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Message from President Frank Chong, Ed. D.

With the economy struggling, community colleges are serving more students with fewer resources. Laney College is facing converging enrollment demand from high school graduates, students redirected from enrollment-constrained four-year universities, returning veterans, and the newly unemployed.

As we reduce our budget, we are working hard to protect core programs and preserve as many classes as possible in transfer education, basic skills and career & technical programs. We are joining our sister colleges to fight for federal and state funds to adequately serve our students. More important, we are expanding our own revenue pie and not battle over the same slice in Washington and Sacramento.

Laney has always sought alternative funding because there were never enough dollars to meet our needs. Through the collaborative efforts among Dean Peter Crabtree, Dean William Hanson and Peralta District Director of Development Jeanette Dong, we have secured about \$6.8 million worth of grants in the past two years.

Now, we must redouble our efforts in grants development, corporate donations, distance education, college foundation, and fundraising activities. We must also explore revenue diversification, including fee-based courses and alumni association.

Our current challenge is to innovate, create and do things differently amidst economic uncertainty. Our ability to innovate is only as good as how we can accept changes, take risks, and progress.

We have taken the first important steps. Our continuous participation in the Educational Master Plan will ensure Laney's success

Dean Peter Crabtree Leads Grants Development



“Laney College is a statewide leader in career & technical education because we are always forward-looking, we embrace new ideas and technology, and we have a team of dedicated instructors, employees and administrators,” said Peter Crabtree, Division Dean of Career & Technical Education (CTE).

CTE offers the academic, employability, and technical skills that students need to become productive and self-sustaining. Today’s challenging economy and expanding technology require a more educated workforce. CTE is an effective and immediate response to this urgent demand.

“My primary responsibility is to identify opportunities that support workforce development efforts -- research employment gaps, create educational programs, acquire funding, recruit and train students as well as provide job placement and career counseling,” continued Dean Crabtree.

Since joining Laney 5½ years ago, this veteran educator and workforce development professional has helped secure millions of public/private grants and donations. His team raised almost \$2 million in 2008 – 2009. This allows Laney to expand its CTE programs and train an educated, local workforce. More important, it enables the College to implement its core mission of quickly responding to needs of the community.

Laney Grants At-A-Glance

Dean Peter Crabtree, Dean William Hanson and Peralta District Director of Development Jeanette Dong have secured almost \$7 million worth of grants since 2008. Following is a partial listing:

California Clean Energy Workforce Training (\$1 million for 18 months)

Laney is one of 34 recipients in this \$27 million California Clean Energy Workforce Training Program. Under the first phase of the program, participants will be prepared for hands-on jobs, such as installing solar panels and maintaining electric vehicles to computer programming and researching fuel cell technologies, to help develop the state’s low-carbon, clean energy economy of tomorrow.

East Bay Career Advancement Academy (\$1,666,666 for 3 years)

The East Bay Career Advancement Academy is a unique partnership between community colleges and industry partners and community nonprofits that will train young adults in basic skills using a career-specific curriculum, while providing them the comprehensive support services they need to be successful. The target population is between 18 and 30.

Employment Development Department – Green Jobs Corp Program for At-Risk youth (\$500,000 for 18 months)

Green Jobs Corps provides a career pathway to high-wage green jobs with solar and construction employers. This is a partnership between Laney College, Cypress Mandela, Growth Sector and the Oakland Mayor's office. The Green Jobs Corps program provides college-credited training in construction skills, solar installation and energy auditing, combined with intensive social support. Successful graduates receive a Laney College certificate and transition directly to paid internships or on-the-job training, at wages of \$15 - \$18 per hour.

Bay Area Workforce Funding Collaborative - Laney College East Bay Fast Track to Biotechnology Project (\$280,000 for 3 years)

The Fast Track to Biotech program offers an education and training program that will prepare 100 low-income, underrepresented adults and transition-age youth for employment in the biotechnology industry. Three community-based organizations --Rubicon Programs, Pivotal Point Youth Services, and RTTC -- provide recruitment, case management, and tracking services.

Chancellor's Office Industry-Driven Regional Collaborative - Advanced Control System Technology (\$427,428 for 2 years)

Supported by an "Industry-Driven Regional Collaborative" (IDRC) grant from the State Chancellor's Office of Economic Workforce Development Initiative (EWD) and a National Science Foundation Advanced Technology Education grant, Laney is developing an in-depth curricular pathway for students to gain expertise in maintaining, programming, and troubleshooting building control systems.

A state-of-the-art multi-vendor training lab as well as a real-life commercial HVAC system equipped with the latest controls and protocols allow students to simulate on-the-job challenges. Enhanced facilities and revised curriculum (including six new courses and 30% wage-increase prospects) are attracting new students and incumbent workers. Extensive collaboration with industry, regional colleges, and policymakers, is facilitating a much-needed educational expansion and training opportunities in the critical green workforce pathway.

Project Bridge (\$427,428 for 2 years)

This grant allows Project Bridge to strengthen its community partnerships, expand its outreach to young adults, provide intensive counseling and support services to program participants. Project Bridge is sharing best practices with the wider Laney community through a series of teacher training workshops and a faculty mentoring component.

Gateway to College (\$350,000 for 3 years)

A partnership between Laney College and the Oakland Public School District, Gateway to College promotes student success and readiness by grouping students into learning communities for their first term. The program offers intensive literacy development, maintains rigorous academic standards, and provides individualized support. After successfully completing the initial Foundation term, students will transition to taking classes with the general student population. Students will focus their studies in a "pathway" or major that is

aligned with high school completion requirements and college degree or certificate requirements. To keep students on the right track to success, dedicated Gateway counselors provide one-on-one support. All classes are college-credited courses and are fully integrated into the Laney College curriculum.

Peralta After-School Pathways Initiative (\$300,000 for 18 months)

The Peralta Afterschool Pathways Initiative (PAPI) is a career-building project targeting young adults, ages 18 to 30, in the City of Oakland and Northwest Alameda County. PAPI creates a uniform youth development training continuum for unemployed and underemployed young adults in Oakland while linking them to ongoing career path training in Peralta Certificate and AA programs leading to an employer recognized vocational certificate, transfer to the California State University East Bay or other 4-year-baccalaureate-granting institutions.

Exploring Pathway in Digital Media Initiative (\$369,700 for 18 months)

This is an alliance between Laney College, Oakland and Berkeley Unified School Districts, Youth Radio and Eureka. The Exploring Pathway in Media Initiative introduces middle and high school students to career opportunities in various fields that use digital media.

Oakland Mayor's Office - Oakland Green Jobs Corps (\$250,000 for 1 year)

The Oakland Green Jobs Corps is a partnership between Laney Community College, Cypress Mandela Construction Training Program, and Growth Sector (a workforce intermediary).

Students receive hands-on training in the construction trades as well as specific training for green-collar jobs, such as solar panel installation, energy efficiency and green construction. The program also includes a section on eco-education and environmental literacy. Successful graduates can install solar panels on rooftops, weatherize homes and businesses, and construct green buildings with the latest technology for water and energy efficiency.

National Science Foundation Advanced Technology Education - Building Automation and Sustainability (\$900,000 for 3 years)

Supported by a National Science Foundation Grant, Laney College's Environmental Control Technology program has deepened and broadened its HVAC curriculum to integrate essential knowledge and skills in best energy management practices, HVAC troubleshooting and commissioning for energy efficiency as well as optimizing building automation systems. Graduates have the opportunity to succeed in a rapidly changing high-wage, high-growth sector.

US Department of Labor – Community-based Jobs Training Grant (\$300,000 for 3 years)

The BayCEC Program is a collaboration between Laney College, Skyline, College of Marin, and potential employers (SolarCity, PG&E, Siemens and Controlco). This grant is designed to transition students directly from on-the-job training to actual employment.

Laney offers classes on energy auditing and retrofits -- helping a home, business or office complex become energy efficient and save money by calibrating heating and cooling systems, installing weather stripping and insulation.

Please send comments and story ideas to Eliza Y Chan, Public Information Officer, elizachan@peralta.edu

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