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Contra Costa College Professor Laura Lozano Elected to I-CAR Board of Directors

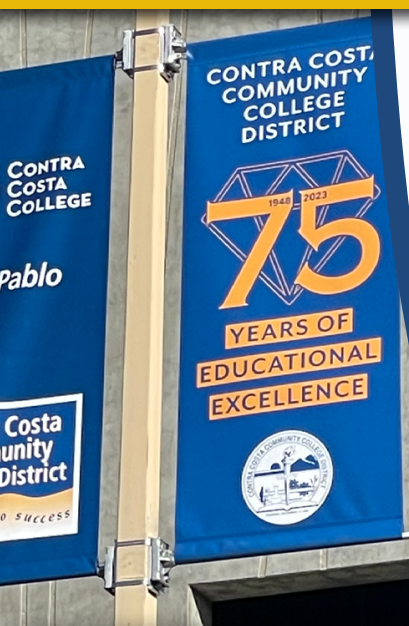
Contra Costa College (CCC) Collision Repair Program Lead **Laura Lozano**, has been elected to the I-CAR Board of Directors, representing the Education segment in a national leadership role. Her three-year term began on August 27.

I-CAR (Inter-Industry Conference on Auto Collision Repair) is a national nonprofit that sets education and training standards for the auto collision industry. The Board plays a key role in shaping programs that support technicians, educators, and industry partners nationwide.

Lozano's election highlights CCC's strong industry connections and commitment to career-focused education. Her new role with I CAR expands that influence to the national level. At I-CAR, she'll represent all educators working to keep collision repair programs current, connected, and student-focused.

Lozano attended CCC as a student in the Automotive Collision Repair Technology program. After earning her associate degree, she worked in the field, co-opened an auto body shop with her father, and returned to CCC to lead the very program that launched her career.

"Being elected to the I-CAR Board feels like a culmination of everything this program stands for: hands-on learning, industry partnership, and supporting student success. I'm honored to bring Contra Costa College's voice to such a vital table," said Lozano.



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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.

Congressman Mark DeSaulnier Visits Diablo Valley College

Congressman Mark DeSaulnier visited Diablo Valley College (DVC) on Sept. 24 to meet with students, tour the campus, and learn about the support services DVC offers, including its Inclusivity and Wellness Center and food pantry.

During the tour, Rep. DeSaulnier explored the student Club Fair, and heard from student leaders, including Gabriela Tapia and Raul Arana (pictured above).

He also had a roundtable discussion with students enrolled in an “Intro to Politics” class. Students asked thoughtful questions about how to effect change in our world. Rep. DeSaulnier encouraged them to stay civically engaged, pay attention to what’s happening in their community, and have conversations with people who have different points of view.



Los Medanos College Obtains Fire Engine for Fire Academy

Los Medanos College Fire Academy students are getting a big boost this year with the arrival of a fully loaded 2009 Hi-Tec Type I Fire Engine—ready to roll and ready to train on!

Thanks to funding from the California Strong Workforce Program, LMC was able to purchase the \$114,000 engine from the Cordelia Fire Protection

District. Outfitted with gear for both urban and wildland firefighting, this truck is a huge win for the college. To put it in perspective, a brand-new model without any equipment would have run close to \$800,000.

“This acquisition significantly enhances our training capabilities, providing our students with hands-on experience and is an important component in preparing them for real-world firefighting scenarios,” Fire Academy Coordinator **Joe Torres** said.

Students in the Spring 2026 Fire Academy will be the first to put the fire engine to use after completing their prerequisites.

Catch the big red engine as it makes its debut in the City of Pittsburg Holiday Parade on Saturday, Dec. 6!

4CD Welcomes New Employees

Please welcome the following new employees who were approved by the Governing Board in August and September.

Classified Professionals

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Erica Schlep	Transcript and Degree Audit Specialist
CCC	Jose Zepeda	Graphic Design Specialist
DVC	Lilian Benitez	Disabled Students Programs and Services Assistant
DVC	Jacques Kouamelan	Police Services Officer Trainee
DVC	Heather McGoldrick	Athletic Trainer
DVC	Kat Vaino	Administrative Assistant II
LMC	Tereese Abuhamdeh	Library Technician, Senior
LMC	Gabriella Escobar	Admissions/Records Assistant I
LMC	Priscilla Lathrop	College Payroll Technician
LMC	Alejandra Magana	College Payroll Technician
LMC	Joanne Mari Young	College Human Resources Assistant

Faculty

Location	Name	Title
LMC	Mannie Mangaron	Vocational Nursing
LMC	Douglas Phenix	Counseling: Extended Opportunity Programs and Services

Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on September 10, 2025, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board-reports/2025-2026/September%2010,%202025.pdf>

To view the recordings of past Governing Board Meetings, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/gb/videos.html>

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings, click on the link below:

<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors-cabinet/index.html>

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.

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