

# College of Alameda Splash



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Timothy Karas, President

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### President's Corner: Employe Voice Survey Results Are Available Online

Spring semester has officially concluded and we have a brief period to prepare to welcome students to our summer session, which begins on June 19. As this past semester was my first semester serving as your president, I used this period to better understand the state of the College.

In early April, I sent out an "Employee Voice" survey to all CoA employees. The results of the survey were compiled by Interim Dean of Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness **Karen Engel**, Ph.D.

Of the 130 respondents, approximately 53 percent were from Instruction, 32 percent were from Student Services, and 12 percent were from Administration.

The survey was designed to highlight what works well at the College and also identify opportunities for improvement. You will find detailed survey results online at: <a href="http://buff.ly/2seifrl">http://buff.ly/2seifrl</a>.

#### What's working well:

Survey results reveal that respondents generally feel well-connected to their colleagues and feel encouraged to be creative and develop new ideas for improvement. They also feel that their supervisor communicates well with them and that they are able to refer students to the appropriate student support service. The College received positive marks for valuing, accepting and respecting diversity, maintaining campus grounds, collectively taking pride in our work, and a sense that CoA's leadership has a clear sense of purpose.

Faculty also had a positive outlook, with more than half (60%) indicating that they are using student learning outcome (SLO) assessments to inform their teaching and to make program improvements. Additionally, approximately 17 percent expressed a need for more training and support in setting SLO's for their course or program.

#### **Opportunities to improve:**

There are several areas that need improvement. Respondents generally feel that they have inadequate access to training or technology. They expressed a need for more professional development and growth. Respondents also indicated that there is insufficient data and information available to assess the quality and effectiveness of their program area.

Looking to next year, respondents most frequently cited enrollment management as CoA's top priority for 2017-18. Other top areas identified for improvement include ensuring:

- sufficient staff resources to achieve important objectives;
- good communication between faculty, staff, and administrators;
- college budget decisions based upon input from all College constituencies;
- a clearer participatory governance structure (roles and responsibilities), in which constituents know who represents them on each committee;
- well-maintained campus facilities; and that
- the Program Review/APU process better promotes positive change on our campus.

The perspectives and priorities identified by this survey will inform the College's 2017-18 Strategic Plan. I look forward to working with you to achieve these goals. Thanks to all who participated, and thanks to Interim Dean Engel for administering the survey.

Sincerely,



Timothy Karas, President



# Office of Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (RPIE) Has a New Website

Visit our new <u>website</u> and feel free to contact me with any questions. My office provides planning, research, and assessment services to help better understand and serve our community and our students and support the planning and decision-making process at College of Alameda focusing on student success.

Submitted by Karen Engel, Ph.D., Interim Dean, Research, Planning & Institutional Effectiveness, kengel@peralta.edu



Lion Dance performed by University of California, Berkeley's Vietnamese Student Association

## CoA Celebrates A Taste of Asia

Students, staff, faculty, and community members gathered at College of Alameda on May 11, 2017, to celebrate A Taste of Asia. The event was one in a series honoring Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month through culture, food, and entertainment. City of Alameda Mayor **Trish Herrera Spencer** was among our honored guests at the event. The menu featured a culturally diverse selection of delicious food, including Pad Thai (Thai), Chow Mein (Chinese), and Spring Rolls (Vietnamese). The live entertainment included a powerful Lion Dance performed by University of California, Berkeley's Vietnamese Student Association, a Filipino dance demonstration led by ASCOA President Ernie Eugenio, and poetry performances by our Director of Student Activities and Campus Life **Fong Tran** and Articulation Officer /Faculty Counselor Vinh Phan. The event's Master of Ceremonies was CoA Counselor Marissa Nakano.

Submitted by Articulation Officer/ Faculty Counselor Vinh Phan, vinhphan@peralta.edu



# You're Invited to the College of Alameda Science Annex Open House

Thursday, June 15, 2017 3:30 – 6:00 pm 860 Atlantic Avenue Alameda, CA 94501

We'd like to get to know you! Come share some light refreshments, network with your neighbors, learn about our science programs and our Makerspace Initiative. Please RSVP by visiting our Eventbrite page at <a href="http://buff.ly/2sgbGEO">http://buff.ly/2sgbGEO</a>. For more information, please contact Leslie Reiman at <a href="LReiman@Peralta.edu">LReiman@Peralta.edu</a>

### Outreach Department Ends the Semester on a Successful Note



Peer Advisors Isaiah, Esther, COA Counselor Jasmine Thomas, East Bay College Fund College Access Director Rachel Antrobus, and Outreach Specialist Natalie Rodriguez pictured after the East Bay College Fund Community College Orientation at McClymonds High School on Thursday, May 18, 2017

Although the Outreach Department has been working hard throughout the semester, the month of May was especially packed with outreach activities, including Mobile CoA enrollment services. More than 250 students from 17 different high schools participated in Mobile CoA throughout the semester. As the school year comes to an end for local high schools, the Outreach Department is wrapping up Mobile CoA counseling sessions for the academic year.

Even with Mobile CoA in full swing, College of Alameda was well represented at some outstanding events, including the Undocumented Student Resource Summit at California State University East Bay, the East Bay College Fund Community College Orientation, the Second Annual Gospel Explosion, and the Valor Games Resource Fair. At the Undocumented Student Resource Summit, in addition to representing COA, Outreach Specialist Natalie Rodriguez and Outreach Staff Assistant

Denise Burgara also had the opportunity to attend workshops and gather additional resources to share with current and potential undocumented students. The East Bay College Fund Community College Orientation was an event for students and parents who are a part of the Peralta Promise Cohort and EBCF Oakland Promise Scholarship recipients for the 2017/2018 academic year. While parents attended a COA presentation on how to best support your college student, students were able to meet with Counselor Jasmine Thomas and Peer Advisors Esther and Isaiah. Some students were able to complete the enrollment process on site, while others had the opportunity to begin the process.

Having the opportunity to be present at the Valor Games was both exciting and rewarding! A number of veterans who were present expressed interest in taking online courses offered through College of Alameda and other Peralta Colleges, even though they were not local.

The numerous successes of the Outreach Department would not be possible without the cross departmental help and support that we receive. The Outreach Peer Advisors have been instrumental in consistently helping the department thrive. Thank you to all involved!

#### **Past Events:**

- May 7, Undocumented Student Resource Summit at California State University East Bay
- May 8, Mobile CoA (counseling) at Oakland High School
- May 9, Mobile CoA (counseling) at Oakland Street Academy
- May 9, Tour with Lighthouse Community Charter School
- May 10, Mobile CoA (applications & orientation) at Rudsdale Continuation School
- May 15, Mobile CoA (applications) at Island High School
- May 16, Mobile CoA (applications) at Island High School
- May 17, Mobile CoA (counseling) at Oakland Tech
- May 17, Mobile CoA (counseling) for Lighthouse Community Charter School



College of Alameda with veterans at the Valor Games Resource Fair on Coast Guard Island on Saturday, June 3, 2017.

May 18, Mobile CoA (counseling) at Rudsdale Continuation School

May 18, East Bay College Fund Community College Orientation

May 18, Tabling at the Second Annual Gospel Explosion

May 22, Mobile CoA (counseling) at Oakland High School

May 22, Presentation at the Unity Council Workforce Development Team Meeting (in collaboration with Adult Transitions)

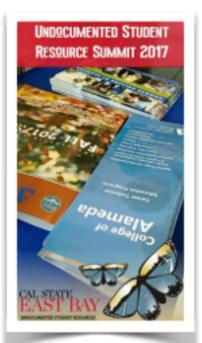
- May 23, Mobile CoA (counseling) at Lionel Wilson College Preparatory Academy
- May 24, Tabling at Skyline High School
- May 24, Tabling at San Lorenzo High School
- May 24, EPIC Middle School Resource Fair
- May 25, Mobile CoA (counseling) at Oakland Street Academy
- May 25, Mobile CoA (counseling) at Oakland Tech
- June 3, Tabling at the Valor Games Resource Fair
- June 7, Mobile CoA at Oakland International High School

#### **Upcoming Events:**

June 30, College and Career Fair at LinkedIn through the San Francisco Human Rights Commission

July 19, Campus Tour with Bridge Academy

Submitted by Outreach Specialist Natalie Rodriguez, <a href="nrodriguez@peralta.edu">nrodriguez@peralta.edu</a>. Photos by East Bay College Fund Staff Denise Burgara and Natalie Rodriguez.



Picture of College of Alameda resources with a Snapchat filter at the Undocumented Student Resource Summit at Cal State East Bay on Sunday, May 7, 2017.



CoA willows will soon grow to form a fence, or fedge, similar to the one featured in this photo.

The taller willows growing in the middle of the expansion will be harvested and sculpted into a living willow tunnel similar to the photo on the right.

When completed, we hope to create an attractive, serene area for our students to relax in a beautiful garden, while they learn to grow food.

Thank you for your patience. Hopefully the area will soon boast unique landscape features and be a welcome addition to the campus.

Submitted by ASTI Teacher Todd Higash, thigashi@alameda.k12.ca.us

# Garden Expansion Will Grow Into a Living Sculpture Garden

A garden expansion is growing next to the dance building on West Campus Drive. The somewhat scruffy looking young willow plants will soon blossom into the beautiful building blocks of a living sculpture garden. In its current stage it might be hard to visualize how the final result will appear. These photos of similar willow designs are worth a thousand words. The shorter willows that are bordering the garden will be used to create a willow fence, or fedge, similar to the picture on the left.



A willow tunnel similar to this will be sculpted from taller willows growing on CoA campus.

### 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?

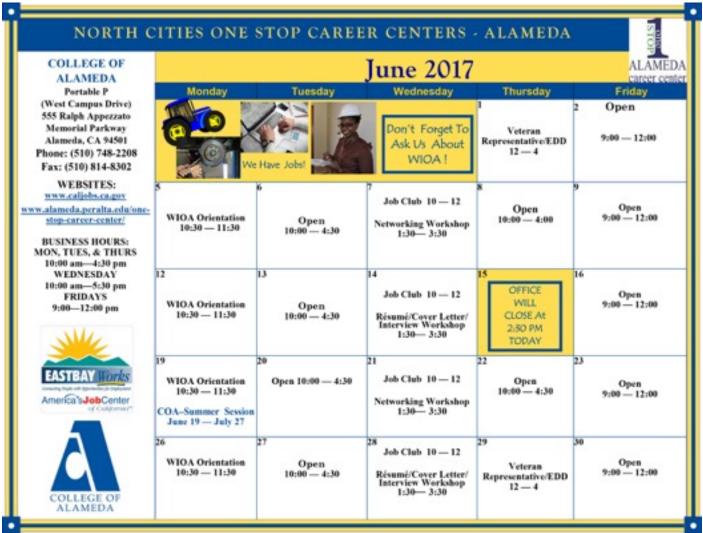
Have you or a colleague been honored with an award or been published recently?

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). The next issue deadline is **Monday, June 19**,



**2017, for publication on Thursday, June 27, 2017**. Be sure to email your news and information to: coasplash@peralta.edu. See past issues at: alameda.peralta.edu/office-of-the-president/coa-splash-newsletters/

## One Stop Career Center's June Calendar Is Here



Eastbay Works is an equal opportunity employer and program operator. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.