

# President's Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

President Michael Claire ~ May 10, 2017

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## Earth Day 2017 Celebration Best Yet



CSM celebrated its 3rd Annual Earth Day on April 19, 2017 in the College Center. Continuing CSM's commitment to our Sustainability Plan, this year's event included a broad cross-section of sustainability themes, with special attention to social justice.

The number of exhibits has steadily increased from 19 in 2015 to 29 this year. Of the 29 total exhibits, 8 were student groups and 21 were community partners. Student participants visited a variety of organizations in four categories: Biodiversity, Water, Waste and Energy. Exhibitors included live animal ambassadors from Wildlife Associates presenting the "Spirit



of the Rainforest" and live turtles on the green space in front of the College Center. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California State Parks, San Mateo

College of San Mateo

City and County Sustainability Programs, Sustainable San Mateo, Recology, Fresh Approach, Breathe California, CalWater, and New Leaf Community Market returned this year. New to our event included Tesla, Pacific Coast Farmer's Market Association, Costco and the San Mateo Bee Guild. Student organizations participating included Mana, Umoja, ASCSM/Cultural Advisory Board, Fine Arts Club, Astronomy Club, Geology Club, Botany Club, and the Jazz Ensemble. Over 70 student and faculty



volunteers assisted at the event. The students discussed sustainability ideas with each organization. After learning from these conversations, they collected a stamp. When they had collected four stamps of each type, they wrote a personal pledge based upon what they had learned about sustainable living. In exchange for the pledges, they received organic packaged snacks from companies committed to sustainable business practices. Prizes were raffled to the students that pledged as well. In total, over 150 personal pledges were received. We are already looking forward to our Earth Day Celebration in 2018, and we truly appreciate all your support over the years.

Dominique Conlu, one of our amazing students, created an amazing 1-minute video covering the event. (Submitted by Paul Hankamp.)

## Ten CSM Students Presenting at Stanford University's Honors Project

For this spring's Bay Honors Consortium Symposium, to be held at Stanford University, TEN of our students' proposals were accepted for presentation:

Shuai XueHwajung SungKivi CumbulScarlett WilsonAlexis D'AlenconDaryl JonesAlexander EinarssonAngela KimNicholas WongLeila Schaumkel



This is an increase from CSM's nine accepted last spring at UC Berkeley. More students submitted this spring, and the competition was stiffer: There were more statewide submissions for fewer presentation slots. CSM also had had the second highest number of acceptances out of all participating colleges.

The student keynote speaker will be a former CSM Honors Project/AGS student, now attending Stanford. (Submitted by David Laderman)

## Writing in the End Zone wins Kent Award

Writing in the End Zone, a learning community that links English and Physical Education, has been selected by the San Mateo School Boards Association (SMCSBA) to receive a Kent Award on May 22, 2017.



The annual award recognizes outstanding academic programs designed to meet the

current challenges of public schools within San Mateo County. Following an application and screening process, SMCSBA conducted site visits to assess the program.

Led by faculty members Teeka James (English), Bret Pollack (football), Anne Stafford (English), and Tim Tulloch (football), Writing in the End Zone began in 2004 as a response to concerns about the low success, retention, and persistence rates of African American and Pacific Islander male students at CSM in English courses.

The program has created a successful environment for traditionally underserved students by taking seriously their academic needs, interests, and unique backgrounds. Linking football, their greatest passion, to their nemesis, English Composition, has resulted in significantly more students from this cohort succeeding in their English classes, graduating from CSM, and transferring to four-year colleges and universities.

## College of San Mateo Wins National Entrepreneurship Award



On Monday, April 24, 2017, the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE) announced that College of San Mateo had won the Presidents for Entrepreneurship Pledge College of Excellence award.

"The Presidents for Entrepreneurship Pledge serves as the foundation for entrepreneurial leadership in our member colleges," said Rebecca Corbin, Ed.D. president and CEO of NACCE. "If you are doing innovative work, you deserve to be recognized as part of our best-practice examples on a national level."

Led by CSM business professor Peter von Bleichert, Ph.D and added to the college's curriculum in 2016, the Entrepreneurship certificate of specialization prepares students for success in starting and operating new enterprises throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. "This is an honor for our program, validation of our efforts, and inspiration for our students," said Dr. von Bleichert.

Students in the program have frequently been recognized for their achievements, including first and third place finishes in the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office's 2016 Taste of Success Business Plan Pitch competition, as well as regional Silicon Valley finalist in this year's competition, currently in progress. "Our student entrepreneurs are doing amazing work," said Michael Claire, president of College of San Mateo. "They represent the future for economic vitality in our community, and this NACCE College of Excellence award recognizes our role in preparing them for that future."

## Job Fair 2017 Recap

CSM's Career Services held a successful Job Fair on April 26. There were 39 employers from 25 different industries offering part-time, full-time work and internships to our students. 96% of students said the fair was helpful to them and 75% said they would prefer that we continue to have a job fair once a year and daily on campus recruiting with individual employers. 86% of employers said their expectations for the fair were met. The new online job board that CSM switched to last year, College Central Network, made the process very easy for staff, employers and students. We will continue to do daily recruiting and have a job fair on the spring as well. (Submitted by Autumn Newman.)

## CSM Study Abroad Student Selected by U.S. Department of State

Congratulations to Elizabeth Ramirez, CSM student and Study Abroad Ambassador, on her selection and full sponsorship to participate in the U.S. Department of State three-day seminar untitled, "Education for All: Inclusion and Access as Pathways to Peace" in Portland, Oregon. As an alumnae of the Gilman Scholarship Program in 2016 for her study abroad



in Italy, Elizabeth was one of only 30 people selected for this program from amongst top undergraduate, graduate, and scholars, including past Fulbright Scholars, who were invited to apply by the Department of State. As part of the training seminar, participants have the opportunity to apply for \$10,000 project grants to work collaboratively with other participants. Elizabeth is interested in applying for the project grant and will pitch her idea during the seminar. Elizabeth will be heading to Portland May 10-13, 2017 and hopes to expand her knowledge of educational equity and share what she learns with the campus community.

When asked about her study abroad experience, Elizabeth shared, "Before study abroad, I felt independent, but my experience consolidated my confidence and

showed me that I was right. It taught me a lot about myself and my future feels more open and free. After my experience abroad, I changed my major and career path and I am not afraid of my future. My hope is to continue to travel while pursuing my academic goals." She intends to continue her pursuit of global education and will apply for the Critical Languages Scholarship to study Korean in the coming year.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual World Gala Showcases our Global Talent



The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual World Gala was hosted in CSM's College Center on April 21, 2017 by the International Education Program. The event brought together nearly 200 students, faculty, staff, and family members to celebrate the diversity of our campus. The evening kicked off with a sampling of food from around the world, a mocktail bar, and voting for the People's Choice Award for our World Photo Context. Our photography professors chose the finalists and selected the Grand Prize Winner to be published in CSM's campus magazine, Labyrinth.

The highlight of the evening was the Global Talent Showcase, which brought together a wide range of performances from around the world including:



dances from Nepal, Malaysia, and India; vocalists from Indonesia, Brazil, Philippines, India and Venezuela; classical violin; street dance; and the CSM Lion Dance Team. The International Ambassadors and fellow international students served as models in the Global Fashion Show, highlighting traditional and modern fashions from around the world. International students from both Cañada and Skyline Colleges joined the event as performers and guests.

"It was an enchanted evening and a wonderful blend of CSM students and families, staff and faculty gathered together to celebrate. Guests were transported to



foreign lands with our Photo Contest finalists. The World Gala brought a sense of cultural awareness to CSM by celebrating the diversity we experience every day." -Silvana Grima, International Education Program

The evening ended with a selection of sweet treats and a live DJ Dance Party featuring global dance hits, a conga line, and several dance battles. We thank the ASCSM, DIAG, and the Vending Fund for supporting this event. Mark your calendars for Spring 2018!

To enjoy photos and videos, please visit facebook.com/ InternationalStudentCenterCSM.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **CSM Jazz Ensembles Concert**

with special guests: The Hillsdale HS Jazz Ensemble and Bowditch MS Jazz Band Monday, May 8 • 7–9:30 pm CSM Theatre Building 3

#### **Pianos Plus**

Piano and Harmony Department Concert Monday, May 15 • 7–9 pm Music Building 2, Room 110, Choral Room

#### Voices of CSM

Voices Raised in Song Tuesday, May 16 • Starts at 7:00 pm CSM Theatre Building 3

#### **Spring Electronic Music Concert**

Thursday, May 18 • 7:00 pm CSM Theatre Building 3

#### Spring 2017 Honors Project Showcase

Thursday, May 18 & Friday, May 19 2:30–4:30 pm CSM North Hall Building 18, Room 206, Center for Academic Excellence

#### Mana Program Graduation and Student Recognition Ceremony

'Vakatasi, One Boat' Tuesday, May 23 • 6–9 pm CSM Theatre Building 3

#### **Umoja End of Year Celebration**

Tuesday, May 23 • 6–8 pm CSM College Center Building 10, Bayview Dining Room

#### Stepping Up: A Transfer Tribute

Celebration for students who are transferring in Fall 2017 Thursday, May 25 • 4–6:30 pm CSM College Center Building 10, Bayview Dining Room

#### 2017 Commencement Ceremony

95th Annual Commencement Ceremony Friday, May 26 • 5:30–7:45 pm CSM Gymnasium Building 8