West's Student Success Committee (a committee of the Academic Senate) has adopted the Achieving the Dream framework to accomplish its goal of increasing student success.

**Upcoming Events**

- **Student Success/ATD Core Team Meeting**
  - June 4 | July 2 | Aug 6
  - 2:30 pm | GC 210K

- **ATD Data Team Meeting**
  - Resumes Fall 2014
  - 4th Thursday at 1:15 pm | GC 210K

- **LACCD ATD Summit**
  - May 30, 2014 @ Mission

- **Graduation**
  - June 10, 2014

- **Five-Day Experiential Learning Institute (FELI)**
  - August 18-22, 2014

**ATD College Priorities**
- Successful completion of the English sequence from English 21 through English 101
- Successful completion of Elementary Algebra through Intermediate Algebra
- Successful achievement of degrees and certificates

**Intervention Strategies**
- Enhanced Tutoring
- Professional Development
- Navigating West (Enhanced Communication with Students)

**View the full Proposal at**

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**ATDetails**

Fostering STUDENT SUCCESS at West

**ATD Coaches Visit and FELI Infosession Activity**

West Los Angeles College

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**Intervention Strategies**

**ATD College Priorities**

- Focused on creating a culture of institutional improvement
- Student-centered model of achieving success
- Achieving the Dream uses a Learning Institute (FELI)
- Five-Day Experiential Learning Institute (FELI)
- June 10, 2014
- Graduation

**Core Team News**

**Clare Norris and Mary-Jo Apigo, Core Team Leaders**

The Student Success Committee enthusiastically recognizes Holly Bailey-Hofmann for her coordination of the Student Poster Showcase for the last four years. This year’s event was another successful one!

The ATD team leaders submitted West’s completed Annual Reflection after getting the Academic Senate’s approval in its May meeting. The May 12-13 coach visit gave us an opportunity to review and finalize the Reflection and get feedback from colleagues. Click this link to see the completed Reflection: [http://www.wlac.edu/studentsuccess/atd/atddocuments/West%20Los%20Angeles%20College%202014%20Annual%20Reflection%20Narrative%20Final.pdf](http://www.wlac.edu/studentsuccess/atd/atddocuments/West%20Los%20Angeles%20College%202014%20Annual%20Reflection%20Narrative%20Final.pdf).

**Navigating West:** Several students from Project LEARN, ASO, and West’s Performing Arts Club attended the May 7 Student Success Committee meeting to help plan our Fall 2014 Semester Kickoff, scheduled for August 27. They offered valuable feedback, and we are looking forward to hearing more from them about the roles they plan to play in the Kickoff.

The Committee also explored what types of orientations and information sessions will be offered at the Kickoff. We are considering using West’s recent open house as a model and offering a session for parents of incoming West students. We continue to explore ways to attract more students and faculty members to the Kickoff. As usual we will request faculty participation in the Kickoff, so please plan to attend, invite your students, and help out in any way you can.

**Professional Development:**

The graduates of West’s 2013 Five-Day Experiential Learning Institute (FELI) coordinated and led a FELI Information Session on May 13. West’s Summer 2014 FELI is scheduled for August 18-22. Any West faculty or staff members interested in participating or who would like to have a presentation given for your colleagues should contact Clare Norris. Click this link for more information: [http://academyforcollegeexcellence.org/feli](http://academyforcollegeexcellence.org/feli).

The last Reading Apprenticeship (RA) Faculty Inquiry Group meeting for the semester will happen on Thursday, May 29 at 12:45 in GC210K. Please contact Nancy Sander at SanderN@wlac.edu for more information about RA.

A team from West, along with faculty from seven other community college campuses, is participating in 3CSN’s Cultivating a Growth Mindset training. The Community of Practice will meet three times in the Fall 2014 semester and pilot six, 20-minute sessions into their classes. Growth mindset is the belief that intelligence (or personality or talent) is something that can be developed through effort, rather than something that is a fixed trait determined at birth. The training will be facilitated by Mary-Jo Apigo and Miguel Powers from Fullerton College, who worked together on a pilot project to test Carol Dweck’s theory that students can achieve more if they are aware of growth vs. fixed mindsets.

West’s second annual all-faculty/staff Spring Happy Hour is scheduled for May 29 from 5:00-7:00pm at Culver City’s Waterloo & City: [http://www.waterloocity.com/](http://www.waterloocity.com/). Take this opportunity to connect with colleagues and celebrate the completion of another semester!
STUDENTTalk

By Ivan Hernandez Rios, West’s Performing Arts Club (PAC) President

My name is Ivan Hernandez Rios; I am the President of the Performing Arts Club (PAC). Growing up, I’ve always been a very shy person, and even now I am still shy, but joining the PAC has helped me better understand myself and learn to become a more positive individual. PAC has also helped me to stay more focused in my classes and trust in myself even more. It has helped me discover my true passion in life, stage-managing and set dressing, all of which I never would have discovered without my PAC brothers and sisters and our sponsor Joyce Sweeney. When we first resurrected PAC from its ashes, I didn’t think much of it. We started with the original five members, and as time went on we became eight, then 10 and now we are a group of 30 brothers and sisters. We all learn from each other, encourage, and create support groups to help those who need it. Our mission is to convey a positive message and inspire people to keep their dreams and goals alive. We organize such events as the annual haunted house on campus as well as events for the CDC on and volunteer in community events, always bringing a smile and positive vibes were ever we go.

PAC is currently going through many changes; PAC is in the metamorphosis state and transforming to a support group. The PAC promotes excellence in the fine arts through cultural and social activities. We are transitioning to become a self-help support group, which means that we are fully organized and managed by our club members, who are commonly volunteers and have personal experience in the subject of the group’s focus. In the PAC, members with the same issues can come together for sharing coping strategies, to feel more empowered and create a sense of community.

STUDENTTalk

By Angela Strother, West’s Performing Arts Club (PAC) Member

My name is Angela Strother. I have been a member of the Performing Arts Club (PAC) for two years now, and I am majoring in Music Performance. Being a member of PAC has been very exciting and full of experiences that will help me gain the skills needed to succeed both in life and in my music career. Students from all walks of life join PAC bringing their own uniqueness and spices to the table. It’s those unique spices that make this club a very unique recipe for success. Courage, dependability, responsibility and being accountable are just a few of the attributes that PAC members mature in.

Through PAC I have learned that the arts in any shape or form are an asset to the world around us. We all have a creative way of communicating. We are free to express ourselves in a stress-free and warming environment. I always feel comfortable being myself when I am amongst my PAC brothers and sisters. We are more than members; we are family.

PAC has helped me to not give up so easily and to never try but do. I push myself harder now and always take time to give myself credit for all the good things I have accomplished. I have learned to be a self-motivator, and I hope to help others discover that too.

Being a part of PAC has helped me to try harder in my classes as well as to never be afraid to ask for help. Our sponsor is well connected in the school and always has the positive insight and experience to help us achieve our goals as well as in the entertainment experience and career paths.

Data Bytes

Update from the Data Team

By Linda Alexander & Agyeman Boateng, Data Team Co-Chairs

The Data Team continued its work as part of West’s participation in the California Community Colleges’ Success Network (3csn) Data Inquiry Group (DIG) project.

Data collection for our tutoring services survey is almost complete; we surveyed 17 sections of math and English classes. Our populations of interest are math and English students as well as the tutors themselves. Data entry will begin shortly. We wish to say thank you to all who participated!

Data Team members also attended a follow-up teleconference regarding the DIG project where we shared our progress and heard about the successes and challenges of other DIG projects across the state. In the summer, the Data Team will get specific feedback and discuss future directions of the DIG at West with the 3CSN DIG Planning Group.

Look who got CoreNerd!

This month’s CoreNerd is Agyeman Boateng. He is a Research Analyst. FUN FACT: Agyeman’s American mother would have named him Patrick, but his parents agreed that she would name the girls and his Ghanaian father would name the boys.