Student Honored with Exclusive Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship

Diane Garcia, editor of the Cypress Chronicle newspaper, is one of 38 in the nation to earn the award. USC is now in her future.

As one of six children, Diane Garcia knew little about college, only that her family couldn’t afford it. She hadn’t heard of financial aid. She educated herself about that when her daughter neared college age and ultimately attended USC on a full scholarship.

Now, Garcia herself is headed to the University of Southern California — with much of her education paid for — after learning on Wednesday that she is one of 38 in the nation to be honored as a Jack Kent Cooke Scholar.

The amount and duration of the scholarships will vary by student based on the cost of attendance or grants received, but the awards can total up to $30,000 per year for each student for up to three years.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation provides one of the largest and most competitive scholarships available to undergraduates in America. "I needed to sit down when I heard the incredible news that I was chosen for the scholarship. I was so humbled," Garcia said. "I am astounded by my personal growth in journalism from just one semester. In such a short time, I became a copy editor, print and broadcast reporter and video camera person."

Each of the 38 recipients is currently attending or have recently completed course work at two-year colleges. The awards provide scholarships for them to complete their bachelor’s degrees. The recipients come from 17 states and eight foreign nations and were selected from among 676 nominees from approximately 438 community or two-year colleges nationwide.

During the three decades Garcia worked as a secretary and executive assistant, she often had story ideas. Some stemmed from her time as a volunteer in her daughter’s school, where one semester she invented mnemonic fairy tales to help the students do better in geography. She was thrilled when everyone got an A that year.

One of her instructors described her as an outstanding student. "She has taken full advantage of every class to learn as much as she could," said Les Doak, Chairman of the Geographic Information Systems Program at Cypress College. "She contributed significantly to the learning experience and understanding of other students. Diane has been an exemplar for analysis, working to learn new concepts and techniques, and the excitement of learning. Diane has been an inspiration.

First-Ever Latino Night Set for Wednesday

The college’s inaugural “una noche de informacion colegial para las familias Latinas” — or Latino Family Outreach Night — will be held on Wednesday, May 3. It will take place in the Food for Thought dining room, from 6-8 p.m. The event was created as a more effective method of providing information about college to families of potential students who speak Spanish as a primary language. A Spanish-language session was previously available as part of Parent Night, which was held this past Tuesday.

Summer 4/10 Approved by District, Classified

Those who work summers will spend four, 10-hour days on campus again this year, following an agreement reached between the District and the local Classified School Employees Association. The shortened work week will begin on Monday, June 5. Normal hours of operation will resume on Monday, August 11. Because of the need for coverage based on the specifics of their jobs, not all employees in Maintenance and Operations and Campus Safety will participate.
Izadi, Martinez Each Selected as One of 10 @ONE Scholars

Ben Izadi, of the Business/CIS Division, and Randy Martinez, from the Social Science Division, learned this week that their applications as @ONE Scholars had been approved. Overall, 10 applications were selected statewide and Cypress College was the only campus with more than a single application accepted.

Izadi’s research is titled “Effect of Virtual Machine Technology in Enhancing Student Learning Outcomes” while Martinez will study “Comparisons of Self-Efficacy Components and Performance Outcomes of Students in Traditional and Online Psychology Courses.”

Both were informed of their selection by John Whitmer, the @ONE Project Director.

“There were many outstanding applications, and yours was evaluated as providing high promise based on your research question, purpose, impact, and methodology and use of technology,” Whitmer said in the notification. “We believe that your research has the potential to significantly improve the performance of California Community Colleges and serve students better.”

The @ONE Scholar program supports research on using technology to improve student learning in California Community Colleges. Faculty members conduct research in their own classrooms, using a research approach emphasizing the scholarship of teaching and learning as it relates to technology. The @ONE Scholar program uses the Classroom Action Research (CAR) methodology.

The program provides a high level of support, but requires “a significant time investment from” the instructors, the faculty members were told. Research must be conducted during the fall term, and the resulting monograph written during the spring term.

Attendance and participation is required at each of the following events: The Summer @ONE Scholars’ Retreat this June; regularly scheduled virtual meetings throughout the project timeline; the Winter @ONE Scholars’ Retreat next January; and the graduation event in April, 2007, where Izadi and Martinez will share their final monographs with the scholar cohort.

The eight other projects came from submissions by individual faculty members at Mt. San Jacinto College, Santiago Canyon College, Canada College, Southwestern College, San Diego Mesa College, College of the Desert, Diablo Valley College, and Las Positas College.

Additional fencing is going up at the front of the campus in preparation for the start of the Student Center construction. Because of the web of underground utilities, the construction zone will extend out in front of the Cypress College Complex (formerly the Library/Administration Building) and adjacent to the front of the Business Building on the south side and the former Culinary Arts area and Campus Theater on the north side. The impact on the back side of the Complex includes fencing that will extend to the edge of the pond.

The initial setup work includes the moving of the sidewalk between Tech Ed 1 and the construction area. That work, among other tasks, will cause intermittent closures of the pathway along the front of TE1 and the Business Building.

With new waterproofing now in place on the piazza area adjacent to the Fine Arts and Theater buildings, renovation inside the Food for Thought dining room can be considered complete, and the facility is able to reopen just in time for a bevy of year-end events.

Academic Computing and Media Services will be relocating to the space formerly occupied by DSPS in the Science/Engineering/Math Building. The move facilitates renovation of TE1 this summer.

Continued from page 1: to others in her classes, and clearly is an inspiration to every one of our students who aspire to be the best they can.”

Once in college herself, her passion for writing got ignited in an unexpected way. Interning with the Farm Service Agency in Spokane, she did the required tasks and then tackled a discretionary job, interviewing 30 people for the agency’s annual report, writing the report and weaving their quotes throughout. The supervisor was astounded at the caliber of the report.

That fall, she enrolled in two journalism courses, “expecting to experience more joy. I was not disappointed.” Ten-hour days of classes and working on the student newspaper wasn’t work, it was bliss. She became editor for the spring 2006 semester.

Today, she is intent on using journalism to improve reporting about issues affecting Latinos but says, “I am also sensitive to the needs of other cultures. America is a multicultural mosaic; the media should reflect that diversity.”

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation was established in 2000 by the estate of Jack Kent Cooke to help young people of exceptional promise reach their full potential through education. Additional information is available at http://www.jack-kentcookefoundation.org.
The Staff Development Committee invites you to attend the

End of the Year Luau

Tuesday, May 16, 2006
11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
In the Theater Lobby
(Program will begin at 12:15 p.m.)

We’ll be celebrating this year’s Cypress College retirees and employees who will receive service pins.

This year’s honored guests for 25 years of dedicated service are John Alexander, George Beyer, Elmo Castro, Mary Kay Davis, Betty, Disney, Marilyn Glattly, and Mark Majarian

The $8.00 charge for the luau lunch includes one free opportunity ticket for the Staff Development Basket Fundraiser.

Opportunity Drawing Gift Baskets

• You can purchase additional opportunity tickets for the wonderful theme baskets designed and donated by members of our college community.

• Opportunity Ticket sales will begin at 8:00 a.m. on the day of the luau; you do not need to be present to win.

• The price of one ticket is $1.00 or 15 tickets for $10.00 so don’t forget to bring your wallet. Checks made out to Cypress College will also be accepted.

Clip and return the bottom portion of this form to the Staff Development Office before May 3, 2006.

Yes, I will attend. Here is $8.00 for my luau lunch and one free opportunity ticket.

Name_____________________________________
Div/Dept ________________________________

Checks should be made payable to Cypress College.
The Staff Development Committee is inviting interested divisions, groups, or clubs to develop and donate a basket of selected items in a theme of your choice to be part of an opportunity drawing at our End-of-the-Year Luau. All proceeds will be used for Staff Development events.

A ticket for the opportunity drawing will be included with the price of your luau lunch and additional tickets will be available for sale on the day of the event. At the luau, the opportunity tickets can be placed in a container next to the basket of choice and at 1:00 p.m. the drawings will begin.

Save the date:
Baskets will be given away during the opportunity drawing at the End-of-the-Year Luau on May 16, 2006 at 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Theater Lobby.

To donate a basket, email edouglas@cypresscollege.edu or contact Elizabeth at ext. 47324.
Please provide the following information to Elizabeth before Wednesday, May 10, 2006:

- the group represented
- the theme of your basket
- the name of the contact person for your group
- the contact phone number and/or e-mail address
Cypress College student Diane Garcia was selected as one of 38 college students in the nation as a recipient of the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Foundation scholarship. She is seen here with Cypress College President Dr. Margie Lewis (left) in front of the college’s Hall of Fame shortly after being told of the honor. Additional biographical can be found on page 1 of this edition.
The Library/Learning Resource Center was dedicated in a ceremony held on Friday, April 28, 2006. To mark the event, @Cypress has three galleries for your enjoyment: 1) A photographic review of the event; 2) An electronic scrapbook, featuring the best photographs from @Cypress of the building’s construction — from groundbreaking through the January 30 opening; and 3) A mini-movie with those photographs set to music. Click on the individual galleries to view them.