In 1986, the Matriculation Act was implemented in the California Community Colleges. Its primary focus was to ensure the provision of timely information and services to help students achieve their educational goals. Since then, the innovative approaches developed at CRC to provide services to newly matriculated students have prepared the faculty, staff and administration to successfully implement SB 1456, “The Student Success Act of 2012.” CRC has offered numerous models of new student orientation programs for years. Those who have been at CRC for awhile may remember new student orientation sessions held in the Forum, faculty and student advisory panels at “Welcome Night” events held in the Recital Hall for new students and their parents, and “Super Saturday” sessions where students actively participated in structured experiences designed to help them identify the behaviors of successful students. Six years of offering our award-winning Freshman Seminar have yielded numerous resources for successfully helping new students to make the transition from high school to college. The New Student Guidebook developed by faculty as the textbook for the Freshman Seminar has also been used by Basic Skills instructors as a tool during the first few weeks of the semester to help new students understand faculty members’ expectations, and to develop the time management and academic planning skills they need to succeed in college.

In the coming year, CRC’s Matriculation Committee (soon to be renamed the “Student Success Committee”) will take the lead in discussing how to implement the many aspects of SB 1456 as recommended by the Student Success Task Force. Committee members will review best practices in new student orientation programs at other colleges and universities, and make recommendations on how to strengthen our program. Dean of Counseling, Michael Marion is currently on the statewide committee charged with developing a new Student Success Scorecard for reporting success metrics such as certificates and degrees awarded, and the number of students transferring to four year universities. CRC Counseling and Student Services faculty are also participating in a district-wide committee to design a framework for what should be included in new student orientation programs at all the Los Rios campuses.

If you are interested in learning more about the features of SB 1456, including mandated services for new students, such as orientation, assessment, and educational planning (to be offered via a broad array of delivery mechanisms), attend an upcoming meeting of the CRC Matriculation Committee, or check out the following Matriculation link on the California Community College Chancellor’s Office website: http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/StudentServices/Matriculation/SB1456StudentSuccessActOF2012.aspx
After a relaxing holiday break, it feels both right and satisfying to resume our academic work and welcome one another and our CRC students to the Spring 2013 term. Our beautiful campus quad trees are bare and the weather is seasonably cold and wet, yet the renewed focus and optimism we experienced with the affirming passage of Proposition 30 remains with us individually and collectively. With gratitude to our community and hope for our students, we will draw upon this renaissance of energy and redouble our efforts to educate, enrich and empower the more than 14,500 aspiring individuals who attend our college and make it their “college.”

Engaging our students and offering them a sense of belonging as they attend classes, study with peers, join student clubs, participate in cultural and athletic events, and encounter new knowledge and perspectives are primary goals of CRC. The founders and benefactors of our college envisioned CRC to be a place of exploration, learning, and personal enrichment… a college that would be of service to the community as an academically-distinctive as well as a civic-minded institution. As the president of CRC, I am proud to say we are fulfilling our original patrons’ vision for our college. Our faculty and staff teach and counsel students providing them with learning experiences that blend intellectual pursuits with civic awareness and global compassion.

Last fall, I was impressed by the scope and frequency of community activities our students were involved in as course-related projects, volunteer service, and responders to emergency situations or residents in need. Through the guidance of instructors and faculty advisors, these student efforts on behalf of organizations such as the Elk Grove Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, Blood Source, Animal Rescue Foundation, Access and many others demonstrated a powerful commitment to making a positive impact within our community. Students and staff also dedicated time and energy to on-campus efforts such as the opening of the Veterans’ Resource Center, ShareFair Giving Bins and Clothing Closet, Rock the Vote, Voter Registration Drive, Constitution Day, Health Resources Fair, Zero Waste Convocation, Extreme Entrepreneurship Tour, Native American Gathering, Trash Audit and numerous other events focused on service to one another and to our world.

It is no wonder our students are eager and frequent participants in community service. They have strong and abundant role models within the CRC community. Faculty and staff across the campus have led the way for student volunteerism through their own involvement in humanitarian and civic efforts including the live presentation of the first Presidential Debate, maintenance of the Native Garden, exhibition of the What I Be photographic essay, coordination of the One Book program, hosting of the Ethics Symposium and Alpha Academy, and establishment of Sister2Sister just to name a few. Projects, activities and events assembled together representing CRC’s vision for learning and service to the community within and without classroom walls.

Let’s make Spring 2013 a semester of service, and sustain CRC’s legacy of serving our students and community.

Warm regards,

Deborah J. Travis

Deborah J. Travis
Most of us never consider the light switch in our homes or workplaces, wondering if it will turn on, or if it will even be there. It is ubiquitous, found everywhere in our society, much like the oxygen we need to live, but rarely ponder. But for many people in developing countries, the absence of light and electricity is an unwelcome reality. And for aid workers in the medical care field, inadequate, unreliable, or non-existent light sources are a challenging obstacle to providing lifesaving care to those in need. Many doctors, midwives or nurses have performed surgeries by flashlight or sometimes in darkness, often with tragic results.

Solving this dilemma has become a humanitarian mission for the team at Sacramento-based Green Technical Education and Employment (GreenTech), and they are partnering with local high schools and Cosumnes River College to teach students how to build “Solar Suitcases” that can be sent to medical teams in Haiti and developing countries in Africa.

The Solar Case Project is a clean energy, renewable project that GreenTech administers, simultaneously providing life-altering light sources to areas in need, and offering Sacramento area students hands-on-training in the emerging field of Green Energy Technology. GreenTech is a non-profit, public benefit organization whose mission is to provide career technical education and employment referral service for students in the Sacramento region. The students who typically participate in the program are between the ages of 15 to 25 years old, are high school or college students, foster youth, emancipated foster youth, or young adults re-entering society.

For two Saturdays this March, 40 students from local schools will partner to build 20 Solar Cases for distribution. The Solar Case is a portable photovoltaic lighting system, with enough light to illuminate a small room. The Project gives students the opportunity to learn valuable solar technology skills while simultaneously working as humanitarians. According to their website GreenTechEdu.org, the students “are taught the core element of “going green” to improve health conditions for all humans sharing the earth, and to develop sustainable, clean energy and environment.”

“We have a partnership with doctors from Henry Reeve Medical Brigade in Haiti and with We Care Solar of Berkeley, California,” says executive director Simeon Gant. This year, the cases will be delivered to both Haiti and to the Hamurwa Needy Children Project in Uganda. “It is our hope one day we can send students to these developing countries to witness firsthand the good use of their innovative renewable energy project,” says Gant. He is also working to make these student efforts part of curriculum that can be used toward their graduation. “We are encouraging local schools to allow students to use this as a viable Senior Project, toward their ultimate graduation. We consider the Solar Case Project a valuable learning experience with multiple objectives, a few of which include: introduction to electrical circuitry, photovoltaic technology, industrial arts, renewable energy and social humanitarian efforts.
Welcome to the Spring 2013 semester! The Classified Senate would like to extend a warm welcome to the new staff and faculty joining our dedicated Cosumnes River College team. We would also like to welcome back the faculty and staff that are the foundation of our success at CRC.

Springtime brings with it an inherent sense of renewal and growth, and we hope you all join us in feeling a rejuvenated optimism for our future. The demands upon our students, faculty, and staff are changing dramatically and together we have demonstrated the courage, persistence, and ability to meet those demands successfully. We continue to take pride in the strong relationships we have built across our campus, and strive to provide the highest level of service to our student population.

Despite the economic climate and uncertainty of the budget, we have maintained a positive outlook and diligent attitude in supporting the learning environment for students and faculty. The classified staff work persistently and conscientiously to sustain the teaching mission of the campus and focus on creating the "moments of success" that help our students achieve their goals.

We recognize and appreciate the commitment to excellence our staff and faculty demonstrates with their involvement in shared governance and other leadership capacities. The Classified Senate supports staff development, leadership, and growth for all staff, and would like to encourage all staff to participate and share their thoughts and ideas for our future endeavors. The Classified Senate wishes everyone a rewarding new year and we look forward to our shared efforts in empowering our students through education!

Sincerely,
2012-2013 Classified Senate Team

Welcome back! I hope that each of you had a relaxing and refreshing winter break. As we enter the Spring semester I have been reflecting on my time as your Academic Senate President. This will be my final semester as the CRC Academic Senate President and I would like to wholeheartedly thank the faculty of Cosumnes River College for their trust in allowing me to represent them over the past year and a half. It has been an extraordinary experience to represent all of you at the local, district, and state levels through some profoundly interesting times for the California Community College System.

While it may often appear that the faculty voice has no real impact on how we operate as a college, district, or system my personal experience has been that when faculty can unify our voice we can affect profound changes towards benefitting our students. We may not always get precisely what we want, but we are often able to prevent much worse things from happening. Whether it is deflecting and repurposing legislation such as SB1143 (Liu, 2010) which proposed performance based funding for California Community Colleges or sitting at the table as new Title 5 language surrounding enrollment priorities is drafted—your faculty voice is heard.

This semester will continue to bring potential changes—some good, some bad, some just plain baffling. Our profession continues to be under attack—whether from the state legislature, LAO, or community groups looking to 'fix' us. The mechanism that we stave off bad changes and encourage the good is through our collective voice within our shared governance processes. As faculty we will not always agree—but we do have to work together and remember that what we are fighting for is not for our personal good, it is for the benefit of our students.

Kale Braden
Academic Senate President

“We must hang together, gentlemen...else, we shall most assuredly hang separately.”
—Benjamin Franklin
As the spring semester begins, campus development continues at a rapid pace. The projects on the north side of campus are almost complete, with most facilities occupied and in use for the spring term. While there are a few items still to do, the baseball and softball fields are ready just in time for their spring seasons, complete with press boxes, restrooms, concessions, storage and batting cages. The soccer fields also have some work to complete but will be available for play soon. Hopefully you had the opportunity to utilize or at least see the improvements the project added in the fall to the stadium and parking on the north side of campus.

Also on the north side of campus, all of the Northeast Buildings Modernization facilities are complete, providing a new home for custodial, maintenance and receiving departments in addition to the new instructional facilities for construction, horticulture, welding and other programs that were completed for use in the fall.

At the northeast corner of campus, north of the stadium, Regional Transit continues to build the flyover structure that will support the future light rail trains over Cosumnes River Blvd. The current scheduled completion of the south line extension is late 2015.

On the east side of campus, the parking garage continues with work on the exterior and elevator towers and eventually the photovoltaic panels on the fifth floor. While a particularly wet winter could cause delays, the project is scheduled for completion in late spring, at which time Sacramento Regional Transit will be ready to start construction on the light rail station and tracks in Lot F. It is expected that the light rail project will result in closure of the Bruceville entrance throughout the summer to make changes prior to the start of the Fall 2013 term.

Just northwest of the parking structure, the Winn Center exterior is almost completed—provided rain has not significantly delayed the schedule. The project will not only be a iconic building at the main entrance to campus, but also an outstanding instructional facility for our construction management and architecture students while also serving photography, pharmacy technology and general education programs. The project is scheduled for summer completion and instructional use for Fall 2013.

Just south of Cosumnes Oaks High School and Elizabeth Pinkerton Middle School, the first phase of the Elk Grove Center is well into construction, with the exterior nearly complete along with substantial work on the interior walls and new roads and utilities to the project. The rain will continue to be a challenge on the exterior roadways and sitework but the project should be completed in late spring or early summer with time for occupancy and use for Fall 2013 instruction.

As you know, it is a very exciting and challenging time with the major changes to the CRC campus. Over the course of this academic term, we will see the completion of three major projects (parking garage, Elk Grove Center, and Winn Center), providing new facilities to serve our faculty, staff and students well into the future. While future construction will be a little less crazy as projects are completed and other projects await future state bond funds, an Art Gallery project is ready to begin construction using local bond funds once the plans are approved by the state architects. Also, as mentioned above, the Sacramento Regional Transit South Sacramento Corridor Phase 2 project has been approved by the federal government for funding and is in the bid and award process for a spring construction start. This project will bring significant changes—and temporary disruptions—to Lot F and the Bruceville entrance over the next couple of years.
President’s Letter

I like to think of teaching as the best accident that has ever happened to me. I had finished graduate school and had been managing a business when someone asked me if I would like to try teaching as an adjunct at night. I said sure, and here I am today. When people ask me, “Do you like your job teaching?” I have no problems asking them, “Why do you think I took the pay cut?”

From the day I heard there was going to be a full time position opening, I knew that this was where I wanted to be and that has since proven to be a reality. Who would pass up the chance to teach people about bones instead of being limited to working in an office? The opportunity to share the study of humans with our students (most of which have never even heard of anthropology) is a very fulfilling career path because I have the opportunity to impart knowledge and then watch for those moments of intellectual awakening. This is much better than evaluating financial reports.

I continue to learn about the challenges of being a representative for the Academic Senate, working on committees, and working with others in planning events. Even navigating the difficult moments, however, are things I have found I always make it through because I have supportive colleagues here at CRC. While there are far too people to name that I would consider mentors who have been supportive over the past few years, I am most thankful to my Anthro Angels. What’s an Anthro Angel? Check out our department Facebook page!

HOYT FONG  Counselor

Beginning in 1975 at SCC as an adjunct instructor in the Psychology Department, I began my professional career under the influence of Kevin Ramirez, Barbara Lyman Davis, Dick Shimasaki, and Famous McElwee. In 1980, Clarke Dominguez hired me as EOPS Coordinator and in 1989 lateral into the Counseling department. I have professionally grown up at CRC. The students, staff, faculty and community make up my professional home.

What has impressed me through the years is the strength of the Counseling faculty providing personal, crisis, mental health and academic counseling. The quality of time with each student in our offices is far beyond technical information on a computer. It is providing a safe and comfortable environment through crucial conversations.

In 1988, EOPS and DSPS programs and directors were solidified by the Board of Governors through a “Vote of Confidence” by then State Chancellor Joshua Smith, I am proud to have worked closely on that project.

During the Presidency of Merrilee Lewis, we began the dialogue of cultural competency, a model borrowed from a major UC campus. President Lewis had the courage to have introspective dialogue within her management team along with traditional cultural activities. With the process of ‘looking in the mirror’ as we embrace diversity, then and only then can we bring about meaningful change.

In 2004, we began a Human Services Program that today is a degree and certificate program; and soon to arrive is a Chemical Studies degree. CRC is now certified by the State of California as an Alcohol and Drug Studies Program (CAADAC).

I have realized as an educator it is not always having the right answer which we so desire to have. It is the quality of the questions we ask that give the respect and dignity for our students to learn.

I am pleased that I did not chase the linear dream of upper mobility, but pursued the dream of excellence and quality right where I am at; as a Counselor, as an Instructor, and as a human being.

I deeply want to thank the CRC community and family.

SHANNON MILLS  Anthropology Assistant Professor

I continue to learn about the challenges of being a representative for the Academic Senate, working on committees, and working with others in planning events. Even navigating the difficult moments, however, are things I have found I always make it through because I have supportive colleagues here at CRC. While there are far too people to name that I would consider mentors who have been supportive over the past few years, I am most thankful to my Anthro Angels. What’s an Anthro Angel? Check out our department Facebook page!
Q: How long have you been at CRC?

Q: What do you like most about your job?
A: Several things—I love the seasons of my job; the fact that the first few weeks of the fall and spring semester are so intense and then it levels off but then peaks again at the end. I love all the people that I meet throughout any given semester; staff and students and the fact that I can help them with their needs.

Q: What do you like to do for fun? Hobbies?
A: I’m very involved with the Sacramento Walking Sticks which is a local walking club. I’m currently their publicist and leader of their Wednesday night walks. I also love to watch movies and I’m catching up watching all the Marvel comics made into movies.

Q: Have you always wanted to be doing what you’re doing?
A: Yes, I graduated from American River College back in the ’70s with an AA degree for a Library Technician.

Q: What are your plans for the future?
A: I hope to retire in a few years and walk in the 50 states.

Q: What have you learned about yourself since you arrived here?
A: Almost the entire time that I’ve worked at the CRC Library, it’s been busy at the Circulation Desk. I learned that I’m good at multi-tasking, working under stress and have a good attention to detail. I enjoy helping the patrons with their needs and it’s been rewarding to work with all the library student assistants over the years as well. To know that you’ve helped them learn skills they can use the rest of their lives on their jobs is a wonderful thing.

Q: Any words of wisdom or anything you’d like to add?
A: Wisdom: You can get through anything life hands you, if you stay put in the day you are in and don’t jump ahead. That’s from the book God Never Blinks; 50 lessons for Life’s Little Detours. Life is full of such wonderful things but there’s always the unexpected stuff that comes when you least expect it. Enjoy today and make the most of it and allow yourself to change and grow from the unexpected that comes your way.

Addition: My son Jonathan, 21 years old, has been stationed at an Army base in Germany for 1½ years. He will deploy after Christmas with his Unit to Afghanistan for 9 months and begin a new position there as a Chaplain’s Assistant. Please keep him in your thoughts.
President’s Letter

Welcome to the CRC Family

NEW FACULTY & CLASSIFIED STAFF
(Since August 2012)

Gina De la Torre
Maintenance/Operations Clerk
Operations

Cathy Deutscher
Confidential Administrative Assistant
President’s Office

Jennifer Patrick
Student Personnel Assistant
Student Services

Michell Phu
Financial Aid Clerk
Student Services

I could hardly believe it. The day had come in 1993 when I was eligible to retire from Cosumnes River College as a “charter” English professor. I had spent more than 35 years in the classroom, lecturing, grading papers and hoping to inspire students. All of that was about to come to an end with the acceptance of the “Golden Handshake.” At last, I would be free to do absolutely nothing for as long as I wanted. I had been retired for one week when, I received several phone calls requesting that I organize a book discussion group for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, an offer to score tests for the National Evaluation System, a request to become a deacon at my church and two offers to join social clubs. I was a retired person, but of course, I accepted all requests.

As facilitator of the literary discussion group of the MLK Library, I enjoyed reading new books every month and talking about significant ideas set forth in each book selection. It was so much fun, and I had a group of avid readers who were excited to share their point of view. This group is still a large part of my life after 20 years of participation. The discussion group left little time for my Yoga classes, Bible study, Club meetings, travel, and being a good wife to my husband Willis.

Along the way, I acquired four wonderful grandchildren, who are now all college graduates. I spend a great deal of time flying to Atlanta to visit my daughter Veronica and to Oak Park, Illinois to be with my other daughter, Dr. Mimi Johnson.

I am still trying to write the book I began prior to retirement. The book is dedicated to my parents and contains the many examples of wise sayings and advice for living a more productive life. Needless to say, I have not completed it yet. My latest acquisition is a great grandchild, Zaya Sun, who will be one in January.

As you can see, my life has been full of family, fun frustrations and fulfillment. I am a busy woman. I retired from one job and took on at least six more. The land of retirement adds a variety and joy that no other activity can provide.

EMERITI Profile

JEAN BLACKSHEAR HARRIS

I could hardly believe it. The day had come in 1993 when I was eligible to retire from Cosumnes River College as a “charter” English professor. I had spent more than 35 years in the classroom, lecturing, grading papers and hoping to inspire students. All of that was about to come to an end with the acceptance of the “Golden Handshake.” At last, I would be free to do absolutely nothing for as long as I wanted. I had been retired for one week when, I received several phone calls requesting that I organize a book discussion group for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, an offer to score tests for the National Evaluation System, a request to become a deacon at my church and two offers to join social clubs. I was a retired person, but of course, I accepted all requests.

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As you can see, my life has been full of family, fun frustrations and fulfillment. I am a busy woman. I retired from one job and took on at least six more. The land of retirement adds a variety and joy that no other activity can provide.
sometimes in life we encounter circumstances that force us to change our plans, and give us the impression that we have to put our dreams on hold. When it came time to apply for college, Amanie Power applied to her dream school, UC Davis. “I had originally intended to go to the University of California, Davis but was not accepted.” But Amanie knew that she wanted to study the sciences, so she looked for another path towards her dream deferred. But first, she would have to conquer some of her own misconceptions.

“When I was a senior in high school, I had the misconception that community colleges were somehow inferior to 4-year universities. However, I quickly found that this is far from the truth! I had not been at CRC long before I realized that it was a very special place. As a CRC student, I am surrounded daily by motivated, hardworking students and taught from knowledgeable, enthusiastic faculty who are dedicated to student success. I feel privileged to have the opportunity to be part of CRC’s rigorous and supportive academic environment. In many ways, I have been inspired, challenged, and supported as I strive to realize my academic potential and goals.”

Amanie discovered that CRC had many opportunities for an aspiring student such as herself. “My research findings showed that attending a community college has many benefits, such as lower costs, priority consideration when transferring, TAGs (Transfer Admission Guarantees), etc., so I decided that I would attend a community college and transfer later to UC Davis. I choose CRC because it was close by, and the campus felt comfortable.”

Amanie immersed herself into her studies and joined a CRC student group that supported her study of the sciences, MESA. “I couldn’t begin to count the number of opportunities I would have missed out on if I hadn’t joined MESA. The program has introduced me to numerous academic and professional resources, such as SACNAS (Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in the Sciences),” which recently hosted a conference in Seattle, Washington. It was the first time she had traveled outside of California.

One of the many services that MESA provides to students is connecting them to upcoming opportunities and encouraging them to apply to attend different science and engineering conferences. At these conferences students are able to learn about innovative developments and to meet and network with other aspiring scientists. This year, Amanie was awarded a travel scholarship by the conference host, which allowed her to travel to, and attend the conference with all her expenses paid.

“There were many aspects of the conference that I enjoyed. The friendly and welcoming atmosphere made it easy to meet new people and practice my networking skills. It was a special experience for me, since it was my first scientific conference. Never before had I been surrounded by so many scientists with such diverse backgrounds!... I can’t describe how moving and motivating it was to be surrounded by so many individuals who were extremely passionate about science and research.”

Attending this conference helped Amanie determine which direction she wanted to pursue by allowing her to learn about pathways she had no idea existed for her. “Prior to attending the conference, I had never really considered going to a graduate/professional school or participating in summer research outside of California. My goal was always to remain as close to home as possible. However, at the conference I was exposed to many wonderful educational opportunities outside California. For example, participating in the University of Washington field trip allowed me to explore the UW campus and become acquainted with its numerous departments and support services. These opportunities allowed me to broaden my range of thinking; I didn’t realize how much my previous mode of thinking was limiting my options, and thus injuring my chances for further personal growth and development. I am now considering graduate school options and am applying for summer research programs both inside and outside California.”

Through her perseverance and her commitment to her studies, Amanie is ready to apply once again to the school of her dreams, only this time as a wiser and stronger student. “I began at CRC as a Biology major, but recently switched to Chemistry, as I saw the importance of chemical concepts in explaining the logic of biological systems. I plan to study Pharmaceutical Chemistry at UC Davis. My ultimate career goal is to become a hematologist; I want to use biomedical research to study and develop effective treatments for hematological disorders, such as Sickle Cell Anemia.”

She and her sister will be the first in their family to earn secondary education. “My sister and I are both first-generation college students. My sister is also a CRC student and is currently pursuing a major in Education; she hopes to teach at the elementary level. Although my mother attempted to pursue a college education, her failing health has remained a hindrance.”

When asked about her obvious dedication to her studies, her laser focus on her career path, and her desire to find a cure for SCA, Amanie admits the passion behind her career dreams comes from her mom who suffers from Sickle Cell Anemia.
WHAT’S NEW THIS SPRING?

That’s a great question, and we have a great answer: The Cosumnes River College Foundation’s SPRING CELEBRATION! Since 2003, the CRC Foundation has hosted the campus’ signature fundraising event in support of Cosumnes River College students and the campus community.

Formerly known as the Foundation Gala, the Spring Celebration will be held on Saturday, April 13th 2013 from 6:00 to 9:00pm. After the Gala event in 2012, the CRC Foundation Board asked attendees “How can make this event even better?” Thanks to the many responses we received to our post-Gala survey, the board made changes that will bring new energy and excitement to this important event.

With a focus on the excellence and variety of locally grown and locally sourced foods and wines, as well as the excellence of our locally educated students and college programs, guests will be invited to enjoy an evening of live music from some of Sacramento’s best known bands and tempting culinary treats on the roof of the new Cosumnes River College/Regional Transit parking structure.

Proceeds from the Foundation’s Spring Celebration will go to support the Cosumnes River College Annual Fund. Through this fund, and its generous donors, the Foundation is able to support some of the most critical needs of student support on the campus.

Join us on Saturday, April 13th for the CRC Foundation’s Spring Celebration, and take in the view of a campus growing excellence every day!

Please contact the Office of College Advancement for tickets or for more information.

ALUMNI Profile: CRC Student Strives Towards Her Goals

Abby Divine knows a thing or two about determination. When she first enrolled at Cosumnes River College, it had been 11 years since she had taken any educational classes. Today, Abby is on track to graduate from CRC with an Associates degree in Sociology. No easy feat for a busy mother of three children. Even with a full academic schedule, this energetic student also makes time to volunteer at her daughter’s school and as a swim instructor at Cosumnes River College.

After graduation, Abby plans to enroll in California State University at Sacramento and pursue a degree in Criminal Justice. During the Spring 2012 semester, Abby received the Ron Tatterson Memorial Scholarship from the CRC Patron’s Club. “My career goals are to use my education along with my natural desire to be a problem solver to implement lasting reforms in the Department of Corrections,” she recently told the CRC Foundation scholarship committee.

Cosumnes River College students like Abby Divine demonstrate what can be achieved through determination, persistence and hard work. “I wish to encourage others to achieve what is perceived as impossible. I guess that’s the best way for me to pay in forward right now,” Abby said. We couldn’t agree more.

RETIREMENTS

Thank You!

LINDA NEAL
CONFIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
21+ years of service
UPCOMING SPRING 2013 EVENTS

On January 24, 2013 CRC is pleased to host our Martin Luther King Jr. celebration “Creating a Legacy,” featuring keynote speaker Margaret Fortune, at the Recital Hall. Fortune is the President and CEO of Fortune School of Education, and is a graduate of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. She has served as an education advisor to two California Governors, and currently serves as a Trustee of the California State University. A reception will begin at 5:00pm and the program will begin at 5:30pm. A “Day of Service” will coordinated and included in the Celebration.

February of 2013 will highlight Black History Month at CRC with the theme of “At the Crossroads of Freedom and Equality: The Emancipation Proclamation and the March on Washington.” The year 2013 heralds two important anniversaries in Black History: the 150 year anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, which began the path to end slavery in the U.S., and the 50 year anniversary of the Civil Rights March on Washington in 1963. The Black History Committee has planned to have an opening ceremony on February 6th at 12:00pm in the Recital Hall. The ceremony will feature keynote speakers who will be as follows: a California State Historian, a Civil Rights Attorney, and a Community Activist/Business Executive. A panel discussion will follow with audience participation by all faculty and students from various disciplines.

The month will culminate on Thursday, February 28th with the “Honors and Awards” night at 6:30pm in the Recital Hall. The Honors Program recognizes the academic accomplishments of CRC students of African descent, who maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

March at CRC will present Women’s History Month and will feature interesting films, documentaries and lectures that will promote women’s accomplishments, contributions, struggles and triumphs throughout history to present day. There will also be a performance of the play “Photograph 51” on March 11th, and each Friday in March will showcase “Get Your Geek On: NPR’s Science Friday.”

In April, OneBook CRC will present a special event to end the year of discussion around the book selection, The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot. The book focuses on the real life events of Henrietta Lacks, who along with dealing with the health effects related to poverty and race in the early 20th century, also struggled with and eventually succumbed to—cervical cancer. OneBook will be hosting a presentation by Henrietta Lacks’ son, Sonny Lacks on April 11 at 10 a.m. Mr. Lacks will deliver a keynote address with subsequent question and answer session. This event will be free and open to the public.

The month of April will also highlight Earth Week, beginning with the 43rd worldwide celebration of Earth Day on Monday the 22nd. The week will feature films and lectures which will encourage and engender ideas and practices that promote protection of our planet.

HAWKEYE THE HAWK

As part of a school spirit Community Service Learning Project, students were asked to find a name for the CRC Hawk Mascot. The students finally decided on the name “Hawkeye” and expressed the hope that they would see him more often around campus and at league games. The students who participated in the program made final presentations of their semester projects in December. They said they all felt a boost in school spirit as they accompanied “Hawkeye” throughout campus, and that their fellow students were high-fiving and hugging Hawkeye everywhere he went.
The 2013 Spring Celebration is a wonderful event that benefits the fundraising efforts of the Cosumnes River College Foundation. Savor the flavors of the best local restaurants and wineries in our area as you enjoy great live musical entertainment by popular local bands.

**FOOD, WINE TASTING, LOCAL BANDS & SILENT AUCTION**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13**  
5:00 PM — 9:00 PM

— NEW LOCATION ON CAMPUS —  
Planned for the **Rooftop of the Parking Garage**  
Cosumnes River College, 8401 Center Parkway  
Sacramento, CA 95823

**Tickets are available now!**  
Please call the CRC College Advancement Office at (916) 691-7320 to purchase.