



COLLEGE READING SKILLS PROGRAM

A TRIO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Director's Message

As we prepare to close out the year, we reflect on a year that was full of changes and many successes. Thank you to all the campus staff that assisted with the quarterly workshops and professional mentor meetings. We look forward to planning another year of events with you. We have a few announcements to include in this last newsletter of the academic year.

CRSP Advisor, Cynthia Greco, her husband, Martin, and their daughter, Gwenie, welcomed Sophia Isabella on March 14th. Thank you to Martha Gallo for the wonderful job she did stepping in during Cindy's absence. The CRSP family also welcomed tutor, Reina Villanueva's son, Michael, who was born on April 19th.

CRSP participant, Joy Chang, was the recipient of the annual Dawn Van Bruggen Scholarship offered through the LRC. Joy was recognized at a luncheon at Kellogg West on June 16th and received \$250.

CRSP and ARCHES have jointly arranged to take several students to attend an off-campus cultural event at the Pantages Theatre in Hollywood on June 23rd. Students and staff will board a bus and have dinner at the Vermont Restaurant prior to the show, *In the Heights*. Neither program has ever planned such an event. The goal is to expose students to an event that they might otherwise not experience and to build a stronger connection with program participants.

The CRSP office has relocated to the Writing Center (room 2919, next to the LRC). CRSP is a ten-month program with the office closed July and August. Staff will return on September 1st.

See you all in the fall!

Graduate Recognition Luncheon

For the 2nd year in what is now officially an annual event, CRSP hosted the Graduate Recognition Luncheon on May 27th. Any graduating student who has participated with CRSP was invited to attend the luncheon and be recognized for their achievement. Each honoree received a certificate from the program and shared a few words with the audience. Dr. Allison Douglas Chicoye, Director of Academic Support and Learning Services, gave welcoming remarks.

Professional Mentor Meeting

On May 4th, CRSP held its quarterly Professional Mentor Meeting in the Ursa Minor room of the Bronco Student Center. The featured speaker was Dr. Nicole Ruzek of the Counseling and Psychological Services center (CAPS). Dr. Ruzek spoke engagingly on the critical topic of stress. She discussed the physical, emotional, and behavioral symptoms of stress, as well as its causes and ways to manage it. Per a CRSP participant's suggestion, she also touched on substance abuse and dependence. Evaluations of the program show that students found the presentation interesting and relevant.

Book Club Corner

In the fall quarter, the Book Club discussed *Siddhartha* by Herman Hesse. This quarter, the club considered another restless sojourner. *Into the Wild*, by Jon Krakauer, ponders the short life of Christopher McCandless, whose decision to isolate himself for a summer in the Alaskan bush proved fatal. Both McCandless' choices and Krakauer's ruminations on them generated enjoyable discussion amongst attendees. The Book Club will reconvene in fall; in the meantime, the next book will be chosen. If you are interested in joining the Book Club or want more information, please feel free to contact us.

**College Reading
Skills Program**
In the LRC
Library Rm. 2919

STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

RACHEL DOMINGUEZ
869.4349
RPDOMINGUEZ

DIRECTOR

LAURA AYON
869.6897
LEMUNOZ

PROGRAM ADVISORS

CYNTHIA GRECO
869.4347
CSGRECO

ROBERT MATRANGA
869.4802
RMATRANGA

www.csupomona.edu/~lrc/crsp

PEER TUTORS/MENTORS

YESU BAYMUS
RICHIE CLEMENTE
EDWIN GUERRA
SCOTT KELLUM
VANESSA MEDINA-REYNAGA
DANIA MOBIN
RAYMOND NG
SAMANTHA VALDOVINOS
REINA VILLANUEVA
LISA YOUNG
MICHAEL ZHOU

PROGRAM HOURS

MON-THURS 8:00-5:00

FRI 8:30-4:00

*TUTORING MON-THURS ONLY

GRE Workshop

Many CRSP participants are juniors and seniors who are preparing to take the GRE or other graduate entrance exams. On May 20th, CRSP held a brief workshop on the GRE. Attendees were given an overview of the test and its structure, application procedures, and scoring. The question types of the verbal section were discussed in greater detail, and general GRE test-taking tips were shared along with some specific strategies for approaching the various question types. Several of the attendees planned to take the GRE soon; others noted that this was their first knowledge of the test and appreciated learning about it.

Tutor Spotlight: Dania Mobin

The spring quarter 2010 featured CRSP peer tutor/mentor is Dania Mobin, who first joined the program as a participant in fall 2005. She was hired as a tutor/mentor in March of 2009. When asked what she likes most about working with CRSP, she writes, "I like that the program gives me a chance to help my peers and that I can learn with my students while I help them achieve their reading goals. The work environment is really friendly and welcoming."

Dania majors in Urban and Regional Planning and is graduating this quarter. Regarding her major, Dania notes, "I like my major because it covers a variety of topics and does not bind me to one area. Also, CPP is one of the best schools in Southern California for URP."

Commenting on her opinion of Cal Poly in general, she writes, "I love CPP's campus because it is compact enough to be able to walk around, unlike other campuses, yet it provides all the services and resources for students [that one would find at a larger campus.]" Dania has gotten very involved in CPP campus life, including being a member of the Indian and Pakistani Student Associations throughout her 5 years here. She was honored as the PSA's Member of the Year this year. Counting involvement in Midnight Madness, BroncoFusion, and



Dania Mobin, CRSP Tutor/Mentor

the American Planning Students Association, as well as attending events hosted by many of the cultural centers, Dania has really made the most of what Cal Poly has to offer outside of diplomas.

About her plans after graduation, she waxes optimistic, "In the current economy, it is hard for everyone to look for a job but I believe that times will change soon. I will be looking for a job with a planning agency locally, but I ultimately want to be an international planner and work towards sustainability in third world countries."

Dania does not have a favorite type of amphibian. In fact, she "doesn't really like them because you can't hide from them, they're slimy, and they have sudden movements."

CRSP has truly appreciated Dania's contributions the program.