

**Disabled Student Council**  
**Newsletter**  
**“A Voice for the Disabled”**  
**March 2009 Vol. 16 No. 2**



Please remind students to register for the Summer 2009 and Fall 2009 school year. The last day is April 30, 2009.



The Disability Support Services program relies heavily on your assistance and your kind approach in dealing with our students. This department **APPRECIATES** all that you do. I want to thank those who have submitted reports. It's not too late to submit student conference/ report of your meeting to the respective ADA coordinator on your campus. These are very important documents of each student's file.



Sometime during the month of April the Disability Support Services department will be conducting a survey to the students concerning their services. I will be notifying student/students in your respective classes to drop by my office.

### **Emotional/Behavioral Impairments**

Emotional/behavioral impairment is a broad term which includes psychiatric and psychological conditions. There is a growing awareness that people with these impairments are entitled to the same rights as all other people in our country. However, laws against discrimination do not automatically translate into equal opportunities for all. The struggle to attain a reasonable standard of living and full participation in the community for most people with emotional/behavioral impairments has been a long and often unsuccessful one. Advantages have been made in treatment and rehabilitation, and deinstitutionalization has occurred, the services needed to integrate people fully into the community are for the most part not yet in place. Particularly neglected have been students seeking opportunities in the field of higher education.

### **What are Emotional/Behavioral Impairments?**

- Emotional/behavioral impairments include a number of different diagnoses that have different symptoms and degrees of functional impairment. Some are episodic and recurrent, while others are chronic. Emotional disabilities which are chronic may vary significantly in degree of severity and impairment.
- Significant patterns of behavioral and psychological signs and symptoms associated with current distress and impairment. They may affect activities of daily living, social functioning, concentration and motivation, and the ability to tolerate stress.
- Some psychiatric conditions can be severe enough to impair academic functioning and adaptability to college life.

***“Develop an attitude of gratitude, and give thanks for everything that happens to you, knowing that every step forward is a step toward achieving something bigger than your current situation.”***

***Brian Tracy***