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Timothy Karas, President

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### President's Corner: Partnerships



On Friday, March 10, I had the pleasure of attending the California Coalition of Early & Middle Colleges (CCEMC) Spring 2017 Regional Meeting hosted at College of Alameda. The mission of CCEMC is to promote and expand proven best practices associated with dual enrollment. The Alameda Science and Technology Institute (ASTI) coordinated the event. At the meeting, CCEMC presented ASTI Principal **Tracy Corbally** with an award and resolution acknowledging ASTI as an exemplary program.

It is remarkable to note that this is the third award that ASTI has received this year. On March 3, 2017, ASTI was given a Green Ribbon Award for excellence in resource efficiency from the California Department of Education, and, in February 2017, ASTI Teacher **Todd Higashi** won the prestigious National LifeChanger of the Year Award. ASTI is a signature partnership for CoA with Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) and we are proud to have them on our campus.

Speaking of important partnerships, on March 14, 2017, I was invited to

present at the Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) Board meeting about the College of Alameda Promise. The <u>Alameda Promise</u> provides AUSD graduates with one year of fees, a voucher for textbook purchases during that first year of enrollment, and intensive academic and counseling support to assist students with the transition to college. At



ASTI Principal Tracy Corbally receiving CCEMC Award

the board meeting AUSD Superintendent **Sean McPhetridge** expressed great appreciation for the Alameda Promise program, saying that "AUSD is fortunate to have such a great partnership with College of Alameda and the Peralta Community College District, and we are so grateful for the Alameda Promise Program providing a free year of tuition and books to our graduates who may have otherwise thought college out of reach."

McPhetridge also expressed appreciation for other dual enrollment initiatives also underway through which AUSD high school students benefit from early college experiences at CoA while still enrolled in AUSD high schools.

#### Npower Graduation

On March 16, 2017, NPower held its second CoA cohort graduation. I attended the event and addressed graduates. **Kamal Arora,** Founder of Kloves Inc., gave the keynote commencement address. It was wonderful

to see these (HOW MANY?) hard working students celebrate with their families the completion their program. NPower Tech Career Accelerator Program is hosted at CoA and serves veterans and their spouses who are eager to transfer their experience and develop new skills toward an exciting career in technology. For more information about the program: http://alameda.peralta.edu/blog/npower-tech-career-accelerator-program/.

#### Good News—PCCD Board Approves WIFI Update for CoA!

This will be good news for many on campus and most of all for our students! At the March 14, 2017, PCCD Board of Trustees meeting, the Board approved (4 to 3; Trustees Handy, Gonzalez Yuen, and Weinstein abstained) the WIFI upgrade for CoA. Work will begin in the next few weeks and be completed in June. At the end of the project, reliable and strong WIFI will be available throughout campus and in all of our buildings.

Sincerely,

Timothy Karas, President College of Alameda

# Season Opener Car Show SHIFT

When: March 25, 2017
Location: College of Alameda, Parking Lot A
Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (rain or shine)
Entrance fee: \$20 per car (non-students). Free for Peralta
College Students with proper students ID!

Cool cars, a live band, raffles, great eats, and a DJ! Bring your car and show us what you got or just enjoy the show.



### COA Faculty, Staff, and Student Attend A2MEND Conference



CoA Student CAFYES Student Assistant Charles Johnson and Author Dr. Michael Eric Dyson at recent A<sup>2</sup>MEND Conference

**Charles Washington**, EOPS/CARE Counselor, **Lydell Willis**, CAFYES Project Manager, and **Charles Johnson**, CAFYES Student Assistant, attended the 2017 A2MEND Conference that was held in Los Angeles, in early March.

The annual conference brought together faculty, staff, students, and administrators from across the country to address strategies that affect the success of African-American male community college students. This year, the summit raised \$43,000 to help support 59 students pursuing a community college education and those transferring to four-year institutions.

All three attendees were impressed by the quality of the conference. When asked about his view of the conference, Willis commented that it was his first time attending the conference; and that he was highly impressed with the amount of African American men who not only attended the conference but were a part of the California community college system.

"It was a great opportunity to learn what other colleges are doing to support African American students at their perspective colleges, and gain ideas about programs to bring to COA," Willis said. "I came away from the conference inspired and motivated to help change lives here on campus."

Washington was so inspired that he wanted to make sure that he served as a presenter at next year's conference. When asked what he viewed as the highlight of his experience, he was quick to reference the importance of African American male faculty, administrators, and students interacting with one another.

COA student **Charles Johnson** was most excited about intermingling with other African American college students. He made special mention of having attended a session on stress management. Johnson was even more excited about the two books that he purchased: *Nobody: Casualties of America's War on the Vulnerable, from Ferguson to Flint and Beyond*, by **Marc Lamont Hill**; and *Tears We Cannot Stop*, by Dr. **Michael Eric Dyson**. More importantly, he was quick to underscore the fact that Dr. Dyson autographed his books, stating "yes, I intend to read both."

#### About A2Mend

The African American Male Education Network and Development (A<sup>2</sup>MEND) organization is composed of African American male administrators who utilize their scholarly and professional expertise to foster institutional change within the community college system. We aim to create an affirming academic and professional environment for African Americans with a particular focus on African American male students, faculty, staff, and administrators.

Submitted by Toni R. Cook, Dean, Special Programs & Grants, tcook@peralta.edu

#### Humanities Instructor Develops Model Curriculum

CoA Humanities instructor Matthew Goldstein is on sabbatical this term to help develop a Transfer Model Curriculum (TMC) for Humanities. The project gets its first big test March 24, 2017, when his proposal goes before the C-ID Advisory Committee of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC).

Once in place, a TMC allows a community college to build an Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT), a credential that helps students move seamlessly into a BA program in the same or similar discipline at a California State University (CSU). In 2010, SB 1440 (Padilla) called for the creation of TMCs, and the Academic Senate began building TMCs for 20 disciplines; Humanities wasn't among the original Group of 20.

This semester Dr. Goldstein has been working with folks in the Sacramento offices of the ASCCC to try to win approval for a Humanities TMC. Seven CSUs currently offer Humanities BAs, and nearly 100 community college Humanities students transferred to the CSUs in 2015-16. The number would likely shoot up if a Humanities Associate of Arts degree meant automatic junior standing and a smooth transition to a CSU baccalaureate program.

If the C-ID Advisory Committee gives the nod to Humanities, ASCCC will call meetings of Discipline Interest Groups (DIGs) in Northern and Southern California. Humanities faculty from community colleges and the CSUs appointed to the DIGs would then start identifying what courses would go into a Humanities core curriculum.

"I'm hopeful that the committee will smile on the Humanities proposal," Dr. Goldstein said. "Improving community college students' access to CSUs—and getting more students involved in the Humanities—would help us achieve our educational mission and, what's more, ensure that the Humanities continue to thrive in the Golden State."

We're wishing you the all the best on the upcoming test Mathew! Check for updates—and more confusing initials and acronyms—in upcoming issues of the CoA Splash!

Submitted by Matthew Goldstein, CoA Humanities instructor, mgoldstein@peralta.edu

### Aviation Maintenance Technology (AMT) Program Hosts Pathway Development Meeting

Our sought-after Aviation Maintenance Technology (AMT) Program recently hosted the first Pathway development meeting at the Airport Campus with representatives from Oakland Unified School District, Berkeley High, Alameda High, and Island High. Prospects are looking up for future AMT students! Stay tuned for more news in upcoming issues of Splash.

Submitted by Hoi Ko, CoA Aviation Maintenance Technology (AMT) Program Department Chair, hko@peralta.edu



## CoA Science Alliance Students Getting Out and About

On Sunday, March 19, 2017, CoA Science Alliance club members attended their second excursion of the semester to Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve. The first trip was held on Saturday, February 25, 2017, at the Marine Mammal Center and Marin Headlands. Science Alliance is a relatively new club aimed at providing opportunities for students interested in the natural sciences.

Club meetings are held on the first Mondays of the month at 3:00 p.m. in Room D222, and we typically schedule at least one excursion each month. The next outing will be on Saturday, April 22, 2017, at the California Academy of Sciences and our last trip of the semester will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2017, at Mount Diablo State Park.

For more information or to be added to our mailing list, please contact our club President, Samantha Pickolick, at sciencealliancecoa@gmail.com.



CoA Science Alliance club members outside the Marine Mammal Center on February 25, 2017. The center is dedicated to marine mammal rescue, rehabilitation, scientific research, and education. A highlight of the trip was seeing (and hearing) rescued elephant seal pups. Photo: Samantha Pickolick



CoA Science Alliance club members on the main trail at Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve on March 19, 2017. The park is home to a complex volcanic center and lava debris that formed 10 million years ago. Other features of the park that were discussed include tectonic faulting in the area and sedimentary rocks from the Orinda Formation. Photo: Samantha Pickolick

Submitted by Cady E. Bow, MA, CoA Geography Instructor; Department Co-Chair, <u>cbow@peralta.edu</u>

## CoA Adult Transitions Program - On the Move

The Adult Transitions Program held a luncheon in late February for current CoA students who had transferred from Adult Schools in the Bay Area. With the generous help of our ESL faculty, approximately 75 students attended the event. The luncheon provided an opportunity for Interim Associate Dean of Educational Success **Paula Armstead** and Project Manager **Nicole Kelly** to learn more about the needs of this group of students in order to develop new ways to support them as they progress in their academic careers.

Most importantly, Adult Transitions Program staff learned that our ESL students are interested in knowing more about certificate, degree, and Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. In response, the Adult Transitions program will offer informational presentations throughout the semester on relevant topics for adult school students.

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to **Dr. Popal, Brian Ng, Karah Parks,** and **Yi Guan** for sharing their valuable class time to accommodate this special presentation to their students. We also want to thank **Amanda Price, Brian Ng, Munira Ahmed,** and **Yi Guan** for their tremendous help during the luncheon; we could not have done it without you!



#### About the Program

The Adult Transitions Program is a consortium of Community Colleges and Adult Schools in collaboration with Community Based Organizations to enable adults (18+) to advance education, obtain employment, and improve wages through a comprehensive California partnership. We are working together to help adults achieve any or all of the following specific goals: a) improve literacy skills, b) complete high school diploma or recognized equivalent, c) complete postsecondary certificate, degree, or training program, d) job placement, and/or e) improved wages.

Submitted by Nicole Kelly, MPA, CoA Project Manager, Transitions Liaison nkelly@peralta.edu

## Spring 2017 Workshop Series Is a Great Success!

The Office of Student Activities would like to thank you for your support of the Spring Workshop Series. So far this semester over 150 students have participated in over 20 workshops. The majority of participants indicated that they were highly satisfied with the quality of workshops.



Links to our all of our workshop schedules are available online:

Spring Semester Workshop series: http://ow.ly/RtFc30a7SyS Atlas Program Workshop Schedule: http://ow.ly/mwQN30a7S3O Financial Aid Hands On Workshops: http://ow.ly/aVWI30a7Shb

The Grad Guru app has proven to be a powerful communication tool to remind students of the workshops from their mobile phones. Please continue to encourage them to download the app "Grad Guru".

Last but in no way least, a BIG thank you to all of our workshop presenters!

For any questions, please contact coa.activities@gmail.com

Submitted by Fong Tran, MS, BSW, CoA Director of Student Activities and Campus Life, <u>ftran@peralta.edu</u>

The series offers dynamic co-curricular content presented by a variety of CoA campus departments and individuals, including, but not limited to, Financial Aid, One-Stop Career Center, Counseling, Health Services, Student Activities, Transfer Services, ATLAS, and individual faculty members. The workshops are designed to help students be successful in their academic, life, and career pursuits.

We have two more weeks of workshops being offered this semester and would like your support in promoting them. Please recommend to your students that they attend an upcoming workshop and consider creating incentives such as offering extra credit to promote student participation.



## 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?





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, April 3, 2017, for publication on Thursday, April 6, 2017**. Be sure to email your news and information to: <u>coasplash@peralta.edu</u>. Past issues: alameda.peralta.edu/office-of-the-president/coa-splash-newsletters/