



El Camino College COMPTON CENTER



PROVOST NEWS

DR. LAWRENCE M. COX

DECEMBER 2009

Message from the Provost

As 2009 draws to an end, we have the opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments. We all share a strong sense of community and a collective desire to make a significant and positive impact on our students.

We are committed to offering quality educational services to our students and community. At a time when many colleges are reducing course offerings, we are adding sections and programs. We have enhanced our Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, improved the Nursing Program curriculum, added Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) courses, a sign language class, eight new online classes, and an introductory robotics program, to name a few.

I am pleased to congratulate Professor David Maruyama as a recent recipient of a prestigious Fullbright-Hays Research Abroad Fellowship. Other faculty accomplishments this year include: Reading Professor Carroll Fisher presented her successes with incorporating a break-through online reading technology at a recent ALER conference; Professor Priscilla Ratcliff shared her entrepreneurial expertise at the successful Extreme Entrepreneurship Tour; English Professor Christopher Halligan is working to introduce a new English course offering and recently completed a feature-length documentary film set to premiere next spring; and Biological Sciences Professor Fazal Aasi was a guest speaker at the 9th Annual Conference of the Association of Surgical Technologists in California. You may read more about these outstanding faculty accomplishments in this and other recent issues of Provost News.

As we look toward 2010, let us take pride in the accomplishments we have already made; and continue to work diligently toward the goals we have established to aid in recovery and restoration. Be happy and safe this holiday season. I wish you and your families all the best in the New Year. Happy Holidays!

Board of Trustees Meeting

The next meeting of the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at Compton Center. Closed session begins at 5:00 p.m. for anyone wishing to address the Board on closed session agenda items. The Board Agendas are posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting at www.district.compton.edu and www.compton.edu.

Encourage Students to Apply for Scholarship Program

Applications are available now through February 5, 2010, for the El Camino College Compton Center Scholarship Program. Encourage your students to apply! Students already participating in the EOPS and CARE programs are also eligible.

Scholarships are available in all academic areas, including: Athletics, Behavioral and Social Sciences, Business, Career & Technology Education, Child Development, Computer Information Systems, Fine Arts, Humanities, Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Nursing.

Students can apply online by visiting www.compton.edu and clicking on *MyECC*. For more information, contact the Financial Aid office located in Room E-17, or call 310-900-1600 ext. 2935.

Winter and Spring Session Registration Dates

Registration for winter/spring 2010 is in progress for continuing students, and begins December 16 for new/returning students. The winter session begins January 6, 2010, and the spring semester begins February 13, 2010. Students can register online by visiting www.compton.edu and clicking on *MyECC*.

New Fee Payment Deadline – Begins Spring 2010

Beginning with the spring 2010 semester, all student fees must be paid in full by the following deadline or students will be dropped from ALL of their classes.

Fee Payment Deadline:

- Monday, February 8, 2010: For students who register December 12, 2009 – February 8, 2010

All fees, including any optional fees, such as a Parking Permit or ASB Student Discount Sticker that may have been requested at the time of registration must be paid by the deadline!

For students' convenience, we offer three ways to pay fees:

- Pay online! Just go to www.compton.edu and click on MyECC.
- Bring Visa, MasterCard, Discover, cash or checks to the Bursar's Office.
- Mail a check or money order to El Camino College Compton Center; Bursar's Office; 1111 E. Artesia Blvd., Compton, CA 90221. Be sure to mail payments 7 days before the deadline. Checks must be received in the Bursar's Office on or before the deadline date.

Students on a waitlist for a class must check El Camino College Compton Center e-mail daily to find out if they have been admitted to the class. Waitlisted students must pay fees by the same deadlines listed above, or they will be dropped from all classes.

For questions about El Camino College Compton Center's new fee payment deadlines, call 310-900-1600 ext. 2121.

For details about El Camino College Compton Center enrollment fees, click here:

<http://www.elcamino.edu/admissions/fees.asp>.

For more on where to pay fees, click here:

http://www.compton.edu/student-services/admissionandrecords/Dates_Locations.aspx

Campus Watch Program

Everyone is encouraged to join the new Campus Watch Program at El Camino College Compton Center. This program is designed to empower everyone on campus to watch out for each other, be alert to dangerous situations and report suspicious activities. You can help by joining an area campus watch group!

Area Campus Watch Groups and Meetings:

Area 1: Math and Science

First Tuesday of every month at 1:00 p.m. in the Math/Science Building

Area 2: Vocational/Technical/Athletics

Second Tuesday of every month at 1:00 p.m. in the Vocational Technology Building

Be Aware! Be on the Lookout and Report:

- A tense situation that is about to blow up
- Any unusual noise you can't explain (screams, breaking glass, etc.)
- Emergencies: fire, accident, critically ill person
- Someone forced into a car or a van
- Property taken out of a room/office that is not occupied
- Broken glass/windows
- Abandoned vehicles
- Anyone hanging around an office, hallway or building with no clear purpose
- Someone looking in windows of parked cars

Students, employees and visitors all have a right to a safe, crime-free campus. If something worries you—REPORT IT! For more information, contact the Police Department at 310-660-3100.

Humanities Professor Honored with Fullbright-Hays Fellowship

English Professor David Maruyama was recently honored as a recipient of a Fullbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship. Offered by the U.S. Department of Education, the program awards and funds fellowships to faculty members who submit a proposal to conduct research abroad in modern foreign languages and area studies to improve their skill in languages and their knowledge of the culture of the people of the countries they visit.

Professor Maruyama will travel to Vietnam and Cambodia, along with 15 other professors from other colleges/universities, for a month of research and study in summer 2010. It is rare for a community college to be honored with such a prestigious fellowship, and Maruyama faced stiff competition from colleagues from El Camino College and Long Beach City College.

Professor Maruyama's winning proposal incorporates curriculum for English 1A, 1B and 1C with the goal of engaging students in the topic of globalization and what could be defined as an increasingly inter-connected world. He plans to expand the curriculum to students both at El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center. His research and final report will become content for a Web site being developed and dedicated to delivering the information collected during the trip for educational purposes.

“The Fullbright-Hays Fellowships are mostly reserved for professors at four-year universities,” explains Maruyama. “I am extremely excited about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. To be included in this program is truly remarkable for Compton Center, as it is highly unusual for a community college to receive such an honor.”

According to participants, the program is particularly valuable for professors in public colleges/universities, which frequently have very limited internal funding for extended research trips abroad.

Professor and Fashion Designer Promotes Entrepreneurship

Priscilla Ratcliff, an adjunct professor, fashion designer and biochemist, participated on the panel at the Extreme Entrepreneurship Tour (EET) in October. Underscoring her extensive experience in the fashion industry, Professor Ratcliff encouraged attendees to have a plan A--get an education, and a plan B and C--develop their talents to pursue a career and have a backup plan.

The EET at El Camino College’s Marsee Auditorium was a huge success, with more than 500 people in attendance, by far the highest numbers to date in the EET’s statewide stops at community colleges. Students came from ECC, ECC Compton Center, and area high schools; youngsters as well as the young at heart also came from the community at large.

The event was lively, inspirational and motivational. The Q&A session at the end drew many great questions from the audience, addressed to a panel of successful entrepreneurs that included the two keynote speakers, El Camino College Compton Center professor Priscilla Ratcliff, local business owners, and even a high school student with his own business. Tables were set up in the lobby for several ECC and ECC Compton Center organizations to promote their programs.

Harnessing the creativity and energy of young people, the ETT offered students a day of inspiration loaded with learning tools and practical advice about how to start a business.

Compton Center Professor Speaks at ALER Conference, Promotes New Reading Tool

Carroll Fisher, Compton Center Reading professor, and fellow El Camino College Professor Inna Newbury, recently attended the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers (ALER) conference where they were invited to speak about a new learning tool called Live Ink/Clip Read. Used at El Camino College Compton Center, the award-winning online reading software dramatically strengthens reading power for students.

The software uses visual-syntactic text formatting (VSTF) to transform block-shared text into cascading patterns that help readers identify grammatical structure. Among college readers, the VSTF method instantly increases reading comprehension and efficiency of reading online text, while reducing eyestrain. Research has shown that students who read regularly in the Live Ink format become more proficient readers when they return to block text.

Fisher hopes to expand the use of this cutting-edge technology at Compton Center to encompass all of our programs. Compton Center has a license for the software and permission to use it throughout the college. “We just want other disciplines to see how valuable this software is to our students and adopt it for other department curriculums,” explains Fisher. “This educational software could significantly enhance our students’ access to and comprehension of content on the Internet that enriches their coursework.”

To learn how you can incorporate Live Ink/Clip Read into your curriculum and help improve your students' reading comprehension, contact Carroll Fisher at cfisher@elcamino.edu. To read more about Live Ink, go to <http://www.liveink.com>

Male Conference Empowers Students to Take Charge of Their Own Future

El Camino College Compton Center hosted a male conference entitled: "Take Charge of Your Future" on December 3 with the goal of empowering young men by providing information about educational and career opportunities. Approximately 500 male students in grades 6-12 participated in the event, and for many of the students, it was their first time visiting a college campus.

The keynote speech, which was open to the general public, was given by world-renowned, motivational speaker Calvin Mackie. Humor, interaction and authenticity trademark Mackie's high-energy keynotes on motivation, education, leadership skills, mentoring, diversity, life balance and teambuilding. Mackie has been described as "dynamic, compelling, and inspiring," delivering "messages that are always powerful, heart-to-heart and mind-to-mind to help guide and direct students of all ages in their lives and careers." He spoke in the Tarter Gym to a standing-room-only audience that included the Male Conference participants, students, and members of the community.

The conference also highlighted presentations from financial aid, Career and Technical Education, the Transfer Center and others. In addition, attendees learned how to use the services and programs available at El Camino College Compton Center.

All participants had an opportunity to get hands-on experience in majors and vocational careers such as music, technology, welding, law enforcement, auto technology, robotics and nursing. For information, contact Johnny Conley at 310-900-1600, ext. 2767 or via e-mail at jconley@elcamino.edu.

The Theatre Arts Program Presents...

El Camino College Compton Center's Theater Arts Program presented "Two Trains Running," written by the Pulitzer Prize-winning August Wilson. The presentation was produced through a special arrangement with Samuel French Play Service and directed by Dr. P.J. Van Niel.

Performances took place November 19-24.

Human Resources Office Has Moved

The Human Resources office is now located in Room C-38. Phone: 310-900-1600, ext. 2142 or 2144.

Compton Center Promotional Video Now Available

El Camino College Compton Center's new promotional "Welcome Video" is available on the www.compton.edu Web page under the "Perspective Students" link, as well as on You Tube. To access the video on You Tube, go to www.youtube.com and type "El Camino College Compton Center" into the "Search" box at the top of the page. Our DVD will be the first video listed.

Please contact Ann Garten at ext. 3406 or by e-mail at agarten@elcamino.edu if you would like a copy of the DVD to use for events on campus or for community outreach.

[Click Here to View the DVD online](#)

Social Networking at Compton Center

Compton Center is now on Facebook and Twitter. Check out Compton Center's home page on our Web site to become a "fan" or follow the latest "tweets." To be in the know, add these sites to your "favorites" list on your computer. You may send your ideas for postings to Ann Garten, director of community relations, El Camino College, at agarten@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 Garten, community relations director, at agarten@elcamino.edu.