



Cougar News

STUDENT, FACULTY, & STAFF NEWSPAPER

August 1, 2012:
Number 633

College Links

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Unique program: Weekend College

Knock out the core on the weekend.

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



Campus Dates

Fall is creeping. Get your ducks in a row. Whatever that means.



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

Fall registration keeps rolling

Semester starts Monday, Aug. 27.

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

College News

Alumni back in the limelight, publications and more.



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

Q&A: Rose Award Finalists

Another two fine staff members and their stories.

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Cougar Links

The Olympics, awesome tips, a strong man and a the symphony.



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

All College Council announces items for silent auction

Place your bid at All College Day.

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

About *Cougar News*

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Published by Collin County Community College District Collin College

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Unique program: Weekend College

Fall registration for all students is ongoing through the first day of class. Now is the time to start thinking about your schedule and what classes to take.

It's also an opportunity to discover the unique programs at Collin College. Throughout the summer, we will highlight some of these programs for your consideration.

Weekend College

What is Weekend College?

Weekend College is an alternative to the traditional course schedule with the intent to provide students who are less able to attend college during a traditional time frame. Weekend College students have the opportunity to complete the core curriculum of the associate of arts, associate of science or the associate of arts in teaching degrees.

These degrees are offered with a variety of scheduling options on Friday evenings, Saturday mornings, Saturday afternoons, Sunday afternoons or any combination without interrupting the work week.

Requirements

Weekend College is subject to the same admissions requirements as any other offering at Collin College. Check course listings and requirements [here](#).

Benefits

Weekend College students frequently include evening and distance education courses to enhance the flexibility and complete degrees quicker. Course content matches the college's weekday offerings and students are held to the same performance standards. Build your class schedule around ... your life schedule.

Core and non-core classes are offered in:

- Standard weekend format (16 weeks)
- Weekend Express Block (three weekends)
- Weekend Extended Block (seven or eight weekends)
- Self-Paced Flex-Entry

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- Blended or Hybrid Courses (with weekend meeting times)

Contact

www.collin.edu/academics/weekendcollege

972.881.5801

weekendcollege@collin.edu

Past Programs

[Student Leadership Academy](#)

[Honors Institute](#)

[Learning Communities](#)

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Campus Dates

Fall Registration

Ongoing

Registration at Collin College is done through CougarWeb. Students can find a log-in button to CougarWeb at the college's website or go directly to <http://cougarweb.collin.edu>. Then go to the "Registration Tools" channel on the home tab. For help logging into the portal, call the Student Help Desk at 972.377.1777. A username and password are required in order to register online.

Contact: www.collin.edu/gettingstarted/register/.

Photography Scholarship Show

Through Wednesday, Aug. 1

The Arts Gallery, Spring Creek Campus

The show will feature the photography of scholarship winners Alanne Flowers, Frida Lindblom, Katie Reese, Brandon Snow, and honorable mentions Alfie Coy and Alex Khraish. Free and open to the public. Gallery hours during the summer are: Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Contact: www.collin.edu/THEARTSgallery, 972.881.5873

All College Day

Wednesday, Aug. 15

All campuses are closed.

The Faculty Show

Monday, Aug. 20-Thursday, Sept. 20

The Arts Gallery, Spring Creek Campus

This annual showcase features the latest work from Collin College art faculty including 2D and 3D design, ceramics, commercial art, digital art, drawing, jewelry and art metals, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture and watercolors.

The public is invited to meet at the artists at a reception set from 4-7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 30 at the gallery. The exhibition also is free and open to the public. Gallery hours during the summer are: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Contact: www.collin.edu/THEARTSgallery, 972.881.5873

Auteur -- The King's Speech

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7 p.m. - Thursday, Sept. 13
Angelika Film Center, Shops at Legacy, 7205 Bishop Road, Plano

Free screening of the Academy Award-winning film about King George VI, who must overcome a lifelong stutter in order to make a crucial radio broadcast after Britain declares war on Germany in 1939.

Contact:

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

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Fall registration keeps rolling

Registration for Collin College's fall 2012 semester is open through Monday, Aug. 27, the first day of class.

Also, most new students under the age of 30 are required by a state mandate to provide proof of having received the bacterial meningitis vaccination or booster 10 days prior to the start of semester term in which they are attending.

Students can fax documentation of having received the vaccine or booster to 1.972.548.6702 or 972.377.1792. For additional information about meningitis, exceptions or exemptions, email admissions@collin.edu or visit www.collin.edu/meningitis.

New Payment News

For students registering for classes through Aug. 1, your payment is due Wednesday, Aug. 1 by 8 p.m. If you register anytime after Friday, Aug. 3, you will need to pay that same day.

Effective starting fall 2012, the college's add/drop policy has changed. After Aug. 26, any new courses added to a student's schedule will be charged at the 100 percent tuition and fee assessment rate. "Swapping" courses with no fee assessment will no longer be available after a term begins.

Any courses dropped (even on the same day) will only be refunded at the percentage rate as determined by the state refund guidelines and approved tuition rates.

- July 25-Aug. 24 – Installment plans available online
- Aug. 1 – Early Registration Payment Deadline
- Aug. 3-26 – Pay same day you register
- Aug. 27 – New add/drop policy begins. All course registration charged 100 percent. Courses dropped refunded based on state refund percentage guidelines.

For more information, email cashier@collin.edu or call the Bursar's Office at 972.548.6616 (Central Park Campus), 972.377.1637 (Preston Ridge Campus) or 972.881.5634 (Spring Creek Campus)

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Changes To Government Courses

In order to make it easier for students to transfer from a community college to a Texas public four-year college or university, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has adopted a new mandate that changes how the required six semester credit hours of government courses will be taken.

Currently there are two sequences of Government courses: GOVT 2301-2302 and GOVT 2305-2306. Beginning fall semester 2013, only the GOVT 2305-2306 sequence will be offered by Texas community colleges.

Because of this change, students are encouraged to complete the GOVT 2301-2302 sequence by the end of summer II/III 2013. If students can only take one GOVT course during the 2012-2013 academic year, it should be GOVT 2301, since it will work as an acceptable transfer course with any of the other three GOVT courses offered by community colleges throughout Texas.

Registration Information

Registration at Collin College is done through CougarWeb. Students can find a log-in button to CougarWeb at the college's website or go directly to <http://cougarweb.collin.edu>. Then go to the "Registration Tools" channel on the home tab. For help logging into the portal, call the Student Help Desk at 972.377.1777. A username and password are required in order to register online.

Through CougarWeb, online registration is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week unless otherwise noted. Students can also view the latest version of the e-schedule outside of the portal at www.collin.edu/academics/class_schedule.html. However, they will not be able to register until they log into CougarWeb.

The college accepts VISA, MasterCard or Discover credit cards online. Personal checks are accepted in person or over the web using the college's secure Webcheck program.

For more information about registration and admissions, visit www.collin.edu/gettingstarted/register/.

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College News

Theatre alumni are back on network TV starting this fall in new series. **Michael Urie** is in *Partners*, **Scott Michael Foster** is in *Zero Hour* and **Rikki Nelson** is in *The Neighbors*.

Pink, a collection of poems by professor of humanities **Dallie Clark**, will be published in October.



Dallie Clark

The Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting has approved Collin College's core curriculum for **Surgical Technology**.

Collin College's engineering department was nominated for the Metroplex Technology Business Council's **Tech Titan Award**. The award recognizes a technology advocate/champion for their outstanding leadership in assisting, advancing or accelerating the performance of technology companies and/or the technology community.

Daniel Jones, president and CEO of Encore Wire in McKinney and a member of the Collin College Foundation Board of Directors, was named an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2012 for the Southwest Area North Award. The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year is the world's most prestigious business award for entrepreneurs.

Psi Beta chapter has earned the 2011-2012 Chapter Excellence Award from the Psi Beta National Honor Society. In its notification letter, Psi Beta Executive Director Dr. Jerry Rudmann said "few of the nation's Psi Beta chapters achieve this level of distinction. This award is something in which your students, the psychology faculty and your college can take great pride."

Jennifer Brooks, professor of psychology, was named Psi Beta's Faculty Advisor of the Year. The chapter also received honorable mention for the Psi Beta Community Service Award 2012 and past president **Laurel Cook** was selected to receive the Psi Beta Community Service Award for 2012 for her work with the Angel Tree project.

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The **Destination College** program was highlighted in the May 2012 issue of the National Center for Postsecondary Research journal article "Preparing High School Students for College, An Exploratory Study of College Readiness Partnership Programs in Texas."

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Q&A: Rose Award Finalists

At All College Day in August, Collin College will announce its winners of the full- and part-time Recognition Of Service and Excellence (ROSE) awards given annually to two staff members. During the summer, Cougar News will feature the ROSE award finalists.

Francis Choy

Instructional Designer, Teaching Learning Center

At Collin College since February 2001



Francis Choy

There are always small things that make one's job interesting or worthwhile. What minute aspects of your job do you get the most joy out of?

Over the years, teaching technologies have evolved and significantly impacted the teaching and learning environment. Good examples are the Internet and the popularity of online courses. Our faculty are content experts in their own disciplines, they are very devoted to provide the best education to their students. While working with many of them in developing their courses, I notice that they embrace technology and take actions to get training, and align their teaching with new technologies and good practices. This ensures good learning outcomes for the students. I am glad that I become a catalyst in the process.

As a ROSE Award finalist, you've been acknowledged for going the extra step in one way or another. What is your approach or philosophy toward your job?

My approach is to help faculty not only solve their teaching problems, I want them and their students to have confidence and enjoy the teaching and learning experience. To me, it is more than a job, it is a lifestyle.

Among my many duties at the Teaching Learning Center, I support Collin College faculty in using our online teaching platform Blackboard which is being used by thousands of students around the clock. I help faculty resolve their Blackboard problems so

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that their classes can continue smoothly. In addition to trouble-shoot and fix problems, I often document how I did it with screen shots or video captures so I not only fix the problem, but use the materials to explain to the faculty afterwards why it happened and how to fix it. This adds confidence to the faculty and enables them to avoid similar problems in future, and fix the problems by themselves. The materials also become valuable reference to other faculty as well.

Many associate faculty at Collin College have other jobs during the day. I try to assist them the best I can without them taking time off to come to campus. I try to provide remote assistance via technology, email and phone calls; and when needed, I sometimes stay behind after regular work hours to wait for them so I can help them.

I check my Groupwise regularly at night, on weekends and holidays, and one last time before going to bed every night. If there was urgent need from faculty I would continue helping them throughout the night. Many faculty will attest that I work with them till wee hours of the night to resolve issues encountered in their courses. Students can't wait and be held back in completing their work such as taking an exam.

I make sure faculty have good teaching experience and students have good learning experience at Collin College. I routinely follow up with faculty regarding the outcome of resolutions and assistance I provided to make sure the issues are completely resolved to the satisfaction of all parties involved and research additional resources for assistance when deemed necessary.

Melanie Dodson

Science Lab Manager, Preston Ridge Campus

At Collin College for 10 and a half years



Melanie Dodson

There are always small things that make one's job interesting or worthwhile. What minute aspects of your job do you get the most joy out of?

I have always enjoyed the excitement of the first day of school and after all these years, I still love the first day of each new semester. The first day of each term begins a new chapter filled with endless possibilities for our students. Being able to assist new and returning students during the first few days of the semester is a very rewarding experience. Our students are going to have a challenging experience at Collin College; easing

their start on campus is a small way to show them we are glad they are here.

As a ROSE Award nominee, you've been acknowledged for going the extra step in one way or another. What is your approach or philosophy toward your job?

I try to approach my responsibilities and make my decisions in a manner that reflects the best interests of our students. I consider the safety of our laboratory classrooms to be one of my top priorities and work diligently to create a laboratory environment that embraces safety as a fundamental element of our courses rather than a hindrance to the learning process.

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Cougar Links

Cougar Links is a place where things on the Internet are shared. Among friends.

You too can share neat things from the World Wide Web by sending them to mrobinson@collin.edu.

[The Strongest Man in the World](#)

A profile on Brian Shaw.

[17 Tips to Make Your Life Easier](#)

Seems a little *too* easy.

[Jesse Owens on the Olympics](#)

Reader's Digest!!

[Or True Olympic Heartbreak from Owens' Olympics](#)

A must read.

[Gorillas](#)

I've seen this movie.

['The Audition'](#)

Extraordinary article on a man's mission.

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All College Council announces items for silent auction

All College Council is hosting its third annual Silent Auction to raise scholarship funds to benefit a Collin College employee or immediate family member.

Last year's auction raised more than \$3,750. The Silent Auction will take place at All College Day, Aug. 15.

Here is a list of some of the items up for auction:

- Allen Americans and Texas Tornado tickets
- Original art by Kerry Jeffrey and Lupita Tinnen
- Season subscription to Collin Theatre Center
- Gourmet foodie package from culinary arts
- Jewelry
- Yamaha electric acoustic guitar
- Free cookies for a year from Paradise Café
- Lexus for a Weekend from Park Place Lexus
- Full dental cleaning, full X-ray and whitening
- Acer 16GB tablet and case
- Weekend stay with Managers Reception and breakfast at Frisco Embassy Hotel
- Gift cards/certificates from Studio Movie Grill, Market Street, The Pantry, Chuy's, Spring Creek Barbecue, Uncle Julio's, BJ's, Twisted Root, Bonnie Ruth's, Pappa's Restaurants, Ernesto's and more.

Email ACC@collin.edu to donate an item for the auction.

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