Dear Community Member,

What a tremendous first year we’ve had at the College of the Canyons Canyon Country campus! In just two months, we have over 6,000 students and enrolled nearly 1,380 full-time-equivalent students. By way of comparison, there were only 760 full-time-equivalent students at the start of the fall quarter in 1999 when the number of students we projected we would serve in the first year. In fact, nearly every week of the campus’ opening and operation exceeded our expectations. Did you think we would see first-time enrollees on open days close to State Route 14, major roadways and neighborhood shopping? No, we expected to see traffic in a small city. Instead, we thought, we would see traffic in a small city. Instead, the property we gave us in the ability to grow and provide everyone with a reasonable cost of education is what we’ve been told.

Did you think 3,600 students would enroll in classes during the first semester? Definitely not! Yet when we began designing the campus, we estimated 2,500 students enrolled and 7,000 student visits a year. And we planned for 8,000 students. We were pleasantly surprised by the large number of students who came and enrolled and were able to be co-sponsored by multiple colleges with the Canyon campus. We have students from the Valencia campus, the Santa Clarita Valley High School, the Antelope Valley College, and the California State University of Long Beach.

We were thrilled with more students continuing at the Canyon campus from the eastern Santa Clarita Valley, which made our early estimates of student expectations and projections to have exceeded our expectations. We have seen a tremendous growth in the number of students who have enrolled and are very excited about the future of the Canyon campus.

The Canyon Country campus, now housed in 26 modular buildings covering approximately 480,000 square feet, has dramatically expanded since we opened. The campus is located approximately five miles north of Interstate 15 in the Canyon Country area. The college has laid the foundation to take the college to the next level. Our board and administration believe this is the place that, when fully built, will serve up to 12,000 students with seven percent of existing buildings spanning 24,000 square feet.

Student Support

Before we opened, students taking classes at the Canyon Country Access Center and Saddle Peak Library had to travel to the Valencia campus for many services. The Canyon Country campus now has the following resources available:

CAMPUS SERVICES – The campus offers a full range of student services including admissions, attendance, career counseling, student health and other specialized services. We will be offering a number of student workshops and training sessions to address the needs of all students.

Campus Technology – The campus offers the latest technology for teaching and learning, including computerized student registration, computerized testing, computerized course evaluations, and computerized advising and learning systems. This campus offers 24-hour access to the internet, an important component of our digital library. A DVD/CD library, document camera, digital overhead, and projector systems. The campus has 100 science laboratories, several of which are student-managed, and 10 computer labs, which are available for use by both faculty and students.

Lunchtime Café – The Canyon Country campus marketplace is served by a new café offering a variety of food options to students and the community.

In addition, there is a new student housing facility, Canyon Village, which is available for students who live on campus.

Did you think we could take real turn and transform it into a campus in 15 months? Absolutely! Instead of spending time counting cars, we planned for the future and built the library, a major building that connects our students and community from the first day we opened and we opened on Monday, Aug. 27, 2007. We welcomed thousands of students to attend our first open house.

Did you think we could create a campus with the same facilities in 15 months? Absolutely! Absolutely! Absolutely! What an amazing accomplishment. We were able to build the library, a major building that connects our students and community from the first day we opened.

The strongest support we have received from the community came from the members of the Canyon Country Campus Advisory Committee. Members of the dedicated group of volunteers have been with us since the very beginning of our first year, and they have been invaluable to our success.

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