



COA Today



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Enrollment Up, Productivity Up

Dr. Herring offers his congratulations to faculty and staff for accepting more students in classes and being committed to serving students in this difficult time. He recognizes that in many instances faculty have taken in extra students when they had large classes already.

Community college enrollment is up across the state. College of Alameda has cut the number of courses offered this fall by 4%, from 438 in Fall 2008 to 419 in Fall 2009, but classes, as faculty can testify, are full, corresponding to a 21% increase in FTES enrollment (per District numbers as of September 14).

COA's "productivity" in 2008-09, measured as FTES per full-time faculty member, was 15.28; the college's goal for 2009-10 was 16.5. The district's goal, 17.5 FTES per faculty member, is equivalent to 35 students per class. All of the Peralta colleges have exceeded that goal, with COA's productivity number reaching 17.55 this semester. Each decrease district-wide of 1 FTES/FTEF, is equivalent to \$1,500,000 in additional costs.

At the PFT meeting on September 9, Tom Smith noted that there has been a "fundamental change



Welcome Back Bash

in the last six months" in government funding of community colleges. Open access to community college is no longer being funded. The district expects to cut 400 sections in the spring. College of Alameda's Winter Intersession will take place, but Spring Intersession will be cancelled, and the district is considering whether or not to consolidate summer school on one campus. The district is also considering instituting contract and fee-based courses. At the PFT meeting, the chancellor stated that the legislature's position is that, "The courses that people can pay for, people should pay for."

Student Ambassadors Help their Peers Navigate Registration

COA's student ambassadors participated along with student ambassadors from the rest of Peralta in Microsoft training held at Laney College on August 12. Student email accounts were the main focus of the training.

Student ambassadors' focus this semester has been on supporting enrollment in COA's new A Building Student Center, helping students to enroll online and complete their applications for federal student aid (FAFSA). VP of Student Services Kerry Compton said that with this semester's large increase in enrollment the student ambassadors have been essential in supporting A&R and Financial Aid staff.



Students registering at COA's new Student Center

COA Crisis Team a Valuable Campus Resource

With each new school year, we face many challenges as a campus community. Some of the most baffling are those that relate to student behavior, especially the limits of that behavior. At College of Alameda, we have a back-up system for assisting both faculty and staff: the COA Crisis Team. The Crisis Team is composed of representatives from counseling, health services, administration and the Sheriff's department. The team's procedures and guidelines have been acknowledged statewide as a model for helping faculty and students to find solutions for behavioral problems in and out of the classroom.

Every semester the team presents a workshop that outlines expected student behavior and the laws protecting both employees and students. The COA Crisis Team will be presenting the manual "Strategies for Effective Classroom Management: Faculty and Staff Rights and Responsibilities" on the October 20 Staff Development Day. Check the Staff Development brochure for October 20 for location and time of the workshop, or contact Patricia Dudley for more information.

Building A Opening Celebrated

On August 31, visitors from the Peralta District and from organizations involved in the renovation of COA's Building A came together with interested COA students and faculty for a celebration of the (almost) completion of the newly renovated Building A. After listening to brief introductory presentations outside under cloudy morning skies, attendees divided into groups to tour the building, then got together for lunch provided by Dr. Sadiq Ikharo, Peralta's Vice Chancellor of General Services.



On the principle that if anything can go wrong it will, the lunch had to be moved to L-237 because air system testing the previous day had resulted in a water leak into the Building A conference room where the lunch was to have been held. The leak was not structural, and the conference room was dried out that day and returned to use.

Carlotta Campbell Appointed to State Academic Senate Committee

On August 21, the State Academic Senate Executive Committee appointed Carlotta Campbell to the California Community Colleges Academic Senate's Accreditation and Student Learning Outcomes Committee. Carlotta, who is past president of COA's Academic Senate, will join appointees from Fresno City College, Riverside City College, San Diego Mesa College, West Los Angeles College, and San Jose City College.

The committee's charge for 2009-2010 is to provide guidance for faculty in areas related accreditation, outcomes, assessment and accountability. They will gather effective practices for outcomes and assessment and empower faculty to create effective self studies, provide SLO Coordinator training throughout the state, and provide technical assistance to local college academic senates and the faculty in general who request assistance with accreditation and SLO issues.

Congratulations, Carlotta!

COA Celebrates Constitution Day

Chautauqua at CoA, College of Alameda's Constitution Day celebration first organized by Politics Instructor Robert Brem four years ago, was held again this year on September 17, the anniversary date of the signing of the U.S. Constitution on Sept. 17, 1787.

Herbert Mims and members of his Small Ensemble Improvisation Class introduced the program with live performance of classic American jazz. Administrators, faculty members, students, and representatives from the League of Women Voters and the California Federation of



Teachers spoke dramatically about their own ideas or read from the writings and speeches of historical figures on various issues related to the constitution.

A few people braved the hot sun to attend this well-organized event, but finding ways of involving more of the COA community in extracurricular educational events remains a problem that needs to be addressed on campus.

Protect Yourself During the Flu Season

The World Health Organization declared the spread of the H1N1 virus a worldwide pandemic emergency in June of this year. The College of Alameda Pandemic Task Force is now meeting weekly to plan how to implement our policy for Pandemic Emergencies that was passed by College Council in May 2009. One of the most pressing needs for us as an organization is to consider what we will do if there is massive employee/student absenteeism. The Task Force is considering a mechanism where we can assess the number of influenza-like illnesses that may be present on campus.

In addition, our Health Services Coordinator, Patricia Dudley, recommends that you make the following items a personal mantra:

Make cleanliness a priority: hand washing, clean work surfaces and covering coughs.

Social distance if necessary: keep six feet away from others in a crowded situation.

Stay home if you are sick: if you have a fever with any of the following: coughing, sore throat, chills, fatigue, headache, body aches, congestion, diarrhea, vomiting. Stay home at least 24 hours after your fever has become normal.

Get a flu shot: seasonal flu vaccinations will be available on campus on October 13; dates for H1N1 vaccinations will be announced as soon as we determine availability.

Stay informed: On October 20, Patricia Dudley will present a workshop on the N1H1 flu and our situation at COA. Helpful and informative websites are: www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu and www.flu.gov. The COA website Home Page links to a video on swine flu created for the community colleges: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vl0flbzlhcg> .

Construction Update

Paving of Stargell Avenue near the campus is to start on or about October 5. Just half of the road will be done at a time, and paving will take a day or two, so traffic should be minimally disrupted. In the spring there will be a final paving surface laid. Construction plans include an eight-foot-wide sidewalk to be installed on the college side of Stargell.

The contractors are aware of reported problems with the **restrooms in Building L**, and these are being worked on. Work cannot resume on the first floor restroom until after the District arranges a fire watch for a 12-hour period necessary to move the fire alarm panel in that area.

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Construction Update (contd.)

Upstairs restrooms in **Building B** have been completed. Demolition has started on the first-floor outside restrooms. Estimated time to completion is 40 days, assuming the poor condition of existing plumbing does not cause excess delays.

Most restrooms and locker rooms in **Building G** have been completed. **Demolition** of restrooms in the gym begins Tuesday, September 22, and will be done before 1 p.m. in order to reduce disruption of classes. Windows for the weight room are scheduled to arrive October 5, but the weight room can be used before then.

Fencing has been installed along the route from ASTI to the gym to prevent injury to students.

COA Student Athletes Volunteer in the Community

The College of Alameda women's volleyball and men's basketball teams volunteered at the 2009 Webster Street Jam Festival "Kids Zone" on Saturday and Sunday, September 12 and 13. These students not only work hard in the classroom and in their sport, but each year Coach Thompson and Coach Jordan inspire them to also volunteer in the community.

**Pick up Your Discount Card for Bayside Grille Restaurant**

Alameda's Bayside Grille, located inside the Mariner Square Athletic Club, has generously offered COA faculty and staff a 20% discount on food and beverage purchases until the end of the school year. You can pick up your discount card from Teddy Washington in Room A-141.

Calendar (9/22– 10/23)

Tues 9/22 & ev. Tues	Financial Aid Workshops. 12-2 pm, Cyber Café, F Bldg 2nd floor
Wed 9/23	Transfer Day. 10 am–1 pm, Quad
Fri 10/2	Women's Volleyball vs. Contra Costa College. 6-8 pm, CoA Gym
Tues 10/6	Club Rush Day. 12:30-1:30 pm, Quad
Fri 10/9	Women's Volleyball vs. Marin College. 6-8 pm, CoA Gym
Tues 10/13	Annual Health Fair. Free HIV testing & blood donor van. Seasonal flu vaccination \$18. 12-2 pm, F Bldg Student Lounge
Tues 10/13	Board of Trustees Meeting. 7-10 pm, District Board Room
Fri 10/16	Women's Volleyball vs. Mendocino College. 6-8 pm, CoA Gym
Tues 10/20	Staff Development Day. No classes
Wed 10/21	Citywide College Night. 6-8 pm, CoA Gym
Fri 10/23	Women's Volleyball vs. Laney College. 6-8 pm, CoA Gym

See COA Master Calendar for details of away volleyball games and visits by recruiters from four-year schools.

Volleyball team prepares to test the climbing equipment at Webster St. Jam Festival

COA Today

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College of Alameda is part of the Peralta Community College District, which also includes Berkeley City College, Laney College and Merritt College.