

A message from the Chancellor

November 10th, 2016

Dear students,

We take this time to communicate with you because of the concerns being raised about the future of higher education as a result of Tuesday's election. While we understand that everyone may not agree with some of the outcomes of the election, the process was followed and the nation has spoken for change.

What has not changed is our abiding commitment to you, our students. We want you to know that Contra Costa, Diablo Valley, Los Medanos, the Brentwood and San Ramon centers, and the entire Contra Costa Community College District family are committed to our mission of inclusion and support for the great diversity of our student population. As public institutions of higher education, we will continue our work to ensure every one of you has full access to our colleges and centers, as well as to the support needed for you to succeed in your studies.

We are also deeply committed to protecting the rights of our undocumented students to attend our institutions and receive state aid under the provisions of AB 540, enacted in 2001, and the California Dream Act, signed into law in 2011. These laws allow undocumented students to be exempt from non-resident tuition, and receive private scholarships and state financial aid, including community college fee waivers (BOGW), and Cal Grants. Learn more about [opportunities for undocumented students](#).

On behalf of our Governing Board and our leadership and governance team of faculty, administrators, and professional staff, we assure you that we will do our best to support you in the coming months and years. We are proud to serve you as our students and we will do everything in our power to ensure your success.

Sincerely yours,

Chancellor Helen Benjamin

CCC President Mojdeh Mehdizadeh

DVC Interim President Ted Wieden

LMC President Bob Kratochvil