

Student Services Newsletter

February 2024



Upcoming Friday Hours



Friday, Feb. 9th: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm (in-person and remote)
Friday, March 1st: 8:30 am to **1:00 pm** (in-person and remote); deadline for Spring Financial Aid appeals
Friday, May 17th: [Note: change in hours (in-person and remote): 8:30 am to **1:00 pm**]

Upcoming Events:

2024
Financial Aid Fest

***Fill out your FAFSA
or Dream Act Application**
***Meet your Financial Aid
Advisor**
***FREE Food!!**

Wednesday February 28, 2024
Student Service Courtyard
10 am-1 pm

The poster has a grey background. At the top, the text '2024 Financial Aid Fest' is centered. Below this is a red megaphone icon pointing to the right. To the right of the megaphone is a red speech bubble containing three lines of white text: '*Fill out your FAFSA or Dream Act Application', '*Meet your Financial Aid Advisor', and '*FREE Food!!'. At the bottom of the poster, the date and location are listed: 'Wednesday February 28, 2024', 'Student Service Courtyard', and '10 am-1 pm'.



Promise Registration Rally! Friday, April 19th

800+ local high school students will be bussed to SBCC in the morning and afternoon on Friday, April 19th, to register for Fall 2024 classes. High school students may register for the event by going to the [Promise Registration Rally](#) webpage. The webpage gives details for completing the steps to enrollment so they can attend the event. Staff,

faculty, managers, and administrators may sign up for shifts for this “all hands on deck” event, using [SignUpGenius](#).

News in Brief



Dual Enrollment Conference with CCC Chancellor

The Get Focused Stay Focused Winter Conference was hosted by SBCC on January 11th and 12th in the Garvin Theater. The keynote address was given by California Community College Chancellor, Dr. Sonya Christian, on “Empowering Equitable CTE Pathways with Dual Enrollment for ALL Students.”

Antioch Welcome



SBCC President Dr. Erika Endrijonas
with Antioch Provost Dr. Mark Hower



SBCC students, staff, faculty, and administrators held a belated welcome ceremony for Antioch University, which is housed on the West Campus. Breakfast burritos, various pastries, and coffee were on hand to help make the event extra special. It was fun meeting our “neighbors” and visiting with colleagues at the event held in front of the Luria Library on Thursday, January 25th.

Welcome New Staff!

Angelica Contreras would like to introduce **Jayraj Laxman**, our new Admissions & Records Program Systems Specialist.



Jayraj was born and raised in Zimbabwe, and moved to the United States 10 years ago. When he arrived in the USA, he had trouble translating his work experience to a suitable job, so he decided to go back to school. He started his American education at College of the Sequoias (COS). After attaining his Associates Degree, he transferred to California State University, Fresno where he completed his Bachelor of Science Degree in Kinesiology, Sport Administration.

While he was a student at College of the Sequoias, he began tutoring students in the Writing Center and soon applied for a position as a Senior Instructional Specialist in the Language Center where he helped both English as a Second Language (ESL) and native-speaking English students with their grammar, sentence structure, and writing assignments. During his time in the Language Center, he fell in love with the immigrant population in the ESL program as he was able to relate to many of their stories as new immigrants in the USA. Part of his role as an instructional specialist involved helping students work on their admissions applications and registering for classes which helped him transition to the Admissions and Records role that he served in prior to joining Santa Barbara City College. In total, he worked at COS for seven years, and it was there that he developed his passion for helping students to accomplish their education goals.

He joined the SBCC noncredit Admissions & Records office in August 2023, where he quickly took the lead to learn our internal processes and made changes to improve the student experience. Jayraj looks forward to applying his experience to serve as the Program Systems specialist for Admissions & Records.

Please join me in welcoming him to our team!



Grace Hanshaw is the new Office Technician for the EOPS office. She is originally from San Antonio, Texas, but moved to Santa Barbara in 2022 to pursue a graduate degree at UCSB! She received her Bachelor of Science in Plant Biology from Trinity University in 2022 and her Master of Arts in Native American and Indigenous Religions in December 2023. She is passionate about the importance of student advocacy and empowerment, and values the power of empathy and relationship building. In addition to working at SBCC, she teaches reformer pilates, works in her garden, and roller skates!