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2015-16 introduces new goals for student success initiatives, planning

Berkeley City College’s faculty, staff and administration will continue to work toward developing and attaining a variety of important goals for the 2015-16 academic year. The college’s primary focus will be on Student Success, Support and Closing the Achievement/Education Gap; College Planning Processes; and developing the Berkeley Promise. A brief summary of these goals is presented here and includes:

Student Success, Support and Closing the Achievement/Education Gap

• Close the education gap by measuring and documenting increased success of African American and Latino Students in successful course completion and transfer to UC.

• Increase college’s CSU transfer for all students, while also increasing UC transfers.

• Increase degree and certificate completion for all groups.

• Ensure BCC is first in the percent of transfers to UC Berkeley.

• Increase successful course completion in Mathematics classes (particularly Math 13 and Math 13 prerequisite) for all students.

• Create a seamless process of registration and transcript evaluation for assessment and enrollment into a pathway for college majors.

• Ensure that the academic advising module is readily used and is available for all BCC students to map their path.

• Ensure Multiple Measures of Assessment are used for entry into English and Math, and ultimately reduce students’ need to take assessment tests.

• Create a strategic schedule where students are able to see clear academic pathways to increase their success.

• Exceed 64.5% successful course completion rate for all students.

College Planning Processes

• Develop architectural plans for BCC’s new building through the college’s Milvia Building User Group.

• Complete all 2015 Program Reviews and the Educational Master Plan.

(see p. 9, column 3)
Did you know?

Mon., Sept. 14 is the last day for students to file for a Pass/No Pass option for their classes?

BCC’s new 2015-17 catalog is available online in Flip Book and PDF formats and as hard copies in Rm. 111A?

The MSRI/BCC fall lecture series begins Wed., Sept. 16 with, “Internet Voting: Wishful Thinking?”

The second MSRI/BCC fall lecture, “To Infinity and Beyond: The Math and Science Behind Pixar Films” is set for 6:30 p.m., Wed., Oct. 21?

President’s Message

by Dr. Deborah Budd

Welcome to fall 2016. The year will introduce several important milestones for Berkeley City College. All initiatives undertaken during the 2015-16 academic year will focus on strengthening academic programs and student services to close the student achievement gap. We can create seamless program/service integration, from registration through graduation, that ensures that all who attend Berkeley City College reach their educational goals. How we plan this largely depends on your participation and on our Shared Governance processes which must involve faculty, staff, students and administrators.

Implementation of Berkeley City College’s Student Equity Plan

Berkeley City College’s Student Equity Plan will go a long way to help us provide academic support and services to ensure that all of our students stay connected, directed, engaged, focused, nurtured and valued as they pursue college degrees, occupational training and transfer opportunities. “Campus Life Office focuses on student support, empowerment” (see p. 10 in this issue of BCC Today) illustrates how we all can help to foster student success.

Note that our primary focus for the next 10 years is to integrate BCC’s Student Equity Plan, its Student Success and Support Plan and its Education Master Plan to make sure that all of our students succeed. Whether you are a faculty member, staff member, student or administrator, your involvement, collaboration and commitment will continue to transform students’ lives. BCC’s Fund for Innovation, made possible by a 2012 Peralta Parcel tax, has assisted with past projects that include BCC’s Veteran’s Center, tutors for online courses, and the Dreamer’s Center, to name a few.

New Faculty, Staff Provide Sought After Services

Over the past three years, BCC has added 28 new faculty positions, bringing the total to 49 instructional and 17 non-instructional faculty members. Our latest faculty and staff additions are featured in this issue of BCC Today. They will help to guide and nurture our students as they strive to reach their goals.

A New Building for Berkeley City College

We all know that Berkeley City College’s rapid growth in student population as well as an increasing number of faculty and staff requires that we find more space. In spring 2015, The Peralta Community College District’s Board of Trustees voted unanimously to purchase 2118 Milvia St., a property located on the northwest corner of Center and Milvia Sts., less than one-half block from our downtown Berkeley campus. The space will provide much-needed office and classroom space to accommodate our growth. Shirley Slaughter, Director of Business and Administrative Services, and Tram Vo Kumamoto, Vice President of Instruction, will convene a Milvia Building User Group to develop ideas and work with the architects on use of the new site. Currently, it appears that we will be ready to move into the building in spring 2017.

Building Community Partnerships

One of our most dynamic community collaborations involves the City of Berkeley’s Office of Economic Development, its small business startups, and the college’s Cooperative Education Work Experience Program coordinated by Jayne Matthews, Business instructor. Last spring, more than 30 internships were opened for Berkeley City College students and many who applied for them were accepted. Participants were able to combine what they had learned at BCC with on-the-job experience. The program continues this fall with 30 more internships. Thank you to Jayne Matthews and Jennifer Cogley, Sustainable Business Coordinator for the City of Berkeley’s Office of Economic Development for working together to make possible this valuable program.

This fall, Berkeley City College also launches its third year lecture series collaborative with Berkeley’s Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI). We will host one lecture in September, another in October, and two more in spring 2016. On Wed., Sept. 16, Dr. Barbara Simons presents “Internet Voting: Wishful Thinking?” at 6:30 p.m. in BCC’s auditorium. On Wed., Oct. 21, Pixar’s Danielle Feinberg presents, “To Infinity and Beyond: The Math and Science Behind Pixar Films”, also in the college’s auditorium. Both lectures are free and open to the public, but to attend, you must reserve your seats. BCC’s successful collaboration with MSRI was made possible by the tireless efforts of Dean Antonio Barreiro and the MSRI team. We greatly appreciate their work in bringing these informative lectures to our community.

The Berkeley Promise

Finally, we will focus our attention this year and in the future on developing The Berkeley Promise, a new BCC initiative and fund raising campaign that will assure students who graduate from a Berkeley or area high school that costs for their first year as a student at Berkeley City College will be paid by either a Board of Governors (BOG) Fee Waiver or through BCC’s President’s Circle scholarships. This will create a legacy that will benefit our community now and for many future generations.

As BCC grows, strengthens and creates partnerships, programs and services, I am always aware that our ability to foster student success is because of what we accomplish together. Thank you for your work. Our students and our community are aware of and fully acknowledge and are grateful for what you do every day.

Sincerely,

Dr. Deborah Budd, President
Chancellor Jowel Laguerre, Mayor Tom Bates address BCC’s Aug. 20 Flex Day

More than 100 BCC faculty, staff and administrators attended the opening session for the college’s Flex Days, Thur. and Fri., Aug. 20 and 21.

Earlier in the week on Wed., Aug. 19, at a district wide Flex Day, the chancellor delivered “The NEW Peralta Way,” an address which pointed toward the importance of working together to accomplish our goals.

“We need to articulate what a truly educated student looks like, and put our individual ideas together to craft a shared vision of the genuinely educated individual,” he asserted. “This education should be grounded in democratic values, as well as social and racial justice.”

View Chancellor Laguerre’s full Flex Day address at http://bit.ly/FlexDayFall2015Stream; a PDF copy was e-mailed to all Peralta employees on Thur., Aug. 20.

BCC’s morning session also saw Dr. Deborah Budd, BCC President, welcome faculty members’ return for the fall semester. She provided an overview of the college’s progress and to its future goals.

“As part of closing the equity gap, we have done great work in hiring a diverse group of faculty,” she observed. “We’ve hired 28 new full-time faculty in the last three years and they mirror our diverse student body.”

CIS instructor Neil Dunlop authors 5th book

BCC data base wizard and CIS instructor Neil Dunlop soon will publish his 5th book.

In Beginning Big Data with Power BI and Excel 2013, students will learn to solve business problems by tapping the power of Microsoft’s Excel and Power BI to import data from NoSQL and SQL databases and other sources, create relational data models, and analyze business problems through sophisticated dashboards and data-driven maps.

“One of the fastest growing job areas is “Big Data” and Business Intelligence,” Dunlop said. “The ability to analyze and draw analytical conclusions from Big Data is a sought-after skill and an increasing number of organizational decisions are made based on this type of analysis.”

Congratulations, Neil.

BCC Classified Senate elects 2015-17 officers

BCC’s Classified Senate elected its 2015-17 officers this spring. The new officers are:
• Karen Shields, President
• Roberto Gonzalez, Vice President
• Theresa Rumjahn, Secretary/Treasurer

International Student office now in Rm. 151

BCC’s International Student Office has moved to Rm. 151. Thomas Torres-Gil will be on hand to answer questions and meet with the college’s international students from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays.

If you know students who may need assistance, refer them to:
Thomas Torres-Gil
International Program Manager
torresgil@peralta.edu
510-587-7835
**Funds available for innovative projects**

BCC’s Fund for Innovation, made possible by Measure B, a 2012 Peralta District Parcel Tax, provides money for innovative college projects.

As Berkeley City College completes program reviews and identifies more funding needs and innovative initiatives, funding will be made available to provide support. Past projects include:

- BCC’s Dreamers Center
- The Veterans Center
- Embedded Tutors for Online Courses
- New Grants
- New Community Partnerships through College Advisory Groups

For details, please contact Dr. Budd’s office through Cynthia Reese, executive assistant, at creese@peralta.edu.

**BCC Flex Days**

*(from p. 3, column 2)*

Dr. Budd and Tram Vo-Kumamoto, Vice President of Instruction, introduced new faculty and staff. Dr. Budd also reviewed a time line for development of BCC’s new site at 2118 Milvia St.

BCC now has 49 instructional and 17 non-instructional faculty members on staff.

Of the 28 recently hired, 13 hold doctoral degrees bringing the total who have Ph.D.s to 42% of BCC’s 66 total full-time faculty.

Of those instructors, 43% are white; 19% are Latino; 14% are African American; 19% are Asian; 1% is Native American and 4% are multiple race/ethnicity.

BCC Flex Days also included department meetings and a variety of workshops on topics such as how to develop Google forms, enrollment management and how to use Moodle, to name a few.

**New 2118 Milvia St. facility will provide much needed office, classroom space**

BCC soon will have more classroom space to better accommodate its growing student population, as well as offices for its faculty and staff. The Peralta Community College District’s Board of Trustees voted unanimously on Tue., Apr. 28 to purchase 2118 Milvia St., a property located on the northwest corner of Center and Milvia Sts. in downtown Berkeley, for $6,180,000. The site now houses the City of Berkeley’s Permit Service Center and other offices. Located one-half block from BCC’s main campus at 2050 Center St., the new facility will enable the college to provide expanded space for its academic and student services. More office, meeting and classroom space are included in the college’s renovation plans for the new facility, which is expected to open in spring or fall of 2017.

BCC will convene a Milvia Building User Group to develop criteria to share with the new building’s architect who will lead the facility’s renovation and design. BCC approved User Group representation in spring 2015 through its shared governance process. Group members will include faculty, staff, administrators and students. If you wish to be part of the user group, complete the Milvia User Group Interest Form at this link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1CBnFdfGuAcajnuyFq3YLpO6pmD5IX7yyqy7hEYljbQ/viewform?usp=send_form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1CBnFdfGuAcajnuyFq3YLpO6pmD5IX7yyqy7hEYljbQ/viewform?usp=send_form) or e-mail Vice President Kumamoto at tvokumamoto@peralta.edu.

Prospective student representatives will be contacted through the Office of Student Activities and Campus Life.

**College sets tentative timeline for expansion to 2118 Milvia St.**

Berkeley City College’s tentative time line for opening its new 2118 Milvia St. facility is:

- **Fall 2015** Milvia Building User Group, Identifies Priorities for Building
- **Fall 2015** Milvia Building User Group Works with Architects to Design Space for 2118 Milvia Street
- **Fall 2015** Plans Drawn
- **Jan. 2016** Plans Submitted to Department of State Architects (DSA) for Approval
- **April 2016** Plans Approved from DSA
- **May 2016** Approved Plans and Project Put Out to Bid for Contractors
- **June 2016** Contractors Selected and Approved by Peralta Board of Trustees
- **July 2016** Renovation and Construction Begin
- **January 2017** Earliest Possible Time to Occupy Building
- **June 2017** More Likely Time for Occupying Building
BCC welcomes new faculty members, staff and administrators who will share their expertise in a variety of disciplines and administrative areas.

BCC’s new permanent faculty are: Mary Clarke-Miller (Multimedia Arts); Jenny Gough (American Sign Language); Charlotte Lee (Political Science); Carolyn Martin (Art); Francisco Monsalve-Santa (Physics); and Jenny Yap (Library Information Systems). In counseling, new faculty include Skyler Barton; Denise Jones; Catherine Nichols; and Christina Taing. New administrators are: Dr. Diana Bajrami, interim Vice President of Student Services; Theresa Rowland, interim Dean of Academic Pathways, Workforce Development and Student Success; and Paula Coil, interim Director of Student Activities and Campus Life. Dr. May Chen has assumed the role of Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness.

New staff and position changes include Ramona Butler, who is interim coordinator of EOPS/CARE; John Saenz, Coordinator of BCC’s Jerry L. Adams Learning Resources Center; Natalia Fedorova, Coordinator, Science Department Labs; and Lisa Gwyn-Laigo, Staff Assistant, Office of Instruction.

Ms. Ramona Butler, Interim Coordinator, EOPS/CARE “Assisting EOPS students is important because it helps them get the extra services they need to be successful at BCC; finances are often their biggest worry but they also worry about being able to finish college and we help them to reach their goal.”

Ms. Butler is interim coordinator of Berkeley City College’s EOPS and CARE programs. She most recently was staff assistant to the college’s Dean of Student Services. She earned an A.A. degree from Vista Community College and a B.A. from California State University, East Bay.

Dr. Diana Bajrami, Interim Vice President of Student Services “I am honored and excited to be part of the BCC community and am committed to contributing to academic excellence and student success by being a great collaborator, team player, innovator and educational leader!”

Dr. Bajrami most recently served as a faculty member in College of Alameda’s Economics Department and coordinated the Alameda Promise, a student equity project there. She also teaches at California State University, Sacramento. Her professional background includes more than 20 years in higher education with a focus on institutional effectiveness coordination, student success leadership, and educational research. She holds a doctorate in educational leadership and an M.S. in social work from California State University, Sacramento; an M.S. in economics from Central European University, Budapest, Hungary; an M.S. in economics and management and a B.S. in economics from the University of Tirana, Tirana, Albania.

Mr. Skyler Barton, Counselor “As a proud native of Berkeley, I genuinely look forward to joining the passionate and dedicated team at Berkeley City College, where I aim to add to the positive energy and innovative work being orchestrated to support all students!”

Mr. Barton spent 11-years with the Berkeley Unified School District as an M.S. Athletic Director and a Berkeley High School college counselor. Mr. Barton holds an M.S. in Counseling and a Pupil Personnel Services Credential from San Francisco State University.

Dr. May Chen, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness

Dr. Chen will be responsible for institutional research, analysis, planning and evaluation of student success initiatives. She earned her B.A. in psychology from Chung Yuan University in Chung Li, Taiwan, an M.A. in psychology and counseling, and a doctorate in higher education from Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa.
BCC welcomes new faculty, staff and administrators
(from p. 5)

Ms. Mary Clarke-Miller, Multimedia Arts Instructor (Animation)
““I plan to rock out Multimedia’s Animation and Game Program!”
Ms. Clarke-Miller brings extensive industry experience to BCC in directing 3D Animation. In Ireland, she began her career animating “Pebble and the Penguin,” then moved stateside to Fox Animation Studios, where she directed 3D animation on “Anastasia,” “Bartok the Magnificent,” “Titan AE” and “Muppets: the Movie,” a video game. In higher education, Ms. Clarke-Miller worked as a Dean for the San Francisco Art Institute and as a K-12 teacher in Alameda. She holds a B.A. in Fine Art with honors from the University of Ulster at Belfast and a CTE teaching credential from San Jose State University.

Ms. Paula Coil, Interim Director of Student Activities and Campus Life
“As interim director, my goal is to help launch the new team of ASBCC leaders and support them in building good working relationships with each other; to support establishment of student clubs; and to help focus on building student empowerment. I want to expand the notion of student leadership and that every single person here is about helping students to build and reach their potential.”
Ms. Coil formerly was coordinator of Berkeley City College’s Transfer and Career Information Center. She holds a B.A. degree from Kalamazoo College in Michigan and an M.P.A. from California State University, East Bay.

Ms. Natalia Fedorovna, Coordinator, Science Department
“Science is an essential component of today’s society. I am very excited to contribute to the expansion of Berkeley City College’s Science Department and to offer students classes that fit their interests and education goals.”
Ms. Fedorovna has been with the Berkeley City College Science Department since 2013, coordinating day-to-day laboratory operations. Before that she worked at UC Berkeley and studied the molecular epidemiology of Lyme Disease in California. She has published eight papers and holds an M.S. in physics from St. Petersburg State University (Russia).

Ms. Lisa Gwyn Laigo, Staff Assistant, Office of Instruction
“My role in the Office of instruction allows me to provide instructional support to faculty, staff and students, all with the focus of promoting student success. The main reason I wanted to work at Berkeley City College was its mission to promote student success and transform lives. Helping students to strive for success and access to higher education is how I will make difference in this world.”
Ms. Gwyn-Laigo will provide administrative support in the college’s Office of Instruction. She holds an A.A. from City College of San Francisco, a B.A. from New College of California and an M.Ed. from Concordia University.

Dr. Jenny Gough, Instructor, American Sign Language
“I believe in students’ abilities to accomplish their dreams and personal goals; their lives have no limitations to achieving success.”
Dr. Gough hails from the East Bay Area and is an alumnae of the California School for the Deaf in Fremont. She brings over nine years of experience teaching ASL, Deaf Culture, History, and Deaf Education in various settings, including residential schools, a non-profit agency, and in colleges and universities. Besides teaching, she has coordinated a language institute and an online ASL program, has been an ASL specialist and rater, and has helped develop curriculum for ASL and interpreting programs. She holds a B.S. degree in Family and Child Studies from Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Deaf Studies and Deaf Education from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas.

(see p. 7)
BCC welcomes new faculty, staff and administrators

(from p. 6)

Ms. Denise Jones, Counselor

“As a returning student myself, I’m a major proponent of the lifelong learning that takes place at BCC and believe it is never too late for anyone to pursue education, improvement, and greater understanding.”

Ms. Jones continues with Berkeley City College’s counseling department after working there part-time for three years. She earned an M.A. in counseling and mental health services from the University of Pennsylvania in 2011. She also holds a B.A. in development studies from UC Berkeley.

Dr. Charlotte Lee, Instructor, Political Science

Prior to joining Berkeley City College, Dr. Charlotte Lee was an assistant professor in the Department of Government at Hamilton College (Clinton, N.Y.). From 2012 to 2014, she was Minerva Chair in the Department of Political Science at the U.S. Air Force Academy (Colorado Springs, CO), and a visiting assistant professor at Stanford’s Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center. She holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in political science from Stanford University and a B.A. in political economy and Asian studies from the UC Berkeley. She recently published the book, “Training the Party: Party Adaptation and Elite Training in Reform-Era China” (Cambridge University Press).

Ms. Carolyn Martin, Instructor, Art

“I look forward to establishing a long career at BCC, transforming lives through art education.”

Ms. Martin has taught and mentored BCC students for the past year as an instructor, student group advisor and member of the Planning and Budgeting Council. She also is a member of the College Art Association committee. Ms. Martin attended the San Francisco Art Institute and holds an M.F.A. in painting and an M.A. in the History and Theory of Contemporary Art.

Dr. Francisco J. Monsalve Santa, Physics Instructor

“I am happy to join BCC’s Science Department as a full-time faculty member. One of my goals is to make the physics classes at BCC entertaining, fun, and exciting for all students in our Peralta Community College District.”

Dr. Monsalve-Santa has been an adjunct instructor at Berkeley City College since fall 2012. He recently earned a Ph.D. in physics from UC Berkeley. “Testing Lorentz Invariance with a Birefringent Cavity,” his thesis topic, focused on applied theoretical aspects of physics as well as experimental atomic physics.

Ms. Catherine Nichols, Counselor

“I am passionate about creating access to education for everyone through providing the resources that they need for success.”

Ms. Nichols started her educational journey at Vista Community College in 2003 as a basic skills/adult learner (Vista became Berkeley City College in July 2006). She transferred to California State University, East Bay and graduated with a B.A. in psychology. She earned an M.A. degree in counseling psychology from Argosy University while working full time at Berkeley City College.

(see p. 8)
BCC welcomes new faculty, staff and administrators

(from p. 7)

Ms. Christina Taing, Counselor

“Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.”

Ms. Taing started her career as an Educational Talent Search Counselor (for TRiO) at UC Davis, and later joined Berkeley City College and Diablo Valley College as an adjunct counselor. She received a B.A. in psychology and biology from California State University, San Bernardino and an M.S. in counseling from San Francisco State University.

Mr. John Saenz, Coordinator, Jerry L. Adams Learning Resources Center

“I am very enthusiastic about collaborating with the academic community at Berkeley City College.”

Mr. Saenz has eight years’ experience developing programs for learning centers, leadership development planning, implementing instructional support and tutoring programs for math, English, ESOL, Communication Studies, TRiO, Supplemental Instruction (SI), and student life. He holds an M.F.A. and an M.A. in Writing and Consciousness from New College of California.

Ms. Jenny Yap, Librarian

“Through faculty collaboration, critical pedagogy practices, and library involvement in student equity initiatives, I hope to expand opportunities for all learners.”

Prior to becoming a librarian, Ms. Yap was a lecturer in English composition at California State University, East Bay. She holds a B.A. in anthropology from UC Berkeley, an M.A. in English from California State University, East Bay and an M.L.I.S. in Library and Information Science from San Jose State University.

Ms. Theresa Rowland, Interim Dean of Academic Pathways, Workforce Development and Student Success

“I look forward to building an optimum learning environment at Berkeley City College.”

Ms. Rowland has an extensive background as an administrator, faculty and staff member in California’s community colleges. She has served as Senior Director for Pathway Development of the Career Ladders Project; as Vice President of Economic Development at De Anza College; as District Dean for the Foothill–De Anza Community College District; as a classified staff member for Long Beach City College; and as a Counselor for Pasadena City College, San Diego City and Mesa Colleges. She holds an M.A. in Counselor Education from San Diego State University, a B.S. in Education from the University of Southern California, and is a doctoral student there.

Remind your students: UC TAG applications due Wed., Sept. 30

Remind your students that if they wish to participate in the UC system’s Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) Program, they must complete their TAG application by no later than Sept. 30, 2015. Students can use the link below to access UC’s TAG website and a three-step instruction panel on how to pursue TAG and the appropriate application links at the bottom of the TAG web page.

http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/transfer/guarantee/

Refer students to BCC’s Counseling Department, 2nd Floor or to BCC’s Transfer Center, 2nd Floor, Rm, 243, if they have questions or need more information about UC’s TAG Program.
Berkeley City College’s Business Department and Cooperative Education Work Experience Program collaborated with Jennifer Cogley, sustainable business coordinator for the City of Berkeley’s Office of Economic Development, to offer nearly 30 business, CIS and communications Cooperative Education Work Experience internships this summer. The positions were in a variety of business, nonprofit and government organizations. Sponsors included Bison Organic Beer; the City of Berkeley’s Civic Arts Commission; the City of Berkeley’s Office of Economic Development; SoundFit; DRToy; Kichange; RadiantBrands; Red Awning; Smart Bod; the City and County of San Francisco; Berkeley Chamber of Commerce; Ezra Construction; Give Something Back Office Supplies; and Matson Logistics.

BCC students Anuska Khawaunju (Bison Brewing Corp.), Alex Merenkov (City of Berkeley Office of Economic Development) and Betsy Rohney (SmartBod), related their experiences working for six weeks to three months for business and nonprofit organizations.

“I learned how to work in a very small organization where lots of responsibility was placed on you,” said Anuska Khawaunju.

“You learn to be very careful about what you put into your work,” she added.

With the support of coworkers, the BCC economics and finance major learned Intuit’s QuickBooks during her eight-week internship at Berkeley’s Bison Brewing Co.

Khawaunju, who immigrated to the United States from Nepal in 2013, noted that with knowledge and technical skills and the willingness to learn, a person “can do anything.”

“Before this internship, I only knew Excel but then found out that small businesses and nonprofits tend to use QuickBooks for their accounting,” she explained. “An internship helps you explore different facets of what you might want to do in the future.”

Alex Merenkov, a BCC web design major, had a somewhat different experience as an intern with the City of Berkeley’s Office of Economic Development (OED). “My focus was on helping the OED’s Startup Cluster Program connect with companies that wanted to list more than 150 jobs, and then list those positions online,” he said. “It turns out there are more than 350 startups in Berkeley and they all network with each other through Skydeck.”

Skydeck, UC a public research university accelerator program, gives Berkeley startups the opportunity to grow their businesses, and launch and compete with industry leaders.

Merenkov was able to learn about how things work in an office, how chains of command function, and about time management.

“The Civic Arts Commission also asked for my help,” he said. “I learned that amazing stuff is happening in Berkeley and it’s a force to be reckoned with when it comes to start ups; the UC campus is here so we are a center for innovation.”

A primary focus for 2015-16 is on closing the student achievement gap.

College focuses on 2015-16 goals
(from p. 1, column 2)

- Ensure completion of the college’s ACCJC follow up report with evidence of documentation of the assessment of our procedures and ensure proper publication and publicity; ensure the District addresses all of the deficiencies noted; and ensure all SLO recommendations are addressed.
- Increase partnerships with community, school districts, and businesses to enhance our fund raising capacity, student outreach and success, internship programs and Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathways programs.
- Ensure classrooms are used efficiently, large lectures are offered and break-out sessions/ labs are tied to the large lecture to ensure success.
- Meet Resident Enrollment Target of 4,500 FTES and Non-Resident Enrollment of 600 FTES for total FTES for BCC for 2015-16 of 5,100, while maintaining a productivity of at least 17.5.

The Berkeley Promise

- Strengthen the foundation for The Berkeley Promise; develop community and business partnerships for an ongoing Berkeley Promise fund raising campaign so that students from Berkeley feeder schools know that when they graduate from a Berkeley or area high school, the costs of their first year of college as a BCC student will be paid from either a Board of Governors (BOG) Fee Waiver or through BCC’s President’s Circle scholarships.

A primary focus for 2015-16 is on closing the student achievement gap.
Summer internships = valuable work experience
(from p. 9, column 2)

Merenkov considers it incredibly valuable for BCC to sustain and encourage networking between Berkeley companies, the college, and the City of Berkeley.

“I can know that what I learned is going to get people jobs,” he said.

BCC social sciences major Betsy Rohney interned at SmartBod, a Berkeley startup which develops women’s health products.

“I am a social media community manager, and definitely learned content strategy,” she explained. “I also worked on the newsletter and gathered subscriber input so that we can make products for people who are interested in them.”

BCC alumna Betsey Rhoney’s internship at Berkeley’s SmartBod lead to a permanent job as the company’s social media community manager.

During her internship, she realized the importance of understanding customers and working closely with SmartBod’s CEO. She has become the company’s first employee.

“They offered me a job right after my internship,” she said. “I am super thankful for the internship which allowed me to work in PR and marketing. I just graduated from BCC in May.”

BCC and the city’s Office of Economic Development plan to continue their collaboration this fall. For details about the program, contact Jayne Matthews at jmatthews@peralta.edu.

Campus Life Office focuses on student support, empowerment

During the 2015-16 academic year, BCC’s Office of Student Activities and Campus Life will focus on developing activities and structures to support and empower students. Paula Coil, BCC’s Interim Director of Student Activities and Campus Life, notes that all students are leaders and should develop their inherent skills to their full potential while at BCC.

“We want to expand the notion of student leadership and that every single person at BCC is about helping students to build their full potential,” she explained. “We will connect with staff people, faculty, and administrators who have worked with this department and who know its needs and we’ll conduct an assessment and analysis for future planning.”

California’s RP Group, a research and planning body which helps community colleges gather, analyze and act on information to advance student success, noted in a recent report that several factors contribute to college achievement. When more than 900 students were asked, as part of the group’s “Student Support (Re)defined” study, to identify them, six primary areas emerged. Students said that their college experience must be:

- **Directed.** Students must have a goal and know how to achieve it.
- **Focused.** Students need to stay on track, keeping their eyes on the prize.
- **Nurtured.** Students must feel that someone wants to and follows through with helping them to succeed.
- **Engaged.** Students must actively participate in class and extracurricular activities.
- **Connected.** Students need to feel part of the college community.
- **Valued.** Students’ skills, talents, abilities and experiences must be recognized and they must have opportunities to contribute on campus and feel that their contributions are appreciated.

Students also noted that everyone who works at a community college can help them experience the six success factors defined in the RP Group’s study. These include:

1. Ask students why they are in college. (Connects with Directed, Focused, Nurtured)
2. Help students navigate their way through the college’s different offices, programs and services. (Connects with Connected, Directed, Engaged)
3. Connect students with services or resources that can help them with career exploration, goal selection and ongoing academic assistance. (Connects with Directed, Engaged, Connected)
4. Have high expectations for students and hold them accountable. (Connects with Focused, Nurtured)
5. Ask students for feedback about their experience, including what works, what needs improvement and what’s missing. (Connects with Engaged, Valued)
6. Encourage participation in out-of-class activities. (Connects with Engaged)

(see p. 12, column 2)
MSRI/BCC present “Internet Voting: Wishful Thinking?”, 6:30 p.m., Wed., Sept. 16

“Internet Voting: Wishful Thinking?”, 6:30 p.m., Wed., Sept. 16 will address security threats to Internet voting. The presentation also will also touch on online voter registration, online ballot marking systems and computerized voting in general. The free and open to the public lecture takes place at Berkeley City College’s auditorium, 2050 Center St. between Shattuck Ave. & Milvia Sts. Reserve your place at http://www.msri.org/general_events/21556.

Public opinion, combined with appeals on behalf of voters with disabilities, have created strong pressure to adopt Internet voting. In the U.S. there is also concern about facilitating voting for members of the military and civilians living abroad. Consequently, Internet voting is currently being deployed in some states and considered by others. Similar patterns exist in other countries, such as Australia and Canada.

Dr. Barbara Simons, presenter, is a former President of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), the nation’s oldest and largest educational and scientific society for computing professionals. She is the only woman to have received the Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award from the College of Engineering at UC Berkeley, where she earned her Ph.D. in computer science. A fellow of ACM and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, she also received the Computing Research Association Distinguished Service Award and the Electronic Frontier Foundation Pioneer Award.

An expert on electronic voting, she published Broken Ballots: Will Your Vote Count?, a book on voting machines co-authored with Douglas Jones. She was appointed to the Board of Advisors of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 2008 by Sen. Harry Reid, and she co-authored the report that led to the cancellation of the U.S. Department of Defense’s Internet voting project (SERVE) in 2004 because of security concerns.

She co-authored “The Future of Voting: End-to-End Verifiable Internet Voting,” the July 2015 report of the U.S. Vote Foundation and is Board Chair of Verified Voting.

Her Sept. 16 presentation is part of the “Not on the Test: The Pleasures and Uses of Mathematics” series of four public lectures in 2015–16, which are jointly presented by the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) and Berkeley City College (BCC). They are made possible with funding from the Simons Foundation.


Faculty elect 2015-16 department chairs

BCC faculty have elected 2015-16 department chairs. They are:

• Art and Cultural Studies:
  Dr. Laura Ruberto and Jennifer Braman

• Business/CIS/Economics:
  Dr. Parmasothy Thananjeyan

• Counseling:
  Allene Hegler and Susan Troung

• English/ESL
  Jennifer Lowood and Gabrielle Winer

• Library
  Josh Boatright

• Mathematics:
  Kelly Pernell

• Multimedia Arts:
  Rachel Simpson

• Modern Languages:
  Dr. Fabian Banga

• Science
  Dr. Barbara Des Rochers and Dr. Siraj Omar

• Social Sciences
  Dr. Linda McAllister and Dr. Thomas Kies

Multimedia Arts students win $5,000 grant for comedic short film

During spring 2015, Rachel Mercy-Simpson, BCC Multimedia Arts Department Chair, inspired students in her internship class to develop a group film project and to apply for a grant from the Berkeley Film Foundation (BFF).

“I thought it would be good for all the students to learn the ropes of applying for funding so I supervised, edited and guided them through the application/grant process,” she explained. “They brainstormed together in class on how to do the pitch, hone their concept, decide what information was necessary to share, how to strengthen their story and how to create a budget.”

This collaborative process helped to demystify the fund raising process and their work proved successful. The group was awarded a $5,000 BFF grant for “The Surge,” a short comedic project written and animated by digital film students John Hyatt and directed by Dominic Stewart.

The funds helped pay for student stipends and other production costs. Students Steven Castro and Rosemary Jason helped produce and others in the class were part of the film crew.

Sabrina Nelson completes new open source textbook reviews

BCC English and Multimedia Arts instructor Sabrina L. Nelson recently completed a review of four new open source English 1A textbooks for California’s Open Educational Resources Council (CA-OER).

The council’s goal is to find high quality and free or low-cost open source textbooks for adoption in California’s community colleges and universities.

For details about CA-OER, visit: http://icas-ca.org/coerc
BCC Calendar

September 2015

- **Tue., Sept. 1—**
  12:30-1:30 p.m., BSU, Rm. 451A&B
  2:30-3:30 p.m., Student Services Council, Rm. 451A

- **Wed., Sept. 2—**
  9:30 a.m.-Noon, Student Equity, Rm. 451A&B
  12:15-1:15, Student Ambassadors, Rm. 451A
  12:30-1:20 p.m., Academic Senate, TLC, Rm. 341

- **Thur., Sept. 3—**
  12:30-1:20 p.m., Academic Senate, TLC, Rm. 341
  12:15-1:15 p.m., Student Ambassadors, Rm. 451A

- **Wed., Sept. 9—**
  12:30-1:30 p.m., BSU, Rms. 451A&B

- **Mon., Sept. 7—**
  Noon-2 p.m., CARE Orientation, Rms. 451B
  Noon-2 p.m., PIE Meeting, Rm. 451A

- **Thur., Sept. 10—**
  12:15-1:15 p.m., Student Ambassadors, Rm. TBA

- **Fri., Sept. 11—**
  3-4:30 p.m., Classified Senate, TLC, Rm. 341

- **Mon., Sept. 14—**
  10-11:30 a.m., Peralta Colleges Foundation Scholarship Workshop, Rm. 243
  12-1:30 p.m., Roundtable, Rms. 451A&B

- **Fri., Sept. 18—**
  Noon-3 p.m., ICT Meeting, Rms. 451A&B

- **Tue., Sept. 22—**
  9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., UC Berkeley Rep, Rm. 243

- **Wed., Sept. 23—**
  12:15-1:15 p.m., Student Ambassadors, Rm. 451A

- **Thur., Sept. 24—**
  10 a.m.-Noon, Curriculum/tech Review, Rm. 451A
  1:30-3:30 p.m., Department Chairs, Rm. 451A&B

- **Fri., Sept. 25—**
  1:30-4:30 p.m., Enrollment Mgmt. Wkshop, Rm. 451B
  10 a.m.-Noon, Curriculum/Tech Review, Rm. 451A

- **Mon., Sept. 28—**
  12-1:30 p.m., Roundtable, Rms. 451A&B

- **Tue., Sept. 29—**
  Noon-1:30 p.m., Brown Bag Lunch, Rms. 451A&B

- **Wed., Sept. 30—**
  9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., UC Berkeley Rep., Rm. 243
  12:15-1:15 p.m., Student Ambassadors, Rm. 451A
  12:30-1:20 p.m., Academic Senate, TLC, Rm. 341

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College adds new Economics Associate in Arts for Transfer Degree

Berkeley City College this summer added an Economics Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) Degree, bringing the college’s total number of Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) to 15. AA-T and AS-T degrees allow students to smoothly transfer to the California State University of their choice. They are guaranteed admission into their lower division major or to a similar major at the California State University. Earning an AA-T or AS-T degree also means extra points on their UC applications. BCC’s Associate in Science for Transfer degrees are in Business Administration and Mathematics; and Associate in Arts for Transfer degrees are in Anthropology, Art History, Communication Studies, Economics, Elementary Teacher Education, English, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish and Studio Arts. Let your students know about these excellent transfer opportunities.

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New BCC brochures, catalogs in Rm. 111A

New Berkeley City College general brochures and 2015-17 catalogs are located in Rm. 111A. BCC general brochures also are available with international student informational inserts. If your department or unit wants to use the publicaions for outreach projects or if you need a box of BCC catalogs, pick them up in Rm. 111A or contact Javier Lopez at jlopez@peralta.edu to arrange a delivery. E-mail Thomas Torres-Gil at ttoresgil@peralta.edu if you need brochures with international student inserts.

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Nancy Cayton to participate in Sept. 12-19

People’s Coast Arthritis Bike Classic

Nancy Cayton, Office of Instruction staff assistant and ASL interpreter will participate in the Arthritis Foundation’s six-day Amgen People’s Coast Arthritis Bike Classic, Sept. 12-19 on the Oregon Coast. The event begins in Astoria and ends in Brookings, ORE, six miles north of the California border. Now in its sixth year, The Amgen People’s Coast Arthritis Bike Classic raises vital funds that enable the foundation to focus on prevention, education, research, community services, and free public resources for more than 100 forms of arthritis. You can donate up to 30 days after the event. For details, contact Nancy at ncayton@peralta.edu.

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Everyone contributes to student success

(from p. 10, column 3)

   (Connects with Connected, Valued)

8. Show students that you are proud to work at your institution and that they should be proud to be enrolled at your community college.
   (Connects with Connected)

9. Recognize the value of students’ talents, abilities, skills and experiences, and connect them with opportunities to contribute.
   (Connects with Valued)

10. Communicate and demonstrate to students that you care about their success.
   (Connects with Nurtured, Valued)

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Read the RP Group’s full report on these student success factors at www.rp-group.org/sites/default/files/StudentPerspectivesResearchReportJan2013pdf