

## Highlights:

- Advocacy Visits in Washington, D.C.
- Newly Tenured Faculty and Classified Employee of the Year
- Earn And Learn Event
- Senator Kevin de Leon Speaks at Diablo Valley College
- Budget Forums Scheduled
- Los Medanos College Opens Food Pantry
- Contra Costa College Hosts Business Breakfast
- Diablo Valley College Students Donate Soccer Jerseys
- Community College Success Stories
- District Welcomes New Employees
- March 2017 Board Report
- March 2017 Cabinet Highlights

## Advocacy Visits in Washington, D.C.

District representatives visited Washington D.C. for the National Legislative Summit, an annual advocacy conference coordinated by the Association of Community College Trustees and the American Association of Community Colleges.

Meetings were held with the District's four congressional representatives to advocate for community college issues including year-round Pell Grants and support for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) students.



District representatives met with several lawmakers, including Congressman Eric Swalwell (fourth from left), while attending the National Legislative Summit.



Contra Costa College employee Zolayma Martin (second from the right) poses with family members after being recognized as the District's Classified Employee of the Year award.



Newly tenured faculty from left to right: **Bryan Clarkson** (DVC), **Mark Wong** (CCC), **Elizabeth Constanza** (LMC), **Leslie Alexander** (CCC), **Penny Wilkins** (LMC), **Anne Peterson** (DVC), **Tawny Beal** (LMC), **Matthew Zebley** (DVC), **Deborah Dixon** (CCC), **Alan Haslam** (DVC), **Laura Beaulieu** (DVC). Not pictured: **Elizabeth Schwarz** (CCC), **Jacqueline Wright** (CCC), and **Elizabeth Gand** (DVC).

## Newly Tenured Faculty and Classified Employee of the Year Reception

The Governing Board hosted a celebratory reception in honor of the District's newly tenured faculty, and the District's classified employee of the year, Zolayma Martin from Contra Costa College.

During the reception, which took place in the District Office's redesigned second floor lobby, honorees were introduced by their college president as friends, family and coworkers looked on in support. Faculty earn tenure status following four years of full-time teaching and receiving satisfactory evaluations by a committee of managers and their peers.

The 2017 Classified Employee of the Year award recognizes an outstanding classified employee who has demonstrated the highest level of commitment to professionalism and community colleges. The award is coordinated by the Classified Senate Coordinating Council and the selection is endorsed by the Governing Board. The District's honoree will now be considered for the statewide classified employee of the year award selected by the Board of Governors.



4CD Fan Page  
Become a Fan Now!

### Contra Costa Community College District

500 Court Street  
Martinez, CA 94553

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).

## Earn and Learn Event

On March 3, 2017, Earn and Learn East Bay supporters, partners and participants gathered at the Concord Hilton to celebrate the program's success and recognize exemplary employers for providing internships for students. East Bay Leadership Council President Kristin Connelly led the program, which included personal anecdotes from student participants, an awards ceremony for business partners and a keynote address. The event attracted over 200 attendees, many of whom pledged to provide work-based learning experiences for Contra Costa high school and community college youth in the coming year.

Earn and Learn East Bay organizes meaningful, work-based learning experiences for employers and youth by connecting students and young adults with activities at school and in the workplace. Earn and Learn serves as a single point of contact for employers to work with local schools, colleges and community organizations.

Nilton Serva, a Los Medanos College student, credited his Earn and Learn experience for getting him back on track after being incarcerated. The program provided him with the resources and tools that landed him a position at Costco. Through his experience, Silva discovered his passion. "Currently, I'm switching my major from Business Administration to Computer Science. I hope to create tech companies that will innovate and impact people's lives positively. It's going to be a lot more math and science, but I'm always up for a challenge because I love proving that the anything is possible!"



The District's colleges were represented at the Earn & Learn event including these Los Medanos College (LMC) employees. Left to right: Monica Couture, Executive Director of the Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce, LMC Employees **David Wahl** and **Tara Sanders**, LMC student Nilton Serva, LMC President **Bob Kratochvil** and LMC employee **Kristen Conner**.

## Senator Kevin De León Speaks at Diablo Valley College

California State Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De León (D-Los Angeles) made a stop at Diablo Valley College (DVC) while visiting the area to promote his proposed bill, Senate Bill 54, The California Values Act. Senate Bill 54 is a response to President Donald Trump's proposed immigration ban and border wall, and would identify California as a "sanctuary" state. The proposed bill outlines a number of steps for California to remain accessible such as preventing state law enforcement agencies from collecting information regarding an individual's immigration status or detaining individuals without a judicial warrant.

During the question and answer segment, De León emphasized the importance of unifying communities, regardless of political party affiliation, in order to protect the sanctity of the great state of California. Senator De León's visit comes two months after the District's Governing Board passed Resolution 1-S, which reaffirmed the District's support and established the three colleges as safe spaces for all students.



Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De León answers a question from an audience member during his visit at DVC.

## Budget Forums Scheduled

The 2017 Budget Forums have been scheduled for the month of April. Don't forget to attend one of the upcoming sessions led by Executive Vice Chancellor, Administrative Services' **Gene Huff**, and Associate Vice Chancellor/Chief Financial Officer **Jonah Nicholas**.

"These informative sessions provide employees an opportunity to learn more about the District's financial picture for the current academic year, and what may be in store for 2017-18," said chancellor **Fred Wood**. "The sessions are open to all employees, so pick the date and time that works best for you."

### 2017 Budget Forums

Location	Date	Time	Room
CCC	4/12/17	2:00pm – 3:30pm	Fireside Room
DVC	4/13/17	2:00pm – 3:30pm	Diablo Room
BWC	4/17/17	3:00pm – 4:30pm	Room 14
LMC	4/20/17	2:00pm – 3:30pm	L-109
DO	4/24/17	9:00am – 10:30am	6 <sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room
SRC	4/24/17	2:00pm – 3:30pm	W-204

## Los Medanos College Opens Food Pantry

Hunger and access to food has long been an obstacle to student success, and community college students are not immune to this challenge. Los Medanos College (LMC) decided to address this problem by partnering with the Food Bank of Contra Costa to open the LMC Food Pantry, the first of its kind on the Pittsburg campus.

During the ribbon cutting ceremony, English professor Scott Warfe shared how his students inspired him to take action after he learned about their struggle to afford food. Warfe shared his students' stories with anyone who would listen, including his brother-in-law who worked at TOMS shoes. Over a period of four months, Warfe and his brother-in-law successfully campaigned for a TOMS community fund grant. With funding in place and assistance from LMC students, faculty, and staff, the food pantry was created.

Former LMC student Tito Ramos became an advocate for the food pantry after witnessing a similar effort being campaigned at University of California, Berkeley (Cal) where he was concurrently enrolled. Cal's dedication to its students impressed Ramos, who at one time dropped out of school due to food insecurity and other financial challenges. He discussed the idea of a food pantry with his fellow student ambassadors working for the LMC Student Life Office, and all of them joined in on the effort. "I am thankful for all the love, support, and guidance that I received from my fellow ambassadors and our faculty and staff," said Ramos. "We wouldn't have a pantry without them."

Warfe says it was the sharing of his students' stories that was his biggest lesson learned. "In our jobs at LMC, we learn of similar stories every day. When we choose to share them, we can give them a voice they might not otherwise have," shared Warfe. "We just might create significant and lasting change. The LMC Food Pantry is proof of that."



*caption: LMC alumnus Tito Ramos (center left) and LMC faculty **Scott Warfe** (center right) cut the ribbon at the Food Pantry grand opening as LMC President **Bob Kratochvil** (far right) and Student Life Coordinator **John Nguyen** (far left) lend their support.*



## Contra Costa College Hosts Business Breakfast

Contra Costa College (CCC) hosted the Richmond Chamber of Commerce's Speaker Breakfast on March 29, 2017, where a standing room only crowd packed Fireside Hall. Local organizations, businesses and community members had the opportunity to dine in CCC's Aqua Terra Grill and see the newly constructed campus funded by the Measure A 2006 bond.

Sponsored by Chevron, the event attracted students, elected officials and business owners who gathered to hear keynote speaker Chrisfino Kenyatta Leal share his inspiring story. During his incarceration, Leal became a founding member of an entrepreneurial program sponsored by venture capitalists. Following his release, Leal began to transform his life, earning a management position at San Francisco's RocketSpace, a company that provides consulting help to the world's top tech startups. His story exemplified the importance of businesses and community partnerships, and the ability of these partnerships to transform lives.

**Kelly Schelin**, CCC Dean of Workforce and Economic Development, also had the opportunity to address the crowd, sharing the many ways industry partners can access qualified candidates from the college's career training programs. "This event was important because it provided an opportunity for CCC administrators, faculty, staff and students to interface with the local business community while raising awareness of CCC's role as a community partner dedicated to the economic well-being of West County," noted Schelin. "We had the opportunity to showcase both our new campus and our students, two things of which we are exceedingly proud."



Keynote speaker Chrisfino Kenyatta Leal urged audience members to participate in business partnerships in order to create positive changes in their community.

## Diablo Valley College Students Donate Soccer Jerseys

Diablo Valley College (DVC) partnered with One Jersey, One Goal, a local non-profit that recycles team soccer jerseys to underprivileged kids around the world. After learning about the cause from a student, the DVC's soccer team donation went to Projeto Comunidade Voturua, a soccer program in Sao Vicente, Brazil.

For more information on One Jersey, One Goal, visit: <http://www.onejerseyonegoal.com/>.



A soccer team in Sao Vicente, Brazil received donated DVC jerseys under a program that organizes soccer programs for underserved communities.

### Board Reports

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on March 22, 2017, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board\\_reports/March%2022,%202017.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/March%2022,%202017.pdf)

### Cabinet Highlights

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

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors\\_cabinet/March%202017.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/March%202017.pdf)

## 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.

As a result, District employees were asked to share their story in order to highlight the tremendous value community colleges provide. *The News* has featured all of the stories submitted and would like to thank our faculty and staff who shared their community college success! If you would like to revisit any of the stories, please visit <http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/stories/list.aspx>

## District Welcomes New Employees

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

### Regular Academic Employees

Location	Name	Title
LMC	Patrice Moore	Nursing Science/Clinical Practice
LMC	Julie O'Brien	Nursing Science/Clinical Practice
LMC	Joyce O'Rourke	Nursing Science/Clinical Practice

### Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Natasha DeAlmeida	Career Development Services Coordinator
CCC	Megan McDermott	College Human Resources Assistant
DVC	David Chiu	Cook
DST	Bryan Wheeler	Computer and Network Specialist

*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*