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California Community College Public Relations Organization Conference

The District Office and Diablo Valley College (DVC) marketing departments took home multiple awards at the annual Community College Public Relations Organization (CCPRO) conference. The statewide conference invites marketers and communicators from California's 114 community colleges to convene for networking, skills development and recognition for their outstanding marketing and communications work.

Winning the prestigious All Pro Award was District Office Director of Communications and Community Relations, **Tim Leong**, who has been an active board member, former president and organizer of CCPRO since joining the District a decade ago. The All Pro Award recognizes outstanding community college marketing professionals who have excelled in their field and been involved, active members of CCPRO, said CCPRO President Anne Krueger.

"Tim was selected because of his distinguished service at the college district and his service to CCPRO, which includes two terms as president," shared Krueger, who also works as Communications and Public Information Director at Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College.

Diablo Valley College's Marketing department also received accolades for their work, landing two third place spots in the Advertising/Public Relations/Communications Poster and Print Advertising categories. DVC's poster series aimed to capture student diversity while their vibrant viewbook was created to catch the eyes of students campuswide.

According to **Sharrie Bettencourt**, DVC's Graphic Designer, both awards were a result of tremendous collaboration, with the viewbook requiring exceptional teamwork. Along with her own photography and design contributions, Bettencourt could not have completed the project without leadership and input from others.

"Hats off to **Mercy Pono** for initial direction, **Keith Parsons** for copywriting and development and the entire marketing staff for proofing and editing. I'd also like to thank **Teresa Towers** and the entire print shop staff," said Bettencourt. "It feels great to see everyone's hard work acknowledged by receiving this award."

The Community College Public Relations Organization promotes excellence and provides professional development for California community college marketing and public relations professionals. The organization serves as a central resource of information and provides counsel and assistance relating to the advancement of community colleges statewide.



District Office Director of Communications and Community Relations **Tim Leong** receives the All Pro Award at the 2018 CCPRO conference, which took place April 11-13, 2018, in Sacramento, California.

Newly Tenured Faculty and Classified Employee of the Year



Los Medanos College (LMC) employee **Beth Ann Robertson** (right) received the District's Classified Employee of the Year award from LMC president **Bob Kratochvil** (left).

On April 25, 2018, the Governing Board hosted a reception in honor of the District's newly tenured faculty and the District's classified employee of the year, **Beth Ann Robertson** from Los Medanos College. The 2018 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.

During the event, which took place in the District Office first floor lobby, newly tenured faculty 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 newly tenured faculty honored were:



Contra Costa College	Diablo Valley College	Los Medanos College
Sarah Boland Drain	John Corbally	Jill Buettner-Ouelette
Carlos-Manuel Chavarria	Anthony Gonzales	Melinda Capes
Benjamin Jahn	Shaeheea Hollis	Rick Estrada
Megan Kinney	Sheila Lau	Michelle Mack
Trung Nguyen	Kelvyn Moran	Briana McCarthy
Julie Skoler	Nicolette Moultrie	James Noel
	Sanghamitra Niyogi	Maria Perrone
	Clint Ryan	David Reyes
	Bridgitte Schaffer	German Sierra
	Kathryn Weber	

Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship Winners

For the second year in a row, two District students have won the esteemed Jack Kent Cooke (JKC) Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship award, joining 47 other winners selected from colleges nationwide. Elhan Hernandez of Contra Costa College (CCC) and Sonia Bustos Barocio of Los Medanos College (LMC) beat out nearly 2,500 applicants to win the highly competitive award which provides up to \$40,000 per year to complete a bachelor's degree at a four-year college or university. This year's recipients have an average GPA of 3.92 with biological sciences, engineering, and computer/informational sciences being the most popular fields of study among the cohort.



Left to right: Board member Greg Enholm, Board President John Márquez, JKC recipients Elhan Hernandez (CCC) and Sonia Bustos Barocio (LMC), Board Secretary Vicki Gordon and Chancellor Fred Wood.

Sonia, a first-generation student, is passionate about biomedical research and diversity in STEM. At LMC, Sonia was an Outreach Ambassador, MESA and Math Lab tutor, assistant for both the Biology and Chemistry Programs, president and founding member of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos & Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) Chapter and president of the Honor's Club. Sonia completed internships at the National Institute of Child Health and Development, Medical University of South Carolina, Storm Eye Institute and NASA as a LMC student. Sonia learned of her award from the MESA center staff who invited her friends, family and mentors to celebrate her accomplishment.

Elhan Hernandez is a CCC students studying Engineering. He participates in the Center for Science Excellence (CSE) program and has plans to transfer to a four-year university in the fall.

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>.

Board Reports

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on April 25, 2018, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/April%2025,%202018.pdf

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in April 2018, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/April%202018.pdf

Contra Costa College Study Abroad Scholarship Awarded

Community college students, like four-year university students, have the opportunity to study abroad and experience part of their educational journey in another country. Though the study abroad program is offered at all three colleges, not all students are able to take advantage of the opportunity. Thus, the Contra Costa College (CCC) Benjamin-Clow Study Abroad scholarship was created. Co-founded by retired senior dean of research & planning **Dr. Tim Clow** and retired chancellor **Dr. Helen Benjamin**, the scholarship fund grew thanks to generous contributions from community members, donors and fellow Contra Costa Community College District staff.

According to Clow, it was important to support student travel and ensure that students of color were able to participate. “We think it’s important that our institutions within this District reflect the communities they come from,” Clow said. “When students come back, we want them to share their experience with fellow students.”

For this year’s scholarship winner Jonathon Torres, the chance to study in another country was too good to pass up. As a first-generation student, Torres has never traveled outside of the country. His interest in learning about other cultures and education systems prompted him to apply. “I had to go for it,” said Torres. “It’s a once in a lifetime opportunity to educate yourself, experience another culture and network for future career opportunities. When’s the next time this is going to happen?”

With Clow and Benjamin retired from the District, the CCC Study Abroad Scholarship Committee is tasked with keeping the program going. **Joseph Camacho**, CCC’s Gateway to College Coordinator, is a member of the scholarship committee which includes CCC retiree **Michele Jackson**, CCC alumni **Rodney Wilson**, CCC Financial Aid Assistant **Patricia Herrera**, co-founders Dr. Tim Clow and Dr. Helen Benjamin, as well as District Study Abroad liaison, **Harue Takanashi**.

“Dr. Clow and Dr. Benjamin’s leadership in making sure people like Jonathon have the opportunity to go and do something like this is what motivates us to stay connected, work at the college and donate our time in these ways,” said Camacho. “Jonathon’s connection to the community and his desire to give back mirrors a legacy of leadership we have throughout the campus.”



CCC’s **Joseph Camacho** (left) and District retiree **Tim Clow** (right) congratulate Study Abroad scholarship recipient **Jonathon Torres** (center).

Diablo Valley College Alpha Gamma Sigma Winners



Alpha Gamma Sigma club president Carlos Vergara received the Charles Bell award, which is given to the top four service award winners in the state.

Diablo Valley College (DVC) Alpha Gamma Sigma (AGS) students took home several awards at the 92nd annual AGS Convention, held April 14, 2018 in San Jose, California. The annual convention, which awards scholarships to students who excel in academics and community service, attracted 441 attendees representing 36 college chapters statewide. By the end of the awards ceremony, 43 AGS student members received scholarships totaling \$44,850.

Scholarship winners from DVC included Amanda Njauw, Kun Qin, and Carlos Vergara. Njauw and Qin received the Kathleen D. Loly Award, which recognizes academic excellence, while Vergara received the Charles Bell Award, which recognizes exceptional service achievements.

According to AGS faculty advisor **Ian Thomas-Bignami**, AGS students have an opportunity to take on leadership positions in the club and within the broader college community. Students volunteer at multiple community service events, attend conferences, and participate in academic and career workshops every semester.

“It is important for DVC students to participate in AGS because it not only recognizes their academic achievements but also provides many opportunities for service and the development of leadership skills,” Thomas-Bignami shared. “Above all, AGS provides a community where students can support

one another on their paths toward academic achievement.”

Alpha Gamma Sigma is the academic honor society and service organization of the California Community Colleges. Alpha Gamma Sigma members must have a grade point average of 3.0 or better. For more information on AGS, please visit

<http://www.ags-honor.org/>.

Los Medanos College Mass Casualty Simulation

With school safety and preparedness at the forefront of their minds, Los Medanos College's (LMC) emergency response departments led their third and largest mass casualty simulation on April 11, 2018. During this year's drill, Police Services, Fire Technology, Nursing and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) students practiced life-saving skills in preparation for an earthquake and explosion emergency.

For this year's drill, Nursing faculty **Julie O'Brien** elicited help from John Muir Hospital professionals, including retired and current nurses, respiratory therapists and a doctor. Previous nursing students returned to help while Community Emergency Resource Team (CERT) managers and physicians came to observe, take notes and provide feedback. Other key contributors included LMC's Fire/EMS Department Chair **German Sierra** and Police Services Officer **Michael Hotton**.

"As health care professionals, it is imperative that we can effectively communicate as an interdisciplinary team," said O'Brien. "In an emergency, everyone has a role to play. Everyone must stay within their own boundaries, skill level and scope of practice."

Nursing instructor and co-organizer **Trang Nguyen** worked with students weeks ahead of the drill to better prepare for their roles. Some students were even able to obtain a free certificate on the Sort, Assess, Life-threatening Interventions, and Treatment/Transfer (SALT) methodology prior to the drill. Nguyen, who has worked as a critical care nurse, hopes to increase LMC's healthcare partnerships through the mass casualty training and other collaborative events. Her eventual goal is to bring funding to the department to create a state-of-the-art simulation lab that will improve hands-on learning.



LMC Nursing Instructor **Julie O'Brien** (right) uses makeup to create a simulated wound on EMS student Fabian Garcia (left) during the annual mass casualty simulation drill. (photo courtesy of The Press)

District Welcomes New Employees

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

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
DVC	Lorraine Golden	Marketing and Communications Coordinator
DVC	Michael Mears	Custodian II
DVC	Frank Ng	Custodian II
DVC	Raymond Ngo	Custodian II
DVC	Miguel Pena	Custodian II
DVC	Franklin Rice	Custodian II
DVC	Yashvant Singh	Custodian II
DVC	Louis Smith	Custodian II
DVC	Rigoberto Solis	Custodian II
DVC	Nancy Tolton	Administrative Assistant III
DVC	Susan Turnquist	Administrative Assistant III
DVC	Carissa Urbalejo	Program Coordinator
LMC	Sandhya Bhatnagar	Science Laboratory Coordinator, Senior
LMC	Melissa Inzunza	Accountant

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