

The NEWS

4CD EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



November 2020

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Veterans Day 2020

According to data collected by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, approximately 89,000 veterans, active duty members and dependents are enrolled at a California community college, making Veterans Day an important holiday on college campuses.



This year, Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College, Los Medanos College and the Governing Board (Board) held virtual events and activities in honor of student veterans districtwide.

At their regularly-scheduled meeting on November 11, 2020, which was officially Veterans Day, the Board passed a resolution honoring veterans, men and women currently serving in the Armed Forces, employee and student veterans. The resolution was read aloud by Trustee John Márquez, a veteran himself, and

passed unanimously. To read the full resolution, please click [here](#).

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Contra Costa Community College District

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The News
CCCCD Employee newsletter

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Meet Mansu Kim, Governing Board Student Trustee

When Governing Board Student Trustee Mansu Kim assumed his role back in June, the District was a few months into the transition to remote operations with no immediate return date in sight. A Diablo Valley College international student, Kim was sworn as Student Trustee for the 2020-21 academic year at the June 24, 2020, Governing Board meeting, and thus began his journey down an unprecedented road as the representative for students during a global pandemic.

In response, Mansu had to quickly shift his approach and focus on ways to serve students across the District, many of whom struggled to adapt to the challenging learning environment and clash of responsibilities inside and outside of school. For Mansu, the role of student leader carries additional responsibility, which he does not take lightly. "We are not just providing education to students who go straight to university," said Kim. "We are providing a second opportunity for people to really make their lives happen. We have this heavy responsibility and I feel that heavy responsibility when I think of all the situations people are in right now."

Learn more about Mansu's leadership style, his work-school-life balance and more during his interview with District Office Social Media Marketing Intern Madeline Iswaranata. Watch it here: <https://youtu.be/Ngvk0lbODw4>.

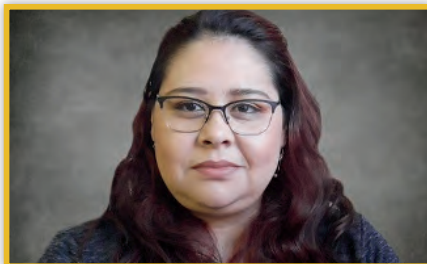


The Contra Costa Community College District, founded in 1948 and governed by a publicly elected five-member board, is one of the largest multi-college community college districts in California. The mission of the District is to attract and transform students and communities by providing accessible, innovative 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

Student Newspapers Excel at Journalism Conference

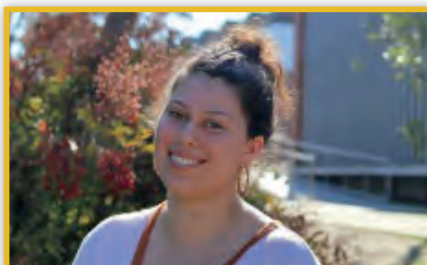
The Contra Costa College (CCC), Diablo Valley College (DVC) and Los Medanos College (LMC) student newspapers continued their reign of excellence at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) Fall 2020 conference, earning several awards across various categories. The conference, which took place virtually from November 6 – 8, 2020, attracted faculty, staff and students from 30 community colleges throughout California.



CCC's Pantoja (left) and Perez (right) took home top prizes. (Photo courtesy of The Advocate)



The *Advocate*, CCC's award-winning newspaper, snagged four first place awards for a staggering total of 19 awards, with *Advocate* editor-in-chief Cindy Pantoja and Creative Director Denis Perez earning first place in Student Designed Ads and Photo Illustration categories respectively.



Sarah Bergman, DVC Inquirer staff writer. (Photo courtesy of the Inquirer)

The DVC *Inquirer* acquired five awards, including the first place spot for an Opinion Story authored by Sarah Bergman, for her story, "Our Most Trusted Asset: COVID-19, the US Navy, and the Absence of Trust." The *Inquirer* staff also snagged additional awards for their Sports Game, Profile Feature and Opinion stories.



Spencer Batute won top honors in the Critical Review category for a review of Kanye West's ninth studio album, "Jesus is King." (Photo courtesy of the Experience)

It was a big year for the LMC *Experience*, which racked up an impressive 18 awards, including a first place award for a Critical Review in Newspaper Writing achieved by Spencer Batute, former Features Editor and senior staff writer. "I'm very grateful to have had the opportunity to work for our paper," said Batute. "I greatly appreciate the support from LMC students and staff that allowed us to tell the stories that we worked to tell."

Led by former Editor-in-Chief Krys Shahin, *Experience* staff members earned additional noteworthy awards in Graphic Design, Photo and Multimedia categories. "Each week we strived to do the best work we could," shared Shahin. "And with the help of amazing advisors **Cindy McGrath** and **Curtis Corlew**, the staff was able to do just that."

To see the full list of awards and learn more about the JACC conference, please visit: <http://jacconline.org/jacc-fall-2020-conference-goes-virtual/>

Diablo Valley College Year Up Program Earns Accolades

Diablo Valley College's (DVC) Year Up program has one major goal in mind: close the opportunity divide, which is the gap between young adults and their exposure to key experiential learning opportunities that successfully prepare them for the workplace. As part of the program, young adults aged 18-24 gain the skills, experiences, and support that will empower and prepare them to reach their potential through careers and higher education.



DVC has been a highly-committed partner with the Year Up program since 2017.

With more than 160 students currently participating at DVC, the Year Up program continues to be successful, earning the top 2020 Partnerships for Industry and Education (PIE) award. The PIE contest, now in its fourth year, was founded to honor innovative employer-education partnerships successfully preparing workers to meet the needs of the California economy.

"In addition to academic and career technical skills, the Year Up staff and programming instills self-efficacy, responsibility, and teamwork so that the collective effort results is a student ready for an internship at a major Bay Area company after just one semester," said **Kim Schenk**, DVC's Senior Dean, Curriculum and Instruction. "It is truly inspiring to witness the drive and determination of these students. They do us proud!"

"Not only have our Year Up students learned new skills, earned college credits and access to gainful employment, but also our campus has engaged with the Year Up team through industry-driven curricula conversations, student onboarding orientations, and social justice and equity-focused professional development," shared **Despina Prapavessi**, DVC Dean, Mathematics and Computer Science, Business. "We are hopeful to continue this partnership for years to come."

District Welcomes New Employees

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

Regular Academic Employees

Location	Name	Title
LMC	Von Wolf	Mathematics

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Louie Martinez	Administrative Assistant, Senior
CCC	Brianna Sharp	Administrative Assistant III
DVC	Erica Plasencia	Program Coordinator
LMC	Kurt Ho	Computer and Network Specialist
LMC	Raymond Tirado	College Human Resources Assistant

Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board meeting held on November 11, 2020, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/November%2011,%202020.pdf

Cabinet Highlights

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

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/November%202020.pdf

District Governance Committee

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

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

