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Governing Board Selects Provisional Appointment for Ward V

Following the passing of Governing Board Vice President Jess H. Reyes on January 31, 2011, the Governing Board agreed to fill the seat with a provisional appointment rather than a more costly election. An ad hoc application screening committee of two Governing Board members, Sheila Grilli and Tomi Van de Brooke, reviewed the applicants and decided to forward three applicants to be interviewed.

Following the public interviews, the Governing Board selected Robert Calone of Pittsburg to represent Ward V. Unless a petition calling for a special election, containing a sufficient number of signatures, is filed in the office of county superintendent of schools within 30 days of the date of the provisional appointment, the provisional appointment shall become an effective appointment until the next regularly scheduled election for Governing Board members in 2012.

Mr. Calone will be seated at the regular March 23, 2011, Governing Board meeting, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

For more details on the three finalists, see the March 9, 2011, special Governing Board meeting agenda at http://www.4cd.edu/gb/agendas_minutes/agendas/2011-03-09-spec.pdf.

UCLA Chancellor Visits DVC

It may be the first time he ever visited Diablo Valley College (DVC), so when an offer to have UCLA Chancellor Gene Block visit the campus to speak to students on February 18, 2011, DVC jumped at the opportunity.

Chancellor Block and other members of his outreach team came to DVC last month as part of their effort to increase the number of underrepresented students attending UCLA. About 75 DVC students transfer into UCLA each year, and they want to increase that number.

The UCLA delegation met with the DVC leadership team, took a tour of the campus, and visited several classes including Puente and an anatomy class. Then, with 40-50 DVC students in the Trophy Room, they held an open session and talked about how state budget cuts will impact UCLA's ability to increase enrollment, and how to overcome the challenges of getting admitted to their college.

"Having the chancellor visiting our campus is such a new and different approach from their past practices," said DVC Senior Academic/Student Services Manager Nicola Place. "It is a good sign that they are serious about getting more of our students to attend UCLA, and we look forward in helping them achieve that goal."



Chancellor Gene Block (second from left) is greeted by DVC students who are interested in attending UCLA.



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Your comments
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welcome. E-mail the
Communications and
Community Relations
Office at info@4cd.edu.

2010 Bond Measure Annual Report Now Available

The 2010 Bond Measure Annual Report to the Community is now available on the District website. The annual report is a mandated communication that thanks the community for their support, summarizes the spending of the bond funds, and includes a statement from the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee who reviews and substantiates that District spending is consistent with the original bond intent.

A copy of the report was sent to all county public libraries. The English and Spanish versions of the report are also located on the District website at: http://www.4cd.edu/about/committees/measure_a/annualreports/Forms/AllItems.aspx



CCC's Jazz Vocal Ensemble to Perform at Monterey Jazz Festival

Some people think it's a great musical experience to attend the Monterey Jazz Festival. Ask the Contra Costa College (CCC) students who make up the first-year vocal group JazzaNova who were selected to perform at the 54th Annual Monterey Jazz Festival, you will find five students who are preparing for an experience of a lifetime.

JazzaNova was selected as one of the top six ensembles in the nation and will be competing in the College Vocal Ensemble Division of the Next Generation Competition hosted by the Monterey Jazz Festival. If they do well, they could be given the chance to perform a second time at the festival and win a monetary prize.

"I attended last year's festival, so I know what we are getting into it," said Daniel Snyder who sings bass. "But this year I go as a performer and that takes the whole experience to another level."

"I am a Middle College student and have been playing piano since I was seven," said Christopher Xie. "We have to commit to a crazy schedule to prepare for this singing performance. This opportunity is really raising my music standards."

"I am humbled and honored," said Marva Dycus. "I realize now the price entertainers must pay to become successful in this business. I can't say enough about Dr. Austin, who is like a big sister teaching me things."

Musical performance groups have regained traction over the past few years in the CCC Music department. Under the leadership of Performance Program Director **Dr. Stephanie Austin**, things are starting to really click.

"I use music as the entrée to my students," replied Dr. Austin. "Yes, they learn musical skills but they learn other skills at the same time that are important in their future like teamwork. My goal is to continue seeing my students transform their lives and go out to be successful, not just in music, but whatever they choose."



(l-r) Daniel Hernandez, Marva Dycus, Daniel Snyder, Christopher Xie, and Lucia Perez are the members of JazzaNova.



Governing Board Approves Formation of School Facilities Improvement District for CCC

Following a public hearing at their special March 10, 2011, meeting, the Governing Board approved the formation of a School Facilities Improvement District No. 1 (Contra Costa College SFID). The boundaries of the Contra Costa College SFID will be the entire area comprised of the West Contra Costa Unified School District and John Swett Unified School District.

The formation of the Contra Costa College SFID is for the purpose of conducting an election and issuing bonds to provide financing for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or replacement of school facilities for only CCC. Taxpayers residing within the boundaries of the Contra Costa College SFID will pay for the bonds. The estimated cost of the facilities proposed to be financed from the bonds is \$97 million, which includes the incidental costs to create the Contra Costa College SFID, the conduct of the bond election, and the issuance of the bonds.

The Governing Board then approved a resolution to place a Contra Costa College SFID \$97 million bond, with a tax rate not to exceed the statutory limit of \$25 per year per \$100,000 of assessed valuation of taxable property, on the proposed June 7, 2011, special election. If the Governor does not order a statewide special election 83 days prior to June 7, 2011, the resolution is automatically withdrawn.

Budget Forum Schedule Announced

The annual budget forums led by Chancellor **Helen Benjamin** and Vice Chancellor, Administrative Services' **Kindred Murillo**, are now set. Given the challenging state budget picture, it is important for everyone to stay on top of the latest developments. The sessions are open to all employees, so pick the date and time that works best for you and attend!



Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the February 2011 Chancellor's Cabinet meetings, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/February%202011.pdf

BUDGET FORUMS			
April 2011			
Site/Location		Date	Time
District Office	Board Room	Wed., April 13	9:00 -10:00
San Ramon Campus	W204	Wed., April 13	12:30 – 2:00
Diablo Valley College	Trophy Room	Wed., April 13	3:00 – 4:30
Brentwood Campus	Room 14	Thurs., April 14	11:00 – 12:15
Los Medanos College	L-109	Thurs., April 14	1:00 – 2:30
Contra Costa College	HS-101	Thurs., April 14	3:30 – 5:00



District Holds 3rd Conversation on Closing the Achievement Gap

Eighty enthusiastic employees met at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Concord on March 4, 2011, to convene the 3rd District conversation on how to close the achievement gap.

The conversation began with an orientation for first-time attendees. This was followed by a session that had participants assembling into two groups – student services and instructional – to brainstorm no and low-cost actions that could be taken in 2011-12 to close the achievement gap. After hearing the recommendations, each group was given an opportunity to offer ways they could help the other.

To keep the momentum going, committees were formed to create a District equity vision and mission statement, and craft an implementation plan of the no and low-cost steps to be taken in 2011-12 along with an associated budget. The committees will formally present their recommendations at the April 29, 2011, Cabinet meeting.



Participants brainstormed ideas to be implemented during 2011-12 that could narrow the achievement gap.

Board Report

To review highlights of the special February 17, 2011 Governing Board meeting, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/February%2017,%202011%20-%20Special.pdf

To review highlights of the regular February 23, 2011, Governing Board meeting, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/gb/agendas_minutes/agendas/2011-02-23.pdf

Introducing New District Employee

Please welcome the following new employee who was approved by the Governing Board in February.

Location	Name	Name
DVC	Fernando Salamanca	Police Services Officer

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.