

DALEY NEWS

The Richard J. Daley College Faculty and Staff Newsletter

FOUNDATION FUNDING SUPPORTS MATH DEPARTMENT

The Department of Mathematics has been awarded a \$38,000 grant to fund an innovative approach to teaching college mathematics being developed and piloted at Daley College. This award by the Rosenbaum Foundation will allow Dr. M. Vali Siadat to pilot the project and to train other mathematics faculty in this new approach to teaching. Developed by Dr. Siadat and UIC Professor Yoram Sagher, an initial study of this teaching method has revealed:

- * **The retention rate in the pilot project was 81%, significantly higher than parallel sections.**
- * **The random class of freshmen and sophomores taught by these methods at Daley College performed on algebra tests at the same time as seniors the mathematics education program at UIC.**

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Dr. Gustavo Valadez Ortiz, Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr., Mr. Paul Musial, Dr. M. Vali Siadat, Dr. Yoram Sagher, and Ms. Madge Goldman were present at the awarding ceremony.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER RECEIVES NATIONAL ATTENTION

The National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers has recognized the Business and Industrial Technology Center of Daley College as an exemplary participant in the National Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program.

Daley College was cited for its effectiveness in providing service to manufacturers while creating and maintaining strong ties with other agencies involved in the economic development of Chicago.

The Daley College Business and Industrial Technology Center was developed in partnership with the Chicago Manufacturing Center and designed to meet the needs of local companies of all sizes during their growth. The project includes a business service center and a satellite assistance center. Registration and implementation training for ISO 9000 are provided through participation in the Northern Illinois Quality Services Consortium.

As a result of the many programs and services aimed at the business community, Daley College is recognized as the beacon college of the City Colleges of Chicago for the provision of technical assistance and workforce retraining in manufacturing technology.

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DALEY COLLEGE FOCUSES ON ASSESSMENT

In July, a team of six Daley College faculty and staff members attended the Summer Assessment Academy sponsored by the Council of North Central Two-Year Colleges, held this year at Rapid City, SD. The delegates attended the conference to better understand how other colleges have addressed the North Central Association (NCA) assessment requirement.

At the Academy, the delegates learned that the NCA does not have a "one size fits all" approach to assessment, but requires that the colleges set their own expectations for student learning. The basic questions that need to be answered by each college are:

What should students learn?

Are students learning what they should?

How is that determined?

Then each college must develop steps to address the results of assessment:

If an area is weak, what actions are being taken to strengthen it?

What is the impact of those actions upon student learning?

What subsequent actions are required?

Daley College has clear academic goals, a wealth of data regarding student performance, and assessment activities in place. This fall the Assessment Committee will be planning additional steps to expand assessment activities throughout the academic programs of the college.

Daley College delegates to the Assessment Academy were Jeff Janulis; Dean of Adult Learning Skills, Dan Landt; Acting Dean of Instruction, Teresita Manzano; Nursing Chairperson, Karen Owens; Assistant Dean of Research and Planning, Lee Porch; Natural Science Chairperson, and David Reiter; Humanities/Social Sciences Chairperson.

QUOTE
of the month

"As knowledge increases, wonder deepens."
--Charles Morgan

NYSP GETS HIGH MARKS

The National Youth Sports Program has come to a close once again. The program was evaluated the week of July 20, by Regional Evaluator, Ms. Jeannean Ryman, who rated the program with a 97% out of a possible 100%. This is a 3% improvement from last year, and the second highest score since 1990 earning such a distinguished evaluation.

Ms. Ryman praised the program for several reasons; federal guidelines compliance, good project organization and scheduling, excellent facilities, sensitive staff, active participation, very accurate records, a well-balanced food program, commendable medical services, exceptional instruction in all activities, and supportive institutional services.

This year celebrates the "12th Year Anniversary" of Daley College supporting 360 community youth ages 10 through 16 with this program. For the first time, the program was awarded 10 (5 young men and 5 young women) 26-inch, 15-speed bicycles for attendance and outstanding merit. Having received such an honorable evaluation only insures continued funding for the 1999 program.

MATH PROGRAM

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- * **College Board Arithmetic Skills test scores improved dramatically for students in the project.**
- * **Scores of project students, given the College Board English Comprehension test to measure ability to concentrate, also showed great improvement.**
- * **A control group of students did not show improvement on either test.**

Rosenbaum Foundation president and co-founder Ms. Madge Goldman, commented, "I chose to fund 'The Keystone Project' because the pilot test shows that this method will teach students to achieve mastery, that is, students will fully understand one topic before moving to the next level. This is crucial to the learning process."

DePaul University, University of Alabama, and Shelton College, Alabama, currently use comparable teaching styles that will be applied in "The Keystone Project." More information on the project is available by calling Dr. Siadat at (773)838-7632.