

May 1998 Journal

Community Education Council News

The Spring ACCE Drive-in Conference was a great success. Thirty-two participants learned a lot about online classes from Jules Ruggles of Education to Go. Sandy Rickner (Irvine Valley College) and Gary Hubbard (West Valley College) described their successful online programs. I shared the results of the ACCE Community Education Survey which identified major money-makers and programming trends (see summary below). The highlight of the day was an elegant luncheon prepared and served by the students of the Napa Valley Cooking School, a fee-based vocational training program sponsored by Napa Valley College Community Education.

The ACCE Community Education Survey which was conducted earlier this spring generated responses from thirty-five practitioners around the State. The top responses were as follows:

What are the major money-makers among your fee-based classes?

1. Dance Classes
2. Computer Classes
3. Medical Insurance Billing
4. Spanish, Yoga
5. Golf, Kids Summer Classes, Stock Market, Tai Chi, Traffic School

What do you see as major growth areas?

1. Computer Classes, Online Classes
2. Career Courses/Short-term Training, Kids Summer Classes
3. Business Related Classes

What short-term vocational courses to you offer?

1. Medical Insurance Billing
2. Computer Training, Travel Industry Training
3. Medical Transcription, Notary Public Certificate, Supervisory Training
4. Fingerprint Specialist, Human Resources Tech, Paralegal Training, Pharmacy Tech., Smog Testing (Bar '97)

What problems are you having?

(Unranked)

Access to computer labs on campus. Balancing supervision with other duties. Charge-backs on credit cards. Need for help from other practitioners on course ideas and development. Financial survival. How to compete with the competition. How to handle refunds. Ideas for acquiring computer labs. Ideas for marketing and promotion. Maintaining support from top administration. Rules regarding self-promotion by instructors. Territorialism on part of faculty and divisions.

For a copy of the total survey results, call me at (707) 967-2900, ext.2911 (24-hour voicemail).

Be sure to include your fax number with your message and a copy will be faxed to you. Thanks to all who came to the conference and to those who participated in the survey. Have a great summer!

Tom Travis, Napa Valley College

A Message from the President...

This is the time of year that envy of my credit faculty colleagues surfaces. Finals are over and grades calculated; commencement is a pleasant memory. The "Free Ones" have started their summer activities: sunning at the beach, gardening, traveling, etc.

We, on the other hand, just keep on keepin' on. Our spring noncredit classes continue for a couple of weeks with graduations and end-of-the-year celebrations still in the planning stages, plus we end spring classes on a Friday and start the summer ones on the following Monday. Community Services folks are busily responding to the registration flurry created by the distribution of the summer schedule. More JTPA Requests For Proposals will be arriving soon to generate another whirlwind of grant writing, and several contracts are in the negotiation stages. Whew!

How do I create at least the fantasy of summer? For me, summer conjures up the childhood memory of unfettered time for settling on a blanket in the shade of a cottonwood tree surrounded by books. That memory led me to wondering what my fellow ACCE Board members were currently reading and the decision to find out and share their recommendations in this column.

Both Marge Ball, our newly appointed treasurer, and Tom Travis, Past President, recommend DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF...and it is all small

stuff by Richard Carlson, Ph.D. Marge received the book as a Christmas gift. Then, in March, her Administrative Dean gave all his managers a copy to read! She highly recommends it ... to busy people because it is easy reading (short chapters), ... to people who could use ideas of how to handle stress, and ... to people who need to find the balance between what is necessary and what is important!

In preparation for a fishing expedition to Alaska with his son, Christian, Ray Ramirez, First Vice-President/President Elect, has been boning up on fly fishing. He recommends these tomes as both interesting and informative:

Dances with Trout by John Gierach
Advanced Fly Fishing Techniques by Lefty Kreh
Fly Fishing - Learn from a Master by Bill Mason

Jan Powers, Journal Editor, recommends Simple Abundance - A Daybook of Comfort and Joy by Sarah Ban Breathnach. It is a collection of inspiring and creative essays -- one for every day of the year -- written for women. The author's intent was to write a book that would show her how to "reconcile her deepest spiritual, authentic, and creative longings with often-overwhelming and conflicting commitments -- to family, parents, work, home, and community." She shows you how your daily life can be an expression "of your authentic self..." It's wonderfully written and full of lots of inspiring and fun ideas for things you can do to enhance your life.

Sharon Dwyer, Secretary/Historian, says that although Performance Consulting, Moving Beyond Training by Dana Gaines Robinson & James C. Robinson may not sound all that exciting, she is finding it very interesting because of its relevance. Performance consulting provides different way of approaching employers by taking a more holistic look at services. It shifts the focus from "what people need to learn (training) to what they need to do." The book provides an overview of performance consulting, plus self-tests and exercises to facilitate your learning.

I've just completed two lively, "escapist" pieces. The first, Under the Tuscan Sun by Frances Mayes, will appeal to arm chair travelers and those in search of gustatory delights. Mayes shares her experiences of buying and remodeling a villa in Tuscany to create the "dream" summer home.

You'll smile at her descriptions of the remodeling challenges. Her word-pictures transport you to this favored region of Italy. You visit the idyllic countryside and savor the feasts created with regional foods and wines. She even gives you recipes and throws in a bit of ancient history.

The Night Class by Maeve Binchy offers an opportunity to lose yourself in the spell-binding, if improbable, web that links the members of an adult education class studying Italian. As with her previous novels, Binchy develops characters in whom you want to believe and for whom you want the "happy ending." She doesn't disappoint you.

Whatever your summer fantasy, I hope you have the opportunity to make it a reality.

Lynda Lee, MiraCosta College

Noncredit/Adult Ed Council NewsUpdate:

Assembly Bill 2398 (Ducheney) passed the Assembly on May 27th and subsequently the Senate. It now goes to the Senate Education Committee on June 24.

ACCE and I urge you to contact your local legislators to support the \$11M proposal which is currently in both versions of the budget to equalize noncredit apportionments. In order to be sure that this item remains in the budget, you must request that your legislators make it a top priority in the budget negotiations process.

To simplify the message, ask them to:

1. (If they are Senate members) Support AB2398 in the Senate, and
2. Be sure that the \$11M item remains in their version of the budget!

Thank you for taking the time to help get the message across to our representatives!

Lani DeVincentis, Glendale College

AB 2398 Passes Assembly & Senate
ACCE works to increase support for AB2398

This is the time of year things really start to move fast in the legislative arena. Likewise we go into high gear on our campuses.

As a result of ACCE's connection with the Faculty Association of CCC (FACC), we had the opportunity to raise the understanding of the Vice Chancellor for Finance, Patrick Lenz, and the Undersecretary of Education and Child Development, Glee Johnson, in regards to Assembly Bill 2398 (Ducheny). As you may know, this bill will equalize noncredit state apportionments up to the average level of support received by K-12 adult education (\$138/fte increase). In recent meetings that we have held with both Patrick and Glee (who are key to the success of AB 2398), it became clear that they didn't have full understanding of the work done by the state's noncredit programs.

With the help of Leslie Smith, FACC president (and a noncredit faculty member), ACCE arranged to have both Lenz and Johnson visit two noncredit programs in Southern California.

Several ACCE members and I picked Patrick and Glee up at 9 a.m. at the Burbank Airport and transported them to Pasadena City College where they observed a variety of credit and noncredit classes in one setting. Then we took them to Glendale where they were able to observe crowded ESL classes in poor neighborhood churches and meet with local professionals who work directly with students. After that we took them to the credit campus at Glendale College where they observed an animation laboratory and a television production program.

I believe Patrick and Glee were both enlightened on a few issues as a result of this visit. First, they had some preconceived ideas that there really wasn't much difference between credit and noncredit classes since many of the titles are the same. However, by the end of the day, Glee commented that she could really see the difference. Patrick started out with polite acceptance of the day's plans, but by lunch time was very excited about what he was seeing and was extremely animated in classrooms with students.

We really won't know if the visit accomplished much until we learn the fate of the Ducheny bill. We had hoped to get into the Governor's May Revise, but didn't make it. Unfortunately, the Department of Finance has just released a report stating that noncredit actually does have parity of funding with K-12 districts because our maintenance and operations funds were not included in the original figures given for noncredit apportionments. (This is not true and Gary Cook in the

Chancellor's Office confirms that they are misguided in their report.)
As a result, we will have to overcome the negative impact of this report.

Leslie Smith recently met with Senator Burton and asked the Senator to whisper in the Governor's ear that he should not veto AB2398 when it reached his desk. Burton said he would put in a good word, but added that the real people who would sway the Governor were Ross Johnson from the Coast District and John Lewis from Rancho. The work now is for all of us to send letters and request these two gentlemen to urge the Governor not to veto AB2398!

Lani DeVincentis, Glendale College

George Blanc Retires as ACCE Treasurer

George Blanc (Orange Coast College) recently announced his retirement as ACCE Treasurer. Though he will continue to be a member of ACCE, George is moving on to a new position serving as treasurer of the California Community College Association of Occupational Educators (CCAOE). Thank you George for over 5 years of dedicated service to ACCE!

Marge Ball (also of Orange Coast) has graciously agreed to replace George as treasurer and has already begun her duties. Welcome Marge!

ACCE Membership Grows

Membership in ACCE has reached 86...the highest it has been in the last three years. We recently faxed all those who attended the recent Drive-In Conference at Napa who have not yet joined and hope they see the ACCE light too!

Please call me at (805) 259-7800, ext. 3422, with any "Yellow Book" Directory corrections, especially since area codes are changing throughout the state. Any other corrections will be graciously accepted. It seems more than one Directory made the rounds at the Costa Mesa annual conference but I only came home with one. Sorry if your college's information did not get updated!

Pam Beaver

The ACCE Journal is published quarterly by the Association of Community and Continuing Education, an Organization of California Community Colleges.

The Executive Board of ACCE invites interested parties to submit information, announcements, research findings, and articles of interest to noncredit, contract education, and community education fee-based program providers.

For information contact:

Jan Powers, ACCE Journal Editor
c/o Sierra College Community Education
5000 Rocklin Road, Rocklin CA 95677
Phone: 916-781-0590
Fax: 916-789-2996
Email: powers_ja@infosys.sierra.cc.ca.us

ACCE BOARD

President: Lynda Lee, MiraCosta College
1st VP: Ray Ramirez, San Diego
2nd VP/Membership: Pam Beauer, College of the Canyons
Treasurer: Marge Ball, Orange Coast College
Secretary/Historian: Sharon Dwyer, Ventura
Training & Economic Development: Sharon Dwyer, Ventura
Past President: Dr. Tom Travis, Napa Valley
Journal Editor: Jan Powers, Sierra College
Legislative Analyst: Lani DeVincentis, Glendale College
Chancellor's Office: Norma Morris

Advocates for Lifelong Learning in California