GOOD NEWS
MAY 2015

Classified Breakfast
In April we hosted our 7th annual classified employee appreciation breakfast. Classified staff were invited to a breakfast served by the management team in recognition of the work they do and their commitment to Ohlone’s mission, vision, values, and goals. This year was particularly enjoyable as staff, managers, and administrators participated in the “Cupid Shuffle” dance followed by team building games.

Facilities Retreat
Last week the Facilities staff participated in a “Reach the Peak” retreat facilitated by Rae Ann Ianniello, an Adjunct Speech Instructor. Prior to the retreat, the facilities staff met in small focus groups to share their thoughts and ideas about how to provide stellar service to our growing and changing campus. The retreat was an opportunity for sharing and collaborating to re-envision the department.

Scholarships
The Ohlone College Foundation has just announced its spring 2015 scholarship recipients. This year 91 students were awarded a total of $151,250 in scholarships. Of these, $90,000 will be for the Ohlone Promise, a full-ride scholarship for incoming freshmen from our district’s high schools. Special thanks goes to the over 30 volunteers who evaluated a total of 425 applications submitted by 230 students. A scholarship reception will take place on May 28 at the Newark Center to honor this year’s recipients and scholarship donors.

Corinthian College assistance
Ohlone was able to attend the Heald College Transfer Fair that was called in response to the closing of Corinthian Colleges. Ohlone had three staff cover this event that served approximately 675 students. The Chancellor’s Office is coordinating a state response to some of the financial aid, transcript, and transfer issues that these students are facing.

Respiratory Therapy
Once again, Ohlone’s Respiratory Therapy Program has been chosen among a select group to be recognized by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care to receive the Distinguished RRT Credentialing Success Award. Criteria for selection include holding accreditation without a required progress report; credentialing success of 90% or higher, and meeting or exceeding established thresholds for credentialing success, low attrition, and successful job placement.

Speech/Communication Department
The Ohlone College Communication Department has just earned national certification for its Communication Labs and Tutor Training Program. This certification comes from the National Association of Communication Centers (NACC), a division of the National Communication Association (NCA). Ohlone is only the second community college to receive this certification in the U.S.

Scorecard
One of the metrics on the Student Success Scorecard is improvement in remedial math; that is, the percentage of students whose first math class was basic skills who eventually completed a college level math course. There are 25 colleges that are grouped together as peers, and Ohlone had the highest performance rate of all 25. Our 46.1% rate of basic skills math students completing a college level math
course with a grade of C or higher was the only rate above 40%, with a peer average of 28.1% and a statewide average of 31.0%. What’s more, both our African American s and Hispanic students had the highest rate among our peers and both far exceeded the statewide rates. Bottom line…we are exceptional--#1 among our peers and #2 compared to all 112 community colleges--in preparing our basic skills math students to succeed in college level math courses!
Tonight you will hear a presentation about the Ohlone Math Gateway Program (OMGI) designed to help students better fulfill math requirements in STEM.

**Top 15**
Ohlone has been named among the top 15 CCCs in the state again. We were one of 5 medium-sized schools recognized based on graduation and transfer rates, first year retention, cost of attendance, diversity, location, and our deaf studies center. Compared to the top 15, Ohlone was 5th for graduation and transfer and 3rd for first year retention rate.

**New Hires**
Jennifer Greene--Theater Operations Technical Assistant (replacement)
Weiyang “Wendy” Lin--Alternative Media/Assistive Tech Specialist (replacement)
Luz Andrea Sanchez--Student Success Coordinator (new position—SSSP funding)