



C U Y A M A C A
· C O L L E G E ·

President's Report to the Governing Board May 20, 2014

🐾 **First Graduates in College's Newest Major**

In 2012, Cuyamaca College received authorization to establish a new Water Resources Management Certificate/Degree program. Requiring a minimum of 35-42 units, it is the most demanding and comprehensive major within our Water/Wastewater Technology Resources program (WWTR). This June, three students will be the first to earn certificates and/or degrees in this new major. **Mr. Chad Peterson** and **Ms. Diane Stoltz** are earning both their Certificate and Degree in the new major, while **Ms. Barbara Bender** will be receiving her Certificate in WWTR.

🐾 **A Journey to the Sun**

A Journey to the Sun, a series of musical and fashionable performances depicting different eras of Iraq, was presented by students enrolled in the Arabic 120, 250, and 251 classes. Held in the theatre, close to 50 students took part in the performances which depicted their ancestors' start in ancient Babylon and



ended with their families coming to the United States. The journey was one from the oppression of the past to freedom, thereby showing the struggle of immigrants for freedom and a better life. Most of the Arabic-language students who took part in the Cuyamaca College performance are Iraqi refugees, immigrants, or children of local Chaldean residents. **Ms. Aklas Shaei**, Arabic Instructor, created most of the costumes used in the production. She and **Mr. Raad Jerjis**, Associate Professor and Counselor, coordinated the event.



🐾 **Diversity Dialogue**

Two Diversity Dialogue workshops were sponsored in May. The first session, which included numerous interactive exercises, was entitled *Understanding Social Justice and Diversity as a Means to Build Community*, and focused on how individuals can impact social justice. The second workshop, *Visual Impairment Etiquette*, focused on the proper etiquette of approaching and walking with a visually impaired person. The speaker described his own personal experiences as a visually impaired person and student.

🐾 **Student Fine Art and Graphic Design Exhibition**

The 16th Annual Student Fine Art & Graphic Design Exhibition Opening Reception and Award Ceremony was held on Thursday, April 10, with over 200 people in attendance, including **Ms. Mary Kay Rosinski**, Governing Board Trustee. The presenter and guest speaker for the evening was **Dr. Wei Zhou**, Vice President of Instruction. Nine awards were bestowed to Fine Arts and Graphic Design students, including the annual Caroline Cox Scholarship which was awarded to art student **Ms. Barbara Young**. The Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians provided refreshments in addition to two cash awards of \$100.

The art exhibition was on display on the third floor of the Communication Arts Building East Wing through May 7.

🐾 Golf Team Makes Regionals

Our entire golf team—**Mr. Kirk Peterson, Mr. Daniel Jahng, and Mr. Charlie Leung**—has moved on to Regional conference play. The team, coached by **Ms. Louise Parks**, has also been named All Conference.



🐾 Transfer Achievement Ceremony

The 10th Annual Transfer Achievement Celebration was held on May 9 in the college theater. This year 75 students, along with their guests, celebrated their accomplishment in transferring to a four-year college or university. During the ceremony each student received a transfer certificate and a ceremonial white cord that can be worn on their mortar board during Commencement signifying their success. Following the ceremony, refreshments were served and students and their guests had a photo opportunity with Kudapaw the Coyote to commemorate their time at Cuyamaca College.

🐾 35th Annual Cuyamaca College Auto Skills Day



On Saturday, May 10, Cuyamaca College’s Automotive Technology Department held their 35th “Skills Day” competition. The event was attended by local high school students and their teachers, industry partners, and college administration, as well as our own automotive students. **Dr. Mark Zacovic**, Cuyamaca College President, was there in support as was **Dr. Kate Alder**, CTE Dean. During the day, students competed in various tasks related to auto repair. There were approximately 20 students in the basic competition,

12 in the advanced competition, and 18 in the “Pit Crew Challenge.” Prizes included tools, tool carts, and gift cards from Target. This year’s winners were:

Advanced:

- First—Erick Leyva, Ramona High School
- Second—Austin Hayward, Madison High School
- Third—Jonathan Mayeski, Ramona High School

Basic:

- First—Bryan Espina and Colton Israels, Ramona High School
- Second—Omar Corona and Aaron Benitez, Ramona High School
- Third—True Southfox and Andre Ruiz, Clairemont High School

Pit Crew Challenge (Timed Rotation of Tires):

- First—Kyle Manning, Ramona High School
- Second—Austin Hayward, Madison High School
- Third—Hamza Bahramzi, Madison High School



A special “Thank You!” goes out to the many staff members, industry representatives, and auto technology students who made this day possible.

🐾 **New Student Government Leadership Elected**

The Associated Student Government elections were held the week of April 28 for a new executive board for 2014-2015. The students will officially take office at the end of May, but they will start participating in campus-wide committees and other leadership training activities to prepare them for their newly elected positions. Our new student government leaders are:

President: **Ms. Elsa Hernandez** (former GCCCD Student Trustee)

Vice-President: **Ms. Mariah Moschetti**

Student Trustee: **Ms. Jocelyn Estrada**

Treasurer: **Ms. Jacqueline Tirado**

Interclub Council Representative: **Mr. Richard Arias**

Student Senator: **Mr. Pishtiwan (Apollo) Ahmaki**

🐾 **Spring Garden Festival**



No one could have asked for a more beautiful day on Saturday, May 3, for the 21st Annual Spring Garden Festival. Community members came to the college to view and purchase various plants for sale in our Ornamental Horticulture Nursery. Food and sustainability vendors were also on hand to show off their wares. The college hosted the first *Fashion in Bloom* fashion show in conjunction with JD Events. The fashion show consisted of approximately 70 Cuyamaca College students, employees, and their families who strutted their stuff in the latest casual and formal wear for summer. In the Health and Safety Fair, a K9 Unit demonstrated their training and an ASTERIA helicopter provided a landing demonstration. Student

Health Services staff provided free health screenings. We wish to thank the college facilities staff, Ornamental Horticulture, Sheriffs department, administration, the Foundation, and the GCCCD Governing Board for their wonderful support of this great event. More than 100 volunteers made the day possible.



🐾 **Faculty Member Honored**

Part-time faculty member **Mr. Gary Couture**, Environmental Health & Safety Management, was named the 2012-13 Safety Professional of the Year by the San Diego Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers. He will retain this distinction until December 2014. His name has been placed in nomination for regional and national recognition as well.

🐾 **Cuyamaca College Offers Perfect Interview Tool to Students**

A free workshop introducing the Perfect Interview program was held on Wednesday, May 7, in the Student Center. Using the software program, students had access to hundreds of interviewing questions for all types of positions, including entry-level jobs and those requiring more experience. The program, accessible both on and off campus, allows users to create videos of practice interviews to help them improve their skills and build confidence for the often nerve-wracking experience.

Counselor and instructor **Ms. Cindy Morrin** said that Perfect Interview was selected by career center directors throughout the region as a pilot project in 2012 following an extensive review of software tools dealing with interviewing, resumes, job search and career development. The program's ease of use and helpful features, including a job coach and sample responses to questions, led to the purchase

of the equipment and software now being used not only in the career center, but in classrooms, as well. Students in a business communications class are using Perfect Interview for their final projects.

🐾 **Cuyamaca College Hosts Professional Development Conference for the American Society of Safety Engineers**

For the second year in a row, Cuyamaca College was the place for the annual San Diego Chapter American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) Professional Development Conference. Approximately 132 participated in the conference, of which 11 were program students. The conference, titled “Strategies for Influencing Safe Behaviors That Result in Successful Program Implementation and Culture Change,” brought many of the best safety and health minds and practitioners to the conference, including several graduates of the program. Attendees hailed from San Diego, Orange, and Los Angeles Counties and beyond.

🐾 **College Hosts the Southwest Regional Water Conversation**

On May 9, Cuyamaca College hosted the Southwest Regional Water Conversation, one of six meetings across the United States sponsored by the National Science Foundation to identify the skills and workers the water industry needs to integrate new technologies and regulations and respond to climate change. Twenty-nine water industry managers from California and Nevada participated in the discussion. Cuyamaca College was selected to host the meeting because the college’s Water and Wastewater Technology Program is the oldest and most diverse of the community college water programs in California, with six degree programs, approximately 300 enrolled students, and 30-50 certificates and degrees conferred annually. The California Community Colleges co-sponsored the event. **Dr. Mark Zacovic**, Cuyamaca College President, welcomed the industry panel. **Mr. Donald Jones**, Water Grant & WWTR Coordinator, recruited the panel participants and **Mr. Mike Uhrhammer**, Program Manager of California Water Works, planned and coordinated the event.

🐾 **Library Display: Salutes our 2014 College Graduates**

The library has Cuyamaca College commencement programs on display from as far back as 1984.



Upcoming Events

A complete list of college activities can be found on our website, www.cuyamaca.edu

Last Concerts of the Season



Wednesday, May 21

The *Cuyamaca College Wind Ensemble*, under the direction of **Mr. Warren Torns**, will be joined by the *Grossmont High School Concert Band* to perform music for winds and percussion by both contemporary and 19th-century composers.

Thursday, May 22

The *Cuyamaca College Choir*, under the direction of **Ms. Merryl Nelson**, will present a concert featuring A Capella arrangements of 20th-Century popular music. Each concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Cuyamaca College Theatre. Tickets are \$8 general admission, \$5 students/seniors. Free parking in student lots.

Gear Up for Finals!

Thursday and Friday, May 21 and May 22

Free tutoring from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Student Center, Room I-208. Free coffee will be provided.

Finals Week Pancake Breakfast

On Wednesday, May 28, 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. Breakfast will be served in the Student Center, Rooms I-207 and I-208 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

35th Annual Commencement Celebration

Wednesday, June 4, at 5:30 p.m. in the Student Center Quad.

This year’s commencement speaker is **Ms. Mae Brown**, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Admissions and Enrollment Services at the University of California, San Diego.

5th Annual After-Commencement Party

All faculty and staff are invited to the party immediately following Commencement at the Water Conservation Garden. Sponsored by the Academic Senate and the President’s Office.



College for Kids

The *College for Kids* summer program begins July 7 and runs through August 1. We are offering dozens of different classes for children ages 8-14, including in art, dance, fitness, science, media, and more. *College for Kids* registration began May 19 at www.cuyamaca.edu/preview/CFK/.

The **Rancho San Diego Farmer's Market** is held at Cuyamaca College from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. each Saturday in the parking lot across from OH. The market offers a wide variety of locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables, organic beef, locally made cheese, locally caught seafood, hot foods, and a variety of crafters and other goodies.

