



# Newsletter

www.sfbridgetosuccess.org

April 2013



## FROM MY PERSPECTIVE

*“FRISCO Day introduced me to the necessary steps needed to start at City College, such as workshops that showed [me] how to apply for financial aid and schedule courses. [Student should] do your research because FRISCO Day is the opportunity to get questions answered.”*

**HANIN BENCHOHRA**

Current City College student and 2012 SFUSD graduate

## COMING UP NEXT

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual FRISCO DAY**  
**April 19, 2013**  
**City College, SFSU, UCSF**

## CITY COLLEGE SUBMITS “SHOW CAUSE” REPORT

On March 15, 2013, City College of San Francisco submitted its Show Cause Report to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). The report addressed the numerous institutional reforms implemented over the past eight months in response to the 14 ACCJC Recommendations cited in the July 2012 ACCJC Evaluation Report. City College organized a process to gather input from over 200 faculty, staff, administrators, trustees, and students to address the Recommendations and Eligibility Requirements.



City College of San Francisco

Some of the fiscal, operational, and organizational reforms addressed in the report were: revising and focusing the College Mission Statement; creating a more effective, integrated, data-informed planning process; identifying and implementing changes to the delivery of student services to better promote student achievement and access by all students, regardless of location; developing more efficient administrative structures with greater authority and accountability; implementing a new Participatory Governance system; and improving the College’s financial stability, integrity, and reporting. The Show Cause report includes Actionable Improvement Plans for areas associated with each Standard.

On April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> an Accreditation Team visited City College and met with representatives from all college constituencies. Their report, along with CCSF’s Show Cause report will be reviewed by the Accrediting Commission at their June 2012 meeting. The College will know in July whether it will maintain accreditation from the ACCJC. A full Show Cause Report can be found at:

[http://www.ccsf.edu/ACC/Show%20Cause%20and%20Closure%20Report\\_March%202015.pdf](http://www.ccsf.edu/ACC/Show%20Cause%20and%20Closure%20Report_March%202015.pdf)

## CHANGES MADE TO ENGLISH PLACEMENT AND SEQUENCE

City College’s English Department continues to implement important changes to their curriculum, course sequencing and placement policy with the goal of higher success rates, retention, and completion. Students placing into the lowest English level can now complete their college level English (1A) in four semesters.

The new English Bump-Up Policy is being implemented this spring, which allows students to place into higher level courses given other factors besides the placement test. After review by the English faculty, the English placement test cut scores were adjusted in March 2012 which will decrease the need for remediation. Additionally, a new “external bump-up” policy will consider a student’s cumulative high school English GPA of 2.7 or higher, junior year CST score of proficient, and overall high school GPA of 2.5. Students who meet two of the three criteria will be notified to meet with a City College counselor to discuss whether a bump up to an English class one level above their assessment placement is right for them.

## THIRD ANNUAL FRISCO DAY IS HERE!



FRISCO Day on Friday April 19<sup>th</sup> is around the corner and plans are being finalized at each of the sites: City College, San Francisco State University, and University of California San Francisco. Over 3000 SFUSD seniors are expected to participate in a day filled with transitional activities to help bridge the gap between high school and college. Each site will provide peer networking opportunities, financial aid support, workshops on various topics, and student life panels.

## SFUSD GRADUATION RATE INCREASES

SFUSD released 2012 graduation statistics on April 9<sup>th</sup> and district officials are celebrating gains with some of the most at-risk students. African American graduation rate hit 70.8 percent, up 7.2 percentage points from 2011, and nearly 14 points higher than 2010. Pacific Islander graduate rates were 10 percentage points higher than last year, with 70.6 graduating. At Burton High School, the 2012 graduation rate was 87.9 percent, more than 10 points higher than 2011.

One of the efforts to help increase future graduation rates is the Early Warning Indicators developed through Bridge to Success. By identifying the students most at risk of dropping out in high school, schools are able to provide increased support to handle the social and academic pressures of high school.

For data on state and local graduation rates, go to: [dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/](http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

## Action Team Updates

### Workforce and Career Pathways

The Workforce and Career Pathways Action Team is currently planning a professional development forum in early May. The forum will bring together counselors, CTE staff and community-based youth workforce providers to share information on career pathways and youth workforce opportunities offered at SFUSD, City College and in the community. Topics of breakout sessions include how to do effective job readiness assessment, what services are available for off-track students and understanding the enrollment process at City College.

### Early Warning Indicators

The EWI Action Team continues to compile the strategies that SFUSD high schools have adopted toward the goal of improving outcomes for students with early warning indicators for dropping out. Nearly all SFUSD high schools are actively engaged in efforts that align with the U.S. Department of Education's recommendations for dropout prevention. Additionally, The Wellness Initiative recently convened the first of three scheduled Professional Learning Community (PLC) focused on strengthening and integrating systems of support for 9th grade students identified via SFUSD's Early Warning System. Participants from seven SFUSD high schools shared what each of their schools is currently doing to support students, explored promising practices identified in dropout prevention research, identified barriers to change at their schools, and began the process of developing a set of preliminary recommendations to share with Bridge to Success leadership at the end of this school year.

### Counseling

The Counseling Action Team held a professional development event on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Members of community-based organizations and counselors from SFUSD and CCSF came together to discuss how to support students in their transition from high school to community college including resources specifically for English Learner and special needs students. City College programs also presented, including Gateway to College and Latino Services Network. In coming meetings, the Action Team will discuss how to institutionalize this important work between SFUSD and CCSF.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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