



Title III to introduce more college tech

By **RACHAEL FUNK**
Staff writer

Technology will play a large role in the progression of college development in the coming months, thanks in part to Ohlone's federally awarded Title III Grant.

Title III Activity Coordinator Deb Parziale said that people learn best when they are engaged and involved with their learning. The best way to jump start this sort of involvement, according to Parziale, is through technology.

Darren Bardell, one of the Ohlone Learning Coaches for the 2007-'08 school year, is leading a workshop on the benefits of different kinds of classes such as online, hybrid or web-enhanced courses.

Another learning coach, Rick Arellano, helps faculty on an individual basis by coaching them on how to use the new version of Blackboard (WebCT CE 6) and converting classes from WebCT version 4.1.

Different teaching techniques are being developed as well, Parziale said. Software is being developed for use in language classes to perfect dialect and help the students learn the language.

In addition to the new classroom technology, another feature that will be put to use is online orientation for incoming students. They will be able to learn about the school even if they are not able to be on campus.

Parziale said that when all of these changes have been put into effect, they are looking to make student services easier to

get to as well. Next, they plan on digitalizing records online and scanning records. This means that students and faculty will be able to look at and access things like transcripts.

Other plans include putting placement tests on the website so that they can be taken online. This will make test taking and recording faster and more convenient for everyone.

The Title III team wants to make scheduling easier as well. Parziale said, "We would like to develop a plan of courses to help the students reach their educational goals."

Title III is a grant providing the college with \$1,750,000 in 2005. The funds will be distributed over five years.

The Title III grant possibilities are always growing and expanding. Suggestions are welcome, and can be sent to Parziale at dparziale@ohlone.edu.

Physician explores history of larynx at seminar

By **CHEN LIN**
Staff writer

The evolution of the human larynx and its influence on the development of language was the topic of last Friday's Brown Bag Science Seminar.

Friday's speaker was Gessica Johnston, an adjunct Human Reproduction instructor and a trained physician.

Also known as the voice box, the larynx is an organ in the back of the throat that produces sound. In her presentation, Johnston described

how the evolutionary movement of the larynx further down the throat allowed humans to breathe while upright.

In turn, this allowed the throat to produce a larger variety of sounds, enabling the development of language.

Johnston's interest in the human larynx developed during her tenure as an emergency room physician, where being able to locate the larynx was crucial to helping patients with blocked airways breathe.

She learned about its evolutionary significance from Steven Pinker's book, "The Blank Slate." Johnston recommended both "The Blank Slate" and another book by Pinker, "The Stuff of Thought" for those interested in learning more.

Friday's seminar was Johnston's third Brown Bag. Her previous seminars were about the diet of Ohlone Indians and her experiences as an emergency room physician. She is planning a fourth seminar on the inefficiency of American medical care.

Asked why she selected Johnston as the speaker, Math, Science and

Technology Coordinator Yvette Niccolls said, "She has such broad knowledge, and it's very hard to find a good speaker."

Niccolls works with a committee of two others to organize the seminars and appoint speakers. The purpose of the Brown Bags, she said, is "to get anyone excited about science and to possibly consider a career in science."

The next Brown Bag will be about government regulations on stem cell research and will be presented by Dr. Dina Halme, the California Director of Science Policy. It will be held on March 21 in Room 3201, and will last from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Other seminars this semester will discuss cyber crime and the construction of the Hubble telescope.

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