



## NEWS FOR THE BOARD

A publication by  
Berkeley City College



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#WeAreBCC

# BERKELEY CITY COLLEGE

December 10, 2024

Denise Richardson, Ed.D., President

## From the Halls of BCC to City Hall

On Friday, December 6, Berkeley City College hosted the swearing in ceremony for newly elected Mayor, Adena Ishii and City Councilmembers Terry Taplin, Shoshana O'Keefe and Brent Blackaby. Mayor Ishii and City Councilmember Terry Taplin are both Berkeley City College alums. Mayor Adena Ishii studied at BCC from 2009 to 2011 before transferring to UC Berkeley. She was the president of the Civic Engagement Club, and in her induction speech, credited BCC Political Science instructor Matt Freeman for teaching her how to organize and inspiring her interest in politics. When Councilmember Terry Taplin was student, he worked as an instructional assistant in the college writing lab.

In her welcome remarks, President Denise Richardson expressed her pride in witnessing the growth of BCC students into community leaders. "To see them go from the classrooms of Berkeley City College to the steps of City Hall is inspiring



and strengthens our resolve to continue this challenging, but profoundly gratifying work." President Richardson shared that she looks forward to continuing to grow BCC's relationship with Berkeley leaders in service to students and the community.

## Basic Needs Holiday Resources

The BCC Basic Needs Center stocked its regular food pantry with frozen chickens, just in time for the holiday season. 250 frozen chickens were made available to students through a generous donation from the Alameda County Food Bank. Over 100 chickens were distributed on Thursday, November 21 and another distribution is scheduled for Thursday, December 12 at the food pantry. BCC Student Diego de Souza shared a photo with us of his rotisserie chicken cooked with a Bolivian recipe (pictured "It was so good! Thank you!" said Diego).

The Basic Needs Center also distributed 50 \$100 Trader Joe's gift cards as part of its Emergency Grocery Grant program. Students enrolled in at least 6 units or 2 non-credit courses at BCC and those who relied on the weekly food pantry were eligible for the grants.



## Library Finals Week activities

The BCC Library in collaboration with the Basic Needs Center is helping to build community and relaxation activities for students the week before and during finals. Coffee, tea, and snacks are available to students Monday, December 2 – through Friday, December 13. On Tuesday, December 3, therapy dogs visited campus during College Hour to help students unwind before finals, offering some much-needed stress relief with furry snuggles and companionship.



## BCC STEM Lunch

BCC Biotechnology department, MESA center and STEM club held a S.T.E.M Luncheon on December 4th during College Hour. It was an opportunity for students to check out what S.T.E.M courses and programs are offered at BCC, meet with professors from each department, learn about resources and grab a FREE BURRITO. Students were able to meet with STEM students to form study groups and join STEM clubs.



## Latinx Heritage Month Closing Activities

BCC counselors Dri Regalado and Skyler Barton were featured in an article titled “Equitable Counseling Stories, Berkeley City College – Redesigning Practices Based on Equity and Justice.” An excerpt from the article reads:

When Berkeley City College (BCC) counselors Dri Regalado and Skyler Barton set out to ramp up equitable counseling practices for dual enrollment, they worked to change the hearts and minds of faculty and staff about high school students’ abilities. Their goal was to break through deficit mindsets and get to where people are “seeing and celebrating the students for how brilliant and capable they are,” Dri said. Leveraging opportunities to share equitable dual enrollment

practices, the BCC dual enrollment counseling team strove to shift college constituents to see dual enrollment as a lever for equity and justice for first-generation, Black, Indigenous, people of color (BIPOC) in local high schools. This effort grew from BCC’s participation in a community of practice connected to Dual Enrollment for Equitable Completion (DE4EC), a philanthropically-funded statewide initiative. The BCC dual enrollment counseling team led the culture shift by uplifting student voices sharing the positive impact of dual enrollment on their sense of belonging at BCC and their confidence in their ability to succeed in college.

[Read the full article here.](#)