

WEDD NEWSLETTER

Summer Edition

MESSAGE FROM TONY

Dear Leadership Teams,

While our colleges continue to meet the needs of our students and innovate in ways that have come to symbolize California's community college system, we all know that we can learn from one another and share accomplishments across our system.

So today our team is launching a new e-communication which is a high-level look at college activities across the state. We will highlight college events, programs being implemented across the field, stories of students, and other news and information, including WEDD alerts, upcoming events, and any helpful links.

The intent is to not only showcase initiatives but provide insight on lessons learned or best practices so that we all may consider improvements or enhancements of programs, as we add to our statewide student outcome goals.

Thank you,



Anthony Cordova
Vice Chancellor, Workforce and Economic Development



PHOTO - Chancellor Christian, Anthony Cordova, Saddleback College and UDW Representatives

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Los Angeles Regional Consortium/Central Valley Mother Lode Consortium

Like many of our Regional Consortias, the Central Valley Mother Lode Consortium and the Los Angeles Regional Consortium both held their annual planning meetings this summer to prepare for the new academic year and highlight Vision 2030 goals. The WEDD team looks forward to engaging in discussions with each of our regional consortias on planning activities for the fall semester and how we continue to demonstrate impact towards achievement of the Vision 2030 framework.

Saddleback College

California community colleges are committed to adult education and the strong collaboration between our colleges and United Domestic Workers (UDW) members. As detailed under an agreement between California Community Colleges and UDW, our system has committed to developing educational pathways for UDW members and assisting members with credit for prior learning and non-credit options that lead to an educational credential while UDW has committed to partner to provide support such as childcare, emergency housing, textbooks and other necessary instructional materials and supplies. UDW will also work with employers to ensure members' educational goals are prioritized to incorporate experiential learning.

In June, Saddleback College hosted a UDW partnership launch. The event focused on how equity in education advances skill development for learners in the workforce who are looking to expand their skills.

WEDD PROGRAM UPDATES

Access the latest monthly insights, news and progress reports regarding Workforce and Economic Development on the Program Updates and Newsletters [webpage](#).



California Community Colleges

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TechConnect Conference

June 26 and June 27 was the TechConnect's [Online Teaching Conference](#) which was held in Long Beach. This event is a gathering of faculty, staff, and administrators who are leading the way in developing innovative and effective online education. The theme of this conference was Navigating the Digital Landscape: Setting the Course for Student Success and focused on curriculum, pedagogy, and technology to improve online instruction, learning, and student success.

UDW / AFSCME

The UDW/AFSCME membership meeting was held on June 27. At this meeting, 15 future leaders were celebrated for completing six courses on positively impacting membership development. We were proud of all of the colleges in attendance, including North Orange Continuing Education, Santiago College, and Santa Ana College, who are all doing amazing work to support adult learners and members of UDW. (see photo on pg 1).

California Latino School Board Association

In August, WEDD gave the keynote address at the California Latino School Board Association conference. WEDD Vice Chancellor, Anthony Cordova, highlighted Vision 2030 and shared demonstration projects focused on Latino/a students in dual enrollment. VC Cordova was joined in these presentations with California Community Colleges Dean of Academic Affairs, Dr. LaTonya Williams, and representatives from Kern Community College District and Bakersfield College.



PHOTO - Monica Hicks (Student Success Story)

IMPACTFUL PROJECTS & MOMENTS

Adult Education Report

In July, The California Community Colleges and the California Department of Education released a new report that offers specific practices to better meet adult students' needs and close persistent equity achievement gaps. Twelve local adult education sites (six adult schools delivered by K-12 education systems and six community colleges) from more than 400 sites were selected for this research study, [Closing the Equity Gap for Adult Learners in California: 7 Promising Practices to Advance Student Outcomes](#). The study captured why and how student performance and employment outcomes at these 12 sites, especially for students of color, far exceeded state average metrics.

The 12 systems reviewed in the study included, ABC Adult School, Cerritos College, College of the Sequoias, Compton College, El Camino College, Feather River College, Paramount Adult School, Plumas Unified School District, San Diego College of Continuing Education, Sweetwater Union High School District, Torrance Unified School District and Visalia Unified School District.

Student Successes

This summer, our team would like to highlight the inspiring story of Monica Hicks who was recently featured in Stanford University's publication Stanford Report. Once an inmate in California's state prison system, Monica enrolled at Diablo Valley College to study business. Her trajectory from business to computer science changed after one Diablo Valley College faculty member let her know she can 'do the math', and so began a passion in information technology. Working 20 hours a week as a hairstylist while going to DVC, Monica participated in a program that gave her academic supplies and helped pay for her textbooks. She credits the value of mentorships from sponsors in 12-step programs that inspired her to approach faculty, to share her story, and ask for advice. Monica put in close to 100 hours into writing essays and applying to colleges. She took the initiative to participate in the Underground Scholars workshops to help further improve her essays and, in the end, she was accepted to the top 3 schools in the world for her major:



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IMPACTFUL PROJECTS & MOMENTS

(Student Successes - continued from pg 2)

... UC Berkeley, Stanford, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology!

Now a Stanford University alumnus, Monica is pursuing a master's degree so that she may be able to teach at a community college someday.

You too can learn about Monica's story in the full article published in the [Stanford Report](#).

New Nursing Program Launched to Meet State's Regional Nursing Shortages

In August, California Community Colleges launched a new initiative to increase the number of nurses to meet the growing needs of California's aging and diverse population. The goal of the initiative, part of the community colleges' Vision 2030 strategic framework, is to increase enrollment in associate degree nursing programs focusing on supporting incumbent workers by developing flexible pathways that facilitate their entry into nursing programs.

Twelve colleges will participate in the pilot program that will involve a multifaceted set of key strategies designed to expand associate degree nursing program capacities across all community colleges. The 12 colleges participating in the demonstration project are: Butte College, Cabrillo College, Monterey Peninsula College, Bakersfield College, Modesto Junior College, Cuesta College, Ventura College, Golden West College, Saddleback College, Mt. San Jacinto College, Riverside City College, and College of the Desert.

Access the nursing demonstration project [news release](#) from August 8, 2024

San Diego City College

Did you know San Diego City College recently opened a barbershop on campus? The 'Fresh Cutz' barbershop aims to support male students to enroll and complete academic programs at City College. To qualify for a free haircut, students must have completed their Free Application for Federal Student Aid and bring proof of completion to their appointment. When students book

online, the system asks if they have completed an educational plan or talked to a counselor. If a student answers no, then those offices will reach out to students to assist them in checking off those boxes.

According to Dr. Ricky Shabazz, President, City College, the college is approximately two years away from establishing a barber college on campus. You can read more about Fresh Cutz in this [San Diego City Times article](#).

STUDENTS IN ACTION



WATCH - Watch this video to learn more about the Fresh Cutz program at San Diego City College.

OUR TEAM

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