Congratulations, Golden West College!

Congratulations to Golden West College on being awarded a Title III grant for the Access 2 Success program. The program aims to increase the success, progression, degree completion and transfer rates of first-time and low-income college students. The project will provide highly structured pathways from basic skills to associate degree and/or transfer. The award of over $2-million over a five-year period beginning October 1, was announced this week and Golden West won out in a very competitive process. Dean of Counseling, David Baird will serve as the project director. I hope you will join me in congratulating Golden West College on this major award and on a great program to help students achieve their academic goals.

Clinton Global Initiative

I was honored to be a part of a panel at the 2013 Clinton Global Initiative Annual Meeting. This year's theme was "Mobilizing for Impact" and was hosted by former President Bill Clinton and his family. I was a part of a panel at the opening topic dinner. The panel was sponsored by the Gates Foundation and included Jami Grindatto of Intel and Chelsea Clinton, Vice Chair of the Clinton Global Initiative. It was an honor to be a part of the panel and to discuss issues related to "Majoring in Employment: Transforming Higher Education to Deliver a 21st Century Workforce." Several sessions are featured online at http://www.clintonglobalinitiative.org/. The panel dinner in which I participated included discussions on:

- Rapidly changing labor market requirements
- Economic adjustments, policy changes, technological advancements, and labor market shifts and their impact upon education and jobs
- College-to-labor market skills gaps
- Needs for higher education business models that can keep pace with changing economic, labor market, and workforce demands

Again, it was an honor to be included in such a prestigious and dynamic group. I was happy to represent Coast Colleges and hope that this was the beginning of great opportunities with the Clinton Global Initiative.

PathForward

Linda Denny, President of the PathForward Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship visited the District today to present Activate. Activate is a proven program for entrepreneur training that was founded at
University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Ms. Denny presented to Team Launchpad and was drawn to Coast because of the Launchpad Initiative. Team Launchpad asked great questions and provided insight as to the needs in our local area for such training. I am working with PathForward to see if there is a partnership opportunity to bring PathForward to the West Coast as a part of Coast Colleges. I will be providing a report to the Board in the near future.

**State of the District**

Just a reminder that the State of District will take place on Friday, October 11 in the Board Room. The event is a luncheon and RSVPs are required. Please RSVP by emailing kle@mail.cccd.edu. I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,
Students will have an opportunity to meet representatives from 66 colleges and universities at Orange Coast College's annual Transfer Day on Monday, September 30th. Admissions officers from the University of California and California State University campuses will attend, as well as representatives from private four-year colleges and out-of-state universities. The fair will begin at 10:00 a.m. and continue until 1:00 p.m. in the campus quad. Admission is free; the public is invited to attend.

The Transfer Center is also sponsoring tours to nearby colleges and universities on Fridays during October and November. Transportation is provided. Students can sign up at the Transfer Center, located on the 2nd floor of Watson Hall, during regular office hours. For more information, call (714) 432-5894

**Tour schedule:**

- UC San Diego – Friday, October 4
- CSU Fullerton – Friday, October 11
- UC Irvine – Friday, October 18
- UCLA – Friday, November 8
- CSU Long Beach – Friday, November 15
- USC – Friday, November 22

Transportation is provided for all tours. A $5 refundable deposit is required at the time of sign-up. Cancellations for a tour must be made 24 hours in advance to receive a refund (NO EXCEPTIONS). It is the student's responsibility to either call and come in and cancel their reservation for a tour. The bus leaves promptly from the Robert B. Moore Theatre. Tours are subject to cancellation due to low sign-ups. In the event a tour is cancelled, students will be notified and their deposit will be refunded.
New Financial Aid Director “Worked His Way Through the Ranks”

Vincent Ngo, OCC’s newly appointed Financial Aid Director, began his Coast career 13 years ago as a student working part-time in the Financial Aid Office. “I worked my way through the ranks to the position that I hold today,” Ngo said. “I am very happy for this opportunity, but I'll celebrate later. There is lots to do in Financial Aid, so I am going get down to business first and celebrate my accomplishment later.”

He takes the lead in the campus Financial Aid Office during a time of transition. Financial Aid operations throughout the Coast Community College District were centralized last year, with the “back room processing” moving to the District’s offices on Adams Avenue.

The campus Financial Aid staff now focuses serving students. “My goals and plans are to align the financial aid processing so that we are delivering financial aid to our students in a timely manner,” Ngo said. He added walk-in appointments on Wednesdays, giving students access to specialists. He also expanded Financial Aid workshops and appointment hours. “I will continue to find methods to better serve current and prospective students,” he added.

As director, Ngo is responsible for the campus’ daily Financial Aid operations. He plans to focus on training for staff so they are knowledgeable about policies and procedures to keep OCC in compliance with government regulations. He is also working on OCC’s financial aid goals and objectives, which will be incorporated into the Student Services and college-wide goals and objectives.

Student Success Center Extends Hours to Saturdays

The Student Success Center is now open Saturdays! Thanks to Associated Students of Orange Coast College, the Student Success Center is able to offer tutoring services to students on Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Center offers drop-in tutoring in math, English/writing, accounting, computer science, world languages, social science courses and more. Study groups are also available and can be requested by students or faculty. Workshops, including a Study Skills series, are offered on a weekly basis.

The Student Success Center is open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and now Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact Jaki Kamphuis, Faculty/Coordinator at 714-432-5538 or jkamphuis@occ.cccd.edu. Faculty who would like someone visit their class to talk about the Student Success Center services can contact Susan Aube, Instructional Associate, at 714-432-5053 or saube@occ.cccd.edu.