

January 2001 Journal

ACCE JOURNAL

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From Grocery Sacks to Back Packs

Imaginative architects transformed a strip mall in a redevelopment area along the Mission Corridor of Oceanside into the new high tech home for MiraCosta College's noncredit programs and classes. The 39,000 square foot Community Learning Center sits on a 7.5 acre site purchased by the College. It features sweeping curves on the exterior; an airy atrium that leads to a multipurpose room suitable for large gatherings or smaller meetings; spacious classrooms equipped with Internet connections and cable television; an indoor/outdoor art area with sinks, kilns, and ample storage; a bookstore; a student lounge; and four state-of-the-art computer labs.

The College moved the noncredit courses that were offered in a 19,000 square-foot leased facility into the new Center. The additional space means more classes and reduced waiting lists for high-demand classes. Also, some of the off-site classes that were held in less desirable facilities were moved to the new Center. Noncredit courses include English as a second language, Adult High School Diploma Program, parenting, and Cisco computer networking. There are also classes for adults with disabilities and classes for older adults including art, tai chi, and body conditioning. Lynda Lee, dean of community education, states, "There are many wonderful learning opportunities for students, staff, and faculty in this beautiful environment. However, my greatest pleasure comes from seeing our diverse population sharing the student lounge-an older adult conversing with an Adult High School student, and an adult with a disability showing an ESL student how to use the copy machine."

Future plans include adding more credit classes intended to help noncredit students transition to college vocational and academic programs. Currently, credit courses in floral design and management meet at the Center. In addition, Cisco computer networking and customer service are offered as co-listed courses.

In the fall of 2002, a cooperative venture with Oceanside Unified School District (OUSD) will be launched. The Academy of Business and Technology will offer 11th and 12th graders an alternative to

the regular high school curriculum. Students will take a combination of core high school courses and MiraCosta credit courses. The curriculum will be project-based, and graduation requirements will include an internship and a final project. In the beginning, the core high school courses will be held in MiraCosta's Center during the off-peak hours. Some of the MiraCosta courses will be offered at the Center, but students may also travel to either of the other two campuses to take classes. If the venture proves successful, OUSD will construct it's own facility on the site to accommodate up to four hundred students.

Danny Lopez, 21, when interviewed by a reporter for The North County Times said, "I live down the street, and it's really cool that I can go to school in my own neighborhood. It makes me kind of proud." They, too, think "it's really cool," and it makes them "kind of proud."

-Lynda Lee, MiraCosta College

Annual ACCE Conference Set for Feb. 12-14 in Palm Springs

The Annual Statewide ACCE Conference will be held in beautiful Palm Springs at the Riviera Resort from February 12 to 14. Your conference brochure should have been on your desk when you returned from the Holiday break.

The Conference theme, "Best Practices, Best Outcomes: Practical, Replicable Strategies for Success," promises to be very interesting and informative. Lindy Williams, Dean of Student Services and Special Programs for the Chancellor's Office, will give a keynote address on Monday.

Our Tuesday keynote speaker, Dr. Stephen Brookfield, professor at the University of St. Thomas, will speak on "Beocming a Critically Reflective Practitioner. " Dr. Brookfield is an internationally known author of nine books on adult learning, teaching, and critical thinking, three of which have won the World Award for Literature in Adult Education.

Noncredit, Community Services and Economic Development and Training are all well represented by excellent workshops and the Tuesday afternoon Hot Topics Table Talks.

The Ride 'n' Dine event on Tuesday at 5 p.m. promises to be great fun with a Tramway ride up the mountain to enjoy the beautiful view and dinner.

The Conference rates will be available to all attendees on the week-end before the Conference.

So, do get your registration in and hotel reservations made for this

outstanding Conference. If you cannot find your brochure, call me at 805-964-6853, ext. 333, and I will mail or fax one to you.

-Barbra S. Louis, Santa Barbara City College

President's Letter

Greetings. Your executive board has been very busy preparing for our annual conference in Palm Springs on February 12 to 14, 2001. I encourage you to attend the conference to share this experience with colleagues, listen to and learn from our great presenters and keynote speakers, and to enjoy the beautiful setting of Palm Springs and the Riviera Resort Hotel.

On Tuesday, February 13, we will hold the ACCE business meeting during the conference luncheon. At that time the annual ACCE awards will be announced. I wish to encourage all of you to submit nominations for these very important awards. We need to recognize our colleagues, who, by their actions, have distinguished themselves in their respective roles and programs.

The awards are for Person of the Year in Continuing Education, Community Education and Economic Development; the most Innovative and Original Regional Program or Class; and the prestigious Marian Loniello Award. I am looking forward to this presentation and again encourage you all to submit names.

My best wishes for a successful and rewarding new year and I am looking forward to seeing you all in Palm Springs in February.

-Ray Ramirez, San Diego College

Wanted:

ACCE Journal Editor!

Do you like to write and enjoy desktop publishing? Do you have editing skills? Would you like to contribute to your professional organization?

Serving as the ACCE Journal editor has been fun and very rewarding professionally. Unfortunately, I must give up this enjoyable task to make more time for other priorities.

The Journal is published four times a year. ACCE pays for the editor to attend four board meetings per year (..the fun part). Call Jan Powers at Sierra College, (916) 781-0590, for more information, or email me at atjpowers@scmail.sierra.cc.ca.us.

Noncredit Council News

It's the time of year when things are pretty quiet at the State Legislature and most everyone else in the education world is getting ready for the start of the new semester. The one thing that is on the move, however, is the \$48 million Budget Change Proposal (BCP) that has been accepted by the Board of Trustees to support noncredit instruction.

I am guessing that most of you received an e-mail from Phil Day, Chancellor, City College of San Francisco, inviting CEO's and others interested in noncredit to a strategy session Sunday, January 21, at the Hyatt Hotel in Sacramento. It is a breakfast meeting from 8 to 10 a.m. A number of the college presidents from schools with noncredit programs will be in attendance. If you are available, I would encourage you to attend this meeting and contact your CEO and see if he or she is planning to attend or willing to send someone to represent your college. I am planning to be there.

The real issue at this time seems to be that since we have the BCP in place with the State Trustees and the Chancellor's Office are supporting it, we need to be sure that all of the colleges are on board and begin working cooperatively to persuade the Legislature to join in that support. Last year we didn't have nearly as much preparation or support at this phase in the process, so this year, with ample time to plan and persuade, we have a much better chance for success. I don't need to tell any of you how much a budget increase will mean to noncredit in your school and within the State. We need this to keep our students abreast of the technological changes in the 21st Century. Hope to see you on the 21st !

-Lani DeVincentis, Glendale College

Renew Your ACCE Membership!

Now is the time to join or renew your ACCE membership for 2001. Buy a new ACCE Directory and get a free membership. Fees are \$48 for one Directory or \$130 for three copies. The new Directory, scheduled to be mailed late March, will keep you current with your community college colleagues.

Take a minute to look at your current Directory and check to make sure we have the most current information. If you need to make changes, the deadline for updates to the new directory is January 31, 2001. Please e-mail your changes to revelr@mail.arc.losrios.cc.ca.us or fax changes to (916) 484-8851.

-Raymelle Revel, American River College

Resolutions You Must Make for 2001

(Reprinted from Learning Resources Network (LERN) January edition of E-LERN, thier monthly email newsletter.)

With your job, your life, your organization ,and our society going through a tremendous change into the Internet Age, there are ten resolutions for 2001 you must make. Our resolutions for 2001 are important, yet simple and easy to carry out. In fact, they will be easier to do than those diet, fitness, bad habit resolutions we normally make. So clip out this article, stick it on your wall or door, and check them off as you do them. If you complete more than half, email info@lern.org and maybe you can win a prize. Good luck, and have a great year.

_____1. Take an online course. Find out what online learning is all about by taking an online course yourself.

The two sources for online courses we recommend are LERN at www.lern.org and Education To Go at www.ed2go.com. Both offer low cost, quality courses.

_____2. Find out what grandmother did. Your ancestors went through a similar transition one hundred years ago. Find out what your great-grandparents were doing in 1900. Then trace the changes in your family history between 1900 and 1920. You'll have a better understanding of what they went through and how you can handle the changes of today.

_____3. Work one day from home. Work one day a week from home. If you are already doing that, work one more day a week from home. When you work from home, you are more productive, your organization benefits, and you get an extra hour or two not having to commute. Start thinking about incorporating working from home as a regular feature of your work week.

_____4. Ask a kid about technology. Ask the kids about technology, including the Internet, software, Napster, and how things work. As adults, we will never catch up to the kids when it comes to technology. You don't need to feel in the dark about technology. Just ask a kid. They can teach us a lot.

_____5. Discover your passion on the Internet. You have a hobby or favorite interest. No matter what it is, there's a web site about it. The best way to become involved with the Internet is to discover your passion on the Internet. By exploring and playing with your passion on the Internet, you will continue to improve your online skills.

_____6. Find a techie. Ask a college student, high school student, or even middle/junior high school student to help you download software, fix problems, and provide technical support for you at work, at home, or both. There's no need to get frustrated, irritated, or simply over your head when it comes to technology. Low cost friendly help is very close at hand.

_____7. Turn your job into outcomes. Rewrite part or all of your job description in terms of outcomes and results produced, instead of 'activities.' When you see your job in terms of outcomes rather than activities, you are able to demonstrate your value to present and future employers. Think about the "skill sets" you have to position yourself for long-term employability and value.

_____8. Work less. Work one-half to one hour a day less this year. And increase your productivity or output by 10%. Do that by cutting out those activities which are less important, take too much time, and/or lose money. Your organization will benefit from the increased productivity, and you will benefit from lowering your stress and increasing your energy level. Use the time for family, leisure, taking a walk, or community.

_____9. Read a book on change. Read or skim one book on change. We recommend either "The Great Crossover: personal confidence in the age of the microchip," by Dan Sullivan, available from The Strategic Coach in Toronto, email: info@strategiccoach.com ; or "Managing Transitions" by William Bridges, available from your local bookstore or Amazon.com.

_____10. Take a class. Take a class, a course, or attend a seminar or conference. All those good things people say about continuing education and training-they are really true.

Don't miss it!

Annual ACCE Conference

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Palm Springs

805-964-6853, Ext. 333

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ACCE

Advocates for Lifelong Learning in California