

IN THE NEWS..... WITH DSPS

Fall 2010

Volume 4, Issue 1

A Note From The Coordinator: Beth Viersen

Cuyamaca College Disabled Students Programs and Services Celebrating Disabilities Awareness Week!

Monday October 24: Who's Who in DSPS! A simple introduction to the staff of the DSPS department.

Tuesday October 25: DSPS Newsletter. Find out about more about our programs and read about student success stories.

Wednesday October 26: Please join us for the [Wheelchair Basketball Game!](#) This fun event will be held at the Gym from 12-1:00pm. All administrators, faculty, staff, and students are welcome!



Thursday October 27: Movie Day: Please join us for a showing of "How Difficult Can This Be: F.A.T. City-A Learning Disabilities Workshop" in the Student Center in Room I-207 from 12:30-3:00pm.



"This unique program lets viewers experience the frustration, anxiety, and tension faced by children with learning disabilities. Workshop facilitator Richard Lavoie presents a series of striking simulations emulating daily experience of LD children" (PBS.org).

Friday October 28: Stop in and see us for a "Sweet Tooth Stop By!" Come by between 11-1:00pm and check out the DSPS Main Office in Room A-113 and/or the DSPS High Tech Center in Room C-114 and enjoy a treat!



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If you have any questions or concerns regarding students with disabilities please contact our main office at ext. 4239. We are here to assist you.

Kelli and Kurzweil: A Success Story

Kelli Kreeger began attending Cuyamaca College in fall 2009. Previously, she was working and taking care of her mom until she was laid off. This change prompted Kelli to go to college because she wanted to learn job skills so she could support herself and her family. All her life, Kelli has been challenged by severe dyslexia and someone, usually her sister, always did the reading and writing for her. She was passed from one grade to another in school, often feeling like a failure. Arriving at Cuyamaca, Kelli found herself in a panic as there was no one to read and write for her.

With the assistance of the DSPS High Tech Center, Kelli learned to read using Kurzweil, which to her, is an invaluable tool. Kurzweil is a text-to-speech software that allows students to see and hear text. Kelli especially thanks Jennifer Moore, the Learning Assistance Center Specialist, for her patience in training her and the long hours they worked together.

Next, Kelli has to write essays and class papers. She learned that she could write in Kurzweil, and then listen to the text to correct mistakes. Kelli says that sometimes she has to hear it three or four times to get it right. Kurzweil also has features like a dictionary and thesaurus, which she uses. If Kelli needs to read a website, she copies and pastes it into Microsoft Word, then uses Kurzweil. To read class handouts, she scans them into Kurzweil herself, and she's good to go! Another learning tool that Kelli praises is getting textbooks in an alternate format which lets her use her favorite tool, Kurzweil. Brian Josephson, the Web Accessibility Specialist, meets with Kelli at the beginning of the semester to make sure she gets exactly what she needs to succeed.

Kelli takes her exams with Roberta Gottfried, the Test Proctor. In a comfortable, stress-free environment, Kelli listens to her exams on Kurzweil. She likes this format because she can go over the questions as many times as she needs to without embarrassment. In high school, she was always pulled out of class for exams and a student read to her orally. Kelli said that she felt really inferior and it just didn't motivate her to learn how to read or push herself to have better grades. With Kurzweil as her "Key to Success," Kelli is in the ASL program and on her way to achieving her dream of becoming a Sign Language Interpreter, and one day, a teacher. We are very proud of Kelli for turning her life around and achieving her objective of being self-sufficient and independent.

Dana Newton: From Personal Enrichment to SDSU

A true success story for Cuyamaca College and the Disabled Students Programs and Services department is Dana Newton. Dana has been married for 24 years and chose to put off college until her 3 children were grown. She came to Cuyamaca College searching for some hands-on enrichment classes. She had a desire to learn how to repair computers and had previously taken a few ROP computer classes at Helix High School. Her first class went so well that she decided to go for a degree, however, she found herself struggling in Math 160. Her instructor referred her to the DSPS department and Dana was given learning disability testing. For the first time in her life Dana discovered she had a learning disability.

She received academic accommodations and was able to get alternative media, equipment loans and test proctoring. Test proctoring gave Dana a quiet environment and extra time on tests which gave her the boost she needed to get past her learning disability and excel. Alternative media gave her e-texts of her books which allowed her to hear and see the text. This helped her with studying and the equipment loans she received gave her a chance to discover an exciting new technology. Dana loves to learn new technology and was one of the first students to check out the “Pulse Pen,” a device that allows students to take notes and then listen to them later, as well as hear what was said when the note was taken. Dana learned to use the pulse pen so well that she was often asked to teach others.

She became familiar with all of the College’s resources, including the STEM and Writing Centers, and received learning strategies from our Speech, Language and Cognitive Specialist. She took several computer classes and, with her hands on approach, was hired in the High Tech Center as an Hourly Instructional Lab Aide. Dana was also asked to work as a teacher’s aide by the English department and continued to do so even after she graduated. Dana truly cares and is passionate about what she does; she recently completed an internship during the summer in the CIS department and gave praise to her mentor, Sherri Braaksma, for encouraging her and teaching her.

Dana graduated from Cuyamaca College in spring 2011 with a Business Degree and a 3.67 grade point average. She recently transferred to SDSU and is currently working towards a degree in Business Administration-Management Information Systems. When you ask Dana about her experience here she is quick to say, “Cuyamaca has taught me so much.”

Famous People With Disabilities

BEETHOVEN Ludwig Von, 1770-1827, (bipolar depression) (hearing impairment), Brilliant composer who experienced bipolar depression and lost his hearing in 1800.

BRADY James, 1940-present, (traumatic brain injury) Former White House Press Secretary who was shot in the head in an assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan in 1981. He is also responsible for the Brady Bill.

CAMPANELLA Roy, 1921-1993, (spinal cord injury), In 1948 he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers. He won the league's Most Valuable Player Award in 1951, 1953 and 1955. Due to an icy storm in January 1958 while driving home his car hit a patch of ice and skidded off the road. The accident left Roy a quadriplegic from the neck down. Roy was elected into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1969.

CAVETT Dick [Richard Alva Cavett], 1936-present, (bipolar) American entertainer who won 3 Emmy's for ABC's Dick Cavett Show 1968-1972. hosted PBS' The Dick Cavett Show for five years, wrote Cavett 1974.

CEASAR Julius, 100-44 BC, (epilepsy), Roman General and Statesman. Julius Caesar's seizures are well documented. He told others that during his seizures he received messages from the Gods.

CHER [Cherilyn Sarkisian LaPierre], 1946-present, (learning disability) Her success in music, movies, television, and on stage over nearly four decades qualifies her as one of the most enduring entertainers of our time.

CLINTON William Jefferson, 1946-present, (hearing impairment), 42nd President of the United States wears hearing aids.

CONDON Richard, 1915-1996, (speech impairment), American author who wrote The Manchurian Candidate 1959, Prizzi's Honor 1982.

DAVIS Sammy Jr., 1925-1990, (visual impairment), American actor, singer and dancer, versatile entertainer for 60 years. His career spanned vaudeville, stage, movies, recording, night clubs, and television. His last movie role was in Tap 1989. He was blind in one eye.

ERSKINE Carl, 1926-present, (autism), American baseball player, pitcher for the Dodgers 1948-59. Threw two no-hitters 1942 and 1956.

FORD Henry, 1863-1941, (learning disability), Leading manufacturer of American automobiles in the early 1900's. Established the Ford Motor Company which revolutionized the automobile industry with assembly line method of production.

KENNEDY Ted Jr., 1961-present, (amputee), Edward M. Kennedy Jr. [Ted Kennedy Jr.]. Son of Joan and Edward M. Kennedy. Due to cancer his right leg was amputated. Runner-up of the 1979 Valor in Sports Award. Attorney who specializes in disability law.

OE Hikari, 1963-present, (developmental disability), Hikari was born with a potentially fatal cranial deformity following traumatic brain surgery during infancy. Later found to be a musical savant. Hikari surprised everyone by becoming a recognized composer of classical music. His first two CD's, Music of Hikari Oe 1992 and Music of Hikari Oe 2 1994 have been best-sellers in his native Japan, worldwide more than 300000 copies have been sold.

STEVENS Thaddeus, 1792-1868, (physical impairment), United States Congressman. Born with clubfoot.

WILLIAMS Robin, 1951-present, (attention deficit disorder) Actor/comedian who has been diagnosed with ADHD, starred in television's Mork and Mindy, 1978-1982, won Grammy 1979 for album Reality What A Concept, films include Good Morning, Vietnam 1987 and The Birdcage 1996.

A.C.E.S.

Disabled Student Programs and Services have teamed up with Adaptive Computer Empowerment Services (ACES) to offer “free” refurbished computers for students with disabilities at Cuyamaca College. What is A.C.E.S.? It is a California Public Benefit Non-Profit Corporation and a 501(c) 3, originally established in 1995, a volunteer-driven organization refurbishing donated computer equipment and software for distribution to low-income San Diegans with disabilities and seniors. ACES in collaboration with the San Diego Broadband Initiative (SDBI) addresses the five factors for disadvantaged populations to get connected and adopt broadband use. The factors are known as the Five “A”s. Access + Applications + Accessibility + Affordability + Assistance = Changing Lives Through Technology.

In order to receive a free computer one must have a verifiable disability, low income and internet access. DSPTS and ACES encourages students to be enrolled in a computer course at the time they receive their desk-top computer, such as our PDSS 085 or 087 Adaptive Computer Class *OR* ACES offers a free computer training course so students are familiar with general software and hardware applications. During these difficult economic times it is wonderful to be a community partner with a local business in East County and provide a quality service to students with disabilities who are pursuing their educational goals.

Kudos to ACES!

Pick up application from the DSPTS Main Office, A-113 or the High Tech Center, C-114.

Contact Information: <http://www.adaptive.org/>

A.C.E.S.

10054 Prospect Ave Suite E
Santee, CA 92071

DSPTS Test Proctor

Test Proctoring services provides additional time on tests, distraction free environment, low stress, and other test related accommodations.

Test Proctor: Roberta Gottfried
Location: C-116
Phone: 619-660-4577
Fax: 619-660-4490
Email: roberta.gottfried@gcccd.edu

Hours: Fall 2011

Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Attention Current DSPS Students:

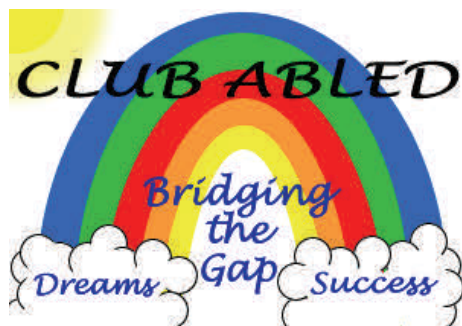
Priority Registration begins November 14th

**November 14th-18th:
Walk-in Counseling:
Monday-Thursday from 8:30-4:30pm
Friday from 9-12pm**

We are here to assist you with your educational goals.

DSPS Main Office
Room A-113
Phone (619) 660-4239

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



Club ABLED is a campus club to support our college students with disabilities and any other interested Cuyamaca College students. We would like to make people aware of us and support those who need support. We are always looking for new students to join.

If you would like to join CLUB ABLED, please contact the Club Advisor:

Mary Asher-Fitzpatrick mary.asher@gcccd.edu



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· C O L L E G E ·
LEARNING FOR
THE FUTURE

DSP&S at the One-Stop

Beth Viersen
Mary Asher-Fitzpatrick
Margaret Jones
Monica Farris
Rachelle Flores
Adam Erlenbusch

DSPS Coordinator
Learning Disabilities Specialist
Speech & Language Specialist
Student Service Specialist
Counselor, Adjunct
Counselor, Adjunct
Editor, DSPS Newsletter

High Tech Center

Brian Josephson
Jennifer Moore
Roberta Gottfried

Alternate Media/HTC
Specialist
Learning Assistance
Center Specialist
Test Proctor

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Governing Board Members:

Greg Barr, Bill Garrett, Mary Kay Rosinski, Edwin Ramon Hiel, Debbie Justeson * Student Trustees: Christopher Enders, Charles Taylor III
Chancellor: Cindy L. Miles, Ph.D * Grossmont President: Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D. * Cuyamaca President: Mark J. Zacovic, Ph.D.