



INSTRUCTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

February 2008

It is the best of times; it is the worst of times. By now everyone has heard the news of the statewide budget deficit, the potential across the board cuts in funding for publicly-funded institutions, and the failure of Prop 92 to pass in yesterday's elections. The budget outlook does look gloomy, but we are working diligently to find ways of reducing the impact on programs. The Business Office has done an excellent job of providing clear, concise information about the statewide budget and its direct impact on Cabrillo, which they've shared with CPC and which they plan to share with the college at large open forums during the 3rd or 4th week of February (date and times forthcoming). Many thanks to Pegi Ard and Victoria Lewis for developing proposed budget strategies to get us through this difficult process. I will be visiting the Divisions at their Division meetings on Friday to give a very brief overview of how Instruction will address the issue and look forward to your comments and suggestions. It is disappointing that Prop 92 didn't pass, which we had hoped would alleviate the impact of the economic downturn on the colleges. However, by working together, we will get through it.

Now that we've gotten the "worst of times" out of the way, we can turn to the "best." I can sum it up in two words: "Accreditation Reaffirmed"! All of the hard work that all of you put into the accreditation process has paid off. I've provided a few more details below under "Announcements." On that happy note, have a great spring semester and I hope to see you soon.

--Renee

REMINDERS

Deadlines for spring 2008 semester classes:

Add Deadline for full-term classes: Sat, Feb 23

Drop Deadline for full-term courses & refunds: Feb 23

This date is the deadline to drop a full-term course and receive a full refund or reversal of charges.

Drop Deadline for full-term courses without a "W": March 8

CR/NC Deadline (for full-term classes): March 15

Holiday Weekend/no classes: Friday, Feb 15 and Monday, Feb 18

Spring Break: March 24-29

CENSUS DUE DATE: Monday, February 25

(Be sure to try using the online census submission on WebAdvisor)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reaffirmation of Accreditation: It's final: ACCJC voted at its January 2008 Commission meeting to reaffirm Cabrillo College accreditation for the maximum 6 years. While we will prepare the typical mid-term report in three years, we will not be subjected to another visit until 2013! In her letter to our President announcing the reaffirmation, the ACCJC President says the following:

“The college is commended for the richness of dialog that occurs on campus providing broad input on matters of student learning, resource allocation, and institutional governance. The college is also commended for its strong support of student learning as evidenced by the commitment of the library program to provide student access to ideas and information.”

We have requested that ACCJC send us the final report electronically so that we can put it on the college webpages. As soon as they have done so, Brian will send out an all@cabrillo email so that you can access it at your convenience. We will also put a hard copy in the library and at the Watsonville and Scotts Valley Centers.

IT Connection:

OPENING AND PERMANENT ROSTERS

This is the final reminder that opening and permanent rosters will only be available online effective this semester (spring 2008). After several semesters of successful piloting and numerous training sessions for faculty, we are pulling the plug on paper rosters (opening rosters and permanent rosters). Registration will continue until the day before classes begin: Sunday, Feb 10. You should download your opening roster Monday morning. It is accessible via WebAdvisor, so you can access it from any computer, anywhere.

There will be a demo/training at all Division meetings on Friday, Feb 8. If for some reason you can not access your WebAdvisor account to download, your Division staff can help train you.

CENSUS ROSTERS

Census Rosters also will be available via WebAdvisor this semester and we encourage you to use this paper-free method of submitting your census rosters: it's easy and will save you and A&R time. However, paper census rosters will still be available this semester from A&R if you need them.

Accommodations statement: (from DSPS)

Please be sure to include a statement about accommodations in your syllabus. The following statement is provided by DSPS:

“Students needing ‘**accommodations**’ should contact the instructor ASAP. As required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), accommodations are provided to insure equal opportunity for students with verified disabilities. If you need assistance with an accommodation, please contact Disabled Student services, Room 810, 479-6379, or Learning Skills Program Room 1073, 479-6220.”

SPOTLIGHT ON

Honors Transfer Program

The new Honors Transfer Program is moving forward after three semesters of development. Recruitment and admission of students will begin this spring. The new program will open with three honors courses in fall 2008, recommended by the Honors Committee. UC has approved the eight courses submitted during the fall '07 semester. Plans to expand the honors course offerings each year will be based on student interest and demand. The program will provide an enriched educational experience for students who want to challenge themselves and gain a competitive edge at selective universities. This formalized program will be submitted to UCLA for approval and acceptance into its TAP program. It will also provide for UC- articulated honors courses vs the present Cabrillo honors option, which may or may not provide the transferring student with honors credit at their transferring university. Students will need to meet the minimum qualifications for acceptance into the program; however, all students will be encouraged to participate in an honors course even if they are not yet GPA-eligible for the full program.

If you are interested in offering an honors section of an IGETC course you teach, you should attend the flex presentation *The Cabrillo College Honors Program* on Thursday, February 7, from 1-3 p.m. in the new Student Activities Center (SAC), room 202. We hope the information will spark your interest in teaching an honors section of your course. The honors course approval process will also be covered in detail, showing how simple it is to write an honors version of your current course outline. If you can not attend that session, you may find out more about the program from Donna Mekis or Margery Regalado in Instructional Development.

WHAT WE ARE READING

Loree McCawley, *Rosalind Franklin: The Dark Lady of DNA* by Brenda Maddox is a compelling biography of Rosalind Franklin, an unsung principal in the discovery of DNA . She is a feminist icon, aka, "the Sylvia Plath of molecular biology," who achieved an international reputation in three fields of scientific research. This engaging story reveals Ms. Franklin's significant and largely uncelebrated contributions that led to the greatest scientific discovery of the 20th century.