

From the President's Office...



40 years of Academic Excellence: A Reason to Celebrate

Forty years ago this fall, College of Alameda opened its doors to thousands of new community college students. That year 1970-71, began the first academic term of instruction at COA. In recognition of that beginning --forty years ago-- we are celebrating with the theme: "40 Years of Academic Excellence in Education". For forty years we have been providing superior technical training and quality transfer programs to students in the city of Alameda and the East Bay.

We are understandably proud of our distinguished faculty, and our career and technical programs with expertise ranging from Diesel, Auto, and Aircraft Mechanics, to Fashion Design and Dental Assisting, to outstanding professors in business, mathematics, economics, foreign languages, the sciences and humanities.

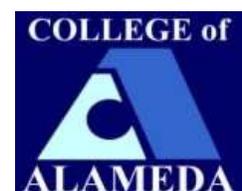
"Engaging our community", is one of the college's core values, and is part of my A-B-Cs vision, representing Community Collaborations-internal as well as external. Our collaborative spirit has been demonstrated by our commitment to community partners such as the Alameda Science and Technology Institute (ASTI), Asian Health Dental Clinic, Alameda Transportation and Logistics Academic Support program (ATLAS), apprenticeship programs in Auto Mechanics, AutoBody, and Diesel Mechanics, the new certificate program in Violence Prevention, and the Alameda One Stop Career Center.

Our student oriented support services are designed to give a running start to students just graduating from high school or returning after life experiences. And our learning communities programs (Adelante, Amanla & APASS) have proven that success in basic skills courses can be attained; research data has shown students in this program have exhibited significant improvements in grades, retention and persistence. COA offers an award winning program for students with disabilities, as well as a dedicated library faculty ready to offer the latest in informational technology; and our classified professional support staff is second to none.

We have much to be proud of, even in an era of budget austerity and funding declines, COA continues to provide high quality services and to keep our focus on students success.

So when you reflect on College of Alameda, be proud of our accomplishments and help me celebrate our successes as we meet the challenges together. In the military we have a saying, "improvise, adapt and overcome" that's how you stay alive and survive. And that is exactly what we must do, not just downsize, but as some have said, we will "redeploy" our limited resources and we will forge a new path to overcome adversity. We will do this keeping in mind our commitment to open, honest dialogue and a willingness to adapt and change as the circumstances dictate.

All the best to you and yours for the coming holiday season and a joyous and prosperous new year.



ACCREDITATION UPDATE



College of Alameda Accreditation Team



Accreditation Visit
November 17, 2010



On November 17, 2010, representatives of the Commission visited COA for the purpose of reviewing evidence of the college's progress in responding to the recommendation as asserted in the Follow-Up Report:

Recommendation 1: In order to meet standards and building upon the considerable progress made in developing a systematic, integrated district-wide planning process, the team recommends that the college move forward in implementing its own comprehensive and integrated strategic planning process that is tied to the college's mission, values, goals and priorities and includes the evaluation and refinement of key processes to improve student learning and promote institutional effectiveness (Standards 1A.4, 1B.2, 1B.3, 1B.4, 1B.6, 1B.7, 2A.1.a, 2A.2.f, 2B.4, 2C.2, 3A.6, 3B.1.a, 3B.2.b, 3C.1.c, 3C.2, 3D.1, 3D.3, 4A.1, 4A.2, 4A.5, 4B.2, 4B.2.b).

The Commission's representatives, Team Leader, Dr Terrance Burgess and team member, Dr Carolyn Inouye, reviewed extensive documentation cited in the Follow-Up Report, as evidence of the college's progress in addressing the Commission's recommendation and interviewed the college president, the vice president of instruction/Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO), the vice president of student services, the college business manager, dean of student support services, director of EOPS/CARE, director of ATLAS Program, and two instructional division deans.

COA has been working diligently to address Recommendation 1 which focuses primarily on college planning and budget integration. Since the April 2010 visit, the college has created an Institutional Effectiveness Facilitator, who is Economics instructor Diana Bajrami, and has also created a shared governance Institutional Effectiveness Committee (IEC), whose mission is to ensure that the college maintains ongoing, systematic processes and practices that include planning, the evaluation of programs and services, the identification and measurement of outcomes across all institutional units, and continuous improvement of institutional quality and student success. The college is committed to maintaining and enhancing its forward momentum with the goal of sustainable continuous quality improvement.

Based on the analysis of evidentiary documents and information gathered in interviews, the visiting team concluded that **COA fully meets and exceeds** the standards of accreditation relevant to this recommendation. Further, the visiting team commended the college for the significant progress it has made in integrated planning since the comprehensive visit of March 9-12, 2009. This recommendation will be forwarded to the ACCJC Commission, and a final decision will be forthcoming from the Commission when it meets in January 2011.

De Novo Committee (Latin: Anew, afresh or again from the beginning)



The President's office in conjunction with the newly formed De Novo committee conducted a well attended forum, December 2nd in the F building. The audience consisted of faculty, staff, and students and is the first of two yearly open forums on the educational budget cuts and its effects on the College of Alameda. The event included:

- An Introduction of the De Novo Committee and its mission statement.
- A Presentation by the President regarding the effects of the cuts on COA and the decision making process that determines the cuts.
- Question and Answer session allowing those in attendance to both deepen their understanding of the cuts and engage in a discourse on how to move forward as a campus community in light of these realities, and a
- Brainstorming on efficiency ideas and ways to improve student success.

Comment cards as well as open discussion recommendations were captured and will be posted on the college's governance page. A spring meeting will be scheduled as a follow-up to this session. For more information, contact Save Our Schools (SOS) President, Rich Copenhagen and instructor, Mustafa Popal, mmppopal@peralta.edu



Community Leadership and Public Service



Greater East Bay Renaissance: A coalition of people and organizations Dedicated to creating the conditions for Healthy East Bay Community Life in the 21st Century

Instructors, Robert Brem and Crystallee Crain; presented an overview of the COA Community Leadership and Public Service Program - Violence Prevention Certificate - at the November 2, 2010 Alameda Rotary club meeting. Other presentations have been planned for the Oakland Rotary and Oakland's new Mayor, has also expressed interest in this unique

program. For more information, contact Robert Brem at rbrem@peralta.edu.

AutoBody Students Continue 5 Year Winning Streak



Students in the College of Alameda Auto Body and Paint program won third place overall and educational "Best of Show" in the 13th Annual Model Truck Customizing Competition hosted by the California Auto Body Assoc., Eastbay Chapter. The competition was held November 16 at the prestigious Blackhawk Auto Museum in Danville.

This is the fifth year the College has been involved in this event, and all five years the students have placed within the top three finalists overall and continue to win the best of educational class. The prize for

winning the competition is \$1500.00 to be used for equipment and program enhancement.

Each year the Association distributes toy metal trucks in mid-September to auto body shops and vocational schools in the Bay area. The technicians/students then must come up with a design and start modifying the metal truck by cutting, shaping, welding, and then painting to bring the project to completion.

This year the students went with the Fifty's "Route 66 Diner" which students designed a diner and parking lot scene with classic cars, trees, fences, and sidewalks. The design for this year's submission was a two piece "Coca Cola" truck, lowered with custom wheels, running lights and chrome accents. The truck was in the diner parking lot as if it was delivering Coca Cola.



Approximately 325 people from various parts of the industry attended the California Auto Body Associations truck customizing and "toys for tots" event. The College AutoBody instructor, Bill Andrews & Peter and President Jackson attended the event along with ten students who worked on the model and dinner which provided them the opportunity to experience the event and meet industry professionals.

Remembering Daniel

The Daniel "Opie" Gilbert Scholarship Award

Three students from the Automotive Technology Program, Jerry Saeteurn, Alvin Lee and Gabriel Mercado, each received a \$300 scholarship award from the parents of Daniel Gilbert who died in 2007. "Opie" as he was affectionately called, graduated from the automotive technology program and used his skills to help his neighbors and friends fix their cars in addition to his full time job as a mechanic.

After their son's death, Steve and Kate Gilbert established a PCCD Foundation Scholarship account and have provided scholarships to students enrolled in the program as a tribute to their son's life and to assist other struggling students who have chosen a career in the automotive field. Each year students are encouraged to complete an essay, and this year's recipients spoke to how the program has assisted them in extricating them from the lifestyle of gang violence and how important education and job skills are in breaking this cycle. Congratulations to the honorees, and if you wish to make donations, they can be sent to the Daniel Gilbert Memorial Scholarship fund.



EVENTS CAPTURED IN PICTURES

Pictures from 70's Halloween Dress Up

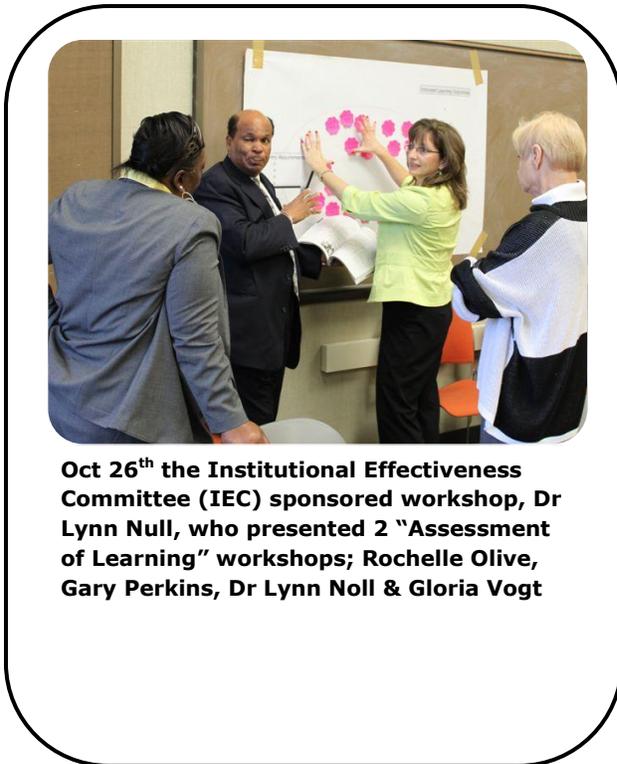


Above: Gary Perkins & Dr Kerry Compton; Below: Gary Perkins, Dr Jannett Jackson, Maurice Jones.



West Alameda Business Association Webster Street Clean Up: Dr Jackson, Coach Myron Jordan, Basketball Players: Ben May & Robert Bishop IV.

Below: WABA Board of Directors: Chris Pieda, Sam Koka, Jannett Jackson, Brad Shook and Bill DeMar



Oct 26th the Institutional Effectiveness Committee (IEC) sponsored workshop, Dr Lynn Null, who presented 2 "Assessment of Learning" workshops; Rochelle Olive, Gary Perkins, Dr Lynn Noll & Gloria Vogt



Dr George S. Herring Tennis Courts Dedication Dec 8th Left Front- COA: Shane Williams, Dr Alexis Montevirgen, Back: Stefanie Ulrey, Paula Armstead, Angelita Finlayson, Dr George Herring, Dr Jannett Jackson, Dr Kerry Compton, Dr Rebecca Kenney.

MERRIT: Left, Dr Jackson, Dr Herring, Dr Stacy Thompson, Dr Bobby Adams.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!! We hope to see you at the COA Holiday Pot Luck, Friday, December 10th at 12:00 – 2:00, FOOD, Music and FUN!!

