

CLASSIFIED NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CASSL

Contribution to Student Success

- ◇ The CASSL center is the Center for the Advancement of Staff and Student Learning. Its goal is to strengthen the College's ability to support student learning and success. The goals for the center are to distribute information about teaching strategies and provide access to educational research and other sources to help employees support students. The center provides workshops and trainings for faculty and staff for student success. Faculty can share their teaching experiences, best practices and tools to help improve student learning.
- ◇ We actively assess and report on a wide number of student success measures (i.e. course completion, semester-to-semester persistence, Degree and/or Certificate attainment as well as student transfers to private and public colleges and universities. The research we provide is used in a vast array of official college publications and reports as well as used in strategic planning at the college.

DEPARTMENT RECOGNITIONS

GETTING TO KNOW OUR CLASSIFIED STAFF

Describe your role and duties in your department:



Brad Brazil – I analyze student demographic, enrollment and student performance information from a variety of computerized systems housed at the College as well as the District, in addition to data sources that are statewide or national in scope; so that we can assess if our programs and services are effectively meeting the needs of our student population.



Frances Anderson – I am the CASSL administrative assistant and provide support for Kathy McLain, Dean of College Planning and Research. I provide administrative support to Kathy in her areas of responsibility, which include CASSL, Research and Planning, Equity Training, Outcomes Assessment, and the College Planning, Professional Development and the Cultural Competence and Equity (CC&E) Committees. I am a classified member of the Professional Development Committee. I am responsible for the administrative process of the Employee Professional Development Proposal Form and submit proposals to the committee for review and determination of funds. I assist with the PD workshops and help to compile the PD and Flex booklets. I help with the implementation and administration of CC&E events. Each semester I am responsible for collecting and reporting instructors' contractually compensated Flex activities. I assist administratively in school surveys and research. I am still learning new assignments and projects for this department.

What you need to know

That we are an extremely creative office and use a number of innovative and some may say, cutting-edge technology to respond to the varied needs of the college. Our work is recognized both internally at the college as well as Statewide. We are often invited to present our work at conferences.

Working for CRC, I've learned what a wonderful interaction our department has with the campus as a whole. CASSL is involved in many of the workshops and events that are on campus, and the training of faculty and staff so we can better assist students.



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Frances Anderson

Brad Brazil

(Dean) Kathy McLain

DEPARTMENT RECOGNITIONS CONT....

How long have you worked at CRC? How long have you worked in the department?

Brad Brazil – I have been involved in Institutional Research for over 25 years

Frances Anderson – I have been at CRC for seven months.

What is something your department does to relieve stress and have fun?

- ◇ Being researchers, we like to relieve stress by developing tightly coupled data mining routines using artificial intelligence algorithms. We try to see which one of us can identify a statistically significant relationship between two pools of data using the least number of machine language instructions - much like the old "I can name that tune" show. The winner of the contest is the one who can find a relationship between the pools of data using the smallest program possible. Another fun thing we do in the office is to make Geiger Counters using discarded office supplies and see which of us can develop the most sensitive device which can accurately gauge the background radiation in the environment!
- ◇ We share concerns and talk to each other to get input, we work together, and we laugh a lot.

Careers & Technology

Contribution to Student Success

The Work Experience Education & Internship Program contributes to continued student success by providing valuable learning opportunities for students outside of the classroom. Our program gives students the opportunity to gain real world experience in their chosen career field. Students who participate in an internship are 69% more likely to get a job in their field and they start out at higher salaries than students who do not participate.

I think because of the small size of the department and the program, we are able to get to know the students pretty well. Having them for a full two years enables us to get close to them and to better assist them. I think they are less afraid to seek help when needed. There is always an instructor or myself to try to help them out.

Careers and Technology covers a wide variety of programs which are very popular career paths. Some of which are Veterinary Technology, Medical Assisting, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Technology, Ford ASSET program, Construction, Welding, Health Information Technology and Architectural Design Technology.



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Left to Right

Virasane Keoonle Dick Higashino, Deborah Lee, Nina Delgado, Lynn Hurtado, Leanne Rogers, Cheryl Buch, Gordon Smith, Denise Sailor, and (Dean) Bob Johnson

Describe your role and duties in your department:

Leigh Ann Rogers — I am the Internship Developer for the Work Experience Education & Internship Program. In my position, I have the privilege of working with employers in the local community to build partnerships and develop internship opportunities. I also have the pleasure of working one-on-one with our students on cover letters, resumes and interviewing in preparation for applying for internship positions.

Cheryl Buch — I am the assistant for the Vet Tech program as well as the lab assistant, helping in all labs, acting as kennel supervisor, overseeing the care of the colony animals, head trainer for the colony dogs, liaison between students and staff members, Registered Veterinary Technician, taking care of all sick or injured animals and acting as liaison between the veterinarian and the student caretakers, head clerk, ordering supplies and maintaining inventory

Deborah Lee — I am blessed to be the Administrative Assistant for the Careers & Technology Division, for our students, staff, faculty and of course our awesome dean, Bob Johnson. Keeping up with all of them and their demands requires constant multi-tasking. But it is so rewarding to work in such a positive environment.

Dick Higashino — I am a lab tech in the automotive shop, working with the students and instructors.

Gordon Smith — Lab Technician for welding and horticulture. Provide support for the welding, horticulture, construction and automotive dept.'s as needed. Repair various pieces of equipment campus-wide as needed.

Denise Sailor — My position is Clerk III for the Careers and Technology department. In addition to assisting the staff and students, I track agency agreements, collect and screen the Veterinary Technology program's applicants, arrange the Ford ASSET Graduation Program, assist with the Allied Health Programs and arrange evaluations for staff.

Virasane Keoonle — Maintains shop areas in a clean, safe, secure. Maintains supply and equipment in a tool-room. Provides guidance to students in proper use of materials and equipment during labs and participates in the preparation of materials and equipment for classroom instruction

Stress Relievers

Our department enjoys going out to lunch with each other when we can all coordinate our schedules. This gives us the opportunity to relax, have fun and enjoy each other's company!

We are lucky enough to have dogs that we can bring into the classroom to just sit with us or take for a walk. Studies show that petting a dog or cat will immediately lower your blood pressure. We take advantage of that!

At the end of the each semester, we have a barbecue and that is always fun.

Another way is by making fun of John Ellis. This has become one of our favorite past times.



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DEPARTMENT RECOGNITIONS CONT...

How long have you worked at CRC? How long have you worked in the department?

Leigh Ann Rogers — I have worked in the Work Experience Education & Internship Program for almost five years.

Cheryl Buch — I have been here for 32 years. I began as a spring semester temp in Spring 1982 (just one semester after I graduated from the program) and was hired permanently in May of 1982.

Deborah Lee — For almost 8 years now, I have been working in the C & T department. Coming from Business & Family science before that, I have been here on campus as an admin for nearly 16 years.

Dick Higashino — 37 years

Gordon Smith — 16 years.

Denise Sailor — I've been with Careers and Technology for three years and previously worked for CRC's Kinesiology, Health and Athletics department. Both deans and staff are a pleasure to work with. I feel very lucky to have worked with such a great group of people.

Virasane Keonla — I have work here since January 2008

What you need to know

The Work Experience Education & Internship Program contributes to continued student success by providing valuable learning opportunities for students outside of the classroom. Our program gives students the opportunity to gain real world experience in their chosen career field. Students who participate in an internship are 69% more likely to get a job in their field and they start out at higher salaries than students who do not participate.

We are the best kept secret in Sacramento and we don't want to be. There are only a few veterinary technology programs in the entire state and Cosumnes can boast being the oldest program west of the Mississippi (1972) and the best program in the state. Don't be afraid to tell everyone you know about us.

We have a wide range of great programs to choose from, excellent professors to teach those programs and a dean, Robert Johnson who goes above and beyond to assist students with any challenges they may have.

That we are all here to help the students succeed in their education and in life also.

Over the years, we have been there for each other through many of life's disappointments and triumphs: births, deaths, marriages, promotions, kids off to college, and just plain old camaraderie.