

# COUNSELING CONNECTIONS



MISSION COLLEGE Counseling/Matriculation

Fall 2003, Volume 16, Number 1

**Over 40  
Colleges and  
Universities at  
Mission's  
Transfer Night  
Thursday,  
October 30  
4-7pm**

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## Important Changes for Graduation at Mission and Transfer to UC and CSU

### Changes in Graduation

Beginning Summer 2003, graduation requirements have changed. The changes affect students who have started at Mission either in Summer or Fall 2003 or for students who are returning to Mission after having missed both semesters of school in 2002-2003.

The changes include an addition of two proficiencies required for graduation.

- The English requirement has changed to a grade of C or better in English 1A rather than English 108A.

There is a new Oral Communications proficiency which can be met by either Successful completion of the proficiency exam (in the process of being developed), or a grade of C or better in:

- COMM 001 for the A.A. degree,
- COMM 001, COMM 004 or COMM 015 for the A.S. degree.

### Changes for Transfer **CSU**

In order to transfer to a CSU, you must meet the minimum requirements which are:

- 56 units (60 units recommended) The CSU's plan to go to 60 units eventually.
- While the university requires 39 units of lower division General Education (GE), several of those classes are mandatory before transfer. They are all of Category A (English 1A, Oral Communication, Critical Thinking) and the Math of Category B.
- They usually want at least 30 units of GE done before transfer, but prefer that the student take the entire 39 units.

*Con't on Page 3*

# Mission College Financial Aid Update

## Congratulation to the Mission College Scholarship recipients for 2003-2004

Muhammad Abbasi, Shinwe Abraham-Igme, Jacob Acosta, Rowshan Ahmed, Laretta Bailey, Fareha Bakre, Lawrence Bautista, Wilbourn Bautista, Gina Bernardo, Charles Carroll, Arturo Cisneros, Rodolfo Clemente, Christopher Copple, Maylyn Copple, Khe T. Dinh, Cuong Dong, Shiveley Donovan, Cassandra Felleman, Jennifer Flynn, Roman Gutierrez, Benjamin Hartshorn, Mediatrrix Hilario, Huan V. Hoang, Ngoc HoangEvelyn Hobson, Mongtuyen T. Huynh, Stacy Huynh, Amaal Ilmi, Liang Jiang, Luyang, Jiang, Jewel Johnson, Kidist Kahsai, Nikzad Karimabadi, David Kent, Sergio Lara, Kimberly Lau, Phat Le, Sovandary Len, Wei-Yan Liang, Marisa Lozano, Luis Lujan, Quyen Ma, Gary L. Mantalas, Yuliya McGovern, Marvee McLendon, David McLendon, Javier Millan, Shaun C. Miller, Rocio Moreira, Sandy Musu, Siddharth C. Nanguneri, Thi Ngo, Thao Nguyen, Khai Nguyen, Anthony Nobile, Mahdokht Nowroozi, Richard O'Balle, Leonara Padilla, Himashu Parmar, Siddharth C. Patel, Maria Pinzon, Sujith Polpaya, Dimitrios S. Priftis, Razia Rahman, Adriana Ramirez, Etsuko Sakata, Andrea Samoranos, Xuan Sen, Mohammad Shaikh, Timothy Strombel, Vanessa Sullivan, Carolain Suzuki, James Tran, Trang Tran, Willet Tugwell, Rocio Valencia-Mendoza.

## Federal Stafford Loans

The time period for Federal Stafford Loans for the Fall semester is October 2, 2003 to November 13, 2003. Students will not be able to apply for a student loan until they have received an award letter in the mail informing them of their eligibility.

*There will be more financial aid information to come in the next edition.*



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# Mission Program for New Teachers

by *Gwen Quail*

Did you have a favorite teacher who changed your life? Would you like to do the same for thousands of young people? Teaching may be the career for you.

*Almost half of all current K-12 teachers will retire in the next 5 years, creating, in California, a need for 200,000 new teachers in the next decade. Particular areas of need are Math, Science and Special Education.*

Teach for Tomorrow is a transfer program for community college students who want to teach on the elementary, middle or high school level. Students complete their Lower Division course requirements at Mission and then transfer to a 4-year college to complete a baccalaureate degree and a teacher credential program.

## **Teach for Tomorrow cultivates an early passion for teaching by offering a variety of activities:**

Early field experience in local public schools, info and advocacy for community college transfer students, a future teacher's club: Mission Student California Teachers Association, and opportunities to attend professional conferences and to develop a portfolio of pre-service teaching activities.

## **Here's how Teach for Tomorrow helps Mission students: Heidi Feiler (SCTA President)**

"As part of Reading 40 class, I tutored reading in a third grade class at George Mayne Elementary School in Alviso. It was a very kid-friendly school. The Principal was great. She knew the name of every student and she and all the teachers made me feel very welcome and part of their team. They invited me to come back again this year. The kids were terrific. They really liked having me there and it was very rewarding watching them change and improve over the six months I was there. I know now that I REALLY want to be a teacher and I'm working as hard as I can to get the credentials."

## **READ 40: Tutoring Reading in Elementary School**

This course provides students an introduction to teaching in the elementary grades with the emphasis on teaching reading to young children. Content includes lectures and the field placement in K-5 classrooms. Students will observe classroom activities, and apply concepts and techniques covered in lecture.

## **MATH 14: Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers (Number Systems)**

This course is intended for students who plan to become elementary school teachers.

Contact your counselor, or Gwen Quail at 855-5221 or Dianne McKay at 855-5312 for more information.

# Important to Know: Changes to Transfer

*Con't from Page 3*

## Changes in the GE requirements for the CSU

### Oral Communications

Beginning Spring 2004, the only 3 classes that will meet the Oral Communications requirement for the CSU system will be:

<u>Course</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
COMM 001	Public Speaking
COMM 010	Persuasive Speaking
COMM 020	Argumentation and Debate

If you took Comm 4 (small group communications) this semester, or in previous semesters, it will still count as meeting the Oral Communications requirement even if you don't transfer for several years. However, if you take Comm 4 in Spring 2004, it **will not** meet the Category A Communications requirement for Transfer.

### History and Institutions Requirement

Beginning Summer 2004, Political Science 1 (American Government) can no longer be used as the only course needed to meet the History and Institutions requirement (H&I). Spring 2004 will be the last time that a student can take Polit 1 and still use it to meet both the History and the Institutions requirement. Starting in Summer 2004, a student will need to take a two class sequence. The choices for these sequences are still being determined.

This means that if you plan to transfer to a CSU in the future and you have taken Polit 1 by this Spring, you can still use it to meet the H&I requirement no matter when you transfer. If you take the course after this Spring, you will have to use a 2-course sequence.

### Math 14

While Math 14 (Math for Elementary School Teachers) is still a requirement for most teacher preparation majors such as Liberal Studies, Child Development, and Social Science, it will NOT meet the Math required to skip the ELM test at the CSU. You will have to take another math in addition to Math 14 if you wish to avoid taking the ELM.

### Psych 12

This course still meets GE requirements under Category D. However, its placement in category E is under review. Until the a final decision is made, however, the college will still certify Psych 12 in Category E.

### Applications: Paper vs On-line

Students applying to SJSU for Fall 2004 must apply on-line. Students planning to apply to any CSU school for Fall 2005 will have to apply on-line.

The Website for applying to the CSU on-line is:

[http://www.csumentor.edu/admissionapp/undergrad\\_apply.asp](http://www.csumentor.edu/admissionapp/undergrad_apply.asp)

### Nursing

If a student has an LVN degree, CSU Los Angeles will accept him/her directly into their Nursing program without requiring further coursework.

The SJSU Nursing program is only accepting students for the program who are currently SJSU students. Therefore, students should finish at least two courses of their last semester of sophomore work at SJSU so that they establish residency as a SJSU student.

### General Education vs Courses for Your Major – Which Should I do First?

The transfer university's choice, of course, would be that you finish all required major level courses and GE courses. This becomes a problem when your major is a high unit one, like the sciences, business and engineering. In that case, most schools would prefer that you choose major courses over general education as long as you get at least the minimum number of GE courses required done prior transfer.

The one exception to that is San Diego State. They would like you to complete your GE by Spring before you transfer even if a Major is a high unit one. In this case, they will hold students to only 24 units of major level courses. In addition, San Diego State has a website called TAP which allows you to look up more information for minimum admissions into any of their majors.

Cal Poly SLO and San Diego State expect all your English, Communications, Critical Thinking and Math be done by Fall of the year before you transfer. Therefore, if you plan to transfer in Fall 2005, they want you to have finished those classes (All of Category A and the Math of Category B) by the end of Fall 2004.

### Changes to Teacher Preparation

Even if students are in an established "multiple subjects credential" major, they still need to take the CSET test. However, students can still act as substitute teachers without the CSET if they pass the CBEST test. They can take the CBEST in high school or community college while they are used to taking this type of test, and then it will never need to be retaken.

### The Junior Level Writing Exam for CSU's: The WST

In order to graduate from a California State University (CSU), you must pass the junior level writing class found in each major. In order to take that course, you must pass the Writing Skills Test (WST). The WST is a writing exam given by the CSU's to determine if your writing ability is sufficient to get into the junior level writing course.

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# Transfer Changes continued: CSU and UC

*Con't from Page 3*

## CSU, continued

You must take the WST by the first semester of your junior year or first semester on campus after transfer, but only after having completed the required lower division composition courses such as English 1A and 1B or 1C.

## UC

### Comm 25

Communication 25 has been accepted by UC as a course transferable to the University of California.

### Partial IGETC Certification Under Certain Situations

The rules for IGETC (Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum) have changed slightly and only in certain situations. IGETC is a set of GE courses that can be used for almost all the UC and CSU schools in California and even some private institutions. Normally, in order to use the IGETC to meet GE requirements, a student must finish all the courses required **before** transferring, and then must get the courses certified from the Records Office of the last Community College which they attended. Now, it will be possible to do a partial IGETC certification. Students will be able to do up to 2 courses for IGETC after they transfer but only under certain and limited circumstances. These circumstances include serious illness, unavailable or canceled courses, military service, and unexpected hardships, such as family or employment problems experienced in the final term before transfer. If a student is eligible, these two courses can be done at a UC and /or a community college. For more information, please see your counselor. In order to be eligible, you would have to fill out a petition for eligibility to complete the IGETC after transfer including appropriate documentation. It would then need to be turned in to the Records Office. That petition would then be either approved or denied.

### When Should I Take the IGETC?

The IGETC is best used for transferring to UC schools when you have a low unit major. While IGETC can also be used to meet CSU general education requirements, the CSU GE contract offers more courses from which to choose and more flexibility when those courses must be finished. IGETC is rarely a good choice for students transferring in the Sciences, Business and Engineering. Berkeley's school of Business does not use IGETC and has its own GE requirements. Some of the colleges at UC San Diego also do not accept IGETC. Please see a counselor for more information

### Applications:

The UC system has an excellent on-line application at <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/undergradapp/welcome.html>

*They also have an excellent on-line orientation to using the on-line application.*

### Classes Which Require Evidence Of Preparation

If you are taking majors which require high level math courses such as Calculus, the universities expect to see a sequence of courses that lead up to Calculus. These courses would include Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus algebra. If you took those courses in high school, there is an excellent place to explain that on the on-line application. If these courses are missing and there is no explanation for their absence, their lack would send a red flag to the University admissions personnel.

### Applications All Electronic Beginning Fall 2005.

There will be a box for International students on the on-line application. The Help box will be in YELLOW and will be up and operating on October 1. There will also be a new website to self report fall grades once the semester is over. There will be one site UC wide and an additional site just for Berkeley. This will allow students to improve their GPA's as it regards acceptance into the university should their grades improve in the fall semester. Of course, the reverse is also true.

The UC's want students to have their most difficult classes (Math/English) done by fall. No required courses should be left for summer. On the application, students must put everything down that they have taken even if they didn't pass it or it shows a W.

### UC Application Essay

The essay portion has changed as well. Now there will be 3 essays which touch upon the following topics: intellectual curiosity, academic performance and how you will engage or contribute to the college. For many of the UC's, excluding Berkeley and UCLA, the essay is not particularly important. However, it may impact scholarships and faculty might need to look at them, so it is still required. There is a 40 minute time-out on the on-line essay portion, so it makes sense for a student to write his/her essay before going on-line and then cut and paste it into the application once on-line.

***Mission's EOPS will be offering a workshop on November 3 entitled, "How to write your personal statement." EOPS workshops are open to all students.***

# Make the Time to Make the Grade

by Leigh Anne Sippel, LATC Lab Teacher

Students tell me all the time, "I need help with my writing and reading skills, but I can't find the time to come to the lab." What these students don't understand is that time is not found, time is made. Fortunately, the LATC can help you to make time to work on those skills you need.

If you think you don't have time to work on your skills, answer this: Do you have the time to repeat the classes you are taking because your skills were not good enough the first time? Do you have time to rewrite your assignments for a better grade? If you said "no" to either of these, surely you can find the time to come in and work on those skills so that you will succeed.

If you can find 3 hours per week to come into the LATC and make an investment in your skills, this is what you can expect to gain:

- 1) A diagnostic test to find out what you really need to learn;
- 2) An individualized program of lab activities designed especially for you;
- 3) Your own lab teacher to help you;
- 4) Books, handouts, computer software, videos, and audio materials;
- 5) Conversation groups, workshops, and other group learning activities;
- 6) Help with vocabulary, reading, grammar, writing, speaking, listening, pronunciation, and study skills;
- 7) Qualified, trained student tutors to help you;
- 8) A clean, positive environment to study in;
- 9) And so much more!

*Come in to room S2-201 today to find out how only 3 hours per week can help you build your skills to put you on top of your studies. We're open Monday through Thursday from 10AM-7PM and Friday from 10AM-2PM. See you in the lab!*

# Got Work Experience?

by Betty Inoue

**Want to have an edge in a tough job market? Want to maximize the benefits of working and going to school?** Sign up for Work Experience and earn academic credit for on-the-job learning! You are eligible for Work Experience if you have a job, internship or volunteer position and are enrolled in at least 7 units (including work experience units).

## How does the class work?

Students do not have to attend a class, but they must meet with the Work Experience Advisor. With the help of the Advisor and his/her work supervisor, students must establish "learning objectives" or goals for improving or learning new skills on the job. Students may enroll in either Occupational Work Experience (if your job is related to your major) or General Work Experience (if your job is not related to your major). Each unit of credit requires 75 hours of work for a paid position or 60 hours of work for a volunteer position. Students may take up to 4 semesters (or up to 16 units) of Work Experience during their college career. These units will apply toward your Associates degree and are transferable to CSUs and many private schools. Work Experience can be taken as a Credit/No Credit class, and credit is based on working the required hours for the semester and completing the learning objectives. Students seeking to enhance their GPA may opt for a letter grade by also writing an essay about their accomplishments through Work Experience.

## How do I enroll?

Students interested in enrolling in the class should visit the Work Experience desk located in the Career Resources Network (C1-114) and complete an application. If you have questions about the class or would like to make an appointment to register, please call 855-5170. The Work Experience class offers you the opportunity to improve job skills, learn more about the world of work, and help you set clear career goals for your future. Work Experience is an excellent way to enhance your skills and education!

# Cure for Textbook Blues

By Judie Smith

**Are you short of funds? Did the bookstore run out of the book you need for class? Did you forget your book at home and need to review for a quiz? The Mission College Library might be able to help you out.**

The Library purchases textbooks for many, but not all, classes. As all students know, textbooks can be extremely expensive. The Library, like students, has difficulty purchasing *all* the required textbooks, but most required textbooks are on reserve in the Library. The Associated Student Body (ASB) donated \$10,000 to the Library for textbooks this year. The Library also uses money from the Library budget to purchase additional texts. Let the ASB know how much you appreciate the textbook donation.

The Library staff knows that students find the textbook collection useful. During the month of September 2003, textbooks were checked out over 1,000 times. Or another way to put it is to say that the library checks out an average of over forty textbooks every day.

*Textbooks are available at the Check-Out Desk in the Library. Students may borrow the textbook for a one-hour loan. Some older editions are available for a regular three-week loan period. To find out if the book you need is available, come to the library and ask the Librarian at the Information Desk to help you. Or, you can use any computer in the library or off campus to check the library catalog yourself.*

*From off campus, go to <http://lib.wvmccd.cc.ca.us>. Click on Mission College. The blue box labeled "Search the library catalog by" allows you to search the catalog by title. Click on title and then type in the name of your textbook. The location of the most current edition of your textbook will be listed as "MC Check-Out Desk." Copy down the call number and give it to the person at the Check-Out Desk. Older editions available to check out for the regular three week loan period have the location "MC Stacks." Again, copy down the call number and get the book from the stacks. You can also search the blue box under "Course Reserves" to see if we have your textbook or any other materials your instructor may have placed on reserve in the library.*

Of course, class assignments include more than reading the assigned textbook. Check out the library when you need help finding information for papers and class presentations. The Librarians at the Information Desk will be glad to help you.

# Fastest Growing Occupations in U.S.

Here are the 30 fastest growing occupations in the U.S. according to the US Department of Labor.

1. Computer software engineer, applications
2. Computer support specialists
3. Computer software engineers, systems software
4. Network and computer systems administrators
5. Network systems and data communications analysts
6. Desktop publishers
7. Database administrators
8. Personal and home care aides
9. Computer systems analysts
10. Medical assistants
11. Social and human service assistants
12. Physician assistants
13. Medical records and health information technicians
14. Computer and information systems managers
15. Home health aides
16. Physical therapist aides
17. Occupational therapist aides
18. Physical therapist assistants
19. Audiologists
20. Fitness trainers and aerobics instructors
21. Computer and information scientists, research
22. Veterinary assistants and laboratory animal caretakers
23. Occupational therapist assistants
24. Veterinary technologists and technicians
25. Speech-language pathologists
26. Mental health and substance abuse social workers
27. Dental assistants
28. Dental hygienists
29. Special education, preschool, kindergarten and elementary school teachers
30. Pharmacy technicians