



August 31, 2015

Countdown to Riverside City College's 100th Anniversary

This week Riverside City College begins its 99th fall semester which will lead up to its 100th Anniversary on March 13, 2016. Fifty years ago, RCC began its 49th fall semester which led up to its 50th Anniversary on March 13, 1966. The September 10, 1965 edition of the "Tiger Times" student newspaper welcomed students with the following front page news items. At the time, R.C.C. had just acquired the land where Riverside Polytechnic High stood and was in the process of demolishing the old buildings in preparation for the expansion of the college.



The text of the article read:

"Breaking an all-time record, Riverside City College's full time day enrollment will exceed 3,500 this fall, Dean of Admissions John Matulich predicted this week. This would be an increase of about 550 over last fall's full time enrollment. Should this kind of growth continue--and it is definitely expected to, says Matulich--the college's proposed new campus will be filled to capacity when it opens in 1967. The new campus, consisting of four major buildings on the promontory where the older Poly High School buildings are now located, will increase the college's capacity to 4,500. Two more years of growth like this year's would give RCC a full-time student body of 4,500 in 1967. 'But it won't hurt us,' said RCC President R. H. Bradshaw. '4,500 will be a real comfortable figure.' He pointed out that the college is now operating with considerably more students than the present educational plant was designed to handle, and with no disastrous results. As Matulich said, 'Let's say that the enrollment will be to capacity. Keep in mind, of course, that this campus was built for approximately 2,800 students and we now have over that amount.' Matulich predicted that final enrollment figures

would reach 2,800 students and we now have 3,500 full-time day students and 300 extended day students to be supplemented by 900 day students taking classes at night. This would bring the total nighttime figure to 3900 students. Last fall semester 2,956 students were registered. The projected enrollment for this fall would mean a 17 per cent increase in enrollment figures. Matulich listed several reasons for the increase, and said that the 'post war baby boom' had a lot to do with the expansion. Other reasons he cited were just that more people were attending college than in the past, the senior classes of the high schools were larger this year than in previous years, and the draft 'forced' many to enroll, although the dean indicated that the threat of the draft may have worked both ways in affecting enrollment figures. Those people who enrolled in college just to avoid the draft may be counter-balanced by those who were actually drafted and couldn't attend college. A total of 22 new instructors were added to the faculty at RCC this year, and all but a few of these were added just because of the growth of the student body."

Another front page article told of all the building that was going on at RCC.

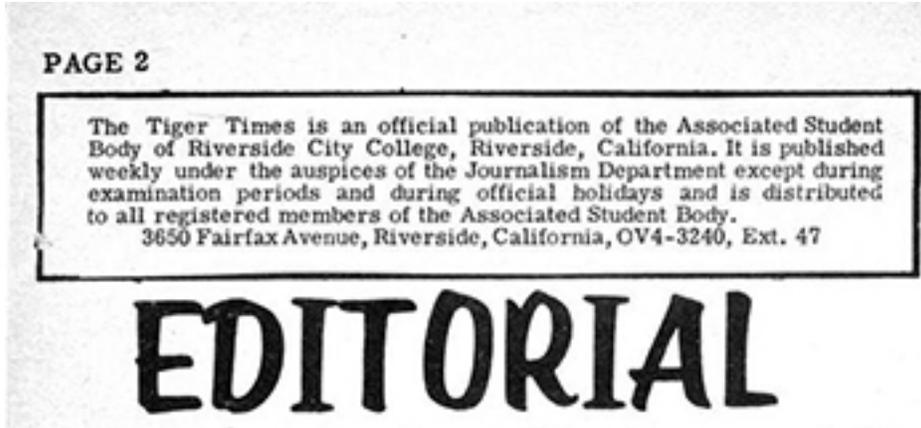
Construction Booms at RCC

The article read:

"In addition to the planning of four major college buildings, numerous other additions to existing college facilities are now underway, announced R.H. Bradshaw, president of the college. Many changes are the result of the purchase of Poly High School. Several rooms in the Quadrangle have been remodeled during the summer. The old wooden seats in the Little Theater have been removed, and 200 new tablet-arm cushion seats are now on order and should be delivered in October. Classes scheduled to be held in the Little Theater have been shifted to Landis Auditorium for now. Political Science and Chemistry lecture classes comprise the bulk of the classes to be held there. The cement entranceway to the college has been sandblasted and repaved to afford better traction in the event of rain. The entire music department has moved from its old quarters on the second floor of the Quadrangle building to the old Poly music department, behind Landis Auditorium, The room adjacent to the present bookstore has been converted into office space and a listening room for music appreciation students has been installed near the old Poly Band Room. Art classes will now have three houses on Fairfax In which to hold class. One more house was acquired during the summer to add to the art facilities. Another teacher, Ralph Butterfield, has been added to the Art Department. He will teach part time at the college. The Student Center Building, which used to be the old Poly Library, will house the office of the dean of students, and his assistant, and will also provide space for the offices of student government leaders. Lounge facilities will also be available and eventually vending machines will be installed so that students do not need to come to the quad area for food. The former Poly Administration Building will become the College Admissions and Counseling Building in the future. This project has not gone to bid for the construction cost. Upon the completion of that facility, the old counseling offices will be given to the Business administration Department. The college Print Shop has been moved to temporary headquarters in the old Poly Agriculture Building and will eventually take up quarters in the Poly Woodshop. Ploy is still using the Machine Shop and transporting students from its present location by bus. A small lounge is being

added to the Cosmetology Building due to the fact that the original lounge has been absorbed by office space. The lounge is set for completion in November. The former Poly Dance Building is now being used for regular classes and will eventually house Art classes.

On page two, an editorial offered advice to new RCC students.



The text read:

Adjusting to college life is one of the biggest worries of a college freshman, whether the thought occupies his mind constantly, or just sits in a corner of it. While attending high school, college prep students hear of little else but the rigors of 'college life.' It is because of this that first year students come to RCC not a little apprehensive about what they will experience. The end result, in most cases, seems to be that the new student studies tremendously hard during the first few weeks of school. Every passing reference of an instructor to a source of information is taken as a command to obtain it, and study it in depth. While in some cases this may be exactly what the teacher expects, for the most part the passing reference was just that, a passing reference. Gradually, as the semester becomes older, this grossly overworked individual sees that others around him are not studying nearly so hard. In fact, they seem to be spending most of their time in the pit learning about other aspects of 'college life'. Then begins the let-down. Grades, which were previously high, due to over-diligence, begin to fall. The better course of action, it would seem, would be to start at an even pace and remain with it throughout the entire semester. The extremes are what make 'college life' as frightening as it seems to be."

Meanwhile, an "Orientation" was offered to incoming R.C.C. freshmen as reported in the article below.

Orientation To Begin For College Freshmen

The article read:

“Orientation for all incoming freshmen at Riverside City College begins at 8:30 this morning in the Quad with a coffee hour followed by an assembly in Landis Auditorium. The assembly begins at 9 a.m. with the salute to the flag by ASB Vice President Sandra Tewksbury. The invocation will be given by Mark Weyant, AMS president, followed by a welcoming speech by Bill Tichenor, ASB president, introduction of college deans, another welcome by Thomas Johnson, faculty association president and a preview of the college by Arthur Knopf, director of community services. Highlighting the program will be an address given by RCC President Ralph Bradshaw on ‘The Challenge of Change.’ The assembly will close with the freshmen class singing the school Alma Mater. Campus information meetings will follow the program from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. New students will be divided into ten groups. Sophomores Bill Tichenor, Sandra Tewksbury, Nick Ferguson, Kathy Kennedy, Pat Hannon, Mark Weyant, . Phil Cruz, Sue Bassler, Kathy Drey and Donna Robinson will lead discussions pertaining to RCC campus life. Group faculty advisors include Leonard Metcalf, Robert Dyer, Cecil Johnson, Mrs. Wilhemina Loring, Allan Kirkpatrick, Fred Lowe, Selby Sharp, Gordon Stevens, Owen Harry and Mrs. Frances Chaffins. Orientation will conclude with a snack in the Quad between 11:30 and noon.”

There are 27 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.