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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.”

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 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.

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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 of 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.

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The Center for Civic Engagement and Scholarship launched with a special town hall meeting, titled “Media Matters with Peter Jennings,” where students, faculty and staff met with Jennings.

Dr. Zlotkowski spoke on the entire spectrum of student-community partnerships. Dr. Zlotkowski, asking him about his many years of research?

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 a test, 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....

Continued on page 2
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. CCCCD 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 CCCCD, 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. 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.

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CCCDC’s 2003 State Employee Charitable Campaign drive announced a preliminary total of $24,263.30 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.
**Student Question, with photos by student assistant Joyce Lawrence**

**What kind of volunteer work have you done?**

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

Sara Samadi, freshman
Dallas

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

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 Trezisani, sophomore
Rockwall

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

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

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

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

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 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

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

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

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“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 Playwrighting:** 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 CCCCd 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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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 or 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!