

Subject: From the President's Desk**Date:** Wed, 23 Nov 2005 16:13:49 -0800**From:** "Raul Rodriguez" <rrodriguez@deltacollege.edu>**To:** "Campus Wide Business" <campusbusiness@sjdccd.cc.ca.us>

Good afternoon everyone. I'm not sure how many people are still left on campus to read this message given the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend so it will be a short one. There are just a few comments that I want to pass on before I too go off to enjoy my holiday weekend.

Tracy Center at Mountain House

The most recent bane of my existence has been the continuing and continually frustrating saga of our property at Mountain House. We have been attempting to deal with a number of legal and technical hurdles that must be overcome before we can get to the point where we can actually prepare blueprints and begin construction. Yesterday was a great day in that we finally surpassed one of the most critical hurdles, which is the approval of the area plan. The Board of Supervisors voted 5-0 in favor of approving the plan for our section of Mountain House, which essentially gives us the only permit that we need to move forward. We still have to annex our property into the Mountain House Community Services District, but that is mostly a routine requirement. In short, the path is open for us to finally get the construction ball rolling on our educational center in South County. It is going to be a beautiful center with an amazing technological capacity. There won't be anything that can match it from Stanford to Boulder and possibly beyond.

The following two items are from Vice President Myers:

Harassment Prevention Training

The HR department has provided training to over 300 staff, managers and faculty over the last 4 months in Preventing Sexual Harassment in the Academic Environment. Not only is this training to keep Delta in compliance with SB 1825, which requires a two hour interactive training for all managers by January 1, 2006, but it is also critical training for employees to ensure that we both prevent harassment from occurring and not condone it if and when it does occur. Training sessions will continue to be scheduled through mid-December to ensure that all interested and/or required participants have an opportunity to attend.

Human Resources Remodel

The dust has finally settled upstairs in HR...Everyone is invited to drop by the recently renovated Employment and Employee Services Department in the Office of Human Resources, located in Admin 202. We have a new reception area, private confidential offices for the HR Specialists to ensure confidentiality, a new quiet confidential area for testing, and a secure confidential conference room where hiring managers and selection committee members can review applications without being interrupted. We think the end result is a more customer-friendly, secure, confidential and professional environment for campus employment. Come check it out!

Kudos

The social security number to identification number switchover went as good as or better than anyone expected! The success of this project was greatly due to the incredibly hard work of Neil MacDannald, Chris MacDannald, and Aubrey Lewman. Ralph Olstad and Lee Belarmino also helped coordinate the project. A major disaster was averted when Kathy Howell discovered that the air conditioning in Information Services malfunctioned and the temperature was reaching the danger point on the weekend when the switchover was running. Fortunately, Joe Sandoval responded to the request for help and was able to fix the problem before we had a computer system meltdown. I want to recognize and thank both Kathy and Joe for their great and timely service to the college and give kudos to the whole Information Services team for a job well done.

Pedro Ramirez and his English 44 class produced a terrific volume of short stories. If you don't have a copy, ask Pedro. I was impressed by the writing of Pedro's students. There were several incredibly touching stories. I understand that the class is also going to have a reading of their stories at some point in the near future. I don't have a date or time, but it is an event to watch.

Finally, congratulations are in order for Dr. Kim Myers. Our Vice President of Human Resources and Employee Relations successfully defended his dissertation last Thursday and is now the proud holder of a doctorate in education (Ed.D.). Way to go Dr. Kim!

Have a great Thanksgiving! Eat well, but in moderation!
