

Board Report



**Reedley
College**

April 2011

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Journalism 8 students (The Chant student newspaper) made history March 23 by webcasting “live” Sheriff Margaret Mims’ on campus presentation. The real-time counter showed that 2,400 people logged in for the event. The Chant also had a live webcast of NASA Engineer Laura Kushner’s presentation at the iXplore Conference on March 26. The presentations are archived at www.thechantonline.com. Sheriff Mims’ presentation was also covered on the KMPH Channel 26 evening news.

RC student and PC Club member Joel Flores spoke at Sanger High School Career Day on being a computer technician.

Ag students participated in the Great Western Livestock Show at the Tulare Fairgrounds in March. They competed in the Breeding Cattle and All Swine show on March 12 and the Steers show on March 13.

Reedley College Clay Club students stay busy. On March 21, five students participated in a hands-on throwing workshop featuring the internationally known Italian artist Claudio Reginato. Clay Club participated in Kaleidoscope with a booth of pottery. On March 27 they attended a Fukami Sueharu lecture and exhibit at the Clark Center for Japanese Art in Hanford. Sueharu is an internationally recognized Japanese artist. March 28 the students hosted Sueharu at Reedley College for a lecture and demonstration. On April 8-9 internationally recognized artist, Frank Boyden, will be giving a lecture at Reedley College as part of the “Speaker Series.” The Reedley community along with Reedley College students, faculty, and staff will have an opportunity to hear Boyden’s lecture about his art and cultural influences. This is in collaboration with Fresno City College, Fresno State University, and Clay Mix Gallery to bring significant ceramic artists to our area for lectures or workshops. April 28-May 1 Clay Club and other RC ceramic students will be participating in the California Conference for the Advancement of Ceramic Art in Davis. These students will also be participating in an exhibition of their ceramic art along with other students from colleges and universities throughout the state.

FACULTY & STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Athletic Director and Athletic Counselor Javier Renteria was nominated by the Community College Counselors/Advisors Academic Association for Athletics for the 2011 honoring our own 3C4A Athletic Counselor/Advisor Award.

English instructors David Dominguez and Rick Garza announced the release of The Packinghouse Review Vol. 2. No. 3 featuring new work by writers Eileen Apperson (RC English instructor) and Gary Soto among others. Vol. 2 No. 3 will be available for purchase at the First Wednesday at One Reading Series April 6 and in the bookstore.

David Dominguez also participated in the Seventh Annual Week of Poets at Roosevelt High School March 28-April 1. The school visit and readings by a host of professional poets is in collaboration with California State University, Fresno’s Masters of Fine Arts program in Creative Writing. The active presence of the poets inspires many students to write or to bring work they’ve written on their own for discussion and constructive criticism. This event is free and open to the public.

Communication instructor Terri Main has a novella out as an eBook as of April 1. The publishing company URL for the book is <http://tinyurl.com/parmenter>. The title of the book is “Parmenter’s Wager.” The story revolves around a pastor of a comfortable, prosperous suburban church who discovers one of his parishioners is a clone.

English instructor David Borofka presented at the Innovations 2011 Conference in San Diego March 1. His topic was, “Increasing Student Performance and Retention with Lecture Capture.”

Speech instructor Linda Carvalho-Cooley gave two presentations at the Western States Communication Conference in Monterey. Both of the presentations were on panels called GIFTS (great ideas for teaching speech). One of the presentations was on argumentation and how to make learning debate seem like a game. The other was an adaptable exercise that could be used in any of the communication courses that is very interactive.

College Center Assistant Adelfa Lorenzano and Acting Title V Counselor Michelle Stricker will be presenting at NISOD’s June 1 Conference on “Partnerships that Empower: Creating Relationships to Encourage Student Success.”

Nancy Frampton, ESL instructor, had a paper, “Into the Child Development Center: Activities for Intermediate Students,” accepted for the California Association of Teachers of English as a Second Language (CATESOL) Conference in Long Beach. The conference is April 7-10.

Art instructor Garrett Masterson’s sculpture was juried into an exhibition at the Kellogg Gallery in Pomona. This is a nationally juried exhibition of ceramic artists along with drawing and print artists. The exhibit runs from March 17-April 29.

On March 7, President Dr. Barbara Hioco was a guest speaker for Women’s History Month. Nurse Practitioner Kelly Murguia will be presenting April 6.

Director of Grant Funded Programs Diana Banuelos will be interviewed on Channel 21’s Arriva Valle Central on April 11 at 10:20 am about the April 30 Rebounding to Success Teen Conference.

ACCREDITATION

At their March 14 meeting, the accreditation committee approved the RC Substantive Change for Distance Education. Reedley College is progressing with the final draft of the self study. All standards except 4B have been submitted to the constituent groups. The April Accreditation Newsletter covered the six themes of institutional effectiveness which are woven into the self study. In addition, Program Review Progress Report Workshops will be held April 11-14 from 2-3 pm in the Writing Center. The budget was a key topic in the Town Hall held March 15. It was the sole topic in a special Town Hall budget meeting held March 31.

COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

The Reedley Buddhist Church will host its 75th Anniversary Luncheon in the Reedley College Cafeteria April 16 from 11 am-3 pm.

April 30 is the 9th Annual Rebounding to Success Teen Conference at Reedley College. The event will include speakers and workshops to help students make healthy lifestyle choices. RC Title V will also host a bilingual parent conference, Padres Como Companeros. The goal is to provide parents with information to help their students be successful in college.

The Reedley College Ag Backers Council will host a new fundraiser April 30. Pinot & Pints will be a wine, beer, and hors' devours tasting event at Booth Ranch in Minkler.

The Nisei Farmers held a tractor safety class March 25 in the Mechanized Ag laboratory.

The annual Reedley College open house "Kaleidoscope" was held March 24. The event was geared toward providing needed services to the community. The event was held from 2-6 pm and included free H & R Block federal income tax preparation, a blood drive, health faire, diabetes awareness and screening, career workshops which included how to write a resume, interviewing skills, and marketing you. There were program information booths, tours, and more.

The annual iXplore Conference sponsored by STEM was held on Saturday, March 26. The event featured guest speaker NASA Engineer Laura Kushner. It was open to college and high school students interested in a career in health care, science, technology engineering and math.

The Green Club and MSEIP will host the 3rd Annual Green Summit April 14 from 9 am-2 pm. The event will include a film series, presentations, information booths, music, and exhibitors.

The San Francisco Shakespeare Festival gave a free performance of The Tempest on March 24.

On March 2, several individuals from Reedley College attended the Fresno Compact Awards as Dr. Thomas Downing was recognized for his partnership with the RC Dental Assisting program.

The Talking Tigers Negotiations Tournament will be April 13 from 3-5 pm in PHS 354.

On Saturday, April 9, the STEM Ambassadors will be hosting the second annual Robotics Day competition for robotics clubs that they have helped set up at local middle schools.

The art department took 93 students and five faculty to view the exhibitions at the LA County Museum of Art on March 8. For many students, this was their first art museum visit.

Health Services held two blood drives in March. On March 2 there were 59 donors and March 24 (Kaleidoscope) had 30 donors.

RC International Programs Club Car Wash Fundraiser was held in front of the Residence Hall April 2.

The Child Development Career and Planning Conference will be held April 13 from 1-5 pm in the CCI Building. April 15 is the annual Child Development Center Art Hop and Spaghetti Dinner from 5-7 pm.

Many RC students participated in Kids' Day to help raise \$440,000 for Children's Hospital Central California.

On April 7, RC will host a Career Pathway Summit including the Valley Regional Occupational Program and the State Center Consortium with nearly 300 participants.

ATHLETICS

Reedley College Women's Tennis Team has clinched the title of Big 8 Conference Champion for the 4th year in a row and has won 39 straight games in four years. Players Alex McDonald and Nicole Simoni are the number one Doubles Team in NorCal. They are also the two top Singles players in the Big 8 Conference. Keilah McFall and Dunja Imran Al-Sous are also undefeated and the #3 Doubles Team in NorCal

The annual Volleyball Spike-a-thon was held March 24 during Kaleidoscope. The team will be hosting a volleyball camp for high school students April 8.

The annual Women's Golf Team fundraising tournament will be May 21 with a 9 am shotgun start at Ridge Creek Country Club in Dinuba.

Men's Tennis player Andre Almeida is undefeated and is #1 in the Conference.

Reedley College infielder Andrew Rich was named Central Valley Conference player of the week. Rich hit .500 with two doubles, four RBIs and five runs in a three-game sweep of West Hills College.

Reedley College Softball player Brittney Snow was named the CVC Softball Player of the Week. Snow, who plays second base, had 7 RBIs in the March 8 doubleheader sweep of Merced College.

Men's Golf is undefeated and has clinched the division.

MARCH 22, 2011

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

Highlighting the purpose and basics of accreditation

The Six Themes

For the self study, in addition to answering standard prompts geared toward institutional evaluation, Reedley College must also be sure to weave several themes throughout these standards. These themes provide guidance and structure to institutional effectiveness.

One theme is that of *Institutional Commitments*. The college must show consistency between its mission and institutional goals and plans and ensure that the mission is more than a statement of intention. It needs to guide institutional action.

Evaluation, Planning, & Improvement is another theme. The self study must provide evidence that the

college engages in an ongoing and systematic cycle of evaluation, integrated planning, implementation, and re-evaluation.

Of course, *Student Learning Outcomes* is also a theme. The college needs to be developing SLOs and assessing them to see how well learning is occurring so that changes to improve learning and teaching can be made.

The self study also emphasizes college *Organization* as a key to support student learning. Adequate staff, resources, and organizational structure should be in place, and these structures are to be systematically evaluated.

The institution must also show that *Dialogue* about college quality and improvement is taking place at all times. Information shared throughout the institution should be clear, meaningfully interpreted, and broadly communicated.

Lastly, the theme of *Institutional Integrity* must reveal that Reedley College demonstrates honesty and truthfulness in the manner in which it presents itself to everyone involved with the college.

The standard committees have worked hard to prove Reedley College's commitment to these themes in the self study.

Program Review Progress Report Workshops

The Program Review Recommendations Annual Report allows programs to analyze, refine, and improve program practices in an effort to improve student learning and institutional effectiveness. This allows programs to update their goals/recommendations, track the recommendation progress, and state new program needs between the five-year cycle program review reports. Instructional and non-instructional programs will

be submitting reports at the end of every spring semester, beginning 2011.

To help departments complete these reports, workshops have been planned. Each program, instructional and non-instructional, should send at least one representative to just one workshop hour. Choose April 11, 12, 13, or 14 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Writing Center computer lab, HUM 59. No need to bring anything; all materials can be accessed via Blackboard.



IMPORTANT DATES:

- ◆ March 2011 — All standard drafts (except IVB, which is still being updated by the district) are under review by constituent groups
- ◆ April 2011 — Final drafts undergo final formatting
- ◆ Summer 2011 — Final draft to Board of Trustees & Chancellor
- ◆ October 2011— Accreditation team site visit

SURVEY FUN FACT

* 70% of faculty and staff agree that the administration provides leadership and encouragement to faculty in improving instruction.

* *Spring 2010 Employee Survey*

SELF-STUDY CO-CHAIRS:

— Marilyn Bebringer,
Vice-President of Instruction

— Anna Martinez,
Communication Instructor

Feel free to contact Marilyn or Anna with any questions or comments about accreditation.

Academic Spotlight: Reedley College Mechanized Agriculture

By Ashley Testa-Burk
community@reedleyexponent.com

Editor's note: This is the third in a series of profiles on Reedley College courses and programs.

Not everyone is meant to learn in the classroom.

For mechanically inclined students seeking hands-on training and ample career options, Reedley College's Mechanized Agriculture department is just the ticket. Through the Equipment Service Technician vocational program, students learn the skills necessary to immediately join the workforce.

Instructor Gary Wenter said nearly 90 percent of graduates find jobs, despite the struggling economy.

"Job placement is pretty easy, because typically there's a lot of work," Wenter said.

Reedley College is one of the few schools in the country sponsored and supported by Quinn Company, the Caterpillar (CAT) dealer for the Central Valley and Los Angeles areas.

Instructor Larry Dinis said that CAT donates \$5,000 to the program each year, which Quinn matches. Half goes toward student scholarships, and half stays within the program.

Armed with industry-specific knowledge, Wenter said that many graduates actually end up working for Quinn. Although some students transfer to a four-year college, most graduates obtain their certifi-

icates and begin work. "We tend to be a terminal program, because the whole idea is they're going to school here to get a job," Wenter said.

A state-of-the-art lab on the north end of campus features diagnostic equipment modeled after dealer shops. Students work on CAT engines, transmissions, hydraulics and electrical systems, splitting their time between classroom instruction and lab hours.

There are four classes within the two-year program, "They're hands-on kind of people - that's how shop guys are," Wenter said. "So we try to place our grade heavily on their ability to work in the shop. But on the same token, they've got to be able to read technical service manuals, access computer equipment programs and think on a different level."

Three teachers (Wenter, Dinis and Nick Deftereos) share instructional duties, often working in small groups to give students focused attention. The program typically reaches maximum enrollment every year, with about 120 students registered this semester. Deftereos said the curriculum prepares students for entry-level jobs, but through further experience, they can work up to management positions.

Not only is the program well known, but it's on the way to becoming one of the few accredited diesel programs on the west coast. "We're going to be the first

"There aren't a whole lot of other programs like this in the area, just because it's such an expensive endeavor," Wenter said. "And we think we're pretty good at what we do. We're pretty well regarded, so that's nice."

The Reedley College program draws students from all over California, including Fresno, Bakersfield and the central coast.

with engines, fuel systems and machine operations, students are required to master service fundamentals. They also learn the basics of system operations, in order to successfully repair equipment.

"They deal with a lot of stuff that they would do as a technician, like filling out service reports," Dinis said.

Many students are surprised by how much writing actually goes into technician work. Although they must pass both written and practical exams, the instructors are more concerned with overall performance.

They're learning the fundamentals, including background and theory. When they come into the shop, they're getting a hands-on application of what they learned in class.

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Contributed
Mechanized Agriculture instructor Gary Wenter shows students a tractor scraper used in a rock operation, during a field trip to the Union Asphalt rock plant in Santa Maria.

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For more information on Reedley College's Equipment Service Technician program, call (559) 638-3641.

The following article appeared in The Reedley Exponent on Thursday, March 31, 2011.

Academic Spotlight: RC Auto Tech

By Samantha Villanueva
Reedley Exponent Correspondent

Editor's note: This is the fourth in a series of profiles on Reedley College courses and programs.

The Reedley College Automotive Technology Program is more like an actual auto shop than a college program.

It's lunch time. Students of the program retrieve their time cards and punch out for lunch, just like they do when they start their day at 7:30 a.m. and end it at 1:20 p.m.

"Not only does this program teach the students how to work on cars and deal with that, but we also emphasize teaching soft skills such as being on time for work every day and getting along with your fellow students/coworkers," said instructor Ireneo Garza, 54. "We're very strict about attendance here and it's helpful for teaching them discipline."

The program takes one academic year to complete. Students have 10 areas of specialization to complete, five during the fall and five during the spring. That comes to 16 units per semester. The curriculum is formatted like trade schools with 70 percent of the learning as hands on training and the rest as theory in a classroom setting.

The three full time instructors are Niño Garza, Ru-



Lucy Ruiz/Contributed

Reedley College Automotive Technology students spend time in the shop completing lab hours and learning skills to prepare them for careers in the automotive field.

dy Guzman and Glen Ogawa. They are ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) certified master technicians and have years of mechanical experience between them.

By the time students leave the program, they will be at the Advanced Apprenticeship Level and ready to take ASE exams. When students finish the program, they receive certificates of completion.

Assisting the instructors is Brett Nelson, an instructional

technician who graduated from the program in 1980.

"My job is to take care of the tools and shop equipment, assist the instructors and help out when the equipment isn't working correctly," Nelson joked. "I guess you could say I help with issues."

The other instructors appreciate Nelson's presence.

"He's the glue that keeps this class running smoothly," Garza said.

The instructors often recruit new students at nearby high schools or continuation schools. They also have an informational booth at Reedley College's own Kaleidoscope Open House. Each semester there is room in the program for 60 students. Not only is the enrollment filled to capacity, but the wait list is full as well.

"My advice for potential students is to sign up for these classes as soon as they can because they will fill up fast," Garza said. "If students aren't able to get in right away, I usually tell them to take some general education classes in the meantime to get priority registration for the next semester."

Ray Duran, 20, became interested in the program when his older brother told him about it.

"We're learning a lot and

the technology is pretty current. It's a good thing," said Duran.

There are two women enrolled in the program.

"Times have changed," Garza said. "You see females in the industry all the time, whether they're managers or mechanics. We definitely encourage women to join the program if they're interested. Male or female, they're a student and everyone is treated the same."

Job placement is a big part of the program, although there is no official agreement with any shops or sponsors.

"When shops in the area are looking for a few people to hire, they'll often come to us first to see if we have any recommendations," Garza said. "We enjoy such a good reputation with them. Many of our students have worked out well in the past so they keep coming back to us for potential employees."

The program is practical

See AUTO TECH page B8

Auto Tech

Continued from page B7

for more than just obtaining a job in the automotive field. Garza said many students move into other areas of work, and that once again soft skills are emphasized. The program teaches students to be dependable and get along with their coworkers, as well as critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

"You have to be able to effectively communicate with people, not just turn nuts and bolts," Garza said.

Albert Garcia, a 19-year-old student, chose the program because of his love of mechanics.

"I would like to get a job in the industry and I think this program will help me get there," Garcia said.

Students are issued coveralls, their own locker and tool set. There are cleanup assignments and each student has his or her own section to work on. There is a designated student foreman of the day. They are entitled to a special parking lot, but also must complete foreman duties and responsibilities such as correctly answering the shop phone.

The shop employs up-to-date technology. It features many full-size pieces of equipment for students to work on, as well as cameras and projection screens to aid in demonstrations. A couple of cars are in the shop for students to work on and learn with.

Not only do the instructors like to teach students the newest technology, but they also give lessons on how to work with older cars.

"You do want to stay modern, of course, but we do also teach the older stuff because if they go out into the field it's bound to come up," Garza said. "This way, they'll be ready."

Much of the information about the cars and parts students may be working on can be found on computers. However, the databases only go back so far. The shop also features a library of assorted car manuals and booklets in case what the student is looking for can't be found on the computer.

The economic crisis has led many people to re-enter the school system to either sharpen their skills or develop new ones. Jim Bishop, 44, is a student of the program. He is a returning student to Reedley. He graduated from the aeronautics program in the '80s but recently enrolled in school again to learn new skills.

"The skills I'm learning in here will be very useful, especially with the newer cars," Bishop said. "You have to change with the times."

When asked what he likes best about teaching the program, Garza smiled.

"When you get older, passing on knowledge becomes important to you," he said. "The best part is watching the students grow and mature."



Photos from Kaleidoscope, Thursday, March 24



Photos from the iXplore Conference, Saturday, March 26

