California Secretary of State Debra Bowen to keynote BCC's 2012 Commencement Ceremony

California Secretary of State Debra Bowen will keynote Berkeley City College’s 2012 commencement ceremony. The event takes place 7-9 p.m., Mon., at UC Berkeley’s Zellerbach Hall auditorium.

A pioneer in open government reform, election integrity, and personal privacy rights, Debra Bowen became only the sixth woman in California history elected to a statewide constitutional office when she was elected as Secretary of State in 2006. Secretary Bowen was reelected to her second term in Nov. 2010.

Prior to being elected California’s Secretary of State, Bowen served six years in the State Assembly (1992-1998) and eight years in the State Senate (1998-2006). As a legislator, Secretary Bowen authored several election-related laws designed to boost integrity, including measures related to verifiable paper trails and public audits.

Faculty and staff are invited to attend the college’s twenty-second commencement ceremony. For details, contact Paula Coil at pc poil@peralta.edu or Dr. May Chen at mchen@peralta.edu, graduation committee co-chairs.

“Embryonic Stem Cells: Everything You Want to Know but Are Afraid to Ask” set for 6:30-8 p.m., Apr. 26 at BCC

“Embryonic Stem Cells: Everything You Want to Know but Are Afraid to Ask,” a lecture by Dr. Susan Fisher, takes place from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Thur., Apr. 26, in Berkeley City College’s auditorium. The event is free and open to the public. Dr. Fisher is a professor in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. She is jointly appointed in the Department of Anatomy. Dr. Fisher is the Director of UCSF’s Human Embryonic Stem Cell Program and is Faculty Director of the Sandler-Moore Mass Spectrometry Facility. The Fisher group studies the role that the human placenta plays in normal pregnancy and in pregnancy complications. Dr. Fisher has trained numerous UCSF medical students, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and clinical fellows. Her work has been continuously supported by the National Institute of Health for over 30 years.

Mark your calendars for Thur., Apr. 26: Peralta’s 7th annual Peralta Sustainability Conference at Laney College

All are invited to participate in the Peralta Community College District’s 7th Annual Sustainability Conference. The event is set for 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thur., Apr. 26, at the Laney College Bistro and Estuary area. Conference events include a sustainable culinary competition, a film festival, teach-ins, a garden workday, Green vendors and more. Live music, dance, food, and prizes also are part of the event. Want to know more? Visit www.sustainableperalta.org/conference.

'Stencilation' exhibit on display in BCC's atrium

Berkeley City College’s “Stencilation” exhibit in the college’s atrium is the work of Juana Alicia Araiza’s fall 2011 painting students. The two-sided paintings depict a stenciled self-portrait of each student on the side of the wood panel that faces the interior center of the atrium. A sacred or totem animal of the student’s choosing faces passersby on the second floor. The works will be on exhibit until the end of the spring 2012 semester. Each fall, Araiza’s students complete a stencil project. Students choose the theme for the pieces they create. This is the second show of the stencil works. During the first exhibit, the show was staged in the street-facing windows of the Jerry L. Adams Gallery.

College hosts 10th Berkeley Poetry and 2nd annual Art in the Atrium Fests

Berkeley City College will host the 10th Berkeley Poetry Festival and 2nd Annual Art in the Atrium Festival, Noon to 4:30 p.m., Sat., May 5. The events are free and open to the public. The poetry fest will include a special performance of “Sparing with Beatnick Ghosts,” featuring Daniel Yaryan, Marc Olimsted, and Suzi Kaplan Olimsted; a Poets Exchange Table; and presentation of the organization’s Lifetime Achievement Award to Clive Matson. Other poets who will read their works are Sharon Coleman, Jack and Adelle Foley, Joan Gatten, Glenn Ingersol, Jeanne Lupton, Mary Mackey, Clive Matson, H.D. Moe, Alice Rogoff, Mark Schwartz, Mel C. Thompson, Gary Turchin, and Julia Vinograd. An open mic also will be available for other seasoned and aspiring poets.

At the same time, the college will host the Art in the Atrium Festival, an exhibition and sale of prints by members of BCC’s award-winning Digital Arts Club. The event is cosponsored by the City of Berkeley, Mother’s Hen and BCC’s Digital Arts Club.
Felix Smith named BCC’s Classified Employee of the Year

Custodian Felix Smith has been named Berkeley City College’s 2012 Constance M. Ormond Classified Employee of the Year. “Felix is very reliable and always gets his work done with a positive attitude. He can be counted on for high quality. Felix has a good spirit of cooperation and works well with staff,” noted one of his BCC colleagues. The recognition brings with it a $100 award. Congratulations, Felix!

Other 2012 nominees were: Johnny Dong, Shirley Fogarino, Bryan Gibbs, Catalina Herrera, Marilyn Montague, Catherine Nichols, John Pang, Theresa Rumjahn, and Kwisuk Sanchez.

Welcome to David Ponds, BCC’s new custodian

Berkeley City College extends a warm welcome to David Ponds, BCC’s new custodian. He assumed a much-needed permanent position on the college’s custodial staff.

BCC department chair self-nominations are due by 5 p.m. on Wed., Apr. 30. Nomination forms were sent to BCC faculty on Tue., Apr. 17. Please place your completed ballot in Joan Berezin’s mailbox in the 1st floor mail room.

Berkeley City College Apr. 23-May 10 Calendar

- Mon., Apr. 23—
  Noon-1 p.m., EOPS, Rm. 451A

- Tue., Apr. 24—
  Noon-1:30 p.m., Programs and Services for Students with Disabilities, Rm. 451A
  Noon-1 p.m., Cesar Chavez Celebration, BCC Atrium

- Wed., Apr. 25—
  9-11:30 a.m., Leadership, Rm. 451A
  11:30 am-1:30 p.m., TRiO, Rm. 451B
  Noon-1:30 p.m., Academic Senate, Rm. 451A
  3:30-5 p.m., Graduation Committee, Rm. 451A

- Thur., Apr. 26—
  Noon-1 p.m., BSU, Rm. 451A
  6:30-8:30 p.m., Jose Martin, Spanish Medical Interpreting, Rm. 451A&B
  6:30-8 p.m., “Embryonic Stem Cells: Everything You Want to Know . . .” BCC Atrium and Auditorium

- Fri., Apr. 27—
  1-2:30 p.m., EOPS Workshop, Rm. 451A
  8 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Interviews, Rm. 451B

- Wed., Apr. 28—
  9 a.m.-1 p.m., District Counseling Meeting, Rm. 451A&B

- Mon., Apr. 30—
  Noon-1:30 p.m., Roundtable Meeting, Rm. 451A&B

- Wed., May 2—
  Noon-1 p.m., Student Ambassadors, Rm. 451A

- Fri., May 4—
  8 a.m.-3 p.m., Interviews, Rm. 451B

- Sat., May 5—
  Noon-4 p.m., 10th Berkeley Poetry and 2nd Annual Art in the Atrium Fests, BCC Atrium

BCC Transfer Center hosts university rep visits, workshops

- Tue., Apr. 24
  10 a.m.-1 p.m., UC Santa Cruz
  1st Floor Lobby

- Mon., Apr. 30
  10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Art Institute
  1st Floor Lobby

- Wed., May 2
  10 a.m.-2 p.m., UC Berkeley
  2nd Floor Transfer Ctr.

- Thur., May 3
  10 a.m.-Noon, University of Phoenix
  1st Floor Lobby

- Tue., May 8
  11 a.m.-1 p.m., Mills College
  1st Floor Lobby

- Thur., May 10
  11 a.m.-1 p.m., Bradman University
  1st Floor Lobby

- Tue., May 15
  10 a.m.-2 p.m., UC Berkeley
  2nd Floor Transfer Ctr.

The Messenger

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