

October 2, 2015 – PR Office  
2015 FALL LACCD SYNERGY ARTICLE

# West Expands Resources and Opportunities for Students Through Partnerships

When doing more with less is a budgetary reality, it's nice to have friends who can help strengthen core programs and offer enhanced opportunities for our students. West Los Angeles College has been making just such friends lately.

## STEM & BASE 11

Last Spring, Base 11 landed at West bringing with them drone manufacturing training, FAB Lab equipment and training, entrepreneurial studies, and aerospace internships for Aviation Tech students, as well as scholarships and summer mentor and internship programs at CalTech for West STEM students. Base 11 is a non-profit advocate for tech in education.



## SERENE HAVEN & VETERANS SERVICES SUPPORT CENTER

Thanks to a donation from the Senev Family Trust, and in partnership with Serene Haven, West will house a new veterans services support center. Serene Haven is an organization that provides permanent support services to returning veterans. The center opened September 21.

“The new Center will be a great complement to the services the college currently provides to our student veterans. Now, in addition to academic and financial aid counseling, they

can receive guidance on the whole range of resources available to help them thrive in and outside of school,” said Robert Sprague, WLAC Interim President.

## SENEV FAMILY TRUST & GLOBAL INSTITUTE FOR ENTREPRENUERSHIP

The Senev Family Trust also has worked with West's extension program to launch The Global Institute for Entrepreneurship. GIE will deliver a robust curriculum through an expert panel-based seminar series combined with hands-on workshops. The lecturers and panelists will include executives from Fortune 100 companies, successful entrepreneurs, angel investors, business financiers, government contract managers, economic development representatives from the Los Angeles Mayor's office, and grant writers. Participants can develop their ideas through to



launch. They will even have an opportunity to present their concepts to potential investors. A public relations / marketing effort by the Trust has resulted in articles about West appearing on media web sites around the country and around the world, and in Times Square on the big NASDAQ screen.

### **UNIVERSITY OF WEST LOS ANGELES PARTNERSHIP**

Keeping with the global theme, West has been increasing its focus on global education by establishing a global studies Associate degree; incorporating global themes into the curriculum; welcoming international students; and increasing students' opportunities to study abroad. Through a new partnership with the University of West Los Angeles, their international students can take advantage of WLAC's Language Academy to improve their English language skills or complete needed undergraduate courses. WLAC students and those in high school outreach programs connected with the college will have greater opportunities to have study abroad. WLAC's long-time partners – the Young Black Scholars program, sponsored by 100 Black Men of Los Angeles, and The Achiever Program, sponsored by the Angel City Chapter of The Links, Inc., are working together with UWLA to raise funds for study abroad scholarships. Additionally, WLAC students will benefit from having another university that offers a seamless "2+2" transfer program. Joint educational and social enrichment activities, including Law School 101, panel chats, shared use of libraries, distinguished speakers and workshops are also planned.



*FRONT (from left): Robert Sprague, Interim President - WLAC; Hon. John Meigs; Robert Brown, President - UWLA*

*BACK (from left): Cheryl Walton, President of Angel City Chapter - The Links, Inc.; Pastor Jewett Walker, President - 100 Black Men of Los Angeles; Dr. Kathleen Burke, President - Pierce College; Sydney Kamlager, Trustee - LACCD; Dr. George McKenna III, Board Member - LAUSD*

### **JEWISH VOCATIONAL SERVICE & ONE STOP**

Soon, West will be the new home of the Jewish Vocational Service's Worksource Center. The Center, currently located in nearby Marina del Rey, provides career training resources and job search and job advancement assistance. The Employment Development Department will be the other on-campus partner providing career development and job placement services. West currently does not have a devoted Career Center so JVS will fill an important gap. Likewise, JVS clients will benefit from being on a college campus which offers varied career programs that ready students for in-demand and satisfying careers.

### **MY BROTHER'S KEEPER**

Together with the City of Culver City, West will be developing a My Brother's Keeper program of services this fall to offer readiness for elementary school, high school completion, high school to pathways for jobs and careers, and urban issues and solutions of homelessness.

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