

Courtyard Chatter

How Many Visits to the DCCCD Web Site?

The DCCCD Office of Internet Publishing, under the leadership of Georgeann Moss, district director of Internet Publishing, recently released a report about the performance of the DCCCD Web site for the last calendar year. During 2008, the DCCCD site received 8.56 million visits by 4.4 million unique visitors. This total does not include all of the visits made directly to eCampus and eConnect. The DCCCD site serves a variety of audiences including current students, future students, employees, future employees and business and community members. In 2008, students (future and current) made up 85 percent of visitors and employees were 14 percent.

Most visited areas included the DCCCD home page, the eCampus and eConnect home pages, student NetMail and the Courses and Programs page. The DCCCD home page is the default page for many employees, so each time an employee opens an Internet browser the default page is counted.

There also is a Frequently Asked Questions section of the site, which allows students to find answers to the most common questions asked about district services. When students are able to find their own answers on the Web site, it reduces the number of students who have to call our offices to ask their questions. If you've never looked at the FAQs: Get Answers section, check it out in the top right corner of the district Web site. You might even learn some things you didn't know!

The Brookhaven College Web site, under the leadership of Raymond Imaican, senior Web developer and programmer, received more than 1.58 million visits in 2008 with more than 498,000 visitors. Travis Haapala and Russell Hixon also support the college's Web development and programming through their expertise. The college's Internet Publishing Department falls under the Marketing and Public Information Office. The college's top visited pages include the home page, the main course schedules page, the library home page and the A-Z index.

[Read the full article online.](#)

From the Office of the Vice President of Business Services

By Tommy Gallegos, college director, Facilities Services



Tommy Gallegos

Facilities Services celebrated their first Chili Dog Day on March 19. The celebration was to recognize the importance of every single member of the department and what they accomplish for Brookhaven College.

The idea was taken from a brilliant lady, owner of Home Interiors and Mother of Don Carter (Dallas Mavericks). The story goes, that she was enroute to her doctor's appointment and upon arriving to her appointment, she saw an elderly lady sitting by the entrance. Ms. Crowley suspected that she was in need and asked her if she could be of any assistance. The elderly lady said to her that she was hungry. Ms. Crowley told her that her driver would take her to any one

of the finest eateries in the area. The lady smiled and said she just wanted a chili dog. It was done.

Ms. Crowley, a self-made millionaire, went back to Home Interiors to finish out her day and started thinking of what to do for a staff appreciation day. Bam!! Chili Dog Day!! Her appreciation and love for her staff established one of the biggest employee day celebrations in the 50-year history of her company.

Facilities Services celebrated in the same kind of fashion. By honoring the facilities staff that does so much for the staff and students at Brookhaven College. Just to let them know that we care and love them unconditionally. They do a tremendous job!! Chili Dog Day!!

Upcoming Events Calendar

TODAY! April 15 - Last Day to Pre-Order for the Co-Worker Appreciation Flower Sale. It's just \$2 per individual and \$1 more to add a flower to an order. Place your order today!

April 17-19 - Dancers' Theatre Spring Performance, Performance Hall

April 24 - Speech Department Second Annual Speech Contest, EMGI, 5 p.m.

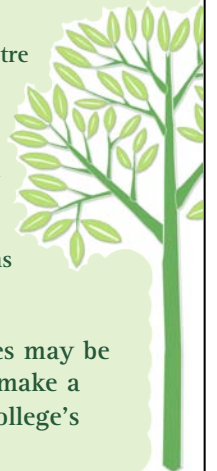
April 31-May 3 and May 7-10 - Theatre Brookhaven, Arena Theatre

May 1 - Potluck Picnic and Giving Tree Dedication, International Courtyard, noon

May 11-14 - Final Exams

REMINDER:

Volunteer opportunities may be full, but you can still make a donation during the college's 30 Days of Service.



Pagers Will Let Student Know "Your Advisor Is Ready"

Familiar technology will take on a new purpose at the college when the Advising and Counseling and Multicultural centers begin using a new paging system for students. The pagers are the same kinds most people are familiar with in restaurants that let patrons know when a table is ready. This time it will be used to let students know that they are next in line to see an advisor.



During peak times, the Advising and Counseling Center can see between 300 and 500 students each day. The new system will allow students waiting to see an advisor to roam the campus and still make it back for their turn.

"It's not going to eliminate long lines," said Oscar Lopez, vice president for student success and enrollment management, "but it will give students an opportunity to use the wait time wisely to take care of other business."

[Read the full article online.](#)



ADDITIONAL CONTENT ONLINE!

Next In Our Retention Series, May Birthdays

Read the full story in the online edition of the Courtyard Chatter. There's more in almost every story online at www.BrookhavenCollege.edu/chatter/. The *Courtyard Chatter* publishes monthly with important news about the college and community.

District Funds Retention Efforts

A series looking at new and ongoing retention efforts at Brookhaven College

The DCCCD Office of Student Retention approved more than \$240,000 in grants for new and ongoing retention efforts at Brookhaven College in its latest rollout of funding. To support efforts to increase retention and to share best practices between the colleges, the Office of Student Retention developed funding opportunities for colleges or employees who want to plan, to pilot, to replicate and to add resources.



In the second part of this series, we will look at efforts to create a new math workbook and to help prepare biology students to succeed.

Kathleen Long, math professor, is writing a new workbook designed to help students move through their developmental courses more quickly. With five levels of developmental math, beginning this road could be a daunting prospect for students. Math faculty members came together and agreed structuring the DMAT 0066 and DMAT 0090 courses into a linked program would give students more time on task integrate related math concepts and allow students time to build relationships with other students and the instructor.

[Read the full article online.](#)

Congratulations Employee of the Month, January Mary Beesley, Administrative Assistant

The first employee of the month for 2009 is Mary Beesley, administrative assistant for Career Resources/New Program Development.

"Mary is one of those 'quietly competent' individuals who utilizes her knowledge and skills to support a variety of curriculum projects in a number of areas throughout the college," said her nomination.



Congratulations Employee of the Month, February Harry Schneider, Facilities Maintenance Assistant



Harry Schneider and Jack Nation were nominated for Employee of the Month together. Both went out of their way to work with a fellow employee on a re-design of a room at the East Center 1 to make the space more useful and effective.

Both went to the room before starting the work to see what changes were needed and then they helped the client pick out furniture for the room.

Congratulations Employee of the Month, March Jack Nation, Carpenter

"They spent more than an hour with me, without complaint and we came up with a plan, which included getting the needed items from Home Depot," said the nomination. They started the work and fit it into their schedules to finish it before Jack went on vacation.

Harry and Jack are each dedicated to really helping their fellow employees. They do everything they can to work with individuals' schedules and needs to do the job right.



From the Office of the Vice President of Instruction

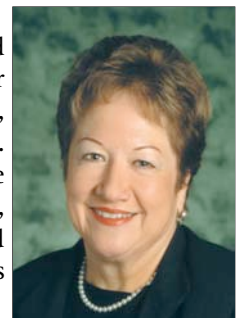
By Juanita Z. Flint, executive dean, Health and Human Services Division

I am sure that the college community knows that our Emergency Medical Services and Nursing programs will be visited this week by members of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The seven-member team will be here to look into substantive changes to the EMS Program's expansion of dual credit courses at R. L. Turner High School and the extension of our Associate Degree Nursing Program at Mountain View College.

Needless to say, much of my attention has been focused on finalizing all our credential files, syllabi and program documents that will be reviewed. Special thanks to Monica Wenthold and Nancy Summers for working on the credential files with Ray Attner and Rodger Bennett. These accreditation visits aren't easy, but what has become very apparent to me is the generous support of the college—and that includes all of you.

I am so grateful for all the help that we have received in preparing our documents. All the college departments have readily responded to any and all requests that we have made. The other executive deans, Adrien Cuellar-McGuire, Michael Dennehy, Lisa Ehrich, Rick Maxwell, Doris Rousey, Kendra Vaglianti and Sandy Wyche, graciously prepared copies of their support course syllabi and updated all their credential files that support our two programs.

Thomas Anderson's office looks like an office supply store and I am sure that after the visit, if anyone needs notebooks, he will gladly recycle them to you. Carrie Schweitzer and Sarah Ferguson visited Mountain View College to get them up to speed on the visit and what is required of them. Marilyn Kolesar Lynch is assisting the principal at R.L. Turner for the site visit there.



Juanita Z. Flint

[Read the full article online.](#)

Handbell Program Receives National Award

Congratulations go out to Bonnie Riddle, handbell choir director, and the Brookhaven College Handbell Ensemble. The college has been chosen for the National Exemplary Handbell/Handchime Award from the American Guild for English Handbell Ringers. The award recognizes music curriculums that include handbells/handchimes as part of their instructional program in performance and general music. Take advantage of the chance to hear this group perform in a free concert on May 9 in the Performance Hall at 8 p.m. The BCSA has two ensembles, the Handbell Ensemble and Campus Bells of Brookhaven. These groups perform, separately and together, to play original handbell pieces, jazz, spirituals and marches.

Referral Forms Point Students In Right Direction

There are new forms on the P: Drive that employees can use to ensure that students get the right information from the right office. The half-sheets are PDFs for easy use and allow you to print the form and send it with a student who needs assistance from another office. Use these forms next time you are assisting a student who needs help that you can't offer.

University and Majors Fair Attracts Crowds

Students surrounded tables filled with information about career options, college majors and transfer opportunities during the College and Majors Fair on April 1 at Brookhaven College. Just about every team member from the Advising Office took turns at a table offering students information and guidance about choosing a college major. Bad weather led to the University Fair, usually held early in the spring, being canceled, so Advising staff combined the two events and drew even bigger crowds.