



C U Y A M A C A
· C O L L E G E ·

President's Report to the Governing Board September 13, 2016

Student Success Day



Cuyamaca College hosted their first Student Success Day on Monday, August 15, for all incoming first-time students. There were over 100 students that participated at the event. Workshops were offered with information regarding scholarships, financial aid, transferring to a four year college or university, chemistry, STEM, and math and chemistry classes. Students participated in a Scavenger Hunt called Cuyamaca GO (a spin on Pokémon Go) where they had to capture “maca balls” around campus in order to win

prizes. Information tables of student services were located in the Student Center. Campus tours were also available throughout the event. The Grad Guru wheel was there for students to win prizes for downloading the app. A special drawing for a Barnes and Noble gift card was offered to students that participated in four workshops. The event provided new students and their family members the opportunity to tour the college, check out where their classes were located, and interact with current students about college life. Two food trucks and a DJ added to the festive affair which could become an annual affair.



Chaldean College Hour



Sponsored by the Associated Student Government, the August College Hour was an opportunity for students, staff, and faculty to join together to celebrate the Chaldean culture and traditions. In addition to hearing from H.E. Bishop Shlemon Warduni and Rev. Msgr. Emad Hanna Al-Shaikh, Cuyamaca students enjoyed complimentary food and dancing.



Freshman & Faculty BBQ Mixer

For many, if not all college freshmen, completing the first week of classes can be a daunting task, so we just wanted to validate their efforts and congratulate them in the completion of week one with a BBQ mixer with our faculty. This is one in a series of campus wide efforts that can be located on our new webpage link *Cuyamaca Connect* which is derived from the Student Validation & Engagement area of focus in our new Strategic Plan. One of the priority goals in this area of focus sets out to improve our campus climate and foster student validation and engagement while strengthening connections between our students and faculty.



Cuyamaca College Remembers 9/11

Students from Student Affairs and Student Health Services set aside some time in their day to place 2,977 flags out on the Grand Lawn in remembrance of the events of September 11, 2001. Each flag represents a life that was lost on that terrible day.



Cuyamaca College's Fall Convocation



The fall semester officially kicked off on Wednesday, August 17, with our annual fall Convocation. The morning began with breakfast in the Student Center followed by the official program. **President Julianna Barnes** addressed a packed crowd in the Student Center, welcoming everyone back to the college for the upcoming academic year. The theme for Convocation this year was "*Getting to the Heart of Success and Equity*". Presentations highlighting the theme of the morning were presented by **Vice**

President Scott Thayer, Interim Vice President Pat Setzer and Vice President Sahar Abushaban. Service Awards were presented to 42 college employees, representing a total of 635 years of cumulative service to the college. Fifteen new employees were welcomed into the college family.

Outstanding Faculty Awards

Ms. Alicia Muñoz, Academic Senate President, presented the sixth annual Outstanding Faculty Member Award. For the first time, there was a tie for the full-time faculty award. The Outstanding Faculty Award for full-time faculty was presented to **Ms. Terrie Nichols**, Math Instructor, and **Dr. Lauren Halsted**, English Instructor. The Outstanding Faculty Member Award for part-time faculty was presented to **Ms. Aklas Sheai**, ESL and Arabic Instructor. Each were nominated by their peers and recognized as faculty members who have distinguished themselves in service to the college and our students in and outside of the classroom.



Instructor's Caring Work Awarded

Child Development instructor **Ms. Deb Ferris** is a wonderful representative of our college in the community. The Santee, CA Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints recently awarded Deb the "Charity Never Faileth" Humanitarian Award for her Christ-like service to refugees in her community, particularly refugee children. She helps so many within the circle of her influence, but particularly the Sudanese refugees. She has fed refugees, clothed them, helped them find jobs, given rides, helped them apply to college, helped them study, taken them to fun events, and so much more. She has given generously of her time, given financial and emotional support, and has been the extended family to so many. She truly has dedicated her life to helping others coming from a war torn country. It is a wonderful thing to have such a caring person as part of our Cuyamaca College family.



College Receives Hispanic Serving Institution Grant

Cuyamaca College received notification that *"The Pathway Academy"* has been selected for funding. This grant competition was extremely competitive and the U.S. Department of Education only funds the "best of the best" grant proposals. This process has been a long journey which began in 2012 and continued until we finally received approval; perseverance pays off. This grant will provide the college with the much needed resources to implement and strengthen the work that is currently underway (Strategic Plan, Achieving the Dream, Student Equity, Basic Skills, SSSP, etc.) and build institutional capacity to support student success. The grant cycle is for five years and begins October 1, 2016. The total grant amount is \$2,571,809, which was the total amount we requested.

Cuyamaca Connect

Cuyamaca Connect is a yearly calendar of campus-wide engagement and validation events for our students and staff to view all the opportunities to connect with our campus. The new webpage link is derived from the Student Validation & Engagement area of focus in our new Strategic Plan. You can view *Cuyamaca Connect* at: <http://www.cuyamaca.edu/current-students/evc/default.aspx>

Library Display: National Hispanic Heritage Month along with Constitution Day and Remembering 9/11

On display through September will be books, posters, and documents reflecting on and remembering the United States Constitution, our Hispanic heritage, and the events from 9/11.



Upcoming Events

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



Tuesday, September 20, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

"Bringing Our Whole Selves to the Table" by Dr. Dan Estrellado

Thursday, September 29, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

"What You Say Matters" by Ms. Grace Bagunu

Tuesday, October 4, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

"Complex Cultural Identities" by Ms. Mayumi Y. Douglas

Thursday, October 6, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

"Strengths and Resiliency in Community Building" by Ms. Rocio Ocampo-Giancola

All Diversity Dialogue workshops will be held in the Student Center, room I-207

Career Workshops

Career workshops are *free* for students, faculty, staff and community members. The time for each workshop is 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., and are held in the Career Center, A-200.

Wednesday, September 14

Career Center: Your "Go To" Student Services

Monday, September 19

Build a Better Resume

Wednesday, September 21

Exploring Majors & Careers

Monday, September 26

"Clothes" the Deal: Dress to Impress

