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## President's Corner: An Eventful Spring Ahead



I feel honored to serve as your president and look forward to working with you this semester in my new role. I believe by working together we can continue to empower, inspire, and support our diverse community of students to achieve their goals and realize their dreams.

We have a busy semester ahead of us. Our work on accreditation will enter a new cycle, there are several new initiatives to look forward to, including the California Promise and a new building project, and we will endeavor to achieve the goals of our *Education Master Plan (2016-2021)*.

### **Accreditation Update**

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACCJC) will notify us of our status in February 2017. Irrespective of status, we will start work on a Mid-Term Report in February 2017 and conclude in November 2017. The College's Mid-Term Report will be submitted for approval to the PCCD Board of

Trustees in January 2018. The final version will be sent to the ACCJC in March 2018.

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It is important to continue our momentum and build upon the accreditation work accomplished already by faculty, staff, and administrators. The areas we will focus on include:

- Learning outcomes,
- Evaluations,
- Planning/budget, and
- Reflection and dialog.

### **The California Promise**

The California Community Colleges State Chancellor's Office is requesting multi-college districts to submit proposals for up to \$1.5 million. PCCD will be applying as a District through Chancellor Laguerre, with the goal of expanding the Peralta Promise to include Alameda and Berkeley Unified School Districts.

### **New CoA Center for Liberal Arts Building Project**

The PCCD Board of Trustees will award the design and build contract for the new Center for Liberal Arts Building at the February 22, 2017, meeting. The planners will meet with College members to finalize plans and room layouts for the project starting in February 2017 and continuing through September 2017. Construction is estimated to begin in July, 2018. The building is scheduled to be completed in the fall semester, 2019.

### **College Planning**

Participation of students, staff, and faculty in the planning process is a very important component of effective college governance. Whether you are a student, faculty, or staff member, I invite you to consider taking part in governance by serving on committees. Faculty, staff, and students are appointed to committees through their Senates or governing body. Additionally, the Academic Senate assumes primary responsibility for recommendations in the areas of curriculum and academic standards. If you are interested in participating, contact your Senate or governing body representative.

### **CoA Education Master Plan (EMP) 2016-2021**

Our *Education Master Plan* (EMP) aims to provide long and short-term direction in support of student learning and institutional effectiveness. The EMP calls for our highest priority goals to drive decision making and resource allocations.

### **The Strategic Goals of our Education Master Plan include:**

- Increasing access to college programs and coursework, through collaboration with other PCCD colleges in redesigning college schedules and offerings;
- Reducing the loss of students before classes start;
- Increasing retention and persistence rates;
- Increasing community and educational partnerships;
- Strengthening business and industry partnerships;

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- Advancing CoA teaching and learning;
- Strengthening Data-driven / informed decision making;
- Establishing integrated planning and evaluation system;
- Designing organizational, committee, and governance structures to support student success; and
- Engaging in a redesign of PCCD policies and procedures, including the Budget Allocation Model (BAM).

This is an exciting time for the College, with many positive developments on the horizon. None of them will be accomplished without you. Each of you plays an important role in helping the College and its students succeed. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to student success.

Sincerely,

Timothy Karas, President  
College of Alameda

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## Welcome New Staff, Faculty, and Administrators

There are a number of new staff, faculty, and administrators joining us this semester. Several will be familiar faces, having worked here in other capacities or on a part time basis. Others will be new to the college. Please join me in congratulating and welcoming:

### New Staff

**Nicole Kelly**, Project Manager/Transitions Liaison Adult Education, **Yoway Tong**, Staff Assistant Dean of Special Projects; and **Lydell Willis**, Program Manager/Foster Youth, are joining us this semester. Yoway and Lydell are new to the College.

### Full-time Faculty

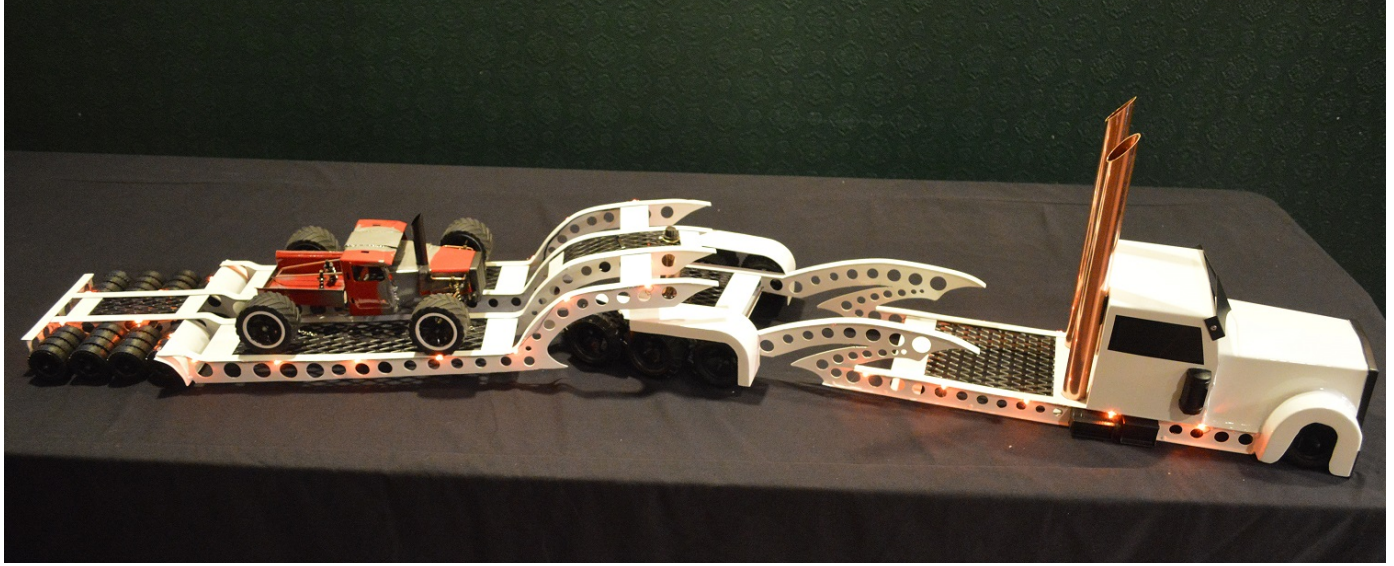
**Andrew Park**, Physics, **Richard Kaeser**, Mathematics, and **John Taylor**, Diesel Mechanics, are experienced, highly respected CoA instructors. It is a pleasure to welcome them now as tenure-track faculty.

### Administrators

**Myron Jordan**, Interim Vice President Instruction, **Eva Jennings**, Dean of Career Technical Education, Dr. **Karen Engel**, Interim Dean of Research and Planning, and **Paula Armstead**, Interim Associate Dean of Educational Services joined our administrative team last October. Myron previously served as our Dean of Academic Pathways and Student Success. Karen comes to us from the District Office where she managed Economic and Workforce Development.

Congratulations to all and welcome to CoA!

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*CoA students impressed the judges and the crowd with this beautifully rendered long truck hauling a dune buggy-style car.*

## CoA Students Dominate Model Truck Competition—Again

In December 2016, College of Alameda Auto Body and Paint students swept both first and second place awards at the California Auto Body Association’s East Bay Chapter’s (EB-CAA) *18th Annual Toys for Tots/Model Truck Competition*. CoA captured first place in the competition for the third consecutive year with their ultra-modern design

titled "Heavy Hauler." If a three-year first place sweep wasn't enough to impress the crowd of 130, CoA students also won second place with their wine truck entry. Students from five Bay Area schools competed in the event, including third-place winner Contra Costa College, Tri-Valley ROP, Mission Valley, and Eden Area ROP.



*CoA Auto Body students win first place for third consecutive year, and also add a second place award for this year's contest.*

Congratulations to our winning students and also to CoA Auto Body and Paint instructors **Bill Andrews** and **Peter Ha** who inspired their students to a new record of three consecutive wins.

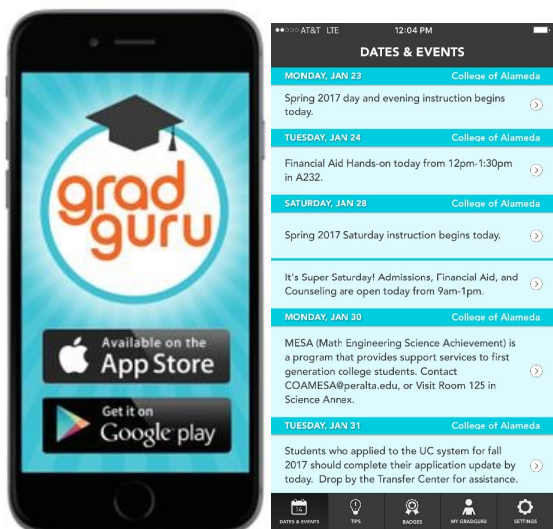
These artistic auto-body creations are a labor of love for our students and faculty alike. Students don't receive college credit for their contest entries and have to work on them before or after class. Faculty members give their time to attend the event with their students.

"The students really get excited about these projects and winning makes it even better," said Andrews. "Watching as the students work as a team to create something impressive is a big deal for us and for the school."

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## Grad Guru Is Here to Help Our Students Stay on Track



*Grad Guru available in your smartphone's app store*

*CoA Admissions Office is partnering with Grad Guru to Launch a free app to help students stay on track*

With Grad Guru, students will receive reminders of significant dates such as the academic calendar and important events, including campus workshops, special events, and student life activities.

By delivering free nudge notifications to their iOS and Android smartphones, GradGuru helps students keep track of academic and financial aid deadlines, guides them through critical milestones, and encourages and rewards them for behaviors proven to lead to academic success.

The Admissions Office also will gather feedback from faculty, students, and staff to determine effectiveness and optimize the app to improve communications with students. As part of the launch efforts, we will have tabling during Welcome Week, and distribute banners, posters, and informational materials on campus.

You can help our students get connected to CoA Grad Guru by doing the following:

- Posting a table tent / flier in your office,
- Encouraging students to download the app during office hours, counseling sessions, or make an announcement in class, and
- Encouraging student workers to download the app and spread the word.

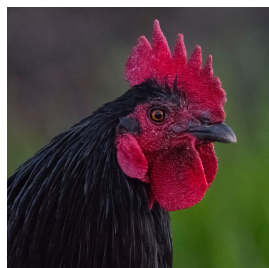
Thank you to the LRC, Financial Aid, Counseling, Health Services, Student Activities, and Outreach for coordinating the content of the app.

*Submitted by Amy H. Lee, Ed.D., Dean, Enrollment Services, [ahlee@peralta.edu](mailto:ahlee@peralta.edu)*

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## Join Us in Celebrating the Lunar New Year of the Rooster

The Associated Students of College of Alameda and the office of Student Activities will be featuring performers on the Quad at noon on January 26, 2017.



CoA President **Tim Karas** will deliver opening remarks. The event will feature [Cal Berkeley Vietnamese Student Association Lion Dance](#), a Vietnamese based dance troupe, [MJ Leechor](#), Singer and Guitar Player, [Bad Repertory Theatre](#), an Asian & Pacific Islander based theatre and comedy group, and ASCOA President **Ernie Eugenio** will host the event.

Please come out and enjoy the festivities.

*Submitted by Fong Tran, MS, BSW, Director of Student Activities and Campus Life, [ftran@peralta.edu](mailto:ftran@peralta.edu), (510) 748-2327.*

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## Student Health Services Offers First Aid, Mental Health Services, Classroom Presentations, and Other Services

Starting a new semester may be a stressful time in our students' lives, and health issues can increase the pressure. CoA's Health Services Office provides a variety of services to help our students stay healthy physically and mentally throughout the semester. Here are some of the services that we offer:

**Massage Therapy and Acupuncture** appointments are offered every Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Room F-105. Appointments can be made online at <http://ccacu.net/>.

**Mental health** therapy services are available in English and Spanish for any student enrolled at CoA. Students may access therapy services by calling my office line, (510) 748-2320, or by emailing me at [eschloss@peralta.edu](mailto:eschloss@peralta.edu) to schedule an appointment. Our staff is available for consultation with faculty and staff to discuss approaches and interventions to meet the needs of students with mental health challenges. If you think a student is a danger to others or himself please call 9-1-1. Otherwise, if you think a student is in crisis, having a difficult time emotionally, appears depressed or possibly suicidal, please call my cell phone, (415) 595-2859, or stop by my office, F-105, to discuss ways that we may provide support.

A variety of **Nursing services** are available, including first aid, pregnancy testing, flu shots, TB testing, health education, family planning, and community referrals. Our school nurse, **Ranjeet Rajan**, MSN, RN, PHN, is available in F-105, Mondays and Tuesdays from 8:30-5:00 p.m., and Wednesdays from noon to 4:00 p.m.

We are available for **classroom presentations** about health and wellness services and/or other mental health topics, including stress management, anger management, LGBTQQI training, and more. Please call if you would like us to visit your class. Please feel free to contact us with your questions or suggestions.

*Submitted by Evan Schloss, Health Services Coordinator, [eschloss@peralta.edu](mailto:eschloss@peralta.edu), Office-(510) 748-2320, Cell-(415) 595-2859*

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## International Students Office Hours



The International Office at COA is now open for business for the Spring 2017 Semester in Room F-109 (Student Center). We will be providing International Support Services on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Academic Counseling on Friday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (with the exception of a few dates). Please refer to our office any international students or domestic students interested in studying abroad.

Feel free to stop by and say hello!

*Submitted by Drew Gephart, International Services Manager, [dgephart@peralta.edu](mailto:dgephart@peralta.edu), (510) 587-7834*

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# Make Your Splash!



Do you know an outstanding student whose story you'd like to share?  
Did you attend an interesting workshop or conference?  
Do you have unique projects planned for your students this semester?  
Is there an upcoming event that we should all know about?  
Have you or a colleague been honored with an award or been published recently?

Send us your news so we can share it with the campus community in the *CoA Splash!*  
It's easy – just send us a short article and a good photo or two, and we'll take care of the rest. Don't forget to include the name of the writer, the photographer, and anyone who's pictured (if possible).

**Please note** that *Splash* will be produced biweekly. The next issue deadline is **Monday, February 6, 2017, for publication on Thursday, February 9, 2017**. Be sure to email your news and information to: [coasplash@peralta.edu](mailto:coasplash@peralta.edu). Past issues: [alameda.peralta.edu/office-of-the-president/coa-splash-newsletters/](http://alameda.peralta.edu/office-of-the-president/coa-splash-newsletters/)



## College of Alameda Student Activities Calendar

### Spring Semester 2017



#### Week 1 Jan 23 - 29

**Welcome Week**  
Mon, Jan 23 - Thurs, Jan 26  
10 - 1pm  
Quad

**Lunar New Years Celebration**  
Thurs, Jan 26 | 12 - 1pm  
Quad

#### Week 2 Jan 30 - 5

**Club Rush**  
Tues, Jan 31 - Wed, Feb 1  
11 - 1pm  
Quad

**First Thursday's Open Mic "Black History Month"**  
Thurs, Feb 2 | 3pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

#### Week 3 Feb 6 - 12

**"Birth of a Nation" Film Screening**  
Wed, Feb 8 | 12pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

#### Week 4 Feb 13 - 19

**Valentine's Party**  
Tues, Feb 14 | 12pm  
Quad

**Blood Drive**  
Tues, Feb 14 | 10 - 2pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

#### Week 6 Feb 27 - 5

**First Thursday's Open Mic "Latino Cultural Heritage"**  
Thurs, Mar 2 | 3pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

#### Week 7 Mar 6 - 12

**International Womxn's Day**  
Wed, Mar 8 | 12pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

#### Week 8 Mar 13 - 19

**St. Patts Celebration**  
Tues, Mar 14 | 12pm  
Quad

#### Week 9 Mar 20 - 26

**"Cesar Chavez" Film Screening**  
Wed, Mar 22 | 3pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

**Car Show**  
Sat, Mar 25 | 10 - 3pm  
Parking Lot A

#### Week 11 Apr 3 - 9

**Club Olympics**  
Tues, Apr 4 | 11 - 1pm  
Cougar Gymnasium

**Club Olympics**  
Wed, Apr 5 | 11 - 1pm  
Cougar Gymnasium

**First Thursday's Open Mic "Womxn's Empowerment"**  
Thurs, Apr 6 | 3pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

#### Week 13 Apr 17 - 23

**Wellness Fair**  
Tues, Apr 18  
11:30 - 1:30pm  
Quad and Pit

**Resolutions Town Hall**  
Wed, Apr 19 | 10 - 11am  
Student Center (F) Pit

**"Hidden Figures" Film Screening**  
Wed, Apr 19 | 3pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

#### Week 15 May 1 - 7

**First Thursday's Open Mic "Asian & Pacific Islander Heritage"**  
Thurs, May 4 | 3pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

#### Week 17 May 15 - 21

**Study Jam Week**  
Mon, May 15 - Fri, May 19  
4 - 8pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

**Student Appreciation Luncheon**  
Wed, May 17 | 12pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

**"Breath'n: The Eddy Zhang Story" Film Screening**  
Wed, May 17 | 3pm  
Student Center (F) Pit

#### Week 18 May 22 - 28

**College of Alameda Commencement**  
Fri, May 26 | 2 - 4pm  
Cougar Gymnasium

For any questions, please email: [coa.activities@gmail.com](mailto:coa.activities@gmail.com)

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