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District Holds Civic Engagement Speaker Series

On Wednesday, May 3, 2017, the District kicked off its first installment of the Civic Engagement Speaker Series with an event at Diablo Valley College (DVC) on the topic of fake news. The Civic Engagement Speaker Series is an ongoing event hosted by the District in conjunction with the colleges to serve as a platform for students, staff and community members to engage in respectful, non-partisan discussions.

Students, staff and faculty gathered in DVC's Diablo Room to listen to the panel discuss the ramifications of fake news. DVC's Journalism Department Chair **Mary Mazzocco** moderated the panel, which was comprised of educators and industry experts and included the following speakers: Cody Hennesy, E-Learning and Information Studies Librarian at the University of California, Berkeley; California's 3rd Senate District, Senator Bill Dodd; LiAnna Davis, Director of Programs and Deputy Director for Wiki Education; Sam Richards, Education Reporter for the *East Bay Times*; and Kwame Baah-Arhin, Governing Board Student Trustee.

The event concluded with a question and answer session where attendees had an opportunity to address the panelists. To learn more about upcoming speaker series events, please visit:

<http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/speaker-series/default.aspx>.



Chancellor **Fred Wood** (far right) introduced the speaker series panel of experts (left to right): LiAnna Davis, State Senator Bill Dodd, Kwame Baah-Arhin, Cody Hennesy, Sam Richards and DVC's **Mary Mazzocco**.



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newsletter

District publications are posted online at http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/the_news/

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Former Contra Costa County Superintendent Joseph Ovick. (Courtesy of East Bay Times)

Governing Board Recognizes Passing of Education Leaders

At their April 2017 meeting, the Governing Board recognized the late Joe Ovick and John T. Knox as educational champions for their contributions to the District and its colleges.

Following a lengthy career as an educator, Joseph Ovick was first appointed as Contra Costa County Superintendent in 1996, and then served four elected terms until his retirement in 2014. Ovick supported the mission of community colleges and served alongside District leaders on various community committees and organizational boards.

As a state Assemblymember from 1960 until 1980, John T. Knox was an advocate for his West Contra Costa County community and secured state funding to build Contra Costa College's Performing Arts Center, which is named in his honor. Knox's wife Jean Knox was a founding faculty member at CCC and the couple continued their support of the college throughout the years.



Former state Assemblymember John T. Knox

Senior Dean to Serve as Interim Vice Chancellor of Education Services

Senior Dean of Planning and Research **Gregory Stoup** has been selected to serve as the Interim Vice Chancellor of Education Services.

Stoup brings over 20 years of experience in higher education to the position, having worked in both the university and community college settings. Prior to joining the California Community College system, Stoup was the Executive Director of the Regional Economic Policy Research Institute at Case Western Reserve University.

Stoup is actively engaged in higher education policy serving on several state policy advisory groups including the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative, California Common Assessment Initiative, the California Basic Skills Initiative, the Student Success Scorecard, and in the role of Board President of The Research & Planning Group of California (The RP Group). Since joining The RP Group, Stoup has advanced several statewide broad initiatives (exceeding \$5 million) targeting leadership development, student pathways, integrated planning, and enrollment management. He has served on a California task force examining California economic & workforce development policy, and currently serves as an advisor to the Public Policy Institute of California and is on the Board of California's Centers of Excellence. In addition, Stoup has led engagements for several large national educational reform projects including Completion by Design (Gates Foundation), Achieving the Dream (Lumina Foundation), Jobs for the Future Initiatives and The Aspen Institute's College Excellence Program.

Stoup is a regular contributor to academic research publications including Inside Higher Education, Perspectives and Change Magazine. He was awarded the RP Group Communicator of the Year for his statewide work in data visualization and transformational leadership. He earned his B.A. in Economics at Northwestern University and his Master's Degree in Business Statistics from Case Western Reserve University.



*New Interim Vice Chancellor of Education Services, **Gregory Stoup***

Diablo Valley College Debate Team Wins National Tournament

Diablo Valley College (DVC) Forensics (speech and debate) beat out all two - and four-year universities to take home the gold at the national championship competition in Washington, D.C. This is the first time in over a decade that DVC Forensics advanced to compete in the national championship.

In addition to five individual speaking championships, the Forensics team persevered through 24 difficult speech and debate events to secure the national championship and landed multiple runner-ups and finalist awards along the way.

DVC Forensics has had a successful year participating in various speech and debate competitions across the country, including the Santa Rosa Junior College Invitational, University of the Pacific, the Paul Winters Invitational, and placing third in the state championship. Due to their continued excellence and extraordinary performance, several Forensics students have been recruited for transfer to attend a four-year institution for speech and debate.

To learn more about DVC Forensics or to sponsor the team, please visit <https://www.dvcfoundation.org/>.



In the past year, DVC Forensics has won three individual national championships and reached bronze and silver elimination rounds in eight other events.

District Students Win Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship Award

Two District students have won the esteemed Jack Kent Cooke (JKC) Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship award, joining 55 other winners selected from colleges nationwide. Sasha Graham of Contra Costa College (CCC) and Christopher Fabbri of Los Medanos College (LMC) beat out nearly 3,000 applicants to win the highly competitive award. Scholarship recipients are awarded up to \$40,000 per year to complete a bachelor's degree at a four-year college or university.

As a single mother, Graham knows the importance of hard work and community. Graham sits on the CCC Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) Advisory Board and is a staunch advocate for her fellow students. Graham has already been accepted to University of California Davis and Santa Cruz, but also has interest in attending Stanford University and University of California, Berkeley.

"One of her first words when she was notified was, 'I'm just somebody's mom. I can't wait to give back,'" shared **George Mills**, CCC's EOPS manager. "It is that attitude that reassures me that she is bound to do great things in our community."

Christopher Fabbri is an active member of the LMC community, with involvement in several campus organizations including his work as a student ambassador and tutor for the Mathematics, Engineering, Science, Achievement (MESA) program. He served in the United States Navy from November 2006 until November 2009 and is a contributing member of the LMC Veterans Club. Fabbri plans to graduate in spring 2017 with associate degrees in Liberal Arts (Math & Science), Fire Technology, and Biological Science. He is considering attending University of California, Santa Cruz or San Diego in pursuit of a bachelor degree in biology.

"Chris has a good story and has achieved academic excellence at LMC," said **Tammy Oranje**, LMC's scholarship coordinator. "He is involved in the community on and off campus, served his country, and his ability to achieve his educational and career goals is indisputable."

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, established in 2000, is a private, independent foundation dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promising students who have financial need. The Foundation was created through the will of prominent businessman, sportsman, and philanthropist Jack Kent Cooke. To learn more about the Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship program, visit <http://www.jkcf.org/scholarships>.



Left to right: CCC EOPS Manager **George Mills**, JKC recipients **Sasha Graham** (CCC) and **Christopher Fabbri** (LMC), and LMC Scholarship Coordinator **Tammy Oranje**.

Contra Costa College Alumni Win Pulitzer

Three former Contra Costa College (CCC) newspaper staff have won the acclaimed Pulitzer Prize for their coverage of the *East Bay Times* Ghost Ship Fire. David DeBolt, Craig Lazzeretti and Michael S. Williamson were among the journalists and photographers who covered the Ghost Ship fire, which occurred December 3, 2016 at a warehouse in Oakland. The *East Bay Times* provided continuous coverage as details of the tragedy unfolded, with the three alumni providing valuable content.

Lazzeretti, the *East Bay Times* metro editor and former *Advocate* editor, directed a group of seven reporters and three photographers as they investigated the story. As an *East Bay Times* reporter, DeBolt contributed five by-line articles related to the story, in addition to updating countless online articles and social media posts. DeBolt, who is the son of CCC's Journalism faculty **Paul De Bolt**, was editor-in-chief for *The Advocate* during his time at CCC and also served as sports and news editor. Williamson is an acclaimed photographer with two Pulitzers under his belt for his General Non-Fiction and Feature Photography photos in 1990 and 2000 respectively. Williamson got his start as an *Advocate* staff photographer in 1976, but now contributes to the *East Bay Times* as well as the *Washington Post*.



Los Medanos College Mass Casualty Simulation

For the second year in a row, Los Medanos College's (LMC) emergency response departments led a mass casualty simulation to practice life-saving skills in preparation for an emergency. The Nursing department teamed up with Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) departments to practice their response to an active shooter and explosion situation. The simulation took place near the Nursing building, cafeteria and lake areas where Police, Fire and EMS students tended to Nursing students imitating victims. Graduating Nursing students also had an opportunity to test their knowledge at the makeshift hospital set up for the simulation training.



LMC nursing students imitate victims as EMS students practice their skills during a mass casualty training.

Julie O'Brien, a Nursing faculty who coordinated the simulation, believes a realistic simulation goes beyond the borders of the classroom and is essential for students working in healthcare and emergency response. "We thought this would be a memorable everlasting experience that the students can learn and participate in as a team," said O'Brien. "It is an enriching way for the students to learn skills in a safe environment."

Nursing instructor **Trang Nguyen** agreed that the essential training event felt real to life. "It felt energetic and thrilling to be an active participant of such a massive undertaking of coordinated chaos," said Nguyen. "Everyone had the same mission: to 'save' lives and work together in an emergency."

District Welcomes New Employees

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

Regular Managers

Location	Name	Title
DST	Janice Bross	Foundation Development Officer

Regular Academic Employees

Location	Name	Title
DVC	Ryan Melvin	Computer Science

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
DVC	Christopher Chatman	Grounds Worker/Gardener II
DVC	Tony Dang	Custodian II
DVC	Michael Luna	Custodian II
DVC	Richard Walker	Custodian II
CCC	Frances Rachel Tamayo	Library Assistant II

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.

Contra Costa Community College District is committed to equal opportunity in educational programs, employment, and campus life. The District does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, marital status, national origin, parental status, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in any access to and treatment in College programs, activities, and application for employment

Board Reports

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on April 26, 2017, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/April%2026,%202017.pdf

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in April 2017, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/April%202017.pdf