Molly Adams Scholarship Winners
(from left: Laura Pontow, Alicia Martinez, Michelle Hinojoso, Sinestor Nabors, Karen Navarro)

The Molly Adams Scholarship Fund at the Community Foundation serving Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, is a unique gift toward opening the door to equal access and opportunity for students with disabilities.

It permits them to use the award for the purchase of adaptive technologies which will allow access to accommodation in the classroom and beyond, to their home and to the community. This scholarship is awarded to students who are registered and receiving services through the Moreno Valley College DSS program, Norco College DRC or Riverside City College DSP&S).

The successful candidates for Norco College received their awards in Fall 2012 and are well on their way to utilizing their award for future semesters in college. We here at DRC would like to offer the winners our heartfelt “Congratulations!” and look forward to recognizing their efforts for academic success at our End of the Year Recognition Awards Program on May 29, 2013.

Dear Dr. Joe,

I use the services at DRC; I have a friend who uses the DRC services as well but she has different accommodations.

How are accommodations determined?

Sincerely,
Just wondering

Dear Just wondering

Academic accommodations are individually determined and based on and the disability documentation and the individual needs of an eligible DRC student. When I initially meet with a student to determine accommodations, I discuss with the student how the diagnosis impacts major life activities and what are the related educational limitations? Educational limitations are the disability related functional limitations in the educational setting. What are the barriers or challenges resulting from the diagnosis? These questions help determine the “reasonable and appropriate accommodations” for the eligible DRC student. So even student with a similar diagnosis may have different accommodations based on individual differences.

Dr. Joe
Greetings Mustangs, welcome to Spring Semester 2013! It is truly amazing how quickly the academic year goes by. Spring is of course a special time of year for us as we make our way towards the end of the academic year and celebrate our students’ achievements at commencement. We still have a lot to do before we get there, but it is wonderful knowing that we do so alongside faculty and staff who are committed to the success of our students and our institution.

At the Disability Resource Center (DRC), we come into spring having served over 450 in the fall semester alone and welcoming a number of new students for the spring. With our dedicated and talented professional staff and student assistants who perform so many tasks for us, the DRC makes every effort to provide services to help students with disabilities achieve their goals in the classroom. Of course the work we do in DRC is not in isolation. There are so many pieces to the puzzle in order to effectively support students with disabilities and every faculty, staff, and administrator plays a critical role to make it all work.

This semester, we are offering a new student orientation for those who have completed the intake process with DRC and are interested in learning how to effectively access their approved accommodations. The DRC staff designed and engaging workshop that we hope will help students utilize their accommodations more readily. During the past year, we have also seen a significant rise in our deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) population and our senior interpreter, David DiLeo (who is featured in this edition of the Quarterly), has been doing an excellent job of ensuring our interpreting needs are filled. He is here twice a week and three days at Riverside City College. David has been a welcome addition to our team.

At the end of the semester, we will recognize the academic achievements of students who utilize DRC services with an end-of-year event on Wednesday, May 29. We invite you to celebrate our students’ successes with us. In the meantime, the DRC staff will be hard at work assisting students with their test accommodations, providing interpreting and real-time captioning services, offering disability and academic counseling, placing adaptive furniture where needed, training students on the latest assistive technology, and serving as a resource to faculty to help their students succeed. Have a great Spring Semester and we look forward to seeing you in May.

Sincerely,
Koji M. Uesugi, Ed.D.
Dean of Special Funded Programs

**What are Invisible Disabilities?**

Invisible Disabilities are certain kinds of disabilities that are not immediately apparent to others. It is estimated that 10% of people in the U.S. have a medical condition which could be considered a type of invisible disability.

There are people with visual or auditory impairments who do not wear hearing aids or eye glasses so they may not seem to be obviously impaired. Those with joint conditions or problems who suffer chronic pain may not use any type of mobility aids on good days, or ever.

**Other Types of Invisible Disabilities:**

**Chronic Pain:** A variety of conditions may cause chronic pain. A few of those reasons may be back problems, bone disease, physical injuries, and any number of other reasons. Chronic pain may not be noticeable to people who do not understand the victims specific medical condition.

**Chronic Fatigue:** This type of disability refers to an individual who constantly feels tired. This can be extremely debilitating and affect every aspect of a persons every day life.

**Mental Illness:** There are many mental illnesses that do qualify for disability benefits. Some examples are depression, attention deficit disorder, schizophrenia, agoraphobia, and many others.

http://www.disabled-world.com/disability/types/invisible/

**Happenings**

During Spring 2012, the DRC hosted a chats series where the all members of the college community were invited to join us for invigorating discussions on academically relevant topics, such as students with disabilities in the classroom presented by Dr. Joe, disability rights and academic accommodations with Chani Beeman, our director of Diversity, Equity & Compliance. Our last installment of the series included a chat hosted by our own Dinah Minkler & Brian Brautigam who are our technology peeps that provide our students with the adaptive software and alternate media that helps them be successful in their classes. They were awesome, and all are invited to attend; check out the back page for our next line-up!
David DiLeo, 37, is originally from Lakewood Ca. His parents moved their family to Ecuador for two years then back to the United States where they settled in Pennsylvania until David was 12. The family eventually landed in California once again for good. David has been with RCCD for 13 years and has worked primarily at Riverside City College DSP&S offices. He began his career as an hourly interpreter. Being trilingual, he is fluent in English, Spanish and American Sign Language. David is married to a wonderful deaf lady, Alicia and has two beautiful children, Bella & Donato. Not many people know that David is also very artistic and his talents extended to varied mediums of art.

Celebrities with Disabilities

Dan Aykroyd

Born on Dominion Day at the Ottawa General Hospital in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Dan was diagnosed with Tourette’s and Asperger’s syndromes at an early age, but the symptoms seem to have disappeared when he was around 14. The diagnosis of Asperger syndrome did not exist in the 1960s, when Aykroyd was a preteen. It involved mostly grunting and physical tics through nervousness.

~Student Stars~

Shaunna Winn

Name: Shaunna Winn  Age: 32  Hometown: Corona, Ca.

Career Goal: To work at Norco College

Educational Goal: Degree in Business Management

Toughest Challenge: Being a single mother, of two children who also suffer from learning disabilities while being a full time student

Greatest accomplishment so far: Being the first in my family to attend college. Also having the privilege of being the AGS President last year and the Student Body President this year all while maintaining a GPA over 3.0

Disability: I am not sure what it is called. But I know I have an auditory / visual disability, I see number and letters backwards, it is hard for me to pronounce a lot of words, etc.

DRC High Tech Center

The DRC High Tech Center offers a variety of adaptive software programs created specifically to facilitate access for student with disabilities.

- Voice Recognition with Dragon Naturally Speaking
- Screen reading with JAWS
- Screen magnification with ZoomText
- Open Book Scan and Read technology for users who are blind
- Kurzweil 3000 and Read and Write Gold Scan and Read technology for users with learning disabilities

Hardware Available:

- High speed computers with 19” flat-panel monitors for students with low vision.
- Flatbed scanners at each station.
- Headphones available for private listening.
- Andrea Anti-noise USB NC-7100 microphones for use with Dragon Naturally Speaking.
- Logitech Ergonomic keyboards w/ touchpads and other alternative keyboards.
The students are:

The most important people on our campuses, without them there would be no need for us.

Not a cold enrollment statistic but flesh and blood human beings with emotions and needs for guidance.

Not individuals to be tolerated as we go about our business...

They are our business.

Not totally dependent on us—but our jobs are totally dependent on them.

Not an interruption of our work, but rather, the purpose of it~

Anonymous

Upcoming Spring Events

DRC Orientations

DRC Orientations were held on Friday Feb. 8th, Wednesday Feb. 20 and Thursday, Feb 21. The focus of these events is to further familiarize new students to our program and answer FAQ’s students may have. Those in attendance maintained their raffle tickets to win our DRC Swag Bag! The lucky winner received a goodie bag filled with academic essentials!

DRC Brown Bag Chats

Our chats are held during the college hour in ST107 ~ Check for FLEX Credit Availability~

March 28: “The Student Experience” ~ Q&A with DRC Student Guest Panel

April 18: “Disability Etiquette” ~ Keith Coleman, Leona Crawford & David DiLeo present.

May 23: “Veterans with Disabilities in Higher Ed” ~ Hector Chavez & Eric Betancourt present.

DRC End of Year Recognition Awards Program

May 29, 2013: We will recognize DRC students who have demonstrated successful academic progress with a 3.0 GPA as well as other achievements throughout the year on Wednesday, at 3pm in CSS217.

Disability Resource Center

Norco College 2001 Third Street
Center for Student Success Building
Suite 205
Norco, CA.
92860
Ofc 951-372-7070
Fx 951-372-7189
drc@norcocollege.edu
www.norcocollege.edu