




# ACCE Journal

Journal of the  
Association of  
Community and  
Continuing Education

Fall 2016



## From the President

by Liza Becker – ACCE President

*There is a Chinese curse which says, “May he live in interesting times.” Like it or not we live in interesting times. They are times of danger and uncertainty; but they are also more open to the creative energy of men [and women] than any other time in history.*

– Robert F. Kennedy, Capetown South Africa, 1966

No doubt about it. We are living in interesting times. Our fall term started with greater than usual level of interest in the outcome of our political elections. It is ending in surprise and, let's face it, a bit of anxiety about the future of our programs, our funded initiatives, and especially for our students. But have you also detected, as I have, the sense of solidarity and affirmation? The sense that we are resilient and ready to tackle any obstacles . . . dare I say “walls” that try to get in our way?

Press releases and listserv statements are all affirming the fact that we will not let our students down. We are in the business of serving and providing opportunities for our diverse populations, many of whom are turning to us for a new chance at college pathways, career advancements, and civic engagement. Whether it's noncredit or community education they seek, we are ready, willing, and able to support them through the mission of ACCE - advocacy, networking, and sharing of our best practices.

Our ACCE Northern and Southern Workshops delivered this promise. I attended both and received feedback from colleagues who are interested in establishing or growing their programs, also from colleagues who are well established and willing to share their model practices. Rosie has written a wonderfully extensive description on the Community

Education workshops in this newsletter. As for noncredit sessions, they were focused on starting noncredit programs and support services, as well as initiative and legislative updates. Some of the slides are posted on our [ACCE website](#). I hope you were able to join us.

The [ACCE Annual Conference](#) also promises to be an interesting session. It will be held at The Dana on Mission Bay, in San Diego, scheduled February 1 – 3. Our theme is *Treasure Hunting: Finding the right Xs for your students' success!* We are fortunate to have more funding initiatives these days than in years past. This comes at a price! We must be diligent in reporting our successes through outcomes, data, and other accountability measures. I encourage you to present your best practices with others by answering to the call for presentation we have posted on our website and emailed through the listservs.

As I write this just before Thanksgiving, I can't help but think how fortunate I am to be part of the ACCE organization. ACCE has always been there for me over the years in terms of providing information and resources as well as support and camaraderie. Through ACCE, I have connected with key players across the state who listen to us and help us to set policy and guidelines that meet the needs of our students. ACCE is an organization that is comprised of hard working professionals who demonstrate creativity, innovation, and energy on a daily basis – necessary characteristics in these “interesting times.” I am thankful to be part of this professional organization and hope you are too!

Wishing you Happy Holidays!



## Recap: ACCE Fall 2016 Drive-In Workshops in the North and South: Community Education/Services, *Getting Connected is Easy as 1, 2, 3*

By Rosie I. Armstrong – ACCE Community Education Council Leader (North)

Over 100 ACCE members convened for our fall Drive-in workshops at the California Community College Chancellor's Office in Sacramento in the North and at the North Orange Community College District School of Continuing Education in Anaheim in the South. Members shared best practices with each other and learned about what is trending or not trending in other parts of the state. Topics discussed were:

### **Internal and External Recruitment**

By wide margins, recruitment is coming almost exclusively from external sources and not from internal sources. Members shared that its respective college employees are great resources for potential Community Education instructors but hiring them either as an employee or contractor can be a challenge due to district policies. Members also expressed the need for developing a larger instructor pool to draw from for hiring, perhaps through an ACCE spreadsheet or database (instructors would have to be in agreement).

### **Training Providers for Online Courses and Software Management**

There are a slew of vendor options and sometimes working with multiple vendors can provide the most fruitful experience because of the various formats of training. Ed2Go seems to remain highly popular among responding members. Many Community Education providers are operated by a small staff so having a vendor handle registration can be key to their program success; however, one should always consider profit margin when making this decision. Other vendors being utilized include LERN, Career Step, ProTrain, Carson Dunlop, and World Education.

Lumens remains highly popular among members; however, other online registration program vendors are also being utilized - ASAP, ActiveNet, Aceware, and rSchoolToday. Soaring costs among some vendors might require a change in providers.

### **Roundtable Discussion:**

#### Easy to Run and Successful Programs

Turnkey healthcare programs, like Pharmacy Technician, were highlighted by several members. Other popular programs although not turnkey remain popular, including Notary Public, Auto Wholesale, Bridge, Water Technology, CA Guard Card, Loan Signing, Phlebotomy, Dance, and Yoga.

#### Hot Classes

These include new and old favorites, like Spanish, Medical Billing, Makeup Artistry, Boot Camps, Jewelry Making, Retirement Planning, Travel, Digital Photography, Ceramics, Motorcycle Training, and Veterinary Assistant.

#### Not-so-Hot Classes

These include Sewing, Knitting, Backpack Survival, Yoga, Jewelry Making, and Self-Help, some Language classes like Chinese, German, and Italian. Class popularity can vary based on location, pricing, and other factors.

#### Marketing Courses through Third Party Providers

Location dictates popularity in this category. CourseHorse was cited by members in southern California. Other providers used by members throughout the system are GENOO and Constant Contact. Constant Contact is the most well-known, although not widely utilized for the most part. Some members discussed using Facebook, although keeping relevant data up-to-date remains challenging for some.

#### Enrichment/Recreational/Fun Classes

These include Acting, Financial Planning, Salsa, Tennis, Beekeeping, Guitar, Candle Making, Spa Treatment, Cemetery Walks and Tours, Travel,

and Digital Photography.

Kids College/College for Youth

These include Cooking camps, Cartooning, Robotics, Swimming, Skateboard Building, Science camps, Minecraft, Ice Rink skating, Shop/Woodworking, Coding, CSI, and Motown/Soul Train dancing.

Professional Development/Career Training Programs

These include Water Technology, QuickBooks, CPT, Pharmacy Technician, Veterinary Assistant, Medical Billing, Auto Wholesale, Fire Safety, Social Networking, Phlebotomy, Voice Acting, Dental Assisting, Wedding and Event Planning, Bartending and more. Due to career training program success by Community Education programs, both credit and noncredit programs continue to look at Community Education programs as incubators and partners in career training development.

That's it for now! We look forward to seeing you at the ACCE Annual Conference at The Dana on Mission Bay in San Diego on February 1-3, 2017 where our conference theme will be ***"Treasure Hunting: Finding the Right Xs for Our Students Success."*** Please register early to take advantage of the early bird discount at our website: [http://www.acceonline.org/store/c3/ACCE\\_Workshop%2FConference\\_Registration\\_Fees.html](http://www.acceonline.org/store/c3/ACCE_Workshop%2FConference_Registration_Fees.html).



**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 and pay online at: <http://acceonline.org>

Cost for one directory, which includes memberships is \$60.00 per year per person. For three or more directories, the cost is only \$53.00 per year per person. Annual memberships, regardless of when purchased, run July 1 through June 30 of each year. Join today!

**Join us!**

## CCCEOA Meets the Brain Behind BrainHQ

*By Mary Lange, Director, Education for Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Program, Mt. San Antonio College, and Pat Mosteller, Program Chair, Emeritus Program, San Diego Continuing Education*

For almost 50 years, Dr. Michael Merzenich, PhD has been a leading pioneer in brain plasticity research. During this time, he has collaborated in numerous studies researching brain plasticity and has been honored by receiving many awards, such as the 2016 Kavli Prize in Neuroscience, the National Academy of Sciences for his research on brain plasticity, the Thomas Alvan Edison Patent award and the International Ipsen Prize, just to name a few. Notably, in the late 1980s, Dr. Merzenich was on the team that invented the cochlear implant. In addition to his research, he has published more than 150 articles in leading peer-reviewed journals (such as Science and Nature) and has been granted nearly 100 patents for his work. He and his work have been highlighted in hundreds of books about the brain, learning, rehabilitation, and plasticity.



This past June, Dr. Merzenich made a special trip to San Diego, California to meet with eight members of the California Community College Educators of Older Adults (CCCEOA). Thanks to Professor Pat Mosteller of San Diego School of Continuing Education for setting up this opportunity. Members representing Mt. San Antonio College and North Orange School of Continuing Education had the opportunity to share ideas and insights learned from many years of using the Brain Fitness and now the BHQ programs, as instructional platforms, for older adult students. During the meeting, Dr. Merzenich revealed his belief that we can train our brains to

prevent the onset of some neurological diseases. He stated that the neurovascular unit of the brain, also known as the blood-brain barrier (BBB), is plastic. This BBB keeps destructive agents out of the brain tissue. If you improve the integrity of the BBB, you improve the integrity of the brain. BBB are resealing throughout life. The brain is built for change. It is designed to be reversible and an enriched environment improves the quality and quantity of life.

Additionally, Dr. Merzenich shared that he participated in the Nestlé study in Japan. Nestlé has many years of experience researching the relationship between nutrition and cognitive function. As a result of their study, Nestlé launched a Wellness Club in Japan, which integrates Nutritionists and Brain Trainers. This is the company's first personalized health support service. Nestlé Wellness Club provides subscribers with nutritional support based on data about their physical activity, dietary information, and brain training scores, all of which are collated by a dedicated app. Dieticians review this information, alongside the results of brain training exercises, to suggest monthly 'training menus' to users and select specially fortified matcha green tea capsules compatible with Nescafé Dolce Gusto machines to target people's precise nutritional needs. Members can also arrange direct consultations with nutritionists and 'brain trainers' via Skype.

Dr. Merzenich's work is often covered in the popular press, including the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal. He has appeared extensively on television. He serves as the scientific consultant and has provided the brain assessments and brain training exercises for the Discovery Channel show, "Hack My Brain" with Todd Sampson. His work was recently featured on the Today Show, with our very own Mt. Sac student, Phyllis Walters, serving as the subject.



It is evident that Dr. Merzenich is dedicated to improving brain health and functions by sharing and implementing his knowledge of brain plasticity. Throughout the day long meeting, he offered brain health solutions to meet the learning needs of older adults and people with special needs. He is continuously researching ways to harness the brain's plasticity to enhance our skills and recover lost functions.



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## Call for Presenters 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 **Friday, January 6, 2017.**

The Call for Presenters form is available through our [ACCE home page](#) and is included at the end of this newsletter. The form requires a workshop title of 10 words or fewer and a 75 word description. Be sure to include your equipment needs and any special accommodations needed for your presentation. Please also indicate whether your proposal 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 with the Association and to promote professional growth of the membership.

Email completed forms to Frances DeNisco at [fdenisco@laspositascollege.com](mailto:fdenisco@laspositascollege.com), no later than Friday, January 6.

Questions? Please contact your Council Leader or Frances for assistance.

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## "SP" Added as an Official Noncredit Progress Indicator

*By Jarek Janio, ACCE Past President*

On September 20, the Board of Governors approved a change to Section 55023 of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations to include "SP" as an official grading designation. The evaluative symbol is defined as "Satisfactory Progress towards completion of the course (used for noncredit courses only and is not supplanted by any other symbol)." The adoption of the designation was preceded by a substantial vetting process, which was initiated in 2009 when the effort of establishing a grading system for all noncredit providers began. The "SP" designation completes the list of noncredit progress indicators, which already includes "P" (passing) and "NP" (no pass). These two grade indicators have been in existence but were insufficient on their own because the progress of noncredit students cannot be divided into passing and non-passing cohorts without losing track of efforts made towards attendance and course completion by students who for a variety of reasons cannot complete their courses.

Noncredit practitioners have been waiting for recognition of the "SP" for a long time, and its official recognition is a welcome component to efforts designed to keep noncredit programs accountable while also equipping them with adequate tools to reflect on their success. The "SP" indicator is a means of tracking the efforts of countless noncredit students who progress through our academic programs in an open-entry system, with stops and starts along the way. The "SP" designation is meant for noncredit faculty to document the effort of their students, to encourage them to pursue their education, and, ultimately, to be used as a measure of noncredit student success. The noncredit field, just like its credit counterpart, is under growing pressure to standardize itself through systems that will allow

for more effective transition of students in and through academic programs onto technical or vocational training and an eventual career or employment opportunity. The "SP" grade accomplishes all these goals by informing students that while their road to success may be windy, their efforts and progress cannot be denied. In an effort to make noncredit more transparent, standardized, and consistent across the field, institutions offering noncredit programs have been granted an effective tool to accurately reflect on their students' success.

## ACCE Annual Statewide Conference

*By Frances DeNisco – First Vice President & Conference Chair*



**Join us for the  
2017 ACCE Annual  
Statewide Conference  
this February in San  
Diego!**

February 1 – February 3,  
2017

The Dana, Mission Bay  
1710 West Mission Bay  
Drive  
San Diego CA 92109

[Register Online](#)  
[Download the Registration  
Form](#)

**Early bird registration ends  
December 16, 2016.**

To reserve your room at the Dana for the Conference: Call the Dana on Mission Bay at 1-800-345-9995. Let them know you are reserving a room for the ACCE Conference on February 1 - 3, 2017. 98 Rooms have been reserved, and the discounted rate is \$109 dollars per night. Parking fee for the hotel is \$20. Taxes are extra.



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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.

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# Call for Presentations - ACCE Spring Conference

## *February 1-3, 2017, San Diego, CA*



**Form due by: Friday, January 6, 2017**

Submit to Frances DeNisco at [fdenisco@laspositascollege.edu](mailto:fdenisco@laspositascollege.edu)

**Workshop Title:** Maximum of 10 words that accurately conveys the content of the session

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**Workshop Description:** Maximum of 75 words that succinctly and accurately reflects the benefits of attending this session. This description will be used in the program.

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**Workshop will appeal to (select either or both):**

\_\_\_\_\_ Community Education (fee-based)

\_\_\_\_\_ Continuing Education (noncredit)

**Workshop Presenters:** Please print the names of all presenters in the order they should appear in the program:  
maximum of 6 presenters.

	Name	Title	College or Organization	Email & Phone #
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

**Equipment Needs:** Flip charts, markers, projectors, and media screens will be provided for all presenters. Computers, internet connections, overheads, DVD players will need to be provided by the presenter or special arrangements will need to be made with the hotel in advance. Please be as specific as you can about your media/equipment needs.

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**Special accommodations for workshop:** If you have a disability that requires special accommodations for your workshop, or you are limited to a time frame as to when your presentation can be made, please explain:

**Schedule:** All workshops are scheduled for 55 minutes and will be held concurrently with other workshops. If you feel you need more time, please provide a reason.

**A Note about Expenses:** Please note that travel expenses are the responsibility of the presenter. Should a presenter wish to attend other ACCE Conference workshops/presentations, he/she is required to register and pay the conference registration fee.

**Proposal Submittal:** Please email to Frances DeNisco **no later than Friday, January 6, 2017.**

Frances DeNisco at [fdenisco@laspositascollege.edu](mailto:fdenisco@laspositascollege.edu)  
 First Vice President/ACCE Conference Chair  
 Las Positas College (925) 424-1467

**Questions? Please contact your Council Leaders or Frances DeNisco.**

<b><u>Community Education Council Leaders</u></b>		
Rosie Armstrong (North) Gavilan College (408) 852-2802 <a href="mailto:rarmstrong@gavilan.edu">rarmstrong@gavilan.edu</a>	Cindy Chang (South) Pierce College Extension (818) 719-6425 <a href="mailto:changck@piercecollege.edu">changck@piercecollege.edu</a>	Carla Muldoon (South) Los Angeles Harbor College (310) 233-4450 <a href="mailto:muldoonc@lahc.edu">muldoonc@lahc.edu</a>
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Statewide Annual Conference  
February 1-3, 2017  
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
San Diego, Dana on Mission Bay

**Treasure Hunters in San Diego!**

**Maps (AEBG, SSSP, FEE-BASED Certificate Programs, Enrichment Classes plus many others) Lead Us on the Hunt in Support of Our Students, and "X Never, Ever, Marks the Spot!" -Indiana Jones**

**Registration Form:** (Use one form per person.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you: **Continuing Education** or **Community Education** (circle all that apply)

College: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Fees:</b>	<b>Postmarked on or before Dec. 16, 2016</b>	<b>Postmarked after Dec. 16, 2016</b>
Full Conference – ACCE member	\$335*	\$385*
Full Conference – Non-member	\$395*	\$445*

**Note:** To check your current membership status, email Graciela Vasquez: [gvasquez@cerritos.edu](mailto:gvasquez@cerritos.edu)  
**Fee for non-members includes a membership!**

\*Conference fee includes participation in the conference, breakfasts Thursday and Friday, lunch on Wednesday and Thursday, and a Wednesday evening reception with no-host bar. Costs for transportation, hotel and all other meals are the responsibility of attendees. Conference is from 12:00 noon on Wednesday to 12:30 pm on Friday.

**POs and Checks accepted payable to ACCE.**

**Visa & MasterCard** are accepted online at the [ACCE website](#).

**Refund Policy:** Refunds less a \$25 processing fee for requests received by 5pm on January 15, 2017. No refunds will be issued after this date.

**Mail Registrations & Payments to:** ACCE Treasurer Bob Parker/Napa Valley College  
2277 Napa-Vallejo Highway, Room 1542  
Napa, CA 94558  
Phone: (707) 256-7175  
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