

# The NEWS

## 4CD EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



January 2020

### Highlights:

Advocacy Visits in Sacramento  
Governing Board Selects  
Interim Chancellor  
New Senior Dean of Research  
and Planning Joins District  
Jack Kent Cooke Foundation  
Scholarship Semifinalists  
District Welcomes New  
Employees  
January 2020 Board Reports  
January 2020 Cabinet  
Highlights

Follow us on social media  
to stay in the know!



4CD Facebook



4CD Twitter



4CD Instagram

**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).

## Advocacy Visits in Sacramento

Members of the Governing Board (Board), joined by Interim Chancellor **Eugene Huff** and Director of Communications and Community Relations **Tim Leong**, traveled to Sacramento, California, to participate in the annual community college state advocacy visits. As part of the Community College League of California's advocacy conference, the District team held meetings with all seven offices of the state legislators representing the District to discuss key community college topics such as student housing, Proposition 13 school facilities bond, and the Student Centered Funding Formula.



From left to right: Board student trustee Shreejal Luitel, Board Secretary Vicki Gordon, Board President Rebecca Barrett, State Senator Steve Glazer, Board Vice President Andy Li, Board Trustee Greg Enholm, Interim Chancellor **Eugene Huff** and Director of Communications and Community Relations **Tim Leong**.

## Governing Board Selects Interim Chancellor



*Prior to becoming interim chancellor, Huff oversaw fiscal services, human resources, information technology, police services and risk management areas.*

At their regularly scheduled meeting on January 22, 2020, the Governing Board (Board) selected **Eugene Huff** as interim chancellor effective January 23, 2020, with an end date of December 31, 2020, or until a permanent chancellor is selected.

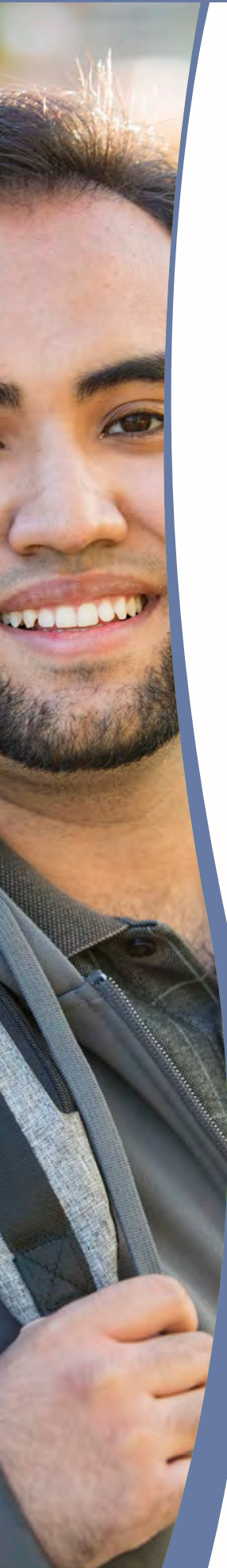
Huff began his service with the District in 2001 in human resources. He was promoted to Vice Chancellor of Human Resources in 2004 and Executive Vice Chancellor, Administrative Services in 2013.

Before coming to the District, Huff spent over a decade in the private sector in human resources and operations management roles, and led the start-up of the human resources function for a non-profit organization. He earned his bachelor's degree in Psychology and his master's degree in Human Resources Management from Purdue University.

"The Governing Board is excited and grateful that Gene has agreed to serve as our Interim Chancellor," said Board President Rebecca Barrett. "His many years of steady administrative leadership in the District has prepared him for this opportunity, and we are confident the District

will be in good hands until a permanent chancellor is on board."

The District will continue its national search for a permanent chancellor with the goal of announcing a new chancellor in April 2020, with a start date of June 1-July 1, 2020. Huff will not be a candidate for permanent chancellor.



## New Senior Dean of Research and Planning Joins District



*New Senior Dean of Research and Planning, **Emma Blackthorne** attributes her interest in lifelong learning to her personal experience attending community college.*

**D**r. **Emma Blackthorne** has been selected as the District's new Senior Dean of Research and Planning. Blackthorne's career has spanned various fields including anthropology, social work, instruction and criminal justice. She began working in higher education administration in 2007 at the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College located on the Lac Courte Oreilles reservation.

For Blackthorne, the experience felt like she was returning home, having spent her early years on her home reservation in Odanah, Wisconsin, as a citizen of the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Her passion for education grew as she worked to bring GED and basic literacy to Natives in Northern Wisconsin Correctional Facilities, resulting in her selection as the Literacy Advocate of the year by Wisconsin Literacy, Inc. in 2009.

Blackthorne earned her bachelor's degree and postgraduate certificate in Anthropology and Native American Studies from the University of Wisconsin, her master's degree in Social Work from Rutgers University in New Jersey and a doctorate from Capella University in Minnesota. Prior to joining the District, she acted as Interim Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Research and Planning at Yuba Community College District in Yuba City, California.

Blackthorne is excited about the work she will do for the District and bringing her unique combination of experience to her new role. "The goal of the department is to help people inform their decisions about their institution; how to serve students to the best of their ability and how to make student success really amazing," shared Blackthorne.

### Board Report

To review highlights of the Special Governing Board Meeting held on January 21, 2020, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board\\_reports/January%2021,%202020.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/January%2021,%202020.pdf)

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

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

### Cabinet Highlights

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

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





## Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship Semifinalists

As a highly-selective scholarship program, the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation (JKCF) Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship attracts the nation's top community college students seeking to complete their bachelor's degrees. For several Diablo Valley College and Los Medanos College (LMC) students chosen as semifinalists, they are one step closer to winning the prestigious award.



At LMC, scholarship coordinator **Tammy Oranje** sees the students being selected as semifinalists who demonstrate perseverance in their pursuit of higher education. "They demonstrate a commitment to their education as well as a passion for their community," said Oranje. "Many times their educational goal is connected to the role they take in and outside of the campus community."

This year's 456 semifinalists were selected from an applicant pool of nearly 1,500 applicants attending 311 community colleges in 45 states and the District of Columbia. In order to be eligible, JKCF scholars must be currently enrolled in a community college and reside in the United States. JKCF transfer scholars are selected based on their exceptional academic ability and achievement, financial need, persistence, service to others, and leadership. Scholarship winners will be announced in April and receive generous financial support for up to three years, comprehensive educational advising and the opportunity to network with fellow scholars.

## District Welcomes New Employees

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

### Regular Managers

Location	Name	Title
DST	Emma Blackthorne	Senior Dean, Research and Planning

### Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
DST	Michael Holland	Police Services Officer
DVC	Nancy Curiel	Laboratory Coordinator, Senior
DVC	Meghan Ennis Ortega	Program Coordinator
DVC	Joshua Pace	Program Assistant

*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*