

Guaranteed transfer agreements still available

By MICHAEL ABURAS
Staff writer

Transfer Admission Agreements (TAAs) are still available to students at Ohlone despite the passing of most U.C. and C.S.U. applications periods.

TAAs are contracts with schools that grant a student admission as long as they meet certain criteria. "It is a guaranteed admission program," said Transfer Center Specialist Frances Fon. TAAs are only accepted during certain periods.

Currently, students can only

apply for two schools' TAAs: Cal State East Bay and Santa Clara University. Students may apply for East Bay at any time of the semester. However, the deadline for a TAA with Santa Clara is March 31. Moreover, to set-up a TAA a student must make an appointment with a counselor to fill out the paperwork.

In order for the TAA with Santa Clara to be processed by the deadline, students must make an appointment with a counselor by March 15 because the deadline falls on spring break. Additionally, with

the Easy Bay TAA, "you know a year before you transfer if you're accepted," said Fon.

Students must have accrued at least 30 units to apply for a TAA with Santa Clara or 12 units for East Bay. The GPA requirements range from 2.0 to 3.5, depending upon school and major.

A number of other universities have TAA agreements with Ohlone but the deadlines for them passed in the fall. Among the schools included in the program are many Northern California schools. However, there are two Southern California schools

available: UC Riverside and UC Irvine.

Also, Ohlone students may apply for up to two TAA applications in an academic year, according to Fon. "We encourage people to apply for the UCs and Cal States in fall," said Fon.

Some schools do not have TAAs available to nursing students and international students. For more information, students may stop by the transfer center, located next to the counseling office in Room 1102C or go to www.ohlone.edu/org/transfer/taa.html

If students need more assistance or wish to speak with a university official directly, the transfer center also has set up appointment and drop-in times for students to see university representatives.

Cal State East Bay representative Louise Martinez will be in the transfer center on Feb. 27, Cogswell Polytechnic representative Chris Sutherland will be on campus Feb. 20, San José State University representative Paula Armstead will visit Feb. 22 and University of California Irvine representative Norma Peniche will come on Feb. 21.

Human rights expert to speak on surveillance

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the right to free speech, one gives us the right to privacy, and the last gives the president the right to do whatever is necessary in a time of war. Thanks to the digital age and our increasing dependence on the internet, the lines between these three portions of the Constitution have been blurred.

Compromising any of these important parts of the Constitution would have major repercussions on the world stage as well. As President Doug Treadway noted, "When governments get more powerful than the average people,



University of the Pacific Law Professor
John Cary Sims

they keep telling us we need to give up our freedoms to a certain extent to ensure security."

Information is a powerful tool, and by staying more informed than the people it governs, a government gains more power.

"If the government continues to spread information in private, we go down the road of empires. They must find a way to gain information without compromising individual rights," continued Treadway.

Unwarranted domestic spying creates an atmosphere of distrust and intrigue, liable to stir up diplomatic turbulence both at home and

abroad. The Bush administration rejected the advice of the UN and alliances weakened, forcing the United States to, for all intents and purposes, fend for itself.

As cliché as it may be, the saying holds true that children are the future. And although Ohlone students aren't exactly children, our decisions, aspirations and votes now will shape the kind of world our children and we will live in.

The world we live in is very different from what it was only 15 years ago. Everyone is connected, be it through the internet, phones, GPS consoles, Wi-Fi or any of the

other numerous common digital devices seen today. Information moves around the world faster than ever before and it would be a terrible shame if we didn't take advantage of it. Professor Sims and the World Forum intend to do just that.

Sims' forum will be on Thursday, Feb. 22 from noon until 1 p.m. in the Epler Gymnasium.

The next world forum after the Sims event will be titled "Understanding Indigenous Peoples of the World from the Ohlone Indian Experience." It will be held on April 4.

Students' health to be studied through survey

By ERIC DORMAN
Features editor

The Ohlone Student Health Center will be sending out a health assessment survey by e-mail to 2,800 students starting March 1.

This is the first semester the Health Center has sent out a survey of this kind. The survey was drafted by the American College Health Association, which has been releasing the survey annually since 2000.

Over the six years during which

the survey has been sent out, 576 colleges have participated, resulting in about 355,000 student responses, said head nurse Sally Bratton.

The reason for sending out the survey, said Bratton, was primarily to fine-tune the Student Health Center's treatment of students. For example, if students taking the survey listed alcohol as being a big problem in their lives, Bratton said the Health Center would know to place more emphasis on its alcohol treatment programs.

Ohlone is one of the few colleges that will be sending out the survey by email this year; most other colleges will give students paper forms. Whether online or on paper, though, said Bratton, the survey is fully confidential.

Bratton says she needed a minimum of 700 responses to the survey in order for the results to be accurate.

In order to prompt more responses, students who fill out the survey will be entered in a raffle to win a

free iPod, among other prizes.

The survey consists of 58 questions, said Bratton, and takes about 20 minutes to fill out. She would not comment on the nature of the questions, saying that she didn't want students to have any preconceived ideas that might keep them from taking the survey.

Bratton mentioned that once the data from the surveys has been gathered, she will make it available to the students who took the survey. She also said she wasn't overly

worried about the accuracy of the student responses.

"In the past, students have been very honest in their responses," said Bratton. "Students are very candid about these things."

Bratton said the reason Ohlone has not sent out the health assessment survey in past years was because of monetary reasons. She said whether Ohlone continues sending out these surveys in future years depends on success of this year's survey.

Rash of purses stolen at gym

By CHEYENNE MARTIN
Staff writer

Three separate accounts of purse snatchings have occurred on campus within the last two weeks. Ohlone Campus Police received notice that a student's purse had been stolen from the Ohlone Gym.

The student who attended the morning session of a self-paced Fitness for Life class noticed her purse missing toward the end of class and contacted campus police.

The purse was recovered later with some articles missing. A second incident was reported soon after. This student noticed the purse

missing after a short time, and campus security was able to recover the purse quickly with only one article missing.

Police Chief Steve Osawa said the suspect must have known they were looking for him or her, because the purse was recovered in a spot that had been previously checked only moments before.

After the second offense, campus security produced a flyer to warn Ohlone students about the previous occurrences. Instructors also made announcements in their classes.

The third occurrence was one week later; the purse, as well as the articles, have not been recovered. In this case, the victim's cell phone and ATM card were both used. Campus police believe the suspect is a student.

"Theft is an opportunity crime," said Osawa. He asks that students please be aware of their surroundings at all times and keep an eye out for suspicious behavior. Each theft occurred between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

As there are no leads at this time, campus police ask that if anyone has any information, call (510) 659-6111.

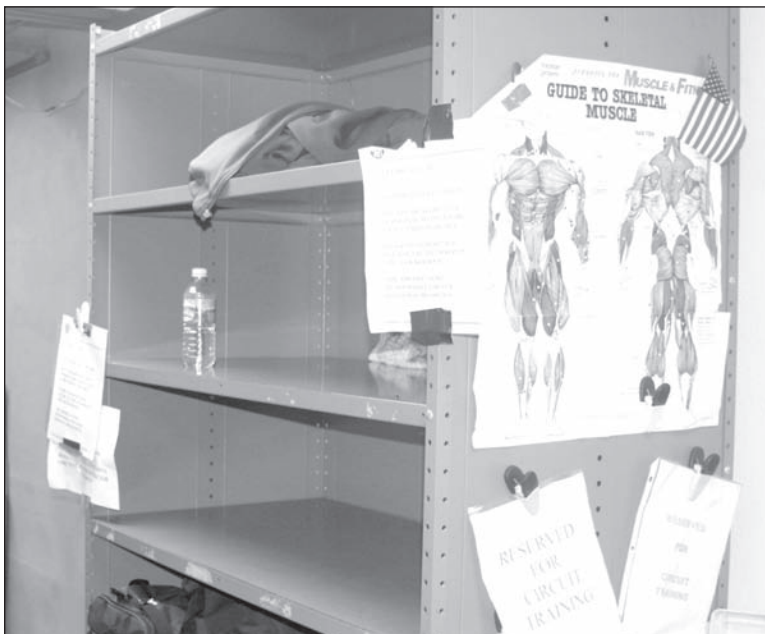


Photo by Eric Dorman

The shelves in the gym's workroom where the three thefts occurred over the past few weeks.

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2006-2007 FAFSA Application
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You may also be eligible for a
Cal-Grant but you must
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To apply visit:
www.fafsa.ed.gov

For additional information,
please contact the Ohlone Financial Aid Office
at (510) 659-6150

