



San José · Evergreen Community College District

Chancellor's Corner

Newsletter

AUGUST 31, 2017

SJECED HIGHLIGHTS

<i>Message from the Chancellor - Dr. Debbie Budd</i>	1
<i>Congratulations to President Byron Breland and His Wife Gilda</i>	1
<i>Welcome, Alice van Ommeren</i>	1
<i>Game Changers: 2018</i>	2
<i>Legislative Update</i>	2
<i>Guided Pathways Implementation Update</i>	3
<i>Strategic Priorities</i>	3
<i>Workforce Institute Planned Relocation and Name Change</i>	4
<i>Foundation Board Working with GK Collaborative</i>	4
<i>SJCC/MIT Collaboration</i>	5
<i>José Valdes Math Summer Institute</i>	5
<i>San José Promise Update</i>	5
<i>CSU Making Changes to Math Requirements</i>	6
<i>State Strategic Vision Update</i>	6
<i>SJCC Intern Wins National Award</i>	6
<i>Congratulations to Trustee Wendy Ho</i>	7

Message from the Chancellor - Dr. Debbie Budd

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for all that you do every day to “meet the diverse educational and workforce needs of our community by empowering our students to become agents for socioeconomic change.” I would like to share with you some highlights including:

Congratulations to President Byron Breland and His Wife Gilda

Congratulations to President Breland and his wife, Gilda, as they are expecting their first born early next month. In order to ensure stability and not overload others on the administration while President Breland is out on parental leave following the birth, we will be bringing in Dr. Norma Ambriz-Galaviz to serve as acting President during his absence. She will then stay on temporarily to work on special projects upon President Breland’s return.

For the past year, Dr. Ambriz-Galaviz has served as Vice Chancellor of Student Services for Peralta Community College District. Prior to that, she served as President at Merritt Community College from 2013 to 2016. She has also held positions of Vice President of Instruction at Mission Community College, Dean of Social Sciences at Chabot Community College, among other positions throughout her career. She holds a Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership from the University of La Verne, a master’s degree in Counseling from San Diego State, a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice Administration with minors in Public Administration and Mexican American Studies from San Diego State, and an associate degree in Administration of Justice from Hartnell College.

We are very fortunate to have a candidate of Dr. Ambriz-Galaviz’s caliber to step in and help out while President Breland is out and I look forward to introducing her to our District community.

Welcome, Alice van Ommeren

I am very pleased to announce that Alice van Ommeren recently joined the District as Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Research, and Planning. Alice most recently served as Interim Vice Chancellor of Technology, Research and Information Systems at the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office. Prior to that, she was Dean of Research, Analysis and Accountability, also at the Chancellor’s Office. She received her doctorate in educational leadership from the University of the Pacific in 2010 and has published in several educational research journals. She teaches education policy at the University of the Pacific. Classroom experience also includes teaching Sociology as an adjunct faculty at San Joaquin Delta College for a decade. She is the current past-president of the California Association of Institutional Research (CAIR) and was a long-term board member of the Research and Planning (RP) Group of the California Community Colleges. She was the recipient of the Mertes Award for Excellence in Community College Research in 2011 and has



Exec. Dir. Alice van Ommeren

received several Awards of Excellence in Research from the RP Group. She speaks extensively at conferences and received Best Presentation Award at CAIR in 2009 for *Expanding Transfer Pathways: Influence For-Profit Institutions*.

In addition to her doctorate, Alice holds an MA in Sociology from CSU Sacramento, a BA in Sociology from CSU Stanislaus, and she is a California community college alumnae as well, with an AA from San Joaquin Delta Community College.

She has shared with me that she is a local historian who has published three books and an avid collector of vintage postcards. She will be reporting to Vice Chancellor Ben Seaberry. Please join me in welcoming Alice to the District!

Game Changers: 2018

I am honored to have been selected as one of Silicon Valley Leadership Group's "Game Changers" for 2018. I will be featured in a brochure they are putting out and had the opportunity to submit an essay on what I think will be a "game changer" in 2018. I wrote about our efforts with partners to create a college-going culture throughout the City of San José and the San José Promise. I am very excited to be able to share this information with a large audience, and to be included in such an august group of individuals.

Legislative Update

The state legislature returned from summer recess on Monday, Aug 21, and is busy addressing the issue of how to create a funding source for affordable housing as well as streamlining approvals for major housing developments.

On our end, we recently met with Senate staffers for Senators Ricardo Lara and Jim Beall and followed up with calls and letters of support to both for AB 19, which seeks to provide a CCC student fee waiver for every newly enrolled student for one academic year, provided that they attend college full-time by taking at least 12 units per semester. This proposal will incentivize more students to attend college full-time, offer more student financial aid, and reduce the time it takes a student to achieve their academic goals. As a basic aid district, AB 19 includes a provision to backfill all basic aid Districts' additional costs for this student fee waiver.

All of the bills we've been supporting (including AB 19) are out of their original house of origin and have been assigned to the "other" side of the house. Many of our priority bills were assigned to respective Appropriations Committees and from there, several were placed in the suspense file due to major fiscal impact considerations.

Guided Pathways Implementation Update

Last week was a very important one as we begin to implement the Guided Pathways framework on our campuses. Rob Johnstone, from the National Center for Inquiry and Improvement, and Gretchen Schmidt from the AACC Pathways Project, presented to staff from both colleges and District on Monday, then had full days at each college on Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively.

The Presidents report that great work took place on the campuses and will continue to build and implement guided pathways, and the dates of the next visits will be determined shortly. While we are still very early in this process, I am excited for the potential that guided pathways have to improve our service to students and increase student success and educational outcomes.

This is not simply “one more thing,” to which we will be devoting time and effort, but a way of organizing and framing the outstanding work already underway on our campuses to increase student success. We are very fortunate to have Alice van Ommeren on board, as she has worked extensively in this area at the state level and will be a huge asset as we implement Guided Pathways. For additional information and details, please see the [Guided Pathways](http://www.sjeccd.edu/Chancellor/Documents/Guided_Pathways_California_CAGP_KPI_Definitions_for_%20Institute1Final-May_2017per2017Aug.3FrLtr.pdf) Key Performance Indicator Description and Definitions sheet from the State Chancellor’s Office at:

http://www.sjeccd.edu/Chancellor/Documents/Guided_Pathways_California_CAGP_KPI_Definitions_for_%20Institute1Final-May_2017per2017Aug.3FrLtr.pdf.

Strategic Priorities

I wanted to share with you our most updated Strategic Priorities which will be reviewed at the upcoming Sept 8 Participatory Governance retreat, where we will develop Measurable Outcome and Activities.

Strategic Priorities 2017-2025

- 1. Student Success:** The San José · Evergreen Community College District will improve student success through a culture of evidence by providing structured educational pathways and continuous support services that align with their educational and career goals and promote responsible global citizenship and civic engagement.
- 2. Workforce and Economic Development:** The San José · Evergreen Community College District will respond to the workforce needs of the Silicon Valley region, while supporting economic mobility of our diverse community.
- 3. Organizational Effectiveness and Sustainability:** The San José · Evergreen Community College District will develop and utilize systems that promote institutional effectiveness, fiscal sustainability, and accountability.
- 4. Technology:** The San José · Evergreen Community College District will invest in secure information and instructional technology solutions that enhance learning and working environments and support institutional effectiveness and student success.

5. **Communication:** The San José · Evergreen Community College District will engage in effective communication with internal and external audiences to improve stakeholder satisfaction.
6. **Total Work Environment:** The San José · Evergreen Community College District will promote a total work environment that contributes to the success and development of its students and employees.

Workforce Institute Planned Relocation and Name Change

We are considering a rebranding and relocation of the Workforce Institute to better reflect the organizational development work that has been underway over the past year. Also, given the facilities master planning needs projected for the SJCC campus, and given the enormous opportunities presented by a potential Google expansion and transportation advances in downtown San José, there appears to be universal excitement among WI staff and the college over the following possible scenario: a name change for Workforce Institute that includes “Center for Economic Mobility” and a relocation to the vacant 5th floor of 40 South Market. These changes would accommodate the request and needs of SJCC, and take advantage of the expanding opportunities inherent in a relocation to downtown.

I greatly appreciate Dr. William Watson’s leadership as he continues to work on these efforts even as we build capacity of the WI to better serve our students and community. Dr. Watson has been working closely with President Breland to ensure that any changes that do occur regarding the facility are completed in a way that supports the SJCC Facilities Master Plan while creating minimal disruption for the operations of Workforce Institute and SJCC. We will share more information and details at the colleges and in our Participatory Governance groups when school starts up in August/ September.

Foundation Board Working with GK Collaborative

The San José · Evergreen Community College District Foundation recently hosted a collaborative working session for its Board and campus leadership to address outcomes from a complete and thorough advancement assessment report conducted by GKollaborative, a fundraising consultancy who has successfully transformed Contra Costa Community College District and Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District into high-performing fundraising organizations. The advancement assessment report analyzed the past five years to create benchmarks in the areas of institutional advancement, governance, and operations for the Foundation. The findings are significant in that it highlights the areas we need to address in order to build an infrastructure that supports a culture of philanthropy, and vision to be the leading community college foundation in the nation. The working session produced creative discussion around stewardship, middle donor programs and alumni relations. We will continue to work with GKollaborative to create a comprehensive policy and procedures manual, update governing documents and develop a strategic advancement plan needed for long term stability and growth of advancement.

SJCC/MIT Collaboration

President Breland recently visited MIT to work on expanding and furthering SJCC's existing partnership. The trip proved to be very fruitful and I wanted to share a blog post created by MIT following his visit: <http://odl.mit.edu/news-events/blog/san-josé-city-college-collaborates-mit-launch-innovative-program-w-first-student>

We hope to have more exciting news regarding this partnership to announce soon!

José Valdes Math Summer Institute

The José Valdes Math Program's Summer Institute, which we host on our campuses held its completion ceremony on Friday, July 28, marking the culmination of the seven-week program. Valdes Math is an intensive program focused on bringing underrepresented middle and high school students to level in mathematics while preparing them for future math courses and reducing the need for costly remediation in our school districts. I am pleased that we continue to be able to partner with Valdes Math and school districts to make this outstanding program available to the students in our community who need it. It also brings many middle and high school students to our campuses, which familiarizes them with our colleges and helps to make going to college a more real and tangible goal, helping to create a college-going culture in our schools.

San José Promise Update

This past Wednesday, I participated on a panel with Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg and Ian Winbrock, who manages a program for youth in the Sacramento area to share our role and successes in building our respective college promise programs. The panel was moderated by Larry Galizio, President and CEO of the Community College League of California, and allowed me to highlight our Guided Pathways model vis-à-vis Collaborative Impact as a critical framework for San José Promise.

Our panel was part of a full-day conference at the Grand Sheraton in Sacramento which brought together national, state, and local leaders, including former Undersecretary of Education Martha Kanter and other former members of the Obama Administration who have been instrumental in the national college promise campaign. The conference focused on promise research, evaluation, industry engagement, financial sustainability, cross-sector collaboration, student support services, and other strategies for supporting promise programs and promise students across the nation. I was honored to be joined by colleagues Rosalie Ledesma and William Watson, as well as Interim President Keith Aytch and San José City College Dean Eliazer Ayala-Austin.



Chancellor Debbie Budd and Former U.S. Undersecretary of Education Martha Kanter

CSU Making Changes to Math Requirements

This is great news for our students who are planning to transfer to a CSU institution and may be struggling to meet the math requirement: Beginning in fall 2018, students who are not majoring in STEM fields will not be required to complete intermediate algebra. While more details will be forthcoming from CSU, this is a step in the right direction and will help more students complete their degrees on time. College-level algebra remains one of the greatest barriers to student success across higher education, so finding ways to remove this barrier while maintaining academic rigor is important as we work toward more equitable outcomes and enhanced student success. The Mercury News had an excellent recent article on the proposed change, which can be read here: <http://www.mercurynews.com/2017/08/01/no-intermediate-algebra-no-problem-csu-ditches-tricky-math-prerequisite/>

State Strategic Vision Update

The state Chancellor's Office has updated its Strategic Vision for the state system. This new Strategic Vision includes overarching goals, commitments for achieving those goals, and of the Guided Pathways framework. The new Strategic Vision also includes sections on how the state Chancellor's Office can assist Districts and colleges throughout California to achieve these new goals. This is a fortunate time for this new Strategic Vision to be released, as we are in the process of updating our own Strategic Plan and can incorporate this vision into our planning process. Goals of the new Strategic Vision that we should be able to incorporate some portion into our planning and help make an impact on include:

- Increase by at least 20 percent annually the number of students earning an associate degree, credential, certificate, or specific skill set.
- Increase the number of students who transfer to UC and CSU by 35 percent each year.
- Reduce the average number of excess credits accumulated by students who complete their degrees or certificates. Students earning an associate degree complete approximately 87 total units on average, 27 more units than required for most degrees or transfer preparation.
- Increase the number of students in career education programs who secure jobs in their field of study by 15 percent.
- Close achievement gaps once and for all. Cutting achievement gaps by 40 percent within five years and eliminating those achievement gaps for good within 10 years.

Many of these goals align with work already underway within our District.

SJCC Intern Wins National Award

Great news about an SJCC student who is interning at eBay! Please see the update below from President Breland:

“One of our student interns placed 3rd place (NATIONALLY) among all of eBay's interns in their recent Hackathon. There will be a showcase of the intern projects in August. eBay is very impressed with our interns and will be looking to offer more opportunities in the near future.”

Congratulations to Trustee Wendy Ho

The Board of Trustees on August 29 recognized Trustee Wendy Ho for Being Selected by the Filipina Women's Network as One of the 100 Most Influential Filipina Women in the World for 2017 in the Policymaker & Visionary Category.



Board of Trustees, Chancellor, and EVC & SJCC Presidents

ENJOY THE NEXT FEW DAYS OF THE SUMMER!

