

CURRENT

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Inside Out



"Bodies Revealed" why it's worth seeing

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Current Photo / Jaysen Treadaway

Los Rios Chancellor Dr. Brice Harris, center, keeps company with union officials from faculty and statewide organizations at the Sheraton Hotel Tuesday night as they await the voting results of Proposition 92. Pictured clockwise from left: Los Rios Chancellor Dr. Brice Harris, Los Rios President Dr. Robert L. ...

Transfer in a new CSU way

ARC joins to assist in higher learning

By Josh Clemens
Photo Editor

When students at American River College decide to transfer to the California State University Sacramento, the faculty and administration of the two schools will work together to build a new way for students to pursue their educational goals with a smoother transfer transition.

The goal is to ease the difficulties of the transitions between the two systems. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been drawn up to strengthen and

union president and Scott Lay, one of the proposition's creators.

Voters reject Proposition 92

By Eric Webb
Staff Writer

"Super Tuesday," Feb. 5, was a day of anguish for some, and victory for others. For California's community colleges, it was certainly a day of agony.

Proposition 92, which would separate community college funding from K-12 funding formula and lower student tuition fees to \$15 was failing 42.7 percent to 57.3 percent as of 1:49 a.m.

With voters failing to support the proposition, the future may be grim for community colleges.

"Los Rios will be fine for the first year, but we'll all have to tighten our belts," said Diana Hicks, union president for American River College.

At the Sheraton Grand Hotel in downtown Sacramento, leaders of the Los Rios College Federation of Teachers (LRCFT), the Faculty of Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC), the



Current Photo / Jaysen Treadaway
Above, Scott Lay, who is a key proponent of Proposition 92, thanked supporters and organizers for their campaign efforts Tuesday night.

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and Sacramento State to help

See "CSU" on Back Page

SA seeks three on council

By Amber Sellnow
Staff Writer

Three seats remain vacant after the Student Association elections in late November. Certified results show three of the 10 candidates elected were disqualified.

Elected representatives must maintain a 2.0 GPA and take five units per semester in order to hold a position on the 18-member student council, as stated by the Los Rios Office of the General Council. The three representatives disqualified were Yeisey Shenrya, Dennis Choban and Joshua Serban.

"This is actually not unusual," said Dean of Student Development Bruce Patt, referring to the disqualifications

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Faculty preserve legacy for their own

By Josh Clemens
Photo Editor

American River College has had many instructors come and go since its founding in 1955, but for the instructors who leave too soon, the faculty often seek to honor their memory on campus.

That happened on Jan. 22 when a memorial bench was dedicated in front of Howard Hall for Sharon Olson-Hansen.

Led by the Math Department faculty, her husband Andrew, sons Colin and Ryan, and parents George and Mary Lou were present to honor the memory of

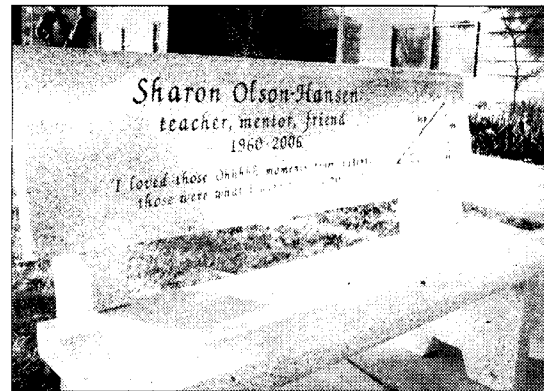
Olson-Hansen.

At the ceremony, Vice President of Instruction for Sierra College, Rachel Rosenthal, was there to read a poem she had written for her departed friend.

"She taught me about facing life head on," said Rosenthal.

During Olson-Hansen's battle with pancreatic cancer, people visited with her and she described her latest trip up Half Dome. After her death on Oct. 14, 2006, instructor Walt Deckert decided to donate his "retro" payment to help purchase the memorial for her.

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Current Photo / Jaysen Treadaway
Tribute bench for instructor Sharon Olson-Hansen in front of Howard Hall was dedicated Jan 22.

Campus Police reassuring through safety exercises

Skills that keep ARC secure

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New York invaded...

Unlikely visitors come to Earth and it's not who you think

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CSU: With MOU, ARC transfer students may find easier path

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provide students with the necessary means for an education in the Sacramento area.

The schools will join together to form as a collaborative headed by California State University, Sacramento Provost, Joseph F. Sheley who will decide when to unite the schools in the event of specific circumstances.

"The joining makes the collaboration smoother and gives it content to take advantage of," said Sheley.

This MOU will improve transfer opportunities for courses like: upper division courses, Early Childhood Education, special programs like EOP&S and DSPS.

Cooperative Work Experience and Internship students.

Students in programs like EOP&S and DSPS ideally will have an easier time when they transfer from ARC to CSUS because they will be able to find the correct resources and programs; often due to the fact that the schools have different names for the same programs, according to Associate Vice President, Instruction & Learning Resources, Leland Thiel.

"They will connect to the right people with a comfort factor and [be] reaching out to special programs," said Thiel.

With the Capital Region's high school graduation rate at 82 percent, which is 7 percent above

the national average, 38.5 percent of those students have earned an Associate of Arts degree or higher.

Eight percent of our population is enrolled in a university or state college while the national average is 6 percent.

This collaboration suggests that with how important education is in today's society, that this joining will aid students down the right path to achieve the academic goal they are striving for and will give them better access to achieve it while on their way.

Observers say they expect that students who go to school to earn degrees or transfer successfully will have fewer difficulties.

UPDATE: New plans to appoint

From Page 1

of the representatives. "I personally regret the three people are not going to serve . . . I've encouraged them to take advantage of the opportunity here to learn how to advocate for the college and learning environment."

Serban said his situation was complicated, but declined to discuss his situation. He did say he wasn't sure he had time in his schedule to commit to the Student Association, but may run again in the future.

In order to fill these three empty seats, the SA must do one of two things: either have a special election open to the student body to vote for new representatives, a process that could take up to six weeks, or if the council votes to override the election, the SA president would fill the positions pending council approval.

SA bylaws state in Statute IV, Act X that "student council may, by two-thirds vote, move to override a special election . . ."

If the council doesn't achieve two-thirds vote, the override is void and a special election will take place.

According to the Constitution, when the president is chairing a meeting, he/she is unable to participate in voting to approve or disapprove consent actions. Brandon Garcia, new representative, volunteered to chair at the beginning of the meeting.

John Throm, chair of elections/vice president of SA, brought the election update item to the council at its Feb. 5 meeting. By the required two-thirds vote, the council voted to override the special election.

During the item discussion, those in opposition to the override said they felt an election would better serve the student body.

Others on the board in favor of the override explained the special election process would take a long time to complete and SA needs to get those three seats filled as soon as possible in order for SA business to carry forward.

An ad will be posted on the marquee outside of the Campus Life Center for instructions on how to qualify for the appointed position, and the deadline for applications is set for Feb. 12 without exceptions.

SA President Lou Martinson will appoint three representatives to the council in the Feb. 12 meeting. The appointed candidates will be voted in by majority vote of the board.

These representatives shall be appointed within one week of Feb. 12.

Classifieds

If you would like to place a classified in the Current, e-mail us today at current@arc.losrios.edu

Celebration of Black History Culture, and Accomplishments. Today in River Cafe is a presentation of "African Americans in California's Heartland" (on the monitors that run continuously)

Come learn Black History from Dr. Tchaka Muhammed: "Stories from the Heart," will be presented at Feb. 12, Raef Hall, noon

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"Hip - Hop: Beyond Beats & Rhymes" (on the monitors that run continuously) in the River Cafe will reflect on how hip hop has influenced the American culture on Feb. 13

... should. No more than 100 years ago, women, African-Americans and immigrants fought for their right to vote because they recognized they could not have true freedom in society until they had a voice.

Today, many issues involve the younger generation. Surely everyone has an opinion about what is going on in our government, whether it is about the war in Iraq, health care, energy, abortion or education.

Proposition 92 is one of those "need to know" things. It will affect the population of community colleges statewide. That means American River College, too.

With the proliferation of today's media, from bathrooms to cell phones, there's no excuse for not being informed.

As the saying goes, "the more you know, the better off you are." Get involved. Be aware.

No matter what happens, it will still affect all of us.

... than ever. "Due to a decrease in enrollment" was the excuse I received in a voicemail, even though the class wasn't starting until March.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the

... tell our employees and the administration that they won't be making Employee of the Month due to a lack of work around the office. There will be no promotions this quarter and definitely no special parking spot with a

... it. Lowering unit prices made a lot of students very happy, but how can classes be paid for if they don't even exist? The administration is being mum about the whole situation, imply-

... and over that community colleges bring out the top, if not the best, candidates in the workforce, showing through work ethic that we have what it takes and are worth the investment.

If something isn't done about See "CANCELLED" on Page 3

Letters to the Editor

Club's overboard with visibility

I have been wanting to write this letter for some time in reference to the Christian Club that maintains constant visibility on our campus.

First of all, I congratulate the author of the "Editorial" that ran in last edition of the Current, last semester. Although I couldn't seem to find the name of the author I want to give major kudos to him/her! You expressed what I have been feeling for quite a while now, and when I read the article I laughed out loud.

I would like to respond to that

article and take it one step further. I see this Christian Club on the campus almost every day I am in school. I realize they have protection under the first amendment, and that's great. Even though I am not a believer, I appreciate many of the ideas and lifestyles that the church embraces, save a few.

With that being said, that's not my point. My problem is that these guys seem to have no other purpose other than standing at their booth trying to do whatever it is that they do every single day.

I assumed at first that these were ARC students. I'm starting to wonder though. I mean, do these guys have any other purpose, such as class and homework, and goals to transfer out and on to

See "FRUSTRATION" on Page 3

There is no true free speech at ARC

Intolerance is everywhere on this campus. I have not experienced so much closed mindedness in my life.

I am new around here, but already my family and I feel crushed by the oppression of racism, classism, sexism, ageism, sizism and religious prejudice that encompasses this campus. Yet, everywhere I go on campus I see a rainbow nation of people.

Uncelebrated by this institution. I grew up with a Jewish Mom and an agnostic Dad who helped build a Christian church we attended. I knew how my Mother suffered from anti-Semitism throughout the 1930s, '40s and '50s. She told me many

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PROUD MEMBERS OF THE
NCPA AND JACC

Letters to the Editor cont'd

FREE SPEECH: Absent at ARC

From Page 2

stories of her immigrant parents living in poverty and leaving behind loved ones in a country where programs against Jews were prevalent. But the anti-Semitism did not end in the country they fled.

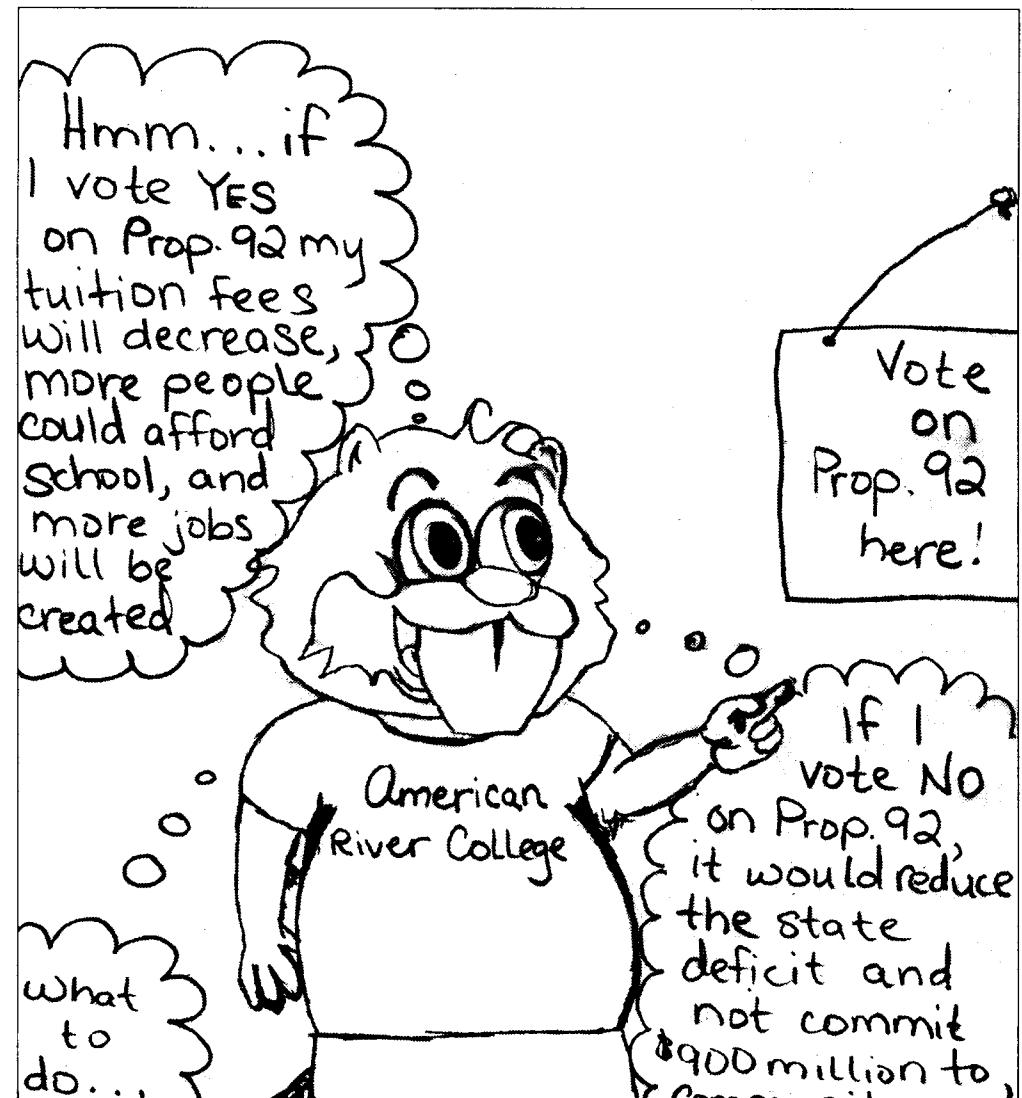
My mother was called a "Dirty Jew" by a fellow worker in "liberal" San Francisco, CA. They lived in the Fillmore District, a Jewish Ghetto, could not pay their rent and ate only potatoes for supper, sometimes.

So why when I attend classes at ARC do I feel as oppressed as my Mother has been? I have attended several classes where I have been literally yelled at and screamed at by other students because I have a different viewpoint. I can barely open my mouth and someone yells at me. The really appalling thing is that these "Professors" let it go on. There is little freedom of

speech in these classrooms and diverse opinions are not acceptable. Discussion seems to be a creature from the black lagoon and friendly bantering is like dinosaur fossils around here. And I do feel like a Dinosaur on campus with my gray hair and thoughts of a past really good education with open discussions and free flowing thoughts. I try not to yearn for this past, but it is difficult as the present is full of so much black and white extremism and there is no room for a rainbow in the sky or anywhere else on this campus. Hate abounds and anger is directed at anyone different in any slight way. Intolerance is in ARC's classrooms and on this campus. So shut-up, get your degree and move-on. There's nothing to celebrate, here.

—Jo Ann Jackson-Holt
ARC Student

"A vote is never wasted"



Aid problems can harm students

I'm 26, get good grades, and like most students I am financially strapped.

It led me to filling out the FAFSA. Come to find out there is a government entity known as Selective Services System AKA the "draft."

I had no clue about this, no one told me in high school that signing up for this is a law for men over 18 and under 25.

In 1997 a law was passed that said if you want financial aid that you must sign up, not to mention if you don't sign up you run the risk of a \$250,000 fine and 5

years in jail!

Long story short, I'm getting denied financial aid even though at one time I ENLISTED IN THE AIR FORCE 4 YEARS AGO!

This law is garbage, I'm anything but a "draft dodger," anyways, Vietnam is over. I can't prove that I never received the Selective Service mail, so while hundreds continue to get financial aid and then drop classes, I get the shaft by Uncle Sam and continue on my way to Sac State. Just had to vent!

— *Kenny Peebles*
ARC student

CANCELLED: Losses disrupt, fluster students

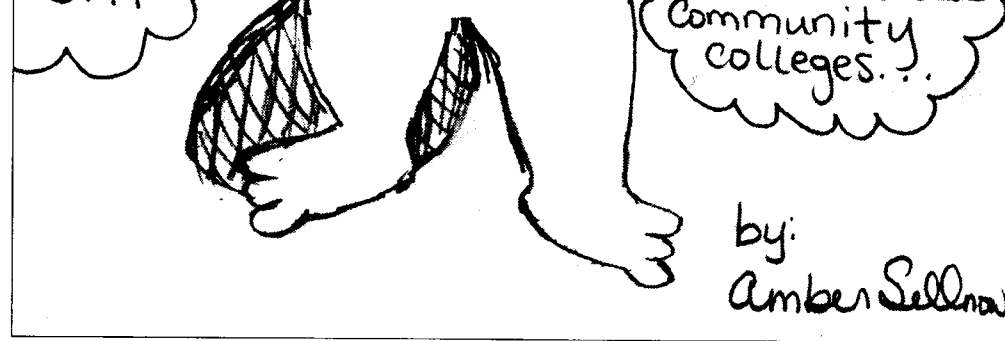
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this issue, then anticipate a delayed graduation, and college dropouts.

So knock on doors and get administrations' undivided attention by speaking up and expressing your freedom of thought through tough dialog that will make changes and get results.

We deserve a chance at equality in education, but it's starting to change and community college students all over are losing the battle. If they can take away education, what else could be next?

As Anon, the Greek writer and philosopher, quoted "Your education is worth what you are worth," become proactive.



By Amber Sellnow

FRUSTRATION: We don't need church PR on campus

From Page 2

bigger and better things, or is this it for them?

Look, students here at ARC are well aware that churches exist, and I would assume are aware that if they choose to, they can go to any church they like.

Do we need these people here all day every day? Don't these guys have any classes to go to? Do they really need to be there at all times to make their point?

I can see and appreciate them being there occasionally, or on special religious days or maybe during club week. But why all the time?

I am a gay student, but I

normally don't tell anyone that because it is such a small part of who I am. With that being said, I don't feel the need to stand there at a booth all day every day with a sign announcing that, and asking people to join my club or lifestyle if it is even in fact a lifestyle. I'm not so sure for me it is because I live such a normal life.

Anyways, the point is, if I don't need feel the need to do that, why should they be there all day every day?

Let the students find them on their own, or find the churches on their own. We don't need people on campus

every day all day trying to shove their club or ideas down our throat any more than we need a table full of gay students all day every day doing the same thing.

While I respect our diversity at ARC and their goals, I say, "Hey guys. We get your point. You're a Christian, and you want others to believe what you believe. That's wonderful. Stop shoving it down our throat, bring your table, and for Pete's sake, get to class and move on from ARC!!!

Thank you.

— *Mike Lubeck*
ARC Student