

# Reentry Programs

*"It is time that we had uncommon schools, that we did not leave off our education when we begin to be men and women."*

Henry David Thoreau

**E**ducation is the key to a better life and a more secure future. The Reentry Program assists potential students, 25 years of age and older, who wish to begin or resume a college education. Transitions are difficult for people of all ages because they usually entail changes in routines and adjustments to new relationships and surroundings.

The reentry staff has a special interest in fulfilling the changing needs of adult learners. Though many who have been away from the formal learning process are apprehensive, we find that the success rate among returning students is high.

Adults possess certain assets that come only with age and experience. Older students tend to have strong motivations, coupled with a special eagerness to learn. Broader life experiences usually mean more effective coping skills. Staff and peer advisers help reentry students to make the best use of these advantages.

At the same time, returning individuals often face complicated circumstances which, while making further education desirable, also make it difficult to achieve. Our reentry staff can help when complex issues need attention. And, as for the services offered by the Reentry Program, check them out:

**Pre-entry advising** helps you with your initial questions about college. We can advise you regarding eligibility, courses, costs, deadlines, and other services.

**Academic advising** gives you the information you need to make informed decisions about your academic career.

**Crisis and personal counseling** assist you with the transition to student life.

**The Evening Program** provides support services for reentry students with evening classes.

**Peer support** promotes a feeling of belonging to the campus community. A student lounge in the Reentry Center provides a place for you to meet friends or relax between classes.

**Weekly support groups**, including a brown-bag lunch meeting, provide emotional support and an opportunity for you to share concerns with other reentry students.

*Reentry students Carlton Duncan and Nellie Ballesteros (center) chat with Phyllis Redfield, counselor, in front of the Reentry Programs Office.*

**Coffee hours** scheduled weekly provide you with informal information sessions. Excellent speakers from the campus and community address a variety of interesting topics, such as time management, stress control, and overcoming academic anxiety.

**Career exploration and counseling** referrals available to assist you in making well-informed, appropriate decisions when change is needed.

**Workshops**, offered in the evenings and on weekends, further assist you with self-awareness, personal growth, relationship and family enrichment, and academic success.

**Referrals** can be made on your behalf to campus services, such as Career Development and Employment Services, Health and Counseling Services, Child Care Center, and Financial Aid.

If you would like more information about the many opportunities for reentry students, visit the Reentry Office or call (209) 278-3046. ☎

