

Highlights:

District Faculty Recruitment Event

Governing Board Veteran's Day Tribute

DVC Students Attend National Science Foundation Conference

LMC Hosts HBCU Transfer Fair

District Welcomes New Employees

Dean of International Education

November 2015 Board Reports

November 2015 Cabinet Highlights

District Faculty Recruitment Event

Responding to a renewed focus on diversity in hiring, the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Innovation welcomed approximately 250 attendees to a district-sponsored faculty recruitment event on November 19, 2015. Held at the Diablo Valley College (DVC) Performing Arts Center, graduate students from around the Bay Area attended the day-long event with the hope of learning more about teaching at community colleges and opportunities within the District.

Long-time English faculty member **Tom Barber**, who emceed the event, found inspiration in the large number of young people in attendance who were ready, willing, and able to do the hard work of teaching. "This type of event is so important for many reasons, but the main one is the message that community college teachers are first and foremost, teachers," said Barber. "We work daily with students in various ways with the intention of helping them to become better students, better citizens, and better learners."

Attendees listened as a panel comprised of retired, tenure-track and tenured faculty members shared their unique perspectives and answered questions from the audience. Following a presentation by Associate Vice Chancellor, Chief Human Resources Officer **Dio Shipp** regarding the District's online application system, attendees joined smaller breakout groups organizing according to academic discipline which were led by department chairs and deans from across the District. The event closed with a special address from **Dr. Andrew Barlow**, a DVC Sociology faculty member, who spoke about the role community colleges play in the quest for social justice and equity in communities.

Diversity, Inclusion and Innovation Officer **Tammeil Gilkerson**, who organized the event, set out to dispel some of the myths about community colleges and inspire attendees to think about the kind of impact they wanted to make in their career. "Approximately 90% of the attendees had no community college experience so it was a day to educate them about the tremendous role our colleges play in providing educational opportunities," shared Gilkerson. "A graduate student in English at UC Berkeley came up to me and said how little they are exposed to these types of opportunities and learning about community colleges was inspirational."



The faculty panel shared their unique experiences teaching at community college. From left to right: Ed Trujillo, Retired DVC Faculty, **Carmen McNeil**, DVC Faculty, **Mark Wong**, CCC Faculty, **Elvia Ornelas-Garcia**, CCC Faculty, **Laura Subia**, LMC Faculty.



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Governing Board Veteran's Day Tribute

The Governing Board was joined by elected officials and their staff, to recognize the Sentinels of Freedom and their financial supporters who funded the establishment of the District's three Veterans Centers.



On November 11, 2015, in commemoration of Veteran's Day, the District's Governing Board paid tribute to veterans by hosting a special ceremony prior to the regularly scheduled board meeting. Following a rendition of the national anthem sung by Diablo Valley College students, veteran employees were recognized for their service and awarded honorary certificates.

Several elected officials were on hand to recognize the Sentinels of Freedom and other financial contributors and supporters who have assisted in the establishment of Veterans Centers at each of the three colleges. Later, representatives from each college presented their own tribute to veterans and shared the various Veteran's Day activities that took place at the campuses. The special ceremony closed with the passage of a resolution to honor veterans, presented by the Governing Board.

DVC Engineering Students Attend National Science Foundation Conference

At Diablo Valley College (DVC), the Architecture and Engineering Department combines research with practice, implementing advances in engineering technology at the Pleasant Hill campus. Most recently, the department received a grant to fund their Digital Modeling Analysis and Fabrication (DMAF) project, resulting in new classes that utilize 21st century tools such as computer controlled routers and computer network control mills for DVC's machine shop and engineering labs. DMAF is a process in which computers command external tools to build things. DVC's DMAF project will create new engineering degrees and certificates in industrial design and digital fabrication.



DVC's engineering design team combine classroom education with real world application.

With these accomplishments in tow, Architecture and Engineering Department Chair **Daniel Abbott** and several engineering students traveled to the National Science Foundation (NSF) conference in Washington, D.C. During the annual conference, the DVC team had the opportunity to showcase their work and meet other grantees – the majority of which were community colleges.

“It was a fantastic experience and we're very proud of our students,” shared Abbott. “It feels like a great achievement to have DVC presenting at this conference and receiving national recognition for all the work we've been doing.”

To learn more about DVC's NSF grant, visit https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=1204981.



LMC Hosts HBCU Transfer Day

On the heels of the recent partnership forged between California's community colleges and the HBCU system, Los Medanos College (LMC) held their first annual Historically Black Colleges & Universities HBCU Regional Transfer Fair.

According to the agreement signed this past March between California Community Colleges and nine historically black colleges and universities, California community college students who complete certain academic requirements are now guaranteed transfer to participating HBCUs.

"This event would not have been a success without the support of other departments on campus like the Transfer and Career Center, the Assessment Center, Honors and Mesa Program, who were all very helpful," said **Faith Watkins**, LMC's Umoja counselor. "Today was an awesome and historic day."

During the transfer fair, which was organized by LMC's Umoja Scholars Program, HBCU representatives hosted booths where students could learn more about transfer opportunities. In addition to sharing financial aid and registration information, some colleges offered on-the-spot admissions for qualifying students. The event concluded in the Library where HBCU representatives, UMOJA students and staff spoke to interested students and answered questions.

LMC was one of three community colleges, along with Solano Community College and Sacramento City College, to host the HBCU Transfer fair. The event attracted students from all six of LMC's feeder high schools and community college students from neighboring districts who were eager to explore this new partnership.

For more information on the HBCU Transfer Project, visit <http://extranet.cccco.edu/HBCUTransfer/AboutTheProgram.aspx>.



LMC Umoja Scholar students share their stories during LMC's first annual HBCU Regional Transfer Fair. Left to right: Umoja students *Reianna Lang, Deja Mosley, Davion Allen* and LMC professor **Tess Caldwell**.

District Welcomes New Employees

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

Regular Managers

Location	Name	Title
DST	Greg Chavaria	Foundation Development Officer
DST	Steven Hales	Dean of International Education
DST	Hilary Honnette	Special Events Manager

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Karen Ruskowski	Senior Administrative Secretary
LMC	Javier Leyba II	Financial Aid Assistant I
LMC	Joel Gallegos, Jr.	Math Laboratory Coordinator
LMC	Phyllis Molina	Financial Aid Assistant I



Dean of International Education

Dr. Steven Hales recently joined the District as the new Dean of International Education. Dr. Hales' passion for international education is rooted in his academic history. Along with majoring in Latin American Studies and spending a semester in Spain, Steven completed his M.A. in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), created an M.A. practicum in Brazil, and earned his Ph.D. in Curriculum Studies, Teacher Development and Comparative, International and Development Education from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto. For his doctorate Steven carried out ethnographic research in urban public schools in Northeast Brazil.

"I am honored and thrilled to join the District as the Dean of International Education," said Hales. "My vision is for the District to be recognized as a pioneer in international higher education as we multiply benefits for all stakeholders through internationalization."

Hales' international education management background includes serving as Director of International Student Services at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, where he was in charge of launching an international office and all aspects of international enrollment management, international student advising, institutional immigration compliance, and campus internationalization. Prior to this, Steven was the Director of the English Language Center at Millikin University where he collaboratively built a campus and community-integrated program from the ground up. Further pertinent work includes his roles as Director of Studies of the English First global headquarters language center in China and the International Programs Coordinator at Mississippi University for Women. Steven has also been an ESOL instructor in Brazil as well as developed curricula and taught intercultural communication and English for academic purposes in a graduate level teacher education program in South Korea.

In addition to his employment, Steven has published on public schooling in Brazil and teaching English as an international language. His current scholarly interests center on the internationalization of higher education. Steven has likewise taken professional development courses and workshops on international higher education topics.



Dr. Steven Hales brings over 10 years of experience across three continents in multiple facets of international education as a teacher, teacher educator, and administrator.

Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on November 11, 2015, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/November%2011,%202015.pdf

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in November 2015, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/November%202015.pdf

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.