



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 3-22-24

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Feedback Requested by Today: SMCCCD Chancellor Finalists

The San Mateo County Community College District has selected four finalists for its chancellor position. This announcement comes after a national search that fielded a highly qualified and diverse pool of candidates. A screening committee comprised of faculty, staff, students, administrators, a board member and a community representative has recommended four candidates to the Board of Trustees for consideration. Each candidate participated in a recorded forum, which can be viewed on the Chancellor Finalists & Forums site.

The SMCCCD Board of Trustees encourages you to watch the forum recordings to hear directly from the finalists about their preparation and vision for leading our District. Along with the recordings, links to a feedback form for each finalist are available on the Chancellor Finalists & Forums site. Recordings and feedback forms will be available for viewing until 11:59 p.m., Friday, March 22, to allow Board members time to review community feedback before their deliberations and decision-making.

President's Student Leadership Award – Nominations Due Today!

At this year's Commencement Ceremony, one student will be recognized for outstanding scholarship and leadership. We welcome your nomination of a student whom you believe reflects the spirit of this award, embodies its positive attributes, and meets its criteria:

- has made meaningful contributions to the lives of students, his/her community, and/or Cañada College
- demonstrates outstanding academic achievement
- reflects a committed pursuit of educational goals
- demonstrates leadership qualities that represent the values and mission of the College
- achieved a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.8 or higher
- is a graduating student in Summer 2023, Fall 2023, or Spring 2024.

Please attach a Word document describing the nominee’s involvement and accomplishments relevant to the award criteria. Please submit your completed nomination form with supporting page(s) attached, to the Office of the President by 4 p.m. on today, Friday, March 22, 2024.

Cañada Student Services Attends 2024 Student Services Leadership Conference

A group of Student Services managers and counselors attended the 2024 Chief Student Services Officers (CSSO) conference for all leaders in student services throughout the state. The conference was hosted in San Francisco from March 13 – 15 and kicked off with pre-conference sessions for equitable practices in counseling, aspiring VPSS, new VPSS and aspiring Presidents on March 12. The conference included sessions connected to the theme of “Justice and Joy: Transforming systems with purpose and intentionality” – a mix of topics related to justice-centered initiatives and best practices, wellness and joy.



IPC Presentations

Last Friday, faculty from KAD, Human Services, Learning Center, Library, Rad Tech and Medical Assisting presented on the accomplishments and work of their programs. It was inspiring learning about achievements of our faculty and students coming out of COVID. The presentations ended with a fascinating demonstration on how to give injections from our Medical Assisting faculty member, Ritu Malhotra. You can view the presentation materials on IPC's meeting webpage.



Filmmaker of Chinatown Rising: Josh Chuck

On Monday, we were honored to host Josh Chuck, the filmmaker behind Chinatown Rising. This compelling documentary delves into the Asian-American Movement in San Francisco, offering a poignant perspective from the young residents at the forefront of their neighborhood's transformative journey.



Open Health Forum with Dr. Wong

On Tuesday, Dr. Spencer Wong, the Medical Director of the Cañada Health Center, hosted an Open Health Forum where students engaged in discussions on various health topics. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions about the services offered at the Health Center. The event was accompanied by coffee and treats, providing a welcoming atmosphere for all.



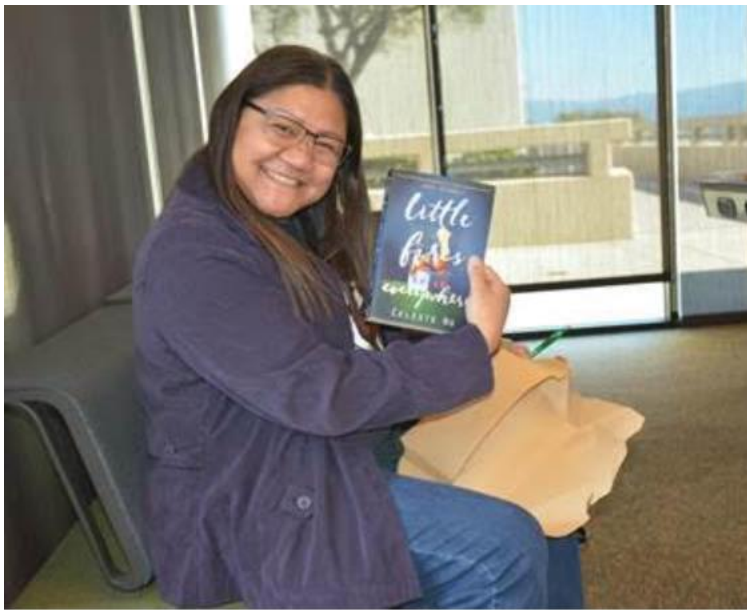
Nowruz: Persian New Year Celebration

Eide Shoma Mobarak! On Tuesday, the Cultural Center, in collaboration with ARC (Access, Relevance and Community) hosted our inaugural Persian New Year Celebration. The highlight was the beautifully executed Haft Seen by retired Cañadian, Soraya Sohrabi, showcasing the rich traditions of Nowruz. Arya, one of our students, delivered an enlightening presentation on Persian New Year customs. Attendees also delighted in delectable Persian cuisine, egg decoration and lively dancing, making it a memorable event for all.



“Blind Date with A Book” English Department Mixer

We joined the English, Literature, Film and Drama Departments for an engaging event where students had the opportunity to converse with professors. Adding to the excitement, attendees selected a wrapped book for a surprise opening, enhancing the anticipation. Snacks and drinks were provided, creating a relaxed atmosphere for enjoyable conversations.



EOPS Power Hour & Career Launch

EOPS held its second EOPS Power Hour on Tuesday, which provided a space for students to recharge, connect with their peers and engage in homework. Students were offered snacks, assistance with assignments or scheduling and an opportunity to build community. The EOPS team will continue to host this event every other Tuesday, with the next session scheduled for April 2. The EOPS team is also excited to announce the success of its second cohort of EOPS students who participated in the six-week Career Launch Program. Notably, eight students completed the program, which is designed to empower first-generation students in strategically cultivating social capital through professional connections within their chosen field of interest. This initiative aims to enable students to proactively tap into hidden internship and job market opportunities.



Womxn of Color Collaborative Social



On Wednesday, the Cultural Center hosted the inaugural Womxn of Color Collaborative Social, marking a significant milestone. Attendees immersed themselves in icebreakers and delved into profound conversations about their identities. The event provided a heartwarming opportunity to connect, share personal narratives and foster a sense of belonging within a supportive community. Delicious food and vibrant camaraderie added to the enriching experience.

Interest Area Career Exploration Speaker Series: Jojo Kolby

At Wednesday's Interest Area Career Exploration Speaker Series, we were honored to host Jojo Kolby, a first-generation college student and alumna of Cañada College. Jojo's unwavering determination propelled her through the ESL and Accounting Programs at Cañada, ultimately leading to her thriving career as a Senior Accountant at Marcus and Millichap Corporate Services. The event drew an impressive turnout, with approximately 20 in-person attendees and an additional 57 virtual participants. It was inspiring to learn that Jojo began her journey at Cañada as an ESL student and came dressed in a blouse and blazer that she made herself through our Fashion Department. Jojo's inspiring journey served as a beacon of hope and motivation for all, highlighting the transformative power of education and the boundless opportunities it can offer.



Holi Festival of Color

Yesterday, the Cultural Center radiated with vibrant energy as it hosted the Holi Festival of Color. Attendees were treated to a presentation on the significance of Holi and its traditional celebrations. Delightful culinary delights like samosas and mango lassi added to the festive atmosphere. Moving outdoors, the Cultural Center team shared captivating dances, setting the stage for the main event. With anticipation building, a countdown marked the beginning of the color powder festivities, as participants joyously adorned each other with hues of vibrant colors, spreading laughter and cheer.



Dr. Anniqua Rana, Dean of Academic Support and Learning Technologies (ASLT)

Please congratulate Dr. Anniqua Rana who has been selected as Cañada's permanent Dean of Academic Support and Learning Technologies (ASLT), pending board

approval. Dr. Rana as she started at Cañada as an ESL Faculty member in 1998 and later served as Dean of Athletics, Library and Learning Center (ALL), which is now the ASLT division. She has served as Interim Dean of ASLT since August 2023.

For more than 30 years, Dr. Rana has been dedicated to equity in higher education. Her doctoral research focused on the implications of technology for women of Pakistan in higher education. She has worked as an educational administrator and consultant in the US and Pakistan. She has taught English as a Second Language, English, Creative Writing, and Multicultural Education at Cañada College, College of San Mateo, University of San Francisco, Lahore University of Management Sciences, UC Santa Cruz extension, and Stanford University.

Dr. Rana grew up between Pakistan and the UK and immigrated to the US in 1989. When she's not working as an administrator, she writes. Her debut novel, *Wild Boar in the Cane Field* was shortlisted for Pakistan's UBL Literary Award, 2020. She blogs on Tillism.com- *Tillism: Magical Words from around the World*. Her writings on gender and education have appeared in *TNS*, *Naya Daur TV*, *International Education*, *Ravi Magazine*, *Bangalore Review*, *Fourteen Hills*, *The Noyo River Review*, *Delay Fiction*, *Listening to the Voices: Multi-ethnic Women in Education*, and other publications. She is currently working on a travel memoir: *That These Should be Lies: Tilting at Windmills*.

Dr. Rana received her Ed.D in International and Multicultural Education from University of San Francisco, MA in English Literature from San Jose State University, MA in English and Linguistics from University of the Punjab, Pakistan, BA in Philosophy, English Literature, and Arabic from University of the Punjab, Pakistan and Certificate TESOL from UC Berkeley Extension.



Program Review Schedule for 2024-25 Adopted

This week, the Planning and Budgeting Council (PBC) approved a Program Review Schedule for the 2024-25 Program Review and Resource Request cycle. Programs up

for comprehensive review next year can be found on the program review website under student services and instructional programs. All programs are welcome to reach out Dean Engel in the Office of Planning, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness (PRIE) early to plan for their data and assessment needs.

Non-Personnel Resource Requests Prioritized

This week, Division Deans and Vice Presidents shared the results of the process they each followed to prioritize non-personnel resource requests submitted during the 2023-24 program review cycle. The Planning and Budgeting Council (PBC) certified that the prioritization process has been followed and collected a brief summary of the process used by each Division. In May, Vice President Prisecar will present information about funded requests to PBC and will share it with all Division and Offices of the Vice Presidents.

Cañada and SMCCCD Undocu Coalition to Present at National Conference

Exciting news! Our SMCCCD Undocu Coalition was recently accepted to present a full-day pre-conference at the National Conference for Race & Ethnicity in Higher Education (NCORE) in Hawaii from May 28 through June 1, 2024. Additional sessions outside of the pre-conference schedule may also include presentations from Cañada College, Skyline College and the College of San Mateo. A full description of their presentation is posted online here (including all other accepted sessions).

This presentation opportunity celebrates a few groundbreaking moments for Cañada College and SMCCCD. For example, NCORE has featured very few pre-conferences that have been entirely focused on community college issues. This marks the first time that our District has presented as part of the pre-conference schedule and the first time that our undocumented student support efforts are shared nationally. In addition, NCORE has never featured an institution that has solely focused on undocumented student support. This is a first for NCORE to have a pre-conference session fully hosted by a community college district on this topic!

Congratulations to SMCCCD presenters:

- Wissem Bennani, EdD |Dean, Enrollment Services & Support Programs, Cañada College
- Nimsi Garcia | Program Services Coordinator, Undocumented Community Center, Cañada College
- Martin Marquez | Program Services Coordinator, Undocumented Community Center, Skyline College
- Aaron McVean, Ph.D. | Vice Chancellor, Educational Services & Planning, San Mateo County Community College District
- Paola Mora Paredes, MA | Program Services Coordinator, Multicultural Center & Undocumented Community Center, College of San Mateo
- Manuel Alejandro Pérez, EdD | Vice President, Student Services, Cañada College

A big thank you to our Districtwide Undocu Coalition for all of the work that we have done in community. This is a culmination of our work together. Congratulations to our College and District leaders and best of luck representing at NCORE!



Student Services Spring Break Hours

Student Services offices will hold modified hours during Spring Break, March 25-29. We have created the attached sign for employees to post in their offices to remind students of the modified hours during Spring Break. Student Services hours during Spring Break, March 25-29, will be adjusted from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, closed Friday for Cesar Chavez Holiday, and closed from 4:30 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

BAPA Spring Camp at College of San Mateo

The 2024 Bay Area Pathways Academy™ (BAPA) Spring Break Program is open for registration! Now offering live in-person Art and Coding camps this Spring Break for your 11-15 year old, your child can choose from BAPA Spring Break ART CAMP or CODING CAMP during the weeks of 4/1 to 4/5 or 4/8 to 4/12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reserve your spot today and use the following Code in the checkout box EMPLOYEE10 to receive your 10% employee discount. Registration closes at 11:59 p.m. on March 22.



I hope you have a wonderful weekend and Spring Break!

Sincerely,
Kim