



President's Report to the PCCD Board of Trustees



June 14, 2016

Dr. Joi Lin Blake, President

CoA Celebrates Semester's Accomplishments

The CoA family has accomplished a lot this semester! Commencement on May 27 was the opportunity to celebrate the culmination of all of our hard work, dedication and commitment to student success. More importantly, we celebrated the impact we have made on the next generation of our global community as they move on to four year colleges and universities, the workforce and, for some, their personal pursuits.

This recap of our accomplishments shares and remind all of us of our accomplishments as the College forges forward toward a culture of excellence, a culture of connecting, and a culture of caring. College of Alameda has embodied not only the spirit of excellence, but also a community that has the vision of greatness. We have a lot to be proud of!

- Blueprint for Excellence
- Completion of Education Master Plan
- Completion of Institutional Effectiveness Model Plan
- Campus Beautification Campaign
- Launch of Mobile CoA
- HBCU Tours for Students
- China Summer Abroad for Students
- Computer Lab Refresh
- Transparent Participatory Governance Process
- Expanded Community and Business Partnerships
- Implementation of *CoA Splash* Newsletter
- Establishment of President's Roundtable
- Opening of Veteran's Resource Center
- Renovation of CoA Bookstore
- Increased Funding for PASS Innovation Projects
- Resource Development of approx. \$1 million
- Emergency Preparedness Training

We thank and congratulate the entire College of Alameda community for a job well done.

Dr. Joi Lin Blake
President, College of Alameda

Awards Night Celebrates Student Achievement

College of Alameda's Awards Night on May 11 was an opportunity to celebrate and appreciate honors students, scholars, athletes and campus leaders.

The beautiful Grandview Pavilion was a venue offering appropriate elegance and prestige in celebration of the students, staff and faculty in attendance.

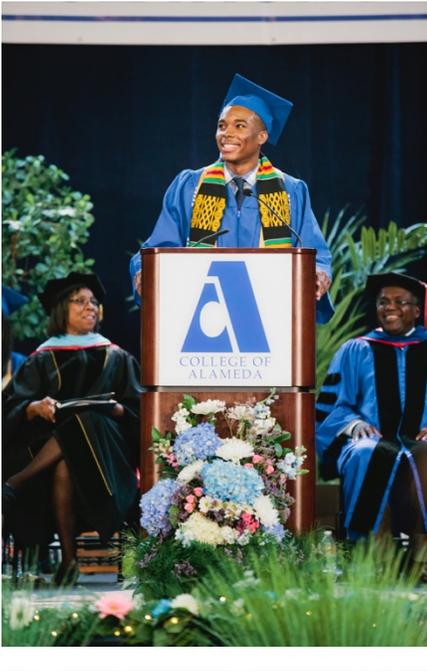
Over 70 different awards, scholarships and recognitions were given out to deserving students.



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CoA Celebrates Commencement May 27

In Photos...



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Clockwise from top left: Valedictorian Gabriel Thomas Trambell; Tiffany Austin sings "Climb Every Mountain"; Keynote Speaker Supervisor Wilma Chan; Chancellor Jowell Laguerre and President Blake award President's Medallion and Chancellor's Trophy to Weixing Ou; newly graduated Class of 2016; VPSS William Watson with Salutatorian Gabriela Martinez Garcia; Carla Pegues pins Dental Assisting graduates. Photos by Alison Yin.

Schedule of Summer Accreditation Activities at CoA

June – July 2016

- Transfer New Website to CoA Server
- Draft of Report to External Reader
- Facilities Cleanup
- Management Retreat- June 16
 - Review Report/Evidence
 - Examine Infrastructure
- Develop Accreditation Fact Sheet
 - Purpose of Follow-up Report
 - Purpose of Visit
 - Responses Made Easy

August-September 2016

- Campus Leadership Retreat- Tuesday, August 16
 - Review Report/Evidence/Infrastructure
- Opening Convocation Briefing
 - Completion of Blueprint for Excellence
 - Review Report/Evidence/Infrastructure
 - Dialogue-Next Steps
- Finalize Report/PCCD Board Approval
- Review Follow-up Report-Constituent Group Meetings
 - Academic Senate/Department Chairs
 - Classified Council
 - Associated Students
 - College Council
 - Department/Division Meetings

CoA Honors Retiring Faculty

On Friday, May 27, College of Alameda celebrated the retirement of four faculty members with 112 years of combined service to the Peralta Colleges and a steadfast commitment to education:

PROFESSOR MIKE ROBERTSON -- 38 Years of Service

Mike has served as a Truck Mechanics Instructor, Periodic Smoke Inspection Program Instructor, and Chair of the Diesel Mechanics program at College of Alameda since 1978. His students appreciate his great sense of humor and positive attitude to life's challenges. He served three years as the Academic Senate Vice President. Mike is actively involved with the California Council on Diesel Education and Technology. CCDET is one of the largest contributors to

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the Peralta Fund. Did you know that College of Alameda was one of the founding community colleges working with the California Air Resources Board to reduce unnecessary diesel vehicle exhaust emissions? And yes, Mike was instrumental in the development and sustainability of this program.

Dr. ESTHER GUERREO -- 32 Years of Service

Esther has worked in the Peralta District for approximately 30 years. She became a CoA faculty member in 2009, and was the Department Chair for both ESL and World Languages. She has participated in many shared governance committees. Esther is responsible for creating and moving forward over 30 course outlines. She has shown tremendous leadership and has mentored and encouraged many faculty at College of Alameda.

Dr. NATHAN STRONG -- 28 Years of Service

Nathan has been a member of the Peralta College family since 1988. As an anthropology instructor teaching courses in social and cultural anthropology, he is known for inspiring students to explore their heritage/culture by using the DNA process he introduced at College of Alameda. Most notable was his selection into the “Who’s Who among America’s Teachers.”

Dr. PATTI TSAI -- 14 Years of Service

Patti joined the College of Alameda faculty in 2002, after teaching for 11 years at Grossmont College in East San Diego County. She has been teaching CoA students physics, astronomy, physical science, and mathematics ever since. She met her husband, John Steiner, at CoA in 2005. Patti wishes to thank all her Peralta co-workers for fostering a spirit of working together. Patti most enjoyed learning how students learn physics and developing a curriculum around that. She gains great satisfaction in seeing former students launched in their careers. She plans to continue learning about learning, as applied on the agility field with her Shetland sheepdog, Sonny.

We congratulate all of our retirees and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

EOPS/CARE and CalWORKS Hold Graduation Celebration

The 8th Annual EOPS/CARE and CalWORKS graduation celebration was held on Wednesday, May 25 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the F Building “Pit” area. The keynote speaker was the Honorable Elihu Harris.

This year's graduating class was the largest in the more than 40-year history of the EOPS/CARE and CalWORKS program at College of Alameda. 86 students graduated and/or transferred and/or received a Certificate of Completion. More than 125 of their family members and friends were in attendance to cheer them on.

Honor Society Chapter Leaders Share NerdNation Experience

On Wednesday May 18, CoA Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society chapter leaders Jordan Timm, Lenika Howard, Miranda Meyers, and George Park made a presentation to the College of Alameda campus about their NerdNation Convention experiences in National Harbor, Maryland/Washington D.C.

PTK Sentinel and Voting Office Jordan Timm presented about the Phi Theta Kappa elections for the regional and international Executive Board, and the beneficial programs within Phi Theta



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Kappa that students can use. This includes programs like Competitive Edge and Collegefish.org.

PTK Secretary Lenika Howard presented about the professional development activities centralized around the Washington D.C. monuments tour and her personal experiences with NerdNation activities and benefits.



PTK Leader Miranda Meyers presented about her experiences exploring the Washington D.C. monuments and becoming a Five-Star Competitive Edge Award winner.

PTK President George Park presented about one of the NerdNation keynotes, led by Lord John Eatwell, an economist who is the President of Queens College Cambridge. George also presented general information on how to join Phi Theta Kappa at College of Alameda.

The event went smoothly! About 20 College of Alameda students were in attendance. Two other students, Adelya Harrison and Jimmy Nguyen, volunteered to help set up and take down the event. The Phi Theta Kappa student organization hopes to make more events like these to promote Phi Theta Kappa membership at CoA.

Top photo: From the first General Session at NerdNation. L to R: Faculty Advisor Marissa Nakano and student leaders Jordan Timm, Miranda Meyers, and Lenika Howard. Bottom photo: From the NerdNation Convention, Phi Theta Kappa representing the Nevada/California Region during the first General Session.

PASS Proposals Approved for 2016-17 School Year

The budget committee reviewed the programs and amounts requested for the 2016-2017 academic year. There were eight proposal submitted and seven approved in May 2016, with one proposal pending. The total of fund requests was \$317,675. Some projects funded in the past, if not listed, will be funded through Student Equity funds.

The Executive Committee reviewed the proposals and approved the following projects for the upcoming year:

\$85,600	Transportation and Logistics Certificate for AC Transit and enhancement of current programs
\$7,575	Neuroscience Resource Update
\$50,500	MESA Program
\$25,000	Division II Clerical Assistant
\$46,000	Learning Skills Program ATS Integration
\$30,000	Community Change & Urban Leadership (CCUL) Initiative
\$73,000	Learning Resource Center Expansion
(Pending)	Entrepreneurial Center

We look forward to continuing our commitment to innovation as a strategy to increase student success and completion, and to address our student equity needs. May the disruption continue!

First Gospel Explosion Concert at CoA a Success

The “First Gospel Explosion Concert” on May 19 at CoA successfully forged artistic partnerships between the College, faith-based organizations, and political communities. This creative festival used African American Gospel music as a means of providing academic structure and educational motivation for underserved inner-city youth.

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Created by the Music Department's newest Lecturer/Professor Silvester Carl Henderson, this event was collaboratively co-organized by Music Department Chair Glen Pearson, Professor Henderson, and our vocal students. The CoA Gospel Ensemble, comprised of community vocal professionals along with students from CoA's vocal department, strategically premiered an exhilarating and passionate performance that showcased African American choral music at its best.



The presence of over 200 attendees served as an indication of the community's desire for such a program. Further support was demonstrated by the presence of and/or letter acknowledgements from the Offices of Congressman Eric Swalwell; Superintendent of the Hayward Unified School District, Dr. Stanley Dobbs; the Mayor of Alameda, Trish Herrera Spencer; and Mrs. Freddie Davis, President of the NAACP.

Noted author and Professor Evan Wade from San Joaquin Delta College delivered an impactful speech around **artistic education**. The focus of this message was to share how relevant artistic instructional pedagogy can contextually advance student learning.

A shining example of the strength of the arts in shaping lives can be seen in the career of Mr. LJ Holoman, who was the musical director for the Gospel Explosion Concert. LJ is a former student of CoA's music department and was presented with the CoA Music Department's "Bay Area Musical Artistic Award." He is the keyboard artist for the "Empire" TV series.

The CoA Department of Music is excited and dedicated to the improvement of careers and professional-based education through, "Saving Our Children Through the Musical Arts."

Nguyen and CoA Dance Students Perform for Major Award Dinner

Professor Danny Nguyen was invited to perform with his students for a major award dinner in San Francisco on May 26. The awards celebration and dinner was organized by the San Francisco – Ho Chi Minh City Sister City Committee (SF-HCMC SCC), in conjunction with the San Francisco Mayor's Office of International Trade and Commerce. The event was MCed by ABC-7 News anchor Chris Nguyen.

The awards recognized individuals and organizations that have promoted improved US and Vietnam relations, advanced the Vietnamese-American and Vietnamese communities, and aided in the preservation of Vietnamese art and culture. This year's awardees include Emmy, Oscar and Pulitzer Prize winners and those who promote peace.



The San Francisco - Ho Chi Minh sister city committee just celebrated its 21st anniversary. It was founded by former

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mayor Frank Jordan in 1995. Since that time the committee has proven to be a force that promotes peace and the improvement of life for the people of Vietnam. It has programs related to healthcare, biotechnology, education, urban planning, transportation, trade/commerce, emergency preparedness and the environment.

CoA was honored to be a part of this historic event.

ATLAS on the Move

The ATLAS program is pleased to highlight CoA student (and alumnus) Donnell Simpson and alumnus Charles Penix.

Donnell Simpson, a professional with over 20 years of combined experience in Warehouse Operations, Janitorial Service, and Culinary Arts, was recently hired to be a prep cook for Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto in Berkeley, CA.

Over the course of Donnell's academic career at Peralta, he has earned Certificates of Achievement in Transportation Logistics Operations (fall 2012) and Warehouse & Forklift Operations (spring 2013). As of the close of this semester, he is now one class away from an Associate of Science degree in Restaurant Management.

Donnell has been working odd jobs in warehousing while earning his degree – including working with ATLAS partner Surplus Services. However, he never gave up his passion to cook, so he now has that opportunity with a McCormick & Schmick's restaurant. Congratulations, Donnell!



ATLAS student **Charles Penix** recently completed the Transportation – Logistics Operations program. In addition to earning a Certificate of Achievement, he also earned OSHA and Hazmat General Industry Certificates.

Charles' story is one of encouragement and triumph. Due to an unfortunate event, Charles spent 10 years in a coma. After running into an ATLAS alumnus, Ron Rosenburg, Charles was encouraged to join the ATLAS program. In addition to support from ATLAS staff, Charles received support from DSPS on campus and the Department of Rehabilitation based in Oakland.

On the career front, Charles has gained work experience with ATLAS partner Surplus Services and is actively engaged with the City of San Francisco's ACE Program. Charles has also been learning new skills from his DOR tutor Mark, who recently took him to the Broken Rack to teach him how to play pool. In his spare time, Charles spends time with his mother, is active at his community church, and walks Lake Merritt several times a week with a good friend. Charles will continue to take classes in the summer and fall while enhancing his work experience. Congratulations, Charles!

Volunteers Needed to Build Playground at CoA

College of Alameda will partner with Alameda Family Services, who was recently awarded a KaBOOM! grant, to build a playground at CoA on **July 21, 2016**. The sponsor for the CoA playground will be Dr. Pepper/Snapple. The sponsors will be providing some volunteers and we have agreed to recruit volunteers for the July 21 Build Day as well.

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KaBOOM! is a national non-profit dedicated to bringing balanced and active play into the daily lives of all kids, particularly those growing up in poverty in America. Check out their video entitled “Play Matters”:
https://youtu.be/53KOW_gbS0w

We will need 175 volunteers to build a magnificent playground in one day! Please submit your name and the number of volunteers you will bring with you to Teddy and/or Shane, twashington@peralta.edu or shanewilliams@peralta.edu. Please join us, and let’s do Peralta proud!



One Stop Career Center at CoA Honored

At the May 12 meeting of the Alameda County Workforce Investment Board (ACWIB) the North Cities Career Center at College of Alameda (also known as the One Stop Career Center) was recognized with a plaque “in recognition of outstanding WIA service and commitment to job seekers.”

In addition, the One Stop just received its award letter and recommended funding levels for the 2016-17 program year, ensuring it will continue to serve resident jobseekers throughout the next academic year.

Congratulations to Drew Douglass and his staff for this honor and recognition of their continued efforts in serving Alameda County residents.



Sabir Reflects on Critical Thinking Forum

Professor Wanda Sabir recently shared with us her blog post recounting her students’ Critical Thinking Forum on Tuesday, May 24 at College of Alameda, excerpted below:

“Today was the final day of classes at the College of Alameda. I started the day at 4:30 in the morning and still found myself dashing to school with little time to spare. I was excited to see what my English 5 or Critical Thinking students had prepared for the Educational Forum on Current Issues. It was our second Forum in two semesters and this class focused on Marriage Equality, Food Issues: Obesity, Food Deserts and GMOs; College Costs and Police Brutality....”



Read the rest on Wanda’s blog: <http://wandasabir.blogspot.com/2016/05/critical-thinking-in-alameda.html>

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