The Fall 2012 semester is especially exciting because the Helen Miller Bailey Library has reopened, restoring a building that is the heart of East Los Angeles College campus. Completely renovated, with an 11,000 square foot addition, this magnificent building welcomes students from all disciplines and provides access to world-wide databases and well over a hundred thousand books, DVDs and periodicals.

The soaring sunlit interiors have large quiet study areas as well as many study rooms to accommodate small groups. The library is the first building on campus to use more than 240 thin client computers, new technology that links streamlined PCs to the college server for seamless connection to the Internet and databases. In addition, students can easily connect their personal laptops to the Internet through our campus wireless network. Printers and copy machines are available to facilitate printing and copying research material.

Library faculty members teach Library Science courses and conduct information competency workshops and orientations on research techniques in two dedicated classrooms. Book security, shelf-reading and inventory is managed by a Radio Frequency Identification system (RFID). Students can use a self check-out machine to check books out themselves without coming to the circulation desk.

The open floor plan is furnished with comfortable furniture and accessorized with glass mosaics, modern lighting fixtures and Lucite banisters encasing dramatic stairways. The historic mural celebrating the academic and career departments offered at ELAC has been carefully preserved.

Other completed building projects facilitate access to the college. The parking structure located on the north/east corner of campus is open with thousands more parking spaces available for students and the Transit Center located off Collegian Avenue eases access to public transportation.

New buildings are important but your lasting memories are most likely to be the people you meet while attending ELAC. Our professors are excellent because they are teachers first and foremost. Many are mentors, club leaders, project directors as well as consummate professionals. They are here to help you succeed and get you ready for your next step. Get to know them.

Student services include counseling, financial aid assistance, tutoring, special interest clubs and student government. Explore what ELAC has to offer and join in. “Start at ELAC” begins when you enroll—but the second part of our promise, “Go Anywhere,” comes after you earn an associate’s degree and continue on to a university or productive career. No matter what your goal, ELAC people are ready to help you achieve it.

Dr. Tyree Wieder, Interim President
East Los Angeles College