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Contra Costa Community College District

500 Court Street, Martinez, CA 94553

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DVC-San Ramon Campus Unveils Kathleen Costa Plaque

On April 29th, the Diablo Valley College-San Ramon Campus (DVC-SRC) unveiled a memorial stone and plaque in honor of Kathleen Costa. Kathleen was the Senior Dean of the campus from 2009-2016. She retired after 26 years of service in numerous capacities, including serving as a DSS counselor. While working in the faculty capacity, she served as the Vice President of the United Faculty.

Her colleagues shared: “Kathleen had a gift of making everyone around her feel important and heard. She did not really care for public speaking, so she often empowered faculty and managers at SRC to step up and take on some of those roles. Many of her former students, direct reports, and colleagues would remark on how she made them feel valued and heard. She was someone who made a difference at the college, and her DVC-SRC team had the utmost respect and appreciation for her contributions to the college and our campus. Being considerate was in Kathleen’s nature, and she provided a way for people to come back together and continue to work for a common goal.”



Photo: **Joe Gorga**, DVC’s incoming Vice President of Equity and Instruction, unveiled the memorial rock which reads: *In Memory and Appreciation of Kathleen Costa Senior Dean, DVC San Ramon Campus, 2009-2016 We Remember Her Smile, Her Style, Her Wit, Her Warmth, Her Wisdom*



LMC Brentwood Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

On May 4th, Los Medanos College (LMC) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Brentwood Center at 1351 Pioneer Square, which is more than double the size of the center's former location in a leased space. Built on a 17.5-acre parcel purchased in 2011 with Measure A funds, the \$65-million project was financed with Measure E dollars. The new campus features a 55,000 square foot building and is able to house more amenities for students including classrooms, science, tutoring and computer labs, library resources, bookstore and food services, and student commons area.

In a well-attended event, including many members of the nearby neighboring Trilogy community to show their support, LMC President **Bob Kratochvil** kicked off the celebration, which included comments from the entire Governing Board. Additional speakers included 4CD Interim Chancellor **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**, Luisa Velazquez, Associated Students of LMC President and Student Representative; **Annica Soto**, LMC Classified Professional; and **Matt Stricker**, LMC Faculty member.

Velazquez shared how the creation of these spaces provide accessibility to resources and services that can support students in accomplishing their academic goals. Stricker also shared the impact he saw the new campus had, "The Brentwood Center just grew like crazy, and it really helped push enrollment growth throughout the entire district," said Stricker. "It's really been a great place here for our students in the far East County to come and learn."

Congressman John Garamendi Visits CCC

On May 5th, Congressman John Garamendi visited Contra Costa College to tour the campus and meet with students to hear firsthand the issues they are facing. In addition to meeting with administrators, Congressman Garamendi visited the Culinary, Automotive, Science Center, and Veterans Center, where he was presented with a Veterans Center shirt. He ended his visit in the student lounge to talk with a group of 20 students who asked thought-provoking and challenging questions.

This visit marks the first time in over ten years that he has visited a 4CD campus since his congressional district was changed due to redistricting. Following

the recent June 2022 election, Congressman Garamendi's leads the race to represent the 8th district which will now include a large northern section of Contra Costa County following recent redistricting results.



CCC JAZZ-ology Wins Award

Contra Costa College's JAZZ-ology has won DownBeat Magazine's 2022 Community College Division, Small Vocal Jazz Group award. This is the highest honor in this field and comparable to a Grammy. Led by Performance Program Director and Director of Choral Activities, **Stephanie Austin**, students recorded and submitted their entries in 2021, with the winners announced in the June 2022 magazine issue which is sent out in May.

This is a particularly impressive award in that during the 2020-2021 academic year, students were not able to rehearse or sing together even one time due to the pandemic. Instead, they practiced in their homes and recorded in the studio in isolation booths.



Jazz Faculty: Dr. Stephanie Austin, Clinton Day, Roger Letson, Fred Randolph



CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE

The CCC students who contributed to this year's JAZZ-ology recognition are:
 Natasha Singer – Soprano I (transferred to the University of Kansas on scholarship) – Music Education Major;
 Jocelyn Letcher – Soprano II;
 Bridget Ahearn – Alto;
 Ninoangelo Lastimososa – Tenor (transferred to California State University East Bay on scholarship) – Composition Major;
 Matthew Chamberlain – Baritone – (transferred to Biola University on scholarship) – Vocal Performance/ Musical Theater Major; and
 Jesse Chao – Bass.

This is the ninth DownBeat Magazine Award for the CCC Jazz Vocal Program since 2013.

CCC Science Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Contra Costa College (CCC) celebrated the completion of their new \$71-million Science Center on May 5th. This project was funded by Measure E funds, with additional support from community donors obtained by the CCC Foundation's **Sara Marcellino**.

The three-story, 50,000-square-foot building opened prior to the start of classes in spring 2022 and includes state-of-the-art teaching facilities for all Science classes. Main attractions include a 55-seat planetarium, a stargazing observation deck, and three floors with dedicated laboratories, classrooms, and offices.

Jon Celsia, Chair of Astronomy, Computer Science, Engineering, Geology and Physics, played a big role in making sure the facility was built to its full potential for CCC students and employees. Celsia noted that a former student of his, who currently attends UC Berkeley, said, "UC Berkeley does not have anything like this. They should call this campus UC San Pablo."

The Science Center not only adds uniqueness to the campus, but it continues to bring excitement to STEM. The resources in this facility are actively covering real world applications. CCC President, Dr. Tia Robinson-Cooper emphasized that the college is committed to increasing access to students from every background in the STEM field. The project has received the California Community Colleges Board of Governors Energy and Sustainability Award for the Best Overall Large District Innovative Project.

*Photo: Student Kevin G. Ruano Hernandez, CCC NASA Dean **Rene Sporer**, Trustee John E. Marquez, Trustee Judy E. Walters, CCC President **Dr. Tia Robinson-Cooper**, Trustee Rebecca Barrett, CCC faculty **John Celsia**, Trustee Andy Li, interim chancellor **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**, and CCC Foundation chair Eric Zell*





Kennedy-King Connections

**A DREAM FULFILLED
LIVE**

54th Annual Celebration of Scholars

Kennedy King Scholarship Celebration

The 54th annual Kennedy King Scholarship Awards dinner, held on May 24, 2022, at the Concord Hilton Hotel, honored 28 undergraduates and seven graduates for their academic achievements. With family and friends surrounding them, proud recipients share their educational aspirations now made possible through their scholarship awards.

Elisia Cortez, DVC
Makender Jean-Philippe, CCC
Clara Campos, LMC
Marisa Klapperich, DVC
Natalia Soto Acevedo, DVC
Jennifer Ordonez, CCC
Engy Tawfik, DVC
Xzavier Boykin, DVC
Jose Gonzalez, LMC
Araela Richie, DVC
Aria Hamiter, DVC
Chiedza-loice Prickisie, DVC, LMC

Megan Sanchez, CCC
Gabriella Kellerman, DVC, LMC
Brittnee Donithan, LMC
Jordan Nouri, DVC
Jonathan Canel, CCC
Vanessa Gonzalez, DVC
Ethan Ford, DVC
Tickikue Decker, CCC, DVC
Maria Cortez, CCC
Erica Villegas Padilla, CCC
Delaney Ruiz, DVC, LMC
Karrington Hendrix, DVC

Yesena Vega, LMC
Journey Horacek-Lee, DVC, LMC
Andres Martinez Sanchez, DVC
Victor Barajas, DVC
Dannesha Lewis
Tamara Schroeder
Sasha Graham
Alejandra Camacho
Rebeca Gutierrez Gonzalez
Phillip Prewitt
Rubie Villela

Founded in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Senator Robert F. Kennedy, the Kennedy King Memorial Scholarship has granted nearly \$6,144,000 in scholarships to almost 1,000 students since its founding. All scholars have completed at least two years of study at Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College, or Los Medanos College, and have been accepted at a four-year university to complete their undergraduate studies. Scholarships for graduate students are for students who previously received a Kennedy King undergraduate scholarship. For more information about the Kennedy King Memorial Scholarship Fund, visit www.kennedyking.org.



District Welcomes New Employees

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

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
LMC	Lisa Avery	Admissions & Records Asst. I

Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held May 11, 2022, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board-reports/2021-2022/May%202022.pdf>

Cabinet Highlights

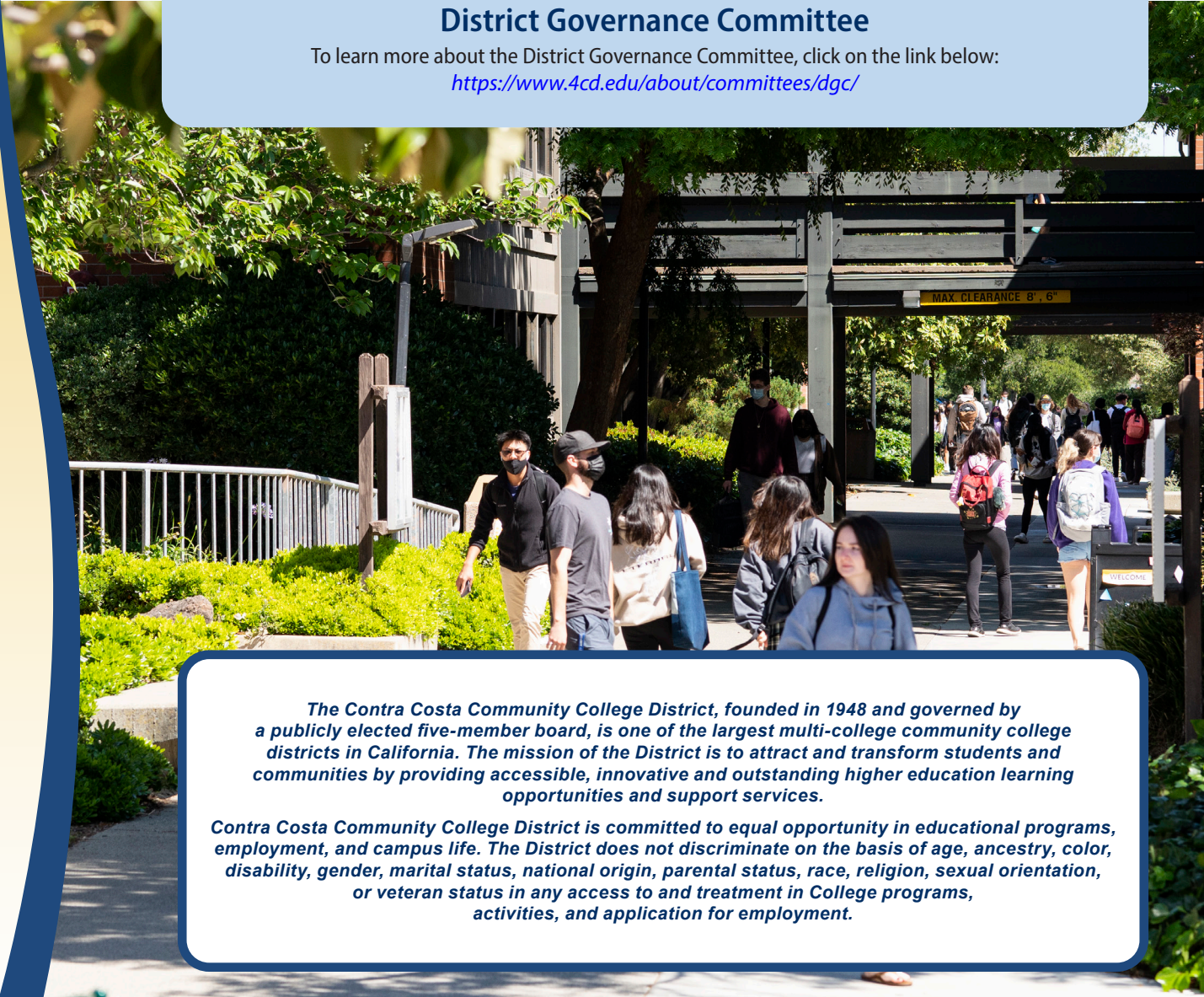
To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in May 2022, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors-cabinet/2021-2022/May%202022.pdf>

District Governance Committee

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

<https://www.4cd.edu/about/committees/dgc/>



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.