Greetings! What a productive and exciting regional conference the Western Region Council on Black American Affairs (WRCBAA) had in Las Vegas, Nevada during October, 2011. The attendees enjoyed a variety of workshops and excellent speakers. If you missed this professional development opportunity I encourage you to make plans to attend the upcoming mini-conference in San Francisco, California on September 22nd.

I am pleased to announce that the Western Region Council on Black American Affairs (WRCBAA) Board of Directors recently approved the addition of a new affiliate, the Northern California Council on Black American Affairs (NCCBAA). The new chapter is charged with serving the area of San Francisco Bay Area and northern California community colleges.

As I prepare for conclusion of my term of office in June, I am confident that the leadership of the WRCBAA is in great hands. We have a dedicated, knowledgeable, and energetic leadership team who are poised to take WRCBAA to even greater accomplishments.

It has been a pleasure and honor to serve as the WRCBAA President since June, 2008. I am particularly proud of the organization’s accomplishments during my tenure including: the addition of two new affiliates, the Southern California Council on Black American Affairs (SCCBAA) and the NCCBAA; expansion of the WRCBAA Board of Directors from 14 members to our current 22 members; as well as mini-conferences and regional conferences featuring outstanding speakers, workshops and engaging professional development opportunities for community college professionals and students. However, my greatest pleasure is derived from the opportunity to serve you. As a student and advocate of servant leadership, I believe our greatest honor in life comes from serving others. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve.

Regards and best wishes,
William H. Crawford III, Ed.D.
President

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William H. Crawford, III
Some crave chocolate cake, chocolate bars, and others even crave chocolate kisses. However, the members of the Presidents' Round Table believe that there are far too many of us who crave The Chocolate Truth.

Written by members of the Presidents' RoundTable, The Chocolate Truth is a collection of narratives that speak to the trials, tribulations, and triumphs of community college CEOs. Please don't miss the opportunity to get this must-have publication at the AACC Annual Convention.

If you are not able to attend AACC's Annual Convention, The Chocolate Truth will be available at Amazon.com on May 15, 2012.
ON THE MOVE

John R. Mosby, Ph.D., Named Dean of Enrollment Services, Skyline College, San Bruno, CA

Dr. John Mosby was named as the Dean of Enrollment Services at Skyline College in San Bruno, California in July 2011. Mosby comes from the University of San Diego (USD), where he has served as Associate Director of Graduate Admissions for the past five years. In addition, he was a faculty member teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels in areas of leadership, Higher Education Theory and Race, Gender and Culture within higher education. Prior to teaching and Graduate Admissions, Mosby was the Director of Outreach and Recruitment for the School of Leadership and Education Sciences at USD. Mosby also is a member of the California Forum for Diversity in Graduate Education organization.

Mosby received his doctorate in Leadership/Higher Education Administration from the University of San Diego, and holds a Masters in Counseling and Educational Psychology from the University of the Pacific and Bachelors in English from Saint Mary’s College. Mosby has been a Community College Leadership Diversity Fellow (CCLDI) in California and his dissertation, “From Strain to Success” was a phenomenological study looking at the academic strains and pressures of African American male community college students.

Joi Blake, Ph.D. named Vice President of Student Services, Skyline College, San Bruno, CA

Dr. Joi Blake was named Vice President of Student Services at Skyline College of San Bruno, California. Dr. Blake comes from San Diego Mesa College where she served as the Dean of Student Development and Matriculation for over five years. Previously, she held positions in the Southwestern Community College District as well as the San Diego Community College District, including Interim Staff Development Coordinator, and Interim Dean of Instructional Services. For many years she held faculty positions as Professor (Disability Support Services and Personal Development), GAIN Assessment Coordinator, Counselor and also served as Academic Senate President at Southwestern Community College District.

Most recently, Dr. Blake completed a prestigious internship at the U. S. Department of Education, in the Offices of the Under Secretary and Vocational and Adult Education. Dr. Blake holds a Bachelor’s degree in Health Science and minor in Spanish from San Francisco State University, a Master’s degree in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling from San Diego State University and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership—Community College/Postsecondary Education from San Diego State University. Her dissertation research centered on process and outcomes evaluations of pre-collegiate outreach and recruitment student services programs for African American and Latino males.

The Western Region News is published during the Fall and Spring semesters by the WRCBAA and is distributed to individual members and institutions of the WRCBAA. To submit an article for the WRCBAA newsletter or for more information and additional copies of the newsletter, contact Carol Belle-Thomas Moss, Editor: chellethomas@gmail.com. Send articles, updates or any other items of interest. Items must be sent electronically in a Word or PDF document, and photos must be sent in a .jpg format at 300 dpi and at least 2 by 3 inches in size. Deadline for Fall 2012 edition is August 10, 2012.
Sierra College Names Dr. Sharon Adams Dean of Student Services

Dr. Sharon Adams, who previously served as Dean of Learning Support Services at Bakersfield College in Kern County, has assumed the role of Dean of Student Services at Sierra College in Rocklin, CA.

Among other things, she has taken on the challenge of designing and implementing a comprehensive “Online Counseling Center”. The goal of the center is to avail online students to the same or similar counseling services that are available to students on campus.

Community College of Aurora, Denver, Colorado Welcomes Xeturah Woodley

Xeturah Woodley has been named Vice President of Instruction at the Community College of Aurora. Woodley began her position April 2.

Woodley’s new role encompasses responsibility for the planning, development, implementation and evaluation of instructional services offered by CCA, including degree and certificate programs.

She comes to the school from Central New Mexico Community College in Albuquerque, where she has been a dynamic leader in numerous roles for nearly seven years. Woodley now serves concurrently as the institution’s Associate VP for Academic Affairs (July 2009-present) and Dean of Communication, Humanities and Social Sciences (July 2011-present).

Woodley began her teaching career from 1995-2001 at her alma mater, Metro State, where she earned her B.A. in Psychology and African-American Studies (1992). She earned a master’s degree in Social Sciences from the University of Colorado-Denver (1995) and is in the final stages of completing her doctorate in Philosophy at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, N.M.

Join the Western Region’s Board of Directors

To be considered for a Board position you must:

- Be a member of WRCBAA in good standing for a minimum of one year
- Have access to a travel budget in order to attend three official Board meetings per year
- Submit a letter of intent for Board membership to the WRCBAA president
Laney College Renames Theater In Honor of Odell Johnson

Laney College and the Peralta community celebrated the renaming of their theater to the Odell Johnson Performing Arts Center. Odell was one of the longest tenured and most beloved Presidents in the College’s history. Odell was instrumental in securing large scale and important developments at the college through very difficult times, including an arts wing of the campus.

The ceremony was marked with a reception in Odell’s honor, which included presentations by a variety of speakers from throughout Odell’s long career, echoing the sentiments of affection felt by all in the room. Following the reception, there was a performance by a host of past and present students, including a Laney student transferring to the prestigious Berklee School of Music, and a pair of traditional Chinese musicians.

Odell is one of the founding members of NCBAA and remains active in his retirement.

Northern California Council on Black American Affairs Chapter Formation

The Council on Black American Affairs, active on the City College campus since 1979, has reorganized into the Northern California Council on Black American Affairs, (NCCBAA) an affiliate of the Western Region Council on Black American Affairs. NCCBAA continues to be active at all its member colleges, particularly in light of the fiscal uncertainties. The leadership of our chapter reflects all aspects of shared governance as it does at the regional and national level. NCCBAA continues to be at the forefront in providing opportunities for members to learn and teach. We affirm in our constitution that “Education is essential for realizing the fullest potential of each member of our society. . . Appropriate education should be available to all.” We realize that as we make a positive difference for our own, we make a difference for everyone.

Dr. Mark Robinson was elected Interim President and with his leadership, NCCBAA continues to provide scholarships, workshops and conferences to assist community college African-American staff and students in navigating higher education career pathways and achieving success through attaining educational and employment goals. We have just completed a one day Community College Career Institute that brought together participants from Skyline College, The Peralta Colleges, Modesto Jr. College, City College of San Francisco, State Center Community College District (Fresno), Contra Costa Community College District, and Solano Community College and currently are planning a one day conference on September 22 to be held at City College of San Francisco dealing with student success strategies.

Merritt College Student Semaj Blackwood selected for the AIA/AAF Minority Disadvantaged Scholarship

Semaj Blackwood migrated to the United States after graduating high school at the age of 16 in his native Jamaica. He enrolled at Merritt College where he is also a tutor as well as working part-time at a development services program with senior citizens with developmental challenges. Blackwood has been an active participant in the Maximum Achievement Project (MAP), a federally funded program to assist with the achievement of African American male students. He transferred to the California College of the Arts in the fall 2011. The AIA/AAF Minority Disadvantaged Scholarship provides assistance to minority and/or financially disadvantaged students who intend to pursue a NAAB-accredited professional degree (5-year BA or BA + MA) in Architecture.
Fullerton College Donates Computers to Haiti Tec
By Dr. Ned Doffoney, Chancellor NOCCCD

It was just over two years ago that the small island nation of Haiti was devastated by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake. Even with the generous international aid that has been given, the overwhelming majority of Haitians live in conditions we would consider deplorable. Most interesting to me was the absence of public education. Even before the earthquake hit, Haiti lacked the infrastructure needed to support public education as we know it. The result is that virtually all students from grammar level to college pay for their schooling, with those who can afford it typically leaving the county for prestigious universities in the United States or Europe.

Haiti Tec, founded in 2000 as a private trade school, was designed to be a viable local higher education option for those who couldn’t afford the exodus overseas. With the help of scholarships and grants, the college flourished in its early years, providing training and jobs for many of the country’s residents. Unfortunately, everything changed when the earthquake hit. Much of the Haiti Tec campus was leveled and equipment destroyed. Without classrooms and equipment, students were unable to return to school, leaving them with few prospects.

When Fullerton College President Rajen Vurdien was made aware of Haiti Tec’s plight, he pledged to find a way to help. As a result, he and I boarded a flight in January 2012 to Port-au-Prince, stewards of nearly 200 surplus Fullerton College computers for the use of Haiti Tec students.

Though we only spent 30 hours in Haiti, the visit left a significant impression on me. It wasn’t just how grateful the administrators and students of Haiti Tec were for the donation of the computers—it was that in spite of the chaos and crisis the Haitians deal with every day, they are still determined to fulfill their ambitions, to have courage beyond their circumstances.

To see a slideshow of our trip to Haiti, and read the complete article please go to the District’s website at www.nocccd.edu.
Western Region Conference- October 28-29, 2011
College of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada

Conference presenters Drs. Stacy Thompson, Marion Shivers, and Regina Stroud

WRCBAA Board Member
Anita Black

WRCBAA Board Member
Jocelyn Mouton

College of Southern Nevada Conference Hosts

WRCBAA Board Members and Presenter Judge Karen Bennett

WRCBAA and NCBA Board Members

WRCBAA Conference Attendees and Presenters

photos by: Carol Belle-Thomas Moss
For more pictures visit www.wrcbaa-ncba.org

Carol Belle-Thomas Moss presented WRCBAA
Sankofa Award by President William Crawford

Sankofa Award Winner is congratulated by
Dr. Regina Stroud and Dr. and Mrs. Ned Doffoney
Western Region Conference- October 28-29, 2011
College of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada

Conference Presenters Drs. Jowel Laguerre, Rajen Vurdien, Carolyn Williams, Thomas Brown, William Crawford

Dr. Chemene Crawford, Conference Chair, Ann Johnson, Dr. M. Christopher Brown, Keynote Speaker, and WRCBAA President William Crawford

President and Mrs. William Crawford

Everybody Get Down!

Winter Board Meeting- January 13
Laney College, Oakland, CA

photos by:
Carol Belle-Thomas Moss
For more pictures visit
www.wrcbaa-ncbaa.org
WRCBAA in Pictures

Career Institute, Skyline College- February 11, 2012

Presenters Drs. Elnora Webb, Regina Stroud, and Helen Benjamin

Career Institute Attendees

Drs. Sharon Adams and Carolyn Buck

Dr. Mark Robinson, Lidia Jenkins, Dr. Elliott Osborne and Dr. Regina Stroud, Panelists Career Institute

Drs. Stacy Thompson, Joi Blake, and Carolyn Buck

Dr. Karolyn Van Puten and Anita Black

Presenters Venesee Metcalf, Carol Belle-Thomas Moss, Dr. Elnora Webb, and Anita Black

Career Institute attendees

photos by: Carol Belle-Thomas Moss
For more pictures visit www.wrcbaa-ncbaa.org
Peralta Chancellor Wise Allen and Odell Johnson

Former Peralta Trustee Alona Clifton makes a presentation at re-naming Celebration

Tribute poster for Odell Johnson

Peralta Chancellor Wise Allen and Odell Johnson

Dr. Elnora Webb, Shirley Coaston, Odell Johnson, Victoria Redus and Carol Belle-Thomas Moss

Odell Johnson, Virginia Johnson and current President Elnora Webb

PAAAA Co-Presidents, Carlos McLean and Anita Black with Virginia and Odell Johnson

Anita Black, Dr. Elnora Webb, Odell Johnson, Carol Belle-Thomas Moss and Randolph Belle

Laney College Renames Theater In Honor of Odell Johnson- March 16, 2012

photos by: Randolph Belle
Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) rolled out the red carpet for the 2011 Lakin mentees, the National Council on Black American Affairs (NCBAA) scholars, and Presidents’ Round Table (PRT) members. The district, under the leadership of Dr. Curtis Ivery, provided incredible support for the week-long leadership institutes and the two-day PRT business meeting and professional development activities. District liaison for the event, Dr. Stephanie Bulger, worked closely with institute leaders (Drs. Charlene Dukes, Charlene Newkirk, and Marian Shivers) in ensuring a quality experience for all in attendance.

Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) Hosts 2011 Lakin Institute, NCBAA Leadership Institutes, and PRT Business Meeting

2011 LDI Scholars

Dr. Carolyn Grubbs Williams Leadership Development Institute for African American Midlevel Administrators

The LDI continues to be a very viable leadership development institute. Participants continue to refer to it as a “life-changing experience” that will positively impact their professional careers. Twenty-four scholars completed the intensive week-long training sessions which brings the total number of participants to 225.

First Row: Dr. Ann Lampkin-Williams, Ms. Anisha Morrell-Charles, Dr. Tammy Robinson, Dr. Yvette Snowden, Dr. Deidre Hill, Ms. Chasity Gaither, Ms. Doris Roberson, Ms. Cheryl Garnett, Ms. Sharon Dalmage
Second Row: Dr. Marian Shivers, Dean LDI, Dr. Wayne Beckles, Mr. Richard Potter, Mr. Vladimir St. Surin, Mr. Michael Smith, Dr. Enyinnaya Iweha, Mr. Donnell Mason, Mr. Mark Sanford, Dr. Carolyn Anderson, President NCBAA
Not shown: Mr. Jeffery Benford, Mr. Keith Grace, Dr. Marvin Harris, Dr. Deborah Johnson-Blake, Dr. Paul Machen, Mr. Darrick Muhammad, Dr. Vincent Mumford, Ms. Sherry Sharufa, Dr. Murray Williams

2011 Advanced LDI Scholar

The Dr. Carolyn Grubbs Williams Advanced Leadership Development Institute for African American Midlevel Administrators (Advanced LDI)

The Advanced LDI was initiated this year. The Advanced LDI is an intensive two-day institute designed for alumni of the LDI. Participants build upon skills gained in the LDI through focused discussions on leadership and networking with experienced community college professionals and their colleagues.

Save the Date
Dr. Carolyn Grubbs Williams Leadership Institute for African American Mid-level Administrators
October 21-26, 2012. Phoenix, Arizona
Hosted by Maricopa Community College District
For more information contact: Dr. Marian C. Shivers, Dean, Leadership Institute marianshivers@bellsouth.net
Western Region Board of Directors

PRESIDENT
Mr. William H. Crawford III
Chandler-Gilbert Community College
Vice President for Student Affairs
2626 East Pecos Road
Chandler, AZ 85225
(480) 732-7309
bill.crawford.iii@cgcmail.maricopa.edu

VICE PRESIDENT – ORGANIZATIONAL VITALITY
Mr. Kenneth Robinson
North Orange County Community College District
District Director, Equity and Diversity
1830 W. Romneya Drive, Suite 911
Anaheim, CA 92801-1819
(714) 808-4830
krobinson@nocccd.edu

VICE PRESIDENT – MEMBERSHIP
Dr. Stacy Thompson
Child Development Professor
Merritt College
12500 Campus Drive
Oakland, CA 94619
(510) 436-2609
sthompson@peralta.edu

VICE PRESIDENT – PROGRAMS
Dr. Chemene Crawford
College of Southern Nevada
Interim Vice President for Student Affairs
6375 West Charleston Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89146-1164
(702) 651-5830
chemene.crawford@csn.edu

VICE PRESIDENT – PUBLIC RELATIONS
Mr. Eric Garner
College of Southern Nevada
Manager of Multimedia Services
6375 West Charleston Boulevard
Las Vegas, NV 89146-1164
(702) 651-7379
eric.garner@csn.edu

SECRETARY
Dr. Maurice McKinnon
Modesto Junior College
Dean, Allied Health/Family & Consumer Science
435 College Avenue
Modesto, CA 95350
(209) 575-6373
mckinnonm@mjc.edu

TREASURER
Dr. Janet Felton
Mesa Community College
Executive Assistant to the President
1833 W. Southern Avenue
Mesa, Arizona 85202
(480) 461-7500
janet.felton@mcmail.maricopa.edu

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Ms. Shirley A. Coaston
Laney College
Librarian
900 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94607
(510) 986-6947
coaaston@peralta.edu

PUBLICATIONS EDITOR
Ms. Carol Belle-Thomas Moss
City College of San Francisco
Media Specialist/Instructor
50 Phelan Ave. – R403
San Francisco, CA 94112
(415) 452-5427
cbellethomas@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS
Dr. Sharon Adams
Sierra College
Dean, Student Services
5000 Rocklin Road
Rocklin, CA 95677
(916) 660-7397
sadam9@sierracollege.edu

Dr. James L. Bennett
Educational Consultant
6714 Greenwood Ave. N
Seattle, WA 98103
jlbennett6614@comcast.net

Ms. Anita M. Black
Merritt College
Interim Vice President of Instruction
2500 Campus Drive
Oakland, CA 94619
(510) 434-3858
ablock@peralta.edu

Mr. Ernie Bridges
Fullerton College
Adjunct Faculty
321 East Chapman Avenue
Fullerton, CA 92832
erbreedges@fullcoll.edu

Dr. Frank Dawson
Santa Monica College
Professor & Chair of Communications Department
1900 Pico Boulevard
Santa Monica, CA 90405
(310) 434-4000
dawson_frank@smc.edu

Ms. Stephanie Hill
College of Southern Nevada – Henderson Campus
Interim Director, Student Affairs
Sort Code H1C, 700 College Drive
Henderson, NV 89002-8419
(702) 651-3144
stephanie.hill@csn.edu

Mr. Glenn Jackson
Bellevue College
Program Director
300 Landerholm Circle SE
Bellevue, WA 98007-6484
(425) 564-4035
glenn.jackson@bellevuecollege.edu

Dr. Jowel C. Laguerre
Solano Community College
Superintendent/President
4000 Suisun Valley Road
Fairfield, CA 94534
(707) 864-7112
jowel.laguerre@solano.edu

Ms. Jocelyn Mouton
Solano College
Coordinator/Counselor
4000 Suisun Valley Road
Fairfield, CA 94534
(707) 864-7252
Jocelyn.Mouton@solano.edu

Dr. Tammy R. Robinson
Los Angeles City College
English/ESL Department
265 S. Arroyo Parkway, #604
Pasadena, CA 91105
(626) 578-4000, ext. 2729
trobian625@yahoo.com

Dr. Regina Stroud
Skyline Community College
President
3300 College Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066
(650) 738-4440
stroud@smccd.edu

Ms. Genevieve Watson
Phoenix College
Director, Financial Aid Department
1202 West Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85013
(602) 285-7404
gen.watson@pcmail.maricopa.edu

Dr. Elnora Tena Webb
Laney College
President
900 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94607
(510) 464-3236
ewebb@peralta.edu

* National Board Members