

# CERRITOS COLLEGE NEWS

## BRIEFS

Cerritos College will not have new assessment testing

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California community colleges are moving toward a centralized assessment testing system, which policy makers believe will simplify the placement process and save the state money.

The system will enter a testing phase in spring 2012 at some community colleges, and is expected to be fully implemented in 2013.

Cerritos College will not be among the schools that will be testing the new system, which was signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown in October, along with the Dream Act.

"It has the potential to be better because it will be flexible," Terrie Lopez, director of career and assessment services, said.

All Majors Fair set for next Tuesday

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Information on certificate, degree, and transfer programs for a variety of majors will be available for students on Nov. 15 at the Cerritos College All Majors Fair at the Library Sidewalk from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

According to Re-Entry Resource Program Specialist for Cerritos College, Shannon Estrada, 15 majors have already signed up including English, cosmetology, nursing, and sociology.

"It will most likely be faculty members who will be representing each major, although since some of them will be teaching during the time of the fair. There also may be club members out there as well if that major has a club," Estrada said.

Healthy snacks now available at the bookstore

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Cerritos College nutritionist Hazel Ng and bookstore manager Robin Lee are working together to bring a variety of healthful food items to the bookstore.

The Cerritos College bookstore is now offering more nutritious items for students to choose from.

Items such as fresh sandwiches, salads, fresh fruits, and even protein shakes are now being offered alongside the standard hi-carbs fare.

"We're getting great feedback, we looked around to see what kind of items we could bring on campus that weren't offered around," Lee said.

## College staff discusses its concerns about healthcare

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Cerritos College employees express concern about their health care on Nov. 2 before the Board of Trustees in the Cheryl A. Epple Board Room, days before the California deadline to switch their health care plan.

Among the concerns was the fact that the deadline for employees to choose a health care plan was Nov. 4.

The deadline gave Cerritos College faculty federation members little time to decide, following an agreement with the college.

Reading instructor Matt Paige said his wife might have Pancreatic Cancer, and also said that the timing is not good because their appointment to switch was after the state-wide deadline to change plans.

"We have been truly blessed for years to have a PPO because we can go straight to the specialist without having to see a primary care physician."

"The dilemma we have is if we switch to something that costs less, we have to go the regular routine and have to see a primary care physician," Paige said.

**Mobile News**

Scan to listen to audio of the healthcare discussion



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## Grant split: Mixed emotions from students regarding split

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for the amount of financial aid that they received."

Nancy Quyan, who is studying to be a social worker had mixed feelings about the disbursements.

"I think that it's a good idea because if kids are dropping out then that money can go to other kids that need actually need that money," Quyan said.



CRISTINA NAVARRO/TM  
**Sharing the knowledge:** Cerritos College Alumni Joaquin Navarro, Jonathan Alvarez and Jaclyn Ronquillo (left to right) talk about their transfer experiences to universities. The event was held on Tuesday at the Science Building in room 201.

## Cerritos Alumni share transfer experience

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"Never give up, the moment you give up, you give up on yourself. Your dreams are valuable; it's just a matter of time before you make them a reality. The key is consistency, tenacity, having discipline, being well structured and being goal oriented," Joaquin Navarro, a Cerritos College alumnus and UC Santa Barbara graduate, said.

Navarro was one of three Cerritos graduates who came to speak at Puente Club's motivational conference. The speakers came to talk about their transfer experience and answer questions any of the people attending had.

The event was held Nov. 8 from

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room 201 of the Science Building. Cerritos College President Linda Lacy was among the people in attendance.

Jessica Jasmine Diaz, vice president of Puente Club, was among the organizers of Tuesday's event.

"We decided that we should get more speakers who actually have experience regarding transferring and people who came to Cerritos and actually transferred," Diaz explained.

This is the first time Cerritos held an event like this but the Puente Club has gone to other motivational conferences at Cal State universities.

Jonathan Andrew Alvarez was the first speaker, representing the Cerritos College class of 2008.

Alvarez mostly spoke of the aca-

demical troubles and struggles he had to face such as being enrolled for 21 units in his each of his last two semesters at Cerritos.

"I was in the Puente club, Psychology club, and involved in student government. They all contributed to motivate me because they all gave me a different outlook on what education meant to each person, and put my education in perspective," he said.

"My biggest obstacle in transferring was myself, I was pretty doubtful that I would transfer, until I actually got my first acceptance letter, I didn't think I would transfer."

"The fear might be there but you have nothing to lose in trying."

After he gets his bachelor's degree in UCLA in 2013, he plans to go to San Diego State University for

his master's program in educational counseling, and hopes to become a counselor for Cerritos.

**Mobile News**

Scan to view slideshow of the Cerritos College Alumni's transfer experience.



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## Pell Grant: Reduction to be voted on by Congress

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support, yet they are still going to suffer a vast reduction.

As an example to the matter, if you were receiving the full amount of \$5,500 per semester, the amount will be reduced to up to \$2,475, if legislation is passed.

Financial aid requirements shaped by the state tax boards are not bound to change, but instead encourages a student to create an educational plan to help conduct a path.

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