



College Welcomes Large First-Year Class, New Academic Programs and Campus Initiatives

Colby-Sawyer will welcome 400 new students this fall, bringing enrollment to approximately 1,000 students. The college has constructed new student rooms in the lower levels of Colby, McKean and Shepard Halls, and this year will also rent rooms to students in a college-owned residence adjacent to the campus.

The incoming class reflects Colby-Sawyer's increased focus on diversity and inclusiveness. While Colby-Sawyer usually welcomes between three and five international students each year, the college will receive between 12 and 15 students in 2008-2009 from the Bahamas, China, Ghana, Ecuador, India, Ireland, Norway and Vietnam.

This year the college will also launch its new Progressive Scholars Program, which will bring to campus 20 urban and minority students. These students will arrive as two cohorts of connected students, all of whom recently graduated from Cambridge Rindge & Latin School and Malden High School in the Boston area.

The Class of 2012 will arrive on campus for Student Orientation on Friday, Sept. 5. The college will officially welcome the class and mark the opening of the academic year with Convocation that day at 2:30 p.m. on the Front Lawn. Community members are welcome to attend the ceremony.

New Academic Programs and Faculty

This fall students can choose from several new academic programs, including majors in Art History, Creative Writing, and Environmental Science, minors in Education and Chemistry, and a Coaching Certificate program. The new programs will augment the college's 12 academic majors and 16 minors.

The college's last new major, Community and Environmental Studies, was established a decade ago and has been renamed as Environmental Studies. This major, as well as the new major in Environmental Science, will be offered by the new Environmental Studies Department, led by Chair Leon-C. Malan. Professor Malan, who served as chair of the Business Administration Department in 2007-2008, has recently completed a second doctoral degree, this one in Environmental Studies, at Antioch New England Graduate School.

"Our goal is to enhance the college's academic programs and deepen the quality of the educational experience for students, as well as draw on the teaching interests of our faculty," says Academic Vice President and Dean of Faculty Deborah Taylor. "It's desirable to have a larger array of programs, particularly since a number of our students come in undecided about their major."



First-year students heading to the 2007 Convocation ceremony.

Colby-Sawyer will also welcome 13 new faculty to the college community. The new faculty include two Business Administration professors in international business and operations; an Environmental Studies professor in environmental science; a Fine and Performing Arts faculty member who focuses on photography and two professors in the Humanities Department who specialize in speech and writing, and philosophy. The Natural Sciences Department will welcome two professors in anatomy and physiology, and mathematics, while the Nursing Department will add one new faculty member with expertise in adult education. Finally, the Social Sciences and Education Department will welcome four faculty members in government and history, psychology, sociology and education.

In addition, the college will host its first Fulbright Scholar in Residence, Dr. Isaac Nyamongo, associate professor and director of the Institute of African Studies at the University of Nairobi in Kenya. An anthropologist with expertise in public health, Dr. Nyamongo will teach and provide lectures and presentations, which will be open to the public.

New Initiatives on Campus

Colby-Sawyer is in the early phase of a campaign to raise funds for a new arts center, which will be a premier academic building and will serve the college community and area residents as a focal point for fine and performing arts. The new center will replace the 50-year-old Sawyer Fine Arts Center and Marian Graves Mugar Art Wing and Gallery, an outdated facility that the college has outgrown.

The college plans to rebuild the fine arts section of the building in its present location and to modestly renovate the theater. The new arts center will feature classrooms and studios for disciplines ranging from drawing and painting, photography and printmaking to ceramics, dance and theater, in addition to prominent exhibition and performance spaces and two large lecture halls. The theater will be equipped with a new sound system and new lighting and seating.

In the last year, Colby-Sawyer has received three \$500,000 gifts from alumni toward the construction of the new arts center. Nearly \$3 million has already been committed toward a goal of \$15 million.

Last spring an anonymous donor proposed a \$1 million challenge grant toward the construction of a new freestanding Windy Hill School. Colby-Sawyer will receive the grant if it can raise another \$1 million toward the building's construction. Two million dollars will fund the costs of constructing and outfitting a new building. A new 8,000 sq. ft. school will bring all the program's components together in one facility and feature computer-equipped classrooms with adjoining observation areas, a seminar room, a curriculum laboratory, resource library and faculty offices.

The Windy Hill School, which opened in 1976, strives to exemplify the best practices in early childhood education and serves as a laboratory school for the college's Social Sciences and Education Department. The school educates 70 to 85 children through toddler, nursery and kindergarten programs and also provides after-school programs for children in grades 1 to 3 and summer programs for children up to age 6. Windy Hill is currently housed on campus in the lower levels of Abbey and Burpee Halls.

To learn more or to support the Arts Center or Windy Hill School projects, contact Vice President for Advancement Beth Cahill at 526-3426.



Students perform in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at Sawyer Center.