

College to add 1,000 new parking spaces

By **EMILY BURKETT**
Features editor

The sounds of construction have become the norm around the Ohlone campus with work on Building 7 spreading dust, confusing freshman and exacerbating Ohlone's parking problems. While the upper, daily-permit parking lots have been closed since the summer semester, the sudden influx of the fall semester students has overloaded the current parking facilities.

In response, President Doug Treadway has requested a shuttle service traveling between the Anza Street entrance and Smith Center in addition to new allowances for parking on the grass of the frontage property. "The shuttle service is only temporary," Treadway explained.

"We won't be doing it the entire semester, but with the summer heat we think it will be appreciated." Although the shuttle and overflow parking are both temporary solutions, the long term issue of parking is slowly being addressed.

An increase in semester permit fees from \$26 to \$35 for cars and from \$15 to \$18 for motorcycles is further bringing to light the troublesome issue of student parking. While the additional funding is beneficial for the college, Board members are concerned that they're placing too much pressure on the students to fund the college's construction. The additional funding is currently allocated to counter the lost revenue from the upper level parking lots which have been claimed for construction use. In addition, further changes to the

parking infrastructure include two new parking areas: one taking the place of the current baseball field and the other replacing the nursing buildings just behind the Smith Center. Once construction has been completed, the baseball field parking lot will equalize future parking spaces with the amount the campus currently provides but the addition of the Smith Center parking structure will increase the amount of parking by several hundred spaces. However, the semester permit will not cover the new parking structure. The college intends to forge a contract with a private company who will finance and run the parking lot and generate revenue through the cost of a daily permit. The exact price of each permit is to be determined in part by the Ohlone students; ASOC is responsible for

administering surveys to evaluate the ideal fee. Unlike other lots on campus with parking specifically designated to either members of the staff or administration, this new proposed parking lot will be open to anyone willing to buy a permit. Some students, however, are skeptical about the potential fee. "I'm not going to pay \$5 for a parking lot that's not that much more convenient," said first-year nursing student Grace Beeswanger. "Besides, I like the exercise." The structure is likely to have three or four tiers so while not technically a parking garage, the multi-level structure with potential shade cover is a departure from the typical Ohlone lots. It is to be modeled after the parking systems at many of the four-year universities and will eventually

generate revenue for the school. There are also hopes that the new parking structure will reduce some costs for the college. Treadway envisions that the shade cover on the top tier will be fitted with solar panels to ease the environmental and economic impact of the college's power use. The use of solar panels to heat the pool saves the college an estimated \$60,000 a year, and the college hopes that the projected solar panels will have the same effect in powering the Smith Center and surrounding structures.

For students still concerned with the fee, there may be some relief in the years ahead. "After the contract with the private company has expired, we can do whatever we want with it," said Treadway. "Charge a daily fee, reduce the fee, eliminate the fee."

Opportunity to study in China

By **SANDEEP ABRAHAM**
Staff writer

As the new century approaches the end of its first decade, the balance of political power is gradually shifting to the east as nations like China and India plant their feet and establish themselves as definitive players on the global stage. In an effort to acknowledge and prepare students for the world they'll encounter after graduation, Ohlone will offer its very first Study Abroad program in China next summer.

Students will tour the cities of Guilin, Xi'an, and Hong Kong, drinking in both contemporary Chinese culture as well as ancient marvels like the Great Wall and the Forbidden City. The trip will be from June 23 to July 3, and students will be provided meals and housing in three- and four-star hotels, two or three to a room.

Ohlone is working in conjunction with ACIS, an organization that facilitates foreign educational tours and programs for colleges across the

United States. The program cost will be \$3,589 and will cover round-trip flights, daily continental breakfasts and dinners, hotel accommodations, an ACIS tour guide, teacher and translator.

The first payment due will be a registration fee of \$95 followed by a \$400 payment after the first invoice. The deadline for full payment is Feb. 15.

Ohlone already has established exchange programs in the city of Taizhou through professors Pilar Lewis and Connie Olson as well looked into exchange programs with colleges in Hangzhou and Dalian through music professors Dennis Keller and Philip Zahorsky. Additionally Ohlone is looking into establishing a strong connection with the city of Suzhou, one of China's up and coming technological hubs. Hopefully, this trip will be the beginning of a bigger relationship with China.

To sign up for the program, or for more information, contact Dean Mikelyn Stacey.

Brown Bag: new room, new time

By **ANDREW CAVETTE**
Staff writer

You may need to head over to Admissions and Records and change what you wrote on your Ohlone College Application. If you marked your racial background as anything other than African, you have made a mistake. Don't worry, the field of molecular anthropology is so new, they shouldn't blame you for not knowing where you came from.

On Friday, Sept. 7, 2007 from 1-2 p.m. in Room 2133, the Science, Engineering and Technology division at Ohlone College kicks off this semester's free Brown Bag Science Seminars with a lecture entitled "Adam and Eve - Tracking the Origin of Man through Mitochondrial DNA."

Professor Mark Barnby, who teaches biology at Ohlone, will talk about how molecular anthropologists have recently been collecting and tracking DNA mutations (also known as genetic markers) in the mitochondrial DNA of indigenous peoples across the world. Analyzing the collected data has allowed scientists to reconstruct the maternal lineage of Asia, Europe, the Pacific Islands and the Americas as our species migrated out of Africa approximately 50,000 years ago.

While teaching biology, Barnby has always been interested in history; this field gives him a chance to combine the two. "I'm going to paint the story (of human migration) and end it with findings we've collected on campus; myself, some of my students, the dean," said Barnby.

Close to 100 people typically attend the events, lunch in hand, and many of the students listening have virtually no science training. The goal of the Brown Bag Science Seminars is to inspire students to consider careers in science and/or stimulate interest in technology. Past seminars have included a wide variety of topics such as global warming, lasers and the aerodynamics of sporting equipment.

According to the Math, Science and Technology coordinator Yvette Niccolls, the speakers are asked to keep the lectures geared toward "the man on the street." Each lecture is followed by a short question and answer session as well as a chance to talk with the speaker afterwards.

All of the seminars this semester will take place in Room 2133 on Fridays during the same 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. time slot. Topics will include: math in movies, wild edible plants, and nanotechnology, among others.

These events are casual and open to the public. Refreshments are served.

SSB construction project proceeding on schedule

By **ELISE LEON**
Staff writer

The construction of the Student Services Building in the place of the old Building 7 won't be finished for over a year, but the project is still proceeding on schedule, said Vice President of Student Services Ron Travenick. The Student Services Building should be finished anywhere from November '08 to February '09.

While rumors of a new floor plan have been circulating campus for some time, Assistant to the President Sarah Zentner stated that any news of a new layout was completely false. She also said that the layout for the Student Services Building had been practically set in stone for some time. She also confirmed that the information on the building was on the Ohlone

website for anyone to read in case of updates.

The construction company in charge is Turner Construction Company, located in Newark. The company is known for being one of the top-ranked educational builders in the nation. The manager who is working on the project is Gastelvo (he declined to give his full name). The company has been working on this project for several months, starting on April 2007.

The money for the reconstruction came from a bond, known as Measure A, which citizens of Fremont voted on back in 2002. The total amount of the bond was \$150 million; \$100 million went directly to the Newark campus, \$36 million went to the new Student Center at Ohlone and the remaining \$14 million went to Ohlone renovations around the Fremont campus.

Building 7 was demolished over the summer due to the building containing asbestos, which was commonly used during the 1970's as a flame retardant. The use of asbestos was later banned.

The new modern three-story building will be used as a Student Center where the Admissions and Records as well as Disabled Students in addition to programs will be held. Many students seem to be excited about the new building, but are having trouble with the construction. "I think Building 7 is an overall good idea, but honestly, I don't think that it is planned too well," said student Kevin Feliciano. "Too many unscheduled shutdowns of water and power and such, and at the rate that enrollment is growing it's becoming an inconvenience because they got rid of more than 100 parking spots for construction."

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