



City Corner Newsletter

June-August 2010

U.S. Secretary of Labor, Hilda L. Solis and City Controller Wendy Greuel honored the Class of 2010!

by President
Dr. Jamillah
Moore

Los Angeles -- Los Angeles City College (LACC) held its 79th commencement exercises at the Greek Theatre on June 8th at 10am. To a packed crowd of nearly 4000 family and friends, Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis, and City Controller, Wendy Greuel, provided a keynote and even conferred degrees upon the graduates.

Secretary Hilda Solis was confirmed as the first Latina Secretary of Labor on February 24, 2009. Prior to confirmation, as Secretary of Labor, Secretary Solis represented the 32nd Congressional District in California. Wendy Greuel was sworn in as City Controller of Los Angeles on July 1, 2009, the second woman to be elected to a citywide office in the City's history. Prior to her election, Wendy represented the Second City Council District in the Northeast San Fernando Valley for seven years.

Our graduates join thousands of students who have completed their studies at LACC since it first opened its doors in 1929. Since then, LACC has been offering educational programs in more than 80 different areas, including career training, liberal art studies, and English as a second language. Fifty-percent of the graduates of LACC were the first in their family to graduate from college. On graduation day 1,600 degrees and certificates were awarded making it the most for the institution since 1985.

For 80 years, LACC has mirrored the local community, which is richly diverse in income, cultures and neighborhood character. We hope our graduates will join our Alumni Association and help LACC continue its mission to be a source of learning and enrichment for the people of Los Angeles.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Los Angeles City College congratulations to the Class of 2010!!

Reaffirmation of Accreditation Where We Were, Where We Are, Where We Are Going & Lessons Learned

by
Drs. Edward Pai
and Kimberly
Perry

In July 2009 we learned that subsequent to the submission of the Accreditation Self Study and a site visit from an evaluation team, LACC was placed on accreditation probation. There were three recommendations that had to be addressed in order for the sanction to be lifted:

1. more systematically use the results of program review;
2. strengthen the research function in order to provide continuous and meaningful analysis of data; and
3. develop a robust and comprehensive professional development program to enhance institutional effectiveness.

The language of the recommendations mirror that of the planning and program review rubrics created by the ACCJC which provides guidance to colleges so that they may achieve "sustainable continuous quality improvement."

On June 9 - 11, 2010, the ACCJC took action to remove us from probation and reaffirm accreditation. In reviewing our follow-up report submitted in March 2010 and the evaluation report from the May site visit team, the Commission concluded that:

1. the redesign of the program review processes has resulted in better documentation of data-driven program improvements, increased planning proficiency, and alignment of program review goals and action plans with strategic planning;
2. the outcomes of the strategies undertaken to strengthen the research function has increased capacity and utilization of research, as well as dramatically improved transparency and accountability of shared governance and decision-making;
3. the college has created and offered numerous staff development opportunities to increase institutional effectiveness in planning, program review, and student learning.

In summary, LACC developed extensive responses to the three recommendations and has fully met the expectations therein.

The primary lesson that we learned this past year is that it is possible to do the work being demanded by accountability needs with the caveat that the solutions must be comprehensive. The development of these solutions was made possible with enabling leadership, active management, strategic advantage partnerships and committed staff and faculty.

Enabling leadership began with President Jamillah Moore creating an Accreditation Steering Task Force more commonly known as the A-Team (yes, think Mr. T.). This dedicated core team set tasks and timelines in development of the March 15, 2010 Follow-Up Report; were willing to make tough decisions; and documented and communicated the process to the campus community.

The creation and enhancement of planning and program review processes required active and disciplined management to gain additional organizational capacity. The volume of documenting evidence-driven decision processes demanded the strategic and well-designed use of information technologies. It was during this past year that the use of SharePoint emerged as a key

communication tool for the campus.

Partnerships in the college and district were developed to create not only economies and efficiencies, but also a clear strategic advantage. Leveraging the resources of the District Office and working with other colleges (LA Southwest proved it was possible to move from probation to no sanction) provided City with a strategic advantage.

And lastly and most importantly, the volume of work required the commitment of faculty and staff to stay the course. The work of Shared Governance Planning, Educational Planning, Program Review subcommittee, Student Learning Outcome and Assessment, and Staff and Organizational Development were key to the creation, revision and enhancement of planning and program review processes and staff development activities and the subsequent impact on student learning and institutional effectiveness. Department Chairs tested and implemented these processes so that program review more strongly and clearly integrated with the 2008-13 Strategic Master Plan.

Fast forward to March 2012, the date that our Accreditation Mid Term Report is due when 100% of all course, certificate, degree, program and institutional student learning outcomes must be assessed, the results of these assessments must be used to improve student learning and success, and we have to prove it to the ACCJC. In other words "sustainable continuous quality improvement."

The end result is that City has been somewhat immunized by the inoculation of sanction. That is, we got a little sick from the cure, but we are all better now (completely - the best possible outcome) and even stronger so that the next time this comes around, we WILL be ready.

Los Angeles City College Welcomes 2nd Cohort of Egyptian Students to California

by President
Dr. Jamillah
Moore

The State Department and the Community College Initiative, in 2009 selected Los Angeles City College (LACC) as one of several community college campuses to host an international cohort of students from Egypt. Last year twenty students completed the program and starting this fall LACC will welcome ten new students into the program.

The Egyptian Student Program will provide underserved, non-elite Egyptian students (who already have some work experience) with a quality educational experience, professional development, employment skills, and a deeper understanding of American society during participation in a one-year academic program. Students will complete 12 units of instruction and a 60-hour internship program during the course of the year. The goal is for them to take this experience back to Egypt and better their lives.

1. LACC will provide supplemental ESL support for students as needed (this will be done through noncredit).

2. LACC will deliver activities that comply with the program's American Culture, Democracy, and Civic Responsibility (ACDC) requirement for each student by:

- Providing two experiential learning opportunity (one per semester)
- Ensuring students participate in at least two campus related activities not related to area of study
- Ensuring that students are exposed to American culture through interaction with diverse groups
- Ensuring that students participate in a City Hall tour and meeting
- Ensuring that students attend at least one information session with a government agency or regulatory authority that has governance over a particular field of study

Students will integrate into existing class sections of the following areas of study: Electronics Technology, Nutrition, PC Technician, Project Management, Marketing, and Sales. This program is funded through a grant which provides project manager salary, student registration fees, tuition, books and materials, and daily living expenses.

The program needs your assistance and Ms. Karla Vanessa Marti, Project Coordinator, needs faculty and staff to assist with the program. Specifically, we need individuals who are willing to host the students, serve as mentors and assist in field trips. Most importantly, the students need help in transitioning into the college and the community. We invite LACC faculty, staff and students out to welcome and meet the students at the campus orientation on Saturday, August 7, 2010 in the Faculty and Staff Center.

College Picnic Huge Success

This year, LACC hosted its annual college picnic on campus in the new North Quad. And while future picnics will benefit from the planned greenspace for that part of campus, the lack of grass did not deter one of the largest turnouts in recent years. Lines were long and food ran out as all segments of the campus, staff, administration, and faculty were well represented. Many were heard to say that they had a great time and that they were very happy that the picnic was on campus this year because that made it easier to attend.

Jimmy Acosta, once again, ran the show as Master of Ceremonies and was presented with a thank you gift from the Picnic Planning Committee for his many years of service to the college and to the picnic planning effort. A great time was had by all and an excellent tone was set for attendance at future events.

Thank you to the committee for all of their hard work.

Students Services addresses reductions in categorical funding and its impact on students

by
Dr. Lawrence
Bradford

The 2009-2010 academic year at LACC was a challenging year for both Student Services and students alike. Students had to deal with the workload reductions (reduction in class offerings) and reductions in categorical program support (as reflected in the chart below).

Given the reductions LACC experienced in the categorical funding (for EOP&S/CARE, DSP&S, Matriculation, and Child Development Center) for fiscal years 08-09, 09-10, and possibly more for 10-11, we will be hard pressed to meet the overall needs of the fall 2010 incoming freshman and continuing students based on the current economic climate. We will truly be doing more with less!

Overall state funding for categorical programs in 2009-2010 was reduced by over 40 percent, with cuts to most categorical programs ranging from 38 percent to 52 percent. In contrast, funding for general apportionment was reduced by only 3.39 percent.

The intent of the majority of community college categorical programs is to provide additional assistance to colleges in meeting the needs of diverse student populations, most pointedly, low income and disabled students

Early categorical programs (DSP&S, EOP&S, and CARE) were designed to supplement the college's efforts to sufficiently provide access and equity to specialized student populations. In other words, efforts such as DSP&S, EOP&S/CARE and later Matriculation and CalWORKs, were developed to be central to each community college's mission in meeting students' educational needs

Now Community Colleges face additional uncertainty about categorical funding levels for 2010-2011 in light of the state's continuing fiscal crisis. It would be a tragedy to reverse the historical commitment that the community colleges have had in successfully equalizing educational opportunities for low income, disabled, disadvantaged, and basic skills students. We in Student Services will move forward, and continue to provide the best services possible to students; within the budget we are given.

10,000 Small Businesses Program Comes to LACC!

by
Dean
Alex Davis

June 14, 2010, Goldman Sachs announced that Los Angeles City College will host a *10,000 Small Businesses* pilot program, which will begin August 20, 2010.

10,000 Small Businesses is a five year initiative to unlock the economic growth and job-creation potential of *10,000 small businesses* across the United States through greater access to business education, financial capital, and business support services. In recent decades, small businesses have created two-thirds of the net new jobs in this country. *10,000 Small Businesses'* objective is to help small business owners in communities across the country grow their companies and create jobs. The program will be delivered in three components:

- **Business and Management Education:** Small business owners will receive practical business education delivered through partnerships between LACC and Babson College through an integrated approach; integrating curriculum and business support services with peer learning. The program provides scholarships predominantly to underserved small business owners and build educational capacity.
- **Business Support Services:** Advice, technical assistance, and networking will be offered to participating small business owners through partnerships with national and local business organizations, as well as the people of Goldman Sachs.
- **Access to Capital:** Goldman Sachs provides lending and philanthropic support to Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs). This will increase the amount of growth capital available to small businesses in underserved communities and expand the capacity of the CDFIs to deliver enhanced technical assistance to small businesses. *10,000 Small Businesses* will provide technical assistance to graduates of the program to help them access other sources of capital.

The program will be facilitated at the Van de Kamp Innovation Center located at 2930 Fletcher Blvd in Los Angeles.



For more information on the *10,000 Small Businesses* program, please visit: www.lacc10ksb.com or call Ms. Madeline Drake at 323.953.4000, X2583.

What's New in Workforce Education at LACC?

by Dean Alex
Davis

Pathways out of Poverty Program

Purpose: To integrate training and supportive services into cohesive programs that will help target populations find pathways out of poverty and into economic self-sufficiency through employment in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.

LACC has launched its planning and development phase to create training programs that will help prepare individuals for careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, which include: the energy-efficient building and retrofit industries; the energy efficiency assessment industry serving residential, commercial, or industrial sectors.

Please contact Ms. Karla Vanessa Marti at 323.953.4000, Ext. 2575 for additional information.

California Clean Energy Program

Purpose: To create a well-trained workforce capable of filling the jobs necessary to promote renewable energy development, climate change strategies, vehicle fuel technology and green buildings. The California Energy Commission, the California Employment Development Department, the Employment Training Panel, and the California Workforce Investment Board, in collaboration with The Green Collar Jobs Council, are leading a statewide partnership of state agencies, educational institutions, local workforce investment boards, community organizations and employers to deliver 21st century training programs for workers with all levels of experience.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Jayesh Bhakta,
Physics/Engineering Department Chair, at 323.953.4000, Ext. 2923.