



President's Report to the PCCD Board of Trustees



April 2015

President Joi Lin Blake



ATLAS Graduation

On Thursday, March 25th, 2015, ATLAS held a Graduation Ceremony for 21 Graduates of the Warehouse Operations and Forklift Certification Training. The event was well attended by Graduates and their families and friends. This graduating class is the program's 27th cohort. Guest speakers included Christine Lambert from Nelson Staffing and Denise Richardson from Open Gate. Of the 21 graduates, 15 of them have confirmed interviews.

Miss Representation

As a part of Women's History Month, College of Alameda, the Alameda Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and the League of Women Voters of Alameda (LWVA) presented two free public showings (Wednesday, March 18, and Tuesday, March 24, 2015) of the 2011 documentary film, "Miss Representation". The documentary, written and directed by Jennifer Siebel Newsom, exposes how mainstream media contributes to the under-representation of women in positions of power in America. Both showings were well attended with the March, 18th showing being sold out and, the March 24th showing attended by numerous community members including the Mayor of Alameda, Trish Spencer.



ASTI Student Recognition



Edylwise Romero, a senior at Alameda Science and Technology Institute, persevered through many life-challenges by focusing on her academics. After emigrating from the Philippines when she was ten, Edylwise founded the community service club ASTI for Humanity and will be the first in her family to attend college.

Girls Inc. of the Island City's largest annual fundraiser, the Women Who Dare Awards, began in 2000 to recognize women and young women who have made a significant difference in our community.

College of Alameda Student Taylor Elliott to Join San José State University Volleyball Program in Fall 2015

College of Alameda student Taylor Elliott, a 6-1 middle blocker, will join the San José State University volleyball team beginning with the 2015 season, as announced by head coach Jolene Shepardson.

Elliott played at the College of Alameda for the 2013 and 2014 seasons. She was a 2014 first team All-Bay Valley Conference honoree and was the team's Most Valuable Player this past season. Elliott is also a two-time academic honor roll honoree.

"Taylor exudes enthusiasm both as a person and a player," said Shepardson. "She will play an important role on the team as one of the few upperclassmen. I believe Taylor will set a great example of dedication and desire."



High School Educator's Breakfast



Over 45 high school counselors, teachers, college advisors and College and Career center coordinators attended College of Alameda's annual High School Educator's Breakfast, on March 26, 2015. Educators from Alameda, Oakland, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Berkeley, and Hayward attended and participated in "COA Circuits", rotating in small groups to learn about key areas such as Counseling, EOPS, DSPS, Transfer, Assessment, CTE, and Outreach. Circuits were preceded by a hot breakfast and followed up with a detailed enrollment and financial aid presentation. Partners left with a strengthened understanding of how to help support their students' success in transitioning from high school to community college and also helpful

materials to help their students get started at COA. We have received several follow-up workshop requests specifically based on materials from our fruitful morning. The event underscored College of Alameda's focus on community partnership - highlighting our institution as a trusted one amongst Bay Area communities - and positioned our college to serve greater numbers of students. Its design and success demonstrated the department of Outreach and Retention's focus on high impact social justice work and on increasing and supporting college readiness efforts in Bay Area high schools through building sustainable partnerships.

Veterans' Resource Center Update

Construction on the Veterans' Resource Center (VRC) began last month. We are excited to be working with the Sentinels of Freedom to secure donations for furnishings and equipment. The Veteran's Center, which will fully open in Fall 2015, will provide a home for COA Veterans students to work with counselor Jamar Mears and Certifying Official La Shawn Brumfield. The VRC will also host a variety of campus and community partners to provide services exclusively to COA Veterans.