In The News...

With DSPS

Note From The Coordinator: Beth Viersen

Universal Design

Throughout the community college system, distance education continues to grow to include more infrastructure, course offerings, and services. With this growth comes the responsibility to reach and accommodate more students, including those with disabilities.

To meet the challenge of access, educational research has come to acknowledge the concept of Universal Design as a paradigm shift, representing an all-inclusive approach to designing barrier-free environments. In education, we see the same unintentionally designed barriers in online courses that need to be redesigned based on individual students’ requirements for access.

Building universally designed courses is a joint responsibility between faculty, trainers, distance education coordinators, access specialists, alternate media staff and administrators who make the commitment through institutional support.

Universal Design incorporates those accessibility features into the beginning stages of course design. This is a proactive approach to building broad usability for many and alleviates the need for numerous individual accommodations.

Resources Funded by the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office

High Tech Center Training Unit http://www.htctu.net Funded by the California Community College’s Chancellor’s Office, the High Tech Center Training Unit (HTCTU) is a state-of-the-art training and support facility for community college faculty and staff wishing to acquire or improve teaching skills, methodologies, and pedagogy in Assistive Computer Technology, Alternate Media and Web Accessibility. The HTCTU supports High Tech Center programs at 112 community colleges and satellite centers.

Distance Education Captioning Grant http://www.canyons.edu/captioning The Distance Education Captioning and Transcription grant (DECT) provides CCCs with funding for live and asynchronous captioning and transcription as a means of enhancing the access of all students to distance education courses. The DECT also promotes and supports awareness of available funding as a means to support faculty efforts to develop high-quality, media-rich distance learning courses.

@ONE http://www.onefortraining.org The @ONE Project goal is the provision of training, online resources and research for California Community College faculty and staff to learn about technology that will enhance student learning and success. @ONE’s programs are provided for free or at a very low cost with funding from the California Community College Chancellor’s Office Telecommunication and Technology Infrastructure Program (TTIP).

The Galvin Group http://galvin-group.com The Galvin Group, as a contractor to the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office, provides technical assistance to all 112 college DSPS programs. Its website contains an extensive array of resources for DSPS professionals from federal and state laws to policies and procedures, forms and reports. These resources are divided into fifteen sections and contain over 500 links and documents. In addition, the Galvin Group offers, on behalf of the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office, modular online training for DSPS staff.
Who’s New In DSPS

Amanda Ames
Front Office Assistant

We would like to welcome Amanda Ames to our DSPS family. This is Amanda’s second year at Cuyamaca College. She plans to transfer in fall 2012 to UCSD as a History major. Her goal after completing her education is to be a high school History teacher. She enjoys learning and going to school, and has a strong desire to study abroad in either England or France for a semester. In her spare time, Amanda rides horses and plays the piano and guitar. She also likes to spend time with her newly adopted dog, Princess, who is an 8-year old Miniature Pinscher she rescued from the El Cajon Animal Shelter. Amanda is looking forward to getting to know our students with disabilities.

High Tech Center

Spring 2011 Lab Hours

Monday Open Lab
8:30 AM-6:00 PM
Tuesday Open Lab
8:30 AM-5:00 PM
Wednesday Open Lab
8:30 AM-5:00 PM
Thursday Open Lab
8:30 AM-5:00 PM
Friday Open Lab
8:30 AM-1:00 PM

*Now located on the right side of the Library in C114

*Test Proctor located in C116
Hours:
Monday-Thursday
9:00 AM-5:00 PM
HERE'S LOOKIN' AT CLUB ABLED

Club ABLED is a Cuyamaca College campus club that supports students with disabilities and any other Cuyamaca or Grossmont student who joins. One of the purposes of the club is to educate and increase awareness to others about how capable students with disabilities actually are.

The club is very active meeting twice a month and participating in as many college hours and campus events as possible. Cuyamaca College's Vice President of Student Services, Dr. Julianna Barnes, attended one of our meetings in March 2011 for a meet-and-greet with the club members. Calvin Fry, the club's Vice President, presented Dr. Barnes with a club t-shirt. Everyone had fun together and enjoyed group pictures with Dr. Barnes. Photos were taken by our campus photographer, Phu Nguyen.

Club ABLED's next campus activities will include:

The Cuyamaca College Health Fair on April 12, 2011. Club members will be available at our booth to educate others about the club, encourage new students to join, and will be hosting an Opportunity Drawing for a "Health Basket" full of health goodies.

The End of the Year Celebration with the EOPS/DSPS Recognition Ceremony on May 13, 2011. Club ABLED is involved with hosting this combination event with EOPS & DSPS. The EOPS/DSPS Recognition Ceremony is an event to celebrate, honor, and acknowledge the achievements of the Cuyamaca College students that are involved in the EOPS & DSPS programs. These students, despite many obstacles and challenges in their daily lives, are earning their degrees, certificates, and/or transferring to Universities as a result of their dedication, hard work, and perseverance. Club ABLED and EOPS have donated money for the ceremony's needs, luncheon, and cake. Club ABLED and the EOPS Club will be representing themselves at this event and will sponsor an Opportunity Drawing for prizes. After this event Club ABLED will start up again in August 2011.

Club ABLED is a very hard working club that earns money for their treasury all throughout the academic year. The club sponsors opportunity drawings at various campus events and club members participate in the Recycling Committee, assisting the campus' recycling program. Money earned is given back to support our campus, students, and events.

Anyone interested in joining Club ABLED may attend campus events and talk to club members, or contact the Club Advisor, Mary Asher-Fitzpatrick, mary.asher@gcccd.edu or the Club's Co-Advisor, Kari Crawford, kari.crawford@gcccd.edu
Need a Little Extra Help?

The DSPS High Tech Center has three special assistants for disabled students. Each assistant will offer specialized one-on-one tutoring for DSPS students.

**AMAL ODESH**
Amal will assist students with Math and Business Office Technology questions.
*Amal is available:* Monday 12:00pm - 3:00pm
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am - 12:30pm
Wednesday 12:30pm - 2:00pm

**TAGHRID SITTO**
Taghrid will assist students with English and English writing, Child Development, and Computer Science questions.
*Taghrid is available:* Monday & Wednesday 9:00am - 12:30pm
Tuesday & Thursday 11:00am - 12:30pm

**DANA NEWTON**
Dana will assist students with English and English writing, and Computer Science
*Dana is available:* Monday 4:30 - 6:00pm
Tuesday & Thursday 2100pm - 3:00pm
Friday 8:30am - 12:30pm

DSPS High Tech Center
Room C114 in the Library
Phone (619) 660-4299

DSP&S at the One-Stop

Beth Viersen                      DSPS Coordinator
Mary Asher-Fitzpatrick            DSPS Specialist-Learning Disabilities
Margaret Jones                   DSPS Specialist-Speech & Language
Monica Farris                    Student Service Specialist
Katie Morris                     DSPS Specialist-Counselor
                                 Developer, DSPS Newsletter

High Tech Center

Brian Josephson                  Alternate Media/HTC
Jennifer Moore                   Access Specialist
Roberta Gottfried                Learning Assistance
                                 Center Specialist
                                 Test Proctor