



# President’s Report to the PCCD Board of Trustees



March 22, 2022

Dr. Nathaniel Jones III, President



## CoA joins the Second California Community Colleges Racial Equity Leadership Alliance

CoA’s executive leadership team, is deeply committed to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) at the College. Advancing DEI is one of the four CoA institutional priorities for Academic Year 21-22. As part of our work to advance DEI and commitment to equitable student success, CoA has joined 68 other California Community Colleges in participating in the second California Community Colleges Racial Equity Leadership Alliance.



This year’s Alliance programming officially begins this month and continues the important work that started last year, implementing impactful solutions to equity challenges on college campuses. The Alliance provides member colleges with resources, trainings, and annual assessments aimed at improving equity and diversity outcomes. Facilitators are distinguished DEI leaders from national higher education associations; highly-cited professors who study race relations; chief diversity officers; and other experienced specialists from the University of Southern California (USC) [Race and Equity Center](#). The California Community Colleges

*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.*

Racial Equity Leadership Alliance was developed by USC Provost and Professor of Management and Organization **Dr. Shaun Harper**.

CoA will send up to 10 employees to each online monthly session. The three-hour monthly sessions will feature a different equity-focused topic and materials from the presentations will be freely accessible to all member college employees via a new online portal.

Since 2019, CoA has been in the process of implementing a college-wide equity and social justice focus through initiatives such as Guided Pathways, AB705, Strong Workforce, Student Equity and Achievement, and supporting Board of Governor's Vision for Success. As a California Community Colleges Racial Equity Leadership Alliance member, CoA hopes to build upon its previous achievements and assess outcomes for continuous quality improvement. To this end, CoA will administer the USC Race and Equity Center's new climate survey made available to all Alliance member institutions in September/October 2022.




CoA's ACCESO Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Panel Discussion was held on March 3, 2022.

## ACCESO Spring 2022 Career Panel Series Continues at CoA

College of Alameda's Adelante con Comunidad, Excelencia, Sabiduría y Oportunidad program ([ACCESO](#)) Program, under the direction of **Mr. Horacio Corona Lira**, continued its Spring 2022 Career Panel Series on Thursday, March 3, 2022, with a career panel focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). The panel discussion was co-hosted by CoA's Math Engineering Science Achievement (MESA) Program. Panelists from a variety of professional fields included: [Oak Ridge National Laboratory](#) Tech Professional Materials Researcher **Ms. Alexis Flores-Betancourt**, [AMGEN, Inc.](#), Process Development Scientist **Mr. Miguel Gomez**, [SC Solutions, Inc.](#), Senior Engineer **Mr. Michael Perez**, and [Autodesk](#) Senior Data Scientist **Ms. Yizel Vizcarra**. The panelists recounted their own educational and career journeys, provided career advice, and answered students' questions.



*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.*

ACCESO's Spring 2022 Career Panel Series continues on April 7, 2022, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., with a discussion of Vocational and Certificate Careers, and the final presentation, titled Careers in Medical Field, will take place on Thursday, May 5, 2022, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.



## Stage 2: Frame the Problem / Identify Specific Challenges

What issue in the student experience (or other user) are you trying to address? Why is it important? Who does it affect?



## Special Workshop Explores Equity in a Guided Pathways Framework

In February 2022, the National Center for Inquiry and Improvement (NCII) presented an online workshop titled Operationalizing the Big Ideas of Guided Pathways with a Design and Implementation Framework. The workshop was facilitated by NCII Founder and President **Dr. Robert Johnstone**, CoA President **Dr. Nathaniel Jones III**, Acting Vice President of Instruction **Dr. Diana Bajrami**, and Director of College Research and Planning **Ms. Dominique Benavides** attended the event.

The workshop explored ways that colleges can design and implement improved student experiences under a guided pathways framework using an equity lens. Participants were encouraged to brainstorm new institutional approaches that would enhance students' sense of connection, belonging, and validation. Suggested activities included: identifying and discussing limiting assumptions and beliefs about students and systems, benchmarking best practices at peer institutions, and using a Disney Imagineer approach to problem solving, in order to ensure that students of all backgrounds have equally positive college experiences resulting in academic success.



Photo from left: Laney College President Dr. Rudy Besikof, CoA President Dr. Nathaniel Jones III, Berkeley City College President Dr. Angélica Garcia, and Merritt College President Dr. David M. Johnson at the CCLC 2022 CEO Symposium in San Diego in early March.

## Community College League of California (CCLC) 2022 CEO Symposium

CoA President Jones joined other PCCD college presidents at the CCLC 2022 CEO Symposium in San Diego in early March. The CEO Symposium is the annual convening for California Community College chancellors, superintendent/presidents and presidents from across the state. It is the sole CEO-only event providing a forum for statewide

leaders to convene panel discussions, share information and promising practices, and network with colleagues in an informal environment. Of special interest were the following General Sessions: Beyond COVID-19: Prioritizing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Reimagining the Future Through a Fiscal Policy Lens: ECA, TCR, & Hold Harmless Changes; and A Conversation with Chancellor **Eloy Ortiz Oakley**.

*Tea with Tina*

Spring Semester 2022  
Room A103



Join me for open office hours for students, classified professionals and faculty to gather for informal dialogue while enjoying tea and coffee (feel free to bring your lunch). Please just drop by, no appointment necessary.

10:00-11:00am  
Tuesday- March 15, 2022  
Tuesday- April 12, 2022  
Tuesday- May 10, 2022

## VPSS Dr. Tina Vasconcellos Invites Participation in College Dialogues

Vice President of Student Services **Dr. Tina Vasconcellos** is inviting students, faculty, and staff to join her in Room A103 for tea and informal discussions about college-related matters. The dialogues are intended to help improve institutional effectiveness and ensure continuous improvement of student learning

and achievement. Upcoming Teas with Tina will take place on April, 12 and May 10, 2022.