Dr. Debbie Budd has been named president of Berkeley City College, Chancellor José M. Ortiz announced. She has served as BCC’s interim president since June 2012. Prior to her appointment last summer as the college’s interim president, she served as vice chancellor of educational services for the Peralta Community College District, which includes Berkeley City College, Laney College, Merritt College, and College of Alameda. Budd has more than 25 years of experience in the field of education. BCC’s college community extends congratulations to President Budd.

BCC’s third annual President’s Circle Dinner held Mon., Dec. 3, at Alborz Restaurant in downtown Berkeley, raised more than $11,000 for Berkeley City College. The money will be used to help assist programs such as Basic Skills, Biotechnology and Multimedia Arts, as well as for special college needs, innovation and scholarships. The event featured presentations by Peralta Chancellor José M. Ortiz; Dr. Debbie Budd, president of BCC; Soheyl Modarressi, of Oxcent Development Group, an event sponsor; John Caner, executive director of the Downtown Berkeley Association; Rachel Simpson, BCC multimedia arts instructor; Matt Freeman, BCC political science instructor; BCC student ambassador Kristophe Green; BCC alumna Adena Ishii, now a senior at UC Berkeley’s Haas School of Business; and Multimedia Arts student Masaya Tamegai. The students told the audience about their experiences at BCC and how the college had changed their lives. All told, President’s Circle dinners have raised more than $50,000 for the college and its programs.

Berkeley City College PERSIST coordinator Chris Lebo-Planas and BCC’s Green Career Pathways (GCP) cohort on Fri., Dec. 7 visited Jeff Selk’s 7th grade AVID classroom at Berkeley’s Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School. BCC cohort students shared their Multimedia presentations about Waste, Water and Energy, then fielded questions from 25 engaged middle schoolers about environmental justice. Presenters also answered technical questions about how they created their PowerPoint slides.

BCC’s presenters were about to finish their first semester at the college. They also worked afternoons in paid internships to prepare them for a certificate pathway or entry-level employment in a green career. Students who complete BCC’s program develop and lead community multimedia presentations for middle school students on basic principles of environmental literacy and on prospects for employment in the green economy. Special thanks to Sabrina Nelson, multimedia arts instructor and Esther Suarez, instructor for ROOTS of Success, for their dedication to the project.

Green Career Pathways is a collaboration with Rising Sun and Solar Richmond, two of BCC’s community partners. BCC’s program is funded through a CTE Community Collaborative grant from the State Chancellor’s Office of the California Community Colleges. The college’s community partners also receive grant funds. Both leverage resources to support Green Career Pathways. Want to know more? Contact Chris Lebo-Planas, PERSIST/Green Career Pathways coordinator and English instructor at: aleboplanas@peralta.edu or by phone at 510-207-7424.

Congratulations to alumna Yolanda Young, who has officially joined BCC’s Bursar’s Office as a full-time accounting clerk. Yolanda earned two associate degrees in business and liberal arts from BCC while working part-time as a student worker in that office for four years. BCC extends a warm welcome to Wendy Franklin, who recently joined the college as its DSPS/PSSD coordinator/counselor. Fluent in both Spanish and English, her background includes counseling, coordinating services and managing budgets. She earned her B.A. in economics and a M.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling from San Francisco State University.
Despite some stormy weather, more than 65 high school students and their parents attended a Berkeley City College Orientation (BCCO), Sat., Dec. 1 in the college’s auditorium. Both parents and students praised the event for providing useful and informative tools for getting into college. BCC will hold a similar, more expansive orientation in spring 2013.

Flex Days begin on Wed., Jan. 16 at Berkeley City College and Gabe Winer, Teaching-Learning Center (TLC) coordinator, has asked that BCC faculty and staff submit professional development ideas for Flex Day workshops. “Making Learning Visible” is the theme for spring 2013. Here are some highlights for BCC’s professional development sessions:

- BCC’s All-College Meeting begins at 8:30 a.m., Thur., Jan. 17, in the auditorium. The session will include an action-packed presentation from Special Projects and the TLC. On Thursday afternoon, department and program meetings are scheduled and include an extended Roundtable meeting which begins at 3:30 p.m.

- On Fri., Jan. 18, several workshops centered on the “Making College Visible” theme will each serve as the first half of a DART (Discuss-Apply-Reflect Tools) two-part sequence. It is designed to get research-supported, student-centered, effective practices into action in and outside of BCC classrooms. Thus, participants can attend a one-hour meeting on Fri., Jan. 18 as part of Flex Day, and receive professional development credit. They then can choose to try what they have learned for a few weeks in their classes, then return to a second February DART session to share and reflect on how the practice worked. Small stipends are available for those who return and contribute to the meeting.

Besides these workshops, other suggestions are welcome. Please reply to Gabrielle Winer (gwiner@peralta.edu) with the following information if you wish to lead a workshop:

1. Your name, department/area, and preferred method of contact.
2. Your workshop title and a brief description.
3. Your available time window(s) between 9 and 5 on Friday January 18.
4. Any special accommodations or room needs.
5. Are you at all interested in making your workshop into a two-part DART sequence, in January or later in the semester?

For details, visit BCC’s Teaching and Learning Center website at: http://www.berkeleycitycollege.edu/wp/teaching-and-learning/collaborative-faculty-and-staff-development-programs-at-the-tlc/spring-darts/.

Berkeley City College’s PERSIST Program faculty and students presented their social justice research project on Wed., Dec. 6 in BCC’s Allston Way Annex. PERSIST’s social justice research class allows students to select a social justice theme, then use primary research methodology as part of their presentations. English instructor Chris Lebo-Planas directs the PERSIST Program.

Berkeley City College, College of Alameda, Laney College and Merritt College are closed for Winter Break from Mon., Dec, 24 through Tue., Jan. 1. The college reopens on Wed., Jan. 2. Happy holidays to all.

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Berkeley City College Jan. 7-25 Calendar

- **Mon., Jan. 7** — 5:15-6:45 p.m., PACE, Rm. 451A&B
- **Wed., Jan. 9** — 5:15-6:45 p.m., PACE, Rm. 451A&B
- **Tue., Jan. 15** — 5:15-6:45 p.m., PACE, Rm. 451A&B
- **Wed., Jan. 16-Fri., Jan. 18** — Flex Days: Professional Development Workshops
- **Thur., Jan. 17** — 5:15-6:45 p.m., PACE, Rm. 451A&B
- **Fri., Jan. 25** — 1-2 p.m., Facilities Meet, Rm. 451A