

# DSP&S NEWSLETTER

FOR STUDENTS & FACULTY



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## IMPORTANT DATES:

- April 14—20: Spring Break
- May 19—24: Final Exams
- May 23: Commencement
- May 26: Memorial Day
- June 9—July 3: Summer Session I
- June 9—July 19: Summer Session II
- June 9—August 1: Summer Session III
- July 4: The High Tech Center will close until Fall 2003.
- July 7—August 1: Summer Session IV

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

By: Dr. Jane A. Feuerhelm



**Dr. Jane A. Feuerhelm—  
DSP&S Director**

Springtime is upon us and students appear to be involved in their classes and campus activities as well. Before you know it finals will be here and another semester will be completed. Since we're always looking forward, it's time to begin thinking about summer session. Summer sessions 1, 2, & 3 will begin June 9, 2003 and end August 1, 2003. There will be 4, 6, & 8-week sessions between those dates. I encourage you to stop by or call DSPS to schedule a counseling appointment for registration advisement.

As you may be aware DSPS,

and community colleges in general, are facing significant budget cuts for the 2003-2004 school year. At this time we are uncertain of the actual cuts to our program, but want to assure you that we will try to maintain a high level of service to our students. If you are interested in contacting your legislature to

voice your concerns there are names and numbers in the article, "DSP&S Budget Cuts" on page 3 in this newsletter.

During the summer months (June, July, & early August) DSPS hours will change. DSPS office hours will be Monday—Thursday from 10:00 am—3:00 pm. The High Tech Lab will be open for Summer Session I only, Monday—Thursday from 10:00 am—2:00 pm. Be sure and plan to take care of your DSPS business during those hours.

I hope you all have a successful semester!

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

By: Diane Solomon

What is a SEP? A Student Education Plan is a guide to your future. It is important to choose a major and discuss the requirements with your counselor. Every program and school is different in regards to major preparation and general education. The Career Center has a self-directed assessment tool called DISCOVER that can be a good starting place. Then make an appointment with a counselor to review your results and assist you with your journey.

Please make sure you have your SEP in place before the next registration time. Priority registration for summer 2003 will occur in early May, and I am encouraging all DSPS students to contact the office and schedule a counseling appointment. Susan Ling and I will start to meet with students the first week in April. Priority registration for Fall 2003 will begin in early July. We will be scheduling these counseling appointments starting June 1.

I would also like to introduce you to Susan Ling. She is an adjunct counselor in DSPS. In the Fall 2003, I will be on maternity leave for several months, and Susan will be my replacement. I encourage you to stop by the office and meet Susan, or read her article on page 3 of this newsletter.



**Diane Solomon—  
DSP&S Counselor**

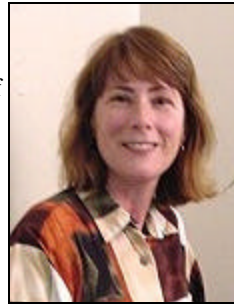
## MEET DR. CHRISTI FRANKLIN

By: Dr. Christi Franklin

My name is Dr. Christi Franklin and I'm the new Learning Disability Specialist here in DSPS. Although you may have seen me over the past year and half working as an adjunct in the department, I became a faculty member this semester.

My primary mission is to determine who is eligible for services under the category of Learning Disabled based on the criteria from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Of-

rice. A battery of tests is completed by the student, and, based on



**Dr. Christi Franklin—  
LD Specialist**

that information, a determination is made to whether they qualify for services in our department.

If you are having difficulties in certain areas of learning, you can make an appointment with our director, Jane Feuerhelm, Ph.D., to determine if you are eligible for an assessment for learning disabilities. Call Connie at 362-3341 to set up a time to meet with Dr. Jane.

I am available on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. I can be reached at telephone extension 5341 or email me at: christi.franklin@canyons.edu.

*"If you are having difficulties in certain areas of learning, you can make an appointment with our director, Jane Feuerhelm."*

## ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY ON CAMPUS

By: Erika Henderson

College of the Canyons is dedicated to making our campus as accessible as possible. As an example, we have recently been able to begin the purchasing process for more assistive technology for our campus computer labs!

Assistive technology (or AT) refers to the electronic means we are able to accommodate people with disabilities. By allowing access to software, hardware, and other adaptive devices, COC's goal is to make our computer labs as accessible as possible.

We were fortunate to have special funding this year that was secured to distribute more assistive technology around campus. This software, hardware, and furniture will be placed in computer labs such as the

TLC, Library, and others.

I am very excited that we are working toward having AT dispersed throughout our campus, rather than centralizing it in the High Tech Center Lab. More and more access throughout our college will give greater opportunities to our students with disabilities!

The HTC Lab in DSP&S will continue to be the place where students who need training on assistive technologies go. Our lab's continuing focus is on providing access and tutorials in



**Erika Henderson—  
Access Coordinator**

these technologies to DSP&S students. The AT stations that will be throughout campus will be available only for access, not for tutorials. So if students are interested in gaining more skills in assistive technology, they will continue to look to the HTC Lab for instruction.

While we are only in the purchasing stage right now, we look forward to having more AT stations available in the future. As soon as these new stations become available, DSP&S will inform its students of this new opportunity.

So if you are a user of Kurzweil 1000 or 3000, JAWS, Dragon Naturally Speaking, ZoomText, or another AT product, we look forward to increasing your access in the future!

# DSP&S BUDGET CUTS

By: Erika Henderson

This year the State of California has the largest budget deficit in history. Unfortunately, this means that cuts will have to be made in the Community College System and in DSP&S. How much will be cut? We do not know at this time, but Governor Gray Davis has proposed as much as a 45% reduction in funds for DSP&S.

This substantial cut has only been proposed right now, and it still has to be passed by the State Assembly and the State Senate. However, if passed it would change the way DSP&S services are provided.

Mandated services such as deaf/hearing impaired interpreting, alternate media, and reasonable accommodations will still need to be provided by all community colleges. Currently, DSP&S assists its colleges in providing these services.

However, with less funding

other services that DSP&S provides may change. Our goal now is to make adjustments that will not negatively impact our students and staff.

Since mid-year cuts are also inevitable, our staff has already been working on making reductions as painless as possible. However, more cuts may have to be made to other services if DSP&S continues to receive funding reductions. Again, we hope to make as little negative impact on those students we serve.

We also realize that with the severity of the budget situation this year, it is a difficult task to find ways to limit the state's spending. It is now up to our elected representatives to make decisions on where to spend our tax dollars.

If you are interested in expressing your opinion about our state budget crisis we encourage you to write, e-mail or call your representatives. They want to hear what you think on this issue!

For Santa Clarita that is:

**Senator Tom McClintock**

State Capitol  
Room 3070

Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 445-8873

**Senator Wm. "Pete" Knight**

State Capitol  
Room 5082

Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 445-6637

**Assembly Member Keith Richman**

State Capitol  
Room 5128

Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 319-2038

**Governor Gray Davis**

State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 445-2841

[governor@governor.ca.gov](mailto:governor@governor.ca.gov)

Or to find the local officials for any city in California you can access the web site:

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

*"Governor Gray Davis has proposed as much as a 45% reduction in funds for DSP&S."*

# ADJUNCT COUNSELOR, SUSAN LING

By: Susan Ling

Hello, my name is Susan Ling. I am an Adjunct Counselor in DSPS. This is my second year working as a counselor at College of the Canyons. I have met many of the students in our department and I hope to meet more in the coming months.

Some of my responsibilities include providing academic and career coun-

seling to our students. Many of our students have questions regarding what classes to take for the next semester, how to choose a major, how to transfer to a university and what employment opportunities are available after graduation. I would be glad to answer these questions and address any issues you may have about being successful in your educa-

tional goals. Please make an appointment to see me so I can help answer your questions and concerns. Counseling appointments can be made by calling 362-3341.





26455 Rockwell Canyon Rd.  
Santa Clarita, CA 91355

Disabled Students Programs & Services

Phone: 661-362-3341  
Fax: 661-254-5716  
TDD: 661-255-7967

Location: C-103

**We're on the web!**  
<http://www.canyons.edu/offices/dsps/>

**DSP&S Staff**

- Dr. Jane A. Feuerhelm  
Director of DSP&S  
Extension: 3347
- Diane Solomon  
Counselor  
Extension: 3340
- Erika Henderson  
Access Coordinator II  
Extension: 3356
- Connie Wiens  
DSP&S Specialist  
Extension: 3341
- Dr. Christi Franklin  
Learning Disability Specialist
- MaryAnn Frye  
Lab Tutor
- Jean Hart  
Lab Tutor
- Linda Hart  
Lab Tutor
- Dr. Stephanie Lee  
Learning Disability Specialist
- Susan Ling  
Learning Disability Specialist
- Brian Ludwig  
Tutor
- Wendy Shaner  
Lab Tutor
- Marsha Shumer  
Hi Tech Specialist
- Rosemarie Walrath  
Office Assistant

**High Tech Center**

**Lab Hours**

- Monday: 9:00 AM—4:00 PM
- Tuesday: 9:00 AM—7:00 PM
- Wednesday: 9:00 AM—4:00 PM
- Thursday: 9:00 AM—4:00 PM
- Friday: 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

**DSP&S Office Hours**

- Monday: 8:00 AM—7:00 PM
- Tuesday: 8:00 AM—7:00 PM
- Wednesday: 8:00 AM—5:00 PM
- Thursday: 8:00 AM—5:00 PM
- Friday: 8:00 AM—12:00 PM (by appointment only)

**DSP&S**



**Staff Photo**

Pictured from top left to right: Wendy Shaner, Dr. Christi Franklin, Connie Wiens, & Erika Henderson. Pictured from bottom left to right: Jean Hart, Marsha Shumer, Dr. Jane A. Feuerhelm, Diane Solomon, & Linda Hart. Not available for picture: MaryAnn Frye, Dr. Stephanie Lee, and Susan Ling.

**TENTATIVE SUMMER  
HOURS FOR THE HIGH  
TECH CENTER\***

MONDAY: 10 AM—2 PM  
TUESDAY: 10 AM—2 PM  
WEDNESDAY: 10 AM—2 PM  
THURSDAY: 10 AM—2 PM