

The NEWS

4CD EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



June/July 2019

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**Contra Costa Community
College District**

500 Court Street
Martinez, CA 94553

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Governing Board Welcomes New Student Trustee



Shreejal Luitel was recognized at the June 26, 2019, Governing Board meeting as the 2019-20 Student Trustee.

New Governing Board Student Trustee Shreejal Luitel is a first-generation Middle College High School (MCHS) student from Nepal who is pursuing an associate's degree in Computer Science and Business Administration at Contra Costa College (CCC). Shreejal is the president of the CCC's Speech and Debate team where he has helped increase Speech Team membership and contributed to the team's 15 awards during the 2018-19 academic year.

Although Shreejal describes his involvement in student government as "modest," he has been very involved in his community since 2016. He served as the chairperson of the Recycling Committee in Leadership during his freshman year of high school and is

now the co-founder and co-CEO of RichmondCodes, an organization that offers one-day computer science workshops to children who come from underrepresented and underserved backgrounds. Passionate about leveling the playing field by ensuring equity for all students, Shreejal will work with other Board members, faculty, staff and students to increase student success through measureable outcomes.

"I am very excited to serve as the District Student Trustee," said Shreejal. "I want to work alongside the Student Union Presidents, Student Life Office Coordinators, marketing team, faculty and most importantly our students to create a strong communication chain."

To learn more about Shreejal, visit: <http://luitelshreejal.tech/>.

Diablo Valley College Student Wins Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship Award



*Jack Kent Cooke scholarship recipient Joseph Carter was recognized by Chancellor **Fred Wood** and members of the Governing Board for winning the prestigious scholarship award.*

Diablo Valley College (DVC) student Joseph Carter always dreamed of transferring to a four-year college, but was unsure of how he would afford it. Though he originally enrolled at DVC with the goal of becoming an electrician, he made a positive impression on his professors who recognized his potential. “Professor **Steve Narin** was my first math professor at DVC. He re-inspired my love for math after my high school teachers did a great job of squelching those, and gave me the tools to grasp the ideas and concepts that engineers need.”

His newfound interest led him to join MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement), a statewide program for economically underrepresented students that offers specialized STEM tutoring as well as mentorship and networking opportunities. Joseph began taking more challenging STEM courses and applying to scholarships as he prepared to transfer to a four-year university. He was overjoyed to find out he had won the esteemed Jack Kent Cooke Foundation (JKCF) Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship award.

Recipients of the JKCF scholarship are awarded up to \$40,000 per year to complete a bachelor’s degree at a four-year college or university. 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.

Looking ahead, Joseph plans to pursue a bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering at the University of California, San Diego where he’ll explore renewable energy sources for communities of need.

To learn more about the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship, visit <http://www.jkcf.org/scholarships>.

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

Associate Vice Chancellor, Education Services



*In her new role as AVC, **Kelly Schelin** is looking forward to learning more about the unique needs of the individual colleges and how to best support those needs.*

Executive Vice Chancellor, Education and Technology **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh** announced the selection of **Kelly Schelin** as the new Associate Vice Chancellor (AVC), Education Services. Schelin began her tenure with the District four and a half years ago as Contra Costa College's Director of Workforce Development and most recently served as the Dean of Workforce and Economic Development. Prior to that, Schelin held related roles at Piedmont Community College in North Carolina as the Director of Grants, Associate Director of Workforce Development and Instructor of Human Resources Development.

Schelin credits her extensive experience in workforce development as great preparation for this new role. Having worked closely with student services departments and instruction offices, Schelin has been heavily involved in the various new initiatives coming out of the California Community College State Chancellor's Office and will rely heavily on her broad range of knowledge to foster conversations around these topics districtwide.

Her combination of community college leadership spanning instruction and student services, along with her progressively responsible experience in academic and support program oversight, workforce and economic development, fiscal management, partnership development, and policy design will be a great benefit to the District, according to Mehdizadeh.

"I see this role as this strategic connector that brings together people from the colleges and the diversity of voices across the District to say how we can do things better in service of students," said Schelin.



*The 25th year anniversary JobLinks program kicked off with inspirational comments from outgoing 4CS President and LMC employee **Shondra West**.*

JobLinks 25th Anniversary

On June 6, 2019, classified employees districtwide gathered at Diablo Valley College (DVC) to participate in the annual JobLinks event. This year's event marked 25 years since its inception, and continues to be a professional development day cherished by many classified professionals.

With over 200 classified employees in attendance, this year's JobLinks

event offered workshops related to key topics such as health and wellness, employee resources, benefits and professional growth opportunities. Special guest speakers included former Los Medanos College (LMC) student Leonardo Bojorquez and DVC student Hernan Soto Acevedo, who both spoke about the positive impact classified professionals had in their lives as they pursued their educational goals. Outgoing California Community College Classified Senate (4CS) President and LMC employee **Shondra West** also addressed the crowd and encouraged all classified professionals to become more involved on their campuses.

During the event, attendees took a moment to honor the late **Mike West**, an LMC retiree who was one of the original organizers of the JobLinks event and held the role of former Local 1 Union President. JobLinks was created to provide opportunities for classified professionals to learn and develop knowledge, skills, and abilities thus enhancing employee professional and personal development. While at the event, classified professionals also have the chance to network with their peers districtwide and share experiences and best practices.



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	Jeanette Calixto	Registrar
LMC	Carlos Montoya	Vice President

Regular Academic Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Gurtej Bansal	Computer Science
CCC	Erica Watson	Library Science
DVC	Sahra Bhimji	Multimedia
DVC	Martina Ebesugawa	Child Development/Early Childhood
DVC	Marcos Garcia	English
DVC	Diane Lawrence	Chemistry
DVC	Blake Longfellow	Communication Studies
DVC	Christian Morgan	English
DVC	Vinh Phan	Counseling
DVC	Brandon Reyes	Biological Sciences
DVC	Lynda Letona Rodriguez	Library Science
DVC	Lindsey Shively	Library Science
DVC	Juan Villicana	Child Development/Early Childhood
DVC	Kyle Whitmore	Communication Studies
LMC	James Clark	Biological Sciences
LMC	Sepideh Daroogheha	Mathematics
LMC	Nidia Gonzalinajec	Mathematics
LMC	Julio Guerrero-Gonzalez	Mathematics
LMC	James Madden	Biological Sciences
LMC	Robert Moore	Physics/Astronomy
LMC	George Olgin	English
LMC	Eva Padilla	Counseling
LMC	Eric Sanchez	Art
LMC	Adrianna Simone	Ethnic Studies
LMC	Girlie Sison	Chemistry

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Lindsay Arentz	Program Coordinator, Senior
CCC	Brandon Favorite	Custodian II
CCC	Lisa Martinez	Athletic Trainer
DST	Jagdeep Kaur	Parking Services Officer
DST	Earl Meneweather	Parking Services Officer
DVC	John Trujillo III	Program Coordinator
LMC	Aaron Nakaji	Music Laboratory Coordinator

Board Reports

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on June 26, 2019, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/June%2026,%202019.pdf

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on July 24, 2019, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/July%2024,%202019.pdf

Cabinet Highlights

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

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

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

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