



# President's Report to the PCCD Board of Trustees



April 12, 2022

Dr. Nathaniel Jones III, President

## Strategic Management Initiatives and Updates

On March 10, 2022, CoA Business and Administrative Services Vice President **Augustine Gill** arranged a dialogue with the District Finance Team (led by PCCD Interim Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration **Adil Ahmed**) reviewing audit findings and brainstorming solutions to improve internal controls and communications between the College and District Finance Team. The meeting was held at the CoA campus and attended by staff from the Business and Administration Services, Office of Instruction, and Student Services. The College and District teams will meet on a monthly basis to train staff in accounting procedures and internal controls, modify processes to improve day-to-day transactional issues, and support each other in finalizing internal controls, policies, and procedures.



## Aviation Maintenance Technology Propeller Test Takes Flight

CoA's Aviation Maintenance Technology (AMT) Program and FabLab recently collaborated on the AMT 76 Blade Pitch Propeller Project turning an aerodynamic design challenge into an engaging interactive classroom experience. It all started when AMT Instructor **Bruce Pettyjohn**'s students were having difficulty understanding the concept of pitch or how the "twist" of a propeller blade angle at various points along the blade affects propeller dynamics. Pettyjohn wanted to create a fun and educational activity that would provide his students with a hands-on experience allowing them to learn the concept by designing, building, and testing propeller dynamics.

Collaborating with CoA FabLab Lead **Miguel Vega**, Pettyjohn outlined basic propeller design, and Vega used the free Computer Aided Design (CAD) software program, Fusion 360, to create a parametric five-inch diameter propeller model. Once the basic model was created, students determined their desired blade pitch at set points and the total number of blades in order to design and test their propellers. After entering the

information into the Fusion 360 software, students printed three-dimensional models using the FabLab's PRUSA 3D printers.

One by one, each student's propeller was mounted onto a test stand's motor and run through a repeatable test script. Students saw their models tested in real-time, recorded the data, and compared and contrasted outcomes. While some propellers performed better than others, all of the AMT students in Pettyjohn's class said that they benefitted from this particularly uplifting, hands-on, learning opportunity!



## Congratulations to CoA ESOL Instructor Dr. Didem

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) instructor **Dr. Didem Ekici's** latest book, *Person to Person Peacebuilding, Intercultural Communication and English Language Teaching*, has been published through [Multilingual Matters Publications](#) this month. This book maps the discursive terrain and potential of person to person peacebuilding as it intersects with intercultural communication and online language teaching. The data collected through interviews and journals describe the profound transformations the participants undergo throughout their intercultural English language tutoring journeys. Inspired by these voices, the book further explores ways teachers and teacher educators of language and intercultural communication can more deliberately leverage the affordance of peacebuilding, whether face to face or in the virtual intercultural borderlands of online exchange. The book that Dr. Ekici has written, with co-authors Amy Jo Minett, Sarah E. Dietrich,, is the product of three years of concentrated effort and collaboration.

**Enterprise Platform**  
The perfect trifecta of  
learning systems

**ConexED**

Unified student services platform enabling  
communication and student success. Scales for  
virtual, in-person, and blended environments.

## New Student Engagement System a Welcome Addition at CoA

College of Alameda Counselors **Marissa Nakano** and **Julie Saechao** are excited about the rollout of ConexED Case Management, Scheduling and Communication Software. ConexED is an online tool that helps counselors connect with students in areas where students are looking for help. "The ConexED Platform is a great opportunity to reach, teach, and talk with students online and counsel them throughout their academic journey," said Saechao. "Once you get the hang of the platform it is really easy to use. The platform is user-friendly and the support team is great!" The system is designed to drive engagement, and ensure students get the help they need, when they need it. The software provides a number of features that counselors will use to connect with students and keep them on track for success. These features include easy scheduling of meetings, system generated alerts to help with follow up, and integration with Canvas and PeopleSoft.

*The mission of the College of Alameda is to serve the educational needs of its diverse community by providing comprehensive and flexible programs and resources to empower students to achieve their goals.*



## CoA Co-Sponsors Alameda State of the City Presentation

The [Alameda Chamber of Commerce and Economic Alliance](#) held a State of the City Address on April 7, 2022, aboard the [USS Hornet](#). The event featured a keynote presentation by City of Alameda Mayor **Marilyn Ezy Ashcraft** who discussed city priorities, challenges, future plans, goals, and expected outcomes. Ashcraft's talk was followed by a question and answer session with the City of Alameda's Community Development Department Director **Lisa Maxwell**, Director of Housing and Transportation **Andrew Thomas**, Police Chief

### Alameda State of the City



**FEATURED PRESENTER:**  
**Marilyn Ezy Ashcraft**  
MAYOR,  
City of Alameda

Exciting things are unfolding in Alameda. Is your business ready to take advantage of them?

Join us for our Alameda State of the City and learn about top-level priorities like economic development and infrastructure, as well as specific policies and programs the City is implementing in 2022. Learn how the City is making targeted investments to help residents and businesses grow and strengthen the economy in ways that are equitable, sustainable, and innovative. Plus, don't miss a special Q&A session with Mayor Ashcraft, City Manager Eric Levitt, Director of Housing and Transportation Andrew Thomas, Police Chief Nishant Joshi, and Fire Chief Nicholas Luby.

We are moving forward to returning to business and building a better Alameda. There's more than just spring in the air these days. There's an air of hope.



PORTION OF PROCEEDS  
WILL BE DONATED TO  
RHYTHMIC CULTURE  
WORKS

**TICKETS**

- PER PERSON: \$120 STARTING 3/17
- TABLE (8) WITH BUSINESS SHOWCASE TABLE: \$1500

Chamber Partner Sponsor:



Event Sponsors:
























**REGISTER HERE:**  
[bit.ly/StateofAlameda](https://bit.ly/StateofAlameda)

**Nishant Joshi**, and Fire Chief **Nicholas Luby**. Several PCCD and CoA members signed up to attend the event, including PCCD Trustee **Bill Withrow**, PCCD Interim Chancellor **Dr. Jannett N. Jackson**, PCCD Interim Deputy Chancellor/Chief Operating Officer **Dr. Stephanie Droker**, CoA Classified Senate President and Project Manager/Transitions Liaison **Kawanna Rollins**, CoA Communications Instructor **Jennifer Fowler**, CoA Vice President Instruction **Dr. Diana Bajrami**, CoA Vice President of Student Services **Dr. Tina Vasconcellos**, and CoA President **Dr. Nathaniel Jones III**.



## CoA's Virtual Soul Food Presentation Celebrates Tradition

On Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at noon, College of Alameda hosted the 7th Annual Sunday Dinner Celebration. The event was sponsored by Peralta Association of African American Affairs (PAAAA) and the CoA Office of Student Activities and Campus Life. Guest Speakers included CoA President **Dr. Nathaniel Jones III**, and CoA Emeritus Classified Professional **Reverend Brenda Lewis**

In addition to an interactive workshop featuring guest speakers, movie clips, and noteworthy references to recipes and cookbooks, participants also enjoyed a delicious Grab-and-Go lunch outdoors in the Quad area.

Members of the Black History Month Committee who helped organize the event included: **Jody Campbell, Rochelle Olive, Carla Pegues, La Shawn Brumfield, Natalie Rodriguez, Shawn Foster, Selwyn Montgomery, Ben Hutchison, Lamar Rice, and Carmel Moorer.**

## Student Testimonial: Black History Presentations

*"The Virtual Soul Food and We Still Here presentations were amazing! I had never thought about the meaning of Soul Food. Soul Food means love, family, and traditions. Sunday dinner is all about family gathering together. Eating is always part of our traditions. Sadly, our new generations are losing these traditions but we have to do something. I like the idea of starting a family tradition. I'm thinking of beginning to get my family together and cook our traditional dishes.*

*In the We Still Here presentation I learned how important it is to help our communities. It is important to get together as a community and stand up for our rights. I have learned how we can fight for the things that we want together as a community. I like the idea of traveling around the world and helping people. Learning what they need and what they want. These were very inspirational presentations."* **—CoA Student Sonia Gonzalez**



COLLEGE OF ALAMEDA  
PRESENTS

# WELLNESS DAY

YOGA STARTS AT 12:30PM

MEET US IN THE COA QUAD

APRIL  
13TH

12 - 2:30 PM

FREE ACAI BOWLS (BRING YOUR  
STUDENT SCHEDULE), YOGA,  
MUSIC, THERAPY DOGS, ART  
TABLE

CONTACT LISA, HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATOR @ #510-748-2320  
LISASAWADOGO@PERALTA.EDU

## CoA Student Launches Wellness Day

Wellness Day at CoA will take place on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, from noon to 2:30 p.m., outdoors in the Quad area. There will be a variety of stress reducing activities, including healthy acai bowl lunches, a live DJ, yoga session, therapy dogs, and an art table.

Financial Aid representatives also will be available providing students with fun activities and important information about the financial aid application process. The event has been organized by Health Services Coordinator **Lisa Sawadogo**, College to Career

(C2C) Coordinator/ Counselor **Jennifer Sanoh**, Student Accessibility Services Counselor, **Dr. Jacinda Marshall**, Director of Student Activities and Campus Life **Natalie Rodriguez**, Staff Assistant to the Dean of Enrollment Service **Nickey Chao**, and Dean of Enrollment Services **Dr. Amy Lee**.

WEDNESDAY  
APRIL 13  
11 - 1



# Financial Aid



## SPRING FAIR

**GAMES - FOOD - PRIZES**

**COA QUAD (IN FRONT OF THE F BUILDING)**

**JOIN STAFF TO COMPLETE YOUR FINANCIAL AID FILE, LEARN ABOUT FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS, AND GET ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS!**

**IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL STUDENT EMPLOYMENT WEEK, STUDENT EMPLOYEES WHO ATTEND WILL GET A SPECIAL GIFT!**

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE AT 510-748-2391**

## First Spring Financial Aid Fair Will Be Held On April 13, 2022

In celebration of National Student Employment Week, and as part of the Spring Wellness Day festivities, the College will hold its first Spring Financial Aid Fair on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., outdoors on the Quad Area. Free food, fun games, raffle prizes will be offered along with information on how to complete financial aid applications.



## CoA Will Participate in Spring Festival

College of Alameda will be participating in the annual City of Alameda Spring Festival and Community Expo on April 16, 2022, at the Alameda Point Gym, Multipurpose Field & Skate Park, located at 1101 West Redline Avenue in the City of Alameda. According to the organizers, CoA is a perfect addition to the festivities. CoA will offer information and activities for prospective students and their families at this fun and friendly family-oriented event. For more information click [here](#).