

Calendar



TODAY President's Holiday Party, 8:00am-3:00pm, College Center

Dec. 15 Research Methods Poster Session, Psyc 335 students show their work through posters, 8:00-10:00am, Recital Hall

Dec. 16 Gospel Choir: Holiday Concert, 7:30pm, Offsite

Dec. 18 End of Semester

Dec. 20 Men's Basketball: CRC vs. Marin at CRC, 3:00pm

Dec. 27-29 Men's Basketball: San Jose City College Classic, San Jose

Faculty/Staff Highlights

The **Lodi News-Sentinel** recently had a contest where they asked both adults and children to nominate a *Classroom Hero*. A *Classroom Hero* is a teacher that was very special and often times changed the direction of her/his life in some positive fashion. The winning letter was from Erin Lanni-Andrews who was in Geography Professor **Debra Sharkey's** class eleven years ago. Sharkey helped to identify Erin's learning problem as ADD and encouraged her to be tested. After testing, Erin was prescribed medication which enabled her to remain focused. In her letter Erin says, "After starting on medication my grade point average went from under 2.0 to a 3.6 grade point average. I graduated with a bachelor's degree from Stanislaus State. However, without Ms. Sharkey's care and time, the likelihood of my finishing college would never have happened." Sharkey and Erin were introduced by the publisher, Marty Weybret at an Award Ceremony held on December 14. They were presented with a cash prize and a certificate.

Nutrition Professor Dana Wassmer Presented "Opportunities in Health Career Education in the LRCCD" along with Deans Mary Turner (SCC) and Steven Boyd (ARC) at the High School Counselors Conference on Dec. 5, 2008. This event was attended by 260 high school counselors from northern California and was very well received. Prof. Wassmer showcased CRC's allied health programs that include: Diet Tech, EMT, HIT, Med Assisting, Vet Tech and our new Pharm Tech. Later Dana joined **Medical Assisting Professor, Cori Burns** for the "Tours of the Health Career Education Programs" and held a Q&A for the counselors. "We had a lot of interest in our programs," said Dana, "Many were impressed with the quality of our programs and couldn't wait to share what they learned today with their high school students."

Congratulations to the following faculty for being approved for Spring 2009 sabbaticals:

Type A

Maureen Moore, Humanities- "*Understanding Contemporary Brazil*" Maureen will be researching the indigenous African and European influences on contemporary Brazilian culture through on-site travel to historic sites and in interviews of the locals.

Type B

David Andrews, Horticulture- "*Horticulture Program Revitalization and Curriculum Project Phase II: Landscape Architecture Transfer Program and Sustainable Horticulture Course Development*"

Dave will organize and modify existing CRC courses as well as develop new curriculum to create a strong transfer program in landscape architecture. He will also help develop courses for a certificate/degree in Sustainable Horticulture.

Greg Chapman, CIS- "*Convert Existing Online and Hybrid Courses to New Software Format and Latest Version of Visual Basic*"

Greg will convert all online courses to Desire2Learn format and will update the custom sample programs and custom electronic lectures for CISP 370 and 371 to the new Visual Basic.

Charles Deneke, Biology- "*Master Gardener Training, Community Service, and Video Indexing*"

Charles will participate in volunteer training as a Yolo County Master Gardener. He will also be indexing plant and environmental videos used in teaching biology courses.

Howard Lewis, Agriculture- "*Online Enrichment/Improvement/Outreach*"

Howard will continue developing online options for ag programs with the desire to have a wholly online pathway available for ag students. He will also support development of industry partnerships for laboratories, site visits, internships, and advisory committee participation in the newly-emerging equine science and agritourism programs.

Ray Mapeso, Counselor- "*Exploratory Study of the Puente Team and Puente Programs*"

Ray will explore other Puente Programs identified as successful by the statewide Puente office to learn what qualities make them effective teams and how implementation of the Puente Project is achieved at these identified programs.

Camille Moreno, Mathematics- "*Extend Math Study Skills Offerings*"

Camille will look at the development of extended offerings for Math Study Skills. Specifically, in this project includes development of math study skills modules offered in conjunction with the Math Center services, offering it as a one-unit course linked to Math 20.

Andrea Salmi, Biology- "*Improvement of Teaching and Learning in Human Anatomy and Physiology*"

Andi will first create an Instructor's Manual for Human Anatomy and Physiology, second identification keys for models and chars used in A&P will be rewritten and improved. And she will create an A&P Web site for use for students.

Christine Wagner, Communication Studies- "*Past Perfect-Future Tense: A Digital Immigrant's Sojourn into Online Teaching*"

Chris will develop online curriculum for Comm 325: Intercultural Communication using Desire2Learn with launch in fall '09. Also, she will research and record her acculturation process of a digital immigrant into an educational world inhabited more and more by digital natives and link this to preliminary, theory building research on student perceptions of instructor credibility with regard to use of technology.

Congratulations to Chief Warrant Officer (and ECE Professor) **Linn Violet** on her retirement from the U.S. Coast Guard after thirty-two years of



dedicated service. On Saturday, December 6th, a retirement ceremony was held at Coast Guard Island, Alameda, CA, to honor CWO4 Violet's honorable service and dedication to our country. Seaman Apprentice Violet (then Gari) entered the military service in 1974 with her brothers, Robert and Bill. The three siblings were sworn into service by their father, Master

Chief Petty Officer (and CRC Business Dean) Bob Gari. After numerous promotions and assignments, Linn accepted a Commission as Chief Warrant Officer (CWO1) in June 1997. In 2007 CWO4 Violet was named Outstanding Junior Reserve Officer for Maintenance and Logistics Command – Pacific Area. CWO4 Violet was awarded the Coast Guard Commendation Medal for meritorious service in the superior performance of her duties. CRC wishes CWO4 Violet "Fair winds and following seas" in her retirement from the Coast Guard.

Student Highlights



Congratulations to CRC Geography student **Heather Downing** on being selected as a 2008 National Wildlife Federation Campus Ecology Fellow. Heather was awarded a grant in the amount of \$2,000 to support her efforts to slow global warming at CRC and in the community. She presented her winning poster from the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers conference to the CRC Foundation Board during its December Retreat last Thursday.

ASG President **Calvin Monroe** visited several Historically-Black colleges in Atlanta last month and is looking to transfer next fall.

Professional Development/CASSL

Consider joining the CASSL Seminar in Teaching and Learning. Each seminar section runs for 9 weeks. It works like a graduate seminar where we read essays and research about college teaching and discuss the information as it applies to each of our disciplines. The discussion is consistently interesting, sometimes vigorous, and always thoughtful. Our ongoing conversations are a chance for an extended dialogue about college teaching.

There are two sessions for the Spring - Sign up for either one by emailing Marybeth Buechner.

Session A: Fridays 10am-12pm, February 6 to April 17, CASSL

Session B: Tuesdays 5-7pm, February 10 to April 14, CASSL

Division Highlights



CRC is one of six schools that received the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) Outstanding Postsecondary/Adult Program Award on December 3rd at the NAAE annual conference in Charlotte, NC. The program is advised by **Howard Lewis, Dave Andrews and Dr. Chris Impinna**. Each of the six regional OPAP winners received a two-year lease on a Toyota tundra, a reception and dinner held in their honor, plaque, cash award, and expense paid trip to attend the annual conference in Charlotte. To read more in the Sacramento Bee, which published the news on Saturday, [click here](#).

CRC's Learner-Centered **Freshman Seminar** was included in the 2008 Practices With Promises Report which is designed "to recognize exemplary efforts to improve college access and student success." This is the 2nd year of the initiative undertaken by the Campaign for College Opportunity (funded by numerous sources including the William & Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Irvine Foundation, and the Lumina Foundation).

EOPS Coordinator **Kathy Degn** and Career Center SPA **Lynne Archangel** were guests on News 10 last week talking about how people are going back to college for retraining after losing jobs. To read what they said, click here:

<http://www.news10.net/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=51808&catid=2>

Dana Wassmer, Nutrition Professor, tackled the food and nutrition fallacies in her latest article, "Stuff of Urban Legends". You can read the article at: <http://attachments.wetpaintserv.us/hZerdrW3pQvx1OOpkYs3Q%3D%3D43351>

With the help of **David Organ**, CRC Ford Training Instructor, and Total Automotive we were able to get the CRC Construction Program a new (used) truck at an exceptional great deal! It is a 2001 Ford F350 Crew Cab with less than 51,000 miles. It has the ability to pull a 10,000 lb. trailer, which is more than enough to pull the Construction Program equipment trailer. This work truck was funded through the SB 70 Grant in partnership with DO and



SCC. We owe huge thanks to David. He saved the program, the college, and in essence taxpayers, many thousands of dollars by selling this truck for many thousands of dollars under its true worth. He could have gotten a lot more for this truck if he hadn't honestly wanted to help the Construction Program with this extraordinary deal of a truck.

Men's Basketball: Friday (Dec. 12) played Napa and won 68-65 Sat. (Dec. 13) played Los Positas and won 87-84

Women's Basketball: Friday (Dec. 12) played Solano and won 65-64. Sat. DeAnza and won 52-50. Sunday- Diablo Valley College and won 59-50.

Community Connections

The **CRC Foundation** met at Boulevard Bistro for its semi-annual retreat last week. Members of the Foundation are busy planning for the upcoming year activities, including the Gala, which will be held on April 25.

Brian Weise of SKW Architects will be visiting the campus with President Rodriguez on Tuesday, Dec. 16.

For Your Information

Among the 6000-plus runners that lined up at the start line of the California International Marathon on the cold and foggy Sunday morning were two of our very own CRC representatives, **Dana Wassmer** (Nutrition) and **Jamey Nye** (English). The temperature at the start was a blissful 37 degrees it never got warmer than 45 degrees. Both successfully completed the marathon and are walking a little slower these days. Both also qualified for the coveted Boston Marathon. Professor Nye completed the race in 3:11 and placed 93rd in his (very competitive) age group. Professor Wassmer took the slower route and crossed the finish line at 3:37 and placed 52nd in her age group. Jamey had this to say about his experience, "I definitely struggled in a few places. I wanted to drop out at mile 18 and around mile 23. Some Cytomax and GU helped change my mind, but I was surprised how tough yesterday was. My legs seized up immediately after the race, and I could barely walk. I was fine by yesterday evening and could even play with my kids, but today I am limping around again." Congratulations to our very own marathoners.

Los Rios Community College District Board Meeting, Wednesday, December 17, District Office. There will be a presentation on college Green Technology Programs.

Picture(s) of the Week

DIOP Scholars celebrated **Kwanzaa**, a celebration of family, community and culture in the cafeteria on Friday. The African American campus community was invited to attend.

