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Contra Costa Community College District

500 Court Street
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CCCCD Employee
newsletter

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District Advocacy Visits in Washington, D.C.

In Washington, D.C., Board Vice President Andy Li, Board Member Rebecca Barrett and Student Trustee Jocelyn Villalobos joined community college leaders from throughout the country to attend the annual legislative conference. While in town, the team met with several elected officials, including Congressmen Mark DeSaulnier, Mike Thompson and Jerry McNerney to advocate on behalf of community colleges.

Each year, the American Association of Community Colleges partners with the Association of Community College Trustees to organize this effort to promote the top national legislative priorities facing community colleges. Some of the top issues this year included DACA, Career and Technical Education (CTE) funding and the expansion of financial aid, specifically Pell Grants.



Pictured (left to right): Director of Communications & Community Relations Tim Leong, Board Vice President Andy Li, Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, Board Student Trustee Jocelyn Villalobos, Board Member Rebecca Barrett.

Budget Forums Announced

The 2019 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 is on the horizon for fiscal year 2019-20. The sessions are open to all employees, so pick the date and time that works best for you!

2019 Budget Forums

Location	Date	Time	Room
DO	4/8/19	9:00am – 10:30am	6th Floor
DVC	4/8/19	3:00pm – 4:30pm	Diablo Room
CCC	4/9/19	1:30pm – 3:00pm	Fireside Room
BWC	4/15/19	3:00pm – 4:30pm	Room 8
LMC	4/22/19	3:00pm – 4:30pm	L-109
SRC	4/23/19	3:00pm – 4:30pm	W-217

District Hosts OER NorCal Summit

As the cost of attending college increases and the inability of students to keep up with the rising fees remains a pressing issue, community colleges are doing their part to offset those expenses. Providing on-campus food pantries, awarding wrap-around funds to students and now, utilizing Open Educational Resources (OER) are some of the most recent ways Contra Costa College (CCC), Diablo Valley College (DVC) and Los Medanos College (LMC) are attempting to further support students. This was the powerful message delivered at the OER NorCal Summit, which took place on February 22, 2019, at DVC.

About 100 community college faculty and staff from across the region filled the Diablo Room to learn more about OER and Zero Cost Textbook (ZTC) degrees and the impact these resources have on student success and completion. Moderated by Executive Vice Chancellor, Education and Technology Services **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh** and DVC's Distance Education Coordinator **Ann Kingsley**, attendees heard from speakers, faculty and student panels who encouraged the use of no-cost books and resources as a way to combat the rising and often unobtainable cost of college for students.

Guest speakers included College of the Canyons dean and OER faculty pioneer James Glapa-Grossklag, De Anza College Mathematics faculty Barbara Illowsky and Delmar Larsen, who is the founder and director of LibreTexts libraries as well as an associate professor of Chemistry at University of California, Davis. Breakout sessions spanning topics from OER implementation to LibreTexts tutorials rounded out the afternoon as attendees left the event with enough information to begin utilizing OER on their campuses.

Co-organizer and District Office Dean of Distance Education **Joanna Miller** was excited and grateful to see how many faculty and staff took time away from their demanding schedules to learn about adding open resources to their classes. "We were fortunate to have faculty from our college and region share their OER successes and challenges," said Miller. "Students from all three of our colleges shared their experiences on our student panel. They were open and heartbreakingly honest about the challenges they face as they try to achieve their goals while weighing the demands of their everyday lives."

A video of the event, which includes guest speakers, faculty and student panels, is available here: <https://www.ustream.tv/playlist/475057>.



Front row, left to right: **Susan Rahman** (College of Marin), **Scott Hubbard** (LMC), and **Edward Haven** (LMC). Back row, left to right: **Delmar Larsen**, **Ron Rusay** (DVC), **Jeffrey Smith** (DVC), **Antonio Lopez** (Sacramento City College) and **Paola Ceccarini** (Contra Costa College).

Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on February 27, 2019, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/February%2027,%202019.pdf

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in February 2019, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/February%202019.pdf

Diablo Valley College Class Gets Visit From KTVU Anchor

Students in Diablo Valley College's (DVC) Mass Communications class were in for a big surprise when they walked into their classroom on a rainy evening in February and realized they had a very special guest speaker in their midst. Recognized as one of the Bay Area's most well-known and respected broadcast journalists, the visit by KTVU's Frank Somerville was a wonderful surprise and rewarding experience for the students, especially those interested in pursuing a career or degree in Communications.

Getting a renowned broadcast journalist to visit a community college classroom was actually easier than expected, according to DVC faculty **Charleen Earley**. After assigning her students to write a letter to radio or news station editors, two students decided to address their letters to Frank Somerville. Motivated by their words, Earley emailed Somerville, who agreed to come and speak to the Mass Communications class. For over an hour, Somerville shared some of his most memorable moments during his career and stressed the importance of providing his audience with fair and balanced news stories. "It's important to have someone who is actually in the industry talk to student journalism and communication majors about responsibility, real-world industry standards and experience," said Earley. "Students benefit from real life stories of being in a craft they want to go into or are interested in."



Following his visit to DVC's Mass Communications class, Somerville emailed Earley to praise her students for their relevant and thoughtful questions.

District Welcomes New Employees

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

Regular Managers

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Carsbia Anderson	Vice President, Student Services (Interim)
CCC	Mary Kincade	Vice President, Academic Affairs (Interim)
DO	Aderonke Olatunji	Director of Internal Audit Services (Acting)
DVC	Bruce Clemetsen	Vice President, Student Services (Acting)

Regular Academic Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Gurtej Bansal	Computer Science
CCC	Erica Watson	Library Science
LMC	Paul Cutino	Emergency Medical Technologies

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Maria Gonzalez Alvarez	Disabled Students Programs and Services Assistant
CCC	Courtney Johnson	Theater Staging 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