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Dr. Nathaniel Jones III

President’s Corner: Stronger Together

I’m truly honored and excited to be College of Alameda’s new president and I’m looking forward to learning from and listening to the campus and community members in the coming months, so that I better understand what is important to you, what works well here, and what you think could be enhanced. I celebrate with you the good work that has been done and lives that have been positively impacted over the past 50 years and look forward to building on this solid foundation, a vision for the future of College of Alameda that is bold, courageous, and reflective of our community and our values — Academic excellence, commitment to diversity and equity, strong fiscal stewardship, and robust community engagement.

This year has challenged all of us in unprecedented ways. Community college students around the state and in our own back yard, especially those who are most vulnerable, are facing tremendous difficulties due to the ongoing pandemic. I applaud the efforts of all of you here, who have worked hard to ensure that our students continue to have opportunities to learn and make it from one day to the next. Many of you have gone above and beyond, under truly extraordinary circumstances, to support our students and one another. I thank you for your compassion and dedication to our College and the community we serve.

I am confident that, by working together, we will persevere and come through these challenging times stronger and more united, both as a college and as a community. Stay safe!

Warmest regards,

Dr. Nathaniel Jones III
President
College of Alameda

Additional Covid-19 Aid Is Being Distributed to Students

College of Alameda is disbursing \$150,000 in additional COVID Aid this fall. Students with the highest EFC (Expected Family Contribution), Dreamers, and AB540 students are receiving these grants. COVID Aid is funded by leveraging College CARES Act funds and Student Equity & Achievement (SEA) Funds.

Free lunches continue into December

Free Grab.n.Go lunches will continue to be distributed to students next distribution dates are December 11 and 18 from X:00 to Y:00 at Z location.

Submitted by Dr. Tina Vasconcellos, Vice President of Student Services, Accreditation Liaison Officer



A New Health and Wellness Toolkit Is Available Online

Kudos to **Dean of Counseling and Special Programs Dr. Shalamon Duke** for making the Health & Wellness Toolkit available to students, on the [Mental Health Services](#) webpage.

Difficult circumstances and uncertainty can lead to symptoms of anxiety and depression. The Toolkit includes vital tips to improve overall health and well-being. Campus and community resources are listed, too. We wish all of you a great end to the semester and a restful holiday break!

Submitted by Lisa Sawadogo, LPCC, NCC, Health Services Coordinator

CSU Has Extended the Fall 2021 Priority Application Deadline

Now that the Fall 2021 priority application period deadline is only days away, we want to make sure you have everything you need to assist your students.

As you hopefully have heard, CSU is extending the Fall 2021 priority application deadline to December 15, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. This is being done to better serve high school and community college students who may be facing university admissions challenges caused by COVID-19. The Cal State Apply Support hours have been extended as well. We encourage applicants to submit as soon as possible.

The deadline for the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) application has also been extended. You and your students can review the campus deadlines on the [EOP Admission by Term](#) site.

Students who have experienced a significant change in income may qualify for an application fee waiver appeal. Fee waiver appeals are handled by the individual CSU campuses. Contact information for all campuses can be found at: <https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/Pages/contact-a-campus.aspx>.

All Cal State Apply resources are posted to the [Counselor Resource](#) site under the Transfer Students section.

- [Cal State Apply Counselor Presentation for Transfers](#)
- [Transfer Application Guide 2021-22](#)
- [Top Transfer Application Do's and Don'ts](#)
- [Education Opportunity Program Worksheet](#)

Lastly, if applicants encounter issues, they can contact the Cal State Apply Support Team:

- Applicant Support Email: calstateapply@liaisoncas.com
- Applicant Support Phone: 857-304-2087
- Applicant Support Chat: Live Chat support located in [Help Center](#)

Submitted by Dr. Shalamon Duke, Dean, Counseling & Special Programs

Bookstore Reduces Pick-up and Delivery Hours

Until further notice, Bookstore pick-up and delivery hours have been reduced to Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Staff will be in the Bookstore Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. working on online orders; staff, faculty and department requests; and textbook adoptions.

Submitted by Rawy Guirguis, College of Alameda Bookstore



CoA Cougar mascot greets guests at the College's 50th Online Anniversary Gala, on December 1, 2020

Over 170 Guests Attended CoA's Online 50th Anniversary Gala

The upbeat online celebration of CoA's 50th Anniversary took place on December 1, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. It opened with a cheerful greeting from the College's Cougar mascot, thanks to **Joshua Sanders, Student Athlete/Men's Basketball team member**, who donned the costume for the occasion. **CoA President Dr. Nathaniel Jones III**, gave the official welcome. Over 170 students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community members attended the gala, which featured heartwarming student testimonials and special guest presentations by **Alameda Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Interim PCCD Chancellor Dr. Carla Walter, PCCD Trustee Bill Withrow, and Chief Executive Officer of Alameda Alliance for Health Scott Coffin**, among others.

Thanks to generous donations by such Gala Sponsors as the **Alameda Alliance for Health, the Alameda Rotary Club, NOLL & TAM Architects, Roebbelen Contracting, Inc.**, and many individual donors, the Gala raised over \$10,000 for CoA student scholarships and emergency grants. The CoA Bookstore donated raffle prizes, which were given away by **CoA Director of ACCESO/Puente Programs Horacio Corona Lira**. The live fundraising portions of the Gala was hosted by **CoA Vice President of Instruction Dr. Don Miller** and **PCCD Foundation Executive Director LaNiece Jones**.

Additional presentations by CoA faculty, administrators and staff included: **Academic Senate President Dr. Matthew Goldstein, Classified Senate President Kawanna Rollins, Vice President of Instruction Dr. Don Miller, and Vice President of Student Services Dr. Tina Vasconcellos**. In addition, guests were treated to a fashion show by Apparel Design and Merchandise Department (ADAM) students, **ADAM Professor O.J. Roundtree, and ADAM Professor Derek Piazza**; a dance performance by **Dance Professor Danny Nguyen** and students; and a music performance by **Music Department Chair Silvester Henderson, Music Professor Glen Pearson, and CoA vocal students**. One of the highlights of the evening featured the CoA FabLab's **Danny Beesley, Vincent Stevenson, Miguel Vega**, students, and community members,

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

highlighting the FabLab’s heroic efforts to make personal protective equipment (PPE) available in recent months for frontline workers and those in need.

Special thanks go to members of the CoA 50th Anniversary Gala planning committee, for their work on the event, including **Associate Dean of Educational Success Paula Armstead, Director of Workforce Systems Stefanie Bradshaw, Dean of Liberal Studies and Language Arts Lilia Celhay, Director of HSI ACCESO/Puente Programs Horacio Corona Lira, Dean of Career and Workforce Education, Customized Training and Community Education Eva Denise Jennings, Vice President of Instruction Dr. Don Miller, Campus Senior Network and Systems Administrator Bala Samparthraj, Marketing/PIO Consultant Cathy Summa-Wolfe, Executive Assistant to the President Teodora Washington, and Staff Services Specialist Shane Williams.** Video production was expertly done by **Peralta TV staff members Angel Hunter and Joe Sullivan, under the direction of PCCD PIO Executive Director Mark Johnson.** If you missed the Gala, you may view a recording online at <https://event.webinarjam.com/go/replay/1/186rvtyt4inik>.



Make Your *Splash!*

- Student success stories.
- Grant updates, applications, special projects, or programs of interest.
- Program, committee, department news, and updates.
- Faculty and staff awards, appointments, achievements, or kudos.
- Special hours and information for online or other services and classes.
- Upcoming deadlines that students or colleagues should know about.
- Event information.
- Other news.

Send us your news, so that we may share it with the campus and the community in the next edition of *Splash!* It’s easy –just send us a short article and a good photo or two, and we will take care of the rest. Do not forget to include the name of the writer, the photographer, and anyone who is pictured (if possible).

Please email your news and information to: coasplash@peralta.edu and be sure to include the word “*Splash*” in the subject line.

Past issues of the *CoA Splash* are available at <https://alameda.peralta.edu/newsletter/coa-splash/>