

CERRITOS COLLEGE NEWS BRIEFS

Clarification on impeachment story

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In the "Tension laces room as commissioner leads group to impeach" story that was published on Nov. 16, it was stated that Commissioner for Student Services David Aguirre was leading a group wishing to impeach ASCC President Jasmin Ramirez and ASCC Vice President Julian Del Real-Calleros.

Aguirre does not wish to impeach Del Real-Calleros. The impeachment would only be intended for Ramirez.

Dean clears rumors of salary increase

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Instructional Dean of Health, Physical Education, Dance, and Athletics Daniel Smith cleared rumors regarding deans' getting raises over the summer.

The rumor was that the Board of Trustees raised the deans' salary by 19 percent.

Smith said, "We had a consultant that we hired several years ago to do what's called a comp in class study for all managers, not just deans, he said."

He continued, saying, "In most cases, there was a slight increase in salary for all the managers on campus, in some cases, there was a decrease in salary over the next two years."

Smith also said, "I just don't like it when people say 'all managers got an increase in salary due to this salary adjustment,' he said."

Cerritos extends hall of fame deadline

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The Cerritos College Hall of Fame nomination deadline will be extended for another two weeks.

Since this is the first hall of fame event that Cerritos College has ever held, the deadline was extended to allow each department to nominate more candidates.

Debra Moore, faculty senate president, said, "I think they just hadn't gotten enough yet, it was very short this year."

She also said, "It's brand new to people so I think they're not in the rhythm of doing it," said Debra Moore, president of faculty senate.

The date has been extended until Dec. 15.

For more information, contact Amy Condit, Foundation Development Officer at extension 2544.



PHILIP OKOLI/TM

Sharing political views with his guitar: The Peoples' History Association invited musician David Rovics to perform at its event on Thursday. He recently came back from touring Europe.

Political musician plays for Cerritos

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Independent singer and songwriter David Rovics was invited to play for students on Thursday at the Teleconference Center by Assistant Professor of Philosophy Ted Stolze.

According to Stolze, this concert was put together "in hopes that students would appreciate his [Rovics] incredible lyrical range and depth of historical and political insights."

"I have listened to and been inspired by David Rovics' music for about ten years, basically since the crimes against humanity that occurred on Sept. 11, 2011," Stolze continued.

The performance was free of charge; however, there was financial assistance to help pay for Rovics to perform at Cerritos.

"Several faculty members from the economics, history, and philosophy departments chipped in to pay for David Rovics to come to our campus."

"The outstanding scholars and activists from the People's History Association raised money and advertised the concert," Stolze said.

With the Teleconference Center filled, many students attended the event for extra credit; how-

ever, the majority of the group was intrigued with the songs that Rovics sang.

Stolze said, "Rovics sings in the tradition of such great troubadours of the people as Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Phil Ochs, and Silvio Rodriguez. Although I listen to many different styles of music, David Rovics and Tom Morello are my two favorite topical singer/songwriters."

He performed with his acoustic and natural singing voice without the help of any microphones.

Economics and mathematics major Ben Bernal said that Rovics' songs "were very solid because each song had a lot of meaning."

"I really appreciated every song that I heard," Bernal continued.

Rovics was shocked by students response to one song where he learned that students are aware of Saint Patrick's Battalion, a unit of European descent who were part of the Mexican Army against the United States in the Mexican-American War.

"Something good is happening here [at Cerritos College]," Rovics said.

It is extremely unusual because we live in a society where public and private schools are very tightly controlled and only teach what is in the book."

Although Rovics did not announce the song titles that he performed, the songs meanings lingered into students' minds.

"His song about bullies ruling the world is really true if you listen to it from a simplistic perspective. You see the bullies essentially monopolize the playground and power over it," Bernal said. "You see that being played out in the corporations in the real world."

As an active indie musician, Rovics has performed in at least 26 Occupy encampments. "I knew Occupy Wall Street was going to happen months before it did," Rovics stated. "Organizers e-mailed me to perform on the 17th of September on Wall Street."

Rovics' songs are available free for downloading at www.DavidRovics.com.

The inspirational performances are not just over yet. "I'll certainly try next semester to get Tom Morello to play a concert on campus, too, although I suspect that he is a lot harder and more expensive to book," Stolze said.

Board of Trustees set to change district voting system

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The Cerritos College Board of Trustees is set to vote on Wednesday to approve one of three plans to change the system by which its members are elected, changing it from an at-large election to a district-area election.

According to Cerritos College President Linda Lacy, each plan that was created has met state standards for equal representation of all ethnic groups throughout the district.

"It's a process that's been going on for several months; there are several stipulations in the law that are looked at to make sure all the areas are well-represented with the ethnic groups within the district and community," Lacy said.

The proposed plans that were brought to the board during its Nov. 2 meeting state that single-member election districts will be drawn so members of minority groups can choose the representative of their choice under the following conditions:

- A group is large and compact enough to

form a majority in a single-member district

- The group is politically cohesive
- There is a history of racially-polarized voting in that group.

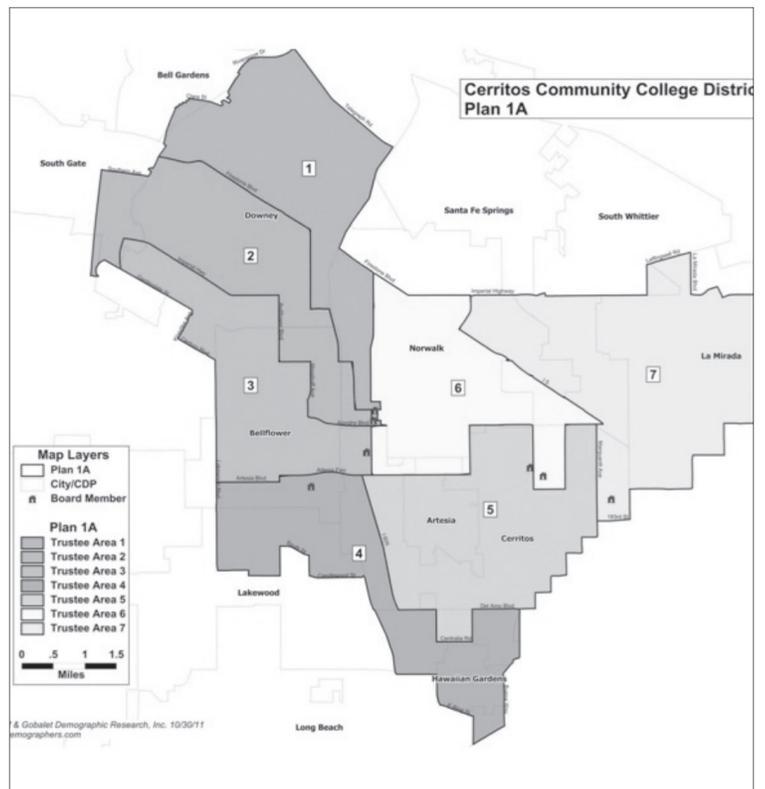
Board Member Bob Hughlett stated during the board's Oct. 5 meeting that the plans that are currently set for its approval were put in place before the lawsuit was filed against the Cerritos Community College District by former board candidates Tom Chavez and Carmen Avalos, as well as fellow plaintiff Edward Zuniga.

"The Board of Trustees is committed to do the right thing under the California Voting Rights Act and that is why we are taking action at our meeting tonight and why the process was begun weeks ago before the plaintiffs filed their lawsuit," he said.

Board Member Jean McHatton believes that the board will act positively after a plan is chosen and approved.

"I think people on the board will act professionally and will move forward with whatever happens," she said.

McHatton continued, "I feel like those on the board have strengths that they bring and that they will look at the redistricting plan and move forward."



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Changing the vote: This map displays one of three proposed plans to re-arrange the trustee election areas to a district-area election, in order to ensure equal ethnic representation. The Cerritos College Board of Trustees is set to approve one of the three plans during its next meeting on Wednesday.

DSPS: Construction expected to start November 2012

Continued from Page 1:

architecture firm.

"We are expecting in February to award a reconstruction blueprint to an architecture contractor," he said.

"If all goes well, we are going to start construction in November of 2012."

He also said, "The new building is going to be a beautiful building for Cerritos College students," and added that it will be located on the corner of Studebaker Road and Alondra Boulevard.

Undecided major Daniel Estrada explained that reconstruction of the buildings would provide a better atmosphere for students.

"It's a great idea; there will be more classes, which means more students enrolling."

Xavier Scott, computer analysis major, said, "It's a new change in the environment for students."

Staircase: Richey plans to finish fixing stair case by the library

Continued from Page 1:

it was built.

He would repair the base first before deciding how to deal with the old treads.

Richey is waiting for estimates from companies who can strengthen the steps with "finished cement work" and is hoping to complete the repairs in about three weeks.

Richey added, "It looks like somebody bent it up. That's not a natural occurrence."

"What we are experiencing is now is the cement under the treads is deteriorating, and we are not able to secure the treads back the way we want to," he said.

Richey said that the treads sticking out is a tripping hazard.

"I don't think you'll see that by treading on it normally, or lifting it or some other thing, so there is a possibility of that mild vandalism."

Pharmacy major Emanuel Rodriguez's attention was drawn to the staircase. He said, "Now that I'm aware of it, I should be careful."

Randall Siggson, a paralegal major, said he uses the stairwell regularly, and that he considers that someone must have tried to remove the metal tread for his own use.