



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 3-01-24

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

At this Wednesday's Board meeting, I had the wonderful opportunity to celebrate SMCCCD Faculty members who were recently awarded tenure. Congratulations to Cañada Counselor Aricka Bueno and Biology Assistant Professor Julie Luu, who are our newest tenured Faculty members! The same evening, student Chloe Knott was recognized as Cañada's nominee for the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCO) 2024 Student Leadership Award. The annual award recognizes community college student leaders who demonstrate the highest level of commitment to leadership and the Vision for Success. Chloe's nomination will be forwarded to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office where award recipients are selected by representatives from the California Community Colleges Board of Governors, the Student Senate for California Community Colleges, and the Chancellor's Office.



Scholarship Reviewers Needed - Respond Today!

The Financial Aid Services Department is seeking Cañada faculty, staff and administrators who would like to serve as scholarship reviewers for the 2024-25 Cañada Scholarship Program. Each reviewer will be assigned anywhere between 20-40 scholarship applications to review between March 4 – 18 in Academic Works, the online scholarship application platform used by the three SMCCCD colleges. The time commitment should not exceed 6-8 hours and is one of the most rewarding ways to get to know our students. This is strictly on a volunteer basis. Reviewers will be provided with comprehensive instructions and a scoring rubric. Please reply by March 1, 2024 to Jackie Flores if you can be a part of this year's review team.



Classified Employee of the Year Award - Respond Today!

Each year, the Board of Governors, along with the State Chancellor's Office, seeks nominations from each community college district for their Classified Employee of the Year Award. In our district, the three colleges and the District Office each nominate one classified employee. The Board of Trustees reviews the resulting four nominations received and makes the final selection of the nominee to be forwarded to the State. Considerations for the award include a commitment to high standards of job performance and professionalism, demonstrated leadership, collaboration, knowledge, and other criteria.

I encourage and invite all members of the Cañada Community (students, faculty members, and classified staff) to nominate a classified employee for our college's award. If you wish to nominate someone, please review the award criteria and complete the attached nomination form. Please note that there are five questions requiring a narrative reply. I realize that you may not have all the information about the employee you wish to nominate, but please try to complete the form as best as you can.

Because of the very short time we have to provide our nominee to the Board of Trustees, all nominations must be received by Friday, March 1 at 4:30 p.m. Please submit your completed nomination form to the Office of the President at CANPresident@smccd.edu. The College Cabinet will then review the nominations and make a final selection by March 6 to ensure that we meet the deadline for submitting our nominee to the District.

Stanford University Office for Inclusion, Community, and Integrative Learning Visits Cañada Cultural Center and Undocumented Community Center

On February 21, the Office for Inclusion, Community, and Integrative Learning from Stanford University visited our Cultural Center and Undocumented Community Center to learn about initiatives, resources, and be in community with our staff and students. The Cultural Center team met its Stanford colleagues at the California Council of Cultural Centers in Higher Education (CaCCCHE) NorCal conference, and this visit was a great way to show them Cañada's amazing campus, staff, students and centers. The day included a discussion and share-out of the work the teams do at Cañada and Stanford and transitioned to a tour of Cañada's spaces, centers and student services, allowing both teams to learn from one another.



Black Panther Museum Visit - Equity Excursion

Last Thursday, February 22, the Office of Equity: Equity Excursion Series, partnered with Umoja, the Black Student Union, the Undocumented Community Center and the Cultural Center to engage in the revolutionary work of the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense. A group of 50 students, faculty and staff started the day with lunch at Sweet Fingers Jamaican Restaurant in Oakland with a delicious buffet style meal. After lunch, a day-long learning experience started at the Huey P. Newton Black Panther Museum, an exhibition displaying art and interactive activities discussing the Black Panther influence in Oakland's educational system along with exploring the Black Panther Ten-Point Program.

The group's second stop was the Women of the Black Panther Party Mural & Mini Museum West Oakland. These are the first and second permanent art installations ever

to exist honoring the work of The Black Panther Party and acknowledging the role women played. This project is to remind us that The Black Panther Party was formed and consisted of young humanitarians, gathered to protect and better the lives of poor and oppressed people throughout the world. Learn more about the Women of The Black Panther Party Mural & Mini Museum West Oakland [HERE](#). The day ended at the Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) currently displaying a Black Power Exhibit. This Exhibit explored the Black Power Movements in California, allowing us to view photographs, objects, art and interactive prompts throughout.

Students remarked that this day held a different level of connectedness to culture and the learning of Black History. One Cañada student shared, "This was my favorite day as a Cañada student. I got to be with people who looked like me and got to be myself. I needed this."



Men's Basketball Sophomore Night

Last Friday, Cañada Athletics hosted Sophomore Night honoring the sophomores on our Men's Basketball team. Over their time at Cañada, they have helped elevate the program as this season, the team has won as many games as it did the previous two seasons combined. They are a fun group of young men who work extremely hard and embody what it means to be a student-athlete. All of our sophomores will leave Cañada College earning an AA degree and plan to attend four-year universities next fall. We are grateful for their hard work and dedication. We are sad to see them leave but are very excited for what the future holds for them all. Congratulations and thank you to Sophomores Daniel Benjamin, Miles Jones, Asa Mobley, Jovan Abregana and Daylen Fleming. Once a Colt, always a Colt!



Business Department hosted an Adjunct Tips and Tricks

On Monday evening, the Cañada College Business Department hosted an Adjunct Tips and Tricks event to support the department's growing roster of adjunct faculty. Faculty shared tips for dropping students, supporting students with disabilities, grading, and student engagement. Academic Senate's Adjunct Senator, Richard Schulke, also provided support.



Afro-Columbian Carnival

On Wednesday, the Cultural Center hosted a remarkable event in celebration of Black History Month, focusing on honoring Afro-Latinos, particularly Afro-Colombians. The highlight was the inaugural Afro-Colombian Carnival, featuring vibrant food, captivating dances, and a special performance by Cheo, who not only showcased various dances but also got everyone on their feet to join in. The event was a resounding success, marked by incredible energy and enthusiasm, making it one of the most memorable gatherings at the Cultural Center.



Black Student Union: Poetry Slam

Yesterday, the Black Students Union and Umoja collaborated to host a powerful Poetry Slam event as a culmination of Black History Month. The keynote speaker, Anita Bailey, enlightened attendees with the significance of Aşę and encouraged us to be our own storytellers. Her inspirational words set the tone for the evening. The event also showcased the incredible talents of students who expressed their true selves through poetry and spoken word. The Poetry Slam was a resounding success, drawing a

substantial and engaged audience, marking a fitting end to a memorable Black History Month celebration.



Did You Attend SMCCCD? We'd Like to Hear from You!

The Cañada Marketing Department is looking for former Cañada College and/or SMCCCD students to share their stories. Please complete this form and tell us why Cañada College is a great place to learn (and even work). Your story may be used for future marketing purposes, including on social media. For questions please contact canmarketing@smccd.edu.



SMCCCD Open Ed Week 2024: Leveraging Our Capacity to Reduce Barriers for All

Next week (March 4-8) is Open Education Week, a global event that seeks to raise awareness of free and open sharing in education, and the benefit it brings to faculty and students. SMCCCD's Textbook Affordability Solutions Workgroup (TASW), invites the

campus community to join the events. This year's theme is Leveraging Our Capacity to Reduce Barriers for All. Join for an exciting set of events that will center the connection among Open Education Resources and social justice. Visit our SMCCCD Open Ed Week 2024 website or view the attached flyer to learn about and register for all the events that will take place across the district.



LEVERAGING OUR CAPACITY TO REDUCE BARRIERS FOR ALL

Cañada Accreditation Self-Evaluation Kick-Off Workshop March 11

Cañada is officially launching a new, comprehensive, institutional self-evaluation for accreditation purposes! Please join us for a fun and lively workshop with Virginia May, Interim Vice President and ACCJC staff liaison to Cañada who will be our featured facilitator. This will be a good opportunity learn about the new ACCJC standards! Everyone in our Cañada community is invited. The workshop will take place Monday, March 11, 2024, from 2-5 p.m. in Room 6-101/102. Snacks and drinks provided. More information can be found on our college accreditation website, or feel free to reach out to Dean Engel, our Accreditation Liaison Officer with any questions.

Call for April 18 Flex Proposals - Respond by March 15

The Professional Development Planning Committee is calling for presentation proposals for the April 18 Flex Day. Please submit your proposal here. The deadline for proposals is March 15.

Spring Safety Drills - Wednesday, April 10 at 10:45 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.

Last week, SMCCCD Communications sent a message sharing that the SMCCCD Office of Emergency Management will conduct several campus and district-wide drills this spring semester. Cañada's drills will be held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 10:45 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. The spring Violent Intruder Drill will train the "Hide" tactic from the "Run, Hide, Fight" FBI adopted strategy of life-saving actions. Each college will have one Lockdown Drill in the morning, and one in the evening. The change in drill procedure is to minimize disruptions in planned events and ensure all can preplan their hiding strategies prior to the drill. Please note: There will be no mock gunfire, nor any

violent intruder 'actors' for this drill. Any acts of violence during the drill shall be treated as genuine emergencies, and 911 called immediately. The full message is attached.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,
Kim