



President's Bulletin

To: BCC Faculty, Staff, and Administration
From: Rowena Tomaneng, President

Date: December 19, 2016

Collaboration for Student Equity and Success

• Holiday Greetings to All

I wish to extend to all Berkeley City College faculty, staff, students, and administrators a joyous holiday season full of many blessings. I also wish to acknowledge our custodial and security staff. The work that they daily perform behind the scenes keeps the college's facilities clean, operational, and safe for all of us. As we prepare for winter break, I want to share several important updates that will help BCC move forward with our student equity and success efforts.



• New BCC Staff, Administrators, and Vacant Positions

In January 2017, we will welcome Mr. Jason Santos Cifra as the college's new Vice President of Student Services. A special thanks to Interim Vice President of Student Services, Dr. Josefina Baltodano, for supporting BCC during this past year of transition.

We are also in process of filling these faculty and staff positions: EOPS Counselor, Admissions and Records Technician, Staff Assistants for DSPS and EOPS, Student Personnel Services Specialist for Assessment, Network Support Specialist, Storekeeper, and the Career/Transfer Center Coordinator.

• Community Collaborations

The Fall 2016 semester has been rich with community collaborations that will significantly impact our students in achieving their academic and personal goals. On campus, an increasing number of departments have partnered with each other to discuss effective practices that lead to student success. For example, BCC's library has taken the lead in the college's Textbook Affordability Initiative. Jenny Yap and Heather Dodge have brought together faculty from Business, CIS, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Disabled Student Services, English, Library, Multimedia Arts, American Sign Language, Social Sciences and Political Science.

A shout out also goes to the Rethink Justice work group, led by Shawn McDougal, mathematics instructor. This fall, the faculty, staff, students and administrators listed here collaborated to implement various social justice projects in their departments and classrooms:

- Jennifer Ajnga, Foster Youth
- Vivian Allen, ASBCC
- Juana Alicia Araiza, Public Art
- Mary Clarke-Miller, Multimedia Arts
- Heather Dodge, Library
- Jenny Gough, American Sign Language
- Lisa Gwyn-Laigo, Office of Instruction
- Nola Hadley-Torres, History
- Brenda Johnson, Student Services
- Alvin Lebo-Planas, English
- Jennifer Lowood, English
- Shawn McDougal, Mathematics
- Aaron Mobley, Music
- Sonia Robles, Library
- John Saenz, Learning Resources
- Andre Singleton, Liberal Arts
- Mark Swiencicki, Sociology
- Rowena Tomaneng, President's Office
- Alejandra Tomas, Curriculum
- Jenny Yap, Library

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- **Community Collaborations**

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BCC's Rethink Justice work group ended their semester projects with well-attended campus dialogues on urgent issues of our time, including racial justice and treatment of immigrants, homelessness and housing justice, income and wealth inequalities, and education justice.

In Spring 2017, this work group will invite more faculty, staff, students and administrators to participate. This spring, BCC's Sociology Club, in collaboration with other BCC clubs and organizations, also will present a student-lead teach-in on the impending Trump presidency. The event will serve as a platform for students to educate others on particular topics of importance (i.e., freedom of speech, undocumented rights, climate change, and income inequality) and propose ways to take action. The teach-in will occur at the beginning of the semester and will take place during several college hours in BCC's atrium.

- **Community Engagement**

Beyond BCC's campus, many of us have engaged with community partners to support a number of college and district initiatives such as Adult Education, Career Technical Education Pathways, Dual Enrollment, and others. BCC has developed active partnerships with Northern Alameda Consortium for Adult Education (NACAE), the Bay Area Community College Consortium (BACCC), CSU Eastbay, UC Berkeley, Oakland Unified School District, and Berkeley Unified School District. Other BCC community-based partners include but are not limited to: The YMCA, Berkeley Youth Alternatives, and the Oakland Digital Arts and Literacy Center.

To support BCC Enrollment, we have created and convened a Community Relations and Outreach Committee comprised of faculty, staff, and administrators. This committee is charged with enhancing the effectiveness of BCC's in-reach and outreach efforts. It will bring together representatives from BCC groups and departments that are engaged in community outreach and collaborations to coordinate our efforts and to discuss a variety of effective ways to reach different target populations.

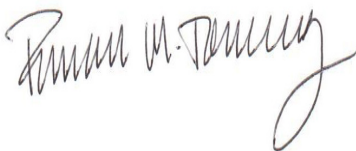
- **Revitalizing BCC's President's Circle**

This spring, BCC will reconvene The President's Circle, a group whose purpose is to raise funds that help provide assistance for our students and signature college programs. President's Circle membership is comprised of business and community leaders who wish to ensure that the college and our students grow and thrive. Several initiatives for which the President's Circle will raise funds include Scholarships, The Berkeley Promise, Career and Academic Pathways, and Civic Engagement and Leadership Programs. The group will convene at a February 2017 luncheon at BCC to discuss their goals, objectives and plans for the coming year.

- **Dynamic and Challenging Opportunities**

It has been an honor to work with and get to know you during my six months as president of Berkeley City College. The New Year promises to provide challenging yet dynamic opportunities to transform students' lives and engage with our community. Both BCC and the many elements of our community can continue to grow stronger by working together and keeping our commitment to the education and well-being of those around us. I eagerly look forward to collaborating and working with you in the New Year.

Sincerely,



Rowena M. Tomaneng
President