



President’s Report to the PCCD Board of Trustees



September 14, 2021

Dr. Nathaniel Jones III, President

The graphic features a central dark red circle containing the College of Alameda logo and the text "AY21/22 PRIORITIES". Surrounding this circle are four orange icons on a blue background, each with a corresponding label: "Diversity (DEI)" with a hands icon, "Guided Pathways" with a teacher and students icon, "Strategic Enrollment Mgmt." with a stack of books icon, and "Fiscal Stewardship" with a line graph icon.

Opening quote: Happiness cannot be traveled to, owned, earned, worn, or consumed. Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace and gratitude.

Fall Flex President’s Presentation to Faculty and Staff Focuses on Priorities for 2021 - 2022

Despite the challenges of the last academic year and the uncertainty of what lies ahead, College of Alameda’s faculty and staff have done some amazing work; from individual accomplishments of faculty, to the tireless and compassionate ways that our faculty and staff have helped students both academically and personally.

In the complex, information-heavy society that we live in, higher education is more important than ever to the health and wellbeing of communities of color as well as to a robust and productive civic life in which members of society participate, with the capacity to think critically about the problems and opportunities of our local communities, nation, and the world.

To this end, we must foster a welcoming and supportive campus climate for students and faculty of all backgrounds and create an environment in which we all learn how to empathetically listen to one another. We must be open to constant innovation and experimentation, redesigning courses and the student experience to enhance teaching and learning, creating communities of learners who support and motivate each other, deploying data and learning analytics that help us identify opportunities to support students in

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real-time or improve courses, by infusing them with experiential and community-engaged learning that may include research, entrepreneurship, or civic engagement.

There are numerous must do(s) that will need to be completed this year not to mention the ongoing work we do daily; but we must also intentionally focus on efforts to make meaningful progress on four key priorities: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), Guided Pathways, Fiscal Stewardship and Strategic Enrollment Management. We need to develop strategies in support of these priorities. These College priorities came largely from data analysis and discussion with the College Cabinet during our August retreat.

College of Alameda's Fall 2021 Flex Day also featured a presentation by Interim Chancellor Dr. **Jannett Jackson**, who spoke about community value, union contract negotiations, accreditation, IT upgrades, and provided a FY21/22 budget overview.

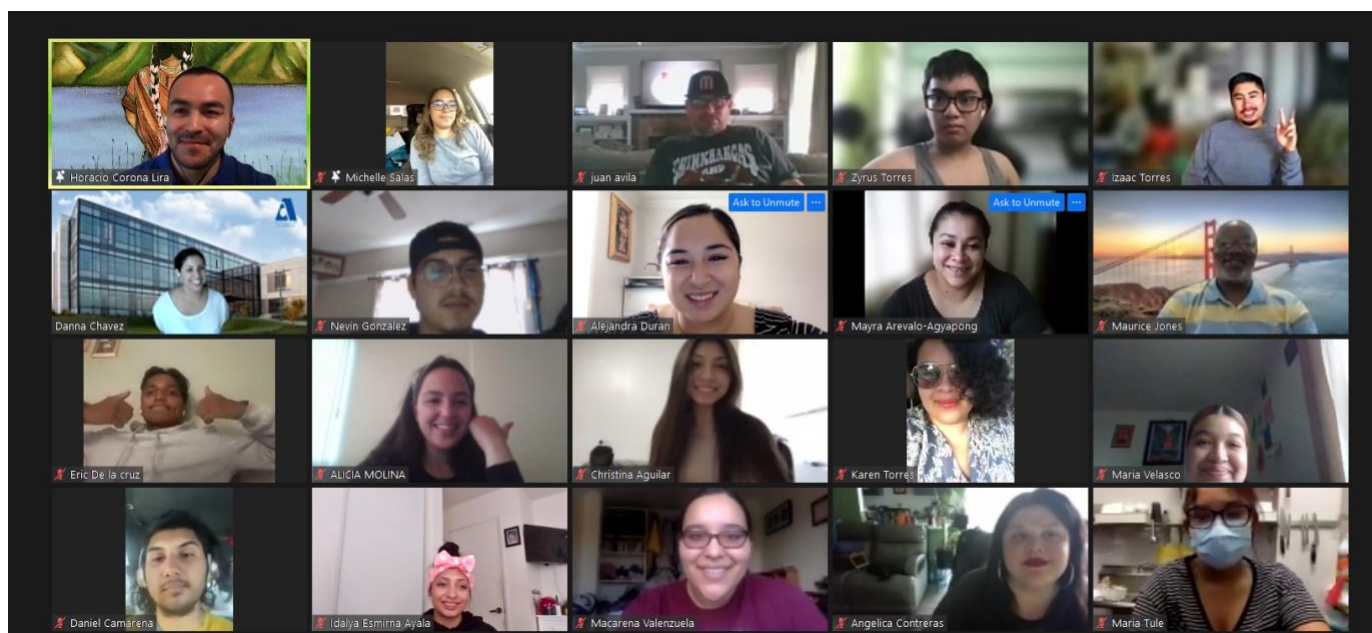


Photo: Screen shot of CoA's Puente Program Student Orientation on August 12, 2021. The Puente Program has enrolled 35 students for Fall '21 and Spring '22 semesters.

College of Alameda Offers Equity Focused Workshops for Fall Flex

On August 20, 2021, as part of fall flex activities, College of Alameda offered two well-attended equity-focused workshops funded by the College's Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Grant.

The first workshop was titled "Applying equity in the era of digital teaching & learning," presented by Glendale Community College Ethnic Studies Professor **Fabiola Torres**. [Torres' workshop](#) focused on culturally responsive teaching and learning pedagogy that builds cognitive stamina through humanizing the online/learning environment. "If we design culturally responsive digital learning spaces, then we can strengthen the growth of independent thinkers," Torres said. "And, therefore, we, like the Renaissance Humanists, can build cognitive stamina for all students. Welcome to our digital teaching and learning renaissance." Torres was a featured faculty at InstructureCon 2019 for her humanizing online methods in Canvas (LMS) and was awarded the Online Learning Consortium Advocate Award for Diversity and Inclusion in July of 2020.

The second workshop was titled “Equity is a Journey: Understanding Race, Identity and Bias as Culturally Responsive Educators,” presented by Moreno Valley College Dean of Instruction **AnnaMarie “Ree” Amezquita**. Ree’s personal experiences making tamales with her family in a small factory in Austin, Texas. As an undergraduate at St. Edward’s University, she began working as a tutor for the College Assistant Migrant Program (CAMP). She tutored students who were transitioning from migrant fieldwork to college. Many of the students struggled to maneuver the educational system and translate to their families, the culture of higher education. As a result of this experience, Ree committed herself to working with underrepresented students wanting to enter college. Her Flex presentation focused on institutional and personal values of providing culturally sensitive opportunities for access and equity in higher education.

Director of Hispanic Serving Institution Grant ACCESO/Puente Programs **Horacio Lira**, Acting Vice President of Instruction **Dr. Diana Bajrami**, and English Department Chair **Maurice Jones** helped organize and plan these innovative and timely workshops.

Math Engineering Science Achievement (MESA)



Who We Are

MESA is a peer and professional support community whose aim is to increase access and opportunities of success in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)-related fields for first-generation, low-income, and under-represented college students. MESA provides resources for students to develop essential academic and leadership skills to achieve success in school, career, life, and STEM-related disciplines.



College of Alameda Receives National Science Foundation Grant for MESA Connect Project

The National Science Foundation (NSF) project proposal, Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Pilot Project: College of Alameda MESA Connect was submitted by our previous Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM) **Ana McClanahan** in response to the funding opportunity: Improving Undergraduate Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI Program). The NSF HSI Program sought pilot project proposals from institutions that are new to NSF who could achieve a short-term, well-defined goal to enhance the availability of high-quality undergraduate STEM education at the HSI and gather preliminary data for future HSI programs. Principal investigators for this project proposal include Biology Professor **Leslie Reiman**, Chemistry Professor **Dr. Alex Madonik**, and Math Professor **Emmanuel Herrera**. Contributors and collaborators include CIS Professor **Jesse Norman**, MESA counselor **Nila Adina**, Director of Research and Planning **Dominique Benavides**, HSI Program Director **Horacio Corona Lira**, Director of Workforce Systems **Stefanie Bradshaw**, and Independent Consultant and Grant Writer **Jennie Mollica**. The proposal contains a sub award for California State University East Bay (CSUEB) with CSUEB Chemistry and Biochemistry Professor **Monika Sommerhalter**, serving as a co-principal investigator. The total amount of the award is \$399,000.

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City of Alameda Development Manager and Job Fair Coordinator Eric Fonstein and CoA Director of Workforce Systems Stefanie Bradshaw

CoA Career Center Participates in City of Alameda Job Fair

CoA Director of Workforce Systems **Stefanie Bradshaw** hosted a table at City of Alameda’s Job Fair, held on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at the South Shore Shopping Center. The Job Fair included more than 30 employers hiring for over 300 permanent and temporary positions, including assistant general manager, checker, computer service technician, courtesy clerk, general manager, social media coordinator, and store associate. Employers included: City of Alameda, East Bay Regional Parks District, Exelixis, Inc., Federal Express, Safeway, Alameda County, Whole Foods, and Amazon among many other local and regional employers. The job fair was coordinated by City of Alameda Development Manager and Job Fair Coordinator **Eric Fonstein**, featured in the photo above.



FREE

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic

Location: College of Alameda

Date: September 14, 2021

Time: 11:00am-3:00pm

REGISTER ONLINE AT
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/COAVACCINE](https://tinyurl.com/coavaccine)



Select College of Alameda
Location and Pfizer Vaccine
when registering!

No ID required.
No Insurance required.

Mask required

Youth Vaccination Facts:
<https://covid-19.acgov.org/youthvaxfacts>



CoA to Offer Free Covid-19 Vaccines on Campus

Vice President of Student Services **Dr. Tina Vasconcellos** has spearheaded a partnership with Alameda Public Health to offer [free Covid-19 vaccines](#) on September 14, 2021, at the College's main campus. The second dose will be administered on October 12, 2021.

Please share this FREE clinic information with students and community members. The clinic will be open to all and no identification (ID) or insurance is required.



Photo: CoA Student and ACCESO Peer Mentor Alexis Diaz helped distribute free supplies..

ACCESO and Puente Host a Fall Free School Supplies Distribution Event

ACCESO and Puente worked together to offer free school supplies to CoA students, on Friday, August 27, 2021. Students received a free bag full of school supplies, including notebooks, pens, highlighters, and folders. A total of 16 ACCESO and Puente students received free supplies, including three who picked up ACCESO Laptops to borrow for the semester. The event was spearheaded by Director of CoA's Hispanic Serving Institution Grant and ACCESO/Puente Programs **Horacio Corona Lira**.