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President's Corner: Looking Forward to the New Year Ahead

The festive season is in full swing. We are quickly coming to the end of another dynamic calendar year and ushering in a new year of opportunity.

Over the past few weeks, I have had the honor of joining the Alameda Family Services Board of Directors and the City of Alameda's Economic Development Advisory Board. Community engagement continues to be an important part of my work. Through connecting and imbedding the college into the community, we strengthen resiliency and support everyone we serve.

Our "island home" is a better place because of your dedication, hard work, and generosity. I wish you and your family a wonderful festive season and a very happy New Year.

Sincerely,



Timothy Karas, Ed.D.
President



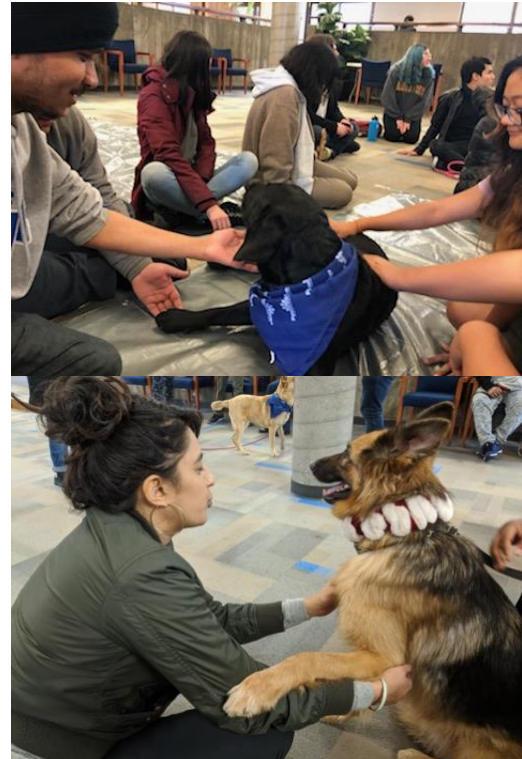
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College faculty and staff pose with Encinal High School Marching Band at Veterans Day Ceremony on November 7.

Veteran's Day Celebration Honors Vets in Style

The Veteran's Resource Center hosted a Veterans Day Ceremony on November 7, 2019, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Activities Center (F-Building). The program included comments about the history of Veteran's Day by CoA Veteran student **Matthew Morrow**, the history of playing Taps by Veteran student **Cleamus Tervalon**, and a wonderful performance by the Encinal High School Marching Band. Participants were treated to free lunch. The event was organized by Veterans Counselor/Instructor **Jamar Mears** and Certifying Official **La Shawn Brumfield**. Special thanks to **Glen Pearson** and **Hector Corrales** for their instrumental pieces.

Submitted by Veterans Counselor/Instructor Jamar Mears and Certifying Official La Shawn Brumfield



Therapy Dogs Help Stressed Students Relax During Finals Week

COA's Health Services partnered with Paws-to-Share to bring therapy dogs to campus to support students in soothing their exam stress. Why? Elevated stress levels can lead to decreased performance, and research shows that animals help reduce stress! From their happy looks both students and dogs enjoyed the innovative therapy sessions.

Submitted by Hana Raja, MA, AMFT, CoA Health Services



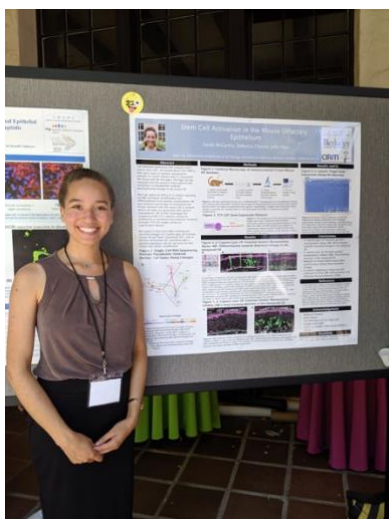
MESA Program Helps Students Succeed Academically and Personally

MESA Program: The MESA program aims to increase awareness, interest and opportunities for success for first generation college students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields. The MESA program provides resources and support to empower students to succeed academically and personally; develop valuable leadership skills, create a peer driven, strong and vibrant learning community; and envision themselves as tomorrow's visionary scientists, doctors, dentists, mathematicians, and engineers.

Pictured left: MESA students and tutors preparing for finals in the MESA Center

MESA Science and Math Tutoring: The MESA Center provides free tutoring for all students enrolled in a STEM course here at College of Alameda. Tutors are available throughout the week at the MESA Center who can help students with their chemistry, physics, biology, mathematics, and computer science courses. Please come check us out and utilize the center to study, get help from our tutors, or check in with your MESA Counselor Nila.

Internships: Are you looking for a summer internship? We can help! You can find a list of summer internships available for summer 2020 on our [website](#).

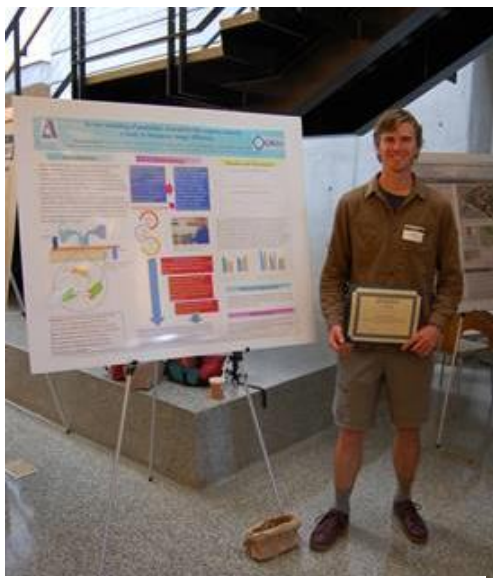


Sarah McCarthy (MESA Student/Tutor)

MESA Students Share Their Internship Experiences

“This summer I was granted the wonderful opportunity to be a researcher for 9-weeks through the CHORI Summer Student Research Internship. I learned about this research internship through Google, but I also look for internships using the Pathways to Science online database. My CHORI stem cell research internship provided me with an incredible opportunity to explore my passion for science. Not only did I have the opportunity to strengthen my wet lab research skills this summer, but I also had the opportunity to attend many lectures from a myriad of scientists, meet other intellectually curious people, present my research at two symposiums, and apply the textbook knowledge that I learned in my science classes in the “real” world. Many of the skills that I learned over the summer have helped me succeed in my science classes at Peralta. For example, I recently utilized my presentation

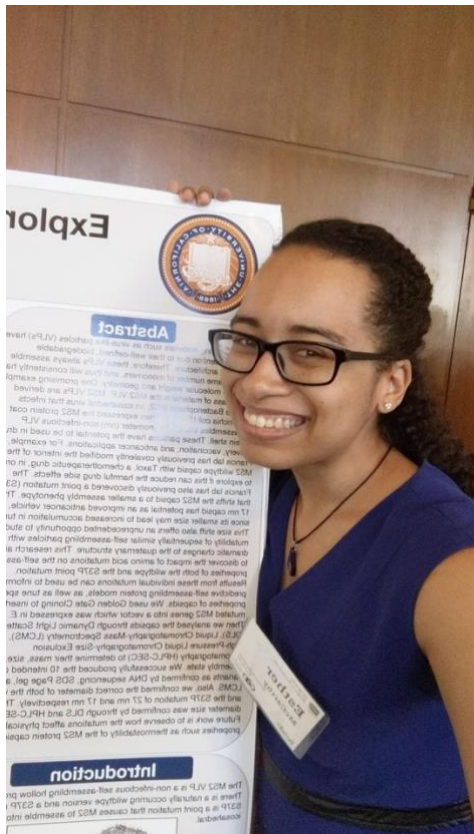
skills that were strengthened over the summer to successfully present my research project on sea otters in my Biology IB class. This internship has reinforced my love for research. I am so happy that I had the opportunity to learn new research techniques, attend fascinating seminars, and meet interesting people. I hope to participate in another research internship this summer, and I encourage other students to apply for internships as well because it is such a fulfilling experience!”—Sarah McCarthy



Thomas Greathouse (MESA Student)

“I heard about the internship after I was forwarded an email through MESA. I was curious about the research at CSUMB so I reached out directly to Dr. Arlene Haffa about her project before I applied. The research last summer was about bioremediation of pesticides with an on-site 'bioreactor' on a commercial farm (where they use pesticides). I learned I was not limited to ONE research project at all. IN fact I participated, and made contributions to Anaerobic Soil Disinfestation research on a strawberry farm at UCSC along the way. It was really cool to be able to learn about other research. Every week I was in a class that educated us researchers on how to be a better researcher. There were so many students I had never seen before in that class that I made it my mission to find out about all of the research projects happening at CSUMB that summer. The best part was being able to conduct my

own research, to come up with my own question which related to the overall theme of pesticide bioremediation. I made a poster and presented it at the symposium at the end of the summer. Also, I was inspired to take organic chemistry this semester because of another student researcher I was working with is really good at it.” —**Thomas Greathouse**



Esther McCarthy (MESA Student/Tutor)

“My name is Esther. This past summer, I participated in the UC Berkeley National Institute of Health Bridges to the Baccalaureate internship. I learned about this internship after meeting with the UC Berkeley representative Leilt. During the summer, I spent the first week doing a boot camp on lab skills. At the boot camp, I got to learn several new biological techniques that I had previously only heard about during my biology 1a class such as making PCR gels. For the next two months, I performed research full time at the Francis Lab in Latimer on the UC Berkeley campus. My research focus was on making the same amino acid point mutation on two strands of an MS2 particle. Also, I went to weekly dinners where I got to meet up with the students in the internship program.

From this internship, I gained so many skills that will help me in my future student career and my future career as a scientist. For instance, I learned how to perform several complicated multistep biological experiments on my own. Sometimes a single experiment would take an entire day. Also, I learned how to write up my own experimental manual of every experiment that I ran.

Additionally, I learned how to make a poster presentation on PowerPoint. Moreover, I learned how to give a ten-minute poster presentation in front of a group of ten to twenty people. This internship was a lot of fun and I look forward to expanding my curiosity for the sciences.”—**Esther McCarthy**

Submitted by Nila Adina, M.A., MESA/General Counselor



Photo from left: Mr. Richard Hayes, CoA Community College Success Alumni. Presently attending CSU East Bay - Music Major - Concert Guest Vocal Artist; Mr. Bill Quist - Accompanist (Performs with noted concert artist from the San Francisco Opera Association); Mrs. Kadesta Prothro - Community College Success Alumni. Presently attending CSU East Bay - Psychology & Music Major - Concert Guest Vocal Artist; Ms. Isabella Bishop - Community College Success Story (Los Medanos College) - Music Major - Concert Guest Vocal Artist; Professor Silvester Henderson (Far Right) COA Chair: Music, Dance, Art, CIS/Director of Vocal & Choral Music - Event Organizer

CoA Music Department's Fall Vocal Lecture Holiday Concert Recap

Concert Analysis: This event focused on using various forms of vocal performance as a way of “Decolonizing” the traditional curricular approach to teaching music and vocal pedagogy. The goal of this event was to collaborative academic and curricular efforts in displaying “Academic Equity and Cultural Inclusion” via an artistic presentation that supports our campus students while sending a message of intentional innovation and global curricular cultural representation to the general San Francisco Bay Area Community.

Submitted by Professor Silvester Carl Henderson, Chair/Associate Music Faculty, CIS/Director of Vocal & Choral Music



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CoA EOPS Celebrates 50 Years of Excellence

EOPS held its 50 year anniversary party on October 30, 2019, in the F-Building Quad area. More photos are available online: <https://peraltacolleges.smugmug.com/COLLEGE-OF-ALAMEDA/COAEOPS50thCelebration/>

The mission of the College of Alameda is to serve the educational needs of its community by providing comprehensive and flexible programs and resources to empower students to achieve their goals.

Online CTE Grant Update

As referenced in the October 2019 newsletter, College of Alameda was awarded an Improving Online CTE Pathways Grant by the California Virtual Campus-Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI).

Five faculty members started working with a team of instructional designers in November to create new interactive content for online courses. Seven more CTE courses are scheduled to start work in mid-January, with the remaining seven courses starting in March. All work will be completed prior to the end of the grant implementation period on June 30, 2020. C\oA faculty and staff working on the grant look forward to sharing ideas and knowledge gained from the experience in the future.

Winter Intersession Help

Teaching online during winter intersession? In case you missed my email December 3, here are a few reminders:

- If you are teaching multiple sections of the same course and want to combine them into one Canvas shell submit a Peralta Help Desk Ticket *before* the term begins.
- Submit a Peralta Help Desk Ticket for Peralta specific access/enrollment issues.
- Canvas technical support is available 24 hours a day at 1-844-592-2199.
- Campus and District offices will be closed December 23 - January 1 for the holiday break.
- However, Peralta Help Desk Tickets will still be answered during this time.
- The Administrators in charge are as follows:
 - Ana McClanahan, Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics – Week of December 16, amccланahan@peralta.edu
 - Lilia Celhay, Dean of Liberal Studies and Language Arts – Week of December 23, lcelhay@peralta.edu
 - Eva Jennings, Dean of Career and Workforce Education – Week of December 30, ejennings@peralta.edu
 - Don Miller, Vice President of Instruction – Week of January 6, ddmiller@peralta.edu • Distance Education Coordinator Jennifer Fowler is also available to assist you throughout intersession by emailing jfowler@peralta.edu.

This article is an excerpt from the December DE Newsletter, Jennifer Fowler, M.A., Communication Instructor, Distance Education Coordinator



Make Your *Splash!*

Is there an upcoming event that we should all know about?

Do you know an outstanding student whose story you would like to share?

Did you attend an interesting workshop or conference?

Do you have unique projects planned for your students this semester?

Have you or a colleague been honored with an award, or do have you published an article, book, or chapter 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 will take care of the rest. Do not forget to include the name of the writer, the photographer, and anyone who is pictured (if possible). Be sure to email your news and information to: coasplash@peralta.edu and be sure to include the word “Splash” in the subject line.

Past issues of the *CoA Splash* are available at
<https://alameda.peralta.edu/newsletter/coa-splash/>



