

ATD Details

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
Sept 2 | Oct 7 | Nov 4 | Dec 2
3:30 pm | GC 210K

ATD Data Team Meeting
Oct 6 | Nov 3 | Dec 1
2:45 pm | GC 210K

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/studentssuccess/atd/atddocuments/West_ATD_Implementation_Proposal.pdf

West Designated as ATD Leader College



West Los Angeles College earned Leader College distinction — a national designation awarded to community colleges that commit to improving student success and closing achievement gaps. West has shown how data can inform policy and practice to help community college students achieve their goals, resulting in improved skills, better employability, and economic growth for families, communities, and the nation as a whole.

COREspondence Core Team News

Clare Norris and Mary-Jo Apigo, Core Team Leaders

West had seven faculty, staff, and administrators attend this year's Strengthening Student Success Conference in Oakland. Read about some of the attendees' experiences on page 2. Here is an update on West's three intervention strategies:

NAVIGATING WEST. After doing a lot of work with West's Discipline Advising efforts, Transfer Center director, Helen Young has passed the baton to her counseling colleague, Tamara Jones-Jamison. The Student Success Committee is eager to work with Tamara on this critical element of our ATD Implementation Proposal (http://www.wlac.edu/studentssuccess/atd/atddocuments/West_ATD_Implementation_Proposal.pdf).

Read two more StudentTalk columns about our August 25th Semester Kickoff on page 2.

ENHANCED TUTORING. West's Supplemental Instruction (SI) program is ongoing. English faculty members are working with SSSP and the Equity Plan Workgroup to hire and train Supplemental Instruction leaders and the instructors working with them. Student Success Committee leaders have also submitted a proposal to the Equity Plan Workgroup to fund the SI program including an SI Coordinator. 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. In the October 7, 2015 Board of Trustees regular meeting

minutes, in their discussion of the District Scorecard Outcomes, a concern was raised about the inconsistency of funding "fundamental interventions known to help students (such as supplemental instruction)" (7). This is just one more demonstration of the proven value of SI. Read the Board minutes here: <http://www.laccd.edu/Board/Pages/Board-Minutes.aspx>.

Other ideas for bolstering West's tutoring programs are circulating through the Student Success Committee and Equity Plan Workgroup. With "Enhanced Tutoring" as one of our ATD intervention strategies, we are eager to support the institutionalization of this service at the college.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT. The second Fall 2015 Culturally Responsive training is scheduled for **November 13**.

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

Another One Book, One College event is coming up on **November 4th at 1:00 in HLRC 316**. Bonnie Blustein will lead a discussion on the Afterward of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*: Ethics and Scientific Research in a Profit Driven Society.

Under Nancy Sander's leadership the Reading Apprenticeship (RA) Focused Inquiry Group (FIG) is continuing to meet. Please keep an eye out for future RA events, and contact Nancy Sander for more information 310-287-4584/sandern@wla.edu.

ATD Core Team
Aracely Aguiar
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Patricia Bandy*
Yervant Boghos
Shalomon Duke
Adrienne Foster*
Dolores Gallegos
Michael Goitermann
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 Alcalá
Linda Alexander,
Co-Chair
Chuck Amaugo
Elizabeth Bell,
Co-Chair
Agyeman Boateng, Co-Chair
Patricia Bandy*
Art Lara
Matthew Robertson*
Tim Russell*

***Student Success
Committee Members**



STUDENTalk about the Fall 2015 Semester Kickoff

By Leo Gomes



My name is Leonardo, and I'm from Brazil. I'm 21 years old and currently living in Santa Monica with my aunt and brother. I like spending time with family, friends or studying. I do love soccer as many other Brazilians. I have been drawing since I was a kid, and I love it. It was just a hobby to me, but I decided to take the chance to study drawing and work with it one day. I'm expecting to become a graphic designer or an animator earning an arts degree and a graphic design certificate. I'm also thinking about transferring to a university.

The orientation on August 25th was very important to me. I got to know what to expect from my classes and met my new classmates. I also learned how to log-in on Etudes, since half of the class is online as a hybrid class. I took a tour around the college and got to know important facilities such as the library, computer lab etc. I also had a couple of pieces of pizza; it was very cool from WLAC. There were very helpful people at tents intended to help anyone with questions about the college, classes schedule, books etc. I really enjoyed the orientation day.

By Mazyar MahdaviFar

I graduated from my university as a medical doctor, but after a few years working in a hospital, I decided to come back to my childhood dream job, which was being a media personality. Since 2009, I have been producing



radio programs about health and medical topics for Persian radio, some of which have become very popular. Meanwhile, I started to write medical articles for magazines and online media such as social websites. However, all my experience was in my native Farsi. For this reason, when I came to the U.S. in 2013, I found out that if I want to be successful in the competitive world of media, I need to improve my skills and achieve more credits to be able to publish my work in English media. So, I decided to apply for a master's program in Specified Journalism, which is available at USC. To be eligible for this program, I am trying to improve my English skills specifically writing skills, which is critical for a journalist. That is why I am at WLAC. Now a little about the orientation session at West.

It was about 11 o'clock in the morning when I checked my mobile phone, and I noticed that I had an audio message from an unknown number. When I pushed the button, there was a kind message from Karen, my instructor at WLAC, who was inviting me to join the orientation session, which was supposed to be held on campus, one week prior to official starting of the semester. Although I usually do not like to attend at such formal meetings, this warm message made me to make a plan to participate in this session. Because it was a one-to-one call invitation by my instructor, I thought it would be my responsibility to be there. I should say that it was a good meeting and I liked it very much. In this two-hour orientation session we met all ESL instructors, as well as some of our classmates, and received some important and necessary details about the course. In addition, our instructor introduced us Etudes.org, which is the name of the website that we will use for our online part of the course. After all, there was a small pizza party at the yard. However, I did not grab a piece of pizza because I believe that pizza is not a healthy food and I try to avoid such foods. I hope next year we could have a green salad party at West Los Angeles College.

2015 Strengthening Student Success Conference



On October 7, 2015, I participated in a series of learning workshops on engaging students and narrowing the equity gaps among campus identified with underperforming student groups. The data revealed underprepared student performed at lower levels and hence took longer to complete a two year program. The most common thread essential to student success evolved around collaborations within the campus and the community. Moreover, the instructional departments and the programs on campus created a student experience which was nurturing, connected and focused. The workshops provided evidence that

accelerated pathways for English and basic skills math are key to increasing transfer levels and course completion within two years. For example, Rose Hill Community College District holds a one-day outreach session to assess, counsel with a CSEP, direct contact with instructors and ending the day with the student enrolled in three full semesters of study. We are fortunate at WLAC to have faculty embracing change and implementing these practices benefitting the underserved population identified in our student equity plan. - Sheila Jeter-Williams

I recently went to the Strengthening Student Success conference where I attended various sessions. I learned a lot from all of them, but the session I enjoyed the most was a presentation by a librarian and basic skills instructor pair. They shared how they partnered to introduce information literacy (IL) to basic skills students, the librarian's view of IL as a basic skill and how she was scaffolding IL throughout the curriculum at her college.



It was great to meet once more with my colleagues from the College of Marin and talk about our One College, One Book programs. We first met at the Basic Skills Initiative Leadership Institute over the summer where we planned our common read initiatives. We compared progress and again took ideas from each other for promoting our programs. - Susan Trujillo

Look who got CoreNerd!



This month's CoreNerd is **Cecilia Schumake**. She is the Program Coordinator for CalWORKs. **FUN FACT:** She is very crafty and enjoys sewing, quilting, crocheting, scrapbooking, and calligraphy.

