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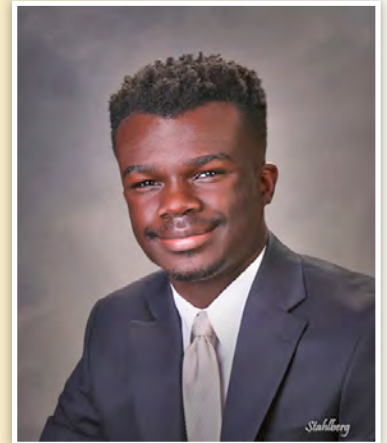
## Governing Board Welcomes New Student Trustee

New Governing Board Student Trustee Kwame Baah-Arhin attends Middle College High School (MCHS), where he is concurrently enrolled at Contra Costa College (CCC). He plans to graduate with an Associate of Arts degree and a high school diploma in 2017.

Kwame is a strong advocate for students, particularly underrepresented students, and became the class president at MCHS in his freshman year. Subsequently, he joined the West Contra Costa Unified School District's (WCCUSD) Youth Commission, and he has served on that Commission for the past three years.

Kwame has a deep appreciation for music and won Grand Prize at the Club Mendelsohn Music Scholarship Program in 2014. He believes every song has a story that can be interpreted in billions of different ways and he takes the time each day to interpret as many songs as possible.

Kwame plans to pursue his Ph.D. after graduating from MCHS and also hopes to serve the community that has inspired him throughout his educational career.



*Student Trustee Kwame Baah-Arhin was also appointed student trustee for the WCCUSD and was one of two students to be directly involved in selecting WCCUSD's new superintendent.*

## Chancellor Speaks At Diversity Awards



*Chancellor Helen Benjamin attended the Dr. John W. Rice Diversity and Equity Awards where she introduced keynote speaker Dr. Luis Godoy (not pictured).*

Sharing her experiences as an education leader of color, Chancellor **Helen Benjamin** graced the stage at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. John W. Rice Diversity and Equity Awards ceremony on July 19, 2016, where she introduced keynote speaker Dr. Luis Godoy. The ceremony, which was held at the Crocker Museum in Sacramento, highlighted three college programs for their work in fostering student equity, diversity and access in the California Community Colleges.

Named in honor of former Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges member Dr. John W. Rice, the award was established in 2001 to honor community college districts, colleges, staff

and/or programs that have contributed towards staff diversity or student equity. Dr. John W. Rice was a great leader known for his commitment to equal employment opportunity and nondiscrimination in the California Community College system.

Chancellor Helen Benjamin continues that legacy as she has devoted much of her tenure to increasing and improving diversity efforts within the District, which include the development of an internal Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Officer position.



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### Contra Costa Community College District

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**The News**  
CCCCD Employee  
newsletter

District publications are posted online at [http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/the\\_news/](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/the_news/)

Your comments and suggestions are welcome. E-mail the Communications and Community Relations Office at [info@4cd.edu](mailto:info@4cd.edu).



Governing Board Member John E. Márquez (left) was selected by Assemblymember Tony Thurmond as the 15<sup>th</sup> Assembly District honoree at the annual veterans luncheon.

## Governing Board Member John E. Márquez Honored

Governing Board Member John E. Márquez traveled to Sacramento, California, to attend the Ninth Annual Veterans Luncheon where he was honored as the 15th Assembly District 2016 Veteran of the Year. Nominated by Assemblymember Tony Thurmond, the event was held at the State Capitol's Convention Center on June 29, 2016. Veterans from throughout the state gathered to be recognized by the Assembly Committee on Veteran Affairs. Also in attendance were Chancellor **Helen Benjamin** and District director of Communications and Community Relations' **Tim Leong** to recognize Marquez's service as a paratrooper in the Infantry and Military Police Corps, and military service in Beirut, Lebanon, for which he was awarded the American Expeditionary Service Medal.

## Ted Wieden Selected As Interim Diablo Valley College President

Following the retirement of former Diablo Valley President (DVC) Peter Garcia, interim Executive Dean **Ted Wieden** has been chosen to serve as DVC's interim President effective July 1, 2016. The year-long appointment was approved at the June 22, 2016, Governing Board meeting.

"We are fortunate to have Ted Wieden accept this one-year assignment", said Governing Board President Vicki Gordon. "Ted knows the college very well, is a respected faculty member and manager, and will ensure there is leadership stability at DVC while we search for a permanent president."

Wieden is a first generation college student who graduated from Reedley College and received his B.A. and M.A. from California State University at Fresno. At DVC, he served in many leadership roles including chair of the Physical Science and Engineering Division, interim Senior Dean of Curriculum and Instruction, and interim Executive Dean of Effectiveness/

Accreditation Liaison Officer. Wieden also served in management positions at the District Office as interim Special Assistant to the Chancellor, and interim Senior Dean.

"Ted has been with our District for over 24 years, taking on a number of leadership roles both at the college and the District Office", said Chancellor Benjamin. "DVC will be in good hands."



New interim DVC President **Ted Wieden** began teaching as an adjunct faculty and later joined DVC as a full-time instructor of Geography/Meteorology.

## District Office Welcomes Student Interns

The District Office rarely gets many student visitors, but this summer was different as two students joined the District Office for a six-week internship. Hailing from Los Medanos (LMC), recent graduates Jamari Snipes and Rajat Paul joined the Communications and Community Relations Office to work on a variety of marketing tasks, with a focus on social media.

The internship was provided through the Cooperative Work Experience Education program at LMC, which allows students to enroll in a credit bearing course designed to introduce students to real world learning experiences through internships.

“The internship was great,” said Snipes. “I learned a lot and I recommend other students apply to the COOP 180 internship course.”

Rajat Paul shared similar sentiments. “My experience in the COOP 180 internship course was fun and challenging,” he said. “I had fun learning more about the District employees.”

During the internship, faculty advisors provide guidance and feedback to enrolled students and work in conjunction with job site supervisors. Through these professional internships, students can gain a better understanding of business practices and industry standards before they enter the workforce.

*Following their recent graduation from LMC, Rajat Paul (right) will be attending UC Davis in the fall, while Jamari Snipes (left) is heading to UC Berkeley in the spring.*



### Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held in June 2016, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board\\_reports/June%2022,%202016.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/June%2022,%202016.pdf)

To review highlights of the special Governing Board Meeting held in July 2016, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board\\_reports/July%2027,%202016.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/July%2027,%202016.pdf)

### Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meeting held in June 2016, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors\\_cabinet/June%202016.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/June%202016.pdf)

To review highlights of the Cabinet meeting held in July 2016, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors\\_cabinet/July%202016.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/July%202016.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.*

*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.*

## Community College Success Stories

President Obama proposed America's College Promise, offering two years of free community college for responsible students. The Heads Up Campaign, a movement launched to support the Promise proposal, gained momentum as community colleges nationwide joined in the dialogue.

Chancellor **Helen Benjamin**, who is chairing California's College Promise Leadership Committee, put out a call for employees to share their story in order to highlight the tremendous value community colleges provide. *The News* will feature a few of the stories submitted every month.

**Gabriela Segade**, Professor of English as a Second Language at Contra Costa College Alumna, Kapi'olani Community College, Hawaii

I had heard I didn't need a TOEFL score or transcripts to go to a community college, and it was more affordable than the University of Hawaii. I valued education, but my main motivation was to get a job. I had to support myself and help my family, so I didn't want to spend lot of time in school. I wanted a degree that would allow me to get more rewarding work — I was cleaning houses for a living. And so I started.

At the end of my first semester, Kapi'olani Community College sent me a check refunding my fees because I had earned a 4.0 GPA. I was hooked! After that I always earned a 4.0 GPA. During my second semester my history instructor recommended me for the honors program. I took an honors seminar in linguistics, and the instructor (Louise Pagotto, I will never forget her!) told me I was graduate school material. I began to focus on transferring to the University of Hawaii. I completed my BA in three years while working about 30 hours per week, and was admitted into an MA program in Second Language Studies. To read more of Gabriela's story, visit the [Community College Success Stories page](http://www.Acd.edu/crpa/stories/list.aspx) <http://www.Acd.edu/crpa/stories/list.aspx>.

**Ray Gilmore**, Professor of Business at Diablo Valley College, Alumnus, City College of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA  
I was admitted to UC Berkeley in fall 1963 in Engineering. My Dad's income as an elevator constructor made me ineligible for state scholarships, even though I had the PSAT score and was one of five siblings. I chose to attend City College of San Francisco (CCSF) because I could not afford to go to Cal. After my third semester at CCSF I took a semester off to work full time to earn and save money for future transfer to UC Berkeley. Three days past not registering for spring 1965 classes, the draft board revoked my draft deferment. I went there and explained that I was not dropping out of school but trying to earn enough money to continue on. They didn't care and told me I would be drafted. I asked to go immediately, but they refused and said they would take me on their time frame. Draft status 1A caused potential employers to refuse to hire me because I would get drafted soon after they spent money to train me. I had already quit my part time job and it was too late to register for CCSF. I had little choice but to volunteer to go into the service and get it over with.

I chose the United States Air Force because my chances of returning to school looked pretty dim and at least they promised me electronics training. I did my time from February 1965 to October 1968. They released me three months early because I refused their \$10K bonus to re-enlist. I returned to CCSF in the spring of 1969 as a general education major. To read more of Ray's story, visit the [Community College Success Stories page](http://www.Acd.edu/crpa/stories/list.aspx): <http://www.Acd.edu/crpa/stories/list.aspx>.

**Richard Villegas**, Athletic Director & Head Women's Basketball Coach at Los Medanos College Alumnus, San Bernardino Valley College, San Bernardino, CA

I have been a product of the California community college system for the past 35 years as either a student, student-athlete, instructor, coach and/or administrator. I'm a firm believer in this system and it definitely works! After I graduated from high school, I enrolled at San Bernardino Valley College to play basketball. In order to be eligible, I needed to be enrolled and pass 12 units as a full-time student. Athletics helped me earn an education; my education helped me participate in intercollegiate athletics.

Each month, these community college success stories will be featured. To read all the stories submitted please visit: <http://www.Acd.edu/crpa/stories/list.aspx>

We'd love to hear your story, too! If you're a current employee of the Contra Costa Community College District, please submit your community college experience here: <https://insite.Acd.edu/orgs/dwco/dst/ccss/pages/new.aspx>





## District Welcomes New Employees

Please welcome the following new employees who were approved by the Governing Board in June and July.

### Regular Managers

Location	Name	Title
DST	Trinh Nguyen	Foundation Development Officer

### Regular Academic Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Nikki Ferguson	Physical Education
CCC	Michael Kilivris	Philosophy
CCC	Natasha Lockett	Counseling
CCC	Micah Meltzer	Biological Sciences
CCC	Michell Naidoo	Child Development/Early Childhood
DVC	Bethallyn Black	Ornamental Horticulture
DVC	Alicia Brizzi	Counseling
DVC	Arman Catterson	Psychology
DVC	Jean Chiar	Physics/Astronomy
DVC	Chalisse Ganzell	English
DVC	Concetta Gomez	Mathematics
DVC	Christina Harrington-Tsai	Counseling
DVC	Evan Large	Physics/Astronomy
DVC	Frank Ortega	Sociology
DVC	Colleen Pohley	Philosophy
DVC	Albert Ponce	Political Science
DVC	Jeffrey Smith	Industrial Design
DVC	Jacob Van Vleet	Philosophy
DVC	Nicole White	Photography
DVC	Lindsay Wylie	Mathematics
DVC	Qi Zhu	Architecture
LMC	Zahasadat Alavi	Electromechanical Technology
LMC	Francesca Briggs	Engineering
LMC	Victor Coronado Barraza	Foreign Languages (Spanish)
LMC	Roseann Erwin	Library Science
LMC	Elizabeth Green	English
LMC	Edward Haven	Philosophy
LMC	Trang Nguyen	Nursing Science/Clinical Practice
LMC	Bertha Ramos	Mathematics
LMC	Leila Swisher	Library Science
LMC	Nicole Trager	Biological Sciences
LMC	Faith Watkins	Counseling
LMC	Debra Winckler	Appliance Repair
LMC	Luis Zuniga	Music

### Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Elizabeth Bremner	Administrative Secretary
CCC	Janie Franklin	Administrative Secretary
DST	Teddy Abella	Senior Payroll Clerk
DST	Tsegu Wolde-Michael	Fiscal Operations Specialist
DVC	Monica Brennan	Senior Payroll Clerk
DVC	Jude Dizon	Minority Student Retention Specialist
DVC	T'Sendenia Gage	Student Services and Instructional Support Coordinator
LMC	Clinton Calvin	Custodian II
LMC	Anterious Ellis	Custodian II
LMC	Kentrell Hall	Custodian II
LMC	Julie Lucca	Science Laboratory Technician II