



## Message from the Director

By Robyn Wiggins



Here we are again! It's October and we are nearing the end of Term 1 classes already! We've seen a lot of changes in the past couple months. We highlighted a few of them at the Back to School meeting. Listed below are the leadership changes:

- **Kim Bellaart** is the Principal of our Academic Program and has an office on the Foothills campus.
- **Jeff Wood** "Woody" is the Principal of our CTE and LLE programs and also has an office on the Foothills campus.
- **Jeff Meredith** replaced Steve Niemeyer as Principal/Manager of the East County Career Center.
- **Matt Russo** replaced Tim Lindley as Coordinator of Re-Entry Programs (formerly Corrections Department).

We are making great progress with student transitions to college and/or the workforce. The Academic and ESL program orientations have been successful for student retention and achievement.

Lifelong Education (LLE) classes are an important part of who we are and the community we represent. Woody held a meeting in September with a few of the LLE teachers to discuss how to market LLE programs and get the word out! We also had our very first LLE PAC meeting. We invite everyone's input so please contact Woody if you are a LLE teacher and want to participate in the growth of these classes.

A few things to watch for in the next month or so:

Catastrophic Sick Leave Donation forms will be distributed in October. Donating to the sick leave bank is optional, but you are required to donate before you can utilize its benefits. I hope no one ever needs the additional sick leave, but I'm happy we are able to help anyone who may find themselves in need.

CCAIE will be hosting their annual Winter Social the first Friday in December, more information to come. I have enjoyed attending the last several years and I hope to see you there this year.

Our Third-Year WASC visitation is coming up in the spring. I want to thank **Jennifer Owens** and everyone involved in preparing us for this visit. Jennifer will have more to share in her article, don't miss it!

OASIS nomination forms will be out near the end of February. Our students, instructors, and staff are remarkable and our OASIS awards are just a small token of the appreciation we feel every day. Please distribute nomination forms to your students so they can nominate anyone they feel deserving of the award. Don't be shy, you're remarkable too!

Here's to another fantastic school year. Keep up the good work you do for your students and our community.



**Consortium Update**  
By Ute Maschke



Education That Works – Under this tagline and with a new logo, we have moved swiftly and effectively over the last months. We are successful because all of you. Thank you for your commitment, your insights, and your continuous support. Here are some facts and news:

In the summer of 2016, the consortium changed its name to East Region Adult Education (ERAE) to better reflect its members, regional partnerships, and the community. The three members (GUHSD, GCCCD, MEUSD) partners with regional businesses and schools districts, resettlement agencies, social services, city offices and the San Diego East County Chamber of Commerce.

What we also achieved:

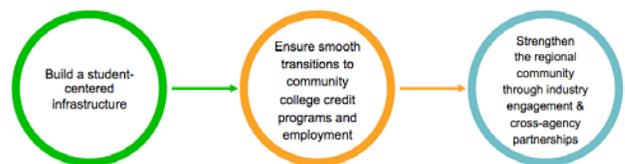
- Strong Project Area Councils coordinate and collaborate across campuses and programs, utilizing program maps as a tool for effective communication.
- Newly established relationships with the regional business community foster the development of new employment opportunities.
- Transition Services support all students from entrance into adult education (ABE, HSD/HSD, CTE, ESL), within those programs, and onto community college credit programs and career. Every student meets with a transition specialist at least once a semester. Together, the student and transition specialist develop individualized education maps, discuss changes and challenges, and access support services within the East Region.

What we will achieve this year for and with our students:

- Consortium members build a student-centered infrastructure.
- Students, teachers, and specialists utilize education maps.
- Students have the option to take accelerated classes and visit Cuyamaca and Grossmont College campuses on field trips.
- College preparation and matriculation events are offered at Grossmont Adult Education sites.
- Students will actively participate in the evaluation of courses and programs through the student advisory council.
- Professional Development Events foster collaboration between members and continuous learning across fields of expertise.

What we will achieve across our member institutions:

- GUHSD and GCCCD will provide instructor support for Mountain Empire’s Division for Adult and Alternative Education.
- Curriculum components will be aligned across consortium members for smoother transitions to community college credit programs and employment.
- Course evaluations and data-driven decisions will lead to new CTE and VESL classes and to extended services across programs and classes.



## Medical Program Update

By Carol Otjens



The Health Occupations Center started off the school year with hundreds of students who are excited about starting their educational journey leading them into a fascinating career in the healthcare industry. This year HOC will see over 1500 students enroll in over 30 CTE medical programs, covering 77 sections. Each and every student will get state of the art training from credentialed teachers direct from the medical industry. On campus instruction combined with internships, clinicals, and field trips provide an exciting, well-rounded education! Here are a couple of examples of student learning experiences.

HOC would like to introduce S.A.M, **Student Auscultation Manikin**. This innovative training equipment involves the technology of a radio-frequency identification stethoscope and the SAM Basic Manikin. By placing the SimScope over correct anatomical locations on SAM, students are able to hear simulated adult heart sounds, lung sounds and pathological conditions. Students in our Vocational Nursing Program, EMT, CNA and RN Refresher classes are using this trainer for sound identification, allowing for students to employ and enhance their diagnostic skills.



On September 16, 2016, HOC students and faculty listened intently to professional speaker; Marcus Engel, as he detailed the tragic night he suffered catastrophic injuries at the hands of a drunk driver. Students and staff who were invited to this speaking event witnessed Marcus talk about his journey through health care. Some 300 hours of reconstructive surgeries, years of hospitalization, losing his sight, rehabilitation and recovery, Marcus spoke of his experiences. His inspirational message about compassionate care by healthcare professionals resonated with students and staff reminding them of the importance and value of medical worker-patient relationships. He shared the good, the bad and the ugly of patient care. Marcus Engel is a bestselling author, professional speaker, but most significantly he is an inspiration to his audiences reminding us life is a gift. In his book, *The Other End of The Stethoscope*, Marcus states,

“I hope this book is, in some way a reward to you. An acknowledgement for doing what you do, helping those during the most difficult times and caring with compassion and thoughtfulness-even when it is not easy. Thank you for what you do.”

-Marcus Engel



## Academic Program Update

By Kim Bellaart



New classes, New faces...

It's busy as usual for academic programs this fall with many new students eager for information about how to get started earning a high school diploma or equivalency certificate. Our new system of providing an orientation class and individual academic advising is getting them started on the right foot!

So far, we have had four orientation classes for over a hundred new students and we have five more orientations scheduled in the upcoming months. During the orientation, students are introduced to all of the amazing programs in East Region Adult Education, including specific academic program options. They also hear from student ambassadors who share about their experience in adult education and the pathway they are on to meet their goals. These inspiring personal stories provide new students with a clear picture of what is possible and how adult education can help. New students create educational maps to start their own long and short term planning and then sign up for academic advising appointments where they will take a placement assessment and talk one-on-one with an academic adviser to determine the best plan to meet their needs.

A big THANK YOU goes to the Transition Specialist team of **Nikki Middleton**, **Joyce Liou**, and **Eric Miller** who do a great job leading these classes; **Pam Howard** and **Jennifer Owens** who are using their expertise to provide personalized academic advising for each new student; the student ambassadors who inspire us all; and the academic teachers, instructional aides, and office staff who have helped by leading table groups, facilitating sign ups, providing input, and being part making this valuable service available for our students! And special thanks to our grant manager, **Ute Maschke**, who is helping us connect all of our ERAE resources to better serve students!

We also have one new teacher joining us: **Rebecca Savard** is teaching Adult Basic Education at El Cajon Adult Center in the evenings. Rebecca currently teaches Special Education/English for Sweetwater Union High School District and has experience teaching Advanced ESL, ABE, and GED classes. In addition, **Jeremiah Stewart** moved from Corrections to Foothills and is now teaching ABE / GED Prep in the mornings. Welcome Rebecca and Jeremiah!

It's been great to have all the ABE, HSE and HSD teachers at our different locations continue working together this fall to make our academic programs the best they can be. PLCs are continuing to share ideas, develop clear student outcomes, and align classes to college and career readiness standards. Stay tuned for more updates as our academic programs grow!



## ESL Program Update

By Shirley Klein and Neda Shukur

VESL for Medical Careers prepares Advanced ESL students to move on to their chosen Health Care course at the Health Occupations Center through the study of medical terminology and general medical knowledge, lab practice, mathematics, and English for healthcare careers. Classes are held at El Cajon Adult Center Mondays through Wednesdays and at the Health Occupations Center on Thursdays to observe and participate in the various classes. The course began August 22 and runs for 16 weeks. Advanced ESL students can register for VESL at El Cajon Adult Center (619) 401-9750.



The following students have completed the VESL course and are continuing their studies:

- **Iman Aldahhan** finished the Dental Asst. program.
- **Manal Alsiridar** was in Introduction to Health Science and Healthcare Interpreting. She is in the Pharmacy Tech program and this semester.
- **Maria Guilarte** completed CNA and HHA, and is already working in her field!
- **Alma Hagblom** completed Medical Assisting and is now taking CNA.
- **Marah Ibrahim** completed Pharmacy Tech and was on internship.
- **Regina Miranda** was in Intro to Health Science & Sports Med.
- **Neria Esperanza** completed Medical Terminology.
- **Concepcion Ridon** completed Administrative Medical Asst., is also moving forward with her MLT pathway and is enrolled in Phlebotomy.
- **Roxana Torres** completed the Medical Asst. program.
- **Rodrigo Feranil** plans to take the Pharmacy Tech.
- **Mary Carmen Mendoza** completed the CNA program and is now employed.
- **Anielka Rivas** is in the Pharmacy Tech program this semester.



### ECCC Update By Jeff Meredith



Breaking Barriers is a program funded by the Department of Labor “Innovation Grants”. It began in Minneapolis, MN and is being copied in San Diego as part of a \$6.1 million grant that will serve over 500 clients in the San Diego area. The Breaking Barriers program empowers adults with disabilities to get beyond any barrier that may be in the way of their getting and holding on to a job.

We are fortunate at the Career Center to have two of the best running our program, **Courtney Boatman** and **Nora Nona**. Courtney is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist; she spent the last five years working with clients that had substance abuse and mental health issues. Nora has her master’s degree in school counseling and her PPS in counseling. She came to us from the San Diego Regional Center where she worked as a service coordinator.

Courtney and Nora have found themselves working on the job with their clients at Wal\*Mart, Marriott Hotels and small restaurants in East County. They have helped them with paperwork, worked with them on how to act on the job and have even washed dishes and mopped floors with them.

Within a few short months they have seen clients with significant barriers obtain employment and a new outlook on life.



## Corrections Program Update

By Matt Russo

One of our Re-entry Agriculture teachers William Moberly was a leader for the Seminar called Growing Opportunities at the San Diego Regional Firearms training Center. Bill worked closely with the East Mesa Detention facility and the San Diego Department of Health. The seminar's focus was to learn how agricultural programs can support vocational, therapeutic health, recidivism, and sustainability in San Diego County Detention and group foster care settings.



Growing Opportunities had over 80 participants that included other detention facilities up the coast. William (Bill) led the tour of his agriculture program at EMDF, and provided each attendee with a small potted plant from his program. Kathleen Smith and Ken O'haver both from Grossmont Las Colinas Agricultural program attended the event, The East Region Adult Re-entry Education formally known as Grossmont Adult Re-Entry education did a great job representing our school!!! Thank you Re-entry Teachers for all you do. :)



## CTE/LLE Update

By Jeff Wood

The Adult Education knitting and crocheting classes have, again, been a shining example of our life-long learners giving back to the children in the San Diego Region. Led by **Ursula Sorensen**, and supported by **Athena Vanderstaay**'s knitting and crocheting classes, Grossmont Adult School recently donated **57 afghans** to Project Linus who in turn delivered them to children in hospitals, foster care, and children dealing with domestic violence or abuse. Afghans are provided to organizations such as Rady's Children's Hospital, St. Vincent De Paul's Village Health Care, Little Sister-Big Sister League of San Diego, and many more agencies.

Adult Ed student **Noami Foster** serves as the Project Linus Chapter Assistant and donates much of her time to this charitable venture. In a note to the knitting and crochet classes, Ursula thanked all the adults who contributed their time and energy "to bring comfort to children in need." The motto, "I can make a difference!" shows the spirit of giving that makes Project Linus so special...and makes the students who participate in the project a "shining star" for the East Region Adult Education community. Thank you Noami, Athena, and all the knitting and crochet students.





## CCAIE Update

By Vicki Gagliardi

Welcome back! CCAIE is looking forward to another great year. We have some new Board members this year and they are already proposing some new and exciting events for the year!

This year's Board members are:

President:	Vicki Gagliardi
Vice President:	Susan Roberts-Egley
Secretary:	Georginne Parisi
Treasurer:	Jeff Meredith
Legislative Rep:	Marjorie Archibald
Membership Chair:	Susie Taylor
Social Chair:	Jennifer Brown
Fundraiser Chair:	Gladys Uri
Member at Large:	Sybil Cartwright

Our first order of business was selecting winners for the \$100 teacher grants. It was very difficult for us to choose just four winners from the applications submitted! Congratulations to this year's winners.

<b>Lucile Cheng</b>	Ice machine
<b>Anna Lancia</b>	Cutting die machine
<b>Al Humble</b>	Shredder/classroom supplies
<b>Carol Curl</b>	Ind. white boards & markers



Fundraising has always been important to CCAIE. We are able to award teacher and student scholarships as well as fund professional development opportunities for CCAIE members. A couple items to look forward to this year are:

Hot dog/chips/water sales at Foothills annual craft fair. (Pssst, watch for information about the craft fair. It should be right around Thanksgiving and those crafters have some gorgeous things for display and sale!)

See's candy sales near Valentine's Day.

We're soliciting donations from teachers and students to raffle off at our next Back to School meeting. We have already received a beautiful quilt from **Anna Lancia**. If you and/or your students create something they are willing to donate to CCAIE, please contact me or **Susie Taylor**. We would love to hear from you!

And coming up within the next couple months is the Winter Social (Dec. 2). **Jenn Brown** is the social chairperson and she's got some wild and crazy ideas to make this year's social the best ever. You won't want to miss it. More information will be sent in the next couple weeks.

November 18 and 19<sup>th</sup> will be the South Coast/Southern Section CCAIE Conference in Palm Springs. Please visit the website [ccaestate.org](http://ccaestate.org) for more information.

So you can see, we've already been busy and it's only October. Imagine a Spring Fling and a special appreciation for Teacher/Classified Employee Week this year. Hope you have a great year.