

# ATD Details



Photos from Culture and Conversation: Communities Supporting Communities

**West's Student Success Committee (a committee of the Academic Senate) has adopted the Achieving the Dream framework to accomplish its goal of increasing student success.**

Upcoming Events

**Student Success/ATD Core Team Meeting**  
Dec 2 | 3:30 pm | GC 210K

**ATD Data Team Meeting**  
Dec 1 | 2:45 pm | GC 210K

**Spring Summit**  
February 5, 2016

**ATD Coach Visit**  
March 17, 2016

**Leadership Retreat**  
April 29, 2016

*Achieving the Dream uses a student-centered model of institutional improvement focused on creating a culture of evidence in which data and inquiry drive broad-based institutional efforts to close achievement gaps and improve student outcomes overall.*

**ATD College Priorities**

- Successful completion of the English sequence from English 21 through English 101
- Successful completion of Elementary Algebra through Intermediate Algebra
- Successful achievement of degrees and certificates

**Intervention Strategies**

- Enhanced Tutoring
- Professional Development
- Navigating West (Enhanced Communication with Students)

**View the full Proposal at**  
[http://www.wlac.edu/studentsuccess/atd/atddocuments/West\\_ATD\\_Implementation\\_Proposal.pdf](http://www.wlac.edu/studentsuccess/atd/atddocuments/West_ATD_Implementation_Proposal.pdf)



## COREspondence Core Team News

### Clare Norris and Mary-Jo Apigo, Core Team Leaders

Here is an update on West's three intervention strategies:

**NAVIGATING WEST.** Tamara Jones-Jamison, the new leader of the Discipline Advising initiative at West, attended the November Student Success Committee meeting, and she reported that she will continue the work that Helen Young started with West CTE programs. Many of those programs have ongoing efforts that include some type of faculty advising. Her goal is to pair a counselor with each program.

After reviewing the results of the August 25, 2015 Semester Kickoff survey, we found that of the 129 surveys we received, in response to this statement, "This session helped to prepare me for the semester, 127 responses were either "Strongly Agree" or "Agree." Students also requested breakfast at the next Kickoff, more information about financial aid, and more presentations from current or former West students.

**ENHANCED TUTORING.** The proposal submitted by West's Student Success Committee leaders to the Equity Plan Workgroup to fund West's Supplemental Instruction program was accepted! Thus, we are poised to hire a Supplemental Instruction Coordinator for West and hope to do so by the end

of the semester. The draft job description includes training and supervising SI leaders, communicating and coordinating with discipline faculty members, and calling and chairing meetings of SI Leaders and other stakeholders. At the October 23rd Student Equity Summit, there was much discussion of the value of offering ongoing training to all members of West's instructional assistance staff.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.** See Professor Mary Hardy's reflection on the Fall Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning trainings on page 2.

West's annual Leadership Retreat has been postponed to April 29, 2016.

Another One Book, One College event is coming up on November 24th at 1:00 in Winlock Lounge. Professor Anthony Lee will facilitate a discussion on the Black community and Black family in the era of Jim Crow as it relates to the Lacks family.

Under Nancy Sander's leadership, the Reading Apprenticeship (RA) Focused Inquiry Group (FIG) is continuing to meet. The next RA FIG meeting will be Monday, November 30. Please contact Nancy Sander for more information at (310) 287-4584 or [sandern@wla.edu](mailto:sandern@wla.edu).

**ATD Core Team**

- Aracely Aguiar
- Mary-Jo Apigo, Administrative Leader
- Patricia Banday\*
- Yervant Boghos
- Shalomon Duke
- Adrienne Foster\*
- Dolores Gallegos
- Michael Goltermann
- Manushak Movsisyan
- Clare Norris\*, Faculty Leader
- Karen Quitschau\*
- Matthew Robertson\*
- Tim Russell\*
- Melinda Smith
- Robert Sprague
- Buck Stapleton
- Vidal Valle\*
- Helen Young

**ATD Data Team**

- Celena Alcala
- Linda Alexander, Co-Chair
- Chuck Amaugo
- Elizabeth Bell, Co-Chair
- Agyeman Boateng, Co-Chair
- Patricia Banday\*
- Art Lara
- Matthew Robertson\*
- Tim Russell\*

\*Student Success Committee Members



## STUDENTalk

By Ronisha Hayden

### CULTURE & CONVERSATION: Communities Supporting Communities

The Culture and Conversation event was a dream come true! As a student, it's such a privilege to see the thoughts of a collective group of people manifest into an affair of great importance. This event provided a safe space for students to freely express themselves. With the collaborative efforts of the Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning Team, ASO, The Reachers Club, and FORWARD, the 3-part series of CULTURE & CONVERSATION jumped off with Communities Supporting Communities as the first theme. Students graced the stage with great enthusiasm to represent their cultures and express their concerns through the arts. Following the performances, there was an intimate conversation and an art project, which allowed students and faculty to understand one another as well as work together in a group setting.

It's easy to forget that instructors are also human when viewing them from a classroom desk among 40 other students. In the same light, instructors may not understand all challenges that their students face. CULTURE & CONVERSATION provided a platform for faculty and students to have such dialogue with the hope of bringing communities together one conversation at a time.



## STUDENTalk

By Van Hurley

### CULTURE & CONVERSATION: Communities Supporting Communities

We are in a pivotal time of existence in our world. Our world is ablaze with fear, ignorance and apathy towards our fellow man. From the savage attacks abroad in Paris, the abhorrent treatment of Blacks and Browns by the institutionally corrupt justice system in America, to the war torn lands of Syria, crisis is everywhere. Yet, despite all that despair, we find hope.

The event, Culture and Conversation: Communities Supporting Communities, sponsored by the Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning Team (CRTL), Associated Students Organization (ASO), FORWARD, and the Reachers Club, was rooted in the idea of being one of many various entities of hope. Simply, if we acknowledge and accept the humanity of others, then we can be the instruments of hope and change.

The intentionality of our event was to open a dialogue between, not only various cultures, but students and faculty members through the lens of poetry, music and visual arts. We stressed the significance of communication amongst all. It is our differences of ethnicity, culture, age, etc., that make us beautiful and unique while all of our similarities demonstrate our humanity. This opportunity to see our instructors as three-dimensional people was priceless. In summation, the event was a success, and I look forward to more Culture & Conversation events in the future.



### Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning (CRTL) at West by Mary Hardy, Adjunct Professor of Anthropology

Under the auspices of Student Equity, Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning (CRTL) at West seeks to increase awareness, encourage self-reflection, and shift perceptions and practices at our multicultural college by strengthening the skills necessary for positive interaction within and between cultural groups. The CRTL Team, composed of two staff and two faculty, provides safe spaces to share stories and engage in honest dialogue, leading to pathways of understanding, tolerance, and meaningful social change at West and beyond.

This fall, the Team hosted two workshops (Exploring Mindsets and Learning; and Social Capital – Building Bridges, Expanding Networks) and participated in the Faculty Teaching and Learning Academy (FTLA) at Pierce College and a 3CSN Summit at Mission College. The Team also hosted the first in a planned series of student-led events, Culture and Conversation: Communities Supporting Communities, in collaboration with ASO, The Reachers Club, and FORWARD. (See the StudentTalk columns above for reflections on the event.)

This spring, the Team is planning two more workshops (Meanings of Culture and Race; and Overcoming Stereotype Threat), as well as activities at the Spring Leadership Retreat and FTLA. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information, visit: <http://www.wlac.edu/Professional-Learning/Professional-Learning-Events/crtl.aspx>.



*Save the Date*

2015  
**Holiday Party**

Thursday, December 10, 2015  
5 pm – 9 pm  
Location: TBD (off campus)  
Cost: TBD (based on the number of RSVP)

