always look forward to the beginning of the Fall semester at College of the Canyons. There is a palpable energy in the air as we greet new and returning students, orient new faculty members, offer new programs, open new buildings, and meet, head on, the opportunities and challenges of the new academic year.

On many college campuses, summers are traditionally quiet times. Not so at College of the Canyons! Last year we worked diligently to open the Canyon Country campus, Hasley Hall on the Valencia campus and we added new programs for both campuses. This summer we have worked on our Accreditation Self Study and an Economic Impact Report.

College of the Canyons has received five grants—roughly amounting to more than $5 million for 2008-2009—from the California Community College System (CCCS) Chancellor’s Office to help fund the college’s welding and nursing programs enabling the college to carry out two new statewide roles. Also the college has been named as the CCC System’s statewide coordinator of annual Economic and Workforce Development (EWD) conferences and meetings and as the designated clearinghouse for captioning and transcription services funding.

The $394,117 grant from the California Community College System’s annual Economic Workforce Development conference provides the college with the ability to offer metal fabrication classes and to expand degree and certificate programs.

When the College of the Canyons football team takes to the field on Sept. 6 for the season’s opening game against Antelope Valley, the team will have more to prove than just their mettle. The team was recently ranked as the No. 1 football team among community college football programs across the nation by Street & Smith’s Sporting News College Football 2008 Yearbook, but even so, head coach Garett Tujague doesn’t feel the pressure.

“I’m a huge fan of ‘it’s not where you start but where you finish,’” said Tujague. That doesn’t mean Tujague underplays the significance of the ranking.

“When a football player or a college football fan, you go pick up this magazine,” said Tujague. “I was more excited for the players and the coaches to have their efforts be seen, it was a proud moment for them.”

Cougar football’s home opener is September 13 against Santa Barbara. Game time is 7pm.

Cougar Football Named Top Preseason Team in Nation

College of the Canyons has received five grants—roughly amounting to more than $5 million for 2008-2009—from the California Community College System (CCCS) Chancellor’s Office to help fund the college’s welding and nursing programs enabling the college to carry out two new statewide roles. Also the college has been named as the CCC System’s statewide coordinator of annual Economic and Workforce Development (EWD) conferences and meetings and as the designated clearinghouse for captioning and transcription services funding.

An Economic Workforce Development grant provides the college with the ability to offer metal fabrication classes and to expand degree and certificate programs.

Grants Fund Leadership Initiatives

As one of the community’s most trusted and highly respected public institutions, College of the Canyons recently completed a campus-wide institutional self-study report as part of its application for reaffirmation of accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission of Community and Junior Colleges. Accreditation is a voluntary process colleges and universities undergo, performed in this case by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, to evaluate and assure the quality of education used by the American higher education community.

Accreditation Team To Visit College

Cougar Football Named Top Preseason Team in Nation

The EWD, $344,117 Economic Workforce Development grant provides the college with the ability to offer metal fabrication classes and to expand degree and certificate programs.
Van Hook
FROM PAGE 1

Report to the community, completed a new Educational and Facilities Master Plan that will be our roadmap for adding new programs and the facilities to teach them in through 2012, and we opened a new physical education facility with tennis courts in Valencia while we paved parking lots and added services at the Canyon Country campus.

With more than 21,000 students attending College of the Canyons in Fall 2007 and Spring 2008, and with the college facing double-digit enrollment growth projections for the foreseeable future, we are reminded of the responsibilities we have to stay ahead of demand and be ready for opportunities when they present themselves. If the past is any indicator of the future, the demand for more new programs and more available seats in our classrooms; for in-depth training for businesses; increased progressive partnerships with business, industry and government; enhanced training in high-tech fields; and public demand for access locations and delivery modes will continue to increase. And all of this demand is coming despite the harsh realities of increasingly-problematic state budgets.

College of the Canyons has done very well over the years finding ways to meet increased demands for services and access. That is due to an innovative and creative culture, we generally are not content to simply do things the same ways we always have. To meet the evolving needs of the future we pride ourselves in moving forward with doing things for the first time. New “firsts” for this year are to:

• Break ground on the 19,000-square-foot Media Arts building expansion project
• Open the East Physical Education building, which features new classrooms, a sport court, and tennis courts.
• Finish designing and begin construction of the Library/Tutoring, Learning Com- puting Expansion project.
• Complete installation of new signage to help students and visitors.
• Launch intensive, five-week, online classes under the auspices of the O’O Program.
• Implement intensive, five-week classes under the auspices of the GO! Program.
• Implement the PAL program.
• Establish a College Skills Task Force for “Advancing the Student-Ready College.”
• Move to multi-year scheduling so stu- dents can plan better.

I am confident that the Accreditation Team will be pleased with what they’ll find at College of the Canyons. I know that they will be impressed with the exten- sive array of student outcomes, of the high-level of planning and execution that we conduct here, of the outstanding faculty and classroom pedagogy, and the incredible array of programs and services.

While the Accreditation Team diligently digs into its work, our team will be charging ahead with a new set of projects that will enhance access to education, pro- vide for new and better educational experi- ences on our campuses and in our class- rooms and help prepare students for the skills they need in our increasingly com- plex world. A clear and consistent vision of our college’s culture, we generally are not content to simply do things the same ways we always have. To meet the evolving needs of the future we pride ourselves in moving forward with doing things for the first time. New “firsts” for this year are to:

Report to the community, completed a new Educational and Facilities Master Plan that will be our roadmap for adding new programs and the facilities to teach them in through 2012, and we opened a new physical education facility with tennis courts in Valencia while we paved parking lots and added services at the Canyon Country campus.

College of the Canyons has done very well over the years finding ways to meet increased demands for services and access. That is due to an innovative and creative culture, we generally are not content to simply do things the same ways we always have. To meet the evolving needs of the future we pride ourselves in moving forward with doing things for the first time. New “firsts” for this year are to:

• Break ground on the 19,000-square-foot Media Arts building expansion project
• Open the East Physical Education building, which features new classrooms, a sport court, and tennis courts.
• Finish designing and begin construction of the Library/Tutoring, Learning Com- puting Expansion project.
• Complete installation of new signage to help students and visitors.
• Launch intensive, five-week, online classes under the auspices of the O’O Program.
• Implement intensive, five-week classes under the auspices of the GO! Program.
• Establish a College Skills Task Force for “Advancing the Student-Ready College.”
• Move to multi-year scheduling so stu- dents can plan better.

I am confident that the Accreditation Team will be pleased with what they’ll find at College of the Canyons. I know that they will be impressed with the exten- sive array of student outcomes, of the high-level of planning and execution that we conduct here, of the outstanding faculty and classroom pedagogy, and the incredible array of programs and services.
New Campus Celebrates First Year
Canyon Country Campus Attracts Thousands of Students

It has been nearly a year since the asphalt was poured into the parking lot at the College of the Canyons Canyon Country campus—a weekend before classes started, but since then, the campus has come a long way.

In its opening semester, the campus enrolled 3,400 students, offered 700 classes, 13 degree programs and 10 certificates of achievement.

“I am thrilled with the tremendous reception that the college’s Canyon Country campus has received from students, local businesses and the community at large,” said Chancellor Dr. Dianne Van Hook, “as evidenced by incredible enrollment and support for our programs each semester during the first year. None of this would have been possible,” stressed Dr. Van Hook, “without fantastic planning, attention to every detail—from construction, to course selection, to the day-to-day operations of the campus. And it could not have been done without the unwavering support, commitment and determination of our dedicated staff; outstanding faculty and enthusiastic volunteers from the Canyon Country community.

The first year achieved some important milestones:
- The opening of additional facilities including a Student Lounge, Staff and Faculty Technology Center, Student Health Center, Science labs, Library, Tutoring and Computing Center and Early Childhood Education classroom.
- The launch of a campus shuttle service that offers transportation from classroom wings to campus parking lots in the evening.
- The expansion of Admissions, Counseling and Financial Aid services to include full-time staff.
- The establishment of a campus newsletter distributed throughout the community.
- The completion of the Canyon Country Campus Advisory Committee Strategic Plan and the 2007-2012 Educational and Facilities Master Plan.
- The naming of the campus amphitheater, the Carl A. Rasmussen amphitheater, named in honor of Larry Rasmussen’s father, Carl.
- “As we look towards the future, our plans will be inspired by the collective creativity and innovation of our staff, faculty, students and the community,” said Dr. Dena Maloney, the founding dean. “As an example, this year we will be adding landscape maintenance, green construction, alternative energy management and solar technician training, and other new, cutting-edge programs. These programs reflect our commitment to preparing students for the future and meeting the needs of our community.”
- Other future plans for the campus include the construction of a Career Technology Education Center—which will provide hands-on learning and training in the constructive and automotive trade programs with an emphasis on environmentally friendly technology—and Building One, the first permanent building to be constructed on campus. The multi-story building will contain student classrooms and house student service functions. Other construction plans include a Main Plaza, which will serve as the primary pedestrian drop-off entry and the designated center of the campus, and a Landscape Maintenance Lab, a research and learning lab to encourage innovative and environmentally sustainable landscapes and hands-on learning opportunities for students.

When the campus is fully built, it is expected to serve up to 10,000 students.

Petersens To Be Honored At Silver Spur

This spring the College of the Canyons Foundation Board of Directors will honor Harold and Jacquelyn Petersen with the college’s 2009 Silver Spur Community Service Award, for the enthusiasm, dedication and generosity they have displayed toward many of the community’s most deserving non-profit organizations and causes.

The College of the Canyons Silver Spur Celebration will be held the evening of Saturday, March 7, 2009.

Though this year’s location has yet to be revealed, the annual event is traditionally held at a historic museum, club or well-known Los Angeles area landmark — and is widely considered to be one of the community’s most popular elegant evening events.

“We owe the Petersens an immeasurable debt of gratitude for all they have done for the college and the community,” said COC Chancellor Dr. Dianne Van Hook. “Honor the Petersens with the Silver Spur award is our way of thanking them publicly for all the generosity, kindness and commitment to community service they have shown over the years,” continued Van Hook. “Because of people like Harold and Jacquie, residents of the Santa Clarita Valley are able to enjoy a community that provides outstanding services for those most in need. They have made our community a better place to live and learn, and for that we are extremely thankful.”

Since relocating to the Santa Clarita Valley in 2001 the Petersen’s generous and wide-ranging support for the college has revolved around several key projects including the Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook University Center capital campaign and the annual Silver Spur celebration.

In addition, Harold and Jacquie are both members of the President’s Circle — a group of prominent community leaders, alumni members and corporations that are dedicated to success at the college — and have been major contributors to the COC Annual Fund, which provides the college with the financial resources needed to support and strive for the highest levels of excellence in teaching, vocational training, student scholarships and overall campus innovation.

In addition, Harold is a supporter of the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley; the Santa Clarita Child and Family center, the UCLA Alumni Association, and the Mary and Joseph League of Los Angeles. Jacquie, who is involved with both the Boys and Girls Club and the Child and Family center alongside Harold, has also given her time and generosity for causes associated with the American Red Cross; the John Tracey Clinic; the Junior League; the American Heart Fund and the American Cancer Society.
New Recreational Management Director Named

College of the Canyons has named former Santa Monica College athletic director Dr. Rhonda Hyatt director of the college’s recreation management program.

As the program’s sole faculty member, Hyatt will be responsible for the development and organization of new recreation management courses and curriculum; the articulation of more program transfer agreements with surrounding four-year schools; student outreach and recruitment efforts; and the development of community partnerships which will foster increased recreation programmatic efforts.

“Having lived in the Santa Clarita Valley for a number of years I’ve been able to follow the tremendous progress, growth and innovation that has gone on here at College of the Canyons,” Hyatt said. “So I’m looking forward to joining the team and working to achieve an enhanced mission and vision for the college’s recreation management program, that will fit the needs of both this campus and the surrounding community.”

Dr. Hyatt comes to College of the Canyons after spending the last four years as the athletic director at Santa Monica College. Prior to that, Hyatt spent one year as the athletic director at Santa Monica College’s El Cerritos Campus after spending the last four years at Credentials College.

“This will be a great opportunity for us to develop an enhanced mission and vision for the college’s recreation management program, that will fit the needs of both this campus and the surrounding community,” Hyatt said. “I’m looking forward to joining the team and working to achieve an enhanced mission and vision for the college’s recreation management program, that will fit the needs of both this campus and the surrounding community.”

Dr. Hyatt comes to College of the Canyons to succeed Dr. Bruce Getzan, Economic Development Dean for the college, with the prestigious Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Students interested in pursuing careers in sports management can apply to the recreation management program. For more information, visit the department’s website at www.canyons.communityext.net.

Community Education Offers New Classes

Pharmacy, Fashion, Fitness, Law Enforcement

This fall, the Community Education Program at College of the Canyons is offering several new programs and classes that will help people gain the skills and experience necessary to further their careers in the fields of health, modeling, fitness and law enforcement.

“Community Education classes meet community needs quickly and effectively,” said Gina Bogza, the interim director of Community Education at the college. “The programs are structured to help people gain employable skills to update their skills set, without having to spend a great deal of time in school.”

Pharmacy Technician – The Pharmacy Technician program, offered in collaboration with Boston Reed College, is an especially timely addition with the current growing need for trained technicians, she said.

By 2014, the U.S. Department of Labor estimates that the demand for pharmacy technicians will grow nearly 30 percent. At the completion of the Pharmacy Technician program—a 302-hour course consisting of 182-hours of classroom instruction and a 120-hour pharmacy externship—students will receive a certificate and become eligible to register as pharmacy technicians in California. The program will also prepare them to take the national Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) exam.

Under a pharmacist’s supervision, pharmacy technicians help pharmacists package or mix prescriptions, maintain client records, refer clients to the pharmacist for counseling, and assist with billing, payment, purchasing and inventory control.

Designed for working adults, the classes will be held on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the College of the Canyons Valencia campus, starting Oct. 11.

The class costs $2,295, which includes books, consumable supplies, and the externship and course completion certificate fees.

Students must be at least 18 years of age and must have a high school diploma or its equivalent prior to externship placement. Students need competency in, or completion of, a basic computer operations course. A pre-assessment for math and English will be required prior to registration.

Fashion Modeling – Community Education is also offering instruction in the world of fashion modeling. The course teaches students the basics about the multi-billion dollar, international industry of professional modeling and talent and about the different types of models that grace magazine covers, billboards and television screens.

Students will also learn how to get their modeling careers started, how to be well-photographed and will have the chance to experience a photo shoot.

The class will meet once on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. to noon at the College of the Canyons Valencia campus.

Fitness – Fitness trainers can broaden their group exercise offerings and earn continuing education units with the new course, Step Up to Step for Fitness Professionals.

The class is offered in collaboration with Boston Reed College, the World Instructor Training Schools, a national certifying organization that trains people to become personal fitness trainers and group exercise instructors. For more information about Community Education classes and programs, visit the department’s website at www.canyons.communityext.net.

Students will learn 10 techniques that demonstrate correct posture, body mechanics specific to stepping and five essential safety guidelines. Students will also learn how to link four 16-count combinations and apply two different cue methods for smooth transitions.

The $55 class will meet once on Nov. 9 from 9 a.m. to noon at the College of the Canyon’s Canyon Country campus.

Law Enforcement – Career Planning for Law Enforcement a seminar, will give attendees a comprehensive and candid understanding of what a career in law enforcement entails. Interested attendees will learn the best way to prepare for the entry fee process and receive valuable tools for successful employment and advancement.

Taught by retired Lt. Ronald Shreve, the $79 class will meet once on Oct. 4 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the College of the Canyons Canyon Country campus.

Information about Community Education classes and programs, visit the department’s website at www.canyons.communityext.net.


dr. rhonda hyatt became director of the college’s recreation management program in August.

Dr. Bruce Getzan, Economic Development Dean for the college, with the prestigious award.

New Community Education programs expand career options for Santa Clarita Valley residents.

Computer Numerical Control (CNC) operations and setup technicians, the FastTrack Manufacturing Boot Camp program was originally started as a pilot program in 2004. Since its inception, the partnership has operated 10 FastTrack Boot Camps, with a 90 percent career field employment rate among graduates.

The future of the FastTrack Manufacturing program also looks bright with the CACT already discussing the possibility of using the same FastTrack techniques to train entry level candidates in other manufacturing fields—including precision medical assemblies and electromechanical diagnostics and repair.

For information about the FastTrack Manufacturing Boot Camp program or the College of the Canyons for the College of the Canyons for Applied Competitive Technologies please call (661) 294-9809.
Van Hook

FROM PAGE 2

- Continue developing new educational programs, including speech language pathology assistant, nanotechnology, instructional aide, with a special education emphasis, and human services, with options in gerontology, addiction studies, and general services.
- Finish designing the new two-story Student Services/Administration Building to replace the current facility.
- Advocate on the budget to keep growth and COLA funding for the 2008 – 2009 Fiscal Year.
- Unveil a much-needed renovation of the cafeteria that features new serving spaces and a teaching kitchen for our Culinary Arts Department to expand.
- Launch a new three-year project funded by the National Science Foundation to recruit, mentor, and support Biology, Chemistry, Engineering and Mathematic majors.
- Finish construction of the University Center and welcome additional four-year college and university partners.
- Launch new Career Technical Education classes, and expand existing ones, at the Canyon Country Campus with the addition of a new building.
- Finalize plans to build a Public Safety Training Academy in conjunction with Los Angeles County Fire Department at Del Valley.
- Establish a Biotech Clean Room on the Valencia campus.
- Launch a College Ambassador Program.
- And this is just the beginning of the work plan for 2008 - 2009! We will accomplish these things and many more during this academic year because we are enthusiastic and we are energetic. We believe that “if you can dream it, you can do it.” We are committed to acting – day in and day out – to meet our community’s needs. As a result, there is no place on earth that I’d rather work or a group of people I’d rather work with than College of the Canyons faculty and staff.

Entrepreneur

FROM PAGE 3

“Every legitimate football team has a coach. You have to take a critical look at each play in high definition after each game. Thanks to a private $10,000 donation this year, the team purchased an EndZone camera that helps evaluate the team’s tackle-to-tackle performance. They will be able to take a critical look at each play in high definition after each game.” said Tujague.

Tujague also stresses the importance of having all the necessary equipment of the year award and had 20 athletes named to the all-conference team.

Canvys will begin the 2008 football campaign as a member of a new conference.

In November of last year, the Southern California Football Association (SCFA) approved a realignment of the Southern California football conferences – the National and American Divisions with three regional conferences in the National Division and two regional conferences in the American Division – in an effort to create a more competitive balance among the Southern California football teams. The National Division will consist of the historically stronger teams. College of the Canyons will be a part of the National Division.
Accreditation

Criteria of educational quality — meaning found to meet or exceed previously stated granted accreditation status has been national improvement. Is conducted not only to assure the quality date institution, the accreditation process analyzing the overall quality of programs and award the associate degree. Colleges (ACCJC), which evaluates and Commission for Community and Junior education. The commission responsible analyzing and evaluating institutions of higher region, which is responsible for monitoring which the institutional review process — including an annual report, annual fiscal report, midterm report and completion of an institutional self-study and peer evaluation visit — is continuous.

Having most recently gone through the re-accreditation process in 2002, College of the Canyons began organizing and performing a roughly 18-month-long self-study involving every department and office at the college. In all, more than 100 faculty, staff members, administrators, board members and students dedicated hundreds of hours to produce a comprehensive institutional self-study report.

“Because of the daily work that goes into running a college there isn’t always time to undergo the in-depth introspection that a comprehensive self-assessment requires,” said Sue Bozman, vice president of communications, marketing and external relations for College of the Canyons. “So the opportunity for the college to collectively reflect on what we do, how we are doing it, and what we can do better is extremely beneficial to us in our goal to serve our students and the surrounding community in the best way possible.”

Currently the college is preparing for an all-important peer evaluation visit from the Commission, scheduled for late October.

“College of the Canyons has approached the accreditation process and development of this self study with enthusiasm and seriousness, and consequently we are extremely proud of the result,” said college Chancellor, Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook. “We welcome the Commission to our campus and hope that when they, and indeed the public, read this report they’ll recognize our belief in possibilities, appreciate our joy in striving to accomplish what is best for our students and share our enthusiasm for a college that is always on the move.”

To read the full College of the Canyons Comprehensive Institutional Self Study Report, or for more information about the Reaffirmation of Accreditation application process please visit: www.canyons.edu/Offices/PIO/Accreditation.

Grants

FROM PAGE 1

tion to earn more money as entry-level welding technicians.

Nursing students will benefit from the two grants totaling $550,000 that were awarded to the college’s nursing department to help increase nursing enrollment at the college and develop an ongoing transfer agreement for COC nursing to students to California State University, Northridge.

The Enrollment Growth and Retention Program for Associate Degree Registered Nurse Programs grant will provide the college with approximately $442,000 over a two-year period, which will be used to fund two new full-time faculty nursing instructor positions.

The second grant, the Associate Degree in Nursing to Bachelor’s Degree Nursing Collaborative grant of approximately $100,000 will be used to develop an articulation program and accompanying curriculum plan for the college’s nursing graduates for a more seamless transfer process to the nursing program at CSUN.

The nursing department currently admits about 100 students into the program every year, but by hiring more instructors, “the nursing department will be able to increase its enrollment by admitting approximately 40 more students to the program each year,” said Sue Albert, dean of allied health at the college.

As the new statewide coordinator for the CCC system’s annual economic and workforce development and conference meetings, the college has been awarded with a $394,117 grant.

Renewable for five years, the Economic and Workforce Development (EWD) Program Coordination Services grant will allow for the creation of three new positions in the college’s economic development division, such as project coordinator and conference services coordinator.

“Our economic development program is one of the best in the state and the awarding of this grant is recognition of that,” said Bruce Getzan, dean of economic development at the college.

The CCC System Chancellor’s Office also awarded a five-year $3.9 million grant to the college to assist its operations as the designated clearinghouse for the funding of all distance education captioning and transcription services within the 110-member CCC system.

This grant—which will come in five annual $780,000 disbursements—will be used to contract outside captioning vendors to assist community colleges across the state that are in need of captioning and transcription services for their distance education programs.

“This grant will allow College of the Canyons to be of great service to the entire California Community College System,” said James Gapa-Grosskigl, dean of distance learning programs and training at the college. “The other 109 community colleges, as well as our own faculty and staff, will all be looking to us to support their efforts, and that’s very exciting.”

Free Business Counseling Sessions!

From Small Business Development Center Experts

Call for your appointment! (661) 294-9375

College of the Canyons Canyon Country Campus

At the Canyon Country Campus, located at 77200 Sierra Highway
Santa Clarita, CA 91351-1627
(Pick up a parking permit in Box #1, Building #1)

Appointments on the first Wednesday of each month

Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Tuesdays: Beginning Aug 5, 2008

Phone: 1-800-352-1800

No appointment needed

www.sbcda.org