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PCCD students march to minimize community college budget cuts, support higher education access

Several thousand students, faculty, staff and administrators who represented community colleges throughout California marched to Sacramento on Mon., Mar. 14 to protest excessive budget cuts to higher education. The Peralta Colleges sent 10 full buses. All were welcomed by a rainstorm that pummelled demonstrators throughout the morning. Despite the weather, marchers stood firm in their resolve to communicate their message of no more cuts to higher education to state legislators and Gov. Jerry Brown.

While the crowd expressed opposition to the state’s proposed higher education budget reductions, many also encouraged legislators to support placement on the June 2011 ballot an initiative which would place a five-year extension of last year’s tax increases on income, sales and automobile license fees.

Best/worst scenarios.

A best case scenario, if the tax extension initiative is placed on the ballot and passes in June, would look like this:

- $12.5 Billion Cuts to State Services
- $1.7 Billion Cuts to Medi-Cal
- $1.5 Billion Cuts to Cal-WORKs
- $750 Million Cuts to Developmental Services
- $400 Million Cuts to Community Colleges with a Fee Increase from $26 to $36 Per Unit
- $500 Million Cuts to CSU System
- $500 Million Cuts to UC System

A worst-case scenario is far more ominous. If the initiative is not placed on the June ballot or reaches voters and is voted down, the state’s Legislative Analysts Office (LAO) proposes:

- $1.085 Billion Cuts to California Community Colleges
- Fee Increases from $26 to $66 Per Unit
- $1.2 billion over three years.

A look at the recent history of community college budget reductions shows that in the last two years, California has cut the system’s budget by more than $840 million. Add to that the governor’s proposed $400 million cut (if the tax extension proposal passes) and the amount rises to $1.2 billion over three years.

The reductions lead to non-admission in 2010 of more than 150,000 students, with expectations of another 350,000 who will be turned away in 2011. The picture is not promising for a state with a more than 12% unemployment rate.

Effect on Peralta Colleges.

In the best case scenario, Peralta colleges will face an approximate $8 million-plus budget reduction.

(see p. 4, column 2)
Did you know?

Spring Break takes place Apr. 18-24?

Thur., May 19, is Malcolm X’s birthday observance?

Sat., May 21 thru Fri., May 27, is Final Exam Week?

BCC’s 2011 Commencement is 7 p.m., Wed., May 25 at UC’s Zellerbach Hall Auditorium?

Summer classes begin Mon., June 20?

President’s Message

by Dr. Betty Inclan

I wish to begin by emphasizing the contributions of the advisory committee for the President’s Circle. Members include Gene Agress, John Caner, Alan Davis, Jonathan DeYoe, David Kent, Soheyl Modarressi, and Lan Shaw. This outstanding group of committed individuals enabled us to launch the President’s Circle, BCC’s official fund raising initiative which is designed to help sustain Berkeley City College in an era of economic challenge and dwindling resources.

Our newest President’s Circle member is Dr. Leon F. Litwack, UC Berkeley U.S. History Professor Emeritus. View the articles on pp. 6-7 in this issue which acknowledge our donors. BCC raised $28,850 at its Dec. 1, 2010 President’s Circle dinner.

New opportunities.

Those generous contributors have made it possible for:

• BCC’s Science and Biotechnology programs to purchase a nanodrop, which is an instrument that allows for the quick measurement of concentration of DNA, RNA, and protein;
• the Multimedia Arts Department to hire teaching assistants to help students master the content and use the various digital arts software programs; and
• the basic skills program to divide one basic skills class into two classes so that students can receive more individual attention.

Berkeley City College takes pride in transforming students’ lives. More importantly, we recognize that philanthropic support is essential to continue to provide quality of education to our community.

Budget news and implications.

As the spring semester progresses, the budget news from Sacramento can best be described as sobering. The state legislature, using the authority to pass a budget with a majority vote through Proposition 25, approved several elements of California’s 2011-2012 budget. Therefore, many of the provisions that we’ve discussed since Gov. Jerry Brown released his budget proposal in January are now realities. These include:

• a $400 million cut to the base as part of a workload reduction;
• a $10 increase for student fees from $26 a unit to $36 a unit;
• a rejection of the proposal for 1.9% in growth; and
• a new inter-year deferral of $129 million.

While the legislature approved this budget, it still contains two major assumptions:

• the elimination of redevelopment agencies which would save $1.7 billion; and
• the Governor’s revenue initiative must reach the ballot and be approved by voters.

If the tax extension initiative does not reach the ballot or if voters decline to approve it, community colleges will experience more devastating budget cuts. The impact of this budget scenario could signify up to a $21 million budget reduction for Peralta.

Amidst this backdrop of unsettling budget news, we must continue to advocate for community college funding. I truly appreciate those of you who have organized our Teach In’s so that our students, faculty, and staff can mobilize to protest these draconian budget actions. I also wish to acknowledge our students’, faculty, staff, and organizers’ unwavering dedication. They participated in the March 14 demonstration in Sacramento and were collectively vocal in their opposition to the proposed cuts to education.

It is equally important to relay our message to our communities. Chancellor Allen clearly outlined budget consequences for Peralta to a group of community members at a recent Berkeley Breakfast Club meeting. We must continue to reassert that our colleges are a beacon of light, that they continually transform students’ lives and contribute significantly to improving our recovering economy, especially at a time of increased demand for education and retraining from those who are unemployed.

Focus on student success.

I will close by acknowledging the impact of BCC’s $2 million, five-year, Title III grant on improving classroom practices and student success. In the second year of this grant, our faculty and staff have integrated best practices in instruction and student services. I was moved when I attended the Title III Open House in March where faculty and staff discussed:

• the role of faculty inquiry groups designed to improve teaching and develop mentoring opportunities for faculty;

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Shirley E. Fogarino ............... Editor
Dr. Betty Inclan ............... President

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

(see p. 12, column 2)
Chancellor Wise Allen answers questions about how prospective budget cuts will effect Peralta colleges

Dr. Wise E. Allen, Chancellor of the Peralta Community College District, addressed an audience of more than 150 students, faculty, and staff on Tue., Mar. 1, in Berkeley City College’s auditorium. In his report, Dr. Allen presented several budget scenarios for substantial cuts (up to $21 million) to Peralta Colleges classes, programs, and services. Information presented by Dr. Allen is reprinted here in question-and-answer format.

Q. Why must California and the Peralta Colleges prepare for serious budget reductions?

A. The Peralta Colleges and the California Community College system is facing unprecedented budget challenges. Governor Jerry Brown proposed an $8.5 billion statewide budget reduction which includes education, social services, transportation and other public services. To accomplish this best possible scenario for the 2011-12 fiscal year, existing tax increases that expire in June must be extended five more years. Gov. Brown needs five Republican votes to place this proposition on the June ballot. If the proposition does not make it to the June ballot or, if it does reach the voters and they vote against it, $12.9 billion must reduce its budget by an additional $12.9 billion in the worst possible scenario in 2011-12, the District will face $30 million in cuts for a 12 month period. That is huge and unprecedented.

Q. Why is Peralta’s share of budget reductions so large?

A. Peralta Colleges admitted 3,000 students above what the state said they would pay for. Each full time student represents $4,800 from the state. Peralta was not paid for those 3,000 extra students and was required to take money from its reserve to pay for them because we were not reimbursed by the state. California also decided to change the enrollment cap mid year in 2010; thus, the state will now pay for no more than 19,050 Full Time Equivalent Students (FTES) in Peralta. (Note: One FTES is equivalent to 15 semester units.)

Q. What are some of California’s proposals to reduce funding for community colleges?

A. Recently, the state’s Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO) recommended a number of ways to eliminate funding for community colleges. For example, state legislators put forward a proposal to change community college Census Dates to late in the semester instead of after the first two weeks of class, which is now the practice. Thus, colleges would not have been paid for the students who enrolled for class but dropped out after the first two weeks. Fortunately, it appears that community colleges and their supporters defeated that proposal. Even so, there are several more budget scenarios:

- In the best case scenario, under the governor’s proposal, tuition will increase from $26 to $36 per unit.
- The Legislative Analyst’s Office proposes fee increase to $36 per unit if voters do not pass the tax extension proposals.

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- In the best case scenario, under the governor’s proposal, tuition will increase from $26 to $36 per unit.
- The Legislative Analyst’s Office proposes fee increase to $36 per unit if voters do not pass the tax extension proposals.

(see p. 8, column 2)
Colombian Peace Leader Jesús Emilio Tuberquia, a founding member of the San Jose Peace Community located in North Colombia, speaks at Berkeley City College’s auditorium this evening at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Tuberquia and his Colombian community claimed their territory as a neutral civilian area. They refused to cooperate with all armed groups, including the military. The community survived threats, killings, massacres, disappearances and flood blockades including those by the U.S.-funded Colombian army. Despite this violence, Tuberquia and the Peace Community built a nonviolent center of resistance as an alternative to the war around them.

Part of BCC’s Sorrows of War/Struggles for Peace series supported by the Jerry L. Adams Fund of the Berkeley Community Fund, the lecture is cosponsored by UC Berkeley’s Peace and Conflict Studies Department, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Peace Brigades International, Buddhist Peace Fellowship, and Berkeley City College.

Sign up for Cal Day Sat., Apr. 16

Cal Day is Saturday, Apr. 16 and Berkeley City College will have a booth there from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteers are needed for two-hour shifts. The event provides an excellent opportunity to promote your classes and programs. E-mail Shirley Foga-rino at sfogarino@peralta.edu if you wish to be there.
Jenny Lowood represents BCC at ACCJC/WASC Assessment Leadership Academy

Jenny Lowood, English Department Chair and Co-Chair with Dr. Hannah Chauvet of BCC’s Assessment Committee, was a delegate to an Assessment Leadership Academy sponsored by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Of the 31 representatives who attended the 10-month program, only seven represented community colleges. Others were from WASC senior (four-year) colleges and universities.

The academy trains assessment leaders throughout WASC’s United States’ western region, which includes California, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and the Marshall Islands. Workshop topics included data analysis; assessment principles; college development of a learning paradigm; assessment history, legislation and scholarship; program review and student affairs assessment; standardized testing and the future of assessment.

New trends.

“There is a growing trend toward paying more attention to assessment,” Lowood observed. “WASC has published standards for proficiency and assessment which will be a big part of higher education accreditation beginning in 2012.”

A key difference between four-year and two-year college assessments is that while four-year and community colleges must develop general and program assessment measures, two-year colleges have an added mandate of developing course assessment measures.

Data-driven planning.

“What WASC wants to see is a data-driven process,” she noted. “All decision making is data driven and comes out of assessment. At BCC, we engage in course, program and institutional assessment. Program assessment through program reviews must drive college budgeting and planning.”

At BCC, the first step was to educate the college community about the importance of using SLOs. Members of the college’s Assessment Committee and directors of a $2 million, five-year Title III grant are making possible BCC’s progress with assessment.

“Ultimately, all college student services and academic programs, and even administration, will undergo assessment” Lowood said. “We are required to show proficiency in program and course assessment the first ACCJC/WASC team visit after 2012.”

Accountability.

Assessment is influenced by a number of trends in education, including demand for accountability from the U.S. Department of Education and state agencies. “There is a national movement toward creating no child left behind standardized testing in higher education,” Lowood said. “The movement toward faculty driven assessment counters that; it is very important that we manage our own assessment and not have it taken over by nationalized testing. By developing college-based assessment, we can be sure that it will be meaningful and ensure what we want our students to learn.”

SLOs at BCC.

Berkeley City College first started developing SLOs under the late Dr. Craig Hadden, who was BCC’s Vice President of Instruction. He initiated a campus wide effort to create institutional learning outcomes. It placed BCC in an excellent position to create and assess SLOs.

“We should tip our hat to Craig Hadden,” Lowood said. “He was a strong leader and moved us in the right direction.”

Lowood notes that change is difficult for people. Many believe that initiatives involve top-down decision-making but as assessment started to permeate all BCC departments, people came to see that it actually is a bottom-up process that begins with faculty’s work with students.

Assessment introduction.

Both Lowood and Assessment Committee co-chair Chauvet have created an introductory assessment film linked to the assessment page on BCC’s web site. It covers most of the steps in a course assessment process. Another video about the student assessment process and counseling is being developed.

“Even though resources are diminishing, we still will be held to the new standards,” Lowood explained.

The Assessment Leadership Academy was conducted by a “Who’s Who” in higher education assessment. Workshop leaders included Dr. Mary Allen, noted author, educator and consultant on assessment and accreditation in higher education; Dr. Trudy Banta, President of the National Institute of Learning Outcomes Assessment; Dr. Barbara A. Beno, President, ACCJC/WASC; Dr. Amy Driscoll, associate senior scholar with the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching; Dr. Peter Ewell, Vice President for the National Center on Higher Education; John Tagg, Associate Professor of English at Palomar College; and Ralph Wolff, President of WASC Senior.

All have published seminal works in the field of teaching, learning and assessment in higher education.

(see p. 10, column 1)
President’s Circle donors raise $28,850 for BCC programs

Community leaders joined together to support Berkeley City College at the first inaugural President’s Circle Dinner in December. The event raised $28,850 for college programs.

Guests met at the College for a virtual tour and Hannah Chauvet’s “Building Community through Student Success” film.

Dinner at Alborz restaurant, hosted by Soheyl Mondarressi, followed. Featured dinner speakers included students Kristen Kayser, BCC graduate and now a junior and sociology major at UC Berkeley; and Esteem Brumfield, BCC student ambassador and student trustee on the Peralta Community College District’s Board.

Kristen noted that she is the first in her family to attend college and commented that, “Without BCC, I wouldn’t be who I am today.”

The President’s Circle supports four primary areas:
- Biotechnology and Bioscience
- Multimedia Arts
- Foundations for Success (Basic Skills)
- Opportunity Fund (Unrestricted Support)

“We hope to see the President’s Circle grow into a valuable fund raising resource for Berkeley City College,” said Dr. Betty Inclan.

In recent weeks, the faculty met with Dr. Inclan and agreed to use the initial proceeds to purchase new equipment for the college’s science labs, create an additional section of the basic skills classes in fall 2011, hire teaching assistants for the Multimedia Arts Program, and reserve the balance of monies in the Opportunity Fund.

All totaled, donations to the college’s Bioscience/Biotechnology Program topped $7,200; more than $8,500 was raised for BCC’s Multimedia Arts Program; and $5,000 was contributed to BCC’s Foundations for Success. The remainder of the funds are unrestricted.

“In the face of unprecedented state budget reductions to community colleges, this support could not have come at a better time,” noted Dr. Betty Inclan, president of Berkeley City College. “The funds will go a long way to sustain BCC programs and classes which otherwise would have been more drastically reduced.”

To support Berkeley City College, go to www.berkeleycitycollege.edu and access the President’s Circle.

Parcher’s research: Focus on Parkinson’s Disease

Ben Parcher is a recipient of a CIRM stem cell research internship at UCSF’s Department of Bioengineering and Therapeutic Sciences

Ben Parcher, on his way to earning a degree in biotechnology with an emphasis in stem cell research, also is one of the first recipients of the college’s California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) stem cell research internship with UCSF’s Department of Bioengineering and Therapeutic Sciences. His research focuses on cures for Parkinson’s Disease.

The position was made possible by a 2010 BCC $1,093,500 grant from CIRM’s Bridges Program. Other 2011 BCC-CIRM interns are Robyn Wong and Ranjani Lakshmin, both at UCSF laboratories, and Yingzhan Li and Alexandra Lee-Goldman who are at UC Berkeley and Children’s Hospital’s Oakland’s Research Institute, respectively. Li and Parcher, receive A.S. degrees in Biotechnology in May.

First-hand knowledge.

Interns learn first-hand how researchers and scientists work. They also complete advanced training as they work with stem cells and receive a certificate in their specialty. They also are exposed to scientific, ethical and legal aspects of stem cell research. Participants must complete specific biotech coursework at BCC.

CIRM was established in 2004 with the passage of Prop. 71, the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Act. The ballot measure provided $3 billion for stem cell research at California universities and other institutions. It established CIRM to make grants and provide loans for stem cell research.

Over three years, 21 BCC students will have an opportunity to serve in nine-month laboratory internships with Childrens Hospital Oakland Research Institute (CHORI) and UC Berkeley, and UC San Francisco.

Parcher presented an overview of his work at a Mar. 15 Peralta Trustees meeting held at BCC.
BCC gratefully acknowledges contributors, President’s Circle Advisory Council members

Berkeley City College’s President’s Circle gratefully acknowledges the contributions of our charter members and donors. Their generosity helped to fund several major BCC programs: Biotechnology/Bioscience, Foundations for Success and Multimedia Arts.

Champions
- Soheyl Modarressi

Advocates
- Steven and Michael Goldin
- Linda Schacht & John Gage

Mentors
- Denny Abrhams
- John and Polly Armstrong
- Mark and Sue Burger
- John Caner
- Laurie Capitelli
- Dr. May Chen
- Jonathan DeYoe
- Dr. Ione Elioff
- Dr. Betty Inclan
- Meyer Sound
- Lan and Curtis Shaw

Friends
- Anonymous Donor
- Gene and Diep (Tran) Agress
- Direct Line Tele Response
- Sue and Jeff Brand
- Krista Johns, J.D.
- Dave and Margaret (Love) Kent
- Merideth Marschak
- Emily and Bill Marthinsen

A heartfelt thanks to BCC’s President’s Circle Advisory Council. Without their help and diligent support, our Dec. 1 fund raising efforts would not have been possible.

- Gene Agress, Chief Executive Officer
  Berkeley Mills
- John Caner, Executive Director
  Downtown Berkeley Association
- Alan Davis, Principal
  Starlight Investments, LLC
- Jonathan DeYoe, Owner
  DeYoe Wealth Management
- David Kent, Owner
  Berkeley Mills
- Dr. Leon F. Litwack
  Professor Emeritus of American History
  U.C. Berkeley
- Soheyl Modarressi, Developer
  The Oxcent Group
- Lan Shaw, Financial Advisor
  Edward Jones

Support “Hands Across California,” Sun., Apr. 17

Students, faculty, friends, families and neighbors are invited to join “Hands Across California,” a statewide event to support community colleges which will cross the paths of Berkeley City College and Laney College at 2 p.m., Sun., Apr. 17.

The event will literally join nearly all of the 112 community colleges in California in a vast 1.5 million person, 1,500 mile statewide human line stretching from San Diego through the Inland Empire and Central Valley past Sacramento in the North, over to Berkeley, Oakland, and San Francisco and down the coast through Los Angeles and Orange County, and back to San Diego to complete the circle.

Timely partnership.

The Foundation for California Community Colleges has partnered with Ken Kragen, architect of “We Are The World,” “Hands Across America,” and “NetAid,” to create a once-in-a-generation event bringing California together in support of community colleges and their students.

California’s community college system is the largest in the nation—112 colleges spanning the state and providing education and job training to nearly three million students every year. Yet every day, students struggle to pay for the cost of an education and face the difficult decision of giving up their educational dreams for lack of funds.

Unified voice.

Just a month before the 25th anniversary of the original “Hands Across America,” which saw 6.5 million Americans join hands from California to New York in a continuous line through 17 states, Hands Across California will create a unified statewide spectacle illustrating the impact of community colleges in the state, raise funds to benefit the California Community Colleges Scholarship Endowment, and create public awareness of the value of our colleges to their communities.

Twenty-five years ago, “Hands Across America” raised funds to combat hunger and homelessness. Access to education and job training is perhaps the single greatest deterrent to those conditions, and California’s community colleges are the one system of higher education in the state open to all who seek it. Read more about it and register at www.handsacrosscalifornia.org.
Anti-war activist Daniel Ellsberg will lead the audience in an examination of WikiLeaks and War at 7 p.m., Thur., Mar. 30 in BCC’s auditorium. The event, part of the college’s Sorrows of War/Struggles for Peace series, is free and open to the public.

Ellsberg was born in Chicago in 1931. After graduating from Harvard in 1952 with a B.A. summa cum laude in Economics, he studied for a year at King’s College, Cambridge University, on a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship. Between 1954 and 1957, Ellsberg spent three years in the U.S. Marine Corps, serving as rifle platoon leader, operations officer and rifle company commander.

Harvard fellowship.

From 1957 to 1959 he was a Junior Fellow in the Society of Fellows, Harvard University. He earned his Ph.D. in Economics at Harvard in 1962 with his thesis, “Risk, Ambiguity and Decision.” His research leading up to this dissertation—in particular his work on what has become known as the “Ellsberg Paradox”—is widely considered a landmark in decision theory and behavioral economics.

In 1959, Ellsberg became a strategic analyst at the RAND Corporation, and consultant to the Defense Department and the White House, specializing in problems of the command and control of nuclear weapons, nuclear war plans, and crisis decision-making.

Chancellor Wise Allen answers questions about prospective Peralta budget reductions

(from p. 3, column 1)

Q. In what areas will Peralta cut?
   A. Everything is on the table except FTES and faculty who produce the FTES. Areas in which to be cut have been identified. By the end of March, they will presented in detail. Everything is vulnerable to reductions, including the administration.

Q. What do these cuts mean for students?
   A. If the measure to extend taxes fails and if Peralta must drastically reduce its budget, the most economically disadvantaged students—those who are least sophisticated and do not understand how to approach or enter the system—will be left out. Those who know the system and know what they must do would seek out the information they need and register early. This group includes those students who would have gone into the UC or CSU systems, and now will enroll in community colleges.

   Peralta recently instituted a Wait List and removed the students who have not paid their fees. Those who have not paid their fees will continue to be removed from classes.

Q. What can people do to stop or change this situation?
   A. California’s community colleges will no longer serve the population that they have traditionally served at the prices that they have charged. This is the first phase of a plan to eliminate many students from the state’s community college system. Those who do not earn degrees will have a difficult time living in America and getting jobs without a higher education. The only way to stop this process is to get out and register, then vote.

   For the last 30 years at least, California community colleges always were underfunded. America has placed fewer resources into the most important area: education. Yet the system is expected to do everything with increasingly limited resources.

   Three years ago, California Community Colleges served 2.7 million students. Prop. 92 was placed on the state ballot five years ago but the UC system fought it and it failed. It was astounding that with all its 2.7 million students, the state’s community college system could not pass Prop. 92.

   Community college students must participate in the political process or the community college system as we know it in California no longer will exist. Our community college students are competing with students all around the world. So, encourage students to vote in the June election, participate and get involved.

Q. This tax measure is likely to not get to a vote; is there another plan to challenge the proposal?
   A. Sacramento noted that five Republicans must vote to put the tax extension measure on the ballot. If you have relatives or friends who are their constituents, get on the phone and tell them to support the measure. If colleges must shut down, it only harms students.

Q. What cuts will be made at the District Office? Thirty-two percent of Peralta’s total budget is going to the District. Why isn’t that going to the students?
   A. Our first priority is to ensure that faculty can teach their classes, then work on everything else. In terms of the District, the reason why it uses 32% is because some years back, there were four personnel offices, one at each college, and we consolidated those and eliminated all other positions into one office. Having centralized those and other offices at the District saves money. Last year, the District cut $1.8 million from its budget. The District will cut this year as well.

Q. Did you consider closing the International Students Office, the legal department and peralta.tv?
   A. These departments often are targeted but they are useful and cost effective. The International Students Office generates $8 million in revenue; as for the Legal Department, stop suing us and we won’t need the Legal Department, stop suing us and we won’t need

   The Legal Department, stop suing us and we won’t need

   Peralta recently instituted a Wait List and removed the students who have not paid their fees. Those who have not paid their fees will continue to be removed from classes.

Q. BCC has never gotten to a parity level with the other colleges in the district. What are the plans for parity for BCC?
   A. My direction to staff is to have BCC, College of Alameda, and Merritt look exactly the same. Since there will be no hiring, that means moving people around.

(see p. 9, column 1)
Chancellor asks students to be involved in political process to help community colleges

(from p. 8, column 3)

Q. How do you explain overspending the budget?
A. For the last several years, the District spent more than it was taking in. That has changed. We have cleaned the budget and closed the gap. We submitted a balanced budget on July 1, 2010 and created a 5% reserve which is required by the state. On July 1, 2011, we plan to cut another $21 million if necessary.

Q. Students are required to pay a medical fee so we can receive benefits, but would it be possible to have the administrative staff and faculty change their benefits?
A. Benefits must be negotiated with unions and are part of union contracts.

Q. Why are you not willing to cut administrative oversight? How can you not take a cut?
A. All Peralta administrators took a 5% cut and furlough days were instituted for all administrators and staff.

Q. Would you be willing to return to bear concerns and talk to us again?
A. Yes; of course.

Q. What is Peralta doing regarding Pell grants and cutting billions of dollars from these grants?
A. Lobbyists are working on our behalf, both at the state and the federal levels to avert decreases in funding for Pell grants and for state and federal financial aid.

Q. Given that we are facing significant cuts and benefits are under negotiation, if we have retirements and a hiring freeze in place, will we be able to get temporary help to continue services to students?
A. The District will do whatever is necessary to provide services to students. We will not shrink from our duty in this regard. If there is a dire need, people will be hired.

DAC stages Art House Gallery exhibit

A BCC’s Digital Arts Club exhibit is open now through June 15 at Berkeley’s Art House Gallery and Cultural Center, 2905 Shattuck Ave. The show features art by DAC members shown in the group’s new catalog. For exhibit hours, contact the gallery at (510) 523-3686.

Students plan May 3 opening of annual digital arts exhibit

Art and multimedia arts students who attend BCC are invited to enter their work for Scramble[d], an exhibit that will be staged in the Jerry L. Adams Art Gallery, 1st floor, from May 3-Aug. 24. The deadline to submit entries is Tue., Mar. 29. For details about how to enter work into the show, e-mail Liz Wiener at lizwiener@att.net.

The Hidden 1970s: Histories of Radicalism examined Wed., May 4

James Tracy and Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, contributors to The Hidden 1970s: Histories of Radicalism (Dan Berger, Editor, Rutgers, 2010) will present their work at 7 p.m., Wed., May 4, in the college’s auditorium on the ground floor as part of its spring “Readings Underground” lecture series. The event is free and open to the public.

For details, contact Dr. Laura Ruberto at lruberto@peralta.edu.

Art students at work on YMCA Teen Center mural

BCC art students are hard at work on a new mural at the YMCA Teen Center, corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Way and Center St. The project, lead by art instructor Juana Alicia Araiza, was conceptualized and created last fall by a team of BCC art majors. The group expect to complete the work by the end of the spring semester.
BCC Spanish classes helped Johnny Phan to provide valued community services.
“Take Charge, California!”: ASBCC hosts 2nd annual consumer advocacy event

Alameda County residents were invited to empower themselves by understanding consumer resources available to them at “Take Charge, California!” The event took place at 6:30 p.m., Wed., Mar. 16. It was its second year at BCC. Sponsored by the Alameda County Consumer Affairs Commission and the Associated Students of Berkeley City College (ASBCC), it focused on the many consumer protection resources available to county residents. Also featured were presentations on how consumers could protect themselves against identity theft, shoddy construction practices, and other related topics. For a full report, access Peralta’s p-span channel at pspanperalta.blogspot.com.

Berkeley Rep stages play by BCC English instructor Robyn Brooks

A play by BCC English instructor Robyn Brooks, was staged Mon., Mar. 21, at the Berkeley Repertory Theater. Brooks is part of PlayGround, a 36-member writers group. Approximately 30 members submit 10-page scripts to the Rep each month and of those, six of the 10 to 15 minute plays are chosen.

PlayGround’s script-in-hand performance format is directed by Bay Area directors and performed by a company of top local actors. Most are members of the Actors’ Equity Association. The group is considered the leading incubator of new, original plays by Bay Area writers.

Congratulations, Robyn!

BCC alum chosen as CGI U delegate

New language.
Because of the many Latino patients visiting the clinic, Phan decided in earnest to learn Spanish and registered at Berkeley City College.

“I enrolled in a summer Spanish 1A class taught by Dr. Ann McCormick, then in fall took Spanish 1B with Byron Barahona and Spanish 35, a conversational class, taught by Cynthia Barlow,” he said. “I mention their names because they helped me to greatly improve my use and comprehension of the language so that I could better serve people who come to the clinic. Now, I’m immersed in Spanish and Vietnamese and I’m better able to serve our community. It was the Spanish faculty at Berkeley City College who taught me the fundamentals and I’ll always remember that.”

Unique honor.
He is honored to be a CGI U participant. “There are thousands of people who apply to get in and it’s a huge honor to be selected,” he noted. “I just do my job at the clinic and never thought anyone would notice me doing something like that. To be part of something bigger than myself and maybe getting to meet a former President; it’s a huge honor.”

Oakland’s Hep B Project, where Phan was clinic coordinator, holds free Hepatitis B screenings from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays at 2501 International Blvd., Oakland, and 10-11:20 a.m., Saturdays at 818 Webster, Oakland, phone (510) 859-4372. Visit their Web site at hepbproject.wordpress.com or e-mail hepbproject@gmail.com. You can check out Clinton Global Initiative University at www.cgiu.org.

Multimedia Arts’ Lee Marrs attains tenure

Lee Marrs, chair of Berkeley City College’s Multimedia Arts Department and coordinator of its Animation major, has attained tenure. She joined BCC as a permanent faculty member in 2007.

Congratulations, Lee!
**BCC April Calendar**

- **Mon., Mar. 28**
  7 p.m., Colombian Peace Leader Jesus Emilio Tuberquia, BCC Auditorium
- **Wed., Mar. 30**
  7 p.m., Daniel Ellsberg on WikiLeaks, BCC Auditorium
- **Thur., Mar. 31**
  Noon-1 p.m., BSU, Rm. 451A
  3-5 p.m., Student Services, Rm. 451A
  5-6 p.m., BSU, Rm. 451A
- **Fri., Apr. 1**
  3-5 p.m., Fin. Aid Workshop, Rm. 451A
- **Mon., Apr. 4**
  10-11 a.m., EOPS, Rm. 451A
- **Tue., Apr. 5**
  Noon-3 p.m., SEIU, Rm. 451B
  2-3:30 p.m., Student Services, Rm. 451A
- **Wed., Apr. 6**
  9:30-11:30 a.m., Leadership, Rm. 451A
  Noon-1:30 p.m., Academic Senate, Rm. 451A
  Noon-1 p.m., Stu. Ambassadors, Rm. 451B
- **Thu., Apr. 7**
  Noon-1 p.m., BSU, Rm. 451A
  5-6 p.m., BSU, Rm. 451A
- **Fri., Apr. 8**
  12:30-2:30 p.m., ASBCC, Rm. 451A
- **Mon., Apr. 11**
  8 a.m.-5 p.m., Accreditation Team, Rm. 451B
  1-2 p.m., EOPS, Rm. 451A
- **Tue., Apr. 12**
  8 a.m.-5 p.m., Accreditation Team
  Follow-Up, Rm. 451B
- **Wed., Apr. 13**
  Noon-1 p.m., Stu. Ambassadors, Rm. 451B
- **Thu., Apr. 14**
  8:30-10 a.m., BUS/CIS, Rm. 451A
  Noon-1 p.m., BSU, Rm. 451A
  3-5 p.m., Student Services, Rm. 451A
  5-6 p.m., BSU, Rm. 451A
  7 p.m., Clifton Ross, Translations from Silence, 3rd Fl. Teaching/Learning Center
- **Fri., Apr. 15**
  12:30-2:30 p.m., ASBCC, Rm. 451A
  1-2 p.m., CTE, Rm. 451A
  2-4 p.m., Dept. Chairs, Rm. 451A&B
- **Sat., Apr. 16**
  8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., BCC at Cal Day
- **Apr. Mon., Apr. 18-Sun., Apr. 24**
  Spring Break

**President’s Message**

(from p. 2, column 2)

- the impact of the Teaching/Learning Center;
- plans for a First Year College Experience; and
- identification of collaborative strategies between instruction and student services.

Equally important, our faculty demonstrated a commitment to learning outcomes, assessment, and the significance of closing the assessment loop to incorporate needed pedagogical changes or to identify resources necessary to improve teaching and learning.

I wish to recognize the faculty and staff who participated in the Title III Open House: Esther Aida, Joan Berezin, Marilyn Clausen, Paula Coil, Sylvia Espinosa, Matt Freeman, Eric Gerlach, Dr. Nola Hadley Torres, Scott Hoshida, Krista Johns, J.D., Katie Koelle, Chris Lebo-Planas, Lee Marrs, Stephanie Sanders-Badt, Fatima Shah, Cleavon Smith, Cara Statucki, Terry Tricomi, Hermia Yam, and Allene H. Young. I was truly inspired by their unwavering dedication to student success. Let us continue the momentum for integrating these innovative practices into our college community. BCC has a tradition of entrepreneurship and innovation, so I am confident that this year Title III will continue to shine.

I want to wish faculty and students a restful spring break. We will continue to stay focused on and committed to student success, even in the face of these challenging economic times.

With appreciation,

Dr. Betty S. Inclan, President

**Ellsberg speaks on WikiLeaks and War**

(from p. 8, column 1)

*Government service.*

In 1961 he drafted the guidance from Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara to the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the operational plans for general nuclear war. He was a member of two of the three working groups reporting to the Executive Committee of the National Security Council (EXCOM) during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962.

Ellsberg joined the Defense Department in 1964 as Special Assistant to Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs) John McNaughton, working on the escalation of the war in Vietnam. He transferred to the State Department in 1965 to serve two years at the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, evaluating pacification in the field.

On return to the RAND Corporation in 1967, Ellsberg worked on the top secret McNamara study of U.S. Decision-making in Vietnam, 1945-68, which later came to be known as the Pentagon Papers. In 1969, he photocopied the 7,000 page study and gave it to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; in 1971 he gave it to the New York Times, the Washington Post and 17 other newspapers. His trial, on twelve felony counts posing a possible sentence of 115 years, was dismissed in 1973 on grounds of governmental misconduct against him, which led to the convictions of several White House aides and figured in the impeachment proceedings against President Nixon.

*Noted author.*

Ellsberg is the author of three books: Papers on the War (1971), Secrets: A Memoir of Vietnam and the Pentagon Papers (2002), and Risk, Ambiguity and Decision (2001). In December 2006 he was awarded the 2006 Right Livelihood Award, known as the “Alternative Nobel Prize,” in Stockholm, Sweden, “...for putting peace and truth first, at considerable personal risk, and dedicating his life to inspiring others to follow his example.”

He was the subject of a “The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers,” a 2010 Oscar nominated documentary, co-produced by Judith Ehrlich, BCC Multimedia Arts Instructor.

The event is sponsored by the Jerry L. Adams Fund of the Berkeley Community Fund.