

# The NEWS

## 4CD EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



April 2020

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**Contra Costa Community College District**

500 Court Street  
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**CCCCD Employee newsletter**

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## District Delays Permanent Chancellor Search

**A**t a special meeting held on April 9, 2020, The Contra Costa Community College District Governing Board unanimously approved delaying the search for a permanent chancellor until the fall 2020 semester. The Governing Board cited the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and the transition to remote instruction and operations as reasons for the delay.

“This was a very difficult decision to make, but we feel it is in the best interest of our students and the District that we pause this search and continue to focus on the remote delivery of instruction and student services,” said Governing Board President Rebecca Barrett. “The selection of the permanent chancellor is one of the most important responsibilities of the Governing Board, and given our current environment of shelter-in-place and social distancing, we did not feel we could complete the selection process in a manner that would be acceptable for the District and our community.”

With the assistance of Collaborative Brain Trust and Dr. Brice Harris, applicants were contacted and agreed to remain in the selection pool. The revised timeline will begin the interviewing and selection process in September 2020, with a start date for the selected candidate of January 4, 2021.

“The Governing Board is comfortable making this decision because of the District’s steady leadership during the COVID-19 crisis,” continued President Barrett. “We want to thank Interim Chancellor **Eugene Huff** for maintaining our organizational stability through this tough time.”



## Governing Board Passes Anti-Discrimination Resolution

**O**n April 22, 2020 The Governing Board met via Zoom video conference and approved a resolution denouncing xenophobia and discrimination against Asian-Pacific Islanders related to the coronavirus pandemic. The resolution affirmed the Contra Costa Community College District’s commitment to the well-being and safety of Asian-Pacific Islander communities and all students, faculty and staff across its college campuses.

Asian-Pacific Islanders make up 12 percent of District employees and students, including hundreds of international students from other Asian countries. In Contra Costa County, they make up over 19 percent of the adult population, and provide significant contributions to the local community and economy.

In passing the resolution, The District joined cities, counties, states and other organizations nationwide in asserting its commitment to combating hate crimes and prejudice in the community.

To review the resolution, please visit [https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccccd/Board.nsf/files/BNXKAH50ED84/\\$file/0420-22A-MI-Denounce%20Xenophobia.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccccd/Board.nsf/files/BNXKAH50ED84/$file/0420-22A-MI-Denounce%20Xenophobia.pdf)

## Police Services and Board Members Give Back at DVC

District Governing Board members and Police Services joined Contra Costa County officials in distributing personal protective equipment (PPE) to senior and disabled care facilities at a drive-thru event held on Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at Diablo Valley College (DVC) in Pleasant Hill.

The event, organized by Choice in Aging in collaboration with DVC Police Services, county officials, Ombudsman Services of Contra Costa, Solano and Alameda and the city of Pleasant Hill, provided gloves, sanitizers and face masks to staff and residents at the region's residential care and senior nursing facilities. Many of the items were donated by county residents, according to the event organizers.

"We're proud to partner with county officials and Police Services to protect our neighbors and higher-risk residents," shared DVC President **Susan Lamb**. "Community colleges provide many resources and support for local communities beyond a first-class education, and DVC honors that responsibility."

"The coronavirus pandemic is hitting certain populations harder than others," observed Governing Board Secretary Vicki Gordon, who volunteered at the event. "It's important that we serve our community's most vulnerable members. When Choice in Aging reached out for help, we jumped in to give back."

"I'd like to thank DVC's Police Services, especially Police Lieutenant **Ryan Huddleston**," Gordon continued. "He and their team ensured all of the event logistics ran smoothly and we made the greatest impact."

Learn more about the valuable services Choice in Aging provides [here](#).



Governing Board Secretary Vicki Gordon joined Police Services and county officials in distributing PPE during the drive-thru event at Diablo Valley College.

### Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on April 3, 2020, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board\\_reports/April%203,%202020.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/April%203,%202020.pdf)

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on April 9, 2020, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board\\_reports/April%209,%202020.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/April%209,%202020.pdf)

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on April 22, 2020, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board\\_reports/April%2022,%202020.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/April%2022,%202020.pdf)

### Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in April 2020, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors\\_cabinet/April%202020.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/April%202020.pdf)

### District Governance Council

To learn more about the District Governance Committee, click on the link below:

<http://www.4cd.edu/about/committees/dgc/default.aspx>

## DO Marketing Interns Adapt and Grow during Pandemic

Internships offer a host of personal and professional development opportunities for students looking to grow as leaders and critical thinkers in the workplace. For Los Medanos College journalism students Krys Shahin and Spencer Batute, who joined the spring internship program in the Marketing and Communications team at the District Office, the experience was amplified by the sudden shift to remote work and study. After spending the first few weeks coming into the office and building relationships with District leadership and staff in various departments, their interactions moved to Zoom check-ins with Director of Communications and Community Relations **Tim Leong**.

As Editor-in-Chief of Los Medanos College's award-winning Experience newspaper, Shahin applied her creativity and flexibility as a journalist, pivoting to sourcing and researching stories for her publication and the Marketing team remotely. She and Batute, former features editor and current staff writer at the Experience, built upon the connections they made during their first month at the District Office, attending Governing Board meetings and interviewing Interim Chancellor **Eugene Huff** and Executive Vice Chancellor of Education and Technology **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**, in addition to Governing Board Secretary Vicki Gordon. Resulting articles focused on the District and colleges' response to the rapidly-changing remote learning landscape.

"My journalistic skills and experience allowed me to work more comfortably with District leaders because I had interviewed or spoken with many of them over email or phone before the shelter-in-place order was issued," observed Shahin. "I was welcomed by them, which made balancing my experience as a journalist and an intern much easier to manage."

"Our previous experience interviewing people in the LMC community equipped us with the confidence to seek out sources and stories and ask the right questions," reflected Batute. "We were able to take effective notes and share our in-depth research with our Marketing and newspaper teams."

Leong, who has led the internship program for the last three years with **Erin Brooks**, Marketing and Communications coordinator, was impressed with how quickly and successfully Shahin and Batute adapted to working remotely, balancing their studies, and researching and writing high-impact articles for the Experience and District newsletter. "The ability to adjust to changing environments is a critical characteristic for someone choosing a career in journalism," said Leong. "We were fortunate this semester to work with two mature and flexible marketing interns who took working remotely in stride." Read the latest student, faculty and District-focused news at the LMC Experience [here](#).

## District Welcomes New Employees

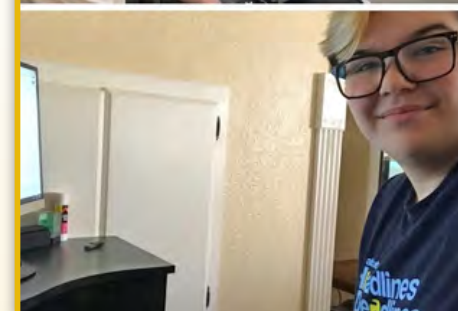
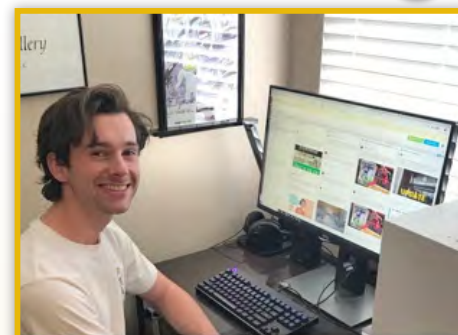
Please welcome the following new employees who were approved by the Governing Board in April.

### Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
DVC	Crystala Button	Technology Training and Development Coordinator
DVC	Katherine Kreske	Administrative Assistant II

*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*



Marketing interns Spencer Batute, pictured top, and Krys Shahin, pictured below, quickly adapted to working and studying remotely.

