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Governing Board Recognizes Outgoing Student Trustee



Outgoing Student Trustee Debora van Eckhardt (third from right) proudly takes one last group photo with the Governing Board.

The Governing Board presented a certificate of appreciation to Debora van Eckhardt for her year of service as the District's Student Trustee at their May 22, 2013, meeting.

She was praised for her involvement and representing the District's students, and her contribution to the parcel tax measure. She attended her last Governing Board meeting with a shaven head, a result of supporting a LMC student's fund raising activity for St. Baldrick's Foundation to find a cure for childhood cancer.

"The past year as the District's Student Trustee has been quite an honor for me," said van Eckhardt. "I have learned so much about the District, how to work as a team, and the challenges facing this District. Thank you for letting me serve students and the opportunity of a lifetime."



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Jazzanova Performs at Governing Board Meeting

CCC singing group Jazzanova gave an a cappella musical performance at the Governing Board May 22, 2013, meeting. The group has been training under the leadership of Dr. **Stephanie Austin**, and recently was selected for the 2013 Vocal Jazz Group, Undergraduate College Outstanding Performance at the 36th annual student music awards sponsored by *Downbeat Magazine*.



CCC Jazzanova singers are (left to right): Sofia Rojas, Daniel Ruiz, Jessica Niehuis, Daniel Hernandez, and Lucia Perez

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 Announces 65th Anniversary Celebration



Event planning consultant Laurie Earp briefs the Governing Board on plans to celebrate the District's 65th anniversary.

A districtwide committee has been formed to help with planning the event. Representatives from all constituent groups at the colleges and District Office are working hard to make this event a success.

For more details on the event, contact any member of the following Core event planning committee members.

The Governing Board heard a presentation from event planning consultant Laurie Earp on the District's plan to celebrate its 65th anniversary of serving Contra Costa County. The event will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2013, and features displays, food and entertainment. Governing Board members John Márquez and Vicki Gordon are the event chairs, and the honorary event chairs will be the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors who approved the creation of the District on December 27, 1948.

Location	Name
DO	Pat Kaya
DO	Tim Leong
CCC	Michele Jackson
DVC	Cindy Goga
DVC	Chrisanne Knox
LMC	Lindy Maynes
LMC	Ruth Goodin

District Teacher of the Year Selected

The Contra Costa College (CCC) Academic Senate selected Professor **Sherry Diestler** as the District's nominee for the annual county Teacher of the Year program. Sherry currently co-chairs the Speech department and has taught public speaking, critical thinking, interpersonal communication, and forensics courses to thousands of CCC students during her 30 year teaching career; she has also created a speech lab to help students research and organize their speeches and to gain confidence in personal and public communication.

"Sherry is an outstanding educator and always places students first," says CCC Liberal Arts Division Dean **Helen Kalkstein**. "Students admire her passion and energy, and how she helps them better communicate interpersonally in their lives."

"I am grateful to represent the wonderful teachers in our district," said Diestler. "Teachers have a short period of time to make a difference in the lives of our students, and I feel truly blessed to work with dedicated colleagues as we have that opportunity and accept that challenge every day."

The Teacher of the Year awards dinner will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2013, at the Hilton Concord Hotel. For more information on the program, click on the following link:

<http://www.cccoe.k12.ca.us/supe/toy.html>



Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Ovick (right) congratulated CCC's **Sherry Diestler** at last month's reception honoring all the nominees for the county Teacher of the Year program.





CCC: Front row (l-r) Christian Urrutia, George Morin, Lorenzo Morotti. Back row (l-r) Mike Thomas, Jared Amdahl, Faythe Del Rosario, Rodney Woodson, Veronica Santos, Qing Huang.



DVC: From left to right front row: Rachel Ann Reyes, Karin Jensen, Theresa Marie, Julia Kinkela, Josh Knoll, Advisor Mary Mazzocco, Samantha Chiu, Mona Taleb-Agha



LMC: From left standing, Features Editor Brendan Cross; Campus Editor Kellie McCown; Sports Editor Dakotah Zabroski; Editor in Chief Peter Costanza; Advisor Cindy McGrath; Perspectives Editor Vanessa Flores; Web Editor Jesus Chico; and kneeling, Photo Editor Irvin Trigueros.

College Journalism Students Honored with Statewide Awards

Students from all three college newspapers won awards at the 2013 Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) statewide awards conference held in Sacramento.

The listing of awards by college follows.

CCC's *The Advocate*

Pacesetter Award

General Excellence - Print Journalism
General Excellence - Online Journalism

Publications Awards:

First Place, Illustration, Faythe Del Rosario
First Place, Front Page Design, George Morin and Sam Attal
First Place, Photo Story/Essay, George Morin and Sam Attal
First Place, Feature Photo, Qing Huang
Third Place, Enterprise News Story, Rodney Woodson and George Morin
Fourth Place, Editorial, The Advocate Editorial Board
Fourth Place, Photo Story/Essay, Sam Attal
Fourth Place, Online Photo Story/Essay, Brett Abel, Sam Attal and Rodney Woodson

Bring-In Awards:

Third Place, Audio Slide Show, Jared Amdahl and Christian Urrutia
Honorable Mention, Advertisement, George Morin and Jared Amdahl

On-The-Spot Awards:

First Place, News Photo, George Morin
First Place, Sports Photo, Qing Huang
First Place, News Judgment/Layout, George Morin
Second Place, Feature Photo, Qing Huang
Honorable Mention, Editorial Cartoon, Lorenzo Morotti
Honorable Mention, Opinion Writing, Jared Amdahl

DVC's *The Inquirer*

Third Place, Broadcast/webcast story, Mathew Emmanuel and Sebastian Rene
Fourth Place, On-the-spot Sports Photo, Karin Jensen
Honorable Mention, On-the-spot Sports Photo, Julia Kinkela
Third Place, On-the-spot audio project, Samantha Chiu, Rachel Ann Reyes, and Julia Kinkela

LMC's *The Experience*

JACC Transfer Scholarship, Kellie McCown
First Place, Critical Review, Audrey Gertz
Third Place, Front Page Layout, Peter Costanza and former Editor-in-Chief Sam Gonzalez
Third Place, Inside Page Layout, Laura Crabtree and Lisa Cassidy
Third Place, Informational Graphic, Jesus Chico
Third Place, On-the-Spot Editorial Cartoon, Karl Compton
Honorable Mention, Bring-in Advertisement, Jesus Chico

While student achievement is the focus at the conference, DVC's **Mary Mazzocco** also took home an honor as the California Journalism Education Coalition's Journalism Educator of the Year for Community Colleges.

"It was quite a surprise and a real honor to win the award," says Mazzocco. "This award usually goes to someone who has significantly contributed to the advancement of journalism education not just at one school, but statewide. I hope I can live up to it!" Congratulations to all!

District Students Win AGS Awards



Alpha Gamma Sigma (AGS) held their spring conference and awarded 49 scholarship awards including 8 from the District. AGS is the California Community College Scholastic Honor Society and annually award scholarships to students who excel in academics and/or community service.

Here are the District recipients:

Student Name	College	Award
Debeasinta Budiman	DVC	Robert Mantovani Combined Academic and Service Award
Rosanna D. Clark	LMC	Robert Mantovani Combined Academic and Service Award
Gloria Duarte	LMC	Kathleen D. Loly Academic Award
Maria Escudero-Fung	CCC	Ed Walsh Service Scholarship Award
Mario Eusebio	DVC	Ed Walsh Service Scholarship Award
Loan Hua	CCC	Kathleen D. Loly Academic Award
Paul Rivera	DVC	Kathleen D. Loly Academic Award
Debora van Eckhardt	LMC	Charles Bell Service Scholarship Award

“It is truly an honor for the District when one of our nominees wins a scholarship award,” says Contra Costa College (CCC) AGS advisor **Maritza Vande Voorde**. “Each college can submit a maximum of three nominees, and CCC only nominated two students. All eight District nominees won a scholarship, a highly unusual outcome but one that we take great pride in helping our students succeed.”

AGS is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to foster, promote, maintain, and recognize scholarship. The state organization annually awards scholarships to members and also encourages chapters to provide opportunities for participation in service activities and to award scholarships of their own. For more details about AGS, visit <http://ags-honor.org>.

To read the college’s article on the LMC recipients, visit <http://www.losmedanos.edu/news/2013scholars.asp>.

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the April 2013 Chancellor’s Cabinet meetings, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/May%202013.pdf

Board Report

To review the highlights of the April 24, 2013, Governing Board meeting/study session, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/May%202012,%202013.pdf

GRAMMY Music Educator Award Quarterfinalist

The District is blessed with wonderful music programs at each of the colleges. Professors who share their love of teaching with students during the academic year and tour professionally during the summer demonstrate the quality of our music programs.

Now, a new category of recognition has been created by the GRAMMY Foundation called the Music Educator Award which will be presented during GRAMMY Week 2014. More than 30,000 initial nominations were submitted from all 50 states, and a total of 217 music teachers from 195 cities across 45 states have been announced as quarterfinalists for the inaugural award including LMC’s **Silvester Henderson**.

“The honor of being a quarterfinalist for this new Music Educator Award will allow me to continue promoting and reestablishing the value of performing arts education,” says Henderson. “Along with the thousands of my students from Los Medanos College, San Francisco State University, and UC Berkeley, and my many national, local, and community supporters for their love and support in considering me for this international honor, I am sincerely touched.”

The award was established to recognize current educators (K-college, public and private schools) who have made a significant and lasting contribution to the field of music education and who demonstrate a commitment to the broader cause of maintaining music education in the schools.

One recipient will be selected from the 10 finalists each year, and will receive a \$10,000 honorarium. The nine finalists will receive a \$1,000 honorarium, and the schools of all 10 finalists also will receive matching grants.

For more details about the award, visit the GRAMMY Foundation at

<http://www.grammy.org/news/quarterfinalists-announced-for-first-ever-music-educator-award>.

District Welcomes New Employees

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

Location	Name	Title
DO	Yuan Zhang	Senior Accountant
DVC	Bryan Clarkson	Faculty
DVC	Mathew Zebley	Faculty
LMC	Elizabeth Abril	Counselor