



C U Y A M A C A
· C O L L E G E ·

President's Report to the Governing Board
November 15, 2016

STEM Education Event

Cuyamaca's first STEM event for the 2016-2017 year, "Success in STEM", funded by ASG and Student Services and designed to promote STEM majors & academic pathways, STEM student information, scholarship information and local and national summer research opportunities in STEM was held on October 20. It featured a number of exciting science demonstrations in chemistry and physics, a slime-making station, and a variety of speakers. Lunch was served and tables were set up so that STEM faculty, a UCSD representative, Counseling Services and Financial Aid & Scholarship staff could talk to interested students one-on-one. A variety of useful handouts and information were provided including academic planners, course sequence cards, scholarships available, and information about a variety of summer research opportunities. Approximately 50 students attended the event.



International Student Luncheon



A first-ever International Student meet-and-greet luncheon was held on November 4. Also in attendance were President Julianna Barnes, Vice President Scott Thayer, Associate Dean Lauren Vaknin, and Vanessa Saenz and Sheryl Ashley from Admissions and Records. The majority of students are from Saudi Arabia with others from Egypt, South Korea, Germany, the U.K., Peru, Pakistan, and Kuwait. Students were treated to lunch and given the

opportunity to know each other a little better. We learned that they are very happy with their choice to attend Cuyamaca College. They praised Vanessa's assistance as they have settled in, but especially her response time when they first applied. It was much faster than any other campus they had applied to. Several students have agreed to participate in a promotional video about their great Cuyamaca College experience that will eventually be posted to the website. We hope to offer a meet-and-greet event each semester to welcome our new international students and allow our current students to connect with new ones. They were also interested in starting an international club.

American Sign Language Students Sign for the Navy



Three ASL students were onsite at the Navy/SPAWAR facility on October 13 to present an ASL performance during the Navy's Disability Awareness Day event. Our students, Madison Williams, Noel Salas and Samantha Fulk, signed Michael Jackson's song *Man in the Mirror*. This event coincided with the Navy's birthday and after the students presented their performance, they taught the audience how to sign *Happy Birthday*.

Outreach is Reaching Out

Since September, Cuyamaca College's High School and Community Relations (Outreach) department has presented to a total of 29 classes and 2,091 students from local high schools and the community including Mt Miguel, Monte Vista, El Cajon Valley, Valhalla, El Capitan, Granite Hills, Steele Canyon, Santana and Foothills Adult Education Center. In 8 short weeks the department has been able to surpass its 2015-2016 total presentation number of 1,850 students. The presentations are often led by trained Student Ambassadors who begin by giving a personal testimonial about their experience in high school and college and then cover a variety of topics including enrollment steps, financial aid, transfer options, high school college credit, athletics, academic programs, student services, and more. The presentation consists of a valuable information packet that students get to keep, followed by a fun and interactive jeopardy game. The department has been overwhelmed and honored by the positive feedback from the community. A Biology teacher from El Cajon Valley High School had this to say following a presentation in her classroom: "I would not be surprised if some of my students figured out their after-high school plan based on this presentation. Thanks so much for this opportunity and these great student ambassadors that presented."



Counseling Services Hosts Education Planning Clinic

The Ed Plan Clinic was re-piloted this fall semester as a means of "in-reach" for our students by creating more visibility and access to counseling appointments. In this SSSP activity, 1024 students were targeted, resulting in 358 (34.96%) that did approach the Ed Plan Clinic. Due to the visibility of counselors that day, an additional 42 students approached and benefited from the available services as well, bringing the total to 400 students served via this activity. Within the 400 students, 66 (6.45%) updated their majors and 233 (22.75%) were able to schedule CEP Counseling appointments. Seventy-six (7.42%) students were rewarded for being on track with their success. Further data will be available in terms of the number of students that followed through with their scheduled appointments.

"Graduation Starts Today" Campaign Reintroduced

Counseling is excited to partner with Admissions & Records to reintroduce the "Graduation Starts Today" campaign. In an effort to increase completion rates within our college, we will be taking forward steps to proactively promote graduation. Efforts to reach out to students via email, "Grad Guru", and signage in the One-Stop Center will begin this fall and will lead up to March of next spring. Students will be encouraged to meet with a counselor and become educated on the degrees and certificates they qualify for, as well as the steps of the graduation petition process.

Transfer Fair

The Annual Transfer Fair was held on the Grand Lawn on Monday, October 24. Over 35 colleges were represented from across the country. UC, CSU and private school options were showcased for interested students to learn more about future educational opportunities. We are grateful for this occasion for the students to expand their knowledge and depth about potential university selections.



19th Annual Wheelchair Basketball Game

Cuyamaca College and the ASGCC College Hour celebrated *Disabilities Awareness 2016* with the 19th Year of the Annual Wheelchair Basketball Game on Wednesday, October 26. *Disabilities Awareness* is a formal ASGCC College Hour at Cuyamaca College that is celebrated in October. Wheelchair athletes from the *San Diego Hammer* Wheelchair Basketball Team and wheelchair athletes from other various teams met up with our Men's Basketball Team for yet another exciting and fast paced wheelchair basketball game. This event began in 1998 and many of the wheelchair athletes are among the original basketball players from that year. Teams are mixed with able-bodied and wheelchair athletes and "all players" are put in wheelchairs to play the game. It's a game among true athletes. Any student, faculty, staff, or administrator were welcome to play in the game. One of our Cuyamaca College History instructors tried his hand at the action packed game this year. Club ABLED sponsored an Opportunity Drawing for prizes and a luncheon was hosted after the game for all participants sponsored by ASGCC and DSPS.



Faculty Prepare for Accelerated Pathways

Throughout this semester faculty from the English, ESL, and Math departments have been holding regular professional development meetings to prepare faculty to teach our new accelerated classes in support of the accelerated pathways for Basic Skills students. The majority of faculty in the departments have been participating, and have had great discussions about course themes, reading selections, the instructional cycle, and specific assignments. Through the BSSOT grant, we are able to pay faculty for this work. The Math Department is also holding weekly Community of Practice meetings for each path of the Math Pathways Program (STEM, General Education, and Business etc.). Twenty-eight math instructors participate to explore how to teach math in the learner-centered classroom where lessons are delivered through hands-on contextualized activities and students engage in productive struggle with their group-mates.



NSF grant for Cuyamaca College's Water and Wastewater Technology program

Cuyamaca College has secured a National Science Foundation grant of nearly \$900,000 for an innovative new program to improve and expand training of the next generation of water industry professionals needed to operate and maintain California's complex water supply and delivery systems. Funding for California WaterWorks: Building the People Pipeline comes at a critical time. The Water Research Foundation and the American Water Works Association anticipate that water utilities will lose up to half their workforce over the next decade as older workers opt to retire. A 2014 Water Research Foundation report estimates that nearly one-third of the water industry workforce is eligible to retire.

Administrator Named to Prestigious Institute Mentoring African-American Leaders



Dr. Scott W. Thayer, Cuyamaca College's vice president of Student Services, has been named one of 15 fellows with the Thomas Lakin Institute for Mentored Leadership (Lakin Institute). The Lakin Institute is presented annually by the Presidents' Round Table, a national association that helps prepare African-American community college leaders as chancellors, presidents, and chief executive officers. Hosted this year in St. Paul, Minn., by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, the Lakin Institute seeks African-American participants whose experience and credentials indicate they are ready to attain the highest academic positions. The program is an opportunity for open dialogue with chancellors, presidents, and CEOs, and covers all aspects of academic leadership.

Library Display: National Native American Heritage Month

In honor of Native American Heritage Month, the Library display for November will feature beautiful Native American items from various tribes. On display are animals such as the golden eagle and red tail

hawk, as well as bison, horse and caribou hides which are on loan from the San Diego Natural History Museum. Also featured are books that address Native American tribes, culture, social issues and myths.

Upcoming Events

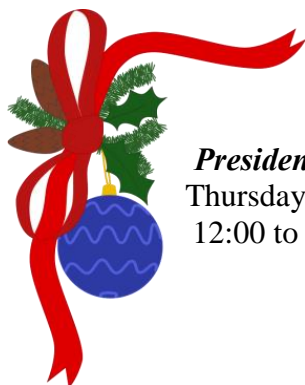
A complete list of college activities can be found on our website, www.cuyamaca.edu

2016 Remaining Fall Concert Series Performances

Thursday, November 17 Corina Bartra, Afro-Peruvian Jazz
Friday, November 18 Cuyamaca College Rock, Pop, and Soul Ensemble
Wednesday, December 7 Cuyamaca College Concert Band with Grossmont College Concert Band
Thursday, December 8 Cuyamaca College Choir

All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Theatre.

For more information, call 619-660-4627. \$8.00 general admission, \$5.00 students/seniors.



President's Annual Holiday Luncheon

Thursday, December 15
12:00 to 1:30 p.m., Student Center



Fine Arts Faculty Art Show

November 3 through December 1
Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Communication Arts Building, 3rd Floor

Cuyamaca College 6th Annual Social Gathering



A celebration of
Indigenous Culture
and Heritage

Nov. 22
Noon to 1:30pm
Grand Lawn

Sponsored by the Cuyamaca College Library & ASGCC college hour.