



## President's Report to the Governing Board May 21, 2013

### Friday FastTrack



On May 10, 2013 Cuyamaca College hosted the first ever Friday FastTrack event. High school seniors from our local area high schools were invited to travel to Cuyamaca College, take an assessment test proctored by our ever-energetic **Ms. Marcella Brown**, sit through an orientation presented by **Ms. Donna Hajj**, take part in a campus tour led by our Outreach Student

Ambassadors, and enjoyed an early afternoon lunch. Over 750 high school seniors from the Grossmont Union High School District RSVP'd for the event. The day proved successful as 633 students were introduced to the beauty offered by Cuyamaca College's amazing campus while simultaneously becoming fully matriculated. The students who fully participated in the event will enjoy a boost in their enrollment priority for the fall 2013 semester. Thank you to everyone who had a hand in the planning and execution of this ultra-successful event!

### Spring Garden Festival

No one could have asked for a more beautiful day on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, for the 20th Annual Spring Garden Festival, sponsored this year by *San Diego Home and Garden* magazine. With over 7,000 in attendance, this was another record-breaking year. The event theme of "Celebrating Urban Farms & Gardens" also brought a record number of vendors, clubs, organizations, and other displays to the festival. Over 100 volunteers staffed the event including faculty, classified.



Volunteers hailed from the Ornamental Horticulture Program, Boy Scouts, students from Biology classes, administrators, and faculty and staff from Operations, Music, American Sign Language, and Counseling departments, and were joined by staff and volunteers at the Water Conservation Garden and the Heritage of the Americas Museum. This jointly sponsored event began with one Arboriculture class in 1993, growing to its current size as one of East County's largest public events. We thank the support of the college facilities, public safety, administration, and the GCCCD Governing Board for their wonderful support of this great event.

### Coyote Music Festival



The Coyote Music Festival took place on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, on a beautiful sunny day on the Grand Lawn of Cuyamaca College. The Festival was well received with 20 vendors and approximately 350 people in attendance. Nine bands alternating between two stages performed everything from pop, rock, folk, acoustic and easy

listening tunes. Many attendees came equipped with picnics, umbrellas, blankets and lawn chairs as they leisurely kicked back and enjoyed the music. Children enjoyed the artistry of the face painters and ate kettle corn, while adults perused through the row of vendors offering many creative and unique items. Two iPods, gift cards and an exercise certificate were raffled off to the audience. The Festival is a culmination of the efforts of the Music Industry Seminar class where students plan, promote, and produce the event. Students apply skills they learned in class while working in teams specializing in marketing, graphics or sound. The students put on a wonderful show of support lending their talents to help host, photograph, and even perform on the day of the event to help make the Coyote Music Festival a success.

### **🐾 Cuyamaca College Automotive Skills Day was a GAS!**

The 34<sup>th</sup> annual “Skills Day” Competition with the local high school automotive programs was held May 4<sup>th</sup>, at the Cuyamaca College Automotive Department. High school students arrived at 7:00am to participate in the half-day event in a “Basic” area for beginning high school students, and an “Advanced” area for the 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> year students. Prizes were purchased from donations from the Automotive Service Council of California (ASCCA) Local Chapter 24 and the Foundation for Grossmont & Cuyamaca Colleges (FGCC). Personal donations from Mr. James Justice from “James Justice Automotive” and Mr. Steve Vanlandingham from “Van’s Automotive” (both ASCCA board members) were well appreciated and were used to purchase snacks for the participants. Wabco parts supplied the drinks. Many people from ASCCA, Napa Auto Parts, and faculty and staff from the college helped to judge, score, entertain, and feed the crowd. Matco and Snap-on tools provided prizes for the “pit crew challenge”, and we are grateful for their ongoing support! Special thanks to Mr. Dave Newkirk of “Hontech Automotive” for supplying the lunch. This year’s winners in the Basic Contest were Mr. Isaac Medina and Mr. Eric Layva from Ramona High School (1<sup>st</sup> place); Mr. David Taft and Mr. Mike Jones from Ramona High School (2<sup>nd</sup> place); and Mr. Eduarde Hermosillo and Mr. Daniel Medellin from Monte Vista High School (3<sup>rd</sup> place). In the Advanced Contest, the winners were: Mr. Tyler Pavlick, Ramona High School (1<sup>st</sup> place); Mr. Jonathan Mayeski, Ramona High School (2<sup>nd</sup> place); and Mr. Josue Lopez from Monte Vista High School (3<sup>rd</sup> place). All the high school students and their instructors were given a goodie bag and socket sets that were provided from ASCCA and the FGCC. Setting up and organizing the event was no small task. Thanks to the automotive department staff, **Mr. Chris Branton**, **Mr. Jim Hannibal**, **Mr. Will Lewon**, our auto technology students, and our Cuyamaca College staff **Ms. Patty Branton**, **Ms. Laci Diaz** and our Facilities staff who contributed in making this another successful and meaningful event.



### **🐾 EOPS Recognition Ceremony**

It was a warm Santa Ana kind of day on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, for the 2012-13 EOPS Recognition Ceremony. The entire event was planned and organized by the amazing students in the EOPS Club and featured delicious Middle Eastern food, in acknowledgment of our large Chaldean group of graduates. **Ms. Wendy Craig**, EOPS Assistant Dean, and **Dr. Marsha Gable**, Dean of Counseling congratulated the graduating and transferring students. The keynote speaker, **Ms. Maria Brown**, who is graduating with a degree in sociology and transferring to SDSU, presented a very creative and poignant description of

her journey through life as a foster youth and CARE student. Towards the end of the ceremony, EOPS Counselors read off the names of graduating students and handed them an EOPS Certificate of Completion with a surprise voucher to pay for their caps and gowns.

### **🐾 Transfer Achievement Celebration**

Our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Transfer Achievement Celebration was a ceremony honoring transfer students who have been accepted to a four-year university. Over 150 people joined in this year's celebration recognizing 75 transferring students. During the ceremony transfer students received a transfer certificate and a ceremonial white cord which they will wear along with their cap and gown during Commencement to signify their accomplishments. Following the ceremony refreshments were served and students and their guests had a photo opportunity with the Coyote to commemorate their time at Cuyamaca College.

### **🐾 Cuyamaca College Represented at Student Senate Spring General Assembly**



Several of the emerging leaders from Cuyamaca College attended the California Community College Student Senate General Assembly on April 26-28, 2013. Students had the opportunity to attend numerous leadership workshops and participate in resolution sessions with other student leaders from across the state.

Pictured from left to right: Ms. Taylor Payne-Florence (Incoming Student Senator); Ms. Jocelyn Estrada (Incoming Secretary); Ms. Fatima Alyasini (Emerging Leader); **Dr. Lauren Vaknin** (Associate Dean, Student Affairs); Ms. Elsa Hernandez (Incoming Student Trustee); Ms. Jaclyn Marlow (Incoming Student Government President); and Ms. Zayde Zazueta (Incoming Vice-President).

### **🐾 Student Club Presents Outreach on Friendship and Bullying**

Cuyamaca College's chapter of the Psi-Beta and Psychology Club have been involved with a student focused campaign at Alpine Elementary School. The club initiated, organized, planned, and executed multiple Social Psychology Community Outreaches at the Alpine Elementary School, which included two interactive assembly teaching sessions for 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders, approximately 140-160 students, discussing the topics of Friendship and Bullying. Some of the club members followed up with two separate visits during recess periods to help reinforce earlier introduced concepts in interpersonal behavior. Student club members wrote their own curriculum for these teaching meetings based on preliminary in-class discussions and techniques used in national campaign instruction on these topics. They also wrote, performed, and directed all the skits used during the presentation and organized and prepared all necessary materials for individualized hands-on activities reinforcing the concepts discussed in the assembly. **Mr. Steve Weinert**, Psychology faculty member, serves as their advisor.

### **🐾 College Hour**

The May College Hour program focused on interviewing skills. This workshop, presented by Cuyamaca College Counselor **Ms. Cindy Morrin**, detailed the steps needed for students to be successful when

interviewing for jobs. In addition, students learned about the new software program that is available on campus to help prepare them for their next interview.

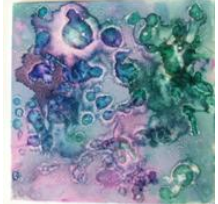
#### **🐾 Outstanding Faculty of the Year**

**Mr. Ghssan Zakaria**, Adjunct Faculty, was recently selected to receive the outstanding "Faculty of the Year" award from the College of Arts and Letters Student Council at SDSU. We are very proud of Mr. Zakaria who also teaches Arabic here in our World Languages department. He is an outstanding faculty member and we are so fortunate to have him on board here at Cuyamaca College.

#### **🐾 Child Development Center Holds Silent Auction**



The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Art Show Case and Silent Auction was held during the second week in May. This fundraiser helps provide funds for the Center to buy supplies for the classrooms and provides our families with enrichment programs and social events. This auction is open campus-wide. Many of our children's art work from previous auctions are up in various offices all over campus. This event is quickly becoming something our parents look forward to on a yearly basis.



#### **🐾 Faculty Emeritus Leads Economics Workshops**

The Director of the San Diego Center for Economic Education at Cuyamaca College, **Mr. Tony Zambelli**, recently conducted breakout sessions at the Western Business Educators Conference in Ogden, UT and at the California Council for the Social Studies Conference in Burlingame CA. Each conference brought together high school and college professionals to share good practices in their respective disciplines. Tony's presentation, "Using Music, Movies and YouTube to Teach Economics" was very well received.

#### **🐾 Center for Innovation Activities**

The Center for Innovation within the Office of Continuing Education and Workforce Training serves as the umbrella for many of the contract and grant-funded professional and vocational programs housed at Cuyamaca College. Many are regional programs funded to serve all of San Diego and Imperial Counties. Below is a brief summary of some of their recent activities:

**A Green Futures Project:** Cuyamaca College was one of three grant awardees invited to present at SDG&E's "A Greener Future Luncheon & Showcase" on April 29th, recognizing dozens of Workforce Education & Training partners involved in the A Green Future Grant project. Cuyamaca College's Grant manager, **Mr. Paolo Espaldon**, presented the Green Campus Program along with co-presenters of the Sustainable Green Buildings Pathways Program **Ms. Molly Hughes** and **Ms. Camille Currier** (Workforce Innovation Partnership Grants). Cuyamaca College was awarded Certificates of Appreciation for the service and participation in providing students with 92 hours of green career exploration, and 16 hours of "on the job training" installing solar panels on low-income homes through partnership with GRID Alternatives. The awards ceremony was attended by **Dr. Arleen Satele**, Vice President of Administrative Services, **Mr. Bruce Farnham**, Facilities Director, and **Ms. Jennifer Lewis**, Dean for Continuing Education and Workforce Training.





**Intergenerational Garden Project:** Development of the Intergenerational Garden site continues to be a learning lab for Cuyamaca College students with the initial “rough plumbing” portion of the irrigation system constructed under the direction of faculty member **Mr. Mike Tverberg**.

**Workplace Learning Resource Center:** Provided Industry 2 Classroom training for CTE instructors from 8 colleges in the region consisting of 4 classes: Learning Theories and Learning Styles: How Students Learn Best; Teaching Methods and Strategies; Course Structure; and Classroom Management. Faculty left the series with new skills and strategies to improve learning environments and increase student learning and success.

**Manufacturer Panel:** On May 15<sup>th</sup>, over 80 East County unemployed and underemployed individuals interested in jobs in the manufacturing industry participated in an all-day tour that started at Taylor Guitars, continued to QCMI Manufacturing, and concluded at Cuyamaca College for an industry panel discussion with educators and employers. The event was co-hosted by Cuyamaca College, the San Diego East County Economic Development Council, and Wells Fargo Bank. Panelists included Cuyamaca College’s Dr. Duncan McGehee, Mr. Ed Smith from San Diego City College, Mr. David Gonzalez, Operations Manager for Southland Envelope, Mr. Chris Neidre, CEO of Leek Detection, Mr. Matt Ross, General Manager of First Class Packaging and Mr. Rick Urban and Mr. Bob Grande, COO and CEO of QCMI.

#### **🐾 OH Department Hosts Certification Testing**

The Ornamental Horticulture Department hosted the Certified Landscape Technician Test administered by the California Landscape Contractors Association (CLCA). This comprehensive test requires participants to demonstrate a variety of field skills in order to be certified. Over 200 current landscape workers from throughout the Southern California region participated. The CLCA is an active group that includes all of the large landscape employers in the state and the OH department’s direct involvement with them is one of many activities of the OH staff that serves to maintain strong connections with the industry and ensure that our students can become skilled employees.

#### **🐾 Library Display: Learning for the Future**



*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” ~ Nelson Mandela*

This month’s library display will focus on student success in its many forms. For our soon-to-be graduates, we will provide information about the Transfer Center. For those students who are looking for a job, we will refer them to the services available through the Job & Career Information Center. For all of our students we hope to provide snippets of inspiration for learning, for growing, for striving, and for achieving. It is with great honor that the library features ***i am intelligent***, a book that chronicles Ms. Peyton Goddard’s challenges in life and describes how she was inspired by the community college staff and faculty. Peyton lives with the label of autism and is unable to speak. The synopsis of her book states, “When her mother Dianne brought her to Whittier, California in 1997, to try a new communication strategy for people with autism, she did not expect much. She did not expect her daughter to type the words ‘i am intlgent.’ She did not expect to learn that her daughter possessed a gifted mind and poetic lyricism.” Peyton became the first person to use facilitated communication to graduate Valedictorian from a U.S. college -- Cuyamaca College, class of 2002. Here is part of Peyton’s speech; “Years I thought I would forever eat separate rather than be supported at the table. I thought this epic was impossible. You Cuyamaca, proved it

possible.” The news anchor who covered the event said, “The Valedictorian at Cuyamaca College is proof that everyone can achieve if the desire is there.” Stop by the library and see how you can change your future.

# *Upcoming Events*

A complete list of college activities can be found on our website, [www.cuyamaca.edu](http://www.cuyamaca.edu)

## **Finals Week Pancake Breakfast**

On May 28<sup>th</sup>, the Associated Student Government will sponsor a “study break” that features a FREE Pancake Breakfast with all of the toppings. In addition to endless pancakes, students will be treated with all the extras -- eggs, bacon, and lots of coffee to give them energy for their exams. Students will also be given free bluebooks and scantrons at the event.

## **Cuyamaca College’s 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Commencement Celebration**

Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm

Student Center Quad

Our commencement keynote speaker will be Mr. Alex Montoya, Manager of Latino Affairs with the San Diego Padres

## **5<sup>th</sup> Annual After-Commencement Party**

Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, following commencement

Water Conservation Garden

All College and District employees are invited to the party immediately following Commencement. Sponsored by the Academic Senate and the Foundation for Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges.

## **College for Kids**

The College for Kids summer program begins July 8<sup>th</sup> and runs through August 1<sup>st</sup>. These enrichment programs for children between ages 8 and 14 is committed to teaching new and meaningful skills as students participate in classes such as art, dance, fitness, science, media, and more! College for Kids registration began May 6<sup>th</sup> at

[www.cuyamaca.edu/preview/CFK/](http://www.cuyamaca.edu/preview/CFK/).



## **Fall 2013 Convocation**

Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>

Student Center