May 18, 2015

Countdown to Riverside City College’s 100th Anniversary

On Tuesday May 19th Moreno Valley College political science professor Fabian Biancardi Ph.D. will deliver the 55th Annual Distinguished Faculty Lecture on the Riverside City College Campus. Officially, the first Faculty Lecture was presented on April 21, 1961 by Cecil Stalder (History 1946-1967). Stalder’s lecture can be heard by using this link: https://mediasite.rcc.edu/rcc/Play/5807b023e141e498c02313877c98df1d. It is a little-remembered fact that five previous “Faculty Lectures” were presented between December 1956 and May 1957 at the college. The pamphlet below was distributed to publicize the talks.

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Riverside College
Invites Your Attendance at a Series of Assemblies
Featuring

FACULTY LECTURES

THE JUNIOR COLLEGE TODAY AND TOMORROW
Earl A. McDermott, vice-president and registrar
11 a.m., Friday,Dec. 7, 1956

A FLESH LOOKS AT THE WORLD
Rudolph Horstman, instructor in mathematics
11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 11, 1957

ARE THERE TOO MANY OF US?
Instructors:
Lee Gladden (psychology),
Cecil Johnson (biology),
Maurice McKenzie (economics),
Cecil Stalder (sociology),
and John Newstead (business)
11 a.m., Friday, Feb. 15, 1957

CAN RIVERSIDE BEAT THE SMOG?
E. W. Peck, instructor in geography
11 a.m., Friday, Mar. 22, 1957

CALIFORNIA DESERTS
Edmund Jueger, instructor in zoology, retired
11 a.m., Friday, May 10, 1957

NO ADMISSION CHARGE

AUDITORIUM

RIVERSIDE COLLEGE
3608 Terracina Drive
Riverside, California
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On the last page of the pamphlet the paragraph below appears. One could consider it the mid-1950s “Mission Statement” of Riverside College (as RCC was known at the time).

“A large number of students have well defined vocational aims and plan to end their formal education with one or two years at the junior college. For these, Riverside College offers carefully developed terminal programs in such fields as auto mechanics, business, cosmetology, electronics, and vocational nursing. Another portion of the student body contemplates transferring after one or two years to a four-year institution. To meet these needs the College offers a broad program in lower division courses. All students, no matter what their personal educational aims, require experiences which will stimulate their interest in the world about them and which will develop skills necessary to intelligent participation in civic and social affairs. Some of these needs are met in courses they elect to take, others the College seeks to meet through such programs as this series of faculty lectures.”

Inside the Faculty Lecture pamphlet, the first presentation listed was by Earl McDermont (History, Registrar and Vice President, 1921-1958).

“CALIFORNIANS by the thousands have crowded into public and private colleges in search of post-high school education. With facilities in the four-year institutions strained to the limit, the junior colleges are being called upon to assume an increasing responsibility for lower division training. Riverside College has already been affected by this development, but even greater changes are in store for the local junior college. EARL A. McDERMONT is particularly qualified to discuss the present and the future of Riverside College because he has been associated with it since 1921, first as an instructor in history and now as vice-president and registrar.”

The December 6, 1956 edition of the “Tiger Times” student newspaper reported on McDermont’s upcoming lecture:
When Earl McDermont, vice-president and registrar, steps the speaker’s stand tomorrow at 11 a.m. to inaugurate the first of a series of faculty lectures, he will bring with him knowledge gained from 35 years of junior college experience at Riverside College. This background is particularly appropriate, because McDermont’s topic tomorrow will be ‘Riverside College, Today and Tomorrow.’ The registrar is an alumnus of Occidental College, took his master’s degree at Columbia and has done other graduate work at the University of California at Berkeley. McDermont has served on many junior college boards and committees during his years at RC. Last year he was the president of the Southern California College Registrars Association. This group meets two or three times annually to discuss the problems of their respective colleges. In his speech tomorrow, McDermont will discuss the changes that the junior college has undergone since its conception and its duty to the student and the community, both today and in the future. He will outline the history of Riverside College from the time it was merely an extension of high school and a prep school for college, through the development of cooperation plans with industry and the gradual institution of completed courses such as cosmetology, police and nurse training, and the offering of a well-rounded undergraduate program. Also discussed will be the problems of the junior college, touching upon the mixed character of JC students, the varied goals of the enrollees and the problems of placing students in the field in which they are best qualified to serve their communities.”

In the Faculty Lecture pamphlet, the second presentation listed was by Rudolph Horstman (Mathematics 1954-1964):

“RECURRENT INTERNATIONAL crises serve to remind Americans how small the airplane has made the modern world. In a lecture illustrated with colored slides, Mr. Horstman will show his audience what one man has seen in his travels about the globe and he will discuss the future of international air travel. RUDOLPH HORSTMAN has journeyed far during the course of a career as an airplane pilot and as a teacher of aeronautics. He has made no less than 270 flights across the Atlantic and 142 across the Pacific while logging a total of 15,000 hours in the air for American and European air lines.”

The February 7, 1957 edition of the “Tiger Times” student newspaper reported on Horstman’s upcoming lecture:
The article read:

“A Flier Looks At the World” will be the subject of the illustrated lecture to be given by Instructor Rudolph Horstman tomorrow at 11 p.m. in the college auditorium. Second in a series of five scheduled talks by RC faculty members, the current one is based on an unusually rich and varied experience in the field of aviation. Prior to teaching at Riverside, Mathematics Instructor Horstman had been for many years a flier-navigator and expert consultant to various European airlines. During the war he served with Pan-American Air Ferries on the Caribbean-South American hop to African air bases, a duty terminated when the Air Force took over the ferrying service. Following this, Horstmann flew as captain on the Australian-Western Pacific run for Consolidated Aircraft.
consultant to various European airlines. During the war he served with Pan-American Air Ferries on Caribbean-South American hop to African air bases, a duty terminated when the Air Force took over the ferrying service. Following this, Horstman flew as captain on the Australian Western Pacific run for Consolidated Aircraft. For a number of years the much-traveled Horstman was employed by Douglas Aircraft in delivering airplanes to all parts of the world, an occupation which furnished him with many of the pictures which will be shown in his talk tomorrow. He has also acted as technical advisor to Swiss and Italian airlines while they were forming their overseas routes; during these periods the Horstman family accompanied him to Europe and made their residence there. Currently, he is under contract to Swiss airlines to spend the next few summers in Switzerland helping select and train personnel for the huge jet transports with which the airlines hope to be spanning the Atlantic by 1960. Once again, the general public invited to attend the lectures. There is no admission charge. The next date in the series of lectures will be Feb. 15 when a symposium of faculty members will discuss the question ‘Are There Too Many of Us?’ The question, it is pointed out, is a general one.”

Next week, accounts of the third, fourth and fifth Faculty Lectures that were presented in 1957.

There are 42 weeks until RCC’s 100th Anniversary on March 13, 2016.

The Riverside City College Instructional Media Center is bringing you this five year countdown to RCC’s 100th Anniversary. Our intention is to give everyone a weekly glance at the many people and events that have been a part of the college. Our thanks go to the RCC Digital Library Archives and the District’s Office of Strategic Communications and Relations for allowing us to use their photo and newspaper collections. Thanks as well to all of the RCC students and Faculty Advisors that were a part of the yearbook and newspaper staffs. Thanks also to Tom Johnson and Gilbert Jimenez who wrote “the book” about RCC’s history. “Riverside City College 1916-1981- A 65 Year History” is available in the RCC Digital Library. For copyright purposes, all images originating from Riverside City College publications and the District’s Office of Strategic Communications and Relations are the property of the Riverside Community College District.