Happy New (School) Year!
Not only does today mark the Lunar New Year, but it is also the first week of our new semester. It was great to visit each college Admissions & Records’ office to see the students back on campus. I look forward to a prosperous Year of the Horse and a successful Spring semester.

CC League Legislative Conference
I would like to thank those that spent their weekend at work at the CCLC Legislative Conference. Particularly, I am grateful to Trustee Hornbuckle and Trustee Prinsky for attending the CCLC Legislative Conference and Board Workshop last week. Coast was well represented by Coastline President Lori Adrian and District Director of Public Affairs Martha Parham. The conference sessions included information on student equity planning, adult education, budget and student success initiatives. Several legislative visits took place and focused on Cal Grant reforms, and ideas for awarding Baccalaureate degrees at community colleges. While there, Coast participated in the Orange County Legislative Task Force lobby day events as well. It was a great way to start the legislative season and a reminder to our state officials that we are in support of much of Governor Brown’s proposed budget for the community colleges.

Full-Time Faculty Hiring Discussion
I have been in discussions with many regarding the Full-Time Faculty Planning team. Most of you are aware that the Board will soon be hosting a special study session on this topic and I look forward to everyone’s input. The study session is intended to be a solution-oriented conversation about how to reach the goals for hiring. I assure you that there is no intent on the part of the District or me to change the campus processes regarding the prioritization of faculty needs. Again, I look forward to this conversation and welcome participation from all members of our Coast team.

Board Meeting Reminders
February 5, 2014 – Regular Meeting
February 19, 2014 – Regular Meeting

Chancellor’s Schedule
Week of February 3
Monday – Thursday
In the office
Friday
Out of Office

To view the Coastline President’s Bulletin, please visit the following link: www.coastline.edu/bulletins
To view the Golden West College News Room, please visit the following link: http://gwcnews.com/
League for Innovations – Innovations 2014
Coast Colleges and North Orange County CCD are co-hosting the 2014 Innovations Conference this year. It will be held in Anaheim and we are currently seeking volunteers to assist with the on-site logistics. If you have not already received an information email regarding volunteering, please feel free to contact Public Affairs at x84606.

Countdown to Accreditation
It's getting closer! March 15 is the official due date for Coast to have our reports turned in. That's only 42 days away (just 6 short weeks). The final drafts of the reports will be reviewed at the next Board meeting.

Sincerely,
Orange Coast College welding students have captured second place in the American Welding Society (AWS) poster competition. It is the fourth year that OCC has won recognition in the competition.

Students Jim Farrington of Huntington Beach, Mike Lannom of Costa Mesa, Brent Helmick and Fila Garriott submitted the winning poster describing their project, “Ballistics Testing of Friction Stir Welded 20-50-T8 Aluminum-Lithium.” Faculty advisor for the winning entry was David Belzaire.

The poster describes the students’ experiment to determine how welding reduces the resistance to ballistic penetration of a relatively new aluminum alloy. Aluminum alloys show promise for armor plating because there are significantly lighter than the steel currently in use. This results in greater vehicle or aircraft performance, or lower spacecraft launch weight.

“Since the armor plating would have to be welded together, we wanted to see how the heat input from welding would affect the resistance to ballistic penetration of 2050-T8 Aluminum-Lithium alloy,” Lannom explained. Traditional fusion welding significantly weakens this particular alloy, and the students wanted to find out much friction stir welding (FSW), which has higher joint efficiencies than traditional fusion welding, would reduce the resistance to ballistic penetration.

“The results indicate the FSW significantly reduces resistance to ballistic penetration in the weld zone,” Lannom said, “but the heat affected zone and base metal are relatively unaffected.”

The project was completed last year for the 2013 competition. Lannom, a graduate of OCC’s welding program, now teaches students in the program as a part-time instructor.

The FABTECH conference, held in Chicago this year, is North America’s largest metal forming, fabricating, finishing and welding event with more than 35,000 visitors and 1,300 exhibitors. The conference includes workshops presenting the latest technology, cutting-edge topics and industry experts.

FABTECH is co-sponsored by five industry-leading associations: the American Welding Society (AWS), the Fabricators & Manufacturers Association, International (FMA), the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME), the Precision Metalforming Association (PMA), and the Chemical Coaters Association International (CCAI).
OCC Arts Pavilion “17@70+” Opens January 29

The Orange Coast College Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion “17@70+” exhibit showcases the work of local artists, age 70 and over through February 26. The show includes pieces by 17 artists: Craig Antrim, Derek Boshier, Gary H. Brown, Doug Edge, Christopher Finch, Max Finkelstein, Louis Fox, Jim De France, Peter Liashkov, Ann Page, Betye Saar, James Scott, Rick Steadry, Gretel Stephens, Kent Twitchell, Jay Willis and Don Woodford. Curator is Trevor Norris, Arts Pavilion acting director.

The gallery will be open from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 12:00 to 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays. It will also be open on Saturday, February 22, from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Kate Mueller Returns to OCC after 15 Months in Abu Dhabi

“It feels great to be back!” said Kate Mueller upon her return to OCC this month after spending 15 months as an administrator for Al Rowdah Academy in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates.

Mueller took a leave of absence as OCC’s Dean of Student Services to serve as chief academic and administrator for the academy at the Institute of Applied Technology, where she was responsible for curriculum, program review, accreditation, faculty oversight and policy recommendations.

“It was a good experience, but it was a long way from home,” she added. While in Abu Dhabi, she lived with her brother, sister-in-law and nephew. “It gave me a base.”

Her husband, Tim, visited several times and the couple took the opportunity to visit Nepal and Jordan.

“OCC still feels like home,” Mueller said. “People have been more than welcoming.”

She returned to the states on January 1, and was back in her office on January 8 with a new assignment: Dean of Special Projects. She is ramping up the college’s Degree Works program that will create an electronic educational plan for every student by semester’s end.

The program is tied into the District’s Banner program and will enable students to access their educational plans online. What Mueller likes about the new project is giving students the ability to have their educational plans “at their fingertips,” including a “what if” scenario that tells students what classes they would need to take if they changed majors.

“It’s a very cool tool,” Mueller said, and it will help the college collect needed data.

This semester OCC will offer large group workshops in addition to individual counseling to help students create their electronic educational plans.

While she was in Abu Dhabi, Mueller stayed in touch with friends and colleagues using an online blog and posting occasionally to her Facebook page, which she didn’t use much before she left campus more than a year ago.