



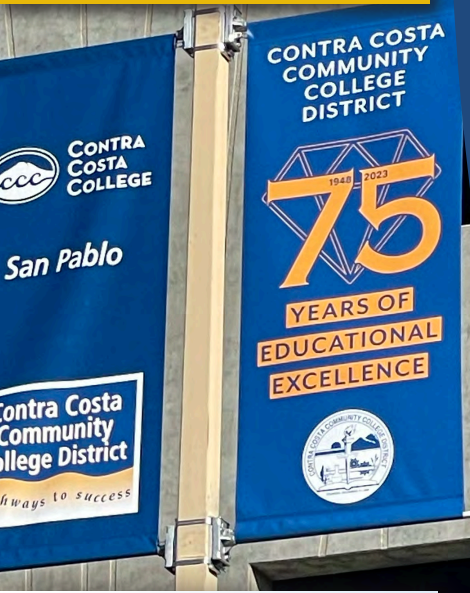
The NEWS

4CD EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

December 2023 – January 2024

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- ▶ CCC and DVC Recognized by American Red Cross
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Governing Board Organizational Meeting

At their December 13, 2023, organizational meeting, the Governing Board appointed the following new officers:

President: Rebecca Barrett
 Vice President: Andy Li
 Secretary: Dr. Judy E. Walters

CCC and DVC American Red Cross Partner Recognition

At the American Red Cross Partner Recognition event, held at 4CD’s District Office on Thursday, January 25th, Contra Costa College, and Diablo Valley College were honored for their disaster services. This 7th annual event celebrated community partners, leaders, donors, and volunteers who have shown commitment to the mission of the Red Cross. In August 2023, Contra Costa College became an evacuation center, after a hazmat incident occurred in San Pablo. Diablo Valley College was used as an emergency shelter during the major floods in 2023.

Tim Leong, recently retired 4CD Director of Communications and Community Relations, was recognized for his tenure as a councilmember and representative of 4CD over his 15 years of service. Ed Carney, District Chief of Police, has currently taken over the councilmember role.



Retired Director of Communications and Community Relations **Tim Leong**, **Lt. Charles Hankins**, CCC President **Dr. Kimberly R. Rogers**, DVC President **Susan E. Lamb**, Chancellor **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**, and Governing Board Secretary, **Judy Walters**.

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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.

4CD Celebrates 75 Years of Educational Excellence

On December 14, 1948, the voters of Contra Costa County approved the formation of the Contra Costa Junior College District (CCJCD) by a vote of 6,062 to 5,288, to establish a countywide junior college district. The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, at their December 27, 1948, meeting, officially declared the CCJCD formation and the County Superintendent of Schools immediately appointed a five-person Board of Trustees

The first Governing Board meeting was held on January 24, 1949, and adopted the CCJCD as the official name. Subsequently, the first classes were held at Camp Stoneman in Pittsburg on September 26, 1949, the West Campus held their first classes at the Kaiser Shipyard in Richmond on January 6, 1950, and the East Campus held their first classes at a former Martinez elementary school on September 18, 1950.

On November 2, 1950, CCJCD purchased land in Pleasant Hill for the site of a permanent campus and on April 13, 1953, CCJCD purchased land in San Pablo for a permanent West Campus. Later, on January 27, 1958, the Governing Board approved renaming the West Campus to Contra Costa College, and the East Campus to Diablo Valley College. On March 26, 1962, CCJCD accepted a quit claim deed for Camp Stoneman, site of the future Los Medanos College. In 1971, CCJCD was renamed the Contra Costa Community College District (4CD). In 1985, Diablo Valley College opened the Center for Higher Education, an outreach campus in San Ramon, with a permanent center opened in 2006. In June of 1998, Los Medanos College opened its outreach center in Brentwood to serve Far East County and completed the permanent Los Medanos College Brentwood Center in 2020.

At the December 13, 2023, Governing Board meeting, 4CD officially began celebrations of our 75th anniversary. The Board read a [resolution](#), followed by several official recognitions from local elected officials and community partners.

In honor of this important milestone, we'll be taking a journey through each decade of our history – highlighting the changes in our social, economic, and technological landscape that have shaped the evolution of 4CD. We will look at historical events, along with developments within our own organization. Along the way, we'll hear from people who've contributed to our success – with some familiar faces and others who you might not have met yet.

Throughout the year, we will be sharing these stories through an exhibit in the lobby of the District Office in Martinez. Be sure to keep an eye out for updates, generally on the second Wednesday of every month. We will also share them through The News. You can learn more about 4CD's 75-year history in the [2023 Bond Report](#).

We'd love to hear about your 4CD reflections, and we welcome your stories via email at info@4cd.edu.



Governing Board Approves Contract for Permanent Chancellor

At their December 13, 2023, meeting, the Governing Board formally approved the contract for 4CD's 10th permanent chancellor, **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**.

When Mojdeh Mehdizadeh was named Chancellor, many recalled that she was a DVC alum. Fewer know that her journey started when she was in her teens when her older brother was admitted to DVC.

"I still remember the day he received his acceptance letter and jumped for joy," says Mojdeh. "I decided to follow in his footsteps and never thought twice about it."

As a new student, Mojdeh discovered her career direction. "During my first semester, I found myself browsing the student job board," explains Mojdeh. "I saw a job at the career development center, only a few steps away, so I walked in. The manager asked me two questions and told me to start the following day."

As part of her role, Mojdeh created a new database that enabled instructors to sort and search lists of students – a novelty at that time. "I loved recognizing I could use technology in a way that helped people, and that led me to MIS (management information systems)," she says.

In the classroom, Mojdeh loved the opportunities to talk one-on-one with faculty members. "What's incredibly special about community colleges is that your instructors know you," she explains. "DVC's people truly set me up for success."

One person, in particular, inspired Mojdeh to dream bigger. "At that time, DVC's president was Dr. Phyllis Peterson," says Mojdeh. "I spent my early childhood in Iran, where it was rare to see women in higher-level roles. I remember Dr. Peterson's friendly, welcoming leadership style. When you see other women who have risen to senior roles, you can envision a different future for yourself."

Mojdeh became an hourly DVC employee after she transferred, and she's spent her entire career with 4CD. When she first joined the Chancellor's Cabinet in 2001, she was one of just three women. "Today, I'm proud of the number of women and people of color in executive leadership," she says, noting that today, the presidents of all three colleges are women.

When asked what makes 4CD special, Mojdeh points to the qualities that marked her DVC days: the focus on students and the sense of belonging. "No matter what their role, all of our employees are invested in the success of our students," says Mojdeh. "I'm proud of the inclusive culture we've created together."

Mojdeh loves positive change, and she sees plenty ahead. "Higher education is moving much more rapidly than in the past," she comments. "We have so many opportunities to re-envision education and keep it vibrant for people of all ages and backgrounds." That includes new technologies like virtual reality, as well as the evolution of 4CD's campuses and facilities.

In many ways, 4CD is creating that change through our students. "I'm humbled by how many local residents have graduated from our colleges and gone on to do amazing things in our communities," she says. "I continue to be energized by our students and employees, and I look forward to 75 more years of providing incredible educational opportunities for the people of Contra Costa County."



Mojdeh Mehdizadeh

District Welcomes New Employees

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

Regular Managers

Location	Name	Title
DST	Daniel Cueva	Director of Human Resources
LMC	Jarrod Holcombe	Director of Maintenance and Operations

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	LeiTasika Faumuina	Instructional Assistant
CCC	Georgia Chau	Science Laboratory Technician
CCC	Patricia Duncan Hall	Program Assistant
CCC	Mi Chong Tu	Administrative Assistant III
DST	Briana McElroy	Police Services Assistant/Dispatcher
DST	Michael Robrahn	Computer and Network Specialist, Senior
LMC	Tanita Richardson	Administrative Assistant III
LMC	Hasaun Warren	Program Assistant
LMC	Cristina Navarrete	College Human Resources Assistant
LMC	Veronica Ortiz	Program Coordinator

Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on December 13, 2023, click on the link below:
<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board-reports/2023-2024/December%202023.pdf>

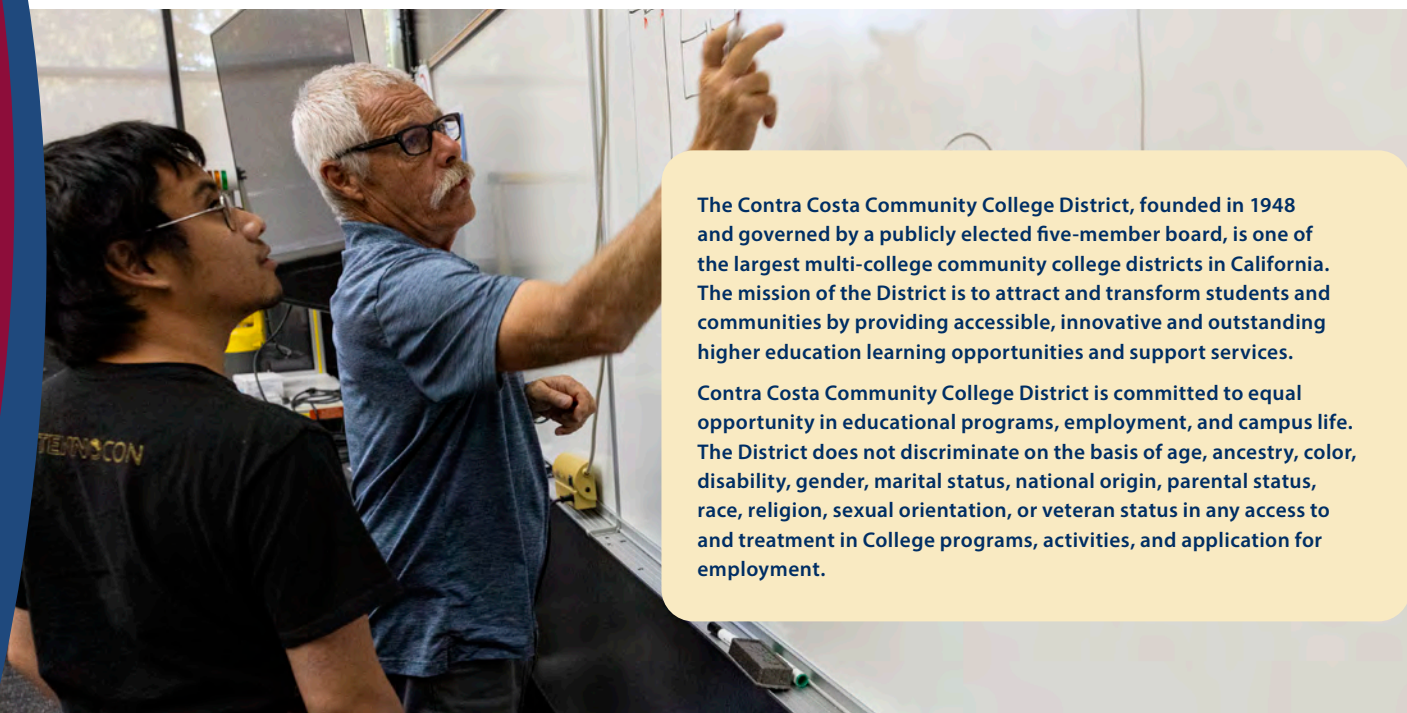
To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on January 10, 2024, click on the link below:
<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board-reports/2023-2024/January%2010,%202024.pdf>

Cabinet Highlights

There are no Cabinet meeting highlights for December 2023. To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in January 2024, click on the link below:
<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors-cabinet/2023-2024/January%202024.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.