

DATES TO KNOW

Wednesday, January 23 One Stop Registration!

From 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., staff and volunteers will be on hand to help students with counseling, enrolling in spring courses, financial aid, fees and parking permit questions. Parking will be free for students! Call ext. 5222 for more information.

February 20 Cubs Under Construction Town Hall – 9 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. presentations!

Why is the Vermont sidewalk closed? Why will the Vermont breezeway be closed soon? Why will trenches soon criss-cross the campus??

Join us in the Fac/Staff Center for a presentation on the soon-to-come infrastructure construction needed to replace 60-year-old electrical, sewer and water lines throughout LACC.

January 26 – 27 Community College League of CA - Legislative Conference

Learn the latest on Prop. 92; initiatives proposed by the Governor; legislative proposals affecting community colleges & students; state budget developments; and Advocacy for the coming year.
cclc@cclleague.org

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the first LACC update of 2008! I hope all faculty and staff enjoyed a relaxing holiday break and are ready to continue working to help our students achieve their goals! Please post this update in your office or classroom to share with individuals interested in LACC. These updates are posted on the campus website at www.LAcitycollege.edu.

LACC Revamped Web Site to Launch This Month

Yes, the time has come! All nine colleges in the LA Community College District are revamping their websites. The winter session was chosen as a good time to "flip the switch" on the newly redesigned sites, so any bugs that need to be worked out can be taken care of before the spring session begins. First the home page will be launched, along with subsequent pages. Our web designers will soon meet with individual departments to determine their layout variations and complete the new site.

Student Scholarships Available

The LaGrant Foundation is celebrating its 10th anniversary by awarding \$250,000 in scholarships to 36 minority undergrad and grad students in the nation. Students must have a 2.75 GPA; must be seeking an undergraduate degree; must be enrolled in either advertising, marketing or public relations; and must make a one-year commitment to maintain contact with the foundation for assistance with professional development.

African American, Asian Pacific American, Hispanic or Native American/Alaska Native students may obtain an application at the web site: www.lagrantsfoundation.org, by calling Ericka Avila at 323.469.8680, ext. 223, or via e-mail at erickaavila@lagrant.com. Applications must be submitted by **Friday, February 29, 2008**. If chosen, the applicant must attend a career development workshop and a scholarship awards reception.

Help Us Create a LACC Master Calendar

So many things are happening on our campus, and we need your assistance to gather all our important event dates together in one place! Please forward a list of your activities to Lisa Fitch at fitchlo@lacitycollege.edu so she can add them to a master calendar.

Looking for Some Interesting Reading?

Education articles are sent to us frequently from the state Chancellor's Office and spotlight local, state and national college events, announcements and news. Just click: <http://www.lacitycollege.edu/facstaff/staffdev/acadnews.html> The link to the articles is also on the Faculty & Staff page: <http://lacitycollege.edu/citymain/facultystaff.html>

Groundbreaking/Board Meeting Day a Success!

Thanks to all who assisted in the activities of December 12th. What a busy day! First groundbreaking ceremonies for the Sci/Tech Center and then hosting the LACCD Board of Trustees meeting! A picture of the groundbreaking event was featured with a story in the December 13th Park Labrea News/Beverly Press and of course, you can see more info on our website www.LAcitycollege.edu.



Town Hall

Wednesday, Feb. 20

Faculty/Staff Center
9a.m., noon & 2 p.m.

Learn How LACC
Infrastructure
Improvements will
Affect You During the
Next 12 Months!

NEW LAWS FOR THE NEW YEAR

- Publishers and bookstores are to disclose the price of books to assist faculty in deciding which texts students must buy.
- No more smoking in cars with minors present
- Gift cards can now be redeemed for cash if the amount is less than \$10
- Homeowners can apply for a rebate to cover part of the costs of a solar water heater
- For more info please visit: www.leginfo.ca.gov

L.A. Times Decries Prop. 92

According to the January 7th edition of the *LA Times*: "Proposition 92 promises California's community colleges a stable funding source while lowering student fees. What could be wrong with that? A lot. Community colleges certainly need more money, but Proposition 92 would lock the state into spending hundreds of millions of additional dollars that it doesn't have." Well, at least the Times recognizes that "Community colleges are the workhorses of California's education system, making up for high schools that fail to educate, preparing students for four-year colleges, training adults for careers, providing second and in many cases first chances at an education. They do need help..".

Conference Information

The American Student Association of Community Colleges is hosting its National Student Advocacy & Leadership Conference from March 8 through 11th 2008 in Washington D.C. Conference highlights include:

- All major Presidential Candidates are invited to address students
- Advocacy, leadership and citizenship training and discussions
- Dozens of exciting workshops and breakout sessions

There are 12 million community college students in the nation. Student leaders have a responsibility to represent their constituents on issues of concern. At this conference, experts will share with students the top issues facing community colleges during 2008. Recently, ASACC and its partner organizations have shared success in increasing the Pell Grant maximum, lowering student interest rates and advocating an investigation into textbook prices – but the battle never ends.

For more information, registration and hotel reservations forms, visit www.asacc.org. Registration and hotel room block deadline is **February 8, 2008**.

Congratulations Cubs!

LA City came away with two victories during the Christmas holidays in the College of the Desert Holiday Tournament held Dec. 27-29 in Palm Desert:

Dec. 27: LA City 77 v. Palomar College 89 Opening opponent *Palomar College* proved most capable against the Cubs. Poor shooting and excessive turnovers plagued LA City and greatly contributed to their nine point halftime deficit, 52-43. Although the Cubs second half play improved, and freshman guard **Scott Sterling** led all scorers with a season high 27 points, it wasn't enough to catch the Comets.

Dec. 28: LA City 66 v. Imperial Valley 61 LA City captured its 12th victory of the season. **Sterling**, again, led the Cub attack with 15 points, six assists, and five rebounds.

Dec. 29: LA City 57 v. Saddleback College 42 The Cubs lost to Saddleback during the second round of the State Play-offs last year and vowed revenge. They received it. **Travis George** recorded his third consecutive double-digit scoring game with 13 points, four rebounds, and four blocked shots. He was named to the All-Tournament Team.

WITHIN US Selected to Perform at Festival

"Within Us," a production of the LACC Theater Academy, has been chosen for festival participation at the **February 11th – 16th** Region VIII Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival XL at CSULA. A panel will select the best plays to go to the annual national festival at the Kennedy Center, all expenses paid! Break a leg, Academy!

Register to attend the CC League's Annual Legislative Conference

Help make a difference for community colleges! This not-to-be-missed conference (**January 27 – 28 in Sacramento**) will provide a unique opportunity to connect with other advocates working for affordable and accessible higher education. Here's what you can learn at the conference: Latest information on Prop. 92; Initiatives proposed by the Governor; Legislative proposals affecting community colleges and students; State budget developments; Advocacy strategies for the coming year and more.

Join your community college colleagues in the launch of this exciting legislative year as we advocate for opportunity and help build bridges to success! Visit cclc@cleague.org and register today.

Gov. Schwarzenegger Tackles California's Challenges, Proposes Budget Reforms in Jan. 8 State of the State Address

California's economy continues to grow, in spite of the current housing downturn, and the state continues to enjoy overall job growth. Yet while Governor Schwarzenegger prudently increased our rainy day reserve to historic highs in 2006 and 2007, California still faces a projected \$14 billion budget gap in the 2008-09 fiscal year that requires across-the-board-cuts. In December, the Governor announced that he will declare a fiscal emergency to address the current year budget shortfall and he proposes the Budget Stabilization Act, a Constitutional amendment to fundamentally reform the state budget process. This reform requires a vote of the people.

The Budget Stabilization Act:

- Establishes a Revenue Stabilization Fund (RSF), which is simply a savings account for excess revenues taken in by California during a prosperous year. This will allow the state to transfer the difference from the RSF into the General Fund in years when tax revenues are below average and California cannot meet its spending obligations.
- Allows California to reduce spending when necessary. Right now, California doesn't have this flexibility. Once the Governor signs the budget, spending is locked in unless he declares a fiscal state of emergency and calls a special session. Under this act, state agencies must reduce their spending if a year-end deficit is projected by the Department of Finance.
- Requires the legislature to enact a statute specifying how the state will reduce spending to meet Budget Stabilization Act requirements as soon as a deficit is projected. If the legislature does not specify the reductions—or if their reductions are insufficient—the amendment allows the Governor to waive state law and regulations in order to achieve the savings needed to bring California's budget into balance.

Delivering his annual State of the State address before a joint session of the California State Legislature, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger asked legislators to work with him to tackle some of California's most pressing challenges including reforming the state budget system.

"This coming year will test us in very hard ways. In a number of areas, we've tackled politically risky things that no one in the past wanted to touch. To me, this is progress. And now, we must make progress on another problem that's been put off for many years," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "We cannot continue to put people through the binge and purge of our budget process. It is not fair. It is not reasonable. It is not in the best interests of anyone. So I am again proposing a constitutional amendment so that our spending has some relationship to our revenues."

During the speech, the Governor discussed his bold proposals to reform the state budget system that will ensure greater financial stability in the future and addressed why health care reform is critical to fixing our failing budget. He also discussed why the current budget challenge does not change California's critical need for infrastructure investment and how the most needed education reforms are still possible.

"Government can work, it can be efficient and it can lead. California has proven this in so many areas including climate change, low carbon fuels, energy efficiency and on clean, green technology," the Governor added. "But, our work has only just begun. I cannot fix the budget, build the roads and bridges or improve education alone. We have to work together if we are going to fix these problems and give the people of California what they deserve."

Chat with the President!

My open office hours are on Fridays through the end of February. Please sign up for a 15 min. chat by calling Nannette: 323.953.4010.



Southern California Winter Institute · LACC. Wednesday to Friday, January 16-18, 2008. Registration scholarships are available for these workshops offered to LACC certificated and classified employees. <http://www.cccone.org/institutes/08winter/index.htm>

[Workshop I: Introduction to Online Teaching and Learning](#)

Are you interested in teaching online, but have never been exposed to the tools, methods, and pedagogical shift required to teach in this new context? Learn about the tools and techniques needed with other CCC professionals in a supportive, hands-on environment.

[Workshop II: Introduction to ETUDES Course Management Software](#)

This workshop will focus on an overview of the core ETUDES tools, features, and functions. The three-day hands-on workshop at the 2008 @One Winter Institute will be preceded by a one-week online portion to allow participants to apply the skills learned in a practice site.

[Workshop III: Introduction to Teaching with Blackboard](#)

Are you interested in learning how to use Blackboard to teach online? In this course, you'll experience Blackboard from both student and instructor perspectives, while creating your own online course.

[Workshop IV: Podcasting: Creating and Publishing Audio Content Online](#)

Ever wanted to broadcast course material on the Internet? Or host your own radio show? Podcasting tools have evolved to allow even the most novice of computer users to record, edit, and publish their work online.

[Workshop V: Moving Up to Office 2007](#)

Microsoft Office 2007 represents Microsoft's most significant upgrade to its suite of work-related applications yet. In this workshop, you'll learn tips and tricks in Microsoft Office 2007, with a special eye for how features work in both traditional and new systems.

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