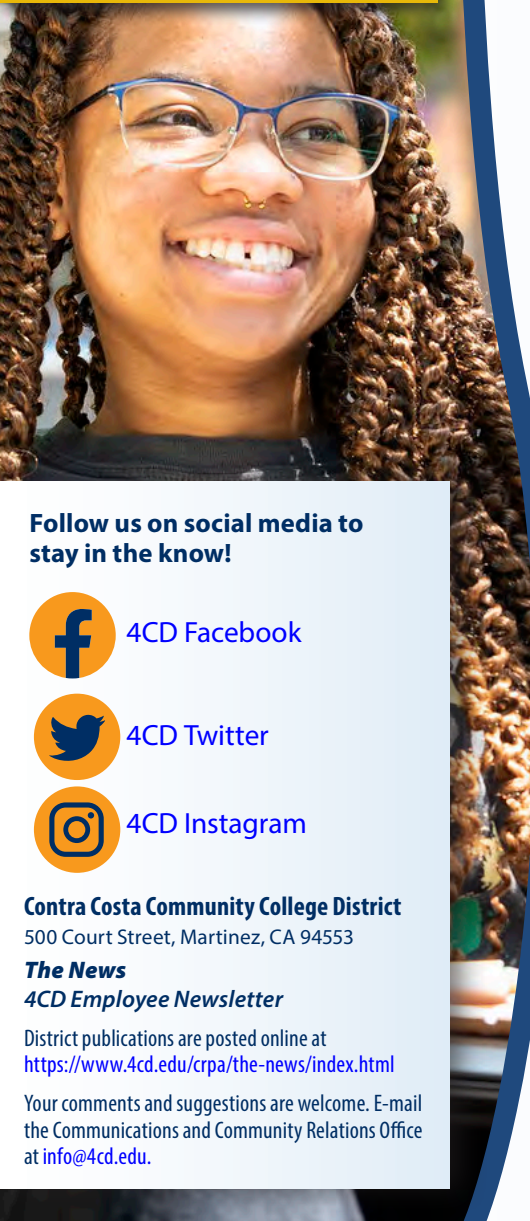


Highlights:

- ▶ Legislative Visits
- ▶ Congressman DeSaulnier's 4CD Listening Tour
- ▶ 4CD Celebrates Black History Month
- ▶ CCC Volunteers on MLK Day
- ▶ CCC Selected for ATD Cohort
- ▶ LMC Classified Senate Gala
- ▶ 4CD Welcomes New Employees
- ▶ January and February 2023 Board Reports
- ▶ January and February 2023 Cabinet Highlights



Follow us on social media to stay in the know!



Contra Costa Community College District
500 Court Street, Martinez, CA 94553

The News
4CD Employee Newsletter

District publications are posted online at
<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/the-news/index.html>

Your comments and suggestions are welcome. E-mail the Communications and Community Relations Office at info@4cd.edu.

Legislative Visits

4 CD Governing Board members, Student Trustee Surpreet Kaur, Interim Chancellor **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**, and Director of Communications and Community Relations **Tim Leong** travelled to Sacramento on January 29-30th to discuss 4CD's 2023 State Legislative Priorities with elected officials.

During their visit, they spoke to legislators about AB 928, which seeks to streamline transfer for community college students by eliminating lifelong learning and self-development programs simply to create one primary transfer pattern. This solution will have a disproportionately negative impact on African American, Latinx, and other students of color. Another impacted population is student-athletes, who are full-time students and have the highest transfer rates to UC, CSU, and other 4-year baccalaureate granting institutions.

Another topic they discussed was the 50% law, which requires that at least 50% of unrestricted general funds received by the district be used in direct support of classroom instruction. 4CD seeks modifications of the 50% law so that faculty who provide academic support services, for example, are included in the 50% calculation.

Additional funding was requested for more cybersecurity solutions to protect confidential student information, prevent technology infrastructure from cyber-attacks, and increase staffing to perform the work. The team also discussed the need for more funding to address mental health challenges for both staff and students, as well as the Student Trustee's priorities on student housing and food insecurity concerns based on the HOPE survey results.

Following their time in Sacramento, trustees Sandoval and Li, joined **Tim Leong** and **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh** to Washington D.C. for the National Legislative Advocacy session. While there, Interim Chancellor Mehdizadeh was invited by Congressman Mark DeSaulnier as his guest to the State of the Union Address. 4CD's federal priorities include supporting our undocumented and immigrant students, the Higher Education Act, and strengthening the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).



Governing Board members Judy Walters, Fernando Sandoval, John E. Márquez, Assemblymember Tim Grayson, Student Trustee Surpreet Kaur, Andy Li, and Rebecca Barrett, along with Interim Chancellor **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**, and **Tim Leong**

Congressman DeSaulnier's 4CD Listening Tour

Congressman Mark DeSaulnier visited the LMC Brentwood Center on February 13th and the DVC San Ramon Campus the following day, as part of his education listening tour, after redistricting brought the two locations into his district. While at the campuses, he celebrated a \$1 million federal grant to support the continued work to increase courses using Open Educational Resources (OER). Thanks to the leadership support of both Congressman DeSaulnier and Senator Alex Padilla, 4CD will be able to offer more courses without expensive textbook costs while increasing student access and success, resulting in equitable outcomes.



While visiting the Brentwood Center, Interim President, **Dr. Pamela Ralston** led the Congressman on a tour, along with **Ryan Pederson** (Sr. Dean of Planning & Institutional Effectiveness), who led the group through the science building where they visited **Dr. Girlie Sisions'** chemistry lab, where students were actively experimenting. **Dr. Tanisha Maxwell** (Vice President of Student Services) showcased Student Services and Administrative areas, as well as the Student Resources and Instructional

support areas such as the library and math lab, talking with librarian **Roseann Erwin**.

Professor of Philosophy, **Edward Haven** shared his perspective on the role open education resources can have for students. Professor Haven served as the coordinator for LMC's zero textbook cost grant and led the charge for making textbooks affordable. LMCAS President Jeffrey Bui emphasized how the high cost of textbooks created barriers for students, and the positive impact the grant will have in increasing student success.

At the DVC San Ramon Campus, led by President **Susan Lamb** and Acting Senior Dean **Jennifer Tejada**, Congressman DeSaulnier toured the Learning Commons and Café, computer classrooms, anatomy lab, Academic Support Center (ASC), and Library. Chef **Ramiro Ibarra** and DSS and Basic Needs Program Assistant **Irene Swain** spoke with the Congressman about supporting students through SRC's food program and services which address basic needs.



Amanda Choi (Librarian), **Noelle Lopez** (Pedagogy Lead/Psychology faculty), **Anne Kingsley** (DE Coordinator/English faculty) and **Lindsey Shively** (OER Co-Coordinator/Librarian) shared the ways the library, technology, distance education, and the adoption of Open Educational Resources have provided digital equity and furthered the work of the college in increasing student success.

4CD Celebrates Black History Month

Throughout February, colleges across 4CD celebrated Black History Month with events for students and the community.

Contra Costa College hosted a packed calendar of events, presented by the African American Staff Association, and the Africana/African American Studies program. The month-long event included library displays, a Black student resource fair, marketplace, their annual community celebration event, hosted in the Knox Center, and drive-in movie featuring the Black Panther 2. CCC's Equity Speakers Series featured *Resistance and the Preservation of African Cultural Traditions: A Way Forward* with Lasana O. Hotep. Hotep is an antiracist and antisexist educator, writer, and equity-advancing executive coach, who shared his insights and expertise on the subject.

Both campuses of DVC welcomed back Dr. Khalid El-Hakim who brought his Black History 101 Mobile Museum to showcase the 50th anniversary of Hip Hop culture. Dr. El-Hakim presented a curated selection of artifacts documenting the evolution of the hip hop genre as well as the timeline of black history from the trans-Atlantic slave trade through the Civil Rights Movement and the Black Arts Movement. Black History Month activities were co-sponsored by the Umoja Program, Associated Students of DVC, College Success Workshops, Humanities Program, Equity Speaker Series, Library, Social Justice Program, and Student Services.

Los Medanos College continued their tradition of reading books to local elementary schools. Virtual recordings of LMC student, faculty and staff are provided to the schools. This was the 9th year of connecting with students in the community. LMC's library display "BLACK experience from every angle" featured the latest titles that celebrate the legacy of Black excellence, success, and joy, as well as a commitment to the Black Resistance, which aims to defend human rights and social justice.

Contra Costa College Volunteers on MLK Day

On Monday, January 16th, a group of Contra Costa College (CCC) employees spent the day together participating in the MLK Jr. Day of Service.

Prior to the event, CCC staff and student-workers assembled 100 hygiene kits (soap, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, socks, etc.). CCC's team, consisting of **Dr. Kimberly Rogers, Kenyetta Tribble, George Mills, Jason Berner, Mayra Padilla, Nikki Ferguson** and his 16-year-old son distributed them at the Richmond Bay Area Rescue Mission, while Chef **Nader Sharkes** and his assistant **Pei Nee Chuah** provided food in the kitchen.

President Rogers shared: "As an educator, I take pride in serving all members of the community at Contra Costa College. In my two years in California, after moving from Boston, this community has become my home. I know that COVID, inflation, supply-chain issues, and life in general have left many hurting, traumatized, and in need of care. Providing basic hygiene supplies, towels, blankets, and socks for CCC's MLK Day of Service was our way of supporting OUR community. We educate and care for West County through our words and actions."



A Richmond Rescue Mission Volunteer, Acting Vice President of Student Services Kenyetta Tribble, Chef Nader Sharkes, and Culinary Program Assistant Pei Nee Chuah.

CCC Selected for ATD Cohort

Contra Costa College was chosen as one of 10 US colleges to participate in Achieving the Dream (ATD), a program that uses high-level coaching and other resources to help community colleges collect and analyze data, then use those findings to help students succeed. CCC has also been invited to join ATD's inaugural three-year Accelerating Equitable Outcomes for Black, Latinx, Indigenous and People of Color Cohort.

ATD institutions are working to build momentum for graduation and increase credential attainment while developing new strategies to demonstrate how community colleges — collaborating with employers and community organizations — can drive more equitable social and economic mobility.



LMC Classified Senate Hosts Scholarship Gala

The Classified Senate of Los Medanos College hosted a 'Night in Winter Wonderland' scholarship fundraiser. Guests enjoyed dinner from The Waterfront Grill, and danced the night away to hits from Motown, 70s, 80s and today by local musical talent Project 4. The LMC Student Union Center was transformed into a Winter Wonderland, thanks to creative visionary **Irma Gregory**. LMC Classified Senate President **Beth Ann Stone** shared that the event raised approximately \$4,000 for LMC student scholarships and gave thanks to the LMC Classified Senate Fundraising Committee: **Sandra Mills, Grace Villegas, Irma Gregory, Lawrence Punsalang, Sheri Woltz, Anthony Olgin, Aaron Nakaji, Nadiya Korkuna, Catt Wood, Reggie Turner, and Kenny Purizaga-Orejuela.**



District Welcomes New Employees

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

Regular Managers

Location	Name	Title
DVC	Drew Gephart	Academic Student Services Manager
DVC	Lonnie Sampson	Custodial Manager

Regular Academic Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Chris Coughlin	Emergency Medical Technologies
DVC	Andrew Vanden-Heuvel	Physics/Astronomy

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Martiza Galo	Administrative Assistant II
CCC	Fabianna Helmick	Early Childhood Education Specialist
CCC	Matthew Houser	College Human Resources Assistant
CCC	Angela Loera	Program Coordinator
CCC	Julissa Martin	Administrative Assistant III
CCC	Joseph Roberts	Library Technician
DO	Katherine Chen	Utility and Sustainability Specialist
DVC	Kristin Anderson	Instructional Assistant
DVC	Nancy Dimitri	Administrative Assistant II
DVC	Ana Gutierrez	Early Childhood Education Assistant
DVC	Michael Romano	Admissions/Records Assistant I
DVC	Nichole Santamaria	Disabled Students Programs and Services Assistant
DVC	Irene Swain	Program Assistant
LMC	Dearta Govan	Office Assistant II
LMC	Tiandra Richardson	Program Assistant

Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held January 11, 2023, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board-reports/2022-2023/January%2011,%202023.pdf>

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held February 15, 2023, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board-reports/2022-2023/February%2015,%202023.pdf>

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in January 2023, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors-cabinet/2022-2023/January%202023%20Cabinet%20Highlights.pdf>

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in February 2023, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors-cabinet/2022-2023/February%202023.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.