



From the President's Office

February-March 2012

ACCREDITATION UPDATE

The College of Alameda filed a **March 15, 2011 Follow-Up Report** to address the single College recommendation due at that time as directed in the June 30, 2010 Commission letter. The report addressed Team Recommendation #1 relating to implementing a comprehensive and integrated strategic planning process. There were four recommendations pertaining to District practices and operations and they were reported directly by the Peralta District to ACCJC, following a review by the Colleges and approval by the Board of Trustees. Evaluation team **visits took place April 12, 2011**. The College of Alameda's two-person evaluation team visited the campus to conduct verification and validation of the College report on the single Team Recommendation #1. COA's evaluation team also joined teams from the other Colleges to conduct a site visit at the Peralta District office for the purpose of verifying and validating the District's recommendations.

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In its June 30, 2011 letter, the Commission removed College of Alameda from Probationary status. No additional recommendations or follow-up requests were made related to the 2009 Team Recommendation #1. However, the ACCJC acted to **place College of Alameda on Warning status for five new recommendations** related to Peralta District issues. The five new recommendations explicitly replaced and superseded all earlier District recommendations. The Peralta District was required to file a Follow-Up Report due March 15, 2012, on the five recommendations. In addition, College of Alameda was required to add to its March 15, 2012 midterm report: "regarding Commission Recommendation 5, College of Alameda must evaluate the impact of recent and future financial decisions on the College's ability to sustain programs and services."

In preparation for this 2012 Midterm Report to ACCJC, the accreditation recommendations were highlighted during remarks of the College President and Vice President of Instruction on College of Alameda's All-College Flex Day at the start of the fall semester, August 18, 2011. It was discussed and agreed upon by shared input that the College's existing Accreditation Committee retain its structure with the exception of a few changes to include the (new) Institutional Effectiveness Coordinator, to remove the Public Liaison Officer (position was eliminated due to budget cuts), and rename the committee the College *Assessment* Committee to highlight College of Alameda's focus on the inextricable relationship between *Accreditation* and an ongoing culture of *Assessment*.

During the forgoing months the College community was invited to reflect and comment during the open forums, shared governance meetings, and/or from individual responses solicited from the posting of the report on the webpage. The College Council, a shared governance body representing all constituencies (faculty, staff, administrators, and students), recommended approval of the Midterm Report to the President on January 27, 2012, and the Faculty Senate recommended approval to the President at its meeting on February 2, 2012. The College's Midterm Report will be submitted for approval to the Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees approval on Tuesday, March 13, 2012. The ACCJ visiting team will again come to the college to verify and validate the midterm report and provide their recommendation to the Commission at its June 2012 meeting. Although not yet scheduled, it is anticipated the team's arrival will be during the second or third week of April. To remain up to date on the status of the visit please check the postings on the "Accreditation" webpage <http://oldweb.peralta.edu/coa/library/accreditation/index.html>.

College of Alameda Graduate Excels in Aviation Maintenance

In recognition of March's Women's History Month, the College would like to recognize a former student **Blythe Salcido**, a tribute to the success College of Alameda students have gained from our programs. What follows is an excerpt from an article written by Joe Escobar editor of DOM (Director of Maintenance) magazine; a trade journal devoted to the aviation maintenance field. Blythe Salcido, a graduate from the Aviation Maintenance and Technology Program at College of Alameda, class of 1999, was recently featured on the cover.



"At [our national conference] ...last October, a young lady walked right up to our booth and said, "Hi Joe, I'm Danielle Burke with SunQuest Executive Air Charter, and I believe our DOM would make a great cover story for your magazine." I asked Danielle to tell me a little bit about their DOM. "Well, our DOM is young, intelligent, hard-working and a valuable member of our team;" she said. "And by the way, she is a female!"

Well, Danielle put me in touch with Blythe Salcido, the director of maintenance for SunQuest and we got the wheels turning. Since March is recognized as Women in History month, our staff felt it would be quite appropriate to feature Salcido as our cover story for this issue. I am proud to have worked alongside such good female mechanics over the years. ...I witnessed first hand how difficult it sometimes was for her to work in a male-dominated industry. She would have to work harder to get treated the same as her male counterparts. When she made a mistake, others were often quick to criticize when they might otherwise laugh off a similar gaff by a male co-worker. Blythe Salcido pointed out similar issues of having to work harder to prove herself. To her, and other successful women in aviation maintenance who have not only survived the challenge, but have excelled - **job well done!**

February-March in Review

Black History Month



This year's Black History Month activities coordinated by the African American Students Union and President Jermelah Watts was a resounding success. Events included panel discussions, art, poetry, music, dancing exhibitions and more! One of the highlights was the *Magnificent Musical Marvels* featuring blues sensation Faye Carol and music instructor and keyboardist extraordinaire Glen Pearson. Feedback from staff, faculty and students was enthusiastically supportive. COA's AASU rocks!



Year of the Dragon! Gung Hay Foy Choy!!



The first event featured is the Annual Peralta Lunar New Year Celebration saw faculty members Trulie Thompson and Danny Nuygen perform for the last time at Silver Dragon restaurant. After 55 years of service to the community, the restaurant will be closing and Asian Health Services will occupy the site as they expand their services to the community.

The second event was the annual Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) Conference held in San Francisco. Faculty member Marissa Nakano who teaches in College of Alameda's Learning Communities project presented at the APAHE Conference as well as Dr Alexis Montevirgen, Dean of Enrollment

Services. The program drew a record number of attendees and was chaired by former Peralta employee and APAHE Board Chair, Wyman



Fong. One of the original founders of the organization, another Peralta notable, Dr Frank Chong, former President at Laney College, marked his debut back to the bay area as the President of Santa Rosa Junior College.



The third event was College of Alameda's own Lunar New Year Celebration held March 6th.. Students in the Asian

Pacific American Student Success (APASS) English 201A class met once a week for a month to



plan the APASS Lunar New Year event. The event featured fun games that tested the participants' knowledge of the flags of Asian countries (including Laos, Cambodia, Singapore, and Yemen), strength of their chopstick skills, and coordination of their aim with a ping-pong ball into a water cup! Participants happily played at least one game to receive free Asian food samples: veggie eggrolls, fried won ton chips, and Chinese pastries called bolo baos or pineapple buns

(with custard filling!). Dance Instructor, Danny Nguyen and the College of Alameda Dance Troupe performed five dances. The performance featured traditional performances that were Cambodian, Latin American, and Chinese in origin. Each dance told a wonderful story complete with costume changes, fans and baskets, and lots of smiles. The COA Dance Troupe also



performed not-so-traditional dances that blended cultures together and celebrated the new year.

The crowd turnout was impressive. At many points there were lines of students and staff waiting to try food and play games! You could hear



the squeals of those scoring points at the water cup game, or giving the "Guess the Flag" game 2-3 more tries because they didn't get the answers correct the first time! After the event was over, APASS students felt great about what they accomplished; even after the event students stayed to answer questions and to joke and banter. The Lunar New Year's celebration not only was enjoyable---it strengthens ties between the college community and APASS students in the class.

(Contributions to this article from instructor, Marissa Nakano)



President Jackson Honored: “Women Who Dare”

GIRLs, Incorporated of the Island City will honor President Jackson at their 13th Annual Women who DARE awards ceremony during Women's History Month at Scott's Seafood, Jack London Square, March 24th. Each year Girls, Inc's *Best Foot Forward* program presents awards to women and teens who have made a difference in the community through their “strong”, “smart” and “bold” leadership.

Dr Jackson was selected for the “strong” award for her commanding presence in the community and for her natural leadership in improving

the quality of education and services for students as the President of the College of Alameda.

Dr. Emma Lees, Vice President of Oncology and Site-head of Emeryville Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research, is a scientist who is leading an expansive team of researchers to discover new treatments for cancer that will positively impact patients' lives, and was selected for the “smart” award. And, **Sarah Olaes**, Enrichment Program Director for the Alameda Education Foundation, has been expanding educational opportunities for youth in Alameda was selected for the “bold” award. Each woman and young woman being honored has achieved many great accomplishments in their careers and in doing so have become an extraordinary role model for girls. **Women's History Month Speaker** - Dr Jackson has also been invited to speak at Coast Guard Island during their Women's History Month celebration, March 29th. The theme of this year's event is "Women's Education--Women's Empowerment." The event will begin at 11:30 and is open to the public.

Not In Our Town

Third Monday Film Series

Working Together for Safe Inclusive Communities

All film events are from 5:30-7:30pm. Each film will be followed by a panel discussion



College of Alameda, Alameda Multicultural Community Center, Alamedans Together Against Hate and Alameda Unified School District will sponsor a Not In Our Town 3rd Monday Film Series in March, April and May, 2012. The films to be shown are from the organization *Not In Our Town: Working Together for Safe Inclusive Communities*.

March 19 *Not In Our Town II* - College of Alameda Student Lounge, Bldg F Seven stories about people working together to create hate-free towns, cities, workplaces and schools. Religious and community leaders stand united again the threats of white supremacists; a Klan rally is countered with a diversity celebration; citizens work with police to address hate crimes; young people discuss how hate crimes affect their lives; office workers discover that improved communication skills can ease racial tensions; people come together to rebuild burnt churches in the South; a town finds that preventing hate before it starts is the best solution.

April 16 *Light in the Darkness*-College of Alameda Student Lounge, Bldg FA A town comes together to take action after anti-immigrant violence devastates the community. In 2008, a series of attacks against Latino residents of Patchogue, N.Y. culminate with the murder of an immigrant who had lived in the Long Island town for 13 years. Over a 2-year period, the story follows the mayor, victim's brother, & residents as they address the causes of violence, work to heal divisions & take steps to ensure everyone will be safe and respected.

May 21-*Staging a Response to Hate*-Wood Middle School, Multipurpose Rm.
-In conjunction with Alameda's Harvey Milk Day 2012 Celebration- After transgender teen Gwen Araujo is killed by local youth in the Silicon Valley suburb of Newark, the residents of Newark and civic leaders must acknowledge and deal with this brutal and preventable crime. Through their local high school production of *The Laramie Project*, the students and Newark residents begin to see parallels in their own community and apply lessons learned from the play to the situation they are facing..

Co-Sponsors: City of Alameda's Social Services Human Relations Board, COA Campus Life Council, COA Latinos Unidos Student Club, Alameda Harvey Milk Day 2012 Committee, Community Alliance Resource for Education, First Congregational Alameda United Church of Christ

For more Information: Alameda Multicultural Community Center at 510-521-9405