

COLLEGE REPORT

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For the new student embarking upon a course of study at California State College, Dominguez Hills, nothing is more important than gaining familiarity with the academic plan of the college. In many ways, Dominguez Hills is not like other state colleges. The prospective student should know about these distinctions and account for them in deciding whether or not to select this particular school.

The chairman of the college's Academic Senate, Dr. Jud Grenier, has explained these distinctions to hundreds of students. The following is taken from a statement Dr. Grenier prepared for those Cal State students about to choose an interdepartmental major.

In general, the graduate of Dominguez Hills receives a broader, more liberal, and less specialized education than he would at comparative institutions. The curriculum is not designed to create professionals — lawyers, engineers, journalists, nurses, and the like — but rather broadly trained individuals who are prepared to contribute thoughtfully and constructively to contemporary society and to enjoy meaningful, rewarding lives.

A STUDENT here spends most of his first two years in "basic studies" courses, which are a form of general education designed to give him knowledge of the content, approaches, and techniques of the principal liberal arts and sciences, and to provide the substructure upon which his upper division work is based. He does not take a large number of courses in any particular subject field until he reaches the junior year.

At most colleges, a student "majors" in one academic area — like history, Spanish, or chemistry — and "minors" in another (often closely related; — such as political science, French, or physics). In some colleges this specialization begins early in the student's career, and majors and minors must be selected before the student has had an opportunity to investigate the various fields of learning which might be of interest to him.

Furthermore, the state of California recognizes this practice of a "major" and "minor" by providing for the listing of such distinctions in its credentialing process; that is, someone wishing to become a school teacher must offer himself as an expert in at least two academic fields.

THE DOMINGUEZ Hills student, like those of other state colleges, takes a series of upper division courses (usually 36 quarter units) designed to comprise a traditional "major." But his second field is twice distinctive: (1) it is not a minor; (2) it is not a traditional subject matter area. Legally speaking, both the first and the second field are considered parts of a "dual major." But in practice, the second field may be conceived as a second major, for in most cases nine upper division courses (36 quarter units) constitute the curriculum. The student thus may lay claim to having completed two majors.

More importantly, the second field, whether we call it part of a "dual major" or a second major, is interdepartmental — interdisciplinary in nature. The student selects a range of courses from a number of departments located in different schools of the college and combines them into a logical program of interdisciplinary studies, capped by a senior seminar in his chosen interdepartmental field. At present, only the senior seminar is given a catalog listing under the interdepartmental heading, for it is believed that housing most courses and all members of the faculty in regular departments will preserve the breadth and scope of the program more effectively.

DOMINGUEZ Hills' academic plan, including its interdepartmental aspects, was developed after studying national educational trends and course offerings in Southern California colleges and surveying the school population in our service area. It was decided to offer a program which would provide a liberal arts education with both breadth and depth.

Normally, the traditional discipline provides "depth" and the interdisciplinary major "breadth." But that is not always true. A traditional field like history may be broader than an interdisciplinary field like information systems or even American studies. College planners noted a nationwide trend in liberal arts colleges away from excessive specialization, and it is hoped that the "dual major" will prevent a college graduate from being just a specialist in a narrow field, but a well-educated, broad-minded citizen.

More on the interdisciplinary major at Cal State Dominguez Hills next week.

Transit System Tax Plan Backed

Legislation tentatively Los Angeles County public transit agencies requiring financial assistance has been endorsed by the Southern California Rapid Transit District directors.

Assembly Bill 2136 proposes a half-cent sales tax be collected for six months to insure future fiscal stability for RTD and for eight municipally-owned transit systems operating in the County.

The RTD Board unanimously adopted a resolution supporting the bill, declaring "the maintenance of existing bus service, as well as the inauguration of any improvements, is dependent on the availability of funds beyond the fare box."

THE LOS Angeles County Board of Supervisors, on motion of Chairman Frank G. Bonelli, also took action urging the Legislature to approve the bill.

Monies would be made available for transit only upon approval of the State Business and Transportation Agency, it was explained by Samuel B. Nelson, general manager of the RTD.

Nelson noted that the sales tax would produce nearly \$36 million, enabling the transit agencies to maintain public transportation services at present levels and consider modest improvements during the next three years.

IN THE meantime, Nelson said, programming can continue

for the hopeful development of a statewide approach to the funding problem confronting public transit agencies.

A further benefit from passage of the bill could be the lessening of property tax receipts required to maintain municipal systems.

Offered by Assemblyman Frank Lanterman (R-La Canada) as an amendment to Legislation introduced earlier in the session, AB 2136 would not only benefit Southern California Rapid Transit District, the county's largest transit agency, but could financially assist transit operations in the cities of Commerce, Culver City, Gardena, Long Beach, Montebello, Pomona, Santa Monica, and Torrance.

BASED ON population and sales tax receipt projections, the RTD would be eligible for \$31 million, with more than \$4 million being made available for the other transit properties.

"The plight of public transit agencies in the State's most congested metropolitan area cannot be ignored," Nelson observed. "Continuous financial support is essential if public transportation, with all of its benefits, is to be retained — at least at present levels."

Nelson noted that the transit agencies in the county may have to consider increased fares, reduced service and the inability to replace older equipment with new buses should there fail to be some measure of public fund assistance.

Russian-Born Persons Sought by Red Cross

About half the persons Los Angeles Red Cross is attempting to locate for relatives in other countries are Russians, according to Mrs. Joseph K. Orr, Southern District representative on Red Cross Family Service Advisory Committee.

The foreign location inquiry service of the local chapter is offered in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland.

No information about any individual located by Red Cross here is passed on unless the person consents, Mrs. Orr said.

THE PERSONS of Russian extraction presently being sought include Abram Leizerovich Rozenberg and Mrs. Khaya-Malka Leizerovna Liberman, both born in 1898, and Avrum Meierovich Liberman and Basya Meierovna Liberman, both natives of Zhitomir; Grigori Pavlovich Pisarchik, born in 1890 and emigrated to the United States in 1919; Mikhail Ivanovich Pilius, born Feb. 20, 1889; Isaak Iosifovich Ratner, born in 1892; Moris or Moisha Rozin or Rozenblit, age 70 to 75, last known to be living in this area in 1937.

Others include Arshak Hampartoomy-Sarkisyan, about whom no information is available, and Ignants Benjaminovich Shpigel who may have been born between 1900 and 1910 in either Russia or Poland; Gugen or Georgi Konstantinovich Upanian-Ionov, born in 1921 in Armenia and believed to be living in Los Angeles now.

MANY OTHER persons being sought are from countries bordering on Russia. They are: from Latvia, Simon and Bertha Rabinovitch, a me-

chanic and teacher respectively; from Estonia, Chariz Gansovich Vard (or Karl Reivart), born in 1907 and last known to be living in Los Angeles in 1941; from Hungary, Laszlo Barucza, born Nov. 17, 1935; Sandor Szabo, born Aug. 10, 1939 and known to be living in Los Angeles in 1964; and Imre Tanko, age 44, known to have lived in Hollywood in 1963; from Poland, Wladyslaw, Leonard and Maria Zamolski, last heard from when they resided in Los Angeles in 1938.

Middle Europeans being sought from Czechoslovakia are Alois Velecky, born Feb. 5, 1919 in Drazonice; Fred or Bedrich Zverina, born in 1897 and living in this area in 1944; from Austria, Rudolf Scheer, last known to live in Redondo Beach; and Eleanor Simons, born around 1918 in Germany

and known to have lived in Hollywood with a daughter named Veronica.

The only other person sought is Ricardo V. Laurie, a Panamanian who was born April 18, 1949.

Anyone who has any information about any of these persons may call Red Cross at 384-5261, Extension 330, and ask for family service.

Focus Swamp Attention

City officials are doing all within their power to alleviate the health and nuisance problems connected with "Madrona Swamp," according to City Manager Edward J. Ferraro. In a letter to a homeowners' spokesman, Ferraro noted that the Los Angeles County Health Department could find no evidence of mosquito breeding in the rainwater pool at the corner of Madrona Avenue and Sepulveda Boulevard. Midges,

a similar type of insect, are breeding there, but midges cannot bite or sting or spread disease, Ferraro said.

Furthermore, he said, private property owners have agreed to use a strong deodorant throughout the area to alleviate the odor from rotting vegetation.

The city has also agreed to install another pump to lower the water level as fast as possible, Ferraro said.

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