

THE ADULT LEARNER CONNECTION

Summer, 2007

Columbus State Community
College

Volume 27

Inside this issue:

Second Time Around	1-2
Jazz in July	2
Summer Quarter Important	3
LEADing the Way—ODU	4-5
Laptop Lending	6
Helpful Websites	7

The Second Time Around: What if I'm the Oldest One in My Class?

Reprinted from The Cougar News, April 4, 2007

By Jenny McCutcheon, Columnist

I don't know about you, but I welcomed the sun's glorious warmth that came a bit earlier this spring. As I chased my two and a half year old passed the partially opened tulips in my flowerbeds, I felt a wave of panic wash over me as I realized the first day of spring quarter was only one day away. Like many adult students I thought, "What if I'm the oldest one in my class?"

The morning of my first microeconomics class I experienced the usual butterflies as I arrived at the Dublin campus almost 30 minutes early. I peeked into the classroom and saw that it was—of course—empty and dark.

I set down my coffee mug and bottled water in the front row and then proceeded to walk around the building once before retuning to my classroom. Finally, other students began shuffling in.

When the instructor arrived I took a quick glance around the room and saw that I was one of the two oldest students in the class. Relieved not to be the only student over the age of twenty-one, I relaxed in my chair and anxiously awaited the knowledge and wisdom my professor had to share.

Why do adult students care about being the oldest in the class? For me, the reality is that I will probably be seen by some of the younger students as a "teachers-pet." I'm that student in the front-row answering questions and fervently taking notes.

I do this because I've already spent a number of years in the workforce and can fully appreciate the opportunities and monetary rewards that accompany a college education. I've hired and trained college graduates that made 25% more than me within six months because of the diploma they held. Going to college isn't something I *have* to do—it's something I *want* to do.

(Continued on Page 2)



"If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude."

--Maya Angelou

While being an older college student has its advantages—such as not having to worry about getting through a class while hung-over—there are a number of challenges to face as well. Many of us have kids, work, significant others, and homes to maintain along with other responsibilities.

As I drove home from that first spring quarter class, I thought about how different I am now compared to when I started (and dropped out of) college ten years ago. Gratitude consumed me as I recognized what a perfect time in my life this is to finish my degree. Not only am I more eager to learn the material my courses entail, but I am able to do so with the added life experience that has provided me with proof that a college education opens more doors.

If you would like to offer comments or suggestions for future columns, please email me at jenny.mccutcheon@cougarnews.net.

Jazz in July



Tuesday, July 19th, 11:30am —1:30 p.m.

Outside on the Commons

Food and Entertainment

Join in the Fun!!

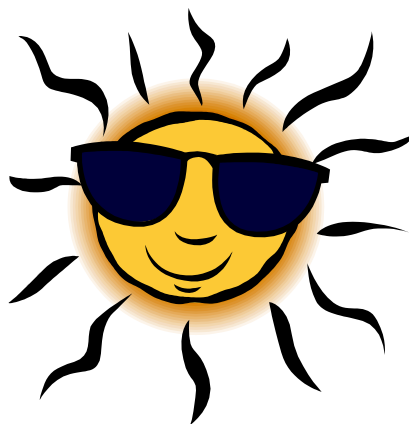
Sponsored by Student Activities and Athletics

For More Information, call 287-2637

SUMMER QUARTER IMPORTANT DATES

June 25- September 8, 2007

Registration begins..... April 23
Last Day to Register and Pay Fees for Summer.....June 20
Full Quarter Classes Begin.....June 25
Independence Day—Campus Closed.....July 4
Deadline to Apply for FAFSA for Autumn Quarter..July 23
Registration Begins for Autumn Quarter.....July 23
Petitions to Graduate Autumn, 2007
 due in Records & Registration.....August 3
Last day to drop full quarter classes.....August 27
Labor Day—Campus Closed.....September 3
Graduation CeremonySeptember 7
Summer Quarter 2007 Ends.....September 8



“LEADing” the Way to Your Future: Ohio Dominican University Welcomes Adult Students

**By Mary Higginbotham, M.A., Academic Advisor,
Advising and Counseling Services**

Are you an adult student who is uncertain about taking classes with younger, traditional-age students? Are you looking for a degree in Business Administration or Management? Are you looking for a program that will work around a full-time, first-shift work schedule and still allow you to complete your bachelor’s degree?

If so, then you may be interested in finding out more about Ohio Dominican University’s LEAD program.

Founded in 1995, the program celebrates its twelfth year of operation this year, and offers Bachelor of Science degrees in Business Administration and in Management to students age 21 and older, who have been out of high school for at least two to three years, and who have at least two to three years of professional work experience.

In addition to the bachelor’s degrees mentioned above, the LEAD program also offers an Associate of Science degree in Business, and two graduate-level degrees: a Master of Business Administration (MBA) and a Master of Science in Management (MSM). The program is classroom-based only; no online degrees are available through the LEAD program.

LEAD is designed for flexibility and applicability for working adult students. Courses are offered one weekday evening per week, and are taught on an “immersion” basis. This means that students take one course at a time, on an accelerated basis, and do not move on to the next course in their degrees until the current course is finished. Courses take approximately six weeks to complete on this schedule, and enrollment in the program is continuous. Faculty members are business professionals with experience in the field.

Courses are offered at three locations around Columbus, including Ohio Dominican University’s main campus on Sunbury Road, their campus located at Easton, and their campus located in Dublin, near Tuttle Crossing. They also have a Dayton campus for students who are interested in completing their degrees in the Dayton area.

The program is open to students with no previous college experience, but transfer students are welcomed, and LEAD Director of Business Development Preston Stapleton indicated that many LEAD students have completed courses at Columbus State prior to enrolling at Ohio Dominican.

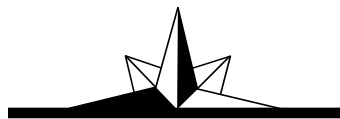
Financial aid is available for students enrolled in the LEAD program, including loans, grants, the GI bill, and tuition reimbursement programs, where applicable. There is a 25% tuition discount for military personnel and their spouses.

Networking is another benefit of enrollment in the LEAD program. According to Stapleton, students who enroll in the program tend to stay with the same group of students throughout their enrollment at ODU, so they get to know each other and support each other through the learning process and with career opportunities that may follow. Faculty are also an integral part of networking opportunities for LEAD students.

The LEAD program has an ongoing admission policy, and new classes are forming regularly. Admission is not competitive, although there are admissions guidelines that would determine a student's eligibility to join the program. According to Stapleton, completing an associate's degree can be a strong recommendation for a student interested in the bachelor's programs, as it shows that the student can successfully complete college coursework and can achieve goals.

Stapleton advises students interested in the LEAD program to contact an enrollment counselor early, to get a better idea of what options might be available to them through the LEAD program. He also recommends talking with enrollment counselors regarding transferability and applicability of courses from Columbus State or other institutions.

Enrollment counselors are available Monday through Thursday, from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., and on Fridays from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Interested students should call 614-337-8370 to set up an appointment to meet with a counselor. Information about the program is also available at <https://www.ohiodominican.edu/lead>.



*“The future belongs to
those who believe in the
beauty of their dreams.”*

-Eleanor Roosevelt

Laptop Lending program at the ERC began Spring Quarter

Reprinted Courtesy of The Columbus State Update



A new program at the Educational Resources Center (ERC) is making laptops available to borrow for in-ERC use only. Students may come to the Circulation Desk on level 1 of Columbus Hall and borrow a laptop computer with wireless access for three-hour periods.

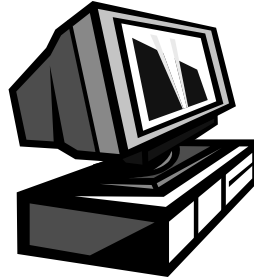
The following borrowing limits and availability guidelines apply:

- Laptops can only be checked out by currently enrolled Columbus State students with a valid Cougar ID card.
- Laptops will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. They cannot be reserved ahead of time.
- Students may only check out one laptop at a time.
- Checkout is for up to three hours. They can be renewed at the Circulation Desk if no one is waiting.
- Laptops will not be checked out when there is less than one hour before the ERC closes.
- Laptops must be returned in person to the Circulation Desk no later than 30 minutes prior to ERC closing. Please do not place laptops in the book drop.
- If students have fines on their ERC account, they will not be allowed to check out a laptop.

Upon checkout, students will be required to sign an agreement of understanding regarding these and other guidelines for the use of laptops.

ERC Director **Bruce Massis** says, "We believe this service to be a significant development in the manner by which students use the ERC. In our student survey, administered last spring, many students indicated this to be a necessary additional service provided by the ERC. We are pleased to respond by implementing it."

HELPFUL WEBSITES



<http://www.actionforchildren.org> - Resources for choosing childcare, including on-line data base.

<http://www.adultstudentcenter.com> – resource for information and guidance on returning to college.

<http://www.antshe.org> – Association of Non-Traditional Students in Higher Education.

<http://back2college.com> - Resources for adults returning to college, including a newsletter and on-line discussions.

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov> - Internet access for filing FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

<http://www.how-to-study.com/> - A study skills resource guide.

<http://www.mathforum.org> - Math resources by subject including arithmetic through advanced math.

<http://www.momsrefuge.com/juggling/index.html> - Working Mom's Refuge – The Art of Juggling.

<http://www.olin.org> - The Ohio Learning Network. A consortium of Ohio colleges and universities offering distance learning courses including OhioLEARNS, an online catalog of courses offered at a distance by Ohio colleges/universities.

<http://www.utexas.edu/student/utlc/lrnres/handouts/862.html>—How to Study Math and Science, including previewing, note taking, problem solving and test taking.

COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

"One of the many things nobody ever tells you about middle age is that it is such a nice change from being young."

-Dorothy Canfield Fisher

The **Adult Learner Connection** is a creation of Advising and Counseling Services / Laura Huston-Hoburg, Counselor at Columbus State Community College. For more information please call 287-5023, or stop by Aquinas Hall, Room 116.