



June 8, 2006

**COLLEGE HOLDS FIRST PHI
THETA KAPPA
INDUCTION CEREMONY**



The following fifty students were inducted into Phi Theta Kappa:

Cerro Coso Community College held its first induction ceremony for Phi Theta Kappa on Friday, May 5, 2006 at the Kerr-McGee Center in Ridgecrest. The ceremony was the final step in establishing the Beta Kappa Chi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Society at Cerro Coso. Judy Ryan, Phi Theta Kappa Regional Director for California and Nevada, was the keynote speaker and presented Vice President of Student Learning Dr. Mitijl Capet with Cerro Coso's charter.

Ed Aralar, Michelle Arnts, Ashlee Bailey, Josh Burns, Dulce Cortez, Robert Cowdrey, Cynthia Fox, Jessica Gammett, Michael Garrison, Timothy Gerarden, Alisha Goddard, Susan Good, Ashley Harper, Cassie Harris, Jessica Henderson, Victoria Horng, Rebecca Hugho, John Jackson, Nadia Jhunjhnuwala, Angel Lash, Wendy Keller, Courtney Lisonbee, Angela Looper, Shelly Maidment, Karla Martinez, Anne McCarthy, Marsha Mehrdad, Rachelle Miller, April Naill, Kimberly Oelhafen, Leslie O'Neill, Rebecca Parker, Julia Powell, Leslie Rogers, Dana Rolfness, Patricia Ruotsala, Paul Saville, Michael Schwarz, Stephen Schwartz, Erica

Shaw, Joshua Simpkins, Brittany Smith, Shelly Stoffel, Scott Toborg, Melanie Vulgamore, Wendy Walding, Magan Weid, Terri Whitley, Jeanette Whytock, and Jennifer Wilson-Leer.

Five officers were sworn in: Angela Looper, Membership Officer; Cassie Harris, Recording Officer; Rachelle Miller, Treasurer; Michelle Arnts, Service and Fellowship Officer; and Magan Weid, President.

CERRO COSO COMMUNITY COLLEGE HOLDS 33RD COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES



On Friday, May 12, 2006 Cerro Coso Community College held its 33rd Annual Commencement Exercise in the Gym located in the Raymond A. McCue Athletic Complex of the College's Indian Wells Valley Campus in Ridgecrest.

Cerro Coso honored a class of approximately 290 eligible graduates from the IWV Campus in Ridgecrest, Kern River Valley Center in Lake Isabella, South Kern Center at Edwards Air Force Base, and the Eastern Sierra College Center located in Bishop and Mammoth Lakes.

The following students were selected by the Academic Senate to address the graduates at commencement: Susan Good (A.A. in Social

Science) and Jason Duque (A.A. in Social Science) both from the Indian Wells Valley Campus and Timothy Gerarden (A.A. General Education) from the Kern River Valley Campus.

Dr. Vicki Boyer was selected as the Alumni Association's Distinguished Commencement Speaker. Boyer graduated from Cerro Coso with her Associate of Arts Degree in 1989. She then graduated Cum Laude from Cal Poly State University in San Luis Obispo in Animal Science in 1992. Boyer then relocated to the Midwest to study Veterinary Medicine at the Ohio State University in Columbus. She graduated in 1996 with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. Boyer and her husband, Justin met in an English class at Cerro Coso. The happily married couple resides in the Kern River Valley with their two sons and three cats. Dr. Boyer and her husband started the Kernville Animal Hospital five years ago.

"Cerro Coso is very proud of its graduates, and we invite the public to join us in honoring their outstanding accomplishment," states Dr. Sharon K. Dyer, President Cerro Coso Community College.



CERRO COSO HOLDS NURSING GRADUATION CEREMONY



Eleven Cerro Coso Community College vocational nursing students were honored at their graduation ceremony at Desert Christian Center, Thursday evening, May 11, 2006. The formal gathering with introductions from master of ceremonies, Mary Kowalski, Director of Vocational Nursing and Health Careers. The graduates were Josephina Banting, Mi Wha Chicoine, Ella Damron, Lucy Fulton, Margaret Hanley, Megan Josey, Mirjana Krainovic, Leslie O'Neill, Veronica Perkins, Dawn Petrovich, and Wilhelmina Walters.

Ms. Kowalski announced that the timing of this year's graduation was especially significant since it occurred during both National Nurses' Week (5/6 – 5/12) and National Teacher's Week (5/7 – 5/13). The graduates chose to make the ceremony special and to honor Nurse's Week by wearing a traditional white dress uniform, white hose, and white shoes. As the guests arrived, they were greeted with a DVD photo-musical presentation of special moments of the nursing program, developed by Cori Ratliff, Cerro Coso's Webmaster. The DVD featured family, people and animal friends, and supporters - all of whom helped the graduates through the comprehensive and intense nursing program.

Two clinical mentors and supporters were chosen by the graduates as the guest speakers. Kimber Landeck, RN, Life Support Coordinator at Ridgecrest Regional Hospital, and a Cerro Coso adjunct faculty member, and Pam Glantz, RN, Wound Care Specialist of Ridgecrest Regional Hospital spoke. Four of the graduates spoke each giving very different perspectives of their experiences of nursing education. The graduates praised their peers as they related experiences of nursing school which often competed with the challenges of their personal lives. Leslie O'Neill, Wilhelmina Walters, Margaret Hanley, and Lucy Fulton were the student speakers.

Cheryl Gates, clinical instructor and Online Health Career Coordinator, and Ms. Kowalski presented Awards and Recognitions for outstanding achievements during the Vocational Nursing Program. Outstanding clinical honors went to JoJo Banting, Mima Krainovic, and Willi Walters. Special recognition for exceptional clinical performance was given to Lucy Fulton. Recognition of Excellence for continuous grade point averages of "A" were given to Megan Josey, Mima Krainovic, and Leslie O'Neill. The Honor Roll recognition of accomplishment was given to Lucy Fulton. Outstanding Attendance Awards were given to JoJo Banting, Mi Wha Chicoine, Lucy Fulton, Leslie O'Neill, and Dawn Petrovich. Perfect Attendance, the rarified and distinguished award, was given to Ella Damron, Micki Hanley, Megan Josey, and Mima Krainovic, and Willi Walters. Mi Wha Chicoine, Veronica Perkins, and Dawn Petrovich were presented with awards for Recognition of Potential for Leadership and Success.

The Teresa Allen Scholarship (Micki Hanley, Ella Damron, Veronica Perkins, Mima Krainovic, Willi Walters, MiWha Chicoine, Dawn Petrovic, and Megan Josey), the Jewell Thornberry Scholarship (Lucy Fulton, Leslie O'Neill, Josephina Banting), and the Alice Ream Scholarship (Josephina Banting) were given

out. The Pink Ladies Auxiliary of Ridgecrest Regional Hospital presented their scholarship which recognizes merit and accomplishment to JoJo Banting and Leslie O'Neill. The Pink Ladies also hosted the post commencement reception.

Recognition and honors were given to other individuals from other affiliated nursing programs. Graduates of the 2005-2006 Bakersfield/Cerro Coso/Porterville College Distance Education interactive televised (ITV) LVN to RN ADN Program included five former CCCC VN graduates: Margaret Blevins, Randi Campbell, Abe Giacomelli, Stacy Hinzo and Cameron Sloan. Aaron Andrus and Sally Caruso are also graduates of the Career Ladder Program. Several of this year's VN graduates plan to continue their nursing education via the Bakersfield ITV LVN to RN Career Ladder program. Paula Smith, a former CCCC VN graduate, received recognition for recent completion of her RN. Smith is well-known to the graduates as someone who is a mentor as well as a tireless supporter of nursing students.

The culmination of the evening was the Nightingale Candle Lighting Ceremony. To add to the dramatic effect, all electrical power at this time went out in the city. Without hesitation, Kowalski, Gates, Landeck, and Glantz proceeded with the capping and pinning via flash-light and background candles. The ceremony completed with a processional of lighting the graduate's candles and citing the nursing pledge.

THE DAY ROBOTS CAME TO CERRO COSO COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

When: 4/26 from 3-4pm

Where: LRC Foyer

What: CSCI 101 Computer Programming
Lego Robotics Project

Why: to demonstrate a hands-on application of computer programming concepts

Who in invited: EVERYONE... bring your kids... bring your friends!

So what's this all about, you might ask yourself? How about active learning... problem solving... creative thinking... troubleshooting... reflective writing... collaboration... cooperation... All sorts of good things wrapped up in a yellow LEGO brick!

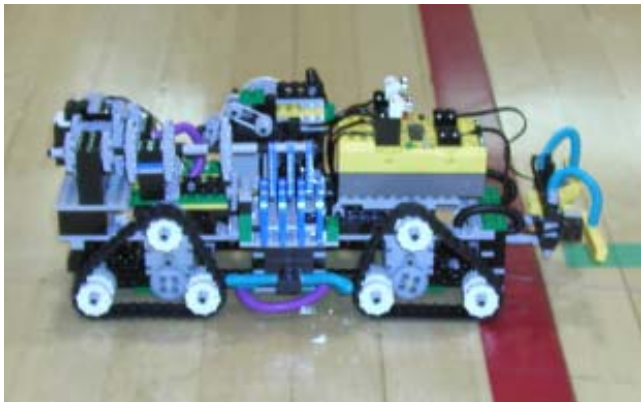
For two weeks Debbie Kilburn's Intro to Computers students experienced first hand what it means to be a computer programmer - the moment the concept finally "clicks"; the excitement of seeing their programs in action; and the frustration of having things not quite work like they expected them to; and the joy of solving the problems. It has been an amazing thing to watch them dig in deep as they work together to figure out the nuances of the programming environment. I listened to their conversations and observed how they work within their own groups and then went out to get ideas and help from the other groups. I was always amazed at what can happen when one gives students the tools needed to learn and then step back and let them do it!

At least 5 robots ran the course on April 26, 2006. One robot attempted to fly and another used a complex gear and shaft assembly to independently move the wheels and turn. What else?

For a sneak peek, pictures from the last few class periods are at <http://flickr.com/photos/debbyk/sets/72057594110027626/>.

The next class (CSCI C199 Intro to LEGO Robotics) - CRN: 50928 will be offered June 16, 23, 30 / July 14, 28 / August 4, 2006 from 10am-1pm

This course is an Introduction to Robotics using the LEGO Mindstorms platform. Basic mechanical, electronic, and control issues in Robotics will be discussed, including the design and implementation of robotic systems. Students will be able to design, implement, and program robotic systems of an interdisciplinary flavor.



Plaques awarded to outstanding faculty, staff and students:

IWV Faculty	Jim Manion
KRV Faculty	Eugenia Oglesby
IWV Staff	Liz Allen
KRV Staff	Candy Cornett
IWV Student	Jennifer Genola
Special Services Club	Jason Duque

June Wasserman was given a Special Recognition Award for her many years of service to Cerro Coso Community College and the Special Services Program.

SPECIAL SERVICES AWARDS CEREMONY



The Special Services Awards Ceremony was held on April 21st in the Cerro Coso Student Center. Dr Mary Peoples and her staff honored the graduates with certificates and medallions to be worn at graduation. We also celebrated those students completing certificate programs.

Dawn Fidel was the Alumni Speaker

STUDENT SENATE FOR CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES CONSTITUTION RATIFIED

It was an historical moment. The Student Senate for California Community Colleges Constitution was ratified! The Student Senate is now “the voice of the students in matters of statewide concern and before the Board of Governors, Consultation Council and all statewide boards, committees, and ad hoc groups” (Student Senate Constitution, II. 1. a.). Cerro Coso was well represented at the assembly. Ted Higle, President Elect; Scott Toborg, Vice-President Elect; Valerie McLaughlin, Financial Manager Elect; and Isabel De La Rosa, Area Representative Elect were all in attendance.

Cerro Coso will have a strong voice regionally as Valerie was elected by the Region 9 delegates to become the Region 9 representative and Isabel will attend the regional meetings as Cerro Coso’s representative to the region. Valerie’s election also means that she is one of

two Student Senators at the State Student Senate!

The assembly gathered to ratify the Constitution of the Student Senate for California Community Colleges. The discussions pro and con were passionate, well stated and powerful. It was abundantly clear that our students are quite able to represent themselves. I was struck by the students' abilities to grapple with the governance issues before them, questions of independent representation, governance structure and communication between 2.5 million students, 109 colleges, 10 regions, 20 regional representatives, 30 senators, the Chancellors Office and the California Government, to mention only a few!

“THE KATRINA PAINTING”

In our original, Main Building Art Gallery, we are currently showing a single painting titled “The Katrina Painting”.



The painting is being shown in cooperation with the Desert Artist's League of Ridgecrest and through the efforts of Paula Caudill, who is their Vice President of Programming. The painting was hung Monday afternoon and will be in the gallery until this Friday. The gallery is open from 9am to 8pm daily.

There is an explanation posted of how the painting was created by 16 artists of the Desert Artist's League who each painted a part of a collage of photographs taken from the images that came out during and just after the Katrina Hurricane flooding of New Orleans and the surrounding areas of Louisiana and Mississippi. It also explains the thoughts behind the creation of the collage and painting. The original collage is also on display.



Paula Caudill

Thank you, to Paula Caudill for organizing this show and sharing it with us. (Paula is also one of the artists.)

CCCC Special Events Calendar May/June 2006

May 11, 2006	Vocational Nursing Capping & Graduation Desert Christian Center
May 12, 2006 Begins 6:00 PM	Commencement Ceremony Raymond A. McCue Physical Activities Complex Gymnasium