



# President's NEWS

Volume 24  
Number 10

September 13, 2012



*The mission of El Camino College is to meet the educational needs of our diverse community and ensure student success by offering quality, comprehensive educational opportunities.*

## Welcome New Employees

Please join in welcoming El Camino College's new faculty and managers! This academic year we are pleased to welcome 19 new full-time faculty members and six new managers. The next edition of President's News will introduce our 24 new classified staff members. Please take time to meet and greet the newest members of the college community.



### New Faculty

**Mohamad Abbani:** Natural Sciences, chemistry instructor. Mohamad attended UCLA, where he earned both a doctorate in molecular biology and a bachelor's degree in biochemistry/molecular biology. He also has

an associate degree in liberal arts from Mount San Antonio College. His teaching experience includes positions at Santa Monica College, Mount San Antonio College, and Rio Hondo College, where he taught various chemistry and lab courses.



**Stephanie Bennett:** Counselor. Stephanie earned both a master's degree in educational counseling and a bachelor's degree in business administration both from California State University, Dominguez Hills. Her

counseling experience includes positions at Gardena High School and at El Camino College, where she also worked with students who utilized the services available through the EOPS program.



**Susanne Bucher:** Mathematical Sciences, math instructor. Susanne has a master's degree in teaching mathematics from California State University, Dominguez Hills, as well as a master's degree in education from

Mount Saint Mary's College in Los Angeles. She earned a bachelor's degree in math from California State University, Dominguez Hills, and has taught at El Camino College, as well as the high school level.



**Seth Daugherty:** Learning Resources, librarian. Seth completed a master's degree in library and information science from San Jose State University and a bachelor's degree in instructional technology from California State University, Chico. He has

worked in libraries at Santa Ana College, Irvine Valley College, Rio Hondo College, and Orange Coast College, in addition to posts at the Orange County Public Libraries and the Huntington Beach Public Library.



**Susan Endicott:** Health Sciences & Athletics, nursing instructor. Susan is a registered nurse with a master's degree in nursing education from Walden University and an associate degree in nursing from the Los Angeles County Medical Center School of

Nursing. She has nursing experience at Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center and Long Beach Memorial Medical Center. She also served as a clinical instructor at ECC and Long Beach City College.



**Gabriella Fernandez:** Business, computer information systems instructor. Gabriella joins the El Camino College community after serving as a faculty member at Orange Coast College, Fullerton College and Glendale College, where she taught computer systems courses. She has a bachelor's degree in information systems and a master's degree in business administration, both from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.



**Mark Fields:** Industry & Technology, administration of justice instructor. Mark earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Woodbury University and a master's degree in public administration from California State University, Northridge. He has nearly 30 years of experience with the California Highway Patrol and has taught training programs and college courses for several years.



**Ashley Gallagher:** Humanities, English instructor. After earning a bachelor's degree in humanities from the New College of California, Ashley continued her education at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where she earned a master's degree in creative writing. She also has a master's degree in English teaching from the University of Montana. Ashley has taught English courses at ECC, Pasadena City College, and the University of Montana.



**Anna Hockman:** Mathematics, math instructor. Anna has a bachelor's degree in physics from the University of California at Irvine, in addition to a master's degree in education from the University of Kentucky and another master's degree in mathematics from California State University, Fullerton. She has taught a variety of math courses, from basic math to pre-calculus and statistics at area community colleges and universities.



**Stephanie Merz:** Humanities, English Instructor. Stephanie began her pursuit of higher education by earning a bachelor's degree and master's degree in English from California State University, Chico. She continued her education by earning a doctorate in rhetoric, composition and the teaching of English from the University of Arizona. Stephanie's work experience includes teaching writing courses at the community college and university levels.



**Ana Milosevic:** Business, accounting instructor. After graduating from the University of California at Irvine with a bachelor's degree in psychology, Ana continued her education at California State University, Los Angeles where she earned a master's degree in accountancy. She is a certified public accountant and has taught accounting courses at the university and community college level.



**Christina Nagao:** Humanities, English instructor. Christina has a doctorate and master's degree in English from UCLA. She earned a bachelor's degree in English at the University of California at Berkeley. Her career experience includes teaching positions at Pierce College, and UCLA, where she led classes in reading and composition.



**Atheneus Ocampo:** Counselor. Atheneus graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a master's degree in guidance and counseling. He also earned a bachelor's degree in social science from USC. Atheneus' career experience includes positions at Santa Monica College, Pepperdine University, UCLA and Loyola Marymount University.

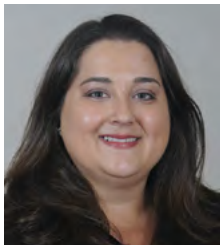


**David Pahl:** Business, office administration instructor. David earned a master's degree in business administration from St. Mary's College in Moraga, in addition to a bachelor's degree in public administration from USC. He most recently served as the career center director of the USC Rossier School of Education and has more than 30 years of business management experience.



**Janet Schaeffer:** Health Sciences & Athletics, clinical psychologist. Janet earned a doctorate degree in clinical psychology from Adelphi University, Gordon F. Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies in New York. She also is a registered nurse and has a bachelor's degree in nursing from Boston College. Janet most recently served as the staff psychologist for WellSpan Behavior Health in Pennsylvania.





**Ambika Silva:** Mathematical Sciences, math instructor. After receiving a bachelor's degree in mathematics from UCLA, Ambika continued her studies at California State University, Northridge, where she earned a master's degree in math. Ambika also has an associate degree from the College of the Canyons in Valencia, where she taught various math courses. Additional career experience includes positions both teaching and tutoring students at the college and high school level.



**Robert Uphoff:** Health Sciences & Athletics, kinesiology/head basketball coach. Robert has a master's degree in physical education/coaching from Ball State University and a bachelor's degree in physical education from Fresno Pacific University.

He most recently coached basketball at the College of the Sequoias and at Barstow College, where he also taught a variety of physical education courses.



**Daniel Walker:** Behavioral & Social Sciences, history instructor. Daniel has a doctorate in history from the University of Houston, as well as a master's degree in history from the University of California at Riverside and a bachelor's in psychology from

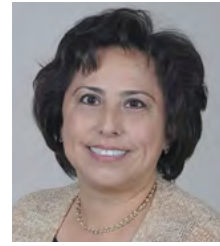
San Diego State University. His teaching experience includes positions at the University of California at Riverside, San Bernardino Valley College, Occidental College, and Indiana University.



**Nina Yoshida:** Humanities, Japanese instructor. Nina attended UCLA where she earned a master's degree and candidate in philosophy degree in East Asian languages and cultures. She also earned a bachelor's degree in Japanese and linguistics at UCLA.

She is continuing her education at UCLA through a doctorate program in Japanese linguistics. Nina has taught courses at ECC, Santa Monica College, Occidental College, and UCLA.

## New Managers



**Linda Beam,** Vice President, Human Resources. Linda has more than 20 years of human resources experience in public education and government service. She most recently served as the chief human resource officer for the Marin Community College District/College of Marin. Linda's educational background includes a master's degree in human resource management from Chapman University, a bachelor's degree in business management from the University of Maryland, and an associate degree in humanities from Barstow Community College.



**Tom Brown,** the new director, Facilities, Planning & Services, first came to El Camino College in 2001 as a facilities services supervisor. He later served as the assistant director of facilities, where he supervised work on the new Humanities Building, the Learning Resources Center addition, the new parking structure, and the Social Science Building remodel, among other projects. Tom earned a bachelor's degree from California State University, Dominguez Hills and an associate degree from Cerritos College.



**Elise Geraghty** is the new associate dean, Humanities. Elise earned a master's degree in English literature from Loyola Marymount University, in addition to a bachelor's degree in English from UCLA and an associate degree from Santa Monica College. Her career experience includes teaching a wide variety of English courses including composition, critical analysis, and literature at Santa Monica College, East Los Angeles College, and Loyola Marymount University.



**Sheryl Kunisaki,** the new assistant director, Learning Resources Center, has been a part of the El Camino College community since she became a program coordinator for ESL testing and placement in 2006. She most recently served as faculty coordinator for the Learning Resources Center and has taught English and ESL courses. Sheryl has a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Washington and a master's degree in teaching English as a second language from California State University, Los Angeles.



**Naomi Tokuda** is the new director, Career Pathways. Before coming to El Camino College, Naomi taught elementary and middle school English and history, primarily working with indigenous students from Australia to Arizona. She also served as the found-

ing principal of a small charter middle school, serving members of the Tohono O'odham Nation in Arizona. Naomi received a master's degree in teaching and teacher education and a bachelor's degree in history, both from the University of Arizona.



**Will Warren.** As the new assistant director, Information Technology Services at El Camino College, Will is in charge of the day-to-day operations, services, and activities of the department. A South Bay resident for 25 years, Will attended El Camino Col-

lege and has a bachelor's degree in business with a focus on management information systems from California State University, Dominguez Hills. Before joining the ECC ITS team, he worked for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for 16 years.

## Stay Connected this Fall

The fall semester is off to a busy start. Students are attending classes and getting to know each other through activities such as Club Rush, various mixers and ECC online social media channels. Through social media, we connect daily with students, community leaders and advocates for the college. Since launching our social media programs three years ago, we have been consistently enhancing communication between the college, students and the community, with efficient, expedient, and useful information.

If you haven't already, please "like" our Facebook page and become one of our more than 9,500 fans. Facebook followers receive the latest ECC info, highlighting student success, faculty/staff news, activities and events, Warrior athletics, and other happenings at El Camino College. You will also find the latest ECC news on Twitter (@ECC\_Online), the ECC mobile website (m.elcamino.edu), ECC's web page (www.elcamino.edu) and the El Camino College [YouTube](#) channel.

If you have a campus activity or event to publicize via our popular social media networks, please complete and submit the "[social media](#)" form on the Web.

## Fall Blood Drive

Everyone is encouraged to participate in the campuswide fall blood drive, scheduled for October 9-11 in the Student Activities Center, East Lounge. The El Camino College Inter-Club Council and Student Development Office sponsor this twice-per-year blood drive with the American Red Cross. Blood donors can come to the campus Student Activities Center from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day of the blood drive, with extended hours until 8:00 p.m. on October 11. Help us donate life-saving blood! For more information or to make a donation appointment, click on the [American Red Cross](#) website and enter the sponsor code: ECC.



## Campus Calendar

### September

- 10-13 Club Rush
- 14 Club Mixer
- 22 *Musical Obligatos*, ECC Faculty

### October

- 1 ECC Jazz & Dance Bands
- 9-11 Red Cross Bloodmobile
- 11 Last Day to Apply for Fall Graduation and Certificates
- 12-13 Student One-Act Plays
- 13 ECC Resident Artist Series: Karin Jensen, Dance
- 15 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 18 Great Shake-Out Earthquake Drill
- 20 Distinguished Alumni Awards
- Mid-Term Classes Begin
- 24 Career and Majors Fair
- 25 Fall Transfer Fair
- 30 Homecoming Rally

