

## The Benefits of Community Service

**One student can have a huge impact...And one student can be greatly impacted.**

Many of the faculty and students in the health, wellness, and sports technologies division volunteer their time to a variety of community programs especially in the area of health fairs and screenings. CHAP, Community Health Advocacy Partnership, is one of those programs.

Sharon Henderson, member of the nursing faculty, explained the program: "CHAP does a lot of outreach education. Its purpose is to increase access to health services for underserved populations in our community." The Community Health Advocacy Partnership began because one of the first African American physicians in Tampa was determined to meet the needs of the underserved in our community. His children and many others continue to fulfill his dream today. "Faculty and students from HCC volunteer to assist in a variety of CHAP programs including general health screenings, HIV awareness, and at many community and church events," according to Ms. Henderson.

This letter was written by an EMS student of Larry Linder, a faculty member in our EMS program, after volunteering at a free health screening for area high school students who wish to participate in sports activities but cannot afford to pay for the required health screening. Mr. Linder, along with several of his students, volunteered to help at the CHAP sport physicals offered on a Saturday last May.

The student's letter underscores a fundamental truth...for those who give to their community, they receive much more than they give!

### C.H.A.P.

#### Community Health Advocacy Partnership

Howard W. Blake High School – May 17, 2008  
Mr. Linder,

On Saturday May 17th I attended the C.H.A.P. youth sports physical program. It was held at Blake High School in downtown Tampa. This event was open to the local students for a FREE sports physical. This offered a chance to those families who could not afford the average cost of a physical. By parents attending this event, their children now have the opportunity to participate in their school's sports program. I gladly volunteered my Saturday to help in any way to make this event a reality. This program is put on by C.H.A.P., a local medical awareness group, by way of only local health care volunteers.

My task was to take blood pressures, only a small chore that aided in such a big way. Even though health care has become such an expense in this country, it was great to get together with other local professionals from James A. Haley VA Hospital, University Community Hospital, and Tampa General Hospital to give back to the community! The biggest reward was being able to spend just a few minutes with each student to discuss their dreams when it came to becoming the next sports star. I look forward to seeing those students reach those dreams and know that I played a part in that wide receiver catching the winning touchdown.

I encourage anyone who has the opportunity to attend one of these events to do so with the understanding that taking a simple blood pressure could help change a young person's life.

Sincerely,

– H.C.C. Paramedic Student



## Learning Commons Grand Opening

September 11, 2008, DLRC 209

The new Learning Commons, located in the Dale Mabry library, celebrated its Grand Opening on Thursday, September 11, with Dr. Gwendolyn Stephenson cutting the ribbon for the newly refurbished facility that offers one-on-one assistance to all HCC students. Dr. Stephenson noted that providing students with work space, research resources, computer labs, and academic support in a central location is a true mark of HCC's commitment to student success and to every individual student striving for that success. Dr. Stephenson thanked Dean Mary Bendickson for her effort in bringing a learning commons to HCC.

The trend toward establishing learning commons space, particularly in libraries, is relatively recent and growing in popularity, primarily at the university level. As more libraries incorporate electronic resources and add technology such as computer labs, many are also adding other critical student resources. As more faculty and administrators recognize the need for students to participate in active, collaborative, dynamic academic communities, learning commons space becomes essential for those communities to form and grow.

In Dale Mabry's Learning Commons, students find quiet study space, group study space, computer labs, and one-on-one assistance in academic disciplines from algebra and astronomy to writing. Math, science, business, and technology assistance is available by appointment and on a walk-in basis in DLRC 209; writing assistance is available on a walk-in basis in DLRC 312.

The ten-year tradition of one-on-one writing assistance for students was also celebrated by Dr. Robert Chunn, campus president, and Dr. Stephenson, whose administration established the original writing center on Dale Mabry Campus during the 1998-1999 academic year. The faculty development committee—Dr. Barbara Goldstein, Dr. Marc Baldwin, Dr. Katherine Wyly, and Professor Karen

Learning Commons staff Mariah Dhal, Matt Overstreet, Ashley Jacobsen, Chris Walton, Alberto Rojas-Cruz, Nick Sullivan, Jeff Ottman, Bernarda Romolereaux, Annie Chen, Marcella Sherman, Susan Rodriguez, Mohammad Ghahremani.



Learning Commons grand opening.



Dr. Gwendolyn Stephenson, Dr. Bob Chunn, Dr. Katherine Wyly, Dr. Barbara Goldstein, Karen Linsky.

Linsky—received a plaque in honor of their vision and dedication. Dr. Stephenson shared their excitement and the enthusiasm of faculty, staff, and students that the writing center has now grown into such an expanded service for all HCC students.

## HCC Nursing Program is Ever-Expanding

We value the expertise and dedication of our faculty to provide quality nursing education. We want them to adapt to a new area in the nursing field without undue stress.

### HCC-Nursing Faculty Fall 08

A mentoring program was developed by the nursing faculty and instituted for spring 2008 term.

To welcome the new faculty, we provided brunch, games, and a survival kit.

#### Official Mentors

- Maria Bautista-Smith – for Sandy Coleman
- Carole Harvell - for Jean Stellato
- Sharon Henderson – for Sheila Hajara
- Gayle Palmberg – for Judy Mogilewsky
- Joscelyn Richey - for Julie Keating
- Vicki Vawter – for Vicki Crews



Meet our new nursing faculty. Front L-R, Julie Keating, Sandy Coleman, Jean Stellato. Back L-R, Sheila Hajara and Vicki Crews.