

### Highlights:

- ▶ 4CD Student Government Leaders Visit Washington D.C.
- ▶ 4CD Classified Employee of the Year
- ▶ 4CD Implements AB 367
- ▶ CCC and DVC Recognize Exemplary Award Winners
- ▶ 4CD Welcomes New Employees
- ▶ March 2023 Board Reports
- ▶ March 2023 Cabinet Highlights

## 4CD Student Government Leaders Visit Washington D.C.

**D**VC managers **Todd Farr** and **Ada Ocampo**, along with a DVC delegation of 10 Associated Students of Diablo Valley College (ASDVC) students, and Student Trustee Surpreet Kaur, participated in the National Student Advocacy Conference held in Washington, D.C. The team conducted legislative visits with congressional offices, toured the U.S. Capitol, National Museum of African American History and Culture, Kennedy Center, and Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. ASDVC student leaders advocated for the DACA/DREAM Act, Pell Grant expansion, and support for HR 2861, America's College Promise Grant Act.

The composition of DVC students that attended this conference represented gender balance, first generation, first year students, international students, and transfer students from historically marginalized groups.

This is the first time in many years that 4CD has had student representation from all 3 colleges, with Los Medanos College Associated Students President Jeffrey Bui and five student representatives from CCCAS attending the National Student Advocacy Conference.



*Diablo Valley College representatives at the U.S. Capitol.*

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](mailto:info@4cd.edu).

## DVC's Arthur King Selected as 4CD Classified Employee of the Year



Arthur King and his family.

**A**rthur King, classified professional at Diablo Valley College, has been selected by the Classified Senate and approved by the Governing Board as the 4CD Classified Professional of the Year. He will now be considered for the statewide California Community Colleges Classified Professional of the Year awards. The purpose of this statewide award is to recognize outstanding classified professionals throughout the community college system.

Having over 25 years of experience in this role, he has expanded his duties to include organizing Art Department fundraisers, hosting high school student outreach events, and college transfer presentations. His commitment as Gallery Coordinator is tremendous. He organizes at least five annual exhibitions including the Annual Student Art Exhibit wherein each DVC Art student can showcase their work. Arthur schedules, coordinates, and installs

every exhibition at the DVC Gallery and manages the permanent DVC Art Collection.

Arthur is motivated by a desire to contribute to a more equitable and excellent college. His general motto is, "If it helps students, then I'll do it." Arthur always gladly makes himself available to any student or instructor who approaches him. His presence is a huge reason the DVC Art Department is a welcoming community.

Statewide award winners are selected by representatives of the Community Colleges' Board of Governors, Chancellor's Office, and the Foundation for California Community Colleges. Recipients will be announced and honored at the May meeting of the Board of Governors. The nominees are evaluated on their commitment to the Vision for Success and equitable student outcomes; professional ethics and standards; serving the institution's diverse student population through participation in professional and/or community activities; and serving as a leader beyond their location institution. A \$750.00 cash award and plaque will be awarded to six statewide recipients.

## 4CD Implements AB 367

**O**n October 8th, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 367, which required the CSU system and each community college district in the state to provide free menstrual products in at least one "designated and accessible central location" on campus by the 2022-23 academic year.

While 4CD is in full compliance with the law, each college added more locations where free menstrual products are available. At Contra Costa College, there are currently 10 dispenser locations with plans of adding 10 more. At Diablo Valley College there are 9 locations across the Pleasant Hill Campus, and one at the San Ramon Campus. Dispensers are in each building across Los Medanos College at both the Pittsburg campus and Brentwood Center, as well as in the student marketplace.

Maintenance & Operations teams installed the dispensers, while the custodial staff restocks them. There is also a number on the dispensers that students can text if the supply is empty.



Flow Dispenser

## CCC and DVC Presidents Recognize Classified Exemplary Award Winners

Contra Costa College (CCC) Acting President **Dr. Kimberly Rogers** announced Computer Network Specialist **Evren Gurson** as the recipient of CCC President's Classified Professional Exemplary Service Award. Evren is a computer, phone, and technology wizard. Evren quickly answers the calls of employees in distress experiencing computer technical issues. He is always patient and professional while fixing technical problems, installing programs and software, and providing instruction on how to use new technology. He is conscientious and professional in his duties, responsibilities, and obligations on campus.



**Evren Gurson**

Evren is a dedicated staff member and is always looking for ways to help the college community. He is eager to participate in events and help. In addition to providing continuing support at college events such as All College Day, Evren also participates in community events. On the first Friday of the fall 2022 term, Evren spent two hours supporting new students by providing them with directions and connecting them to student services available online. He went above and beyond, emailing his colleagues with student questions and copying the student to ensure they received a response. He also ensured that Spanish-speaking students were able to get the support they needed by connecting them to other managers and faculty on campus to assist them. His caring and helpful nature and his positive presence always lifts any activity and event he is a part of.

Diablo Valley College announced their three classified professional award winners at their annual luncheon:

**Arthur King, Julie Barnhart, and Mercy Pono.**

**Julie Barnhart**, Lead Admissions and Records Assistant at the DVC - San Ramon Campus (SRC) is described by many at SRC as authentic, kind, caring, helpful, professional, and always ready to extend a hand. Julie takes time to explain processes to students and follows up with phone calls. Many students recognize her for all the help she gives and come up to the window to say hello. She is also very welcoming towards faculty and staff when they have questions.

Her commitment to serving students is on display daily as she frequently will come around from behind the A&R counter to walk students to the Enrollment Lab and personally guide them through the application or registration process. Julie oversees an internal committee at SRC, affectionately known as the Sunshine Committee, which recognizes with cards and gifts, important life events for SRC employees, be they joyous occasions such as weddings, births and retirements or moments when our community needs support, such as the passing of a family member or illness.

**Mercy Pono**, Senior Program Coordinator in Welcome and Connect Services has led DVC's Student Ambassador program for many years. Mercy has hired, coached, trained, mentored, and has made an amazingly positive impact on many students' lives. The interactions between the Student Ambassadors and Mercy are heartwarming and encouraging. Without a doubt, she pours her entire heart into this program. She works with thousands of students each semester and goes out of her way to ensure that students get answers to their questions and get what they need to get started at DVC. She coordinates with DSS, financial aid, PUMA, student centers, EOPS, and student life and indeed every corner of PHC and SRC campuses to present a holistic and equitable view of the services that DVC offers its students.

Mercy is a Tri-Chair of DVC's Student Equity and Success Committee. She is inclusive in her approach to equity work and encourages others to be engaged. She has been instrumental in the revision of the College Equity Plan, contributing her perspectives and helping the committee stay committed to practical application of equity values. Her tenacity and organizational skills were key in executing one of the most impactful All College Days DVC has had.



**DVC President Susan Lamb, Julie Barnhart, Mercy Pono, Arthur King, and Kenyetta Tribble.**

## District Welcomes New Employees

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

### **Regular Monthly Classified Employee**

Location	Name	Title
DVC	Michael Souza	College Payroll Technician

### **Board Report**

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held March 8, 2023, click on the link below:  
<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board-reports/2022-2023/March%208,%202023.pdf>

### **Cabinet Highlights**

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in March 2023, click on the link below:  
<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors-cabinet/2022-2023/March%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.*