



The Village Window

THE STAFF NEWSLETTER FOR EASTFIELD COLLEGE

3737 Motley Dr., Mesquite, TX 75150

www.eastfieldcollege.edu

August 13, 2009

Dear Colleague:

I hope you have had a refreshing summer. For those of you who have been gone all summer, I am sure you are eager to greet the colleagues you've missed while you were away. For those of you who have been working during the summer weeks, it's time to prepare for the opportunities a new semester always brings. No matter what your activities were for this summer, I hope you are eager to come back together to begin a new academic year.

Convocation Week is our way to start the new semester and year. We have numerous opportunities during this week for you to reconnect, learn, and prepare for the year ahead. The first of those activities is our All-College Convocation on Monday, August 17 from 9-11 a.m. in the Performance Hall. At this meeting all employees will join me as we review last year's accomplishments, hear updates on changes since last spring, and learn the goals and direction for this next year. We will also honor our new employees, our retirees and will announce the 2009-10 Excellence in Teaching nominees and awardee. At the conclusion of this event, we will enjoy lunch together before returning to our regular work schedules at noon.

Throughout the week, professional development activities will be available. The Office of Professional Development will have a listing of these learning opportunities on the Eastfield website under Employees/Center for Innovation and Creativity. As was the practice last spring, we will have sign-in sheets at each activity so that your participation can be recorded in your Professional Development transcript. The training programs offered during Convocation Week will be repeated throughout the year for those employees who are unable to attend that week.

I appreciate the warm welcome you gave me when I came to Eastfield in February. Over the past six months, I have enjoyed the new friendships, the interesting challenges, and the rewards that have been part of my role here. I am eager to begin the new year with you as we strive to help students achieve their educational goals.

Sincerely,

Jean

Convocation Week Schedule

Monday, August 17

- 8:30-9 a.m.: Coffee & Orange Juice (Performance Hall)
- 9-11 a.m.: Convocation for All Employees (Performance Hall)
- 11 a.m.-12 p.m.: Lunch (Pit)
- 12 p.m.: College Opens
- 12:30-2:30 p.m.: Instructional Division Mtgs. for FT Faculty/Staff
- 2:45 p.m. Celebration of the Life of Jim Phillips' (S100)

Tuesday, August 18

- 8:30-10:30 a.m.: Welcome Breakfast (for New Faculty, Deans/Visiting Scholars) (LC101)
- 9:30-10:30 a.m.: e-Campus Training Version 9 LeCroy Tea.m. (S100)
- 10:30-11:30 a.m.: e-Campus Q & A LeCroy Team (S100)
- 12-1 p.m.: EFC's Social Networking – D. Danforth (LC203)
- 1-2 p.m.: e-Campus Training Version 9 LeCroy Team (S100) Info. Privacy and Security – A. Mistrot and J. Gunter (C297)
- 2-3 p.m.: e-Campus Q & A Session LeCroy Team (S100) EOP – M. Horak (C297) FAST Team and LeCroy Services – T. Roffino and B. Stinson (LC131)
- 3-4 p.m.: RAIN – M. Horak (C297) Respond - Assess - Isolate - Notify FAST (Faculty Access to Supportive Technologies) Team (LC131) Blogs, Wikis and Podcasts – E. Bowen
- 6-9 p.m.: New Student & Family Orientation (Performance Hall)

Wednesday, August 19

- 9-9:45 a.m.: Fall 2009 Curriculum Process Workshop Live Broadcast
- 10 a.m.: Academic Breakout Session (Video) (C295) Technical Breakout Session (C297)
- 12-1 p.m.: Faculty Assoc. Meeting & Sandwich Fixings – R. Lewis (S100) Administrators Assoc. Dessert Meeting – S. Cook (S101)

Wednesday, August 19 (continued)

- 1-2 p.m.: Handling Difficult Students by J. Quan (S100)
- 2-3 p.m.: Club Advisor Orientation – D. Ballance (S100)
- 2-4 p.m.: Core Committee Kickoff Mtgs. for Faculty (MVC)
- 3-4 p.m.: Intercultural Competence – B. Hernandez (S100)

Thursday, August 20

- 9-10 a.m.: Intercultural Competence – B. Hernandez (S100)
- 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Personal Accountability at Work – D. Blell (LC101)
- 10-11 a.m.: Faculty e-Campus Support – J. Penney (C297) Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act – G. Miller (S100)
- 11 a.m.-12 p.m.: ADA- Intercultural Competence – B. White (S100)
- 12-1 p.m.: EOP – M. Horak (S100)
- 1-2 p.m.: RAIN – M. Horak (S100)
- 2-3 p.m.: Faculty e-Campus Support – J. Penney (C297) Attendance Certification Review – D. Mingo (S100)
- 3-4 p.m.: Professional Development Requirements – S. Kaczka (S100)
- 6-7 p.m.: All Faculty Dinner (Pit)
- 7-8 p.m.: All Faculty Meeting (Performance Hall)
- 8-9:30 p.m.: Division Discipline Meetings

Friday, August 21

- 9-10 a.m.: EFC History (mandatory for 2009-10 New Hires) – J. Henson
- 10-11 a.m.: Pleasant Grove Campus Bus Tour – S. Cook (By Reservation Only)
- 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.: Field Trip Scottish Rite Hospital for Children – D. Baynham (By Reservation Only)
- 1-2 p.m.: Pleasant Grove Campus Bus Tour – S. Cook (By Reservation Only)

LeCroy Scholars

Congratulations to Eastfield students Alexander Nelson of Fate and Hilda Rodriguez of Rowlett who were recently named 2009-10 DCCCD LeCroy Scholars.

A total of eight high school and college students from throughout the Dallas metroplex have been named 2009-10 LeCroy Scholars by the DCCCD Foundation for their outstanding leadership and academic achievements. The program honors DCCCD's former chancellor, Dr. R. Jan LeCroy, who served in that capacity from 1981 to 1988. Each LeCroy Scholar receives up to \$4,000 (\$1,000 per semester, with a maximum of four semesters) to attend any of DCCCD's seven colleges.

Nelson graduated this spring from Royce City High School, where he was president of the French Club; a member of the district orchestra in Monterey, Calif., prior to his move to Texas in 2006; and the recipient of the school orchestra's Director's Award. He holds a second-degree black belt in karate, has taught for two years at ATA Black Belt Academy in Rockwall and also served as sergeant-at-arms in the Junior Naval ROTC. Nelson plans to become a teacher and a small business owner (a karate studio) after he finishes college. In California, he organized a donation drive for the homeless through his mother's office and would like to undertake a similar project in his own community. Nelson likes to empower children with the knowledge that they need to succeed.

Rodriguez, who works full time for the Rockwall ISD as a bilingual instructional assistant, attends Eastfield in the evening. She is the first among her family members to graduate from high school and attend college. When she was a student at Rowlett, she served as one of two students on the school's Campus Improvement Committee and a leader in the TAPP program – which led to a visit to Eastfield, where she decided to go to school. Rodriguez finished school in December 2008 and started classes at Eastfield in January 2009. She plans to transfer to A&M-Commerce to earn her bachelor's degree in early childhood education. Rodriguez is mentoring her younger sister and encourages her every day to finish high school and go to college.

One other student is a returning 2008-09 LeCroy Scholar: Rachael Halsdorf of Fomey, Eastfield College, mathematics.

Network with us...Over the past several months, several staffers have been hard at work developing a presence for Eastfield on the major social networking sites. Eastfield pages can now be found on Twitter, Myspace, Flickr, Youtube and Facebook. The College Communications and Community Outreach office will be posting regular news and events on these various sites. There will be a short presentation regarding social networking during Monday's Convocation activities. If you have an event/news you would like publicized via any of the social networking sites, please have the information submitted electronically to **Amy McDonald** at least two weeks prior to the event. Allow at least a 48 hour turnaround for the information to be posted. Be our friend!

Due to the repair/replacement work on the perimeter road, the La Prada entrance will be closed permanently. Until the new La Prada entrance is opened on August 24, there will be no access to the college from La Prada. Staff and students may enter both Motley entrances and the Oates entrance. Signs will be posted on barricades directing guests to the other entrances. Improvements to the perimeter drive will continue for approximately eight months. All parking lots will be accessible during construction, however, some entrances to each lot may be closed. Phase II: June 30 - Aug. 15. See the EFC web site for up-to-date construction closures.



To the delight of a supportive community of residents, businesses and local officials, Eastfield's new **Pleasant Grove Campus** is officially open for business. The grand opening celebration on Aug. 3 attracted over 500 residents, special guests and dignitaries to the facility called the "Pride of the Grove." President Dr. Jean Conway welcomed Chancellor Wright Lassiter and Trustees Bob Ferguson, Diana Flores and Martha Sanchez-Metzger for the community celebration. Congratulatory speeches were given by numerous dignitaries including State Senator Royce West, Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert, County Commissioner John Wiley Price, and the offices of Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson and State Rep. Robert Miklos. Following the official remarks and ribbon cutting, guests

toured the campus and enjoyed entertainment by talented community residents. The Pleasant Grove Campus will provide a variety of education and training services, such as workforce training programs; continuing education classes; ESL and ESOL classes; GED training; college readiness courses in reading, writing and math; and freshman-level credit courses. The facility will also house the Southeast Dallas and Southeast Dallas Hispanic Chambers of Commerce and the Wilkinson Center, a local non-profit organization serving east and southeast Dallas residents.



Eastfield hosted its 13th Annual Senior Fest for adults 50 and over this past weekend.

There were over 700 people in attendance from the local area as well as across the Metroplex. It was an excellent outreach to our community. More than **25 Eastfield and District members** of the Senior Fest Committee along with 121 volunteers helped the event run smoothly despite being interrupted by 2 fire alarms. A wide from of classes - from how to buy a digital camera to How to Care for a Loved one with Dementia to Senior Housing Options - were offered to the attendees. Without the support of local sponsors, especially First State Bank of Mesquite, this event would not be possible.



The City of Balch Springs and the Balch Springs Chamber of Commerce held its second annual Back-to-School Bash on July 25. They joined over 25 businesses and organization as a community partner. Over 200 children and parents left with backpacks filled with school supplies and information. **Sylvia Holmes**, financial aid, and **Terry Wooten** of Rising Star represented the college and provided college information for parents.

Upcoming Events:
Aug. 18 – New Student Orientation 6-9:00 p.m.
Aug. 22 – New Student Orientation 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Aug. 24 – Fall classes begin