center.