

## Academic cheating common among students, expert says

Cheating is widespread at high schools and on college campuses nationwide, but students and faculty members can take steps to make it less commonplace, Donald McCabe, professor of Management and Global Business at Rutgers Business School, told an audience at the St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus' Music Center Tuesday.

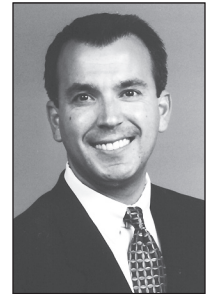
McCabe, one of the nation's leading experts on academic cheating, has surveyed students and faculty members at 150 schools about academic cheating over the past 17 years.



See *CHEATING*, Page 4 **Don McCabe**

## League for Innovation CEO to speak on Hispanic and Latin cultures

Gerardo E. de los Santos, president and CEO of the League for Innovation in the Community College, will speak on Hispanic and Latin cultures and trends as well as on the recruitment and retention of Hispanic college students, in the Arts Auditorium on the Clearwater Campus between 12:30 and 2 p.m. on April 4.



**Gerardo E. de los Santos**

The League for Innovation in the Community College is an international organization dedicated to catalyzing the community college movement. It hosts conferences and institutes, develops Web resources, conducts research, produces publications, and leads projects and initiatives with more than 800 member institutions representing 15 countries, 125 corporate partners and a host of other governmental and non-profit agencies.

The League is dedicated to improving student and organizational

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### “Quoteworthy”

— Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach

Submitted by

Frank Jurkovic, EpiCenter



Nursing students Lindsey Pakalns, left, and Joan Schmidt check on a baby patient simulator.

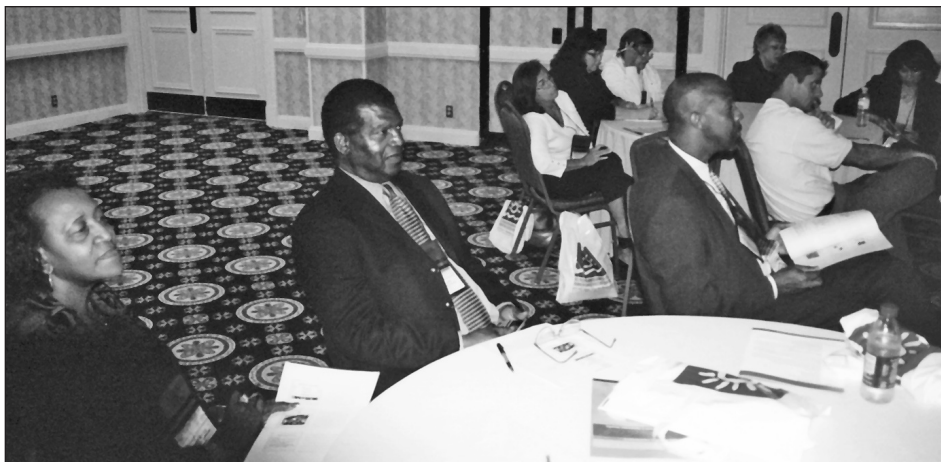
## Simulated hospital training center near completion

The SCENE@SPC, or the Simulation Center of Excellence in Nursing Education at St. Petersburg College, is nearing completion at the Caruth Health Education Center.

The new simulated

hospital training facility is an interdisciplinary clinical lab that may be in operation by the middle of April.

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## Narrowing the Gulf conference

Almost 180 educators from around the country attended the two-day **Narrowing the Gulf for Disadvantaged Students in Postsecondary Education** conference March 15 and 16 at the St. Petersburg Hilton. Among the attendees at the eighth annual event were, from left; Mary Allen, testing coordinator, Pinellas County Schools; her husband, Herman "Doc" Allen, Palm Harbor University High School principal; and George Carbart, Student Support Services program director, St. Petersburg College. Peg Connell, Special Populations coordinator at SPC, was the conference coordinator.

## Baseball team climbs to No. 2 state ranking

The St. Petersburg College baseball and softball teams appear to be among the best in the state again.

The baseball team, national runner-up in 2005, is ranked No. 2 in the state this season behind Palm Beach Community College. SPC is 9-1 in the Suncoast Conference, losing only to Pasco-Hernando CC 5-4. The Titans have a four-game lead in the standings. Hillsborough CC is second at 6-5, Polk CC is 5-6, Manatee CC is 5-5, Pasco-Hernando CC is 5-5 and Lake Sumter CC is 1-9.

The baseball team was 26-8 after beating Hillsborough 11-6 Monday. After completing a three-game series with Hillsborough CC Wednesday, SPC returns home Friday to take on Lake Sumter CC. The two teams

complete their three-game series Monday at Carpenter Complex, home of all SPC games the remainder of the season. Games begin at 7 p.m.

The softball team, ranked No. 7 in the state, was 1-3 over the weekend in the Florida Community College at Jacksonville tournament. The losses dropped the team to 29-10 overall.

In the Suncoast Conference SPC is 7-1, a game behind Manatee CC at 9-1. The team is at home today (March 22) to take on Hillsborough CC in a double-header at Eddie C. Moore Complex at 5 p.m. This weekend, the team travels to Pasco-Hernando CC for the annual PHCC tournament.

The next home double-header is Tuesday at the Moore Complex against Lake Sumter at 5 p.m.

## FAFSA Fest at four campuses next week

FAFSA Fest, an event that aims to help students get speedier financial assistance results, will be at the Clearwater, St. Petersburg/Gibbs, Seminole and Tarpon Springs campuses on Wednesday and Thursday.

Financial assistance experts will be at all locations to help students file their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online. Those who participate can expect to get their financial assistance results in just a

week, rather than waiting the usual two or more months.

Free food will be offered at all locations.

Participating students must bring their FAFSA PIN and their completed 2006 federal income tax returns. Dependent students must bring their parents' tax returns.

FAFSA Fest will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday and from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday.

## Onward & Upward

**Patricia Pierce**, College of Nursing faculty, has been approved by Gov. Charles Crist to serve a four-year term on the Service Area 10 Local Advocacy Council as a member at large for the Mental Health Council. Her term began Feb. 19.

\* \* \*

The college has been honored for excellence in brochure design by the Learning Resources Network (LERN), an international association in lifelong learning. The college was recognized for the state-of-the-art professional design of its Corporate Training brochure, which was produced by Institutional Advancement. **Noreen Hodges** oversaw the project for Corporate Training.

LERN's primary criterion in selecting exemplary programs was the quality of being at the leading edge of lifelong learning. The winning program was selected from more than 100 entries from four countries.

St. Petersburg College is dedicated to the concept of equal opportunity. The college will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin or marital status, or against any qualified individual with disabilities, in its employment practices or in the admission and treatment of students. Recognizing that sexual harassment constitutes discrimination on the basis of sex and violates this rule, the college will not tolerate such conduct. Should you experience such behavior, please contact the director of EA/EO at (727) 341-3261 or by mail at P.O. Box 13489, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3489.

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St. Petersburg College

**SPC**

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The SCENE is a fully equipped, functional mock hospital, complete with patient simulators, which allow students to practice clinical procedures without endangering real patients.

The SCENE also will have a computerized documentation system, accessible by PDA, which will allow students to complete charting at bedside.

The facility has four large rooms. Two of the rooms are resource labs that contain virtual IVs, laptop computers and clinical references. A third room is equipped as a medical/surgical facility that can be converted into an emergency room with six beds. The fourth room is set up as a five-bed intensive care unit, housing NOELLE, the birthing simulator.

Both rooms are equipped just as a real hospital would be, with all of the equipment fully functional.

The new facility is a result of a \$1.6-million U.S. Department of Labor grant obtained in November 2005, said Kay Ritchey, the grant coordinator.

"Part of the grant was to be used for advanced technology in nursing, and a simulation facility was to be part of that," Ritchey said. "By January 2006 we had part of the grant, about \$350,000, that was to be used for equipment, computers, PDAs and the like, and our first goal was to figure out exactly how we were going to design the simulation."

Much of 2006 was spent drawing up plans and working with architects and designers on how best to set up the space. The process was so successful it's very easy to believe you have entered an actual hospital once the door closes behind you.

One of the most exciting aspects of the facility is the patient simulators that allow students to experience real-life clinical treatment circumstances



**From left, Nursing students Mark Jones, Kathleen O'Neal, Helene Larkins-Young (back) and Joan Schmidt work with a machine that helps with the training for drawing blood.**

without actually dealing with — or endangering — real people.

"There will be a number of patient simulators, and some will be more high-tech than others," Ritchey said. "Some will be able to 'talk', and they will do many of the things that real humans do — some will have full respirations, heart beats and variable heart rates, and students can assess their conditions just as they would do with real patients."

Roxene Riles of the Informatics faculty said the simulators allow students to not only learn procedures, but also to learn from their mistakes without fear of either serious real-life consequences or chastisement from their instructors.

"Students can come in and have a safe environment that allows them to learn from their mistakes," Riles said. "There is nothing punitive, and

they won't be chastised for making a mistake. We can always reboot a simulator."

Sandra Pepicello Wise, provost of the Caruth Health Education Center, noted the SCENE faculty will allow a number of interdisciplinary approaches with other programs at the Health center so various students can learn how to work with one another.

"We have a paramedic program, so we will be able to have simulations whereby EMS students could respond to emergency situations and take their patients to the hospital," she said. "The EMS students will be able to learn how to report effectively to the nursing students. Physical therapy assistants, respiratory care and radiology students will be able to take part, too."

## **Cancer survivors to be honored with dinner before Relay for Life**

The Relay for Life at the St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus on March 30 will include a survivors' dinner after the 6 p.m. opening ceremonies to honor all who have won their battles with cancer.

Longhorn Steakhouse is catering the event. Along with a catered dinner, survivors will receive a t-shirt

and be invited to take an opening lap. Those interested in participating, including family and friends, should contact Marse Walsh at Ext. 3297.

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The library is sponsoring a garage sale March 31, beginning at 6:30 a.m. The event is open to the public as well as anyone attending

the Relay. Gently used items (no clothes or shoes, please) will be accepted at the West St. Petersburg Library at SP/G library all next week, or bring donations to the Relay on Friday evening. For further information, contact Gail Lancaster at Ext. 7177.

## Educational researcher to speak Thursday

The National Center for Teacher Transformation and the College of Education are sponsoring "Improving Literacy Outcomes for Adolescents in Florida: Lessons from Research," a presentation by Joseph K. Torgesen, at the Clearwater Campus on Thursday.

Admission is free for the two-hour session that begins at 6 p.m. in LA 151.

Torgesen is nationally known for his research in reading. He is

the chairman of Psychology and Education at Florida State University. He also serves as the director of the Florida Center for Reading Research, and as the director of Reading for the National Center on Instruction K-12 in Reading, Math and Science, sponsored by the Department of Education.

Please contact Evelyn Falleur at Ext. 5414 or e-mail [Falleur.Evelyn@spcollege.edu](mailto:Falleur.Evelyn@spcollege.edu).

## Two singers are winners in regional competition

Two St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus students won awards recently at the Tampa Bay National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) competition at the University of Tampa.

Shannyn Darroch won in the second year college women's category; Stephen Fee was third in the men's category. Darroch performed in the winners' recital at UT's Grand Salon.

Darroch and Fee qualified to attend the regional NATS competition

in Tallahassee March 29-31. They will compete with singers from Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Six SPC students took part in the recent competition. More than 90 students participated.

Darroch and Fee also were winners at the recent Florida Music Symposium at Stetson University.

The SPC contingent was led by Marilyn Michael, instructor of Voice and Humanities at SP/G.

## Cheating *continued from Page 1*

He said students at all levels cheat regularly, and that faculty members often turn a blind eye to the practice.

"Setting a personal standard is not easy in the diverse society in which we live," McCabe said.

Cheating seems to begin in junior high school, McCabe said. His research shows that about 60 percent of high school students admit to having cheated on a test or exam within the past year. He said cheating may involve plagiarism, using a term paper obtained from the Internet, letting someone else copy work, or inappropriately collaborating with others, among other things.

The rate of academic cheating is even higher among college students, he said.

McCabe said there is reason for optimism about academic cheating. He said some types of cheating (high school cheating on a test or exam) seem to be in decline, and that there are things faculty members and students can do to make academic cheating less commonplace.

He urged faculty members to:

- Be more vigilant.
- Come forward when cheating is discovered.
- Help convince students that honesty and integrity matter.
- Change assignments regularly to make copying them more difficult.

Students, he said, should understand that people are judged by their character.

"First transgressions start us down a slippery slope," he said. "You are growing up in a difficult time, and it can be hard to be ethical."

Students, McCabe said, should "set a personal standard that you would be comfortable sharing with the people who are closest to you.

"Be a role model," he said. "Help keep academic integrity alive on your campus."

McCabe's talk was entitled "Promoting Academic Integrity: Creating an Honorable Community." Later in the day, he delivered a similar address at the Seminole Campus. His appearances were sponsored by SPC's Applied Ethics Institute.

## Taking Care of **BUSINESS\$**

Need a copy of a cancelled check? E-mail Gerry Gill at [gill.gerry@spcollege.edu](mailto:gill.gerry@spcollege.edu) or call Ext. 3106.

Gill will need the name of the payee (no nicknames, please), the check number, and the exact amount. If you have PeopleSoft Financials access, you also can provide the date the check cleared our bank by pulling up the PAYMENT INQUIRY panel located under Accounts Payable in the menu and inputting only the check number, including the leading zeroes.

If you don't have PeopleSoft Financials access, at a minimum, please provide the payee, the check number, and the exact amount if you know it. Your request should be accompanied by a reason you need a copy of the check – "payee never received original" is a good example.

The college's bank supplies us with a disk file of cancelled checks about the 15th of every month for the previous month's activity. Gill can pull up a copy of the check, front and back, from that copy and e-mail it to you, the payee or the vendor. If your request is for a check issued more recently, e-mail Gill for another method of obtaining a copy of the cancelled check.

## Culture *continued from Page 1*

learning through innovation, experimentation and institutional transformation.

de los Santos earned an associate's degree at Mesa Community College in Arizona. Later, he earned a bachelor's degree in Rhetoric at the University of California at Berkeley and a master's degree in English from Arizona State University, where he was honored as a Graduate Regents Fellow. He received his Ph.D. in Educational Administration from the University of Texas at Austin, where he was named Distinguished Graduate.

To learn more, visit the League for Innovation in the Community College Web site at [www.league.org](http://www.league.org).

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES'**  
**NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT OF PROPOSED RULES**

NAME OF AGENCY: BOARD OF TRUSTEES, ST.  
PETERSBURG COLLEGE

SPECIFIC AUTHORITY: 1001.64(2) & (4), F.S.

RULE TITLE: Use of College Facilities

LAW IMPLEMENTED: 1001.64(4)(b), F.S.; Rule 6A-14.0261 F.A.C.

RULE NO.: 6Hx23-5.09

IF REQUESTED AND NOT DEEMED UNNECESSARY BY THE AGENCY HEAD, A RULE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP WILL BE HELD ON THE TIME, DATE AND PLACE SHOWN BELOW:

RULE NOTICE DATE: March 23, 2007

TIME AND DATE: 9:00 a.m., April 5, 2007

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The proposed changes provide for the rental of the Palladium Theater to be the responsibility of the Palladium Theater director and site administrator, subject to parameters approved by the President, and authorize and limit the consumption of alcoholic beverages at the Palladium pursuant to procedures approved by the President. Also during the Rule Development stage, considerations may be given to changes, additions and/or deletions of any part of this Rule as may be recommended.

PLACE: St. Petersburg College, EpiCenter, Educational & Student Services, Conference Room, 13805 58th Street North, Largo, Florida

PERSON(S) TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROCEDURE IS: Sydney H. McKenzie, III, College Attorney, EpiCenter

SUBJECT AREA TO BE ADDRESSED: See Purpose and Effect above.

THE PRELIMINARY TEXT, IF AVAILABLE, OF THE PROPOSED RULE MAY BE OBTAINED BY WRITING: Board of Trustees, c/o College Attorney's Office, P.O. Box 13489, St. Petersburg, Florida 33733, or calling 341-3259.

SUMMARY: See Purpose and Effect above.