College Awarded Federal Grant to Expand Number of Nursing Grads

Nursing Program is the recipient of a $1.67-million federal grant to help address the nursing shortage.

Cypress College's Nursing Program is the recipient of a $1.67-million federal grant that will help address the severe nursing shortage. The college will work in partnership with California State University, Long Beach and a number of community partners to find students and help them progress through the nursing career ladder from certified nursing assistant through registered nurse.

The Learning Communities for Nursing and Health Care project is a community job–training grant funded through the United States Department of Labor. Cypress College learned of the award in the past week through the office of Congressman Ed Royce (R-40).

Roughly $125 million in grants is being awarded to 70 community colleges in 40 states as part of the Community–Based Job Training Initiative announced by President Bush during the 2004 State of the Union address. The grants are designed to help workers and job seekers obtain the necessary skills to keep up with a dynamic labor market. Some 388 grant applications were submitted.

"It's a very exciting opportunity," said Andrea Hannon, Cypress College's dean of Health Science, which includes the college's Nursing Program. "There is a tremendous shortage of nurses such that we are truly at a health–care crisis level. With this grant, we will be able to help our community partners in health care who are desperate for qualified staff."

Hannon also noted that one important aspect of the grant – which totals $1,663,164 – is that it provides for additional teaching resources so that current nursing students will not be displaced by the new students.

As part of the grant, Cal State Long Beach will identify people who are interested and qualified to become nurses. As a group, those students will take general education classes at Cypress College that are necessary to meet the coursework requirements for a nursing degree. The grant will fund additional faculty and support to allow the new students to complete the classes as a single group, with common classes – a practice commonly referred to as a learning community. The coursework consists of English, Anatomy, Physiology, Microbiology and Health Care Concepts in Nursing.

Additionally, Cypress College will provide advanced coursework so that approximately 30 people currently working as licensed vocational nurses can attain the necessary skills and education to progress in their careers to become registered nurses. Again, the grant funding will guarantee that no students currently enrolled in Cypress College's LVN-to-RN program are displaced.

In addition to Cal State Long Beach, the grant forms a partnership with the Santa Ana One-Stop Center, the Long Beach Youth Opportunities Center, Kaiser Permanente, Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center, Bristol Park Medical Group, Long Beach Veteran's Administration Hospital, and Anaheim Memorial Hospital. Those interested in participation as a student should contact Dr. Paul Bott at Cal State Long Beach's Center for Career Studies at (562) 985-4698.

Evergreen Wreath Fundraiser Through Nov. 2

Don’t miss your chance to order fresh evergreen wreaths and decorations for your home. The deadline to submit orders for the Staff Development’s Holiday fundraiser is Wednesday, November 2.

Several of the items available can be shipped directly to the homes of your friends and family. Greens will be delivered the week after Thanksgiving.

To see products or place an order, please contact the representative(s) in your division or call ext. 47324.
‘Using Brain Research’ Seminar Rescheduled for November, January

The Title V Seminar, “Using Brain Research to Energize and Enhance Instruction & Student Services,” has been postponed.

The workshop, to be presented by Janet N. Zadina, Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral Fellow at Tulane University School of Medicine, will offer insight on the latest research on what educators should know about the brain and learning.

Part I of the Brain Research Workshop is now scheduled for November 4. Part II is scheduled during the optional flex days, Wednesday, January 11, 2006. Arrangements for facilities are still in progress; more information will be made available as the dates near.

Reservations are being accepted for the November 4 workshop. To make reservations, please send an e-mail to staffdev@cypresscollege.edu. Lunch and conference materials will be provided. Please indicate if you would like a vegetarian lunch.

Production of ‘Into the Woods’ Now in Final Week of Performances

The Theater and Dance Department is in the final week of performances for Into the Woods. The department is also sponsoring a show-related fundraiser to benefit its High School Scholarship program. An opportunity drawing, inspired by characters from Into the Woods, will be held following the last performance. The “objects of opportunity” are themed gift baskets, named and designed for specific characters from the play. The baskets will be on display in the Theater lobby through the final night of performances. One winner per basket will be drawn from all entries deposited into the box for each basket.

For those interested in participating in this opportunity drawing, tickets may be purchased on the nights of performances, or you may contact Mary Dowell in the Theater and Dance Department office at ext. 47201 or Dan Stephens at ext. 47035. Tickets are $1 each or 15 for $10.

Proceeds from the fundraiser will directly benefit the High School Scholarship program. This weekend’s show schedule is as follows: Friday, October 28 and Saturday, October 29 at 8 p.m.; and Sunday, October 30 at 4 p.m.

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

Please join us next Wednesday, November 2\textsuperscript{nd} to observe MARS!

It won’t be this close again for decades.

We will set up telescopes on the east side of the SEM building and will start observing right after sunset and after twilight.

Come and see if you can detect the polar regions of MARS or perhaps the uplands.

Please feel free to bring friends and family.

Remember that heavy clouds and rain always cancels.

Michael Frey
x-48966

Visit Mars

Mars Is Coming! Check your calendars and plan on coming out to see Mars at the beginning of November. We will have telescopes set up outside the eastern side of the SEM building to allow anyone who wants to see Mars that chance. Every two years, Mars gets close to Earth for an event called an opposition. This year it happens on November 6\textsuperscript{th}. This is when the Sun, Earth, and Mars are lined up allowing for the closest approach of Mars and Earth. This allows us to have the best views of Mars. Not every opposition allows the same views. Since both the Earth and Mars move along elliptical orbits, some oppositions provides closer approaches than others. In August 2003, Mars was extraordinarily close, in fact, as close as it has been for 70,000 years! This year, it won’t be that close, but it will as good as it gets until 2018. This opposition is better in one sense than the 2003 one since Mars will get higher above the southern horizon. This will get Mars above a lot of the dust and haze which is thicker towards the horizon. We will set up telescopes on November 2, a Wednesday. We will be out there all evening. Drop by and take a look at Mars and meet your Astronomy faculty!
Construction Photo Gallery

Did you see the L/LRC? It almost looks complete (not as complete as it will on the cover of the class schedule, which is due out shortly, but that’s a matter for Photoshop). And, how about the pond? It’s being transformed into the postcard-like spot we all knew and loved. This week, we provide a round up of all the construction projects, including a look inside TE3 and the Student Activities Center. Click anywhere on this page to see the latest from the college’s L/LRC construction zone.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT:
Scott Himelstein (916) 323-0611
Ron Owens (916) 327-5356

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES WIN MILLIONS IN FEDERAL JOB TRAINING GRANTS

SACRAMENTO – California Secretary of Education Alan Bersin announced today that the U.S. Department of Labor has awarded more than $4.3 million to three California community colleges competing with schools from across the nation for President George W. Bush’s Community-Based Job Training Grants.

The grant program, administered by the US Department of Labor, will award federal grants to fund job training education in schools in 40 states. Cypress College will receive $1.6 million, Santa Monica College will be awarded more than $1.3 million and Solano Community College will see $1.2 million in grant funds. Santa Monica College will use the funds to develop an innovative online program for nursing students to increase its capacity and allow access to more students.

“These grants are a wonderful example of the kind of investment in vocational education that California’s students deserve. For too long, our education system has neglected these important programs. Thanks to Governor Schwarzenegger and grants like these, students who want to start their careers off well-prepared are getting the education and the training they are entitled to,” said Secretary Bersin.

Governor Schwarzenegger, who has promoted vocational, nursing and Career Technical Education in schools with increased funding and attention, hailed the higher education job training grants. “California must expand its skilled and experienced workforce and students
Governor Schwarzenegger recently gave a major boost to vocational education funding when he signed Senate Bill 70, creating a $20 million increase for Career Technical Education programs in California’s K-12 schools and community colleges. His 2005-06 budget also increased community college funding by nearly 10 percent for a total of more than $8 billion.

“California’s community colleges are essential to so many students in providing them the experience and the skills to successfully join the workforce and these federal grants are exactly the kind of support they need. In addition to assisting nursing students at Santa Monica College, these funds will help Cypress and Solano Community College students receive training so they can begin great careers in the healthcare and business industries,” said Community College System Chancellor Marshall “Mark” Drummond.