

April 14, 2017

FIRST FRIDAY

Happy Spring! I hope you had a restful spring break week and are diving into the final few weeks of the semester with renewed motivation with an intention to complete your academic goals or project goals successfully. As I look ahead into April and May, there are many events to look forward to including our annual scholarship award ceremony, recognition events, our first annual Education Forums at area high schools and of course the most exciting day of the year....graduation on May 26, 2017. I look forward to my first official year to have the honor as the Superintendent/President to congratulate every student that walks across the stage to receive their degree or certificate. That is the day our students leave a legacy behind at Gavilan, stories of how they made a difference while they were here, and appreciating what future students will inherit when they choose Gavilan in the future.

This month I want to take the opportunity in my First Friday column to talk about the work of our faculty and staff in creating their own legacies at Gavilan. In our daily work here we are often caught up in the operational work that makes sure that classes run smoothly, facilities are open and technology is current to provide the best support for learning. I'm convinced that all of us who work at Gavilan (as well as those dedicated individuals on our Board of Trustees) think about this idea of "legacy" and want to leave the college better that we found it, which motivates us to take actions to make it better. Everything leaders do is about service, and the best leaders are teachers....and we have many of those here at Gavilan. The work of building legacies is about the purpose, not necessarily the person, but we need strong relationships and active thinkers to get things done. Here are some examples of individuals on campus who use questions like "What's next?" and "What's better?" to build the next level of legacy at Gavilan:

Leah Halper: Mentoring faculty and setting up critical conversation on civic engagement.

- **Rosie Annzualda:** Who has never met a copy job that could not be done efficiently and on time.
- **Linda Bernabe:** Caring about Morgan Hill Students and the community through dedicated service.
- **Brooke Boeding:** Completing her doctorate focusing on student veterans and community colleges.
- **Laurel Blakley:** Setting up systems for fiscal streamlining with grace and logic.
- **Kelly Glass:** Demonstrating climate knowledge with extraordinary power and insight.
- **Lucy Alvarez:** Answering complex human resources questions with patience and warmth.
- **Michele Cortes:** Teaching others to gain strength through empowering instructional design.
- **Eric Ramones:** Completing his doctorate focusing on



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This month.....

Communication Studies
Alumni Panel

Evening ESL in Hollister

Women in Leadership Panel

Hlstory students study bias

SAVE THE DATE

- **April 19 -** Tobacco-Free Earth Day
- **April 26 -** Denim Day
- **April 27 -** Signing Day
- **April 28 -** Puente dinner
- **May 5, 6, 12, 13, 19 -** Cabaret

Asian Community College CEO leadership traits.

- **Susan Sweeney:** Building fresh relationships with industry partners each and every day.

Each member of the Gavilan College team contributes to the legacy of the college, and I will continue to highlight your work in subsequent First Friday columns. The work of legacy-building after all is about courage...courage to take initiative in the moments that matter, and we have many of those moments here at Gavilan. It is about doing the small things that make a huge difference, and create a turning point for our students. Enjoy the remaining weeks of the spring semester, and I will see you on campus!



COMMUNICATIONS STUDIES ALUMNI OFFER CAREER INSIGHTS AT ANNUAL SPEAKER'S PANEL

Students exploring potential career paths engaged with five Gavilan College Communication Studies alumni at the fourth annual department panel.

[Read more](#)



GAVILAN COLLEGE AND FIRST 5 PARTNER TO OFFER EVENING ESL CLASSES IN HOLLISTER

ESL students attend evening classes, learn a new language while their children participate in FIRST 5 educational program.

[Read more](#)



WOMEN LEADERS GATHER TO SHARE CAREER INSIGHTS AND HUMOR

Three leaders in Gavilan College's district area brought their perspective as women to the first Women in Leadership panel.

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"...AND JUSTICE FOR ALL"

History students tackle the issue of unconscious bias, share their research as the final presentation at Gilroy Library during Silicon Valley Reads.



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