

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

★

VETERANS SUMMIT

DECEMBER 2, 2011 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Learning *to*
Better Serve
Those ★
Who Have
Served



FOUNDATION *for* CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

This Summit is made possible by the generous support of JP Morgan Chase.





FOUNDATION FOR CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

December 1, 2011

Greetings Colleagues,

We are pleased to welcome you to the first California Community Colleges Veterans Summit, a collaborative effort between the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges Education Institute, and the Foundation for California Community Colleges with substantial underwriting by JP Morgan Chase.

Our country owes tremendous gratitude to our military veterans who have endured immense sacrifice in defense of our nation. Helping them transition to civilian life through higher education is a national imperative.

With an estimated 2.2 million veterans residing in California, our community college system is continuously seeking ways to improve their educational experience. Veterans who enroll in our colleges should find the doors open to them for the development of job skills and/or transfer opportunities to four-year universities. Our instructional faculty, counselors, librarians, administrators, and classified staff are all committed to ensuring that the California Community Colleges provide the highest quality education for our veterans at an affordable cost.

We are grateful to the Governor's Office and to the California Department of Veterans Affairs for collaborating with us on this important effort. Similarly, we hope that all of you participating in the *Learning to Better Serve Those Who Have Served* summit will continue this conversation at your local campuses, leading us to improve ways to educate our esteemed veterans.

This is an extremely timely issue and we appreciate your presence at this event. Please feel free to communicate your thoughts and ideas with us as we advance in the discussion of better serving those who have served.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jack Scott, Chancellor
California Community Colleges

Dennis Frisch, President
Faculty Association of
California Community Colleges
Faculty Association for California
Community Colleges
Education Institute

Keetha Mills,
Interim President and CEO
Foundation for California
Community Colleges

Schedule

Thursday, December 1

5:00pm **Registration for Reception and Summit**
Room: Harborside

6:00 pm **Welcome**

Special Acknowledgements

**“*Into the Fire*” performed by
Had to Be Productions**

Into the Fire is an exploration of our returning vets with disabilities and combat related trauma and their stories as they integrate into their families, communities, educational institutions, and the workforce. Many employers and educators are anticipating the opportunities as well as the challenges that may occur when including our returning veterans. The actor/playwrights will recreate the stories of both male and female veterans who have returned from Iraq, Afghanistan, and Vietnam.

Friday, December 2

7:30 – 8:00 am **Registration – Room:** Pacific Ballroom Foyer
Breakfast – Room: Pacific Ballroom

8:00 – 8:30 am **Welcome**
Room: Pacific Ballroom
Lynn Neault, Vice Chancellor, San Diego
Community College District
Dennis Frisch, President, Faculty Association of
California Community Colleges
Jack Scott, Ph.D., Chancellor California Community
Colleges



8:30 – 9:00 am **Opening Address**
Secretary of the California
Department of Veteran Affairs
Major General (Retired), Peter James Gravett
Room: Pacific Ballroom

9:00 – 9:45 am ***Understanding Military Culture*** - Marshall Thomas
With the increase in veterans on our campuses it is vital to have a better understanding of military culture. This general session will benefit everyone in understanding the differences in communication and ways to create a more welcoming environment for your students.

10:00 – 11:15 am Breakout Sessions

From Combat to College

Room: Pacific A

Speaker: Dr. Paul Parnell, Rio Hondo College

This session will look at the issues facing recently released veterans and the technical information they need from colleges, veteran's offices, and counselors, how to deal with the bureaucracies to receive funding and emotional support as they attend college.

Welcome Home: Creating a Climate of Wellness for Returning Veterans Part I

Room: Pacific D

Speaker: Dr. David Joseph

The *Welcome Home* training is a program for faculty and staff about the mental health needs of student veterans. The major objectives of the training are to increase awareness about the signs and symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and depression so that faculty and staff can better understand how these conditions



might impact student success in the classroom and on campus. This is part two of a two part session.

Academic Counseling for Military and Veteran Students

Room: Coast Ballroom

Speaker: Duane Short, San Diego Miramar College

Many student veterans and military members have military-related educational experiences ranging from basic training to military-sponsored examinations to academic coursework at accredited military universities. This breakout will look at the following: the differences between military experiences, how colleges and universities apply credit, how they affect transfer, and what counseling resources are available. Learn about the many bewildering acronyms pertaining to the military members and veterans at your institution (AARTS, DANTEs, SOC, SMART, ACE).

11:30 am - 1:00 pm Lunch

Room: Pacific Ballroom

Remarks from JP Morgan Chase representative

Keynote Address

Galvanizing Community Support for Returning Veterans and Their Families

Dr. Jon Nachison

Chief of Psychology for Paradise Valley Hospital and Co-founder and Director, National Stand Down



1:15 – 2:30 pm Breakout Sessions

Engaging Your Campus to Better Serve Veterans

Room: Pacific A

Moderator: Linda Michalowski

Panelists:

- Magdalena Torres,
Santa Barbara City College
- Catherine Morris,
Sierra College, Road Home
- Stacey Cook, De Anza College,
Zellerbach Grant

The population of student veterans has grown by staggering percentages recently, with some colleges seeing more than 500% growth over the past two academic years. This session will highlight best practices in serving student veterans, featuring panelists who will identify stellar veteran-focused programs and services at their respective colleges in an effort to prepare for the continued influx of returning veterans at California Community Colleges this year and in the years to come.

Welcome Home: Creating a Climate of Wellness for Returning Veterans Part 2

Room: Pacific D

Speaker: Dr. David Joseph

The *Welcome Home* training is a program for faculty and staff about the mental health needs of student veterans. The major objectives of the training are to increase awareness about the signs and symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and depression so that faculty and staff can better understand how these conditions might impact student success in the classroom and on campus. This is part two of a two part session.



***Establishing a Veterans Resource Center
on Your Campus***

Room: Coast Ballroom

Moderator: Mike Dear

Panelists:

- Dan Torres, Butte College
- Terence Nelson, Saddleback College
- Jane Mathis, Santa Ana College

This session will highlight featured Veterans Resource Centers that integrate on- and off-campus student services such as financial aid, disabled student services and programs, counseling, mental health services, and the like. Panelists will highlight best practices at their college, such as initiating a Veterans Resource Center on campus and maximizing services to student veterans with minimal resources.

2:45 – 4:00 pm ***The Student Perspective***

Room: Pacific Ballroom

Moderator: Dr. David Joseph

Student Panel:

- Juan Ortiz, San Diego Miramar, USMC, Lance Corporal
- Timothy Ray Smith, San Diego Miramar, United States Army, Army Reserves, Sergeant
- Steven Soto, Pasadena City College/SDSU, U.S. Navy, E4
- Danielle Thober, San Diego Miramar, USMC, Corporal
- Krystle Vanderaarde, San Diego Miramar, U.S. Navy, E4

4:00 – 4:30 pm **Closing Comments**

Congressman Bob Filner

Room: Pacific Ballroom



Speaker Bios



Dr. Stacey A. Cook

Dr. Cook earned a Ph.D. in education from the University of San Francisco, a M.A. in public administration from the former Cal State Hayward (now Cal State East Bay), and two B.A.'s, in political science and ethnic studies, from UC Berkeley. She worked for 12 years at Berkeley, first in Financial Aid and later as business and operations manager in Counseling and Psychological Services. She also worked as disability-related services coordinator at the University of San Francisco and for four years as director of Student Affairs at the College of Marin. Since 2006, she has served as dean of Student Services at Woodland Community College, overseeing the offices of Admissions and Records, CalWORKS, Counseling, DSPS, EOPS, Financial Aid, Upward Bound and Veterans' Affairs. She was also administrative sponsor of the college's Diversity Committee. Dr. Cook was a pivotal part of the team that led Woodland's successful 2006-2008 transformation from a campus to an accredited, full-fledged college.

At the heart of all this work is an unwavering commitment to the success of all students, especially those who are the first in their families to attend college and those historically underrepresented in higher education, including English-language learners and students with limited financial resources. Dr. Cook provides visionary leadership for the wide range of programs at De Anza that share that commitment and she works closely and collaboratively with colleagues across all areas of the college. Dr. Stacey A. Cook assumed her duties as Vice President of Student Services at De Anza College in January 2010.



Mike Dear

Mike Dear has been with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office since July of 2010 as a Specialist, Student Services and Special Programs. His work in the Chancellor's Office supports financial aid and student veterans programs. Before joining the Chancellor's Office, Mike worked most recently for ten years in the Financial Aid Office at

California State University, Sacramento, where, among other activities, he served as liaison to the college certifying official for VA benefits. Mike has a B.A. in Spanish from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a M.A. in Counseling from California State University, Sacramento.



Congressman Bob Filner

Congressman Bob Filner represents California's 51st Congressional District. Congressman Filner has been an active member of our community for more than four decades. He taught history at San Diego State University for more than twenty years. He was the President of the San Diego Board of Education and served on the San Diego City

Council for five years. In 1991, he served as Deputy Mayor for the City of San Diego. He was first elected to Congress in 1992, and has been re-elected by wide margins every two years.

In January 2007, Congressman Filner became Chairman of the House of Representatives Veterans' Affairs Committee. He has achieved a national reputation for his work on behalf of our nation's veterans, both current veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan and more elderly veterans from the Vietnam and Korean wars and World War II. He led the fight to restore honor and benefits to the Filipino Veterans and Merchant Mariners of World War II.



Dennis Frisch

Dennis Frisch is President of the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) and a member of the history department faculty at Santa Monica College. His service to the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges includes terms as Vice President, Treasurer, Executive Committee liaison to the

Professional Development Committee, and member of the Policy Committee. Dennis has also served numerous roles for the Santa Monica College Faculty Association, including Vice President, Associate Director of Government Relations and its very first Executive Secretary. Additionally, Dennis has served as Executive Secretary for the California Community College Independents.



Major General (Retired) Peter James Gravett

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. appointed Peter James Gravett to his Cabinet as Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs on April 29, 2011. Gravett retired with more than 40 years of military service in the U.S. Army and the California National Guard, including 35 in which he was a commissioned officer in the National Guard with service in numerous

countries, including Central Europe, Western Europe, Asia and Central America. In 2006 he was selected by the Assistant Secretary of Defense to serve as the State Chair for the Southern California Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Committee where he served until 2009.

Gravett's post active military affiliations include the American Legion, AMVETS, the Military Order of World Wars, The Military Officers Association of America, 9th and 10th (Horse) Calvary Association (Buffalo Soldiers), Association of the United States Army, National Association of Black Military Officers, National Guard Associations of the United States and California, Southern California Advisory Council (Retired Officers), 40th Infantry Division Association and The Fall Gathering (Retired Flag Officers). Gravett also served as President of the Los Angeles Mayor's Veterans Advisory Council. He holds an honorary membership with the Sergeants Major Association and the Orange County Chapters of the Chosen Few.

His education includes receiving a B.S. in criminology from California State University, Long Beach, and a M.A. of Public Administration from the University of Southern California, and Executive diplomas from the University of Virginia and from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Gravett is also a graduate of the U.S. Army War College and the FBI National Academy.



Dr. David Joseph

David Joseph, Ph.D. currently provides treatment for veterans with readjustment stress and combat or military sexual trauma at the Oakland Vet Center. As a psychologist at the National Center for Post Traumatic Stress Disorders (PTSD), Dr. Joseph served as the primary clinician on a multi-year study of Seeking Safety in veterans with co-occurring PTSD and

substance use disorders. Dr. Joseph has developed trainings for police officers, first responders and providers on effective interventions for



veterans with PTSD. In association with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, he recently developed a pilot training for community college faculty and staff on student veterans and PTSD. He completed his clinical internship at Napa State Hospital in Napa, CA, and received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Alliant University in San Francisco.



Jane Mathis

Jane Mathis is a Counselor in EOP&S and serves as the Counseling Liaison for Veterans at Santa Ana College. She previously served as an Associate Dean in Student Services and founded the Santa Ana College Veterans Resource Center (VRC) in March 2010. Ms. Mathis has a M.A. in Clinical/Community Psychology and has worked for over 20 years in student services in both the

CSU and CCC systems.



Linda Michalowski

Linda Michalowski is Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Special Programs for the California Community Colleges system. In that capacity she is responsible for policy and programs, including admissions, assessment, orientation, financial aid, counseling and other support services to help students achieve their educational goals. She was with the

Governmental Relations and External Affairs division from 1998 to 2003 where she served as Interim Vice Chancellor and for five years as Director of Strategic Communications and Federal Relations. Michalowski was the Chancellor's Office Coordinator for Student Financial Assistance Programs until 1998, where she led student aid policy development, represented community colleges in state and national forums, provided guidance to campus financial aid offices, and administered community college financial aid programs.



Catherine Morris

Catherine Morris is a Veterans Counselor and Professor at Sierra Community College. In addition to over 15 years of military service in the Marines, Army and Air National Guard. Morris also brings a decade of counseling, teaching, and advocacy for over 8,000



veterans, guard, and reservists. She developed and teaches College Success, part of the "Boots to Books Learning Community" which is linked to an English course and designed to assist veterans in transitioning from military to college. Morris has created the Veterans Resource Center at Sierra College, which offers use of peer mentoring, Veteran specific orientations, computers, break out rooms, and access to Vet Center counseling and other community resources. Morris has presented dozens of workshops to colleges, military units, community, and veteran organizations on topics such as: combat stress, educational benefits, creating veteran friendly campuses, and military competencies.



Dr. Jon Nachison

Jon Nachison, Ph.D., ABP is the Co-Founder and Director of Stand Down for Homeless Veterans and their families -- a program that is now replicated in over 170 American cities annually. For the past 14 years, Dr. Nachison has been the Chief of Psychology for Bayview Psychiatric and Paradise Valley Hospitals. He is a past president and fellow of the San Diego

Psychological Association and a faculty member of the University of San Diego. He is a licensed, board-certified psychologist specializing in the treatment of psychological trauma and a U.S. Army veteran. In 2007, he organized the first San Diego community summit to address the ongoing needs of returning Iraqi and Afghanistan (OIF/OEF) Veterans and their Families, which has continued as a monthly networking meeting for agencies and providers (Vet/Fam).

Dr. Nachison has been recognized as the Distinguished Humanitarian of the Year by the California Psychological Association, honored with a Presidential Citation by the "Point of Light" Foundation and selected as the Clinician of the Year by the San Diego County Mental Health Community. In July 2011, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans.



Lynn Neault

Lynn Neault is the Vice Chancellor of Student Services for the San Diego Community College District. She has served in this capacity for more than 15 years. The San Diego Community College is a multi-college district comprised of three colleges and six non-credit campuses and is one of the largest community college districts in California. Vice Chancellor Neault is the past President



of the California Community Colleges Chief Student Services Officers Association and participates on numerous state and local committees and task forces.

Lynn Neault is a graduate of San Diego State University, where she earned a B.A. in Political Science and a M.A. in Public Administration. She is currently enrolled in San Diego State University's Ph.D. Program in Educational Leadership.



Terence Nelson

Terence Nelson is the Assistant Dean of Counseling Services and Special Programs which encompasses nine student services programs, including DSPS, EOPS/CARE and CalWORKs. Most importantly, he has developed the comprehensive student services based Veterans Education and Transition Services (VETS) Program at Saddleback Community College which opened its doors in August 2009. He came to administration through counseling and still remains an adjunct instructor and counselor. Terence is in his third year serving as the president of the Region 8 Veterans Program Directors Consortium covering 18 colleges from Mission Viejo to Glendora. He was recently honored by OC Metro magazine as one of Orange County's "Top 40 under 40" in 2009 and in 2010 was recognized by several local elected officials in south Orange County for his leadership in implementing transitional services for our nation's heroes. Terence also serves on the Southern California Army Advisory Council.



Dr. Paul Parnell, Jr.

Dr. Dale 'Paul' Parnell, Jr. earned his Ph.D. in Education, Psychology and Community College Studies from Oregon State University. He has a M.A. in Counseling Psychology from Ball State University and his B.S. in International Affairs is from the United States Air Force Academy. His current position as the Chief Instructional Officer, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Rio Hondo College in Whittier, California, serves over 14,000 full-time equivalent students. Prior to Rio Hondo College, Dr. Parnell served as the Dean for Social and Behavioral Sciences at Chaffey Community College for 10 years. His military service career included assignments overseas and at numerous bases in the United States with tours of duty at the Pentagon as Chief of Rehabilitation Services, Academic Programs Director at the Community College of the Air Force and Commandant and Associate Professor in the



Dr. Jack Scott

Dr. Jack Scott's unique and extensive background as a college administrator and elected official make him the ideal 14th chancellor of the California Community Colleges. Scott is a former California state senator, assemblymember and president of Cypress College and Pasadena City College. In his role as state chancellor of the nation's largest system of higher education, Scott provides leadership to 112 campuses which include nearly 90,000 faculty, staff and administrators and 2.76 million students. Since he assumed his role in January 2009, Scott worked with legislators to create and pass a historic law that simplified the transfer pathway for community college students to state universities while providing them with guaranteed admission at junior standing and an associate degree. He also created a Student Success Task Force composed of a broad array of academic, research and business leaders that is developing a strategic blueprint to increase student retention and degree completion rates in California. As a legislator, Scott authored 146 bills that were signed into law including landmark measures that increased community college financing, eased the nursing shortage and strengthened career technical education.



Dr. Duane Short

Dr. Duane Short earned his B.A. in Political Science and Psychology from Stanford University, his M.B.A. in Management from San Diego State University, and his Ph.D. in Public Administration from Northcentral University. He is an Associate Professor and Articulation Officer at San Diego Miramar College and previously served as the Transfer/Career Center Director at San Diego City College. Duane's past career was in the U.S. Navy as a Naval Flight Officer, instructor, operations manager, and legal officer. He continues to serve in the Navy Reserve. Duane is a native San Diegan and a former San Diego Mesa College student.



Dr. Marshall W. Thomas

Dr. Marshall Thomas is the Director of Veterans Affairs Services at California State University, Long Beach. He received his B.A. in Asian Studies, M.A. in Linguistics (TESL), and Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from CSULB. He teaches upper division composition courses as a Lecturer in CSULB's Department of English. Marshall is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps.

He developed the VET NET Ally program to educate college and university faculty, staff and administrators about student veterans. The four-hour seminar, modeled after Safe Zone programs common on college campuses across the U.S., is designed to create welcoming campus environments and visible networks of allies to student veterans.

Daniel Torres

Dan Torres served in the United States Navy and received an honorable discharge in 1999 at the completion of six years of service. Under the Montgomery GI Bill, Mr. Torres began studying Social and Behavioral Sciences at Butte College, and landed a work-study position for the Department of Veterans Affairs on campus. After achieving his A.A., Mr. Torres was hired as an orientation leader for the college. Quickly proving himself to be a motivated worker, Mr. Torres moved into the Financial Aid Office as a Financial Aid Assistant, then was asked to become the Veterans Certifying Official in charge of the Butte College Office of Veterans Services, which reports to Financial Aid and Veterans Services. Currently a Financial Aid Assistant Senior, Dan serves as the head of the Butte College Veterans Office and Certifying Official, as well as assisting with financial aid customer service. As both a veteran and Butte College alumni, Dan Torres can identify with the struggles and needs of student veterans and strives constantly to offer new and improved services to assist veterans in maneuvering the obstacles they face. Dan's supervisors at Butte are proud of Dan's commitment and service. It is due to Dan's veteran-centered focus that the Butte College Veterans Resource Center came to fruition.



Magdalena Torres

Magdalena Torres, has been honored to serve Santa Barbara City College Veterans and Dependents for 37 years. She is the Veterans Student Support Program Advisor and Coordinator. She was recently appointed Chancellor's Office Veterans Services Regional Representative for Region VI. SBCC Veterans Support Program received the 2011 John W. Rice Diversity and Equity Award.



A Special Thank You

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