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District Welcomes New Associate Vice Chancellor/Chief Financial Officer



The Governing Board of the Contra Costa Community College District approved the hiring of Serena M. Muindi as the new Associate Vice-Chancellor of Finance/Chief Financial Officer. She will oversee the accounting and finance, payroll and purchasing functions for the District.

Muindi brings over 16 years of finance and budget experience within the California Community College System. Her prior position was Director of Fiscal Services/Controller at the San Jose Evergreen Community College District, with responsibility for accounting, purchasing, payroll, budget and grants departments.

“We are very pleased to bring Serena on board in this very important position,” says Vice Chancellor, Administrative Services’ Kindred Murillo. “We have been searching for two years to find the right candidate, and believe she has the combination of interpersonal skills, business understanding, and leadership to help this District navigate the fiscal challenges we face due to the state’s budget crisis.”

Muindi has an M.B.A. from the University of Phoenix and began her business and finance career in accounting at I.B.M. She has also served as a board member for the Whisman School District and the Community Health Awareness Council; both are in Mountain View, California.

Classified Chancellor's Chat



Approximately 75 classified staff from throughout the District attended the March 5th Chancellor's Chat at the CCSIG building in Pleasant Hill.

The March 2010 Classified Chancellor's Chat gave classified employees the opportunity to listen and ask questions of Chancellor **Helen Benjamin**. Given the tough fiscal times, many questions focused on the budget crisis, the new allocation model, pending classification study, and concerns over lay-offs.

The chancellor began her comments by asking attendees to answer this question: *"In the face of unprecedented reductions, difficult decisions need to be made. If I were the Chancellor of our District, I would..."* An index card was given to everyone to record their anonymous response to be considered by the Chancellor.

"I value and appreciate that Helen invited **Mike West** to help respond to questions about classified layoffs", commented **Sue Rohlicek**, DVC senior administrative assistant. "It means a lot to know that there is a mutual respect between the District administration and the classified union."

The Contra Costa Community College District, founded in 1948 and governed by a publicly elected five-member board, is one of the largest multi-college community college districts in California. The mission of the District is to attract and transform students and communities by providing accessible, innovative and outstanding higher education learning opportunities and support services.

District Continues American Heart Association Support

4 CD is an American Heart Association (AHA) Gold Achievement recipient for the third consecutive year. The Gold Achievement signifies attainment of heart healthy activity and participation within the District in an effort to raise awareness about heart disease.

In addition to the Gold achievement award, the District also participated in the “**Go Red**” campaign in February. Nationally, AHA celebrates “**Go Red**” to specifically raise awareness about heart health for women. This year a record contribution of \$455.00 was collected within the District for the “**Go Red**” cause- THANK YOU to all of the contributors for your support.



The District Office Staff Development Committee presents AHA with 4CD's \$455 donation check. Front row (left to right): Pat Kaya, Andrea Gonzalez-Lewis, Kary Richardson (Back row (left to right): Jan Boulingui, Diana Rafii, Teresa Cammarota, Marci Kappel, Jeannie Chroney, AHA's Elizabeth Wright

Members of the Staff Development committee plan to participate in the “Start”, a walk hosted by AHA annually as a fund-raising event to save lives from heart disease and stroke. The walk occurs in September at which time if the District maintains its gold status, the Gold Achievement Award will be accepted.



“Our goal is to continue to participate and grow the districtwide participation of the AHA healthy employer program, as well as to help raise awareness for a very worthy cause,” commented **Pat Kaya**, Chairperson of District Office Staff Development Committee.

To find out more about the AHA, visit their website at <http://www.americanheart.org>.

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Become a Fan Today



Are you connected to the District via Facebook and joining the conversations about what's going on? If not, you are missing out!

The Contra Costa Community College District now has a fan page on Facebook. It allows the fan base to post comments on various topics such as the state budget, various District happenings and activities. Take this opportunity to express concerns, likes, suggestions, etc. and create a discussion among the District's internal and external community.

"We want to engage our fans on another level other than using our website and email content," says **Shemila Johnson**, marketing and communications coordinator (interim). "Facebook is a great social networking tool, and we hope that we can build an online community that will ultimately enhance the District's reputation."

Become a fan and join the conversation by clicking the link below:
[Become a Fan Now!](#)

Tenured Faculty Reception



Governing Board members joined the chancellor and college presidents in recognizing 29 newly tenured faculty during a March 31, 2010, reception at the District Office. Approximately 100 family, friends and co-workers came to help celebrate this wonderful achievement.

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“Faculty members complete a rigorous four-year process of review and accomplishments to reach this milestone,” says associate vice chancellor/chief human resources officer **Gene Huff**. “Their attitude, achievements, and leadership are making a huge contribution for our students and the District.”

Contra College	Diablo Valley College	Los Medanos College
Manu Ampim	Jamie Bailey	Joanne Bent
Anoosheh Borhan	Tamar Baskind	Jason Dearman
Miguel Johnson	Jeannie Chiu	Marco Godinez
Aminta Mickles	Kirsten Colchico	Lucy Snow
Sherry Sharufa	Marina Crouse	Alexander Sterling
	Helen DeMarco	Katalina Wethington
	Susana Dougan	
	Karen Gard	
	Craig Gerken	
	Raymond Gilmore	
	Richard Godinez	
	John Hanecak	
	Nicole Hess Diestler	
	Katrina Keating	
	Janet Mason	
	Jason Mayfield	
	Naomi Nezuka	
	Rebecca Opsata	

Clean Energy Workforce Training Program Press Conference



Contra Costa County Supervisor Federal Glover (left) and Hilary Bishop Pearson (right) from Senator Boxer’s office joined approximately 75 attendees to recognize this grant that will prepare workers for the growing demand of clean energy jobs.

The District, along with the Workforce Development Board of Contra Costa County, held a press conference last month to publicly announce the Clean Energy Workforce Training Program. This program will prepare 180 unemployed or underemployed construction workers in the emerging clean energy fields, and is part of the nation’s largest state-supported green jobs training program.

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The \$1 million grant is leveraged with over \$1.3 million of in-kind support from a number of community partners. Students will be trained for positions such as a solar photovoltaic installer; solar thermal technician; solar installation manager; project foreman; solar designer; solar engineer; heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration technician; heating, ventilation, air conditioning maintenance and repair trainee; green plumber and pipefitter; energy field auditor; home energy rating specialist; building analyst; building performance contractor; building envelope specialist; and weatherization auditor.

“This partnership is an investment in Contra Costa County. As one of the largest multi-college Districts in the state, collaborations like these are necessary to create a trained workforce,” said **Dr. Deborah Blue**, vice chancellor of Districtwide Planning and Educational Services, Contra Costa Community College District. “Community colleges are the leaders in preparing the skilled workforce in areas such as law enforcement, fire fighters and nurses. We are now prepared to meet the needs of clean energy jobs.”

Introducing New District Employees

Please welcome the following new employees who were approved by the Governing Board in March.

Location	Name	Title
DO	Serena Muindi	Associate Vice Chancellor/Chief Financial Officer
LMC	Clark Muir	Laboratory Equipment Tech II
DVC	Demis Pina	Custodian II
DVC	Sean Ragadio	Office Assistant I
LMC	Hamed Shahram	Science Laboratory Tech II

March 2010 Board Report

To review highlights of the March 31, 2010 Governing Board meeting, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/March%2031,%202010.pdf

March 2010 Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the March 2010 Chancellor’s Cabinet meetings, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/March%202010.pdf

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