

# OVAE CONNECTION



## OVAE Welcomes Joi Blake

OVAE is delighted to welcome Joi Blake, dean of student development and matriculation at San Diego Mesa College in California. Blake is pursuing her doctorate at San Diego State University and will complete her doctoral internship in OVAE on leave from her dean position. She began with OVAE on Sept. 1 and will be at the Department through Oct. 29, 2010. Her interests are in the national policy-making process in higher education, career and technical education and adult education.

Blake earned a Bachelor of Arts in health education with an emphasis in program development from San Francisco State University, and an Master of Science in vocational rehabilitation from San Diego State University. Prior to joining San Diego Mesa College, she worked at Southwestern Community College, where she was the interim staff development coordinator, and the academic senate president. Blake also served as interim dean of instructional support there. At the statewide level, she served on the California Community College Faculty Senate.

## Updated Resources Available for Inmates Headed Back to School

OVAE just updated its planning guide, [Back to School: A Planning Guide to Continuing Your Education After Prison](#), a planning guide by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice Prisoner Reentry Institute, which OVAE funded. This update reflects the most recent information on federal student financial aid for inmates headed for release. Topics range from setting personal educational goals and committing to a long-term education development plan to finding, accessing, and paying for an education program. Ninety-four percent of adult male inmates approaching release who were interviewed for a recent national evaluation identified education as a personal re-entry need. Free copies of the guide are available in limited quantities from [EDPubs](#) by requesting item number ED005088P.

## White House Summit on Community Colleges

On Oct. 5, 2010, Dr. Jill Biden will chair the first-ever White House Summit on Community Colleges. President Obama asked Dr. Biden to convene this event to highlight the critical role that community colleges play in developing America's workforce and reaching our educational goals. The summit will bring community colleges, business, philanthropy, federal and state policy leaders, and students together to discuss ways that community colleges can help meet the job training and education needs of the nation's evolving workforce and their role in achieving the President's goal to lead the world in proportion of college graduates by 2020.

The White House is encouraging people from across the country to submit their thoughts, question and challenges for discussion as part of the summit dialogue. People may participate by:

- [Submitting a Video](#) on ways the community college experience affected their lives. This may be done by submitting stories via [YouTube](#) or the summit [webform](#).
- [Joining the online dialogue](#). Community college administrators, students and stakeholders from around the country can benefit from this opportunity to share ideas.
- Planning and hosting an event. Group discussions or viewing of the live webcast of the summit's plenary session on Oct.5 are encouraged. Much of the day's content will be available [online at whitehouse.gov](#).
- Sending an e-mail for further information to [communitycollegesummit@ovp.eop.gov](mailto:communitycollegesummit@ovp.eop.gov).

## OSHA 10-hour Workplace Safety Training Available to Students

Young workers in secondary and postsecondary education received 10 hours of web-based safety training through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) [campaign for Summer Job Safety](#), [SkillsUSA](#) and the [CareerSafe Online National Youth Safety Initiative](#). At the completion of the training, the students received a 10-hour wallet card from OSHA that the student has the fundamental safety knowledge needed in the workplace. Information on CareerSafe and its current availability may be found online at <http://skillsusa.org/educators/careersafe.shtml>. The training is still open to students.