



## A Message from President Kim Lopez

### **Weekly Update: 4-19-24**

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

### **Songkran Thai New Year**

On Monday, the Cultural Center, ARC (Access, Relevance and Community) and AANHPI S.T.A.R. (Success, Transfer, Access, Relevance Program) came together for the inaugural celebration of Songkran Thai New Year. This event is one of the most important events on the Buddhist calendar, known for its vibrant water festival symbolizing renewal and rejuvenation. Local restaurant, Bangkok Bay Thai Cuisine, added to the festivities by generously donating food. The event was filled with water and joyous moments.



### **Ribbon Lei-Making Workshop**

On Tuesday, the Associated Students of Cañada College and the Cultural Center hosted a ribbon lei workshop. Dr. Michiko Kealoha led a presentation highlighting the significance of leis in Hawaiian culture. Originating from early Polynesian voyagers from Tahiti, leis symbolize connection and hospitality. Dr. Kealoha shared insights into the tradition, including the special significance of May 1 where different leis represent various islands. Attendees learned the art of gifting and receiving leis, fostering a deeper appreciation for this cultural practice. Students, staff, and faculty enjoyed selecting ribbon colors and crafting beautiful leis for others.



### **Eid-al-Fitr Celebration**

On Wednesday, the Cultural Center, ARC (Access, Relevance and Community) and International Student Center collaborated to organize an Eid-al-Fitr celebration, marking the end of Ramadan, Islam's significant holiday. Held atop Building 23 under sunny skies, the event boasted stunning decorations by the organizing team. Attendees enjoyed a spread of delicious food including Hummus and Baklava. The celebration featured presentations showcasing how students observed Eid, alongside captivating dance performances by students. To top it off, there was also some aromatic coffee brewed traditionally to indulge in.





## **Flex Day Feedback and Resources**

Thank you for participating in yesterday's Flex Day! Please take a moment to share your feedback. Your responses will inform how we plan future Flex Days. Zoom recordings and presentation materials will soon be available on the Follow-up Flex Day Resources website. The Professional Development Planning Committee has already begun planning for the Flex Days on August 12 and 13. If you would like to host a Flex session in August, please submit your proposal by May 24 using the Flex Day Session Proposal Form. Please direct your Flex Day-related questions to Flex Day Coordinator Ellen Young or check out the FAQ section of the Flex Day website.





## Local Youth Visit Cañada

Former Colt's Baseball, Cañada College Athletic Hall of Fame Member and Professional Baseball Player for the Montreal Expos, Ron Calloway, brought members of his youth 9/10 year-old Potrero Hill Panthers Little League Team to Cañada College last Saturday. They had a great time cheering on the Colts as they defeated City College of San Francisco 12-1. The team took a guided tour of Building 1 with Dean/Athletic Director Kat Sullivan-Torrez and then took their very first college campus tour of our beautiful campus! In a very special moment, the players were introduced alongside current Colt Players to run onto the field and participate in the National Anthem prior to the beginning of the game. Thank you to Coach Tony Lucca, his staff, our Colts Baseball team, and Olivia Cortez-Figueroa and her team from Outreach, who supplied the swag bags.



## Cañada Marketing Team Receives Four Statewide Awards

Congratulations to the Cañada Marketing team for being recognized by higher education professionals throughout the state with four Pro Awards at the annual California Community Colleges Public Relations Organization (CCPRO) conference. The team brought home Gold for its efforts in Social Media Management for Cañada's Instagram account, Gold for the Social Media Campaign on Cañada's Course Promotion Enrollment Campaign, Silver for Promotional Campaign for Cañada de Noche and Bronze in the Before & After category for Cañada's Financial Aid website.



## Cañada College Phi Theta Kappa Catalyst Honors

The Cañada College Phi Theta Kappa Chapter, Beta Zeta Nu, recently attended PTK Catalyst, Phi Theta Kappa's premier annual event. PTK Catalyst brings together members, advisors and their supporters for professional development and celebration of the accomplishments of our community. This year's event included immersive opportunities for personal and professional development amongst members of PTK from across the world. Cañada's Beta Zeta Nu Chapter was recognized as a five-star outstanding chapter. Phi Theta Kappa Advisors Paul Roscelli and Autumn McMahan, along with PTK Officers Heelor, Mikael, and Rolando, presented an Education Forum discussing how our Chapter has worked side-by-side with college administrations for extraordinary impact through PTK's College Project. This project is designed to engage students in leadership and service that support Cañada College's mission.



Beta Zeta Nu was honored with the following awards out of thousands of PTK chapter worldwide:

- Beta Alpha Continued Excellence Award
  - Only 16 Chapters are honored with this award for achieving Distinguished Status for three consecutive years
- Top 50 Honors in Action Project
- Top 50 Honors in Action Theme
  - Beta Zeta Nu's 2024 Honors in Action Project was developed as our students discovered a lack of attention given to Redwood City's elder communities. With the Essence of Play in mind, BZN asked themselves: "Can play act as a cognitive and physical intervention to promote happiness in local elder communities?" Students then set out to research the effects of play-based activities on the elder population to learn more about the Art and Science of Play as it applies to this specific population.
- Top 100 Chapter worldwide
- Distinguished Chapter Officer: Mark Trujillo



### **Cañada Faculty Member and Alum Recognized in Latin-American Poetry Chapbook Contest**

Congratulations to ESL Faculty member and Cañada Alum, Gerardo Pacheco Matus, who was recently selected as the Third Place winner for his chapbook collection, *Border Cantos Poemas*, at the "Latin-American Poetry Chapbook Contest." A chapbook is a shorter version of a whole book composed of multiple poems. The contest was hosted by The Southern Collective Experience, which encourages mutual inspiration and

professional growth in a family-like environment, across the mediums of visual art, music, poetry and prose.



### **Campus Collaboration for Veteran Students**

The Veteran Resource & Opportunity Center (VROC), in collaboration with Cañada College's Menlo Studio, offered student veterans an opportunity to take professional headshots and graduation portraits. The photoshoot event was attended by more than 40 participants and was held over two days with student veterans from all three campuses. Cañada College Student Assistant photographers gained valuable real-world work experience by contributing their skills to this event.



## **Calling All Faculty!**

Please take a moment to respond to the Community College Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (CCFSSE). You should have an email in your inbox from Dean Karen Engel with a link and instructions as to the specific class you have been asked to provide input on. This is a unique opportunity for us to evaluate student engagement across types of instructional modality among other aspects of campus life. Raffle prizes will be awarded to four survey completers. Contact Dean Engel with any questions.

## **Please Help Evaluate Our Participatory Governance Processes**

PBC is kindly asking everyone to please take a few minutes to respond to our annual survey evaluating how well our participatory governance processes are working for each constituency group at Cañada this year. PRIE will enter anyone who completes the whole survey in a raffle to win one of five \$20 gift cards from Pacific Dining!

## **Staff Support Needed for Commencement**

Cañada's 56th Commencement Ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 25 at 10 a.m. and there are a number of opportunities for staff to participate and help make this event a memorable one for our graduates and their families. To assist with this special event, please click the commencement job assignment link. Commencement assignments include: setup crew, graduate registration, getting grads ready, commencement usher, cleanup crew and more. Staff support on this day makes the graduation experience for students possible. Important: CSEA employees working at the Commencement ceremony are entitled to overtime compensation. This overtime must be preapproved by the employee's supervisor. Once approved, the employee may choose to receive either overtime pay or compensatory (comp) time. This is at the discretion of the employee. If you have any questions, please contact a member of CSEA Chapter 33 leadership. We hope staff will be a part of the Cañada Commencement team and appreciate your consideration.





## **Honors Showcase, Friday April 26**

The annual Cañada College Honors Research Showcase is coming next Friday, April 26, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. All are welcome to come enjoy the Honors student presentations! Registration will be held in Room 13-334 and snacks will be served. Honors presentations will be held in Rooms 13-330/332. RSVP for in-person attendance, lunch, and/or if you would like a Zoom link.

## **Save the Date: Employee End-of-Year Celebration – RSVP by May 9**

Please join us for our Employee End-of-Year Celebration! The event will be held at the Cañada Vista Clubhouse on Thursday, May 16 from 12-1:30 p.m. All college employees are invited to celebrate the end of the year together. During the celebration, we will be honoring our retiring faculty and staff, faculty who have achieved tenure and our Classified Employee of the Year. The event flyer is attached. Please RSVP to [tinyurl.com/EEOYC24](https://tinyurl.com/EEOYC24) by May 9.



I hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,  
Kim