Student Lobby Day

On Tuesday, our students had the opportunity to meet with our elected Assemblymembers and Senators during Student Lobby Day in Sacramento. The students did an outstanding job discussing proposed legislation which focused on dual enrollment and financial aid. I would like to thank those who accompanied our students on the legislative visits including: Trustee President Lorraine Prinsky, Mary Avalos, Nathan Brais, Julie Frazier-Mathews, and Mike Morvice. Trustee Prinsky shared that the group had a very intense and productive day in Sacramento. The legislators were very impressed with how well-prepared our students were in discussing the proposed legislative bills and appreciated hearing their personal stories. Student Trustee Alex Parkin expressed that he was honored to have the opportunity to meet with the legislators, alongside his fellow student leaders, to advocate on behalf of Coast Colleges’ 60,000 students. Please join me in recognizing our student leaders for their exceptional efforts in Sacramento.

Quentin Cronk (GWC)  Zack Show (GWC)
Ivan deJesus Hermosillo (GWC)  Calvin Tsang (OCC)
Lynn Hua (OCC)  Andy Vu (CCC)
Chau Nguyen (CCC)  Peter Vu (CCC)
Grishma Patel (OCC)

Golden West College Tour

I had an absolutely wonderful visit to the Golden West campus on Thursday. It was actually my fourth visit to the campus. The first time, I was armed with a self-guided tour map and inconspicuously touted around the Rustlers’ campus. On Thursday, I again enjoyed being among the students and was reenergized by their passion for learning. It is sometimes easy to forget why we are here if removed from the vibrant life of the College setting. That is why it is so important to reconnect with our students and to truly understand their needs and hear their stories. I want to thank Janet Houlihan for the first-class golf cart tour and also President Wes Bryan and Dr. Omid Pouranjani for making me feel welcome.
AB 86 Adult Education Consortium
Today, I had the pleasure of attending a session on the comprehensive plan developed by the CCCD AB86 Adult Education Consortium. Members of the consortium included our three colleges, Garden Grove Unified School District, Huntington Beach Union High School District and Newport-Mesa Unified School District. Funded by the AB86 grant, the purpose of the Consortium is to develop a comprehensive regional plan to better serve the educational needs of adults. I would like to share a few things that struck me:

- The plan proposes a variety of strategies and actions to align existing courses and programs and develop new, clear pathways for effective student transition from secondary adult education to post-secondary education for adult students
- The Governor’s proposed 2015-16 budget includes $500 million for the Adult Education Block Grant aimed at funding the implementation of the AB86 adult education comprehensive plans throughout the state

I commend Dr. Andreea Serban and the sixty-four administrators, teachers, faculty and staff for their work on this significant regional, collaborative endeavor. I would like to thank Trustees Lorraine Prinsky and Mary Hornbuckle for attending this session. CEOs and members of the Board of Trustees of the four Orange County community college districts were also present.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Richard A. Jones