

Bountiful Beauty Begins with Dale Mabry's Fall Service Learning Events

The Dale Mabry Beautification Committee has planned their service learning events for the fall semester 2008: September 20, October 11, and November 8. The September 20 event was scheduled in concert with the efforts of the "Keep Hillsborough County Beautiful" event which Richard Senker chairs. Faculty members from all disciplines throughout campus have linked their service learning component to the campus's beautification efforts led by Dale Mabry's associate in science degree and technical programs. In addition to the September 20 event, the committee hosted two additional service learning dates of Saturday, October 11, and Saturday, November 8, from 8:00 a.m. until noon.

Last spring Marianne Caldwell's geology and earth science lab classes had the opportunity to engage in actual scientific research as part of the beautification efforts. Students sampled the water in the three ponds on the Dale Mabry Campus. Prior to actually sampling, students learned about proper sampling and labeling techniques. Students took the samples themselves, recording the times and locations. This exercise provided students a glimpse of the type of work in which a geologist in Florida would engage. Hillsborough County Water Resource Services analyzed the samples for total suspended solids, fecal coliform, and nitrates (all indications of contamination from sewage, fertilizer, and other sources). Results indicated that the HCC ponds all had very good water quality with no signs of contamination from these sources. Using the data from the sampling, future lab classes will learn about potential sources of pollution for surface water while completing the lab exercise.



Beautification Committee members with the City of Tampa Mayor's Beautification Adopt a Median Program.



Roopal Mehta pictured during her summer abroad program at East Normal China University, Shanghai

Honors Institute Participates in HCC's 40th Anniversary

Joining in the celebration for HCC's 40th Anniversary, the Honors Institute will sponsor a panel presentation open to the college community. On November 21, from 1:00-2:30 p.m., on the Dale Mabry Campus, a panel of Honors Institute alumni will lead a discussion on where they were when starting HCC and where they are now. Alumna graduate Roopal Mehta is chairing this event. She, along with alumni Damir Sinovic, Chris St. Jean, Dode Ackey, and Marian Conklin, will lead what promises to be an interesting and lively discussion. The panel is comprised of a mixture of students who began the Honors Institute as HCC students and students who began the Honors Institute directly from high school. They transferred and graduated with a range of majors from a range of universities. We believe the audience will be inspired by their stories and the path they have taken since graduation from HCC. The Honors Institute's Arête club will furnish refreshments for attendees. We encourage the HCC community to join in the 40th Anniversary celebration by attending the panel presentation.



HCC students Kedwin Dominguez, Peter Falvo, John Frederick, Jeremy Jones, and Kevin Kellogg, along with their new friends from Iowa and Missouri, after a tour of the Siemens wind turbine design and manufacturing facilities near Thy, Denmark.

Sustainable Energy: HCC Students Go Green in Denmark

With gasoline prices hovering around \$4.00 a gallon, there has been renewed national interest lately in the need for alternative energy supplies and the coming "green economy." With this new energy economy in mind, a group of HCC students, along with students from three other community colleges, traveled to Denmark this summer to study sustainable energy technologies and policies.

In the 1970's, as a response to the OPEC cartel's cutting of international oil supplies, the government of Denmark adapted an aggressive series of national policies to address that country's future energy, setting aside large federal subsidies for the development and implementation of alternative energy supplies in that country. As a result, Denmark today is a world leader in "green" energy technologies including wind, biomass, geothermal, cogeneration, conservation, and recycling.

Students attended presentations and were given detailed tours at several research centers and manufacturing facilities. While in Denmark, students lived with host families for two weeks, allowing them to truly immerse themselves in Danish culture. The trip was part of an HCC class, "Perspectives in Sustainable Energy," which is offered every summer by Desi Saludes, physics instructor on the Dale Mabry Campus. For information on next year's class and/or if you're interested in sustainable energy issues, contact Professor Saludes at dsaludes@hccfl.edu.