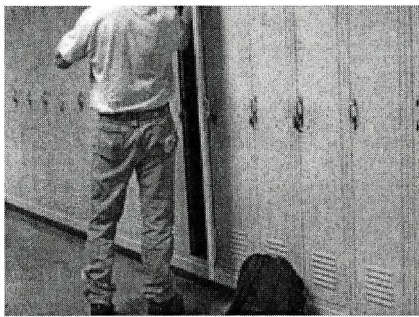


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Students: Take the June **SURGE LIFE QUIZ!** win \$10 to spend at Bakery Hill!

Campus Police offer advice for students

By Melissa A. Coleman
Jun. 1, 2010



Theft or loss of personal property can happen to even the most conscientious student. The Cincinnati State Police Department can assist students in recovering property and also provides suggestions on how students can be proactive in protecting their belongings.

Theft of items such as books and book bags is the most frequent campus crime, according to safety reports published on the College website. In an average month, 10 thefts are reported. In April 2010, 15 thefts were reported on campus.

"Most crimes are crimes of opportunity," said Officer Michelle Fern...[read more](#)

Cincinnati State celebrates Earth Day

By Alexis Boesken
Jun. 1, 2010

On April 29, Cincinnati State celebrated Earth Day with an outdoor festival featuring informational booths, food and...[read more](#)



Golf team
Tour

Sign language classes and degree meet diverse needs

By Roxie Blevins
Jun. 1, 2010

Some Cincinnati State students are earning their degrees by speaking with... [read more](#)

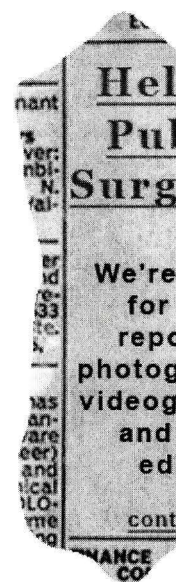


Financial A

Short-term childcare: a problem the College should solve?

By Sarah M. Kranjc
Jun. 1, 2010

The biggest challenge I've faced as a parent who is also a student...[read more](#)



Campus Police offer advice for students

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Jun. 1, 2010

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"Most crimes are crimes of opportunity," said Officer Michelle Fern.

Officer Fern and Officer Kay Harrison-Smith offered several suggestions:

Keep your belongings with you at all times.

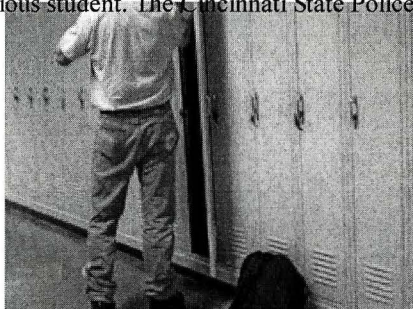
Label everything.

Do not carry large amounts of cash.

Use the lock on your locker correctly.

When using the restroom, take your belongings in the stall with you.

Do not bring anything unnecessary or of excess value to campus.



Never turn your back on your belongings.

Photo by Melissa Coleman

"Be alert and aware of your surroundings," said Fern. "If it doesn't look right, it probably isn't."

~ More Information ~

Campus Police Office: Room 7 of the Main building.

Phone: 569-1558, between 6:30 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., or 861-8888 after 10 p.m.
Blue Light phones located around campus also will reach Campus Police.

[Campus Police on Facebook](#)

Cincinnati State celebrates Earth Day

By Alexis Boesken

Jun. 1, 2010

On April 29, Cincinnati State celebrated Earth Day with an outdoor festival featuring informational booths, food and a musical performance.

This year's "Earth Jam" celebration included 15 booths representing environmental organizations from on and off campus. Booth volunteers handed out informational pamphlets and materials to raise awareness about the positive effects of recycling and other environmental concerns.

Paula Ayres, a volunteer at the Environmental Engineering Technologies Club booth, said, "For Earth Day, the focal point is on the environment and how our actions today affect the future. Today is a day of celebration and it is also a chance for people to learn."

Holly Utrata-Halcomb represented the Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District at the event. "This is an opportunity to make a connection with young people about the importance of conservation," she said. "The Earth gives us many natural resources and they should not be wasted."

Many booths handed out promotional items, such as Frisbees made out of recycled materials or pencils that were stamped with the slogan "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle."

Students in attendance said that Earth Jam was an effective way to generate interest and gain information about environmental topics.

"I've never attended Earth Day before, but I'm really glad that I went this year," said Morgan Rogers, an Associate of Arts major. "[The event was] a good way to educate everyone on the importance of recycling. It opened my eyes to different issues that I hadn't thought about before."

"I would definitely attend this again. It was not what I was expecting at all," she added.

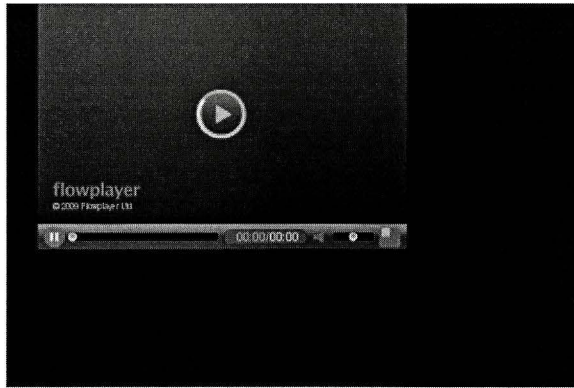
Miesha Howard, who is double-majoring in Environmental Engineering Technologies and Diagnostic Medical Sonography, said her Earth Day experience was informative.

"I would like to see more people take an interest in our Earth," Howard said. "After coming to this event, I am going to make a deliberate effort to recycle more because every little bit helps."

According to Kristy Kim, the Public Affairs Specialist for Hamilton County's Department of Environmental Services, everyone should do their part for cleaner air and ultimately, a better environment.

"The most important thing is communication—we have to work together to spread information about issues in Cincinnati's air, but at the same time we can also have fun," Kim said.

"There are many organizations here in Cincinnati that help the environment and try to improve the quality of our air supply," she added. "I hope that our efforts come full circle one day; if it's good for the environment, than it is most likely good for your health."



Sign language classes and degree meet diverse needs

By Roxie Blevins

Jun. 1, 2010

Some Cincinnati State students are earning their degrees by speaking with their hands. These individuals are participants in the College's Interpreter Training Program, which prepares students for careers interpreting American Sign Language (ASL) in a variety of settings.

In addition to educational interpreting, students can also learn to interpret in other venues, such as religious, theatrical, or medical settings.

Interpreter Training student Angie Deinlein hopes to pursue a career interpreting in a public school. "I'd like to do educational interpreting," she said.

Although she graduated from Northern Kentucky University in 2007 with a Bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership, Deinlein is seeking a career change through the College's Interpreter Training Program.

Deinlein developed an interest in learning sign language because she has a brother-in-law who is deaf. Deinlein said that her brother-in-law can read lips and speak, and he is "very helpful and easy to understand."



Instructor Anthony Merchinsky teaches vocabulary in a sign language class.

Photo by Roxie Blevins

trained interpreters."

Students who are not earning the Interpreter Training degree can benefit from ASL classes. Associate of Science major Joel Underwood has completed Beginning ASL 1 and 2 and plans to continue studying ASL in the future.

According to Underwood, he has been able to use his ASL skills to assist deaf customers at the pharmacy where he works.

"A lot of people learn Spanish or French," said Underwood, "but people who speak those languages can learn to speak English. Many people who are deaf do not have that choice, so I'd like to learn a language they can speak."

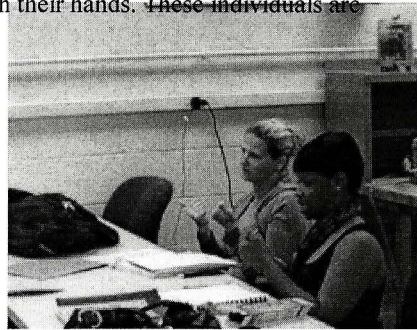
Some students who are not pursuing degrees as sign language interpreters obtain a Deaf Studies Certificate.

According to Caudill, any type of care provider or public service provider can benefit from earning a Deaf Studies Certificate.

"Sign language can be a marketable skill. If you need a foreign language credit for another degree, many colleges will accept ASL," said Caudill.

"And if you know sign language, you may be more likely to get a job than someone who does not possess that skill," Caudill added.

According to instructor Diana Hickham, who is deaf and works in the program's Language Lab, taking ASL can "improve awareness of diversity" and help individuals "to be a part of the Deaf community."



Students Tara Anderson (L) and LaKeisha Allen in American Sign Language class.

Photo by Roxie Blevins

She also said that taking ASL classes at Cincinnati State "has helped a lot when talking to his friends who do not speak [English]."

"It's very rewarding to be able to speak to someone who is deaf," said ITP student Nicole Ellington. Ellington is currently enrolled in the Beginning ASL 3 class and has been studying sign language since high school.

"I have had only deaf [ASL] teachers at Cincinnati State," said Ellington. She said that when an instructor is able to share personal experience about what it is like being deaf, it helps her learn the language, as well as learning about the culture.

"It's really important for students to get exposure to skilled deaf teachers," said ITP Program Chair Dawn Caudill. "In the earlier classes, we inundate them with the language so they can become fluent, but the later interpreting classes are taught by



According to Hickham, the Language Lab is open to all Cincinnati State students.

“The Language Lab offers many tools to help students learn ASL and about Deaf culture,” said Hickham. “One of the most important parts of the lab is interaction among students of different levels of skills and the sharing of their knowledge.”

~ More Information ~

Dawn Caudill - dawn.caudill@cincinnatiastate.edu

Short-term childcare: a problem the College should solve?

By Sarah M. Kranjc

Jun. 1, 2010

The biggest challenge I've faced as a parent who is also a student at Cincinnati State is childcare.

My son is in third grade. I am able to schedule classes to ensure I am home in time to meet him at the bus stop, or take classes in the evening when my husband is home from work.

Despite my scheduling efforts, there are still challenges: elementary school closings due to weather, teacher work days, and conflicts when Cincinnati State's break schedule does not line up with my son's school schedule.

According to information posted on the Cincinnati State website, the William Mallory Early Childhood Education provides full-time, year round care for children ages three months to five years. During summer months children up to ten years are accepted. The costs cannot be pro-rated and range from \$106 to \$213 per week. No temporary childcare options are currently available.

So when one of the above mentioned conflicts occurs, panic hits immediately followed by scrambling for a solution. Countless times my husband has brought our son to work with him. The obvious choice is for me to stay home and miss classes.

In several of the classes I've taken in my two years at Cincinnati State parents have brought their children to class without incident. This isn't always possible as some instructors specifically ask that children not attend.

Winter term I had an instructor who did not want children in the classroom during exams. December 23, when my son's school had already let out for the holiday, we had an exam. My husband was unable to take off from work or take our son to work with him.

Reluctantly, I ended up sitting my son out in the hallway with activities to keep him busy while I was in class. I was so nervous I finished the test within ten minutes.

I spoke to my instructor and he had a valid reason for not allowing children during exams: the distraction would be unfair to other students. "Any other time I welcome [children in the classroom], and [the children] enjoy themselves, especially in the theater classes," he said.

I recently spoke with Tony Cruz, the Dean of Enrollment and Student Development, to find out if Cincinnati State had ever considered offering a babysitting service where parents could leave their children just long enough to attend one class. The answer was no. "I've never had a student come to me with this problem," Cruz said.

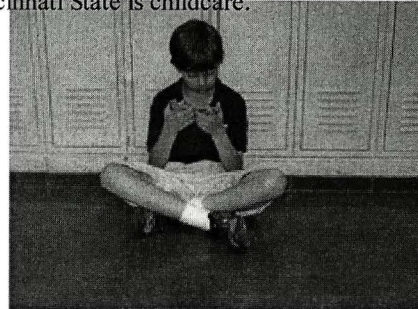
Cruz also said he could investigate providing a babysitting service if enough students expressed interest.

Based on the number of students I've seen bringing their children to the classes I've attended, my guess is that many students would use and benefit from temporary childcare.

But if other students do not express their concerns, the College administration will not know about this problem.

If finding short-term emergency childcare is a challenge that affects your life as a Cincinnati State student, please add a comment below, or use the Contact Us link at the top of the page to send a message to Surge Life.

Working together, we can try to solve this problem.



Should the College provide short-term childcare to help students who are also parents?

Photo by Sarah M. Kranjc



Online course evaluations provide more opportunities for input

By Sarah M. Kranjc

Jun. 1, 2010

Cincinnati State students are now able to complete course evaluations online for all classes. During Winter 2010 term the evaluations were made available to all students for the first time.

According to Connie Sketch, Associate Dean in the Center for Innovative Technologies, a committee of College faculty and staff members started working on the evaluation content and process last year. Sketch is a member of the committee.

Students gain access to the online evaluations through an independent service provider, EvaluationKit. Students can log on directly to the company's website, or obtain evaluations through their Blackboard courses.

Sketch said that after evaluations close for the term, faculty members can review their course evaluations and College administrators receive a summary of all results.

Sketch said the College does not receive information identifying which students participated, or how they answered.

Sketch said that in Winter term "just under 20 percent" of students completed the evaluations. She said that rate is average compared with other schools using the same technology, but the committee would like it to be higher.

In the e-mails she received from students, the top concern Sketch noticed related to anonymity. Sketch said some students are worried that instructors will have access to their identity.

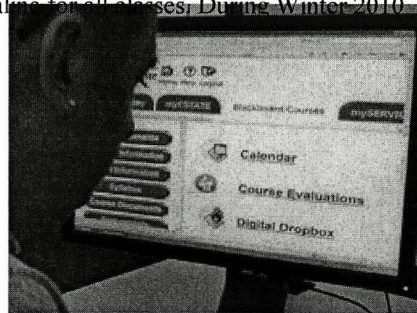
According to Sketch, a possible reason for this concern might be the process used for the Winter term evaluations.

The evaluations were made available the eighth week of the term and were closed before some students had taken their final exams. Some Cincinnati State instructors might have viewed the results of the evaluations before grades were posted.

To address these fears, evaluation processes will change starting in Spring term. "Instructors will no longer have access to the [evaluation] summaries until all grades have been posted," Sketch said.

Sketch said before EvaluationKit was used, students did not have the opportunity to evaluate every course. Use of paper evaluations was not a requirement in all academic divisions.

Now all students can share their opinions and concerns about instructors and courses. "If students go to academic departments with concerns, both course and instructor evaluation summaries can be accessed," Sketch said.



Students can now evaluate every Cincinnati State course.

Photo by Sarah Kranjc

~ More Information ~

Concerns and comments regarding evaluations - Connie.Sketch@cincinnatiastate.edu

Information about how the evaluations work - [EvaluationKit](#)

New Blackboard course software arrives in June

By Roger D. Hodge

Jun. 1, 2010

The current version of Blackboard, the website that many Cincinnati State students use for course work, is getting a major upgrade.

According to Dr. Jon McKamey, the Instructional Designer for Cincinnati State, the College will move to Version 9 of Blackboard on June 24, a few days before Summer term begins.

The software transfer is expected to take about eight hours, and during this time students will not be able to view any Blackboard course information. Students who want to check their grades on June 24 will need to click on the myServices tab and go to the Grade Report for the Spring term.

"All courses will use Blackboard 9 beginning in the Summer 2010 term," Dr. McKamey said. Students will not see drastic changes, but will notice several new features.

In Blackboard 9, each course has a Home page with information personalized for the student, such as My Tasks, My Announcements, My Calendar, To Do, and more.

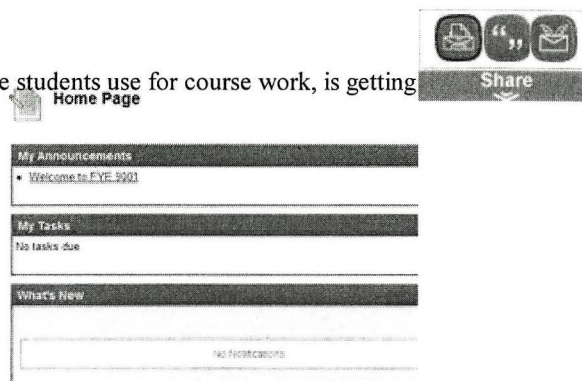
The Digital Dropbox tool will be eliminated, but the new Assignment tool will permit students to send in more than one assignment at the same time. Instructors will no longer need to require students to upload some assignments via the Digital Dropbox and others through the Assignment tool.

When students are required to submit their work for plagiarism checking, they will be able to use Safe Assign, a tool built into Blackboard 9. Previously, students were required to go to a separate site, Turnitin, and login, find their class, and then submit the assignment to be checked for plagiarism. SafeAssign does not require students to go to another site.

Other new features of Blackboard 9 will allow instructors to use live chat, which will allow interaction between an instructor and students or between groups of students.

Blackboard 9 also supports video conferencing, which will allow visual communication among instructors and students over long distances.

Even though there are new additions, not everything is changing. Dr. McKamey said when students use Blackboard they will still see links for SurgeMail and the Surge Skydrive, and will be able to click on tabs for MyServices, the Online Surge Card Office and other currently available tools.



The Blackboard 9 Home page will show all course activities at a glance.

Photo provided by Dr. Jon McKamey

~ More Information ~

Blackboard 9 Student Tutorial from Columbus State:

[Orientation for Blackboard 9](#)

The Cincinnati State Student Blackboard Help Center (on the College Community Tab of MYCSTATE) will provide Blackboard 9 help documents as they become available.

Surge golf team plays in National tournament

Jun. 1, 2010

The Surge golf team capped a successful season with a one-stroke victory in the District 12 tournament for the National Junior College Athletic Association. The Surge compete in the National tournament in June...[watch the video](#)



April's Stories

Men's basketball in review: a championship season

By Nick Novy, Marketing Intern, Cincinnati State Athletics
Apr. 23, 2010

The Cincinnati State men's basketball team recorded their most successful season in history. They finished second in the National Junior College Athletic Association...[read more and watch the video](#)



March's Stories

Surge men win conference title and advance in tournament

By Nick Novy, Marketing Intern, Cincinnati State Athletics
Mar. 16, 2010

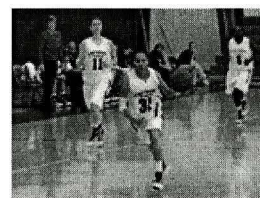
Cincinnati State men's basketball remained a powerhouse in the Ohio Community College Athletic Conference (OCCAC) as the Surge claimed sole possession of the OCCAC championship...[read more](#)



Lady Surge finish successful BB season

By Nick Novy, Marketing Intern, Cincinnati State Athletics
Mar. 16, 2010

The Lady Surge entered the 2009-2010 season with high expectations, after a national tournament appearance in the prior season. Head coach Theresa Check and the coaching staff recruited eight new...[read more](#)



CState soccer star and stellar student to play in Big

International students and veterans contribute to CS student diversity

By Hope C. Esposito

Jun. 1, 2010

International students and military veterans are integral members of the Cincinnati State student body, representing about ten percent of students currently enrolled.

According to statistics provided by Anne Foster, Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, in the Early Fall 2009 term 355 international students were enrolled at the College, representing about three percent of the student body. Approximately 700 military veterans were enrolled, or roughly seven percent of all students.

Students from all over the world come to Cincinnati State to further their careers, and their lives.

Adetayo Azeez, an Associate of Science major from Nigeria, is a typical example.

"I love America," Azeez said. "I came to this country as a permanent resident in November of 2007. We speak British English in Nigeria, so understanding the language wasn't difficult."

"Here in America it's easy [for students] because you have text books, online access, power points, and library access," he added.

Azeez plans to transfer to the University of Cincinnati to pursue a Nursing degree. He said the medical field in the United States offers lucrative opportunities, especially for people from other countries.

Yolanda Lawrence, an Ecuador native who has worked at Cincinnati State for over 30 years, is the Veteran and International Student Advisor.

"Students come here from over 100 countries," Lawrence said. "Some are here seeking asylum, some are refugees, and some are working as au pairs."

Lawrence said the majority of international students at Cincinnati State are from the African continent. "They usually need help with [many things], especially adapting to the American educational system," Lawrence said.

Lawrence added that the International Affairs office offers a mentoring program that pairs newly enrolled international students with American students or second-year international students. The program helps students acclimate to life in the United States, as well as to student life.

Another group of non-traditional students are military veterans.

Raymond Glover, a Vietnam War veteran and a student at the College, is a Veteran's Assistant at Cincinnati State. Glover said he assists about 40 veterans a week.

"The Veteran's Affairs office provides information about eligibility for educational benefits, like those provided by the GI Bill, and helps students with their schedules," Glover said.

Glover said he sees student veterans of all ages.

"Veterans are some of the best students. They are dedicated and they bring that discipline taught in the military and apply it [to their studies]," Glover added.

Jessica Trevithick is a 26-year-old Army veteran, an Associate of Science major, and the President of the Veteran's Student Association. She hopes to transfer to the College of Mount St. Joseph to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree after the Spring term.

"A medical discharge forced me out of the military earlier than I had planned. The atrocities among the wounded I saw in combat drove me to pursue nursing," Trevithick said.



Yolanda Lawrence is the Advisor for International students and Veterans.

Photo by Hope Esposito



~ More Information ~

International & Veterans Affairs Office
Main Building Room 189
(513) 569-1543

Culinary student contributes to a night of endless flavors

By Ashley LaCalameto

Jun. 1, 2010

On Sunday, April 25, the sixth and largest version of "1 Night, 12 Kitchens" was held at The Midwest Culinary Institute at Cincinnati State.

According to College news releases, this year's event was expected to bring in more than the \$75,000 that was raised in 2009. Proceeds from the event, which is cosponsored by Cincinnati Magazine, provide scholarships, supplies and other support for culinary students.

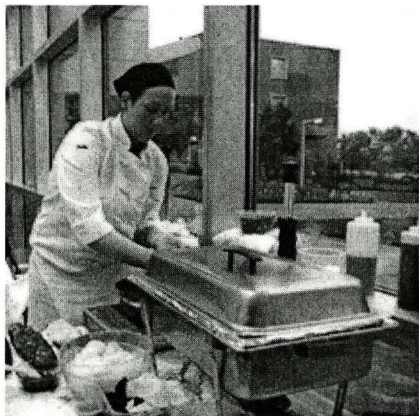
General admission tickets were \$90 and a \$175 VIP ticket included food and wine sampling at an exclusive culinary station, and a private reception with many of the regional chefs who participated in the event.

More than 25 chefs from the area gathered at Cincinnati State to showcase flavors from their restaurants. Each chef worked in one of the Culinary Institute's 12 kitchens, along with five or six students who assisted in the cooking and presentation of food.

Kim Tracy was one of the students assigned to work with Jean-Robert de Cavel, a Chef-In-Residence at MCI and former chef for several well-known Cincinnati restaurants. Tracy has seven years of kitchen experience, and is completing her last term at Cincinnati State.

Additionally, Tracy is a Certified Culinarian and a member of the event team that meets with Chef de Cavel to plan and prepare menus for on and off campus events.

"I like to participate in every event that I can," Tracy said. "It's always a fantastic experience and a great networking opportunity." Her culinary experience at Cincinnati State also includes working at corporate events, community cooking classes and many special events held on campus.



Kim Tracy puts final touches on a gourmet dish.

Photo by Chris Higgenbotham

"incredible flavor and texture."

Tracy said, "Scallops are the best when they're cooked fresh, and besides, it gives more of a show to the guests at the event. It definitely seemed like we had a large crowd the majority of the evening."



Chef de Cavel and his staff prepare for "12 Kitchens" guests.

Photo by Chris Higgenbotham

Tracy said that working on diverse events is one of the advantages that MCI offers to culinary students. "I love working in the kitchen and in the culinary field because it is such a broad career," she said. "There's so much to learn and to do."

When deciding on a recipe for the "12 Kitchens" event, Tracy said Chef de Cavel's team looked at what everybody else had planned for their menus, and noticed that none of the menus incorporated scallops.

"Once Chef de Cavel decided on scallops, we built the dish up from there," she said.

The result was seared sea scallops with piperade crust, watercress puree, and soft Polenta with goat cheese, serrano ham, and fresh watercress. The piperade was made with various colors of bell pepper, onion, garlic and tomatoes that were cooked and blended together. The culinary team added bacon and parmesan cheese to most of the dishes, but left some without for vegetarians and vegans.

Tracy was one of two culinary assistants who seared the scallops tableside prior to serving about 450 portions of the dish. "12 Kitchens" diners who sampled the dish commented that the polenta "melted in your mouth" and said the scallops had



Disney internships provide unique work for CS students

By Sarah M. Kranjc

Jun. 1, 2010

You might have noticed a poster for the Disney College Program on campus announcement boards, but you might not know that students in any major can participate in this program.

Jim Macke, a Cooperative Education Coordinator in the Business Technologies Division, is the Cincinnati State Disney College Program Supervisor. Macke facilitated Cincinnati State's participation in the program starting 13 years ago.

Participating students complete an internship as a Cast Member (Disney's term for employee) at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida, for two academic terms. During the internship, students also have the option of taking academic courses for college credit.

According to Macke, there are 17 different roles available for students, including attractions, merchandise, housekeeping, front desk, transportation, and both front (hospitality and serving) and back (food preparation) tasks of restaurants.

During the application process students are asked to select the top four assignments they would like but Disney personnel decide on the final job placement.

Macke said that participants are compensated hourly with opportunity for overtime. Housing expenses of \$82 to \$108 weekly are deducted to cover housing expenses.

"People don't [participate] in this program for the money; they do it for the experience," Macke said.

Shan'tel Collins, an Associate of Arts major graduating in June, participated in the Disney College Program in 2008. She was cast by Disney to work as a vacation planner at Disney's Hollywood Studios.

"As a vacation planner my responsibility was to know about all four parks and attractions and basically help guest make the most of their Disney experience," Collins said.

Collins' Disney experience included more than just going to work. "There were also numerous activities to take part in, like grocery bingo, open mic nights and formal dances," she said. "You felt like a super star and Disney did a great job of making you feel like you were at home."

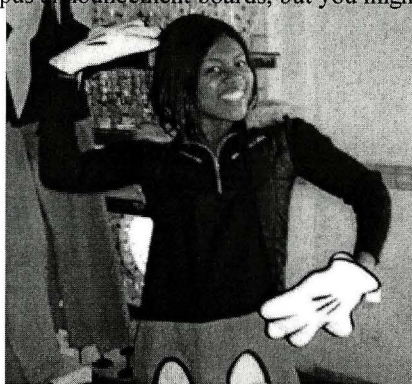
"I have made friends from France, Mexico, and Belgium. This experience taught me not only about different cultures and customs but how to be a better person," Collins said.

Students who return to Cincinnati State after completing the entire internship qualify for a \$1,000 scholarship from Cincinnati State.

According to Peggy Harrier, Acting Dean of the Business Technologies Division, about 75 Cincinnati State students participate in the Disney College Program each year.

"Our goal is 100 per year, but I would love to see 200, and we could accommodate even more," Harrier said.

Harrier said Cincinnati State is one of only 17 colleges and universities nationwide designated as a Disney League of Learning school.



Shan'tel Collins enjoyed her internship in the Disney College Program

Photo provided



~ More Information ~

Jim Macke - james.macke@cincinnatiastate.edu

Disney College Program Website - www.wdwcollegeprogram.com

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June

2010

21 - (Monday)

Last day for Summer Term Registration - Registration after today will result in a \$100 Non-Refundable Late Registration fee

24 - (Thursday)

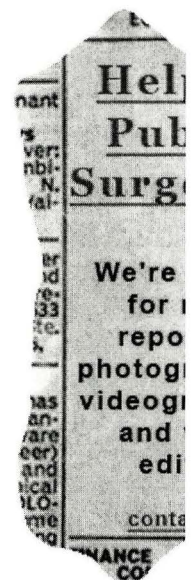
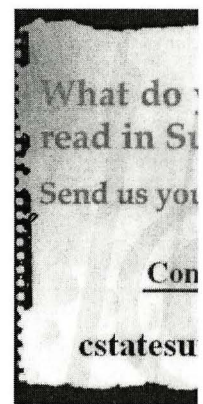
Commencement - 7:00 PM - US Bank Arena

28 - (Monday)

First day of Summer Term classes begins

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