



President's Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

President Michael Claire ~ January 19, 2018

Jam-Packed Flex Day Activities Open Spring Semester

Inside...

Jam-Packed Flex Day Activities Open Spring Semester	1
CSM Enthusiastically Welcomes Two New Deans.....	3
Historically Black Colleges and University Tour	4
Fine Arts Exhibition In Full Swing	5
Another Successful Math & Science Jam	6
Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center Holds Action Summit Featuring Former NFL Player Wade Davis as the Keynote Speaker	7
Upcoming Events	8



CSM opened the spring semester with Flex Day activities on January 11-12, with more than 20 sessions led by faculty and classified staff over the two days.

Flex Day began with a welcome address by President Mike Claire for faculty and staff in the Bayview Dining Room. His talk highlighted the profound effect one student's success can have on an entire family. He used the talk to reintroduce the guided pathways concept and introduce Anniqua Rana, who is interim dean of academic support and learning technologies and is leading this effort for CSM. Interim Dean Rana gave an overview of what to expect in the coming months.

Of particular interest was the Phantom of the Universe session in the CSM Planetarium, led by Professors Darryl Stanford and Mohsen Janatpour, which gave attendees a look into the phenomena of dark matter and spectroscopy.

More than 30 faculty and staff attended the workshop, "The Elephants in the Room: Facilitating Conversations Around Sensitive Issues." English Professor, Umoja Coordinator, and Academic Senate President Jeramy Wallace facilitated the workshop, which was part of the senate's commitment to create more professional development around educational equity and culturally responsive

College of San Mateo

pedagogy amongst CSM's educators. The workshop focused on practical strategies for responding to topics – such as race and racism, misogyny and sexism, homo- and transphobia, and ethnocentrism and nativism, to name a few – and the possible conflict arising from these conversations. The workshop fostered lively exchanges of ideas and



practices, and it concluded with role-playing where participants were asked to respond to insensitive remarks from their “students.” Several attendees asked that the college continue to organize similar workshops, which Academic Senate President Wallace confirmed will happen: “The Academic Senate passed a resolution last semester affirming our commitment to promoting educational equity at CSM, and educating our colleagues on what that means in our classrooms and elsewhere on campus is one of our top priorities for our professional development committee.”

On Friday, 30 faculty and staff were joined by two ASCSM student leaders for a spirited exchange of information on ways to reduce textbook costs. Faculty shared their experiences with open source material, the bookstore’s inclusive access program, low-cost editions, book rental, and book swaps. Bookstore manager James Peacock was able to answer questions about costs, trends in publishing, inclusive access, and to explain the constraints under which the bookstore operates. The students reminded the group that a starting point is to make sure that required texts are actually used in the class, that resale value is important, and that students differ in their preferences for online and electronic material. This flex day session served as the kick-off activity for the college’s new Textbook Taskforce, which will work with faculty and students to enhance awareness of lower cost textbook options. ■

CSM Enthusiastically Welcomes Two New Deans

Lizette Solorzano-Bricker was appointed by the Board of Trustees as dean of enrollment services and support programs in December, where she has served as the interim dean since August 2017.

Lizette comes to CSM with a broad and substantive background. Lizette is a first-generation community college student and that experience has had a deep impact on Lizette's work. After attending community college, Lizette transferred to San Diego State University where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in English. Lizette also holds a masters of arts in English composition and a master's of science in counseling and guidance from CSU San Bernardino.



Lizette has held a variety of professional positions that have prepared her well for her current one. She served as the regional coordinator of early outreach for UC Riverside; worked as the lead high school counselor for five years at Desert Mirage High School; served as an adjunct counselor and adjunct English faculty member for College of the Desert; and worked as an academic advisor for CSU East Bay.

Lizette relocated to the Bay Area and served as the Associate to Bachelor (A2B) HSI Title V Grant program supervisor from 2013 to 2015 at Cañada College. During that time Lizette managed a US Department of Education Grant and developed a transfer pathway program for Cañada. In 2015, Lizette was asked to serve as the interim dean of counseling at Cañada.

Heidi Diamond was also appointed as dean of business and technology by the Board of Trustees in December. She had served as the interim dean of business and technology since August 2017.

Heidi holds a bachelor of science degree in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University, and a master's in business administration from Baruch College.

Heidi started her California community college career at West Valley College in 2001



where she served as a professor of business, as a grants project director, and later as the chair of the Business Division. Heidi was very active in participatory governance at West Valley College; she served as the faculty accreditation liaison officer from 2008 to 2015, and also served on a variety of academic senate committees.

Heidi left West Valley to become the dean of business, design, and workforce at Cañada College in 2016. In addition to managing the division, Heidi was responsible for the oversight of several major workforce funds. Heidi managed Perkins, CTE Enhancement, CTE Data Unlocked, and Strong Workforce Program grant funds to increase certificate and degree offerings and completions in

response to labor market demands.

Heidi has continued her excellent work at CSM as interim dean. In December, CSM was awarded a \$500,000 grant from the State Chancellor's Office to further develop an introductory program that leads to high-wage employment in the building trades. ■

Historically Black Colleges and University Tour

In late October 2017, 22 college representatives making up the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Caravan made their first stop on a tour of several California community colleges at the College of San Mateo. Students and faculty from the Umoja learning community coordinated the event. The college representatives felt welcomed and verbalized how grateful they were to be set up in the beautiful College Center where they were treated to drums and lunch.

Approximately 300 hundred students were able to speak to representatives and most came with their unofficial transcripts in hand. The Northern California coordinator, Dr. Karen McCord, and the various college representatives were very impressed with the diversity and number of the interested students. The representatives let our students know that an HBCU is an option for students from any and all ethnic and/ or racial groups.



The goal of the California Community Colleges HBCU Transfer Guarantee Program is to educate students about additional transfer opportunities at these institutions and develop pathways that will ultimately contribute to an increase in baccalaureate degree attainment. (Submitted by Dr. Frederick L. Gaines) ■

Fine Arts Exhibition In Full Swing

During the month of January, the CSM Fine Arts Club is hosting its annual exhibition at Twin Pines Art Gallery in Belmont. The CSM Fine Arts Club – a student-run club for all artists at College of San Mateo – includes 32 artists and more than 80 works of art. This exhibit is the art club’s biggest yet!



Presentations, exhibitions and workshops for this spring will include Alla Prima Oil Painting, Cuba Art Assists Cultural Memory, History of Day of the Dead Festivals, Paintbrush Democracy, Connecting Artists Around the World, and Do’s and Don’ts of Framing.

The Fine Arts Club has collaborated with the Sustainability Committee for the past three years by hosting a community art-making event during Earth Day. Participants have made large murals with the themes of “colors of the Earth” and “oceans.” These murals are now displayed in the Science Building and in Mana’s meeting room. The club also hosted, in partnership with Personal Counseling and Wellness Services’ Mental Health Day, a “paint out” where members of the CSM community could get together and create paintings around the theme of mental health. Over 20 students participated and exhibited their work during Mental Health Day. Finally, the club has partnered with the Honor Writer’s Project on supplying artwork for the award-winning student publication, Labyrinth.



The club has painted two large murals at CSM. The Village mural (12’ x 26’) is located in Building 18, Village room, and honors the history and legacy of our Pacific Islander, Latinx and African-American students. Art students collaborated with members of these three learning communities and worked on this mural for an entire year. The other large mural (8’ x 66’) is located in one of the major traffic corridors for the school, in the hallway leading from Beethoven parking lot and the bus stop into the arts complex. This abstract mural celebrates the visual arts and greets students and visitors alike with bright, vibrant colors and images. *(Submitted by Rebecca Alex)* ■

Another Successful Math & Science Jam

Math-Science Jam at CSM is a one-week intensive math and science program during semester intersessions that offers new and returning students the opportunity to improve placement test results in math and/or prepare for math and science courses they will be taking. The Math Jam program is funded and run by the METAS (HSI-Grant) at CSM.

A group of dedicated students attended the Math and Science Jams at CSM during the first week of January. Math Jam took place from January 2 to January 5 with 85 students participating in the program. After three full days in the program, 10 students were able to increase their math placement after taking the placement test. Science Jam sessions in physics and chemistry were also offered during the week. *(Submitted by Olivia Viveros)* ■

Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center Holds Action Summit Featuring Former NFL Player Wade Davis as the Keynote Speaker

CSM was chosen to host the Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center (PCRC)'s Action Summit on January 12 and 13. President Michael Claire opened the event for the organization, which has over 30 years of providing conflict resolution, mediation training, violence prevention and community building services.



The goal of this year's Action Summit was to bring together community partners to engage with others through civil discourse to inspire deeper understanding across barriers, design innovative strategies, promote empathy and respect in the community and create change.



Former NFL Player Wade Davis, the featured speaker for both days, is a thought leader, writer, public speaker and educator on gender, race and orientation equality. Davis played for the Tennessee Titans, Washington Redskins and the Seattle Seahawks. In 2012, Davis "invited in" the rest of the world in an interview owning his sexuality as a gay man.

Patrice O'Neil, the CEO and filmmaker of the nationally acclaimed "Not In Our Town" was the opening keynote speaker on Friday. The emcee lineup

included KALW's Ben Trefney on Friday and former KMEL DJ Chuy Gomez for Saturday's Youth Day.

Andrew Thomas, with the City Manager's Office from Sanford, Florida, was a featured panelist and provided strategies after observing the results from Trayvon Martin's case.

Another panelist, Captain Chris Hsiung, commanded the Special Operations Division at the Mountain View Police Department. Since 2012, he has managed the department social media strategy, platforms and engagement with the community. ■

UPCOMING EVENTS

CSM Fine Arts Club Exhibition

Annual Art Exhibition of CSM Art Students

January 3-30 • 12 pm - 4 pm

Twin Pine Arts Center, Belmont

Over 23 CSM students will be exhibiting drawings and paintings at Twin Pines Art Center, Belmont.

CSM Basketball vs. Chabot

Wednesday, January 24 • 5:00 pm

CSSM Gymnasium Building 08

Come out and cheer on the Bulldogs!

Creating Pathways from Youth Incarceration to Higher Education

Free tickets available via Eventbrite

Friday, January 26 • 8 am - 4:30 pm

Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel

1230 J Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Please join us for a statewide conference to increase post-secondary education opportunities in California for young people impacted by the juvenile justice system.

Bulldog Bash

Wednesday, January 31 • 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

CSM College Center Building 10, Bayview Dining Room

An event hosted by College of San Mateo to support high school seniors' transition to their first year of college.

CSM Softball vs. Sierra

Thursday, February 8 • 12 pm

Sierra College

Come out and cheer on the Bulldogs!

CSM Basketball vs. Ohlone

Friday, February 9 • 4 pm

CSM College Center Building 10, Bayview Dining Room

College of San Mateo will hold its 4th Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Friday, February 9, 2018.

Science-In-Action Speaker Series

Wednesday, February 7 • 5-6 pm

CSM Science Building 36, Planetarium

Part of the Science-in-Action Speaker Series at CSM.

2018 Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Friday, February 9 • 4 pm

CSM College Center Building 10, Bayview Dining Room

College of San Mateo will hold its 4th Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Friday, February 9, 2018.