GOOD NEWS FOR MARCH 12th, 2014

Deaf Studies
The Deaf Studies Division, in cooperation with the Japanese ASL Signers Society in Tokyo and the Nippon Foundation Scholarship Program, hosted an international video conference on last month. The conference was broadcast from the Ohlone Deaf Studies Lab to Tokyo and Kyoto Japan and to Washington, D.C.

Members of the Ohlone DeafTec Program, presented their first Project Access workshop to 14 enthusiastic Ohlone faculty members and deans. The workshop focused on Universal Design and ways to make instruction accessible to all students. The DeafTec program is sponsored by a grant from the National Science Foundation and is administered by the Rochester Institute of Technology.

High School Theater Festival
The Ohlone College High School Theater Festival celebrates its 20th anniversary next weekend. High school students from all over northern California, including Fremont and the extended Bay Area participate in this event. This year we have 27 high schools with 846 students registered, the most ever, and 90 judges. This festival is the largest in northern California and second largest in the state.

Athletic Successes
Both men’s and women’s basketball teams made it to the first round of post season play this past season. And this weekend the Ohlone College Women’s Softball team hosts the 22nd Annual March Madness Invitational Softball Tournament at Fremont’s Central Park Sports Complex for teams from Northern and Central California.

STEM Competition
Ten teams from six Bay Area high schools competed in the Ohlone College LAB Program Quiz Bowl last month. These students are enrolled in the Learning Alliance for Bioscience (LAB) Program at Ohlone College, which engages them in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) courses. Ohlone College's Biotechnology Club generously assisted at the event.

Adult Education
The College is working with the adult education programs for Newark, Fremont, and New Haven Unified School Districts to better coordinate adult education offerings in the district. In particular, Ohlone College is interested in working on short-term vocational training and English as a Second Language. Our consortium will be receiving funds under AB86 to plan this coordination effort.

Donation from CIO Group
The Ohlone College Foundation has received a donation of $11,500 from the CIO Scholarship Fund to support STEM-related programs at Ohlone College. The gift will be used to start an endowment to provide an ongoing income stream for the STEM program to support tutoring, course/lab setups, and general technology/science lab upgrades. This fund was created by the Office of the CIO, a group of experienced chief information officers from businesses in our community.

Engineering Grant
The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) has donated $2,500 for female and underrepresented students to provide an engineering solution to different humanitarian needs. The students’ product will be a working prototype of the solution. Students will present their projects at the 2014 IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology Conference.

Ohlone Promise Scholarships
The Ohlone Promise, established last year with 16 students, has been expanded this year to 20 students. You will recall that the Ohlone Promise is a multi-year “full ride” scholarship available to seniors graduating from public high schools in our district.

Screening Committee Training
In preparation for the hiring of faculty, administrators, and classified staff, the HR Department hosted an all-campus EEO Training for Screening Committees. The training was conducted by Leibert, Cassidy, Whitmore law firm and contained information on equal opportunity employment laws, diversity awareness and interpretations, and how to develop more position specific diversity interview questions. This training opportunity will continue to be offered throughout the year.

Adjunct Faculty Fair: Part-Time to Full-Time
Over 50 Ohlone adjunct faculty participated in the recent “Part-Time to Full-Time” workshop hosted by the HR Department. Participants received guidance and information on our hiring procedures, application preparation, and the interview process. This event aims to provide current adjuncts with an opportunity to become familiar with the recruitment process and answer any specific questions that they may have.

MOB
Make Ohlone Beautiful or MOB is a group made up of faculty, staff, management, and students, who works closely with the Sustainability Committee, Facilities, and the HR Department to promote responsibility and pride for the caring of our landscapes and common areas. In February, our MOB group gathered together during a rainstorm to collect bags of trash and clean up the landscaped areas and display Ohlone teamwork and pride across departments.

One Stop Audit
I’m pleased to report the 2012-13 audit report for our One Stop Center operated on behalf of the Alameda County Workforce Investment Board contained no financial or administrative findings.

New Hires for January and February
Daniel Hester—Senior Office Assistant, Campus Police
Janiece Jarman—Community Services Specialist
Krista Lane—Senior Office Assistant, Campus Police
Tessa Noriega—Learning Resources Technician
Daniel Smith—Music Library Technician/Coordinator