



RELEASE

SOUTH SEATTLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - 6000 16th Avenue, SW, Seattle, WA 98106-1499

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 7, 2002

South Seattle Community College Announces Floristry Degree Program to End

South Seattle Community College (SSCC) is ending its credit Floristry program this fall quarter.

The change comes in response to lower student enrollment due in part to economic conditions in the floral industry, which have kept wages relatively low. Students who are currently enrolled in the program, however, will be able to complete their certificate or degree.

While interest in certificate and degree programs has waned, interest has increased in personal floral design courses. This interest will be met through the college's Continuing Education Department. New and different non-credit courses are currently being developed. There also is a possibility of supporting area floral shops through customized training.

Floristry courses offered this spring through Continuing Education include a beginning floral design course that teaches how make corsages and centerpieces. Several ikebana classes – the art of Japanese flower arrangement – are also being offered.

The effect of this change on the college's Flower Shop, which has been used as a laboratory for students to develop retail and customer service skills, is still under consideration.

Other changes in the college's Floristry area include the retirement of longtime Floristry Instructor Michael Prihoda, who is retiring at the end of winter quarter on March 22 after serving over 20 years.

South Seattle Community College is located in West Seattle, has over 7,500 students and is a member of the Seattle Community College District. Spring quarter begins April 1.

For more information please contact

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