Chabot-Las Positas Community College District (CLPCCD) recently took a big step forward in its partnership with California State University, East Bay (CSUEB). On September 27, 2021, CLPCCD signed an agreement to formally establish the East Bay College Agile Network (East Bay CAN or EBCAN), a collaboration between the District and CSUEB to increase student-centered equity pathways. The goal is to develop a model network focused on greater transfer agility between institutions. The work will support students to find their best path to degree completion, including a bachelor’s degree, associate degree, or career certificate. District Chancellor Ronald Gerhard and CSUEB President Cathy Sandeen presided over the partnership celebration.

IMPROVING THE TRANSFER EXPERIENCE FOR EAST BAY STUDENTS

PARTNERSHIP CELEBRATION

With early efforts launched in 2020, the network is exploring ways to clarify transfer pathways, share data across the colleges, coordinate support services, and expand opportunities for students to complete programs on each campus. District Vice Chancellor Theresa Fleischer Rowland is leading the collaboration alongside steering team members Las Positas College President Dyrell Foster and Chabot College Vice President Matt Kritscher as leads for each of the colleges. Intersegmental work teams with faculty, classified professionals, and administrators are simultaneously moving plans forward within and across the three campuses. CLPCCD commends the vision and commitment of all involved in this model partnership.

"Through this endeavor we will work on narrowing equity gaps and provide clearly articulated pathways for our students. I say ‘our students’ in the broadest possible sense, with students from Chabot College, Las Positas College, and California State University, East Bay as all our students."

Ronald Gerhard, Chancellor
Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

The beauty of East Bay CAN is breaking down barriers for students in order to keep them on their pathway. Sometimes that pathway is a straight line to the bachelor’s degree, sometimes it goes back and forth a little bit between our institutions.

Dr. Cathy Sandeen, President
California State University, East Bay

Stay tuned for the next issue featuring EBCAN students.
East Bay CAN officially began in Spring 2020 with a planning grant from the Koret Foundation. Initial efforts focused on strengthening connections across systems to mitigate barriers to student success. The Koret Foundation as well as the ECMC Foundation continue to support the partnership as it deepens its work on student equity transfer goals. The East Bay CAN collaboration is gaining traction. In 2020-2021 the network advanced closer and more collaborative relationships between Chabot College, Las Positas College, and CSUEB—all focused on transfer equity. Major milestones include:

**Leadership Retreat Solidifies Relationships and Action Plans.**

In August 2021 the CLPCCD community gathered together virtually for its first East Bay CAN community college retreat. College leaders refined cross-campus action plans on pathways, student supports, and technology.

**Research Builds a Foundation for Transfer Success.**

To inform planning and increase transfer success, CLPCCD commissioned a transfer study by the Research and Planning Group looking closely at Chabot College and Las Positas College data. The *Through the Gate Replication Study* analyzed the current transfer landscape and identified bottlenecks for students at key junctures in the transfer process. The findings were presented to community college stakeholders in August 2021. CSUEB completed a research project to measure their students’ perception of the university’s transfer receptive culture to aid in planning.

**Intersegmental Teams Infuse Campus Expertise.**

During summer and fall 2021, East Bay CAN convened intersegmental teams to begin a next phase of planning and implementation with strong campus-led input from the three colleges. These teams are collaborating on 1) **Technology**: shared data systems among the campuses to ensure a seamless transfer experience; 2) **Pathway Mapping**: aligned degree pathways and flexible road maps through curriculum connections across campuses; and 3) **Systems and Support**: a shared transfer system including cross enrollment and reverse transfer that allows easy movement for students between institutions.
Ultimately, the regional redesign will explore dynamic scheduling, seamless pathways, complementary support services, shared analytics, and the shared use of resources and facilities at each campus. Looking ahead to 2022, the partnership has defined objectives for next steps:

1. Develop four-year transfer maps for at least 10 Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) programs. Convene intersegmental faculty meetings in disciplines including administration of justice, biological sciences, business administration, communications, psychology, sociology, and education/teacher pipeline.

2. Develop vertical transfer and reverse transfer systems that improve the student experience, including degree auditing.

3. Coordinate workflows across campuses to ensure that transfer processes are seamless, especially academic advising and affinity student support groups.

4. Increase East Bay CAN coordination through the Chabot College and Las Positas College Transfer Centers, increase communication with students close to transfer eligibility, and expand the visibility of transfer services on campus.

As the District accelerates work on Guided Pathways, Student Equity and Achievement, and Transfer Equity, the partnership with CSUEB is an important opportunity to achieve tangible outcomes on behalf of students with transfer as their goal. Work is underway on multiple levels to more holistically support students on the path to transfer and degree completion.

“This is about getting our institutions ready to meet students where they are and making sure the gaps are addressed.”

Dr. Theresa F. Rowland, Vice Chancellor
Chabot-Las Positas Community College District