



El Camino College COMPTON CENTER



PROVOST NEWS

DR. LAWRENCE M. COX

NOVEMBER 2008

Message from the Provost

Please join me in extending sincere appreciation to Eugene Benson and his students for their efforts in returning the arrow to our Tartar's bow. Mr. Benson and his students created a new arrow to replace the missing arrow from the bow. The Tartar, located in the quad near the Student Lounge had been missing his arrow for a while. We all appreciate the time, hard work and efforts of Mr. Benson and his students. The return of the arrow in the bow of our Tartar is another symbol of our pride in our campus. Next time you see Mr. Benson and his students, be sure to give them a thumbs up for their efforts!

On another note, I wish to remind all students, faculty and staff of my "open meeting" time every Thursday, from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. You may stop by to discuss any issue during that time. Please check with Carla Mitchell if you plan to visit on a Thursday evening, just to be sure an off-campus obligation has not resulted in postponing my open meeting for that week. I look forward to seeing many of you!

Accreditation Update

The Accrediting Commission for Community Junior Colleges (ACCJC) team visited El Camino College and Compton College for an open meeting regarding ECC's regularly scheduled accreditation. An open meeting was held at both the Compton and Torrance campuses on October 8. Approximately 80 faculty members, staff, administrators and students attended. Comments from the audience and the accrediting team members were positive.

An exit briefing took place on October 9 on the El Camino College campus and was telecast to the Compton Center. The visiting team commended El Camino College and Compton Center for maintaining an open dialogue between faculty, staff and administration. Preliminary recommendations for Compton Center included implementation of a strategic planning process and faculty evaluations. Uniform access to library services for all students at both campuses was also recommended.

The ACCJC will act on the team report in January, and President Fallo will receive a letter from them later that month. The self-study is available on the Compton Center web site. Printed copies and CDs are also available in each manager's office and in the library.

Student Survey – The Results!

The results of our Student Survey administered this past spring provides valuable information about our students, including their involvement on campus, aspects of their lives that affect academic success, and their overall satisfaction with campus services. Questions focused specifically on how much students are involved on

campus, as extensive research indicates that greater student engagement both in and out of the classroom leads to greater academic success, persistence and goal fulfillment. By learning more about our students, we are able to better serve our current and future students. The following is a selected profile of our students based on this survey. Percentages quoted have a $\pm 5.4\%$ margin of error.

For 36% of Compton Center students, English is not their first language. This percentage is much higher than at other Hispanic-serving institutions (33%) or other colleges participating in the survey (13%). The survey revealed that 46% of our students speak another language at home at least part of the time; and 23% speak some or only Spanish in the home. As compared to Compton students, nearly 43% of Californians and fewer than 20% of U.S. residents speak a language other than English at home.

In general, first-generation college students are less likely to complete their educational goals than students who have at least one parent with a college degree. Of all Compton students responding about parental education, 57% indicate that neither parent has any college experience.

At Compton Center, 48% work 21 or more hours per week, compared to 57% of students at all colleges participating in this survey. Similarly, 56% of Compton students rely on their own income or savings as the primary way to finance their education.

One third of full-time and 56% of our part-time students work more than 20 hours per week. This may partly explain why 36% of full-time and 47% of part-time students spend fewer than 6 hours per week preparing for class.

Nearly one third of our student body spends at least 21 hours per week caring for dependents; 26% percent have substantial family commitments (more than 30 hours per week).

Thirty-four percent of our students spend at least 6 hours per week commuting to class.

Survey results with summary reports and item tallies for each question are available on the Institutional Research Web page (<http://www.elcamino.edu/administration/ir>, click on "Surveys" at the left).

Board of Trustees Meeting

The next meeting of the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Compton Center. Closed session begins at 4:00 p.m. for anyone wishing to address the Board on closed session agenda items. The Board Agenda is posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting on district.compton.edu and www.compton.edu.

FCMAT Visit Postponed

The FCMAT team site visit that was scheduled for November 2-5 has been postponed. At our request, FCMAT has agreed to wait until after El Camino College receives the accreditation report before they do the next site visit.

A Tale of Two Workshops

Interactive workshops were presented to faculty on October 17 and October 31 for the purpose of sharing ideas on research-based effective instructional strategies to implement in the classroom. They are part of the Phase II Faculty Development Project.

Dr. Susan Johnston, professor of teacher education in the college of education at California State University, Dominguez Hills, presented the symposiums.

Dr. Johnston received the Distinguished Teaching Award in 1989 and the campus Outstanding Professor Award in May 2002. She was recently appointed as the Faculty Associate for Mentoring in the campus Center for Teaching and Learning.

The first session was entitled "Creating a Classroom Climate to Support Student Learning." The second session was on the topic of "Planning Instruction to Ensure Active Learning and Student Success."

Evaluations of tenured faculty are underway, with the teams including faculty from both ECC and CEC. Individual Faculty Development Plans for all full-time faculty are being developed as well.

Focus on Student Success

Hand in hand are plans for professional development in basic skills and student success. The state of California's Basic Skills Initiative offers opportunities for teacher training in best practices to achieve successful learners. Currently, faculty and staff are being surveyed to assess the needs.

The tutoring that is now taking place in English classes is being provided by the department. The intention is to work with the department to create an English academy, a concentrated learning program for students.

For spring 2009, plans are being developed to hire tutors for supplemental instruction in and out of the classroom. The tutors will include students who have successfully completed higher level classes.

A math academy, which is a three-week intensive program, is being planned for summer 2009, upon completion, students will retake the placement test to determine if they are able to move forward to a higher level math class.

Dr. Jose Villalobos, a full-time math instructor says: "When I started teaching math, I realized the need for more understanding of the problems students have in basic skill areas. Without understanding basics, a student cannot move forward. These problems can be fixed." Dr. Villalobos received his associate degree from Compton, earned bachelor's and master's degrees from California State University Long Beach, and his doctorate in Stochastic Mathematics from the University of Southern California.

Our Nursing Department is in Excellent Health

Wanda Morris, acting dean of Health and Human Services and interim assistant director of the El Camino College Compton Center Nursing Program, takes great pride in the RN program and the increasing number of students passing the National Nursing Exam (NCLEX). She says: "The new simulation lab with mannequins of an infant, a five year old child, an adult and a birthing mannequin will give all of our students greater experience and the confidence they need for working in the field."

A nursing student, John Hatfield, agrees: "The simulation lab is an excellent way for us to gain hands on experience that just isn't possible from simply reading our text. We have numerous computers that are readily available for the nursing student. These kinds of tools make us more efficient as nurses."

Congratulations to our Nursing department for being awarded a \$240,000 grant over a two-year period from the Los Angeles County Health Services Tutoring/Mentoring Program. The funding will provide personalized academic and clinical support for nursing students. The program is designed to improve study skills and enhance the overall learning process. Each academic course will be supported and tutorials provided. The goal of the program is to prepare students for the NCLEX and the ability to seek employment in county health facilities.

Many thanks to faculty and staff who joined with the nursing department by providing generous donations to establish a scholarship fund for students to cover the \$52 fee for the Live Scan required when applying for CNA certification. Previous state legislation requires the host campus to pay these fees.

New Pilot Program for Aerospace Industry Training

The Career and Technical Education department began a new pilot program for aerospace fastener manufacturing training on November 5. There was a rapid response by students eager to enroll in the program. A winter session will be offered as well. The specialized training and education to meet the specific needs of the fastener industry is provided by the Centers for Applied Competitive Technologies (CACT).

The demand for well-trained individuals in the aerospace fastener industry is increasing, with an estimated 200-400 workers needed each year for the next five years. In addition--to aerospace, fastener manufacturing--the mechanical joining of two or more objects, including bolts and rivets; is used in transportation, defense and construction industries.

The program at Compton Center includes 320 training hours for 8 weeks with classroom instruction five days per week, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. This pilot program will provide students the opportunity to work with the metal forming machines that shape the finished pieces in the fastener manufacturing process. Upon successful completion of the coursework, students can qualify for a paid internship and job placement.

For information about the program, call Alicia Zambrano at 310-900-1600, ext. 2779.

Got Tools?

The Nissan Foundation provides tool kits for El Camino College Women in Industry (WIT) students who are taking classes in automotive technology, computer electronics and hardware, machine tool technology, manufacturing technology and welding. To qualify, the students must have a 2.0 GPA or higher, have completed 9 or more units, and be enrolled in career and technical education classes in fall 2008.

Congratulations to four Compton Center students selected to receive tool kits. La Tonya Carter and Alece Grant, who are sisters, are in welding classes; and Lillie Miles and Ever Porter are in automotive technology classes. Having their own tools brings each of these women a step closer to employment and reaching their career goals.

Earthquake Safety—The Great ShakeOut

On November 13 at 10 a.m., all El Camino College campuses and centers participated in the “Great Southern California ShakeOut.” Every student, faculty and staff member did the “Drop, Cover, and Hold On,” followed by an orderly evacuation of buildings to their primary assembly areas. For detailed information about the state’s “ShakeOut” events, go to www.ShakeOut.org.

Lt. Ramund Box, commanding campus police officer, says: “This drill provided a training opportunity for us to practice campuswide safety procedures in the event of a real emergency.”

In an emergency remember these important safety tips:

If you are inside:

DROP to the ground

Take COVER by getting under a sturdy desk or table, and HOLD ON to it until the shaking stops.

If there isn’t a table or desk near you, cover your face and head with your arms and crouch in an inside corner of the building. Do not try to run to another room just to get under a table.

If you are outside, get into the open, away from buildings, power lines and trees.

What NOT to do:

DO NOT get in a doorway! In modern houses and buildings, doorways are not safe and they do not protect you from flying or falling objects. Get under a table instead.

DO NOT run outside! Trying to run during an earthquake is dangerous, as the ground is moving and you can easily fall or be injured by debris or glass. Running outside is especially dangerous, as glass, bricks, or other building components may be falling. You are much safer to stay inside and get under a table.

Campus Police Update and Safety Tips

During this busy time of year, everyone is reminded to take extra care when it comes to safety at Compton Center or anywhere in our communities.

Tips to Remember:

- Have keys in hand before walking to your car.
- Always be aware of your surroundings— remember the use of music listening devices and cell phones may distract you.
- Don’t walk alone – use the buddy system.
- Night students and faculty are encouraged to park in the same general area as other faculty or students with night classes in their building; this provides the opportunity for a group of students and faculty to walk to their cars after dark.
- Immediately report any suspicious activity to campus police.
- Be alert!
- Be prepared!

Four student cadets are on our campus to augment our campus police officers. They will escort students to and from classes, provide courtesy shuttle service, enforce parking, and serve as additional eyes and ears for campus safety.

If you are interested in becoming a cadet, applications are available in V 72. For information about the cadet program and campus safety, contact Lt. Box at 310-900-1600, ext. 2793.

Campus Holidays in November

The Compton Center campus is closed Thursday to Sunday, November 27-30, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

First Annual ESL Luncheon

A luncheon is scheduled for November 18, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the faculty lounge to offer networking opportunities with ESL faculty and community partners, to highlight Compton Center's ESL program and showcase faculty, and to discuss ways to support efforts to support the ESL population.

To RSVP, email Priscilla Beas, outreach specialist for ESL, at pbeas@elcamino.edu.

Compton Center is Fashion Forward With Attitude

Compton Center will be the fashion scene on December 4 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the student lounge, when students present "DWA: Designers With Attitude."

This annual fashion show, a true extravaganza, is hosted by Compton Center's Fashionistaz Fashion Club. It features students in beginning clothing construction, advanced sewing and fashion merchandising entrepreneurship. Each group will provide an exhibit to display their work. In addition to the show, students will be competing for the best design. Judges include Compton Center's provost, Lawrence Cox, and representatives from area community colleges and businesses.

Priscilla Ratcliff, professor, fashion designer and biochemist; spearheads the fashion show. She promises attendees that this year's event... "will entertain you beyond belief. It will be an engaging, theatrical fashion experience complete with a mini-hair show featuring futuristic creations by Compton Center's cosmetology department.

The program includes make-up artistry by Milani Cosmetics, accompanied by event producer and celebrity stylist, Melissa Bozant. Surprise celebrity models, judges and guests will be on hand for this fashion forward event.

Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased from the fashion department by calling 310-900-1600, ext. 2802 or by contacting Professor Priscilla Ratcliff at 310-967-2001 or via email at pratcliff@elcamino.edu.

Foster/Kinship Care Initiative at Compton Center

An outreach effort is being made to develop and strengthen partnerships with organizations that work with youth who are currently or have been in either foster care, a group home, an independent living situation, the youth legal system or kinship care.

The First Annual Compton Center Foster/Kinship Care Initiative Luncheon is taking place on December 10 from 12 – 1 p.m. in the student lounge. This is an opportunity for networking and to provide youth serving organizations with information about Compton Center's programs for career training, certificates, associate degrees, transfer opportunities, admission requirements and financial aid.

For information about the initiative and to RSVP for the luncheon by December 1, contact Johnny Conley at jconley@elcamino.edu or at 310-900-1600, ext. 2767.

Annual Community Collaborative Employment Expo Got the Job Done

El Camino College Compton Center was the place to be for job seekers on November 4. Compton Center hosted the Annual Community Collaborative Employment Resource Expo which was attended by approximately 300 participants. Joseph Lewis, employment development specialist, was the event coordinator.

Our collaborative partners included the county of Los Angeles DPSS, A New Way of Life, Jobing.com, Broad

Spectrum, the city of Los Angeles, Community Center, Inc., Community Legal Resource Services, Ex-Offender Action Network, GAIN Region V, Goodwill SoCal, LACOE, POWER Collaborative, SELACO, VA Hospital and WAVE Generation, among others.

The more than 60 local employers represented at the employment resource expo included the Los Angeles Unified School District, Compton Unified School District, the city of Long Beach, Telecare Corporation, Building California Construction Company, Servicon Systems, Phoenix Engineering, Vulcan Materials, Jiffy Lube, Electrical Training Institute, First Transit Transportation Company, United Parcel Service, Workplace Hollywood; and many other employers.

The event focused on helping to build bridges for people with various social and economic needs, and was new contributor friendly. A key component of the day was the workshops on topics such as resume development, how to get and keep a job, and tips for interviews.

The outcome was very positive with job seekers sharpening their skills and networking, and employers finding qualified candidates for various positions.



Transfer Opportunities for Students

A transfer fair on November 4 provided students the opportunity to meet face-to-face with representatives from four-year colleges or universities. These included Biola, Charles R. Drew, FIDM, La Sierra University, Mount St. Mary's, Cal Poly Pomona, University of Phoenix and Vanguard. Representatives were on hand from California State University (CSU) campuses at Dominguez Hills, Fullerton, Long Beach, Los Angeles and Northridge. University of California (UC) campuses at the transfer fair included Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz.



Elroy Pinks, a recruitment officer from UCSB, remarked: "I have a good relationship with the transfer office, have made classroom presentations and always find Compton Center to be a welcoming campus. I have had good conversations with students today."

Pilar Simi, representing CSU Dominguez Hills said: "I got a lot of students who are interested in attending for the spring semester, and some who are beginning to think about transferring and looking at the requirements." The majority of students she spoke to were interested in child development, business, liberal students, psychology and sociology. For information about the transfer program, contact Elizabeth Martinez at 310-900-1600, ext. 2760.

Successful Students at Compton

Through a partnership with UCI, students who participate in Compton Center's Regional Transfer Collaborative (RTC) program experienced college life at a four-year university first-hand this past summer.

The intent of the summer residential program is for students to feel comfortable in a university setting, learn to put theory into practice and be exposed to the array of majors available. The focus this summer was on public policy and administration and urban planning. University faculty worked with the students on team-building exercises and "referendums" geared toward the enhancement of their college and community. As a result of the student work at UCI, one group planned to start an AB 540 club on campus to inform students about their eligibility. And they did—it is called "Successful Students in Compton" and has been approved by the ASB. Their

membership includes 10 Compton Center students, one high school student and one student from the El Camino College Torrance campus. They are enthusiastic about the club and hold fundraising events to benefit students.

And of her experience at Compton Center thus far, Marelin Suarez says: "Classes are good. I am learning a lot, and I get a lot of support from my professors." Maribel Barron believes she is accomplishing her goals towards transferring to a four-year university. Juan Vargas says that his favorite classes include English A and English 84, which he finds easy because he likes writing on the topics presented.

Elizabeth Martinez says: "It's amazing what kind of impact a little support from both UCI and the Compton Center will have on students. They are some of the most determined students I know. There is no doubt that they'll transfer and be successful!"

Holidays are Real Celebrations at the Child Development Center

The Abel B. Sykes, Jr. Child Development Center (CDC) director, Shirley Edwards, and her caring teachers and staff have created a warm and welcoming learning environment for each child to grow, develop and learn in his or her own unique way. Having fun is definitely part of the curriculum, too. Birthdays are always celebrated with enthusiasm with several parents choosing to have their child's party at the center.



Halloween was a chance for little ones to have a parade around campus and help prepare a treat of "pumpkin stew." Three, four and five year olds participated in a "sports spectacular" and thoroughly enjoyed the sack races.

The children will soon be looking forward to helping to prepare a real Thanksgiving feast.

The CDC offers programs for infants, toddlers, pre-schoolers and has after school activities for school-age children. It is a support system that enables students and parents with young children to develop parenting skills, enroll in job training programs, earn certificates and degrees, and earn credits for transfer while all of their child care

needs are being met. The CDC serves as a laboratory site for students in child development courses, psychology, nursing and family studies. The program is open to students, staff, faculty and their families, and to our community. For information, contact Shirley Edwards at 310.900.1600, ext. 2902.

Kudos to Compton Center Presenters at Young Women's Conference

Alicia Zambrano, outreach and recruitment coordinator for Career and Technical Education and Women in Industry and Technology; Elizabeth Martinez, transfer center coordinator; and Priscilla Beas, outreach specialist; were presenters at the Young Women's Empowerment Conference hosted by State Senator Alan Lowenthal on October 25 at California State University, Long Beach.

Ms. Zambrano spoke on careers in industry and technology for women, and she provided an information table highlighting programs at Compton Center. Ms. Martinez spoke about preparing for college and transfer opportunities. Ms. Beas presented on the topic of thinking like a college student.

Their presentations were well received with great interest generated in programs offered at Compton Center. The conference was attended by 300 young women in 11th and 12th grades, and their chaperones, from area high schools including Long Beach, Lynwood, Paramount and Cerritos.

The Cafeteria is Open!

The renovated and much anticipated cafeteria opened for the first time on October 13. Breakfast, hot entrees and sandwiches are on the menu. Burritos are a popular choice. Food service will be provided by S & B Foods. The new hours for the cafeteria are Monday through Thursday, 7:30 am to 6:30 p.m., and Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come for the food and stay for the socializing in the student lounge!

Show Your Compton Center Spirit

Football and soccer season are in full swing for Compton Center's men's teams. Take a look at the new scoreboard and goalposts. The cross country team is ready to take laps around the track.

Compton Center athletics program welcomes new head football coach, Sean Fernandes, who won his first college game as the Tartar's took on the Mt. San Jacinto College Eagles at home. The Tartars managed a 29-26 come from behind victory. With 30 seconds left in the game, Markish Jones caught a Mark Slorp pass for a touchdown. With the re-alignment of football conferences in Southern California, the Tartars have a good chance of having a winning record for the first time in many years.

In soccer the Tartars have already surpassed last season's 1-21 record, and are hoping to get it together in league play. They belong to the strongest soccer conference in the state (South Coast Conference), and have been very competitive thus far. The Tartars are led by head coach, Jesus Gutierrez, who will be doubling as the head women's coach next fall.

Genia Baker takes the helm as the head cross country coach. She has worked with Compton Center's women's basketball program for the last three years and became the assistant cross-country coach this past August. The team is up and running and has 40 runners. Last year's women's team had three runners while the men's team failed to field a team. Good luck to our athletes!

Come out to support our talented athletes and great coaches at home and away!

November Cross Country Schedule for Men's and Women's teams

Saturday, November 22 – 9 a.m. State Championships @ Woodward park, Fresno

Calling all Alumni

Did you attend Compton Center or the former Compton College or know someone who has? We want to hear from you! The Resource Development Office invites all alumni of our Compton campus to register in our Alumni Database. Help us get the word out.

Registered alumni will have the opportunity to be informed of events and activities at Compton Center, receive invitations to alumni functions, participate in leadership opportunities, and much more.

Staff members at the Resource Development Office look forward to hearing from you. To register, please contact Rudy Lopez at rlopez@elcamino.edu.

Share Your News

We want to keep you informed of the news in our campus community. We also want to hear from you. We know there is no shortage of good news at Compton Center—so keep us in the loop.

Know ...a student who won a scholarship? a professor who just published an article or a book or received an award? a staff member honored by a professional organization? someone on our campus who has been recognized for work in the community? Help us spread the good news! Please e-mail your news items to Ann M. Garten, community relations director, at agarten@elcamino.edu.