

# ThunderBridge

RICHLAND COLLEGE THUNDERSTAFF NEWSLETTER  
Information Services 972-238-6194 Dallas, Texas

Sept. 15, 2006

## DuckBytes

### snack-size news

- The **RLC Knitting Club** will meet from 12:30-1:30 p.m. on Sept. 15 outside C150, and again on Sept. 29. In October, the second and fourth Friday schedule will start. Call ext. 3784 for info.
- **RLC's volleyball team** has home games at 7 p.m. on Sept. 19 vs. Paul Quinn College, and at 7 p.m. on Sept. 25 vs. Eastfield College. Call ext. 6260 for info. Go T-ducks!
- **Art exhibits:** "Faculty Biennial Exhibition," through Oct. 11, Brazos Gallery (C140); and "Aditi Samarth," through Oct. 5, Lago Vista Gallery (Library). Call ext. 6339 for info.
- **Career Planning Seminar** from 12:20-1:15 p.m. on Sept. 20 and from 12:30-1:30 p.m. on Sept. 21. Both seminars will be in Fannin Performance Hall. For more info, call John Carmichael at ext. 6105.
- Keep up with the DCCCD **Board of Trustees**. See meeting agendas at [www.dcccd.edu/About+DCCCD/Board+of+Trustees/Board+of+Trustees+Meeting+Agendas/2005+Board+Agendas.htm](http://www.dcccd.edu/About+DCCCD/Board+of+Trustees/Board+of+Trustees+Meeting+Agendas/2005+Board+Agendas.htm).

## DAY OF REMEMBRANCE



*Photos by John Pollock*

Richland College employees and students marked the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, by observing a moment of silence and scattering rose petals in Lake Thunderduck (above).

RLC's activities also included the Wall of Remembrance in El Paso Hall (below), for Thunderducks to write their thoughts on cards and pin them to the wall.



### Strategic Planning Priorities for Student Learning



Response to Community



Student Success



Employee Success



Institutional Effectiveness

# NEWS


## 3.5% raise for 2006-07

The Board of Trustees approved an across-the-board salary adjustment of 3.5 percent for individuals in non-student assistant positions who started on or before Aug. 18. Student assistant positions are not eligible for the salary adjustment.

Effective this year, salary information will be delivered via eConnect. Letters will not be sent through inter-office mail.

To view, select "My Current Wage Information" from the employee menu at <http://econnect.dcccd.edu/econnect/em/emmenu.html>.

A salary calculation may have been made to adjust salaries to the new minimum if an employee was assigned to a range within a minimum salary that is higher than the 08/31/06 salary. Additionally, if an employee received a change in range as a result of job evaluation, an additional salary calculation may have been made.

Contact RLC Employee Services at ext. 6240 if you have questions. 

## Negrete speaks, Sept. 26


Come experience "500 years of Chicano/Mexican history" as SPAR hosts a presentation by renowned scholar and interpreter of Mexican-American folk music, Dr. Jesus "Chuy" Negrete, from 12:30-1:30 p.m. on Sept. 26 in Fannin Performance Hall.

Dr. Negrete uses Mexican/Chicano folk-songs, poetry, and other folk traditions as examples of how Mexican-Americans preserve history through songs and legends.

He has performed and lectured at universities such as Harvard, Stanford, and Brown; elementary and secondary schools; community centers and libraries.

This event, sponsored by SPAR, is a celebration of Hispanic Awareness Month. In


addition to Dr. Negrete's presentation, he will also host a discussion and Q&A session from 9:30-11 a.m. in Room C140.

For more information, contact **Wilfred Manyango**, SPAR, at ext. 6130. 

## Fall Reg debriefing

All RLC employees are invited to attend our Fall 2006 Semester Registration Debriefing Open Forum, from 2-3 p.m. on Sept. 19 in the Brazos Gallery (Room C140).

Academic Advisors and Admissions Personnel will be present to answer questions concerning the recently completed registration period, as well as looking at improvement opportunities for future credit registration cycles.

If you cannot attend, you may e-mail concerns/suggestions and/or compliments to **Oscar Lopez**. 

## Join the 'Conversation'


You are invited to participate in "Conversations," a professional development opportunity for Richlanders who want to practice thinking together, strengthening relationships, and addressing issues in this natural, time-honored way. An additional reason to join, if you will be a third-year employee during 2006-2007, is that you may choose Conversations as an alternative to Uncommittee and Formation.

The focus for this year will be "Sustaining the American Dream," and each of our conversations will invite participants to consider the powerful, elusive idea of sustaining the American dream. Sessions will be facilitated by **Zina Gardner, Leo Lopez, Curtis Thomas** and **Susan Wehe**.

Meetings will be on Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 6, Dec. 4, Jan. 29, Feb. 26, March 19 and April 2.

Because the essence of conversations is

community building, participants are asked to view their registration as a commitment to attending all eight sessions.

To register, e-mail **Susan Wehe** by Sept. 18. Indicate with your registration, if this series will fulfill a third-year orientation requirement. 

## Music recital series

Each week, the Humanities Division of Richland College presents its Recital Series. All performances are Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. in Fannin Performance Hall and are free. Thunderwater Credit is available for employees who attend.


Upcoming performances include:

Sept. 19, Carlos Guedes, Venezuelan Harp virtuoso

Sept. 26, Dr. Jesus "Chuy" Negrete, "500 years of Mexican/Chicano History in Song"

Oct. 3, Student Showcase Recital


Oct. 10, Shanghai 5, electro lounge group

For more info, contact **Joe Perea**, Humanities, at ext. 6254, or visit [www.richlandcollege.edu/human/music](http://www.richlandcollege.edu/human/music). 

## Peace speaker, Sept. 29

The Richland College Institute for Peace and the Dallas Peace Center will host a lecture by renowned peace scholar Michael Nagler entitled "The Search for a Nonviolent Future" from 1-2:30 p.m. on Sept. 29 in the Brazos Gallery (Room C140).

Dr. Nagler is one of America's most revered scholars of nonviolent activism. His book, *Is There No Other Way: The Search for a Nonviolent Future*, won the 2002 American Book Award. Dr. Nagler is a professor emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley, where he founded and still teaches in the Peace and Conflict Studies Program.

For more info, call 972-238-6369. 

Richland College

## Adjunct Faculty Recruitment Fair

Your career as a part-time college professor begins here!

**Sunday, Oct. 8**

**1-4 p.m.**

**Thunderduck Hall**

*(look for the flagpoles)*



Richland College  
12800 Abrams Road  
Dallas, TX 75243-2199

Bring your resumé and transcripts (if available).  
*Master's degree required for most positions, but not all.*

For more details about requirements, visit  
[www.dcccd.edu/people/hr/hrog/fac/faculty\\_pt.htm](http://www.dcccd.edu/people/hr/hrog/fac/faculty_pt.htm).

**For information, call 972-761-6868.**

*An equal opportunity institution.*



**Richland College**

DALLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

**IT ALL BEGINS HERE.**

*Please make note that the Adjunct Faculty Office has a new name:*

**A.C.C.E.S.S.**

**Adjunct Faculty College Center & Evening/Weekend Support Services**

## Listening Outpost

The Listening Outpost provides opportunities throughout the semester for staff and students to visit informally with Richland's president, vice presidents and other leaders.

You are invited to bring your ideas, dreams, concerns and plans to the Outpost located in El Paso Hall near the cafeteria.

Participants for the week are listed at the Outpost. Evening Outpost participants can be reached from 5-9 p.m. in Adjunct Faculty, A110.

### Daytime Outpost

Thursday, Sept. 21, at 9:30 a.m.

**Ron Clark**, Business Services, with **LaBeth Nall**, Great Western Dining.

Thursday, Sept. 28, at 11 a.m.

**Ron Clark**, Business Services, with **T.J. Roberts**, Follett Bookstore.

Thursday, Oct. 11, at 1 p.m.

**Ron Clark**, Business Services, with **Eddie Hueston**, Facilities.

### Evening Outpost

Monday, Sept. 18

**Ray Canham**, M/S/BS

Tuesday, Sept. 19

**Roy Bond**, Employee Services

Wednesday, Sept. 20

**Cynthia Brown**, Employee Services

Thursday, Sept. 21

**Jeanetta Burnham**, Library

Monday, Sept. 25

**June Cheatham**, Humanities

Tuesday, Sept. 26

**Jean Conway**, Administration

Wednesday, Sept. 27

**Deborah Clark**, Financial Services

Thursday, Sept. 28

**David Canine**, Administration

Monday, Oct. 2

**Michael Crawford**, Humanities

Tuesday, Oct. 3

**Cindy Castañeda**, Ethnic Studies



## Letters

Dear **Mimi Witcher** (Adjunct Faculty professor),

Having now completed six courses with you, there is something that I want to share. Of the hundreds of teachers, instructors, and professors that I have encountered over my academic and professional career, you are among the very best.

You know your subject and know how to teach it. You are well prepared for each session. You are interested in having each student succeed. You share examples of work done by students and others. You add your own "little bits of wisdom" to the text book or tutorials. You do not fear acknowledging "I do not know, I'll check it out." You encourage the students with a "well done," "you did it," or "that is fine." In the Emeritus courses you do not assign homework, but you do encourage the students to try this on their own. You regularly demonstrate a sense of humor.

You have also shown that you are willing to learn and change. You turned the instructors' monitor around so that you now face the class. You altered your method of teaching from having the class go through the lesson with you to making the presentation on your own with the class watching, and then they do the exercise with you monitoring their work and making suggestions and corrections as appropriate. You never belittle or embarrass a student but add bits of encouragement. All in all, you do a great job.

I would suggest, however, that when helping or correcting a student's work, that you slow down and explain each step. You know the computer and the subject so well and move so rapidly that I can neither understand what is being done, nor am I able to correct my errors next time around.

Now, relax, enjoy life, and know that many are grateful that they had a great teacher in encouraging and helping them in their work with the computer.

Donald L. Leonard  
Student



## Thanks, Thunderducks

To: **Richland College**

From: **Cynthia Miller, AECI**

Although by nature most ducks fly south for the winter and north for the summer, this Thunderduck will be heading east this fall to take on a new position at Eastfield. After several years of no credit ESOL classes, Eastfield is starting up its program again, and I have been hired as ESOL faculty.

When I first came to the AECI almost seven years ago, I had no idea I would be at Richland this long. Because of wonderful colleagues (that's you!) and supervisors who gave me many fun and growth provoking opportunities, the time has flown by. Thank you for being friends, mentors, and inspirations. I continue to be impressed with the generosity of Richlanders as many of you have shared strategies, information, and encouragement, not only these in seven years for my work at Richland, but also in these last few weeks as I prepare to move to Eastfield. Thank you.

Some highlights from my time at Richland: Working first in downtown Dallas and then on campus in the fabulous AECI with interesting students from all over the world and wonderful colleagues; Meeting my husband (Yes! At work! Thanks for that Richland.); Getting to attend the Summer Institute for Intercultural Communication; Giving birth to two children (Not actually at Richland, luckily, but it was close with the second one. The Richland part of it is the showers thrown by colleagues, the baby blankets sewn, the booties knit and the support!); Completing my master's degree from Texas A&M-Commerce with the encouragement of my supervisors, and the advice of **Jeana Remington**, and the thesis topic from **Phyllis Cook's** Learning Styles workshop; Working with online initiatives in World Languages; All the professional growth and opportunities; The food! (potlucks and birthday cake and offerings left in the division office); Meeting you.

To: **Richland College**

From: **Linda Morable, Business & IT**

I would like to invite each of you to visit our new Management Program website. The web address is: [www.richlandcollege.edu/management](http://www.richlandcollege.edu/management).

The website contains valuable information that should answer many questions that are often asked about our Management Program. If you know of any students on campus or individuals in the community who might be interested in learning strategies for effectively supervising/managing others, please feel free to refer them to the website and/or to me or a technical advisor.

For those of you who are in charge of one of our many specialized areas or programs on campus or participate in community outreach activities, I would love the opportunity to meet with you and discuss both our Management and Business Administration programs. Please contact me if you would like to set up a meeting.

A very special "thank you" to webmaster **Leslie Wendling** for her technical expertise, flexibility, availability, and kindness in working with me on this project.



# PROFESSIONAL/PEOPLE



When you see new Thunderducks on campus, greet them and welcome them to Richland College.



Ashley Hayden Gordon  
Women's Soccer Coach,  
Physical Education  
Ext. 6261



Marcus Moore  
Corporal,  
College Police  
Ext. 6174



## Publication Schedule

To promote environmental sustainability, the *ThunderBridge* is now 100 percent electronic!

The *ThunderBridge* comes out on the first and third Fridays of the month. For previous issues, visit [www.richlandcollege.edu/ebridge](http://www.richlandcollege.edu/ebridge).

Items for the *ThunderBridge* need to be sent to [Jenni Gilmer](#) by Monday of each publication week.

Upcoming issues:

<i>ThunderBridge</i>	Fri., Sept. 15
<i>ThunderBridge</i>	Fri., Oct. 6
<i>ThunderBridge</i>	Fri., Oct. 20
<i>ThunderBridge</i>	Fri., Nov. 3
<i>ThunderBridge</i>	Fri., Nov. 17
<i>ThunderBridge</i>	Fri., Dec. 1
<i>ThunderBridge</i>	Fri., Dec 15

## Thanks, Thunderducks

To: **Vicki Spawn, Clay Stephens, and the Business Services Staff**

From: **David Henry, Multicultural Center**

*Thank you for the amazing service you provided in response to the realization that a good many Richland students might be in jeopardy of being dropped from classes as a result of a change in the tuition payment plan process. You acquired a list of those students, fixed the problem for the ones you could, and brought me the rest – all within 24 hours. The students won't ever know what you did, so I'll be their proxy – thank you very, very much!*

To: **Richland College**

From: **Kathy Yates, Humanities**

*I am offering my first two online courses this fall in GOVT 2301. My computer knowledge and skills are so limited that I have needed and continue to need lots of help. **Audra Barrett** and **Greg Gross** have been my guides in this new territory. I am so grateful for their help! Greg is a former student of mine, and I'm very glad to now be his student!*

To: **Jeremy Haldeman, Media; Celes Oppedahl, CE; and Isreal Henry, Employee Services**

From: **The Multicultural Center Staff**

*Many thanks for your outstanding contributions to our recent video project. Your time and talents and helped make the development process enjoyable and the final product successful. We are very grateful.*

To: **Richland College**

From: **John Stanson, Physical Education**

*A special Thunderduck thank you: Because of your generosity, I was able to deliver 95 children reading books to the New Life Foundation School in Phnom Penh Cambodia. The teacher in charge was thrilled to see her classes first set of English readers and she expressed her gratitude over and over. Again, thank you Richland for all the books.*



# PROFESSIONAL/PEOPLE

*You're Invited*

to a farewell party for  
**BeLinda Benson**

from 1-2 p.m.  
Room C110  
Friday, Sept.15

*BeLinda, Instructional Programs, has been selected for a position at LeCroy Center.*

*In the eight years she has worked at RLC, BeLinda has made an indelible mark of quality in many areas of campus life including our 16 Career & Technical Education Advisory Committees, the Excellence in Teaching Award, and Renewal Week.*

## ThunderTechnology

We have been advised by District personnel that there are unauthorized networking devices connected to Richland's computer network.

**Be advised that only authorized District and Richland IT personnel are allowed to connect any hardware to the network.**

No home routers, bridges, wireless access points or other non-District networking devices are permitted on the RLC network. Such devices are to be removed immediately, as they interfere with the normal function of the network infrastructure.

Persons found with such equipment connected to the campus network will be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the DCCCD Computer Use Policy.

If you have questions, contact IT at [RLCIT@dcccd.edu](mailto:RLCIT@dcccd.edu) or ext. 6335. For more info, visit <http://www.rlc.dcccd.edu/infotech/>.

– RLC Information Technology Support Center



## ThunderAccomplishments

• **Sherry Dean**, Humanities, conducted two presentations at the Dallas Area Paralegal Association Annual Leadership Workshop on Sept. 8. Dr. Dean's presentations were "Communicating for Consensus and Collaboration" and "Breaking Through Conflicts: How Perceptions and Nonverbal Communication Make or Break Conflict Resolution."

• **Dennis Gray**, Humanities, recently was published in *Themes in European History: Essays from the 2nd International Conference on European History*. The articles were collected by the Athens Institute for Education and Research. Professor Gray's article was entitled, "The Political Role of the Sophists in the Oligarchic Coups of 411 and 404 B.C.E. in Athens."

• This spring, **Ora Howard**, Program Development, made a presentation on African-American History to the faculty, staff, students and parents of Canterbury Episcopal School in DeSoto. Canterbury Episcopal is a K-12 co-ed College Preparatory school with an enrollment of 300 students.

• Also this spring, **Patricia Benter**, Information Services, won an Award of Merit from Admissions Marketing Report for the Fall 2005 Richland College Continuing Education schedule. This is a national recognition in which Patricia competed against colleges and universities who sometimes use ad agencies.

• And **Patricia Benter** and the Information Services' Web developers (**Leslie Wendling**, **Mark Murray** and **Yoshimi Umekawa** [Yoshimi's no longer at RLC]), teamed up with the award-winning RTV staffers (**Rick Walker** and **Kris Hyttinen**) and **Gail Donaldson**, Horticulture, to create a DVD for the Horticulture program. This DVD also won an Award of Merit from Admissions Marketing Report under the category of "Video Viewbook." This is also a national recognition that competes against ad agencies.

## ThunderDuckling

**Maricela Aguilar**, Career Services, is a grandmother for the fifth time! Her newest granddaughter, Rita, was born on Aug. 16, weighing 6 pounds, 10 ounces, and was 19 3/4 inches long.

