

ACCE Journal

Journal of the
Association of
Community and
Continuing Education

Winter 2014/2015

Alice: "...one can't believe in impossible things!"

"I daresay you haven't had much practice," said the Queen. "When I was your age, I always did it for half-an-hour a day. Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast."

— Lewis Carol



Join us a couple of days of believing in the impossible at the Annual ACCE Conference, February 25 – 27 in lovely Mission Bay, San Diego. In addition to information-packed presentations, you'll have opportunities to network with colleagues and mine valuable ideas for strengthening your programs.

Time is short but **there is still time to take advantage of early bird conference fees:** \$325 for members and \$385 for nonmembers, [if postmarked on or before January 31, 2015](#). Fees increase to \$375/\$425 after January 31. Not a member or you aren't sure if you are a current member? Email Graciela Vasquez at gvasquez@cerritos.edu.

You can also pay for membership and conference registration online! Go to <http://www.acceonline.org/store/c2/Membership.html> for membership payment or http://www.acceonline.org/store/c3/ACCE_2015_Conference_Registration_Fees.html for the conference registration.

ACCE Annual Conference Fast Facts

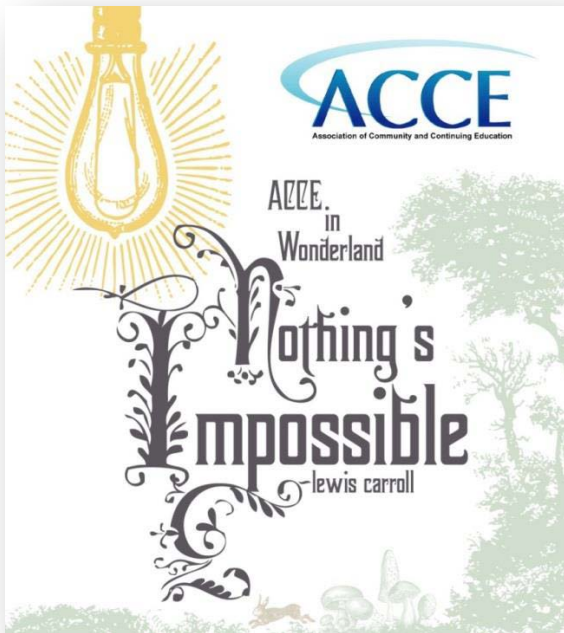
Conference dates/times:

Wednesday, 2/25 (registration opens at noon, kickoff/plenary starts at 2pm) through Friday, 2/27 (breakouts end at 11:45am with the prize raffle immediately following)

Conference site:

The Dana on Mission Bay (1710 West Mission Bay Drive, San Diego, California 92109)

The Dana on Mission Bay offers a very limited number of rooms at the rate of \$119.00 per night for ACCE Conference attendees. **Please go to [acceonline.org](http://www.acceonline.org) for more information.**



From the President

by Donna Burns – ACCE President

Dear Colleagues,

One of the great pleasures of serving on the ACCE Board is the increased opportunity to know our community education and noncredit colleagues throughout the state. An improving economy and new educational initiatives have provided fresh reasons to communicate with one another. The ACCE community helps foster this sharing of information and moral support, whether it be through a phone call or email to a colleague from the directory, a conversation on the listserv, or a regional or statewide gathering. We are here to help each other!



As we gear up for spring, we have much to celebrate and much to do!

First, some things to celebrate:

- Two new board members – After a long vacancy, we have new leadership for community education in the north! Rosie Armstrong (Gavilan) and Frances DeNisco (Las Positas) were elected as co-council leaders for the north. They are already working enthusiastically on your behalf. Welcome, welcome, welcome to them!
- Summer revenue – Community Education tends to get a big chunk of annual revenue through summer programs. If your hat is primarily Community Ed, then I hope you had a

spectacular, rootin'-tootin' summer and a fabulous fall. And I hope it was followed by a few days of rest – or at least a couple of hours – before your Winter session started.

- Improved economy – Just a couple of years ago, we were hanging our hopes on the passage of Prop 30 just to avoid further deep cuts. Now, we are actually anticipating a higher apportionment rate for our CDCP programs starting July 2015.
- Spotlight on adult learners – AB86 focused state attention on the terrible cuts sustained by adult education/noncredit in both the community college and school systems, but particularly by the schools. As we have formed local regional consortia and begun working with our colleagues in the schools, we have affirmed our shared values, expanded our intercultural competence, and considered new ideas for the benefit of adult learners in our regions. We are so fortunate that the state is supporting this creative, more integrative approach to meeting adults' educational needs.

And some things to do:

- Noncredit Student Success and Support Program (SSSP) – The Chancellor's Office has been meeting with a task force to develop an appropriate noncredit SSSP funding formula and report template. Several noncredit colleagues serve on this task force, including Liza Becker (Mt. SAC), Mia Ruiz (Cuesta), Veniethia Hubbard (NOCCCD), Julia Vercelli (Santa Ana), and Brian Ellison (San Diego). They represent various roles and organizations, but all have direct, daily responsibilities with noncredit students. Liza, in particular, is the appointee from

ACCE. You will hear more from her about SSSP.

- AB86 Regional Consortia – Draft plans were submitted by Adult Education regional consortia in October and December, as those of you who are participating members of regional consortia know very well. These drafts, preliminary as they may still feel, will help inform the Department of Finance and legislators as they consider potential new money for adult learners through the regional consortia starting in July 2015. AB86 stated that this was the intent of the legislators, and our plans should provide evidence that their intent should become an investment they can trust. The statewide AB86 work group has been greatly expanded and is working to review these plans and help draft a report to submit to the legislators by March 2015.
- Community education options for repeating students – We look forward to continuing our work with the Chancellor’s Office in clarifying fee-based options and guidelines for “co-enrollment” of students, on a not-for-credit basis, in credit classes as appropriate to help address repeatability issues.
- And more – As new initiatives and regulations emerge, ACCE continues to advocate for our students and assist in implementation strategies that make sense for them.

In closing, I hope to see many of you at the ACCE Annual Conference at the Dana on Mission Bay, San Diego, February 25-27. Based on continued demand from ACCE members, we returned to the multi-day format last year and it was a huge success. Members were enthusiastic about the insights they gained into the various developments that affect their programs, strategies for increasing the success

of their programs, and the wonderful networking opportunities that the conference provides.

Based on last year’s successful format, we are repeating the multiday format for this spring’s annual conference in San Diego. It promises to be as informative, compelling and vital as our San Francisco conference. Whether your job duties include community education, noncredit education, workforce development, or a bit of all three, you don’t want to miss this chance to network with colleagues and gain the vital information you need to ensure your program’s success.

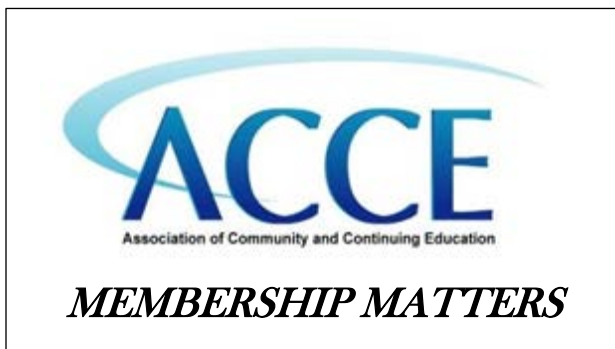
I look forward to seeing you in San Diego, and remember: Nothing is impossible!

Call for Proposals for the ACCE Annual Conference

As we finalize the conference program we are still open to ideas for conference presentations! The deadline for proposals is January 30, 2015.

The presentation proposal form is available from Jarek Janio (Janio_Jarek@SAC.EDU) and asks for a workshop title of 10 words or fewer and a 75 word description. Please also indicate whether your proposed presentation is geared toward Community Education or Continuing (noncredit) Education. ACCE conference presentations are designed to develop and promote desirable policies, practices, and support for the educational constituencies within the Association and to promote professional growth of the membership.

Vendors interested in sponsored sessions should contact Valentina Purtell (vpurtell@nocccd.edu) or Rosie Armstrong (rarmstrong@gavilan.edu) to discuss sponsorship options.



What you gain from ACCE membership

- Representation at the regional, state and national levels.
- A quarterly newsletter, statewide college and membership directory, discount rates to attend both regional workshops and the annual conference.
- Legislative liaison and analysis.
- Affiliation with other professional organizations.
- Support and mentoring from an experienced network of professionals.

You can inquire about ACCE membership at: <http://acceonline.org>. Cost for this year's membership remains unchanged: \$60.00 per year per person, but if there are three or more people from the same college, the membership fee drops to \$53.00 per person. Annual memberships, regardless of when purchased, run July 1 through June 30 of each year. And you can now pay online!

Noncredit SSSP Workgroup Begins

By Liza Becker – ACCE Continuing Education Council Leader

In our last issue of the ACCE Journal, I reported on the convening of an ad hoc

workgroup lead by the Chancellor's Office to review and update the noncredit Student Success and Support Plan (SSSP). I was pleased to report that several ACCE members are actively contributing to the revisions of both the plan and the SSSP Handbook. The conversations have been interesting and informative, as both the Chancellor's Office representatives and field representatives try to determine the best way to serve our adult learners and to capture and report on our services. To date, our major task accomplishments include proposed revisions to the Noncredit SSSP Plan and the suggested revisions to the SSSP Handbook.

The SSSP Program Plan for Noncredit Students is based on the credit version that our local districts have already developed and submitted last October. It is probably safe to say that most of our matriculation services are not significantly represented in these credit plans — all the more reason to ensure that our noncredit student support services are highlighted in the noncredit version of the plan (probably due October, 2015).

I encourage you to review the copy of your local credit SSSP plan for a couple of reasons. For one thing, the credit plan outlines the scope of services to be implemented and available resources within your district. More importantly, our plan will mirror the credit version's template so it gives us the opportunity to review current systems and time to bridge existing gaps – e.g., adequately capturing

our services and reporting them in terms of data elements.

Another contribution our noncredit workgroup has provided to the Chancellor's Office has to do with the revised SSSP Handbook. The handbook contains information, guidelines, and resources for both credit and noncredit programs. It covers the mandated service areas such as orientation, assessment, student educational plans, and counseling/follow-up services. Also, there is a list of the Student Success Data Elements for MIS (Management Information Systems) reporting – definitely, an area of focus for our future ACCE workshops and conferences!

The revised Student Success and Support Program Handbook is now accessible through the Chancellor's Office website:

<http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/StudentServices/Matriculation/Handbook.aspx>

Upcoming tasks for the noncredit SSSP workgroup include further discussions of the budget plan, the funding formula, and capturing of appropriate MIS data elements for our programs. In the next issue of ACCE Journal, I hope to provide you with final updates on the Noncredit SSSP Plan, a plan that best serves our students current needs and prepares them for academic and career success.

We'll also have breakout sessions on SSSP at the upcoming ACCE Conference. I hope to see you there!

Welcome New Community Education Board Members

by *Betty L. Sedor, ACCE Community Education Council Leader (South)*

After several years without representation in Northern California, it's a pleasure to welcome our two new ACCE Community Education board members co-representing the North. Thank you Rosie Armstrong and Frances DeNisco for joining the ACCE team—we look forward to you sharing your passion and knowledge with ACCE:

Rosie Armstrong, pictured below, is the Senior Program Services Specialist at Gavilan College in Gilroy, California (located near the Central Coast of California just south of San Jose).

She has been a member of ACCE since 2006 and has worked in the Community Education program for nearly nine years. Rosie has attended ACCE conferences and Pow-Wow events since becoming an ACCE member. Rosie believes these events to be crucial to the success of Community Education programs because they provide excellent opportunities to learn from



colleagues statewide, and take proven successes back to our campus communities.

Rosie is active on her campus, serving as part of President's Council, Professional Development and is a former union officer. Rosie was recognized last year as Gavilan College's outstanding Employee of the Year, having been nominated by her colleagues (one award is given to an outstanding staff member and one award is given to outstanding faculty member).

Welcome Rosie! We look forward to your representation as an enthusiastic voice of Community Education via ACCE.

Fun side-note: Rosie recently bought a new-old house that she is enjoying renovating, furnishing and landscaping along with her two new favorite sidekicks, her two kittens named Hunter and Dora, who are full of mischief and personality, often "un-doing" many of her home-improvement projects.

Frances DeNisco, pictured at left, is the Community Education Program Coordinator at Las Positas College in Livermore, California and has been a member of ACCE for more than eight years. She was promoted from Staff Assistant to Program Coordinator in 2005, and just earned her Certified Program Planner (CPP) certification from LERN. She has attended



conferences, assisted former Council Leader Susan Mays, and has won the ACCE award for innovative programming for Art Welding. Frances has served in a position of leadership on her campus as the Classified Senate Co-President for more than three years.

Fun side-note: Frances is a huge fan of the band U2! She even gave her son Quillan the middle name of the band's lead-singer Bono, and her daughter is named Aislinn after the band's guitarist's first wife and her middle name is Gloria based on the band's 1981 hit song titled with the same name.

Welcome Frances! We look forward to the "rockin" leadership talents and skills you will provide in promoting Community Education and ACCE statewide as Northern California Community Education Council Co-Leader.

Northern California ACCE Community Education members, please feel free to reach out to your new representatives

Rosie and Frances regarding submission of listserv questions, ideas for upcoming workshops and conferences or reporting of important topics related to the field of Community Education in California:

Rosie may be reached at RArmstrong@gavilan.edu and

Frances may be reached at fdenisco@laspositascollege.edu

Reviving Valuable Career Training Programs in our Community

By Rosie Armstrong – ACCE Continuing Education Council Leader

As the seasons change, packing up and storing the last of the holiday decorations lends itself to a sense of accomplishment...at least for the moment. All too soon, we are pulling out Valentine's Day and other holiday décor, in preparation for the for the next holiday cycle. Similarly, the satisfaction felt when the latest Community Education schedule of classes is "put to bed" brings a sense of comfort to us, but sometimes that sense of accomplishment lasts for all too short a time...especially when you receive that dreaded call or email that results in you having to call your printer at the last minute and shout, 'hold the presses!'

The sudden announcement from Boston Reed College that they were ending their existing and future agreements for classroom instruction in California was truly devastating. My first thoughts were, *'What do we do now to pick up this void and what do we tell our students from last semester that waited the entire semester for the next program offering?'*

We were not quite sure what to do at the time but we knew we had significant student interest based on our student interest lists, and we simply could not let our students nor our Pharmacy Technician

and Veterinary Assistant training programs fall by the wayside. So began our next phase for re-tooling these programs and here is what we did. Stay tuned, because we did quite a bit.....

- **ACCE Listserv:** We called on our fellow ACCE members through our Listserv to find out what our colleagues were doing to address their void in these programs. This is a valuable ACCE tool, use it!
- **ACCE Pow-Wow in Northern California:** We made sure to attend our regional ACCE Pow-Wow's at the California Community College State Chancellor's Office. These 1-day workshops are informative and are great ways to network with fellow colleague's, i.e., share and take best practice tips and apply them to your program!
- **ACCE Annual Convention:** We also made sure to attend our ACCE Annual conference in beautiful San Francisco and gained inspiration from CCSF's new Culinary Center.
- **Telephoned ACCE Colleagues & Online Research:** We got on the phones with our fellow ACCE colleagues and received wonderful ideas; our online research efforts came next —thank you Google.
- **Telephoned Turn-key Programs:** We started calling turn-key organizations offering these programs. We learned about these

prospects from the above listed efforts and from looking back through old promotional emails. We talked with them, took notes, and listened to what they were able to offer and decided if their curriculum met the needs and wants of our students and our program standards.

- **Maintained Contact with Students:** We went back to the students that we knew had a keen interest in these programs and made sure that we continued to communicate with them so they knew their patience and interest in these programs were not going to just simply fall off our radar.
- **Kept our local One Stop Career Center in the Loop:** It is so important to keep your local One Stop Career Center informed about your programs even when you do not have all the answers to their questions. Most importantly they need to know that your college is still a provider of these programs and we are here to serve their clients.

As all of this was evolving, the decision to select a new turn-key partner program became very clear and we chose The Learning Oasis. We went back to our student interest lists, called them to let them know that we would have a program for them by the fall. Then, in summer, we organized an informational

session for our Pharmacy Technician and Veterinary Assistant programs with the Learning Oasis. We called each student to personally invite them to this event. Typically, once the schedule of classes goes out registrations follow. In this case however, registrations occurred before the schedule was mailed out and we continue to enroll!

LAST CALL FOR ACCE RECOGNITION AWARD NOMINATIONS! Deadline is January 9, 2015

They say the most meaningful recognition comes from the colleagues who know first-hand what it takes to achieve greatness. Don't miss a chance for that special acknowledgement by submitting a nomination for the ACCE Award.

The ACCE Recognition Awards are intended to recognize the work of deserving ACCE members (individuals, agencies and organizations) and outstanding achievements in the areas of:

- Excellence in Community (Fee-based) Education
- Excellence in Continuing (Noncredit) Education

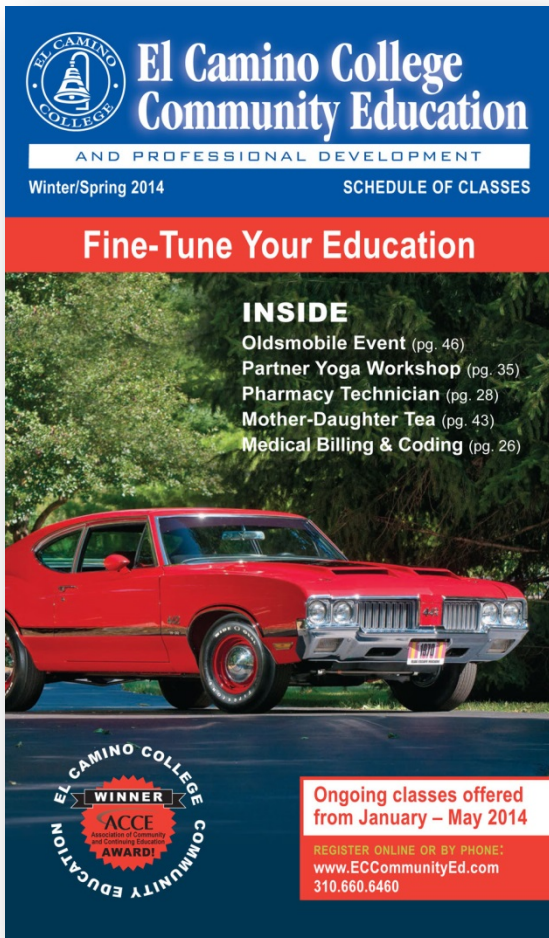
Individuals may nominate their own program but colleges may only submit one nomination in each program category (i.e., one community education and one for continuing education)

If you are interested, please contact Valentina Purtell: vpurtell@sce.edu.

SHOW US YOUR COVER!

We are pleased to announce a new feature for the *ACCE Journal*! Check out the fantastic Community Education cover (front and back, shown below) designed to “rev up” interest in El Camino College’s exciting Community Education offerings. Note the striking use of color and how El Camino featured their recent award from ACCE to draw the attention of prospective customers. You have only a few seconds to garner a customer’s interest...this cover stands out from the crowd with its bold image and clever word play, and prompts the reader to “look inside.”

How you help your class schedule stand out from the crowd? Submit your great covers for possible inclusion in the next ACCE Newsletter to fdenisco@laspositascollege.edu !!



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ACCE is dedicated to develop and promote desirable policies, practices, and support for the educational constituencies within the Association and to promote professional growth of the membership.

Membership information: <http://acceonline.org/membership.cfm>

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