

December 2005  
Volume 1, Issue 14

**Special Interest  
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- New Student Clubs at PIN
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**COME JOIN THE  
PINNACLE FAMILY  
PIN Holiday Potluck  
December 14,  
11:30 – 2:00 p.m.,  
Rooms 1013 & 1015**

# From the Pinnacle

Austin Community College  
7748 Hwy 290 West

*Reaching New Heights in Education*

## Thousands of High School Seniors Invade ACC



### ACC Student Tour Guides

*Virtually*, thank goodness. Just imagine the logistics of getting the right number of buses and chaperons to transport thousands of high school seniors to our campuses for a look at college life. Big, big job. And don't forget the logistics of each campus preparing for the invasion. From this scenario, an idea was born – College Connection Teletours.

**College Connection** is an ACC program that assists graduating seniors in Austin, Bastrop, Del Valle, Leander and San Marcos ISDs through each step of the college admissions process. The goal of **College Connection** is to increase the number of graduating seniors who enter college by creating an awareness of the benefits of going to college. Physical tours of our campuses have been a part of this program in the past.

To meet the challenge of doing virtual tours, Pinnacle's Video Support Services and Instructional Development Services staff swung into action. They transferred the studio into a sleek, hip setting to host the show, arranged for the distribution of the signal and performed countless other tasks required to produce such a large event... IDS staff, **Nancy Holden**, **Scratch Sperber**, **Melissa Griffith**, and **Mayaclarra Banfi** collaborated with Public Information and Marketing staff to produce the show.

(Continued on next page.)

## New Student Clubs at PIN

(Continued from Page 1)

The first hour-long *ACC Alive: A College Connection Teletour* aired live on the ACC Cable Ch. 19 on October 28<sup>th</sup>. The live broadcast featured pre-recorded tours of our six main campuses. The tours were conducted by ACC students who quickly learned the uniqueness of their assigned campus and conducted informative and entertaining tours.

Thirty high school seniors from the region were part of the live audience. The high schools also sent about 30 journalist students to report on the show. Back at the high schools, their fellow students were able to watch and participate by calling in questions.

ACC student tour guides, Javier Arista, John Bean, Ashlee Easterling, Noelle Hernandez, Amy Holt and Tristan Sierra, fielded questions from the live and remote audiences. Dr. Steve Kinslow, Cheryl Richard and Terry Bazan also took part in the show but it was the ACC students who held the limelight! Their experience of college and ACC, in particular, seem to make a personal connection with the high school viewers.

As reported by Nancy Holden



Behind the scene, the IDS staff with President Kinslow and Terry Bazan, Director of Financial Aid

**Linda Caplin**, Assc. Professor, Student Development, is the advisor for the newly created Military Veterans Students Club, an organization dedicated to the needs and concerns of returning student veterans.

There are more than one hundred student veterans currently attending Austin Community College. The club currently meets the first Friday of each month at the Riverside Campus, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Anyone interested can contact Linda at 223-8107 or email [accvetclub@hotmail.com](mailto:accvetclub@hotmail.com).

Another new club is EXPOSURE, an ACC Pinnacle-based photography club. The club is in search of students interested in all aspects of photography; expensive equipment/vast experience not required.

The club currently meets every other Friday at 1:00 p.m. in Room 405. Our one remaining meeting this semester is on Friday, December 16.

For more information contact the Student Life Office (223-8233), or Megan Baldwin, the club's Faculty Advisor (223-8108 Advising & Counseling).

Last, but not least, is the Parents Club, who's main goal is to allow parents attending ACC to pool their resources and share their college experience.

For more information contact Andrew "A.J." Dennis at (512) 845-8396 or at email address: [adennis@austincc.edu](mailto:adennis@austincc.edu).

## Shirin Khosropour In Iran

**Shirin Khosropour**, Professor in Psychology, is currently on sabbatical in Iran, her homeland. She is working at the University of Tehran and writing about her experiences on her weblog at <http://homepage.mac.com/shirin.khosropour>

She would like to hear from her Pinnacle friends and can be emailed at her ACC email address: [shirin@austincc.edu](mailto:shirin@austincc.edu).



Shirin and daughter, Laura

## The PIN Welcomes

**Jennifer Barnes**, Cashier I, PIN Cashier's Office.

**Renee Lyon**, Technical Staff Assistant, CIS Lab.

**Leslie Navarro**, Head Librarian at PIN LRS.

**Charles Quinn**, the new Dean of Business Studies, PIN.



## Kudos To . . .

**Debbie Fredrickson**, School District Distance Learning Manager for ACC, won a contest from Polycrom which is an Austin based company that makes equipment for interactive video classrooms.

Polycrom sponsored the **Create It Contest** in which contestants had to write a 250 word paragraph on how video conferencing was used in K-12. Debbie's entry was a video conference she planned at Manor High School with Valencia, Spain (as reported previously in this newsletter). The Manor High School students practiced their Spanish speaking skills with students in Spain.

Her first place prize was \$1500 which she used to attend the Keystone Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana this past October. The purpose of the conference was to bring together educators, videoconferencing leaders, content providers, and industry representatives to learn how interactive videoconferencing technology can motivate students and ignite opportunities for learning, help users reach beyond the limitations of their local and regional resources and create links with users around the world.

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**Gill Waterson** for participating in the **Walk for a Cure** on November 6, which raises money to fight breast cancer through the Susan B. Kommen Foundation. Gill ran the 5K (3.1 miles) in 27 ½ minutes!

This year's race had a record entry of over 20,000 participants and made over 1 million dollars. 75% of money raised stays in central Texas. Gill has run every race since it started in Austin. The first Austin race was held on a rainy Sunday morning with 800 participants. The then Governor, George Bush ran the race.

(Kudos continued next page)

## And Kudos To . . .

**Rachel Barrett**, on her new position, Administrative Assistant III in the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department at PIN, Room 1028.

**ACC Pinnacle Campus SECC Contributors**, for their record-breaking donations.

### Contribution Totals by Campus

	2003	2004		2005	
		#	\$	#	\$
Cypress Creek	1,587.00	15	3,569.00	13	3091.00
Eastview	4,955.00	19	4,110.00	29	5178.96
Highland Business Center	3,905.00	37	8,342.04	29	6937.40
Northridge	5,345.00	20	4,742.00	21	6588.00
<b>Pinnacle</b>	<b>6,915.00</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>5,802.00</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>7316.00</b>
Rio Grande	2,497.00	44	3,168.00	39	6046.77
Riverside	6,772.98	38	5,828.65	30	4036.00
Service Center	2,482.00	17	3,754.00	20	4628.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$34,461.98</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>\$39,315.69</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>\$43,822.13</b>



*from the PINNACLE* is a campus publication with Rita Banninger, Evening Supervisor, serving as editor. For Austin Community College information please contact our website at [www.austin.cc.tx.us](http://www.austin.cc.tx.us)

## Ask Annie

- Q. With the recent rise of gasoline prices is there anything PIN commuters can do and at the same time alleviate the parking lot congestion during peak hours?
- R. The rising gas prices are just one more reason to think about changing our “one-person, one car” driving habits. If you are interested in carpooling with another PIN worker who lives near you, even if it’s just once a week, Capital Metro has a great service that can help.

Go to [http://www.capmetro.org/riding/car\\_pool.asp](http://www.capmetro.org/riding/car_pool.asp) and click on the “rideshare application” or call them at 477-RIDE to give them your information. They will use their Database to give you the email addresses of other People who live and work near you and have similar schedules. No commitment required.

## PIN Calendar of Events

December 9, 2005      PAQ Completion Deadline for Employees

**December 14, 2005      Pinnacle Holiday Party**  
**11:30 – 2:00 p.m.      Rooms 1013 & 1015**

**Employees are asked to bring \$5.00 worth of canned food or \$5.00 donations (for Capital Area Food Bank).**

December 18, 2005      Fall Classes End

December 23, 2005      Holiday Break Begins

January 3, 2006      Campus Open for Intercession

January 17, 2006      Spring Semester Begins