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One solution to this problem would be to use the school's wired computers which are free to use in room 116 in the Technology Building at CCCC. However, not being able to browse the Internet securely would result in overcrowding in the Computer Lab or at terminals around campus that students can use.

"If you use the wireless network, you should do so knowing that the burden of responsibility for safeguarding ones data lies with the individual utilizing the wireless network," said Phelan.

A permanent solution to this problem would be for the college to add a password to the network. Even a simple password such as the letter "a" would fix the vulnerability. This would require the IT department to add the password, which will not happen. "There is no project in place to change the way wireless is provided here," said Phelan.

Some students have Gmail accounts for their jobs, which they check at school. "That's my business email. I can't have anyone screwing around with my business stuff," said Tess Hollander-Essig when she found out about the vulnerability. "That's scary," said Kristen Boland when she saw another laptop logged in with her Facebook account. "It's violating our personal privacy," said LaPortia Thompson.

Phelan said, "Certainly making sure

that students' systems are patched to the latest standards, as well as installing and utilizing firewall software" would be one way to protect their data on their devices. Installing firewall software will not protect the data sent wirelessly over the network, so the firewall option is not a solution to the security problem.

"Accessing sites securely over https is another safeguard," said Phelan. When someone accesses a site such as PayPal or buys something from Amazon, they use https which encrypts the data being sent to the website. Using https prevents thieves from obtaining credit card numbers and other valuable information. Many sites support https, but default to using http. For example, Facebook supports https but does not use it by default. By not using https, this allows whoever wants to obtain information to do so when students visit Facebook over an insecure network.

To securely visit Facebook, or any site that supports https, all a user has to do is type https:// in front of the website's address instead of http://. This method will not work on all websites. If someone tries to connect to a website using https when the website doesn't support it, they will receive an error message.

One of two things will happen for CCCC students who use the wireless network. They will try to browse safer, or not browse at all. No student wants to lose their identity, especially to someone sitting right next to them.

Coaches and Mentors program offers guidance to students

by Charlotte Jones

Students at Cape Cod Community College have many places to turn when they are in need of some guidance. A major goal of the Coaches and Mentors Program is to foster a personal connection between staff and students. Advisers in the program have all the resources to support students through their academic training, and help hone important career skills for the future.

While some students start college with a career in mind, others do not. Career counselor Theresa Bowse has been on campus for 18 years helping students decide where they want to go and the best way to get there. One way the program advisers help students make these decisions is through exercises that help clarify what they are good at, as well as what they are interested in and what they are suited for. "We use this as a springboard for career planning," said Bowse.

In addition to career planning, Bowse helps students prepare resumes and applications for other programs and scholarships. "We lose a lot of kids to these programs, but it's a happy loss," said Bowse.

The program offers everything the Advising Center offers with something extra. While it provides the full gamut of academic and career service resources provided by the Advising Center, it is also personalized. This means that each student who enters into the program is assigned to one adviser. Students can continue to see this adviser until they graduate, transfer or enroll in a program that has its own advisers available.

The program is free and open to all students who are enrolled in a technical certificate program or Associate's degree program. Tutoring services are another valuable resource offered by the program. The tutors available also have a chance to get to know the students they assist. Weekly tutoring appointments are available as well as drop-in tutoring.

The Coaches and Mentors Program has been a staple at the school for 20 years. Its funding is allocated by the Massachusetts Department of Education through the Carl Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998.

Services for Adult Learners holding an Open House

by Carolina MacRae

The Services for Adult Learners Office will be holding an Open House from Nov. 15 to Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and on Wednesday, Nov. 17, from 4 to 7 p.m. in the South Building 215 common area. This is a free opportunity for students on campus to take advantage of the support network is especially directed to those who are over the age of 40.

"Our goal here is to help them ultimately finish a certificate or degree program," said Linda Willoughby, an adviser of the program. "Students who have support do better, and there is strength in numbers."

"Students who have support do better, and there is strength in numbers."

-Linda Willoughby

Two recent federal grants, Lumina and Civic Ventures, have allowed for the development and creation of Service for Adult Learners. The program, new to the campus this year, aims to form relationships among staff and students that increase the rate of success.

"We are aimed at baby boomers and up, but all are welcome," said Dawn

Harney, a career specialist who works with the program. With the recent financial recession, many students on campus are older than in previous years. People returning to finish degrees or start new career paths have found their way to CCCC.

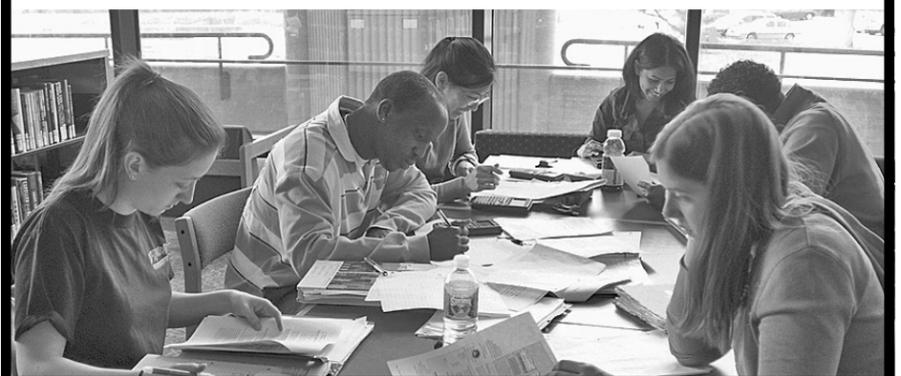
The Open House is intended to bring together students and introduce all of the tools the office offers. Tutoring, resume assistance, workshops and guidance through the admission and registration process are among the benefits. There is a kiosk outside the office which helps access the college central network, where students may look for available jobs.

This is also accessible online through the college website, by clicking on the College Central icon on the homepage. Students who attend the Open House will also be entered in a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate at the book store.

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