

# ATD Details



Strengthening Student Success Conference 2016 and LA College Promise Implementation Training, (photos on right)

**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**  
Oct 5 | Nov 2 | Dec 7 | 3:00 pm | GC 210K

**ATD Data Team Meeting**  
Oct 26 | GC 210K

**Achieving the Dream Conference**  
February 21-24, 2017

*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](http://www.wlac.edu/studentssuccess/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 our intervention strategies: **NAVIGATING WEST.** West is excited to be participating in the LA College Promise (LACP), which will offer a one year for Los Angeles Unified School District senior at an LACCD college tuition free. Deborah Harrington, LACCD's Dean of Student Success, is coordinating the colleges' planning efforts, and she led the October 14th LACP College Implementation Team Training, where West had the largest team in attendance. The West team is working on developing a plan that will likely include cohort Summer Bridge and First Year Experience programs for the group of incoming LAUSD graduates. The team discussed including a Student Success Course, Supplemental Instruction, and Faculty Training elements in our plan.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.**

A team from West also attended the 2016 Strengthening Student Success Conference. The Conference's Theme was *Shared Responsibility* and included sessions about supporting college readiness, learning in the classroom and beyond, and professional learning, and transforming the institution.

The Annual ATD DREAM Conference is coming up February 21st through 24th. The ATD Co-Chairs are working to put together a team from West to attend. We hope to have a team formed and registered before the end of the semester. If you are interested in attending, please contact Mary-Jo Apigo or Clare Norris-Bell.

The members of West's Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning team, Jeanene Ames, Farrah Esmaeli, Arnedra Jordan, Sergio Becerra, Clarissa Castellanos, Tamara Jones, Lizbeth Martinez, and Stella Setka were trained this summer at Pierce College and will offer workshops over the course of this academic year. The first CRTL training event is coming up on Wednesday, October 26th at 4:00 in GC160, and includes a discussion about the best ways for us to support first-generation college students led by Stella Setka, Clarissa Castellanos, and Lizbeth Martinez.

Under Nancy Sander's leadership, the Reading Apprenticeship (RA) Focused Inquiry Groups (FIGs) are expanding. There are now specialized FIGs for math and science along with the ongoing general RA FIG. Please contact Nancy Sander for more information [310-287-4584/sandern@wlac.edu](mailto:310-287-4584/sandern@wlac.edu).

**One College, One Book: In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto by Michael Pollan**

West's One Book Focused Inquiry Group will host a screening of the documentary film *In Defense of Food* on Thursday, at 1:00 on October 27th in MSA 003. Then, the month of November will be filled with more activities related to this year's One Book. Nancy Sander will lead a discussion of the Western Diet on November 10th in at 1:00 in GC210K. Clare Norris (she hopes with the help of some colleagues) will lead a discussion of The Influence of the Food Industry on the Western Diet on November 30th at 1:00 in GC250.

**ATD Core Team**

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

**ATD Data Team**

- Celena Alcala
- Linda Alexander, Co-Chair
- Chuck Amaugo
- Jeanene Ames
- Elizabeth Bell, Co-Chair
- Agyeman Boateng, Co-Chair
- Patricia Bandy\*
- Kevin Coffee
- Matthew Robertson\*
- Tim Russell\*

**\*Student Success Committee Members**



## STUDENTalk

**By Amy Loudermilk, English 100 SI Leader**

*"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way." - John C. Maxwell*



At the age of seventeen, I graduated high school 6 months early which began a new chapter in my life as a college student. When I got to class on the first day of school sitting in an English class thinking to myself, "I'm going to have to take this class over again because I am not good at writing essays." Writing an essay was always a struggle for me; I was scared on the inside by a memory being stuck in my head as a young girl.

When I was in second grade, I walked up to my teacher to give her my paper that I wrote, and she ripped it up right in front of me and told me to do it over again. After that, I walked back to my desk feeling discouraged and thinking I was never going to be able to become a successful writer.

The accelerated English 21 class I took with Professor Tejada helped me out in so many ways that I could never imagine. It helped me to acknowledge and ask my professor for help when I needed it rather than pulling away. The class also had an extra resource which was an SI leader who helped me out a lot with basic writing skills. Sometimes a student, like me, needs an extra push, and the SI leader was that extra push, who kept making sure that I understood the concept of what I was supposed to do. At the end of taking English 21, I ended up mastering the writing skills to a point where I was helping others in my group who didn't understand the concepts.

Being an SI leader for two semesters has been an amazing experience that has helped me become a better leader. It has helped me to become a better leader because I am able to connect to my peers and help support them in their journey of college. I am also able

to build lasting relationships with my peers knowing that they could come and get guidance from me when they need help. This relationship that I build with students is more important because a smile is more of a big impact than the words that I tell them. It can change someone's world around to the brightest thing you have ever seen.

The Supplemental Instruction program at West Los Angeles College is a great benefit to students because it allows them to have an extra resource to help them succeed in challenging classes like English, Math, and Science. It has made an impact on students' lives to keep pushing forward no matter what comes their way knowing that they have an extra support system when they feel like throwing in the towel and saying, "I give up I can't do this anymore." This program has helped our students become successful in basic skills like algebra, English writing skills and so much more.

## DataBytes

**By Linda Alexander, ATD Data Team**

In the September newsletter, the ATD Data Team introduced the conceptual framework for the Data Summits. The focus of the Data Summits is to foster collegial dialogue on student success data. The Data Team has been moving forward on plans for the first Summit. The Data Summit Planning Group includes Rebecca Tillberg (Research and Planning), Fran Leonard (Language Arts chair), Walter Jones (Dean of Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee co-chair), Mary-Jo Apigo (Dean of Teaching and Learning), Clare Norris (Student Success Committee co-chair), Adrienne Foster (Academic Senate President), Linda Alexander (Data Team co-chair), Agyeman Boateng (Data Team co-chair), Jeanene Ames (Learning Skills Instructor and Supplemental Instruction Coordinator), Kevin Coffee (Communication Studies Instructor), and our newest Data Team members, Tim Welch (English Instructor) and Farrah Esmaeili (Math Instructor and Culturally Relevant Teaching and Learning Trainer). The target date for the first Summit is Spring 2017.

## Supplemental Instruction Update

**By Jeanene Ames**

SI leaders met our new president, Dr. Limbaugh during their October training. Dr. Limbaugh shared his experience with Supplemental Instruction and told us about a student who struggled in history; yet through the support of SI, this student persisted and continued on to earn a doctorate in history. This training was particularly inspiring because our SI leaders partnered with faculty mentors across campus to collaborate, to plan a lesson, and to lead our training. This month, SI leaders were fortunate to collaborate with: Dr. Banday and her Student Advocate, Cassidy Miller, Prof. Sander, and Prof. Horwitz.



First, Dr. Banday and Cassidy, mentored Traja Sears and Amy Loudermilk in Social Justice to present on defining exactly what Social Justice is and how Social Justice plays a role in education. Traja, Amy, and Cassidy presented a video from Darrick Smith's *Thinking about Equity* presentation at West this past spring, then had us complete self-portraits from "School A" with a plethora of resources and also at "School B" with limited resources; this activity had a profound impact on how a student's capability may be limited simply by the school that he or she attends.

Next, Prof. Sander mentored Alyssa Carrera and Eric Nuñez in Reading Apprenticeship. Alyssa and Eric introduced a new theory to our group, Freire's educational banking concept, and taught us Reading Apprenticeship's Talking to the Text. We learned the importance of taking an active role in our learning. Lastly, Prof. Horwitz mentored Bina Yasharpour and Vanessa Lanzcano-Tellez in Growth Mindset. Bina and Vanessa engaged the group with a hands-on activity using a game with cotton balls and spoons and a puzzle to illustrate that practice brings better results; they also had us participate in a speed dating type paired discussion regarding a [Growth Mindset video](#). Overall, it was a great day of modeling a Supplemental Instruction session and strategies while learning about Social Justice, Reading Apprenticeship, and Growth Mindset! A huge thank you to the faculty who mentored SI leaders: Dr. Banday, Cassidy Miller, Prof. Sander, and Prof. Horwitz, and also to faculty who attended: Fran Leonard, Leslie Tejada, Nancy Sander, Tim Russell, and Mehdi Mirfatah. A final thank you to Scott Kecken for capturing most of our training on video!



## Look who got CoreNerd!



This month's CoreNerd is **Katy Kelley**. She is the Child Development Center Director.  
**FUN FACT:** She enjoys yoga and meditation and has been practicing for the last 10 years.

