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## Governing Board Welcomes New Student Trustee



LMC student Jocelyn Villalobos was sworn in as the new Student Trustee at the June 27, 2018, Governing Board meeting.

New Governing Board Student Trustee Jocelyn Villalobos is a first-generation college student at Los Medanos College (LMC) who plans to pursue a master's degree in Nursing or Public Health. She is involved in many clubs and organizations such as Puente, La Raza Unida, Outreach Ambassador, Public Safety Committee, Interfaith Space Committee and others. She has been active in student government leadership for six years, allowing her to continue to do what she loves – advocate for students. Jocelyn has a passion for education equity and issues of social justice and graduation rates for underrepresented students. Since 2017, Jocelyn has served on the Associated Students at LMC and recently completed her term as Associated Students Commissioner of Campus Events. She advocates ending sexual violence, supports undocumented students and promotes an environment of inclusion and civility among a diverse student body. Jocelyn also enjoys public speaking, hosting events, mentoring, and performing community service. In 2017, Jocelyn was awarded the Jefferson Award twice for her public service, and was chosen as the Antioch Youth of the Year by the teachers and students at her high school. Jocelyn is very excited to serve and represent students with integrity and will make sure the Contra Costa Community College District is fair, transparent and makes decisions in the best interest of all students districtwide.

## District's Career Education Programs Are Workforce Stars



All three District colleges have been recognized by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office as Strong Workforce Stars. Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College and Los Medanos College all had career education programs recognized as Strong Workforce Stars. California Community Colleges Strong Workforce Stars is a leg of the state's Strong Workforce Program aimed at recognizing and celebrating colleges' career education programs whose students show significant gains in three key areas identified as essential for advancing social mobility: substantial increase in earnings, attainment of a living wage and employment in a job related to their field of study.

"At the Contra Costa Community College District, one of our main goals is to provide superior educational programs that lead to career ladder opportunities for our students. This recognition for our colleges affirms that what we collectively are doing yields successful outcomes," explained **Drew Douglass**, senior dean of Workforce and Economic Development. "We have dedicated and passionate teams of faculty and staff that tirelessly and effectively serve our students. The fact that each of the colleges in the District received this level of recognition truly is a testament to that."

The Strong Workforce Program is sustained by an annual recurring investment of \$200 million in order to improve and increase career education outcomes in California's community colleges. Now in its second year, Strong Workforce Stars receive awards in three categories: Gold Stars for graduates who achieved strong outcomes in all three key areas; Silver Star for graduates who demonstrated strong outcomes in two key areas; and Bronze Star for graduates who met a high bar in one key area.

For more information about the Strong Workforce Stars Program, visit [http://www.dwmshowcase.com/workforce\\_stars.asp](http://www.dwmshowcase.com/workforce_stars.asp).



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### Contra Costa Community College District

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CCCCD Employee  
newsletter

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

## LMC's ETEC Program Changes Lives

Los Medanos College's (LMC) Electrical Technology (ETEC) program has received accolades throughout the years for supplying industry titans with some of the most well-prepared, knowledgeable and professional employees. Another reason the ETEC program is so exceptional is its staff, from the department dean to the instructors who all contribute to students' success. With the guidance of ETEC instructor **Cecil Nasworthy**, one family in particular saw the program as catalyst for generational change.

"If you go to school, I'll go to school, and we'll struggle through this together." Retired Palo Alto firefighter Anthony Blakely never planned on starting a new career. As a lifetime learner, however, he was no stranger to education and training. So when his wife, Phyllis Blakely was laid off, all plans of a quiet retirement disappeared.

After hearing about the ETEC program from a family friend and alumni, Phyllis Blakely set upon a journey to reinvent herself. "I had many teary nights," explained Phyllis. "Knowing that my job was going to end and not seeing many women in the ETEC industry, I knew there was potential. But I wanted to quit so many times."

Phyllis didn't quit and instead leaned on her two strongest supporters, her husband and her son, who both became her classmates. In support of his wife, Anthony enrolled in the program, recruiting son Juwan who had his own reasons for making the change. Juwan's original plan to pursue basketball at another community college left him unmotivated and he returned home to an ultimatum from his father, Anthony: go to school or get a real job. Juwan enrolled in the ETEC program along with his parents, but not without reservations. "In the beginning, I didn't know if I wanted to do it because it was hard," shared Juwan. "But now I like it and think I'll be able to succeed in this career."

As a family, the Blakely's worked through ETEC classes, relying upon each other's strengths to persevere. The dual roles of classmate and family member often led to clashes, but in the end, the program did more to solidify their bond, especially between father and son. "It's a proud moment to watch him grow into the young man that he's becoming," said Anthony.

To learn more about the Blakely family, please visit: <https://youtu.be/h9fGf8uRCfU>.



LMC ETEC Instructors **Cecil Nasworthy** (bottom right) and **Russell Pedersen** (bottom left) are known as supportive, knowledgeable mentors for many of their students, including the Blakely family.

## CCC Summer Sports Camp Builds Community



New CCC President **Dr. Katrina VanderWoude** visited the Summer Sports Camp where she spoke with the youth participants and got to know the program staff.

Though her appointment didn't start until August, Contra Costa College (CCC) President Dr. **Katrina VanderWoude** made a point to visit the CCC campus and community often over the summer, including a stop at CCC's Youth Summer Sports Camp.

"President VanderWoude took time out of her very busy day to come and talk to our Sports Camp students last week about the virtues of college and Contra Costa College in particular," said **John Wade**, CCC's Athletic Director. "She was interactive and engaging with the students and staff. It was an excellent session."

The CCC Summer Sports Camp began as a free program for local at-risk youth in order to promote positivity in the

community. Students from grades K-12 are invited to attend camp and learn more about college while engaging in fun sports and physical activity. Community members also have the opportunity to participate in a variety of sports and fitness classes, including the popular summer swim program. The Summer Sports Camp serves over 1,000 young people and community members each summer, continuing its positive impact on the West Contra Costa County community.



## DVC Vikings Mentored On and Off the Field

**D**iablo Valley College (DVC) Vikings have to compete in two worlds, the academic and athletic, which requires serious discipline and commitment. For many student athletes at DVC, the student-work-life balancing act is not easy to maintain without the necessary resources and tools.

Tashayla Gilmer, a DVC track and field student athlete transferring to California State University, Sacramento in the fall, found her balance in disarray after experience several hardships in her personal life. Though Gilmer's challenges were difficult, she leaned on her coaches and fellow teammates for support. Her perseverance paid off as she qualified for the state championship two years in a row and was awarded several competitive scholarship awards: the Kennedy King Scholarship, awarded to underrepresented students who have demonstrated academic success at one of the District's three colleges; the Rossmoor Foundation Scholarship, awarded to stellar students who have displayed outstanding academic records, noteworthy extracurricular activities and maintained a 3.0 GPA; and DVC's Mike Maramonte Memorial Track Athlete Scholarship, awarded to track athletes who have made a significant contribution to their team, provided community service, and maintained a 2.5 GPA. To read more about Tashayla's accomplishments, please visit the [DVC Vikings website](#).



*DVC Track athlete and recent graduate Tashayla Gilmer (left) credits DVC Track coach **Kyle Whitmore** as an exceptional mentor and supportive leader.*

Tashayla credits her support system as key in her accomplishments, noting the encouragement she received from her Umoja classmates and mentors. It was their kind words that kept her uplifted as she experienced the ups and downs of college life. "Every adult, every student, every person always had something positive to say to me," said Gilmer. "Whether they knew it or not, simply making me smile meant a lot." One of those influential people included Tashayla's coach, **Kyle Whitmore**, who heads DVC's Women's Track and Field team. Whitmore, a former football athlete himself, recalls the huge impact his coaches had on his life and uses that experience to pay it forward to DVC student athletes. He began his coaching career while still a student athlete at University of California, Davis, where he coached middle school basketball players. That experience led him to pursue coaching full time and when Whitmore joined the DVC coaching staff four years ago, he was adamant about helping students succeed on and off the field. "Students are waiting to be enlightened and guided. But sometimes students miss the opportunity," shared Whitmore. "I advise all students to become an advocate for their education and their path in life."

To hear more from Tashayla Gilmer and see what advice Coach Whitmore gives students, please visit <https://youtu.be/dtPyK5Ihyx4>.

## 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
DVC	Mary Gutierrez	Vice President

### Regular Academic Employees

Location	Name	Title
DVC	Nicholas Amato	Computer Science
DVC	Alberto Aranda	Counseling
DVC	Rochelle Burnaford	Psychology
DVC	Kimberly Galbraith	Counseling
DVC	Kelli Kadi	English as a Second Language (ESL)
DVC	Azim Khan	Biological Sciences
DVC	Shuleen Martin	Physics/Astronomy
DVC	Taylor Oliver	Psychology
DVC	Emma Rogers	English
DVC	Achilles Speliotopoulos	Physics/Astronomy
DVC	Evangeline Ward	Dental Technology

### Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Denine Colbert	Athletics Facilities Assistant
DVC	Eric Broussard	Police Services Officer
DVC	Maria Martinez	Cook
DVC	Michelle Minty	Administrative Assistant I
DVC	Elaina Muhlestein	Administrative Assistant III
DVC	Moises Urbina	Police Services Assistant Dispatcher
LMC	Christina Bonavito	Administrative Assistant II
LMC	Beverly Bui	Financial Aid Assistant I
LMC	Elayne Espinoza	Financial Aid Assistant I

### Board Reports

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on June 27, 2018, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board\\_reports/June%2027,%202018.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/June%2027,%202018.pdf)

To review highlights of the special Governing Board Meeting held on July 7, 2018, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board\\_reports/July%207,%202018.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/July%207,%202018.pdf)

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

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board\\_reports/July%2025,%202018.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/July%2025,%202018.pdf)

### Cabinet Highlights

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

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors\\_cabinet/June%20July%202018.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/June%20July%202018.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*