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ABC visits CCCC: 'Media Matters with Peter Jennings' features local students

ABC News anchor Peter Jennings visited the Spring Creek Campus in November to moderate a dialog between CCCC students and a panel of local journalists.

This special town hall meeting, titled "Media Matters with Peter Jennings," was brought to our campus courtesy of the national network in New York and its local affiliate, WFAA Channel 8 in Dallas. The program was broadcast locally on Nov. 23.

The CCCC discussion, where students posed questions to journalists, explored the relationship between college students and the media. The panel of journalists included WFAA anchor Gloria Campos, WFAA senior reporter Gary Reaves, WBAP radio talk show host Mark Davis, Tom Huang, editor of the Texas Living section of *The Dallas Morning News*, and *Morning News* reporter Coleen McCain Nelson.

According to CCCC president Cary Israel,

the visit by Jennings blended perfectly with the college's "service learning" program. "Service is a core value of our college, and we have many initiatives in place to demonstrate the value of becoming civically engaged. Watching the news or reading the newspaper is a basic component of being informed about the events that affect our lives. Through this town hall, our students saw evidence that their opinions do matter."

"This was a tremendous opportunity for our students. They were very excited to have the chance to interact with journalists of this caliber. We are very thankful to ABC officials for placing a priority on higher education," said CCCC Board of Trustees chairman Sam Roach.

"Hosting Mr. Jennings is a great honor for our college," said college trustee Cindy Bauge. "It gives the board a great deal of pride to see the spotlight shine on our wonderful student body and award-winning college."



Jennings "warms-up" the audience of students prior to the taping.

In all, there were 14 questions from students during the 44 minutes of taping. Questions ran the gamut from presidential illnesses and the media's reluctance to cover them, to a simple definition of media literacy.

There were also questions about aggressive investigative reporting techniques, political participation, the so-called biased press, alternative news sources, international

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Center for Civic Engagement and Scholarship launched

The Center for Civic Engagement and Scholarship held its inaugural event in November with a visit by Dr. Edward Zlotkowski, professor of English at Bentley College and a senior faculty fellow at Campus Compact.

Campus Compact is a national organization dedicated to promoting service learning, learning communities and the entire spectrum of student-community partnerships. Dr. Zlotkowski spoke on "Revitalizing the Spirit of Democracy through Civic Engagement," before moderating afternoon breakout sessions with administrators and faculty.

The purpose of the new Center for Civic Engagement and Scholarship is to bring together faculty, students and community partners involved in academic initiatives that focus on scholarship, leadership and volunteerism. The Center aims to increase the collaboration, and the flow of information, between Texas Campus Compact, the statewide voice in such initiatives, and CCCC's own civically minded programs, such as Service Learning, Learning Communities, the Honors Institute, the Student Leadership Academy, Emerging Scholars, CASMNS, Phi Theta Kappa, Psi Beta and the Student Government Association.

Creation of the Center will help CCCC fulfill one of its long-term strategic goals, which is to "provide educational experiences that enable students to excel academically and to be civically engaged." Most importantly, it offers students a chance



Dr. Zlotkowski (left) poses with Regina Hughes, director of the new CCES, and Cary A. Israel, CCCC president.

to become community leaders. The center will be a clearinghouse for information and a community resource.

One goal of the Center is to promote visiting speakers and related activities around campus, like the visit by Dr. Zlotkowski. It is hoped that in-class discussions, assignments and follow-up activities will be closely tied to such visits.

In this spirit, *Caleidoscope* conducted a short interview with Dr. Zlotkowski, asking him about his many years of research into civic engagement and service learning.

Q. What got you interested in dedicating your professional life to this subject?

A. A conviction, based on classroom experience, that for the majority of students, chalk and talk are not enough to produce deep learning.

Q. What interesting things have you discovered from your research?

A. Students are being challenged not simply to learn for themselves but to learn in a way that cascades that knowledge down—and the kind of ripple effect that has on students in their sense of their responsibility to other learners, and the fact that they can themselves be knowledge producers and not just knowledge consumers.

I was very moved by an example at Raritan Valley Community College. One of the faculty there that I spoke to teaches developmental reading, and her colleagues said to her, "How could you ever do service learning in a class where students can't read well to begin with?" And she said, for some of the students, whatever abilities they have, to be able to pass on that knowledge has flipped over their entire mental image of themselves, in who they are and what they can do. Instead of seeing themselves as intrinsically needy as students, now all of the sudden they see themselves as people who can facilitate other people's reading....

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December Birthdays



Vivian Gamblian 01
Mick Jobert 01
Douglas Dunlap 02
Janet Galantay 04
Diana Hickman-Platt 04
Stephanie Wilson 04
Cynthia Duffer 05
Thomas Hudgins 05
Dan Lipscomb 05
Linda Qualia 05
Mary Jane Gibbons 08
Lisa Delafield 09
Marisela Cadena-Smith 10
Jennifer Parry 10
Patrick Schaefer 10
Rodney Boyd 11
Deanna Brown 11
Holly McCauley 11
Rebecca Crowell 13
Amy Gayhart 14
Andrew Thomas 15
Ceilidh Charleson-Jennings 16
Teresa Danner 16
Paul Lancaster 16
Mary Jordan 17
Amy Lenhart 17
Sharon Burnett 18
Nicholas Geller 19
Eva Jones 19
Kristen Rose 19
Kathleen Mixson 20
Samuel Tullock 20
Shirley Harmon 21
Larry Maughan 21
Toni Jenkins 22
Warner Richeson 22
Pyeper Wilkins 22
Gail Cronauer 23
Tri Nguyen 23
Terry Blevins 24
Sherry Jeffrey 24
Vickie Dobbs 27
Lawrence Miller 27
Debra Wilkison 27
Kristin Adair 28
Rosa Guerra 28
Janet Stice 29
Tammy Brown 30
Nick Young 30

Caleidoscope

A newsletter for the faculty, staff and students of the Collin County Community College District. Published monthly. For information or submissions, call 972-758-3849.

Director.....Lisa Vasquez
 Editor.....Shawn Stewart
 Contributor.....Heather Darrow
 Contributor.....Patsy Patten
 Contributor.....Marcy Cadena-Smith
 Layout.....Publications Dept.

Caleidoscope welcomes student and faculty submissions.

Next deadline: Dec. 5, 2003. All submissions are due by 5 p.m. on this date. Photos cannot be returned. Text should be e-mailed to ppatten@ccccd.edu or submitted electronically on disk. Please have submissions proofed, edited and saved in text-only formats or attached as MS Word files.

STAFF NEWS

Dr. Paul May, associate professor of speech, has written a chapter in a book titled *New Directions for Community Colleges: The Role of the Community College in Teacher Education*, about our Alternative Teacher Certification program. He presented a copy to the board for the library and another copy for storage within the district.

The National Council on Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) awarded the public relations department six medallions at the regional NCMPR conference in October. The public relations department won three golds, two silvers and a bronze award in the categories of general news story, promotional campaign, catalogs, brochures, and logos. CCCCDC competed against some of the largest community colleges in the southwest.

Matthew Ware Coulter, professor of history, presented his research on "The Roots of Palestine-Israel Issue" to the National Social Science Association at its October conference in San Francisco. Coulter focused on developments in U.S. policy toward Palestine during the Franklin D. Roosevelt presidency. He co-presented with Professor Carol Jackson Adams of Ottawa University. Adams, formerly a history professor at CCCCDC, discussed U.S. policy during the Truman presidency.

The Global EDGE Tech Prep Consortium received the highest award given by the National Association for Tech-Prep Leadership (NATPL) for promoting its program to students, parents and the community. Kay Orrell, part of the members' services committee of NATPL,



Carolyn Olsen, associate director of technical education, Kansas Board of Regents (right), presented Dr. Janet Jaworski the highest

award given by the National Association for Tech-Prep Leadership (NATPL) for promoting its program to students, parents and the community.

said, "They did a great job of providing information and of incorporating technology into their message and maximizing its use." The award was presented at the NATPL convention in Nashville, Tennessee. Roberta Jackson, assistant director, and Dr. Janet Jaworski, executive director, attended the conference and presented "Maximizing Your Website," explaining how they increased website usage in just a few months. While there, Dr. Jaworski agreed to serve on the legislative committee for NATPL.

Dr. Jackie Hsu, instructional designer of Teaching Learning Center, along with a senior lecturer at University of Canterbury, New Zealand, and an associate professor at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, co-wrote a paper entitled, "Internet-Based Instructional Activities: Not Everything Should be On the Internet." This paper was published in the *Journal of Research on Technology in Education* in fall 2003.

Dr. Thom Chesney, dean of Communications and Humanities,

presented "Radical Revision: Improving Advising and Retention in the Midst of a Budget Crunch" at the National Academic Advising Association conference last month.



CCCCDC's 2003 State Employee Charitable Campaign drive announced a preliminary total of \$24,263.50 in contributions. Many SECC charities will benefit from this generosity.

Donald Weasenforth, professor in English as a Second Language, presented "Contextualizing Grammar Instruction in ESL Curricula" at the 2003 annual conference of College Academic Support Programs. He discussed the importance of contextualizing syntactic structures in order for students to understand the discourse level of the structures and thereby be given a better opportunity to use the structures in extended discourse. He used original instructional materials to demonstrate various ways to contextualize grammar instruction.

Dana Wilson, associate professor in English as a Second Language, published a review of *Longman English Interactive* in the Fall 2003 issue of the *TexTESOL V* newsletter. *Longman English Interactive*, recently published by Longman Publishers, is an interactive software used in teaching multiple skills at various proficiency levels of English to speakers of other languages.

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Center for Civic Engagement

So breaking out of the mold of students as passive consumers of knowledge and putting them, regardless of the discipline—whether they are teaching computer information systems to elderly people who grew up without computers, or whether they are creating online units in biology to share with a local school district, or whether it is developmental reading—that is one of the most powerful things. It immediately gives our students the sense that living in a community is a generational affair. It is not just a matter of the individual going out and making his or her own way, that there is something been passed on. The essence of any democracy is in fact our ability to

pass on a sense that the individual can make a difference and wants to make a difference.

Q. In your English class, what types of service learning projects have you given your students?

A. In Comp 101, involvement with a variety of literacy projects (basic English and English as a second language tutoring); in Research and Rhetoric, work with local youth organizations on identifying possible grants and helping to write one of them; in Drama (survey and 20th-century), work with local middle school drama programs and a local start-up, community-oriented theater.

Q. What is the one most important thing that students can do to become more

civically engaged?

A. Have direct personal contact with an organization or group doing important work in the local community.

Q. What are some of the advantages later in life to students for participating in programs like service learning and learning communities?

A. Habits of independent or lifelong learning; greater awareness of public issues; greater understanding of diversity and less fear of difference; more quality colleagues and friends; a better chance of finding not just a job but a calling.

Institutional Research Office: Ho! Ho! Ho! from around the world

- In Fall 2003, CCCCDC served 720 students from outside the United States.
- These students came from 85 countries from around the world.

- 46.2 percent were males and 54.8 percent were females.
- The top ten countries from which these students came were: Kenya, India, Thailand, Taiwan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, China, Iran, Brazil and Ivory Coast.

For questions or comments contact Nasreen Ahmad, 972-758-3810



Student Question, *with photos by student assistant Joyce Lawrence*

What kind of volunteer work have you done?



I did volunteer work for the Children's Advocacy Center. I am on the board of directors for CASA, Court-Appointed Special Advocates. I am completing my training to be a

guardian ad Litem [spokesperson]. I am also a youth sports coach for the Frisco and Plano football leagues, soccer and t-ball.

Stacy Arias, sophomore
Plano



With Baptist Student Ministry, we went to Mission Arlington and refereed a basketball game for little kids. We also went on a mission trip to Alaska this summer, and conducted a vacation bible school for about 30 youths in a town of about 300 people in Seldovia, Alaska.

John Elliott, sophomore
Plano



I help with elections here in Plano, from 6 a.m to 7 p.m. There have not been a lot of voters [in this off-year election], but we write their names down and check them off a list. This time, it was mostly bonds, for roads and parks and stuff.

Jamie Robinson, freshman
Allen



This Christmas, I am joining my boyfriend and his parents in a volunteer choir group, and we are going to be singing carols at a hospital. They are part of a sci-fi club called U.S.S. Joshua, and the group is called the Joshua Star Singers.

Marilia Treziani, sophomore
Rockwall



I was a mentor at Barron Elementary and Forman Elementary in Plano. I tutored first grade, second grade and third grade. I helped them with their problems, and their school work and stuff like that.

Ekaterina Leeper, sophomore
St. Petersburg, Russia



For my Eagle Scout project, with Troop 219, Plano, I planned, coordinated and supervised the building of an art room at the church to help the kids learn about God. It took about 300 man-hours to

plan and it took about two weeks to build. And I have also been involved in other projects, like laying cement.

Cameron Kinkel, freshman
Plano



I have volunteered at my local mosque, the Plano mosque. We have a Friday congregation, and I will be passing out fliers. I give religious lectures on the weekend. We had an open house about one year ago, and I was in charge of advertising.

Uzma Siddiqui, sophomore
Baltimore, MD



Every year, I used to go to a different orphanage and we take Christmas presents and spend about three or four hours there with the children teaching them how to play with them. This was me and my friends from school. Our high-school teacher encouraged us to read articles and write letters to them.

Melissa McAvey, freshman
Lavon



I am volunteering at a nursing home, Heritage Manor, as part of my sociology class here with Ms. Terhall.

Sara Samadi,
freshman
Dallas



This last summer, I was involved with orphanages in South America. Sometimes we go to Mexico to build the houses. My father is in South America doing DEA work, so just to pass the time we would help out with the kids, play games and do crafts. We did it just to have fun, and because the orphanages there are really crowded and need help.

Heather Roberts, freshman
Allen



I worked for Habitat for Humanity in Dallas. And I served food to homeless people at a shelter in Dallas. In Michigan, for one of the churches, we did some volunteer work during homecoming week.

Faraz Mushtaq, junior
Karachi, Pakistan

"Assassins" Wins Big at the American College Theater Festival

"Assassins," a production from Quad C Theatre, took home numerous awards at the Texas State competition of the American College Theater Festival (ACTF). ACTF is a national theatre competition which adjudicates more than 900 productions annually. The winners at each of seven regional festivals may advance to the national festival in Washington, D.C., where each school will showcase their production at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Nearly 3,000 patrons attended the Texas Festival, which was held in the John Anthony Theatre at SCC. The awards included:

Excellence in Overall Design: Craig "Yo" Erickson (Scenic Design); Christopher Trevino (Lighting Design); Andrew Duckworth (Sound Design) Sandra Snyder and Robin Armstrong (Costume Designers); Sandra Snyder (Make-up Designer); Tom Hull (Technical Director)

Excellence in Lighting: Christopher Trevino (CCCCD Scholarship Student)

Excellence in Playwriting: Josh Krebs, Eric Gray and Josh Nanninga

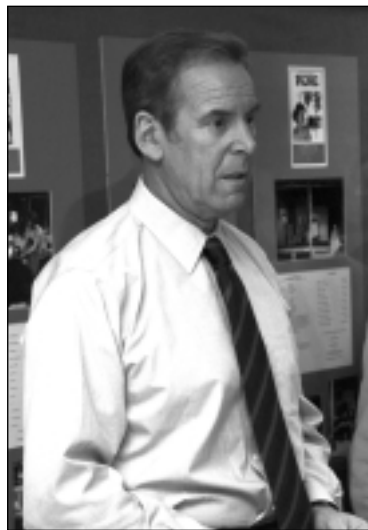
Excellence in Criticism: Justin A.P. Jones

The department also won awards of excellence in ensemble acting, festival hosting, front-of-house, and in new works play development.

Irene Ryan nominations were awarded to CCCC students Michael Maresca, Justin A.P. Jones and Shannon Hathaway. The Irene Ryan Award is considered the highest award a collegiate performer can receive, and the Quad C Theatre students will compete for this prestigious national honor at the Regional Finals in Fayetteville, Arkansas next February.

"Assassins" was also selected as the Respondents' Choice for advancement to the Regional Finals. In December, the final selection of plays to advance will be announced.

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Jennings at CCCC



Jennings discussing the program in the Green Room afterwards.

on recent experience. WFAA anchor Gloria Campos, fresh from doing the 6 p.m. news at Spring Creek Campus, sparred with WBAP commentator Mark Davis on the media's supposed tendency to "skew left." WFAA reporter Gary Reaves gave an impassioned defense of the reporter's need to get the story right and, simultaneously, to respect the rights of those involved in the story. And *Dallas Morning News* political reporter Coleen Nelson likewise defended the profession, saying that the reporter's purpose was not to bring any politics to the table, but to "get the story."

There were many more questions on students' minds, some of which follow. There was certainly one lesson to be taken away from the broadcast: in television news, the most valuable commodity is time.

Linda White, Psi Beta

I was excited to be a part of this huge event. In many ways, it was surreal that a world-renowned personality was interested in our opinions as students, as exemplified when

coverage, "body bag journalism," coverage of the Congressional filibuster of a federal judge, negative coverage on Iraq, corporate media ownership, negative coverage of college students, and tabloid journalism.

Answers from the panelists were sincere and based

Mr. Jennings talked to us prior to and after the meeting.

I think the primary concern of students was why media put sensationalism first rather than reporting important events, [such as the] judges' filibustering. I for one do not want to hear about Michael Jackson's arrest. Personally, hearing about the sordid details once is enough. I was not surprised that the panel defended their position of presenting what they perceive the public wants to hear.

I was surprised when Mr. Jennings dismissed the question [about] why students are brought to light by the media only when events such as hazing occur rather than the accomplishments of the future leaders of the county. Good news does not sell, is what we heard. Our concern was not how financially successful the networks or newspapers [are], but that the public opinion is heard and addressed.

I am proud of the students giving voice to causes for which they believe important. I believe they spoke for all of us.

Matt Roders, Student Leadership Academy

The questions the students posed to the journalists were very impressive. Though many of the students touched on provocative issues, they maintained a high sense of respect for the panel. This was a tribute to our school, and I take pride in being a part of the student body. The panel was well-educated and did much to inform me on the inner-workings of the media elite. Many of the panelists were very candid in their offerings, and I appreciated this much. Gary Reeves and Mark Davis were two members that impressed me greatly. However, Peter Jennings was clearly the facilitator of all the discussions. He handled this responsibility in a very respectable manner. Overall, I think the panel was honest and informative in their discussions.

Student Question Do you have a favorite holiday memory or tradition?

We all get together for our religious holiday Eid [Muslim festival marking the end of the holy month of Ramadan]. We give each other nice gifts, buy new clothes, cook a lot of things, and we take trips.

Nazneen Syed, Dhaka, Bangladesh, sophomore

My dad was in the hospital before Christmas and was not home on Christmas day. He came home the day after Christmas, just in time to see my sister and I put together our dollhouse. We were about four and five years old.

Lisa Irek, Sachse, sophomore

I like to go to Miami on winter vacation, or during Hanukkah, to visit my family, to have fun and go to parties.

Michael Kunen, Miami, Florida, freshman

When I was about five, I did an arts and crafts picture for my mother. When I got done, I brought it home, and it said "Meppy Christmas." She loves it and to this day she still has it up.

Mac Kelley, Kingwood, freshman

All of my family comes from all around the country and goes to Shreveport, Louisiana, to my Aunt Baie's house in the country. All the sisters and the aunts cook a big dinner for us to eat, and we all sit around and we pray and sing and have a whole lot of fun.

Tarquin Williams, Frisco, sophomore

Going to Mexico and celebrating our traditions, like making buñuelos and going on posadas. [Buñuelos are fried tortillas covered with honey, cinnamon and/or sugar; Las posadas are neighborhood parties in which participants go house-to-house re-enacting the journey of Joseph and Mary in search of a room.]

Marzia Martinez, Frisco, sophomore

Free career seminars

Career Services & Cooperative Work Experience will offer two more seminars for this fall semester. These are free and open to students and community residents.

Wed., Dec. 3

"Job Search Strategies:
Planning to Succeed"
SCC 1-3 p.m. Rm.B125

Thurs., Dec. 4

"Leadership Skills
for the Workplace"
PRC 6-8 p.m. Rm. F150

For more information, call PRC 972.377.1781
SCC 972.881.5781, or CPC 972.548.6747.

Megan Folk, Student Government Association

Excitement rose as students and faculty lined up outside the John Anthony Theatre. For me, this was an opportunity of a lifetime! Peter Jennings had come to Collin County and I was going to not only see him, but have a chance to ask him and a panel of expert journalists/reporters any question I chose. The panel was very gracious in answering the questions and Mr. Jennings was very humorous in the way he kept the show running. I was proud to say I was a student of this school as I think all the questions asked were amazing!