

February 1, 2012:
Number 621

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College, community live the dream, celebrate Dr. King

Collin College hosted its annual Power Breakfast and Unity Walk in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday Jan. 14.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Campus Dates

Oh man. Our calendar cup runneth over.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



African American History Month events continue

The celebration rolls on.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Between The Lines

African American History Month events, helpful workshops and seminars hosted by Counseling Services, academic advising tips, financial aid tips, February transfer fairs, and the Destination College and Transfer Programs Pre-admission Partner Workshop.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Speaker Series welcomes local composer

Local composer with world renown coming to Collin College.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

College News

Students, faculty and staff remain busy.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Four steps to working a career fair

The Collin College Job Fair is coming soon. Find out how to be awesome.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Call for papers up for research conference

Deadline set for Feb. 15.

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About *Cougar News*

A newsletter for the students, faculty and staff of the Collin College. Published semi-monthly. For information or submissions, call 972.599.3142. *Cougar News* welcomes student and faculty submissions. Next deadline: Feb. 15. All submissions are due by 5 p.m. on the due date. Photos cannot be returned. Text should be e-mailed to mrobinson@collin.edu. Submit copy that is proofed, edited and saved in Word format. *Cougar News* staff: *Lisa Vasquez*, associate vice president; *Mark Robinson*, editor-in-chief; *Marcy Cadena-Smith*, director; *Justin Jones*, contributor; *Heather Darrow*, contributor; *Nick Young*, photography and layout.



Cougar Sports Corner

Hear that rumble? That's Collin College b-ball dominating.

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Cougar Links

It's a veritable grab bag of Internet goodness.

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Published by Collin County Community College District Collin College

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College, community live the dream, celebrate Dr. King

Members of the community honored the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Jan. 14 with reflection and service.

The annual Power Breakfast and Power Walk, sponsored by Collin College and the city of Plano, featured moments of unity and remembrance from local leaders and community members. Students Jordan Aquila, of McKinney, and Cameron Woolley, of Plano, were named the 2012 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Scholarship winners.

Also, volunteers took the afternoon to help construct a home for a family in need with Habitat for Humanity.

Collin College was awarded a \$3,000 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service grant from the Missouri Campus Compact.

To view or download photos from the Unity Walk, visit www.collin.edu/webgalleries/MLKunitywalk2012/. To view or download photos from the Power Breakfast, visit www.collin.edu/webgalleries/MLKbreakfast2012/.

MLK Power Breakfast



State Senator Florence Shapiro speaks at the Power Breakfast.

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A number of Collin College students performed at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Power Breakfast Jan. 14.



MLK Unity Walk



Following the Power Breakfast, members of the college and community led a Unity Walk starting at the Parker Road DART station in Plano.



Collin the Cougar and District President Cary Israel step into it.



This is what Collin the Cougar "likes about Texas" during the Unity Walk.



Collin College's student organizations get into the Unity Walk.



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Campus Dates

Rock The Vote!

11 a.m.-1 p.m. – Wednesday, Feb. 1

Spring Creek Campus atrium

Register to vote. Free and open to the public.

Contact: www.collin.edu/academics/csce, csce@collin.edu

The Help

(African American History Month)

6:30 p.m. – Wednesday, Feb. 1

Living Legends Conference Center, Spring Creek Campus

A screening of the acclaimed film *The Help*, which will be followed by a panel discussion.

Contact: Professor Cathy Whitney at cwhitney@collin.edu

Cougars at Weatherford

Lady Cougars vs. Weatherford

5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m. - Wednesday, Feb. 1 - Weatherford

Rock The Vote!

11 a.m.-1 p.m. – Thursday, Feb. 2

Central Park Campus atrium

Register to vote. Free and open to the public.

Contact: www.collin.edu/academics/csce, csce@collin.edu

“Music Revue” (African American History Month)

7 p.m. – Friday, Feb. 3 – Preston Ridge Campus Conference Center

“Music Revue” presented by the Greater Frisco Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

Contact: Professor Cathy Whitney at cwhitney@collin.edu

Cougars at Ranger College

Lady Cougars at Ranger College

2 p.m./4 p.m. - Saturday, Feb. 4 - Ranger

Pleasantville

7 p.m. - Tuesday, Feb. 7

Living Legends Conference Center

Free and open to the public. Screening of Pleasantville. Runs 124 minutes.

Contact: www.collin.edu/academics/csce/auteurfilmseries.html

Surgical Technology Information Session

6:30-7:30 p.m. - Tuesday, Feb. 7

Central Park Campus Conference Center

Receive program packets, and learn about admissions, expectations, career options, salary and more.

Contact: www.collin.edu/surgtech/

Transfer Fair

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10 a.m.-2 p.m. – Wednesday, Feb.8

Central Park Campus atrium

Meet with university representatives. Bring a transcript. Learn about financial aid, transfer, pre-admission programs and more.

Contact: <http://transferu.collin.edu/transferfairs.html>

Polysomnography Information Session

6:30-8 p.m. - Wednesday, Feb. 8

Preston Ridge Campus, Room L245

Receive program packets, and learn about admissions, expectations, career options, salary and more.

Contact: www.collin.edu/sleep

The Help

(African American History Month)

2:30 p.m. – Wednesday, Feb. 8 – *Preston Ridge Campus Conference Center*

A screening of the acclaimed film *The Help*, which will be followed by a panel discussion.

Contact: Professor Cathy Whitney at cwhitney@collin.edu

Blood Drive

9 a.m.-4 p.m. – Wednesday, Feb. 8

Central Park Campus Conference Center – Preston Ridge Campus Shawnee Room – Living Legends Conference Center

Give blood. Get a cholesterol screening. And a free T-shirt.

Blood Drive

9 a.m.-4 p.m. – Thursday, Feb. 9

Living Legends Conference Center

Give blood. Get a cholesterol screening. And a free T-shirt.

Cougars at Hill College

Lady Cougars at Hill College

2 p.m./4 p.m. -- Saturday, Feb. 11 -- *Hillsboro*

Don't Hate Week

Monday, Feb. 13-Friday, Feb. 17

Central Park Campus

Join Active Minds in Don't Hate Week, an anti-bullying initiative with a series of events throughout the week. Email activeminds@collin.edu for a full list of events.

Respiratory Care Information Session

Noon-1:30 p.m. - Tuesday, Feb. 14

Spring Creek Campus, Room BB122

Receive program packets, and learn about admissions, expectations, career options, salary and more.

Contact: www.collin.edu/rcp/

Cougars vs. Southwestern Christian College

Lady Cougars vs. Southwestern Christian College

5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m. -- Wednesday, Feb. 15 -- *Spring Creek Campus*

Cooking In Other Women's Kitchen's: Domestic Workers in the South, 1865-1960

(African American History Month)

11 a.m.-noon and noon-12:45 p.m. – Monday, Feb. 21 –
Living Legends Conference Center

Rebecca Sharpless, professor of history at TCU and author of *Cooking In Other Women's Kitchens*, will present about her book and host a question-and-answer session afterward.

Contact: Professor Cathy Whitney at cwhitney@collin.edu

Polysomnography Information Session

6:30-8 p.m. - Tuesday, Feb. 21

Spring Creek Campus, Living Legends Conference Center

Receive program packets, and learn about admissions, expectations, career options, salary and more.

Contact: www.collin.edu/sleep

Transfer Fair

10 a.m.-2 p.m. – Wednesday, Feb. 22

Preston Ridge Campus Founders Hall

Meet with university representatives. Bring a transcript. Learn about financial aid, transfer, pre-admission programs and more.

Contact: <http://transferu.collin.edu/transferfairs.html>

Color Adjustment

2:30 p.m. - Monday, Feb. 27

Central Park Campus Conference Center

Free and open to the public. Screening of the documentary *Color Adjustment*, which scrutinizes America's racial consciousness through the performances of black actors in major network programming.

Contact: www.collin.edu/academics/csce/auteurfilmseries.html

Respiratory Care Information Session

6-7:30 p.m. - Monday, Feb. 27

Spring Creek Campus, Room BB118

Receive program packets, and learn about admissions, expectations, career options, salary and more.

Contact: www.collin.edu/rcp

Hairspray

8 p.m. - March 1-3 and 7-10; 2:15 p.m. - March 4 and 10-11

John Anthony Theatre, Spring Creek Campus

An adaptation of John Waters' cult classic pop musical about a teen in the 1960s with the need to dance. Directed by Brad Baker and Mark Mullino. Choreographed by Paul Morelan. General admission is \$15 and \$10 for students and senior citizens.

Contact: www.collintheatrecenter.com

Transfer Fair

10 a.m.-2 p.m. – Thursday, March 8

Spring Creek Campus atrium

Meet with university representatives. Bring a transcript. Learn about financial aid, transfer, pre-admission programs and more.

Contact: <http://transferu.collin.edu/transferfairs.html>

Being There

7 p.m. - Wednesday, March 21

Living Legends Conference Center, Spring Creek Campus

Screening of the Hal Ashby classic from 1979 starring Peter



Sellers. Supporting the Auteur Film Series of TV in film.

Contact: www.collin.edu/academics/csce/auteurfilmseries.html

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African American History Month events continue

Collin College is continuing its celebration of African American History Month throughout February.

This year's theme is "African American Women of the Past and the Present," focusing on the impact of African American women in history, culture, pop culture and more.

All events are free and open to the public.

The rest of this year's African American History Month at Collin College includes:

- **For Colored Girls**

6:30 p.m. – Wednesday, Feb. 15 – Living Legends Conference Center

A screening of Tyler Perry's adaptation of the Obie-winning stage play by Ntozake Shange, constructed as a series of poetic vignettes that collectively explore the lives of modern African American women.

- **"Celebration of African American Women in the Arts"**

2:30 p.m. -- Thursday, Feb. 16 – Preston Ridge Campus Conference Center

- **Soul Food Luncheon**

Noon – Friday, Feb. 17 – Central Park Campus Conference Center

The annual event changes venue to the Central Park Campus and will feature the work of the Collin College Institute for Hospitality and Culinary Education.

- **"Women's Forum: Historical and Contemporary View of African American Women"**

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (12:30-1:30 p.m. lunch) – Thursday, Feb. 23 – Living Legends Conference Center

- **Color Adjustment**

2:30 p.m. – Monday, Feb. 27 – Central Park Campus Conference Center

A screening of the documentary *Color Adjustment* from the Auteur Film Series. The 1992 film traces the evolution of the black image in television.

- **A Day In The Life Of ...**

1-3 p.m. – Wednesday, Feb. 29 – Preston Ridge Campus Conference Center

For more information, email Cathy Whitney, professor of biology, at cwhitney@collin.edu or Donna Okaro at

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dokaro@collin.edu.

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Between The Lines

We hope your semester is going well. Early in the semester is a great time to introduce yourself to your professor during office hours. Successful students build relationships with faculty and advisers as well as other students.

Academic Advising

February is a great month to come in and get your in-depth advising and degree planning done. As always, it is never too early to start planning for the next semester.

Counseling Services

Personal and Career Counseling is available free of charge by appointment on all campuses for students enrolled at Collin College.

New Counseling website:

www.collin.edu/studentresources/counseling/index.html.

Also see your CougarWeb Healthy Mind and Body channel inside the Campus Life tab.

Personal Counseling

Spring Creek, Preston Ridge and Central Park campuses:
Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m

Contact Counseling Services at 972.881.5126 or personalcounseling@collin.edu to schedule an appointment.

Career Counseling

Spring Creek Campus

Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Preston Ridge Campus

Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Wednesday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Central Park Campus

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Contact Career Services at 972.881.5781 or career@collin.edu to schedule an appointment.

College Readiness Workshops, Central Park Campus, Center for Academic Assistance A104

- March 28, noon-1 p.m. "How can reading my

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textbook help me take better notes?"

- April 3, 1-2 p.m. "My time keeps slipping away. Where did it go?"
- April 12, 1-2 p.m. "I study, but I can't remember on test day!"
- April 18, noon-1 p.m. "I get stuck trying to decide what to do!"
- April 24, 1-2 p.m. "I'm so stressed out. How can I manage?"

Personal Enrichment Seminars, Preston Ridge Campus, J Building Room 228

- Feb. 7, noon-1 p.m. "Time Management and Study Strategies"
- March 22, noon-1 p.m. "Steps to Increasing and Projecting Your Confidence"
- Feb. 22, noon-1 p.m. "Tips for Using your Emotions Successfully"
- April 3, noon-1 p.m. "Managing Stress"

Emotional Wellness Seminars, Spring Creek Campus, G212

- Feb. 15, noon-1 p.m. "The Relate in Relationships"
- Feb. 28, noon-1 p.m. "Depression 101-Is it the winter blues or more?"
- March 13, noon-1 p.m. "Preparing to party-Spring Break"
- March 28, noon-1 p.m. "How to stop worrying-Learning to cope"
- April 11, 12-1 p.m. "When love becomes dangerous-Don't let it happen to you"
- April 28, noon-1 p.m. "From college to career, Ready, set, go!"

Did you know?

One in three college students report dating violence by a previous partner?

This spring, Collin College students have the opportunity to be part of the solution to end the cycle of violence. Students are invited to participate in the Be Project's eight-week non-violence leadership group, sponsored by Counseling Services. Students will gain the tools they need to become advocates for the prevention of dating violence and sexual assault, learn how to build healthy relationships and help a friend in need.

Holly Collier will be visiting campus over the next few weeks in hopes of recruiting students to begin a group in February. She is available to visit classes to promote the Be Project for five-10 minutes. The Be Project, as a program of The Family Place, is also a great opportunity for students to earn service learning credits on campus.

Call or email Collier at htcollier@familyplace.org or 972.827.7572 to schedule a class visit or to discuss service learning opportunities.

Financial Aid

It is not too late to file for financial aid for 2011-12. Do not let finances stand in your way of pursuing your education.

It is also time to complete the FAFSA for the 2012-13 year. Log onto www.fafsa.ed.gov to get started. Call us if you have questions at 972.881.5760.

African American History Month

This year's theme is "African American Women of the Past and the Present," focusing on the impact of African American women in history, culture, pop culture and more. All events are free and open to the public.

African American History Month events at Collin College include:

The Help

6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 1 - Living Legends Conference Center

A screening of the acclaimed film *The Help*, which will be followed by a panel discussion.

"Music Revue"

7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 3 – Preston Ridge Campus Conference Center

"Music Revue" co-presented by the Greater Frisco Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. This event will highlight African American contributions to music, politics and entertainment. Register by Jan. 31 at <http://bhm2012.eventbrite.com>.

The Help

2:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 8 – Preston Ridge Campus Conference Center

A screening of the acclaimed film *The Help*, which will be followed by a panel discussion.

Cooking In Other Women's Kitchen's: Domestic Workers in the South, 1865-1960

11 a.m.-noon and noon-12:45 p.m., Friday, Feb. 10, Living Legends Conference Center

Rebecca Sharpless, professor of history at TCU and author of *Cooking In Other Women's Kitchens*, will present about her book and host a question-and-answer session afterward.

For Colored Girls

6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 15 - Living Legends Conference Center

A screening of Tyler Perry's adaptation of the Obie-winning stage play by Ntozake Shange, constructed as a series of poetic vignettes that collectively explore the lives of modern African American women

“Celebration of African American Women in the Arts”

2:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 16 – Preston Ridge Campus Conference Center

A series of presentations spotlighting African American women in art, music, dance and literature.

Soul Food Luncheon

Noon, Friday, Feb. 17 – Central Park Campus Conference Center

The annual event changes venue to the Central Park Campus and will feature the work of the Collin College Institute for Hospitality and Culinary Education.

“Women’s Forum: Historical and Contemporary View of African American Women”

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (12:30-1:30 p.m. lunch), Thursday, Feb. 23, Living Legends Conference Center

Color Adjustment

2:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 27 – Central Park Campus Conference Center

A screening of the documentary Color Adjustment from the Auteur Film Series. The 1992 film traces the evolution of the black image in television.

A Day in The Life Of. . .

1-3 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 29, Preston Ridge Campus Conference Center

A presentation by Dominique Revue Productions showcasing the eras of broadcast radio, supper clubs and stage shows based on the nostalgia of the Harlem Renaissance.

For more information, email Cathy Whitney, professor of biology, at cwhitney@collin.edu or Donna Okaro at dokaro@collin.edu.

10th Annual Student Organization Reception

Student Life is sponsoring the second annual Centerpiece and Décor Competition contest for the Student Organization Awards Reception.

The winning student will receive a contract to complete the Student Organization Centerpieces for the Awards Reception on May 4, 2012.

Applications are also available at www.collin.edu/campuslife/studentlife/. The deadline for applications is Friday, February 24.

Transfer Programs

Collin College Pre-Admission Partners Workshop

If college or university is on the horizon for you, consider taking advantage of Collin College’s unique Pre-admission Partnership Program.

Applying for pre-admission to any one of Collin College’s

10 partner colleges and universities allows students to connect early with the college/university as they complete the first two years of their bachelor's degree at Collin College. Students are guaranteed admission to the partner university when admission requirements are met.

These special partnerships provide Collin College students benefits that may include guaranteed tuition, access to college and university events, faculty advising, university/college email accounts, and bookstore discounts.

- 6-6:30 p.m. College/University Information Browsing Tables
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. Introductions and College/University Breakout Sessions
- Tuesday, March 6, 2012, Living Legends Conference Center

Representatives from each partner university will provide information about pre-admission program benefits, the application process, financial aid and scholarships, and ways to prepare for college. Parents, current and prospective students are encouraged to attend. Seating is limited.

Register online at www.collin.edu/destinationcollege by Wednesday, Feb. 29. Registration for this event opens Wednesday, Feb. 8. For more information, call 972.377.1772.

For more information about Collin College's pre-admission partners, contact the Transfer Programs Office at 972.985.3734 or visit <http://transferu.collin.edu/ub.html>.

Events and Important Dates

Wednesday, Feb 8 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. College Transfer Fair at Central Park Campus atrium

Wednesday, Feb. 22 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. College Transfer Fair at Preston Ridge Campus Founders atrium

Friday, March 2 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Live Smart: Health and Safety Fair, Central Park Campus

Tuesday, March 6 from 6-8:30 p.m. Pre-admission Partnership Workshop

For the Collin College's calendar of events for February, check out this link:
<http://calendar.collin.edu/CalendarNow.aspx>?

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Speaker Series welcomes local composer

The Distinguished Speaker Series at Collin College will host one of the most renowned composers in the United States.

Dr. Robert Xavier Rodriguez will speak at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Spring Creek Campus Living Legends Conference Center, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano.

All Distinguished Speaker Series events are free and open to the public. His lecture will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

Dr. Rodriguez is currently a professor of music and director of the *Musica Nova* ensemble at The University of Texas at Dallas.

For more than five decades, Dr. Rodriguez has written some of the foremost music in a number of genres including opera, orchestral, concerto, ballet, vocal, choral, chamber and music for the theater.

His many pieces have been performed by more than 2,000 of some of the most distinguished groups around the world. This list includes the Vienna Schauspielhaus, The National Opera of Mexico, New York City Opera, Boston Repertory Theater, American Music Theater Festival (now Prince Music Theater), Dallas Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Pennsylvania Opera Theater, The Aspen Music Festival, The Juilliard Focus Series, The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Mexico City Philharmonic, Toronto Radio Orchestra, The Baltimore, Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, Knoxville, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, Boston and Chicago Symphonies, The Los Angeles Philharmonic, National Symphony and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

Visit www.collin.edu/academics/csce or call 972.881.5900 for more information.

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College News

The Committee on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs awarded full accreditation status to the **Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic** program.

The National Board of the Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting has awarded its annual **Merit Award** to Collin College for achieving a 92 percent graduate pass rate on the Certified Surgical Technologist examination for 2011.

Student **Jennifer Morgan Cooper** received a 2011 Sigma Kappa Delta Writing Award for her literary analysis, "Marlow's Struggle." The analysis was published in Volume VIII of the organization's literary journal, *2011 Hedera helix*. Sigma Kappa Delta is the national English honor society for two-year colleges.

Dr. Levi Bryant, professor of Philosophy, published "Wilderness Ontology" in *Preternatural* and "Of Parts and Politics" in *Identities: Journal for Politics, Culture, and Gender*.



Dr. Levi Bryant

Chi Gamma chapter of Sigma Kappa Delta was recognized as an "Ivy" chapter for 2010-11. Ivy chapters are those that fulfill requirements to remain in good standing with the national organization and are recognized for their outstanding performance.

Collin College was selected as a "**Top Military-Friendly College**" by Military Advanced Education, the publishers of the *2012 Guide to America's Top Military-Friendly Colleges & Universities*.

The men's basketball team, head coach Jim Sigona and the assistant coaches hosted a basketball clinic for 40 members of the **Big Brothers/Big Sisters Lone Star** Jan. 14 at the Spring Creek Campus. The players provided basketball instruction and talked about the importance of academics.

Keith Volanto, professor of history, published

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"The Life and Work of Dr. Beadie Eugene Conner: An African American Physician in Jim Crow Texas" in an edition of *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*.

More than 100 faculty and staff from 15 states across the country attended the **Winter Working Connections Conference and Workshop** in the new conference center at the Preston Ridge Campus Jan 7-10. The event was co-hosted by Collin's Convergence Technology Center and the National ICT Center based in Springfield, Massachusetts.

David Cullen, professor of history, published the following book reviews: "Seeking Inalienable Rights: Texans and Their Quest for Justice" in the *Journal of Agricultural History*; "The Dallas Myth: The Making and Unmaking of an American City" for the *Western Historical Quarterly*; and "Defending the Master Race: Conservation, Eugenics and the Legacy of Madison Grant" for the *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*.

An article in the Winter 2012 edition of *healthcaresimulationnews.com* features Collin College's **EMS program** and how it teaches interdisciplinary teams how to survive the "Golden Hour." The training focuses on saving lives beginning with the time the emergency incident begins and rolling into the operating room within an hour. Known as the "Golden Hour," it offers patients the best chance for survival.

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Four steps to working a career fair

The career fair provides you with an opportunity to connect with potential employers from a broad range of industries and can put you on the path to job opportunities – if you use your time wisely.

The career fair is a chance for recruiter and candidate to exchange information, gauge each other in terms of how well they match up and move to the next step.

You'll want to gather information that you can use when you apply or in an interview. You'll get the most out of the career fair if you have a plan of action. Follow these four steps.

Target Employers In Advance

Most career centers will have a list of organizations scheduled to take part in the fair. Get a copy and use it to identify organizations that interest you. Do some legwork on these: Check their websites and read their company literature. You don't have to be an expert, but you should know something about the organizations before you attend the fair.

Rank in order the organizations according to your interest so that you can visit those of most interest first.

Be Prepared

Your challenge is to convey to the recruiter – a short period of time – your interest and how you might be a possible match for the organization. Prepare a short script (two or three sentences) that you can use to introduce yourself. You want to include your name, year in school, major and area of interest. Tell the recruiter a little about your skills, qualifications and interests as they relate to the organization and its opportunities.

Also, although many employers won't take your resume at a career fair, you will want to prepare some copies just in case. Many organizations have altered their processes for tracking applications, and paper resumes don't work well with those processes. Now, many recruiters won't accept your resume at a career fair and, instead, may suggest you apply online. Don't be put off: Remember that you're at the fair to gather information you can use to help you succeed when you do apply.

Look Professional

The career fair is not an interview, but you should dress as if it were. Wear a conservative business suit, collared shirt or blouse, and "dress shoes." Observe proper grooming –

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clean, neat, pressed. In all of your interactions with potential employers, you want to put your best foot forward.

Work The Fair

To get maximum advantage from the fair, have a game plan:

- Arrive early. Focus on organizations that interest you the most.
- Behave professionally. Focus on the recruiter. Be polite. Be considerate of the recruiters and your fellow students. Wait for your turn to speak and don't interrupt.
- Don't monopolize the recruiter's time. By using your prepared script, you'll give the recruiter your most critical information and demonstrate your professionalism.
- Be positive and enthusiastic. Make eye contact. The recruiter also wants the chance to provide information about his or her organization, so listen as well as speak. This is a conversation, not a monologue.
- Ask the recruiter about next steps: How should you follow up? What are the next steps in the hiring process? Should you apply online? Will the company interview on campus? Is there an upcoming information session?
- Be sure to get the recruiter's business card.

Follow Up

Write a thank you note or email to every recruiter you spoke to at the career fair. Express your appreciation. Let the recruiter know the additional steps you've taken. Reiterate your interest in the organization and its opportunities.

This article appeared in the magazine Job Choices 2012 published by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). Go to www.jobchoicesonline.com for more information.

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Call for papers up for research conference

Students are free to submit papers for the third annual Collin College Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Student Research Conference.

The conference is set for Thursday-Friday, April 26-27 at the Spring Creek Campus.

Undergraduate students at two- or four-year institutions are free to submit research papers, manuscripts, reports, service learning research, scientific experiments or exploratory research.

Research chosen for the conference is based on scholarly work, defined justification, logical organization, mastery of subject and appropriate citation documentation.

Submit research by:

- Emailing to studentconference@collin.edu
- Delivering to the Spring Creek Campus Communication and Humanities office, B189, in care of Jenny Warren
- Mailing to 2800 Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, Texas 75074. Collin College Spring Creek Campus, Communication and Humanities office, B189, in care of Jenny Warren

Include a detachable cover page with the title, author's name, institutional affiliation, phone/fax number, email address and a brief one-paragraph abstract inclusive of a list of five or eight keywords.

Do not include any identifying information on the submission as the conference judges utilize a blind-review process.

All submissions must be received by Wednesday, Feb. 15.

Contact StudentConference@collin.edu or visit www.collin.edu/conference/studentresearch/.

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Cougar Sports Corner

Lady Cougars dives into conference play

The Lady Cougars are 12-9 overall and have started conference play on a good foot, going 3-2 in the early goings on.

Lady Cougars 72, Angelina College 69

Raveen Burton, Janell Beacham and Sam Offord scored 19, 18 and 17 points, respectively, in the overtime win. Offord added a stat-line filling seven rebounds and five assists. The Lady Cougars outscored Angelina College 9-6 in the extra frame.

Lady Cougars 68, Cisco College 65

The Lady Cougars snuck out a road conference win outscoring Cisco 43-38 in the second half, when they shot 47 percent from the field and held Cisco to 36 percent shooting. Taylor Jones scored 16 including three three-pointers and going 5-6 from the charity stripe. Overall, the Lady Cougars shot 34 free throws and made as many attempts as Cisco attempted (23).

Hill College 52, Lady Cougars 38

Only Zbeyda Aremi managed to get double-digit scoring (12) while pulling down 11 rebounds. The Lady Cougars shot 25 percent from the field and made just one attempt from behind the arc in their first conference loss.

Lady Cougars 59, McLennan County College 49

Sam Offord scored 17 and Lilia Inoubli scored 15 in the conference win. The Lady Cougars led McLennan by 11 at the half.

Temple College 49, Lady Cougars 42

Men Take It To The Limit, Win Streak Ends At 11

In late November, the Cougar men's basketball team lost two straight games. After that, the Cougars won 11 straight and 12 of 13.

The Cougars have ridden the streak to an overall record of 18-4. In conference, they are 3-1 with a pair of thrilling overtime wins over Hill College and Southwestern Christian College.

Cougars 79, Richland 66

The Cougars jumped to a 13-point lead at halftime and wound up putting another 41 on the board in the second

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half. Amos Wilson led the way with 17, Brent Okpoh had 14 and Darington Banks had 13. David Samuels posted a double-double with 14 points and 13 rebounds.

Cougars 99, El Centro 45

Collin College routed El Centro outscoring their opponent by 30 in the first half and another 24 in the second. Amos Wilson had a gigantic game going 15-20 from the field scoring 31. Darington Banks hit four three-pointers and filled the box score with 17 points, seven rebounds and five assists. Tyler Hysell scored 13 and grabbed nine boards.

Cougars 84, Hill College 79

The Cougars won their first conference game at home, but it took an extra period to sort things out. Darington Banks led the Cougars with five three-pointers and 24 points. Hondo Webb, a highly touted freshman out of Melissa, scored 18. David Samuels posted a double-double with 16 points and 13 rebounds.

Cougars 69, Southwestern Christian College 66

It took a pair of overtimes for Collin College to dispatch their second conference foe led by Amos Wilson and his 28 points. Darington Banks and David Samuels scored 13 and 11, respectively.

McLennan 51, Cougars 40

Cougars 80, Temple College 67

Upcoming games:

All home games are played at the Spring Creek Campus and are free to students, staff and faculty.

Cougars at Weatherford

Lady Cougars vs. Weatherford

5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m. - Wednesday, Feb. 1 - Weatherford

Cougars at Ranger College

Lady Cougars at Ranger College

2 p.m./4 p.m. - Saturday, Feb. 4 - Ranger

Cougars at Hill College

Lady Cougars at Hill College

2 p.m./4 p.m. -- Saturday, Feb. 11 -- Hillsboro

Cougars vs. Southwestern Christian College

Lady Cougars vs. Southwestern Christian College

5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m. -- Wednesday, Feb. 15 -- Spring Creek Campus

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As always, money.

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