



**We'd Like to Hear from You!**

*The News* is e-mailed to District employees monthly from August to May. If you have news items to suggest, please contact Suzanne Fox at [sfox@4cd.net](mailto:sfox@4cd.net) or at (925) 229-1000, extension 1292.

**Reflect, Rejuvenate, Reach, and Rejoice  
A Fall 2006 Message from Chancellor Helen Benjamin**

(Please note this is from my written script; the speech changed a bit as I moved across the District.)

Because I have only one opportunity to speak to you each year as a group, I have to carefully consider how I will use my 15 or so minutes. Last year, I talked to you about our challenges as a district and the fact that we needed to work together to grow our enrollment. I emphasized that growth was the key to our financial security. That is still true. Our enrollment has not grown Districtwide; however, our financial condition is much better today than it was a year ago. That must be explained. As our Interim Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration, Doug Roberts, explains, "It is a tale of good fortune." I will, therefore, spend my time this year talking to you primarily about money.

When we ended negotiations in April of last year, the projected ending fund balance for 2005-06 was approximately \$4.9 million based on the best information we had at the time. We had no idea that the legislature would drastically increase the 2005-06 system funding or that the enrollment declines of our sister districts would result in our receiving additional funding. Today, the pre-closing fund balance is \$12.9 million, an increase of \$7.9 million and counting. I want to add here that we are within a few weeks of closing our 2005-06 books, the earliest closing in the last ten years.

**Where Did The Money Come From?**

**Changes to the 2005-06 Projected Unrestricted Fund,  
Ending Fund Balance - a Tale of Good Fortune**

On April 7, 2005 (when agreement was reached with United Faculty), the projected 2005-06 Ending Fund Balance was 3.41%:	4,866,219	<b>Original Projection</b>
Currently, the projected 2005-06 Ending Fund Balance is 9.3%:	12,847,555	<b>Current Projection</b>
<b>That's a difference of almost \$8 million ... How did that happen?!</b>	7,981,336	<b>Difference</b>

**Basically ... the District has experienced an unusual amount of Good Luck!**

At 4/7/05, the District was still budgeting a 1% apportionment funding deficit factor. Three months later, in the 2005-06 Budget, the State legislature included "backfill" for the community college property tax shortfall. Suddenly, there was no more "deficit" for 2004-05, and the revenue increase wound-up improving the 2005-06 beginning fund balance.

**1,205,552**

**No Deficit in 2004-05**

As part of the "closing", the District had sufficient "qualifying" expenditures to recognize a "transfer-in" from Prop 20 Lottery Funding.

**649,947**

**2004-05 Prop 20 Lottery Funds**

At 4/7/05, the District was using the latest COLA projection, which was 3.93%. By the time that the Budget was passed, COLA had been increased to 4.23%. The 0.30% increase translated to a \$355,189 funding increase.

**355,189**

**Increased 2005-06 COLA**

At 4/7/05, the District's projected increase in Health Care costs was 15%. This increase was based on the increase seen in the preceding year. As the experience-factor from the prior years' increase to co-pays kicked-in, the actual 2005-06 increase was 8.3%. The decrease (from the originally projected amount) meant a cost avoidance of \$959,564.

**959,564**

**Reduced Increase in 2005-06 Health Costs**

At 4/7/05, there was no clear picture as to the size (or restrictions) of "Equalization" funding for 2005-06. As such, the District did not budget any Equalization funding for 2005-06. By the time the State budget was passed, the District was in line to receive \$1,166,006 in 2005-06 Equalization funding.

**1,166,006**

**2005-06 Equalization**

At 4/7/05, the District was projecting a 1% deficit factor for 2005-06. This was based on the fact that the District had received deficit funding in each of the preceding three fiscal years, and 2004-05 (at the time) was also coming in with a 1% deficit. Because of the availability of Statewide money (due to the 2005-06 enrollment decline of other districts throughout the State) there was sufficient alternative funding to backfill the deficit.

**1,219,503**

**No Deficit in 2005-06**

As part of the 2005-06 "February Revise," the State Chancellor's Office announced that for 2004-05, there were no unfunded FTES throughout the State. As such, the "Basic Skills" funding that had been available for 2004-05 (to fund, unfunded basic skills FTES) would be "re-allocated" (on a one-time basis) during 2005-06.

**670,207**

**One-time Allocation for Unused 2004-05 Basic Skills Funding**

<p>Back in 2001-02, the District belonged to an energy-purchasing consortium sponsored by the CCLC. The contract that the consortium had was with ENRON. When ENRON went bankrupt, the District accrued a \$600,000 liability for potential amounts (owed, but not paid) to the now bankrupt entity. In 2005-06, the bankruptcy settlement came, and the District's cost was only \$360,000.</p>	<p><b>239,460</b></p>	<p><b>ENRON Settlement</b></p>
<p>For 2005-06, the District budgeted an amount... (for non-resident tuition and foreign student capital outlay fees )... slightly less than the amount received in 2004-05. By the spring term, Nonresident fees exceeded the original budget by \$600,000.</p>	<p><b>608,996</b></p>	<p><b>Increased Non-resident Tuition</b></p>
<p>For 2005-06, the District budgeted \$100,000 for State Mandated Cost reimbursements. In 2003-04, such receipts were \$0, and in 2004-05, total receipts were \$15,590. The 2005-06 budget was based on a guesstimate of the District's FTES prorata share of the funding being made available Statewide. Instead of the \$100,000 that was originally budgeted, the District received \$198,968.</p>	<p><b>98,968</b></p>	<p><b>Increased State Mandated Cost Reimbursement</b></p>
<p>At the end of 2004-05, the District made an <i>estimate</i> of the unpaid apportionment owed to the District. This amount was based on FTES reported at the time. By the final reporting period, the District was able to report some late-entered positive attendance. This, combined with some State adjustments, created some additional 2004-05 funding, recognized in the "February Revise" for 2005-06.</p>	<p><b>94,194</b></p>	<p><b>Prior Year Apportionment Correction</b></p>
<p>Through their own entrepreneurial activities, the Colleges earn "local" income that <u>stays</u> with the Colleges. Usually this revenue is used to offset associated activity expenditures. At the beginning of the year, the Colleges are (conservatively) budgeted for a minimum-amount. For 2005-06, \$700,000 in budgetary increase have been made. As part of the overall "budget-to-actual-reconciliation" process, it will be determined just how much of this revenue will be "carried over" as College "designated" fund balance.</p>	<p><b>700,000</b></p>	<p><b>Increased College Revenues</b></p>
<p><b>Total Increases since April 7, 2005</b></p>	<p><b>7,967,586</b></p>	

We began building the 2006-07 District budget with more than \$12.9 million to which much has to be added and subtracted. In the end, we will have ongoing and one-time funds above our required expenses. We have already returned approximately \$2 million of the \$7.9 million to you in the form of a one-time bonus which you will receive this month. I know that many of you questioned this action. Our Governing

Board, the Cabinet, and I felt that giving employees a portion of the “good fortune” was the right thing to do in light of the sacrifices you have made: no salary increases have been given since September of 2002, and salaries have been reduced for all employees. (I failed to mention in person that the one-time “bonus” was broached by United Faculty team members in our current negotiations in the spring.)

The State budget is very favorable for us this year. It includes COLA and block grants that will help us considerably.

#### **What do we have to consider as we move forward?**

- Full-time equivalent students are not increasing throughout the District.
- All funds are not ongoing; some are one-time. (This year the budget will show ongoing and one-time funding separately to better identify these areas.)
- Finally, we have to consider this is an election year and things could change after November.

#### **What we will not do?**

- We will not go on a spending spree! The direction from our Governing Board is very clear. We must be conservative in our spending. We cannot find ourselves in the position where we have to cut employee salaries again or operating budgets.

#### **What will we do?**

- The Governing Board has given very clear directions in this regard. Contractual step, column, and longevity increases will continue as they always have. The top priority for the Governing Board, the Cabinet, and me is the restoration of employee salaries if we can afford it. We have to get our expenditures in line with our revenues. Although our revenues have decreased over the last few years, we have not reduced our expenditures accordingly. As we plan for 2007-08, we must reach this goal while simultaneously restoring salaries, retaining current employees, and offering essential services for student success.

I could say a lot more about the budget, but I will stop there and just briefly mention other goals for the year.

- **Strategic Planning:** A District strategic plan has to be developed for 2007-10. You will be asked to participate in activities as we review our vision and mission statements and develop strategic initiatives.
- **Interest-Based Bargaining (IBB):** One-hundred-sixty (160) faculty, classified staff, managers, and supervisors participated in IBB training throughout the District. I am inviting individuals who participated in the training to serve as trainers as we attempt to use IBB techniques in resolving issues. Please watch for these e-mails.

#### **Theme for This Year**

My theme for this year is ***Reflect, Rejuvenate, Reach, and Rejoice!*** I invite each of you to join me in doing so. (The fourth “R” for Rejoice was added upon the recommendation of a faculty member who e-mailed me after hearing the speech.)

**Reflect** – Take time to reflect on the past as a means of improving our present and our future. I emphasize, of course, not dwelling on the past but giving meaningful consideration to what has gone on before. Consider the positive aspects, in particular, our individual and shared accomplishments.

**Rejuvenate** – Make time for personal renewal. We spend a considerable amount of time at work. Find productive ways to relieve tension or stress so that we live balanced lives.

**Reach** – Continue to reach ahead and embrace the challenges we face. In order to meet the challenges, we have to go beyond the ordinary in our actions and perform extraordinarily.

**Rejoice** – Celebrate the fine work being done across the District!

Thank you for your indulgence this morning; it has been a pleasure to address you. Have a wonderful year! If you want to talk to me personally, I will again this semester hold Chancellor's Chats at each location.

### **Chancellor's Chats Resume for Fall 2006**

Again this year, Chancellor Helen Benjamin will have regular office hours for all District employees at each of the District sites.

These 15-minute meetings are open to both individuals and groups. If you desire, you may also visit the Chancellor at any location, not necessarily your own. To schedule an appointment, e-mail Pat Kaya at [pkaya@4cd.net](mailto:pkaya@4cd.net) or telephone phone (925) 229-1000, Ext. 1204.

## **Campus Office Hours**

### **Brentwood Center**

Tuesday, September 19  
5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
C2

### **Contra Costa College**

Wednesday, November 1  
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
AA-205

### **Diablo Valley College**

Thursday, September 28  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
BFL 109

### **District Office**

Thursday, November 9  
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Chancellor's Office

### **Los Medanos College**

Monday, September 18  
10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
President's Conference Room (#409)

### **San Ramon Valley Campus**

Thursday, December 14  
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Location: TBA



## People...

### District Selects Leaders for 2006-07

Chancellor Helen Benjamin recently announced the following administrative appointments for 2006-07. Join with her in welcoming these individuals to their new assignments!

#### McKinley Williams Named Contra Costa College President



The Governing Board approved the appointment of McKinley Williams as the new Contra Costa College President at its June meeting. Formerly the Vice President for Academic and Student Services, he succeeds Helen Benjamin, who became the District's Chancellor in August 2005.

Williams, a Richmond native and El Sobrante resident, will serve as the tenth President of the college.

Extremely knowledgeable of colleges in urban settings, Williams began his community college career in the Peralta Community College District where he served in several leadership positions before accepting an appointment in the District as Dean of Instruction at Contra Costa in 1990. He subsequently served as Dean of the College, Vice President of Academic and Student Services, and as Interim President in the mid-nineties and again in the 2005-06 academic year.

Williams has made considerable contributions to the college and the District during his tenure. He coordinated the development of the PACE Program at the college. He also negotiated an exchange program with the Osaka College of High Technology in Japan for students interested in physical education and biotechnology. He was instrumental in the establishment and continued success of the Middle College High School on the campus, one of the highest performing high schools in the state.

He has worked successfully with faculty, managers, and classified staff on numerous educational and entrepreneurial efforts, including the establishment of the Center for Science Excellence, a program that prepares underrepresented students for transfer into science, math, and engineering programs at four-year institutions. He has participated actively in seeking alternative sources of revenue for the college. His

efforts have resulted in two Title III grants, a Department of Defense grant, and a grant to initiate one of four High Performance Computing certificate programs in the nation.

At the District level, Williams has served on numerous committees and also serves on many community boards such as the Richmond Children's Foundation, Inc., Richmond Chamber of Commerce, the Advisory Board for the School of Business at Dominican University, Richmond Elementary School, Inc., and the El Cerrito High School Leadership Committee to name a few.

Williams maintains a visible presence throughout the college as well as in the surrounding communities. McKinley Williams emerged as the person that Contra Costa College needs and who has the passion to lead what Williams calls "one of the premiere community colleges in the nation."

Williams received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Welfare/Psychology and two masters of education degrees; one in Counseling from San Francisco State University, California, and the other in Psychology from the University of Colorado.



### **Dr. Diane Scott-Summers Named Diablo Valley College Interim President**

Dr. Diane Scott-Summers has been appointed as Interim President of Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill. Pending her selection as the Interim President, Dr. Scott-Summers has most recently served as DVC's Acting President.

Scott-Summers began her association with the District nearly 43 years ago as a general education student at DVC. She transferred to California State College, Los Angeles, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology before going on to San Francisco State University where she earned a master's degree in Counseling. She later earned a doctor of education degree in Organization and Leadership from the University of San Francisco.



Scott-Summers began her professional career at DVC in 1969 as a full-time Counselor and Psychology instructor. She became Assistant Dean of Instruction and in 1988, became Acting Dean of Student Services which became her permanent position in 1990. In 2002, Scott-Summers became the Vice President of Student Services.

"It would have been impossible for me to imagine when I was a student at DVC that someday I would be serving as the president of the college," said Dr. Scott-Summers. "I'm looking forward to this exciting new challenge. Serving in such a vital role will be a gratifying way to complete my long and satisfying career at DVC."

Scott-Summers' position is interim through June 2007. The District will begin seeking a permanent, full-time President for the 2007-08 year.



## **Douglas W. Roberts Selected Interim Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration**



Douglas W. Roberts has been appointed as Interim Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration. Roberts has been with the District for over 12 years, initially serving as the Comptroller and, more recently, as the Acting Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration.

Roberts has a diverse background that includes both governmental and industry experience. At the District, Roberts has broad responsibilities over budgeting, financial reporting, risk management, and business processes. Statewide, he is involved with several professional organizations and was a speaker at the most recent CASBO and CCIA conferences.

Roberts holds two bachelor of arts degrees, one in Geology from the University of California, Berkeley, and the other in Accounting from California State University, Sacramento. He is a CPA originally receiving his license in 1993.

Robert's appointment is through June 30, 2007.



## **Eugene C. Huff Appointed Interim Vice Chancellor of Human Resources and Organizational Development**

Eugene C. Huff has been appointed as Interim Vice Chancellor of Human Resources and Organizational Development after serving as the Acting Vice Chancellor. Huff came to the CCCCD five years ago from private industry, where he served as Director of Human Resources.



Huff has broad Human Resources experience in diverse areas including policy development and oversight; collective bargaining; contract negotiations; development and oversight of a comprehensive benefits program; development and implementation of an integrated selection, evaluation and monitoring system, and the successful defense of grievances and litigation. Huff's selection assures continued stability and strength in dealing with all organizational levels and constituent groups.

Eugene Huff completed his bachelor of arts in Psychology and earned a master of Science in Human Resources Management from Krannert Graduate School of Management, Purdue University, Indiana.

Huff's appointment is through June 30, 2007.





## New Head for San Ramon Valley Campus



Concord native Kevin Horan has been named executive dean of the San Ramon Valley Campus.

Horan, who previously served as director of campus affairs, at California State University East Bay, Concord campus, began his new job on July 17.

“My biggest priority is to help students and faculty make a smooth transition to our new San Ramon facility,” Horan said. The new San Ramon Valley Campus is located in the Dougherty Valley, and will accommodate 5,000 students. Staff and faculty plan to move into the new facility in early November. “The San Ramon Valley is a thriving area,” Horan said. “I’m looking forward to working with business and education leaders to develop programs that meet the needs of our community. “We will be offering tours of the new campus later this year and I hope that all District faculty, staff, and students will stop by and visit our new facility,” Horan said.

Horan completed his doctorate in educational leadership at St Mary’s College in Moraga in May. His doctoral research focused on branch campuses and how they impact student involvement and satisfaction.

Horan was honored last year by the *East Bay Business Times* in their annual “40 Under 40” list. The award is given to 40 rising professionals under the age of 40 who live and work in the East Bay.

Horan received his bachelor’s degree from St Mary’s College, and his master’s degree from Western Illinois University. He and his wife, Erica, a second-grade teacher, live in Brentwood.

An outdoor enthusiast, Horan will continue teaching weekend courses in Outdoor Adventure Recreation and Outdoor Living Skills at Cal State East Bay, Concord Campus.



## General News...

### **Contra Costa Times Column**

The *Contra Costa Times* has agreed to provide our District with space for a monthly column about general community college information and specific information about our District's programs. Look for the column to run the second Sunday of the month in the Contra Costa section (A) of the newspaper.

Chrisanne Knox, DVC marketing and communication director, and Laurie Laxa, CCC public information and outreach specialist, will collaborate to write future columns. The District Marketing Group provides input and topic suggestions.

**The first column and the "To Apply" insert, below, appeared in the newspaper on August 13, 2006.**

CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ROUNDUP

#### **So what's community college all about, anyway?**

By Chrisanne Knox

A California community college is a publicly supported local college offering programs for transfer to a four-year college, career education programs, remedial or "catch-up" programs for students who lack a strong educational background, and continuing education for life enrichment, cultural growth, and skill development.

The three main campuses of the Contra Costa Community College District are Contra Costa College in San Pablo, Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, and Los Medanos College in Pittsburg. Two smaller facilities are located in Brentwood and San Ramon. The San Ramon Valley Campus will soon relocate to a new facility in the Dougherty Valley.

The California community colleges represent one educational option among many. The University of California and the California State University are also part of the California higher education system, but community colleges offer significant advantages for many students.

Community college may be the best choice for a student who plans to attend a four-year college but who is not yet academically, personally, or economically ready. Students attending our District's community colleges can choose to

work toward an associate degree in hundreds of academic and technical fields that will enable them to transfer to a college or university to complete a baccalaureate degree. Students may also complete a one or two-year training or certificate program in a variety of occupational fields, health professions, or high-tech job fields.

Anyone older than 18 who can benefit from instruction can enroll. A high school diploma is not required. Currently enrolled high school students may be admitted with additional requirements that vary from one high school to the next.

A majority of our district's students fall into the traditional college age range, but vocational students and part-time students tend to be considerably older. About 67 percent of our students are women and about 41 percent are members of minority groups (including Asian/Pacific Islander, Filipino, Black, Hispanic, and American Indian, among others). The income level and prior educational backgrounds of community college students vary enormously.

Many students cite upward career mobility as a primary reason for attending community college. These students often enroll in classes to gain the new skills necessary for a career change – nearly one-third of these students are older than 40. Middle-aged or older students are often surprised to meet so many other students who share their age, lifestyle and interests at a community college.

#### **TO APPLY**

An application can be downloaded from any of the district's Web sites, or students can visit and apply in person. Call 800-690-0222 for a schedule and application.

Enrollment is now open.

Semester-length classes begin Aug. 17 and 18.

Short-term, weekend and late-start classes begin throughout the semester.

## **Governing Board Overview**

As the official elected body for the District, the Contra Costa Community College District Governing Board plays a critical role in setting the course for the District's future. The Governing Board functions to advance the best interest of the students, faculty and staff. Its primary role is to set the overall operating policies of the District. The Chancellor, appointed by the Governing Board, carries out these policies.

The Governing Board is made up of five members elected by ward and who serve for four years. There is also one student member, selected by student government, who has an advisory vote.

District employees, students, and members of the community are invited to attend Governing Board meetings. Information regarding the Governing Board members, wards, annual Board meeting schedule, agendas, minutes, and more, can be accessed from the District's website at the following link [http://www.4cd.net/governing\\_board/](http://www.4cd.net/governing_board/). Meeting times are noted in the agendas.

Meeting locations rotate among the colleges, and times vary as needed. Individuals planning to attend a Governing Board meeting are advised to check the District website for meeting locations, times, and updated information.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

August 30, 2006: George R. Gordon Education Center ~ 500 Court Street, Martinez  
5:00 p.m.: Closed Session – Governing Board  
6:00 p.m.: New Contract Faculty Reception  
7:00 p.m.: Open Meeting –Regional Training Institute Board  
7:15 p.m.: Open Session – Governing Board  
Reconvene Closed Session

September 27, 2006: George R. Gordon Education Center ~ 500 Court Street, Martinez

October 25, 2006: George R. Gordon Education Center ~ 500 Court Street, Martinez

### **Governing Board Member Announces Retirement**

David MacDiarmid, representing Ward I in West County, has announced his retirement effective December 1, 2006. MacDiarmid has served three four-year terms on the Governing Board and currently holds the position of vice president.



"I'm especially proud of how the Board has been able to lay major plans and take concrete steps to expand and renovate some of our facilities," he said. "Twelve years ago we saw the potential for growth in both San Ramon and East County and it's exciting to see how campuses are now serving students in both geographic areas."

A programmer/analyst, MacDiarmid plans to continue working full-time in his job with the East Bay Municipal Utility District.

"Governing Board member MacDiarmid has been a tremendous asset on our Board," says McKinley Williams, president of CCC. "He's been an advocate for students throughout the county while always being concerned about improving the programs and services at Contra Costa College.

Anthony Gordon submitted paperwork for the seat being vacated by MacDiarmid, and because he was the only person to apply, Gordon is appointed to the Board as if elected.

Since no one applied to challenge Tomi Van de Brooke for her Ward II seat, Van de Brooke continues on the Board until her term expires on December 5, 2008, at which time Jo Ann Cookman's (Ward V) term will also expire.

### **County Elections Slated for November**

Sheila Grilli, Ward III, and John Nejedly, Ward IV, will face challengers Greg Enholm and Frank Quattro, respectively, in the November 7, 2006, county election.

### **CCCCD to Recruit in 2006-07**

Chancellor Helen Benjamin announced that a review of the District Office management structure will take place in 2006-07. The goal of the reorganization will be to look at the current structure with a focus on rebuilding a robust infrastructure that would effectively support organizational issues and retool the District's future service delivery. The reorganization is planned for implementation in the 2007-08 academic year.

### **Interest-Based Bargaining (IBB) Training**

Classified employees, managers, supervisors, and confidentials interested in learning more about the contract negotiations process attended two IBB trainings offered during the summer.

"While we have incorporated some elements of IBB in past negotiations, this is the first time that Local 1 and the District have used all the elements in a comprehensive approach," said Mark Williams, Contra Costa College Local 1 unit vice president. "The collaborative nature of IBB offers the potential for creating more mutually satisfying solutions, and may make it possible to achieve these results in less time than traditional bargaining methods."

IBB offers a different way to negotiate. It replaces traditional positional bargaining by emphasizing the process of joint problem solving, relationship building, and the opportunity to brainstorm ideas as a group.

"It makes sense to test the IBB process during a time in which the District is not in a fiscal crisis, and our negotiations are limited to a few articles," Williams said. "There are aspects of these articles that certainly could benefit from the input of representatives from all parties involved, so a collaborative approach is a natural fit. The outcome of this round of negotiations will help us to determine whether we would welcome this approach in future negotiations."

IBB training sessions for the faculty were held in the spring 2006. "IBB offers employees the opportunity to better understand and to have a voice in the negotiation process," said Dennis Smith, Division Dean, Physical Sciences and Engineering, DVC. "Faculty and staff who attended our trainings left with a better sense of the elements of negotiation."

Watch for an announcement about an additional training session to be held this fall. The session will be open to all faculty and classified employees who have not previously attend an IBB training session.

## DVC Commission on Athletics Statewide Ranking

(Steve Ward, DVC athletic director, shared the article below that appeared in the *Contra Costa Times* early this summer.)

### HIGH SCHOOL/JC DIGEST

Diablo Valley College was ranked sixth among state community colleges in standings compiled by the California Community Colleges Commission on Athletics and the National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators.

A college is awarded points based on its teams' final positions in the post-conference competition.

The Vikings had strong showings this season from their swimming, water polo, cross country and track and field programs, plus had a bowl game win by their football team and saw their men's doubles tennis team advance to the state championships.

The sixth-place finish for Vikings is the school's best, following an 18<sup>th</sup> ranking last season. DVC just completed its first season of playing in the Big 7 conference, which featured some of the state's strongest JC programs.

--Commission on Athletics

## DVC Summer Power Outage Leaves Campus in the Dark

An unexpected power outage hit Diablo Valley College the afternoon of July 24. The reason was a blown PG&E transformer.

In an effort to alert students of class cancellations, messages were broadcast to area radio and TV stations, flyers were posted at the college and at SRVC, and updated reports were posted on the District website and recorded on the District Office main voice mail.

Classes were resumed on July 27 at which time faculty were asked to facilitate course completion in a reasonable time frame.



A new 10-ton transformer was installed under the watchful eye of workers.

*Photo: Lieutenant Tom Sharp*

## Around the District...



**How time flies...** Brentwood Center was established five years ago on September 5, 2006. Dr. Thais Kishi, dean of Brentwood Center and Special Programs, notes that the activities around the anniversary are being planned for faculty during the fall semester.

*(Photo: Sharen McLean, Brentwood Center classified employee, assists students at Brentwood Center.)*

**CCCCD police caught on film...** An impressive photo of the Contra Costa Community College District Police, commissioned by new Chief of Police, Charles Gibson, is available on the department's website at [http://www.4cd.net/police\\_services/aboutus.asp](http://www.4cd.net/police_services/aboutus.asp). The photo also hangs proudly in the Police Services offices and on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the District Office. Janine Ornelas, LMC dispatcher, invites everyone to visit the department's website where visitors will find updated pages, including a welcome from the chief, individual employee photos, general information, and safety tips.

**Faculty artwork on exhibit...** During the summer, you can see an exhibit of artwork done by faculty members of the District. They are on display on the ground floor of the county administration building, 651 Pine Street, Martinez, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. The exhibit runs through September 6, and it is free.

The artists and their respective colleges are: Contra Costa College—John Diestler, Donna Fenstermaker, Susannah Israel, and Steve Schwartz; Diablo Valley College—Patrick Dintino, Scott King, Jesse Lovell, Chris Marker and Time Taylor; and Los Medanos College—Rosalie Cassell.

**AACC logo on District website...** To promote the District's national affiliation with the American Association of Community Colleges their logo and a link has been added to the District's website at <http://www.4cd.net/>.

**Teachers of the Year Awards Dinner is right around the corner...** The County Office of Education Teachers of the Year Dinner Celebration is set for Thursday, September 21, at the Hilton Concord. Again, congratulations to Laurie Huffman, LMC professor, who is our District's 2006-07 representative.

## Act Now to Ensure Educated Work Force

Reprinted from the *East Bay Business Times* - July 21, 2006.

"Opinion: Loud and Clear" by Bill Hauck and Abdi Soltani

If industry and innovation are the engines that keep California at the leading edge of the global economy, then



a highly-educated work force is the fuel that keeps the engine running.

A report released by the California Business Roundtable and the Campaign for College Opportunity by Sacramento State University economist Robert Fountain estimates that California will need 3.2 million additional highly-educated workers in the coming years. But, without increased attention on higher education, California will run short on fuel.

The state ranks as the sixth largest economy in the world, and much of this economic success has been driven by its highly-educated work force. In fact, California's population has been among the top 10 in the world in terms of the number of people with postsecondary education. This has been due in great part to the 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education, which promises a place in college for every eligible student who seeks it. However, if California fails to provide the highly-educated work force that industry demands, our economy and position as a global leader will suffer.

California's highest education system needs our help to keep pace with the demand for educated workers. According to Fountain's report, titled "Keeping California's Edge," the number of new jobs requiring college degrees, combined with the retiring college-



educated baby boomers, is daunting – equal to the population of San Francisco, San Jose and San Diego combined. Luckily, the college-age population is growing faster than at any time since the 1970s. By renewing our commitment to educating this population, we can avoid seeing our economic edge slip through our fingers.

The fact is, over the next 15 years, employers will need an increasingly

larger percentage of their work force to have college degrees. The Fountain study found that only one in four of today's jobs requires a college degree, but through 2022, one in three new jobs will require college degrees.

Some industries will be hit harder than others by this growing demand, but none are exempt. Education, health care and professional services are the three industry sectors that will generate the most demand for highly educated workers, while three other sectors – finance, manufacturing and information – also face significant economic impacts from these workers. As a business leader or owner, you have a lot at stake in ensuring that the next generation of Californians seeks and receives a college education.

So what should we do as Californians to ensure that we will continue to enjoy our economic leadership not only in the United States, but throughout the world? Maintaining this position – and our competitive edge – will require a sustained focus on higher education by policy makers, educators and business leaders.



A bipartisan group of state legislators is working with the Campaign for College Opportunity to find solutions. California will have to increase state investment in higher education, make more efficient use of existing resources, and develop a long-term fee and financial aid policy so families can plan for their college costs.

Ask your legislator to prepare our state work force and plan for California's college future. Your state representatives can join the Campaign for College Opportunity in signing the "College Opportunity Pledge" to ensure that the next generation of Californians has the chance to go to college.

The state has a unique window of opportunity to prepare a work force that will meet the future demand for highly educated workers. When California created its master plan in 1960, it was looking to the future of our state. It is time we renew this commitment, look forward and prepare the state for a prosperous future.

*Bill Hauck is president of the California Business Roundtable in Sacramento and a member of the California State University Board of Trustees.*

*Abdi Soltani is executive director of the Campaign for College Opportunity in Oakland.*

Links to related websites: <http://www.collegecampaign.org/> and [www.eastbay.bizjournals.com](http://www.eastbay.bizjournals.com)

## Statewide Financial Aid Marketing Campaign in Second Year



Perhaps you have heard advertisements on radio and television recently for the "I can afford college.com" campaign. The campaign website was launched in October 2004 and lists financial aid information, including important deadlines, financial aid forms, and links to college websites.

To learn more visit <http://www.icanaffordcollege.com/>

## Coming up in *The News*

- September – New Faculty and Classified Employees