



# President's Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

President Michael Claire ~ September 21, 2018

## Inside...

Multiple Measures Shows Early Signs of Success at CSM .....1

CSM Launches Discounted Grab & Go Meals for Students..... 3

ASCSM Celebrates the New Academic Year with Welcome Week ..... 3

Fire Technology Department Dedicates New Engine to Beloved Instructor Don Ciucci ..... 4

CSM welcomes LaShonda Kennedy to its Workforce Development Team ..... 5

CSM Student Featured on San Francisco State's Website.... 6

Upcoming Events ..... 7

## “Student Voice

“CSM’s professional development opportunities have helped me reach new academic heights.”

- Seneti Mapa, CSM Student

## Multiple Measures Shows Early Signs of Success at CSM

The Public Policy Institute of California recognized CSM’s success with multiple measures in its August 2018 report, Remedial Education Reforms at California’s Community Colleges. The report highlighted CSM’s significant gains in placing hundreds of additional students directly into transfer-level English courses.



Jon Kitamura and students

# College of San Mateo

Historically, colleges and universities have decided what English classes students should take using one measure: the standardized placement test. A student who was having a bad day, or simply didn't relate to the context of a question, could be placed in a remedial class that was not transferable to UCs and CSUs. For students, this resulted in low success rates, higher cost, and more time to completion.

A new state law, AB 705, requires community colleges to allow students to complete a transfer-level English course within their first year. The law also requires colleges to use "multiple measures"—such as high school grades—to place students into English and math courses.

As one of 15 early adopters among the California community colleges, CSM implemented multiple measures in 2016, prior to AB 705. Under the guidance of two English professors, Jon Kitamura and Daniel Keller, CSM began using high



*Daniel Keller*

school GPA and student self-placement to determine where students should be placed.

Early results have been impressive. In 2016, 77% of CSM students were placed directly into transfer-level English courses compared to the statewide average of 44%. CSM students also completed transfer-level classes at a rate of 68%, up slightly from previous years. Since then, rates of direct placement of students into transfer-level English continue to increase while success rates remain steady.

English faculty have invested significant time in teaching circles and other forms of professional development to ensure this success. They also spend extensive hours in the Writing Center and Office Hours coaching students one-on-one in reading, writing, and editing skills. High expectations in the transfer English classes are met with high levels of support for the students who are struggling.

There is still more work to be done. Under AB 705, colleges may offer remedial courses one level below transfer for students who opt to take them — but only if they can prove their effectiveness. In addition, CSM's English faculty are wrestling with how to serve the 1% of students in English that are currently self-placing into two levels below transfer. With AB705, this course will no longer be an option starting in Fall 2019.

CSM's English faculty are meeting to discuss plans this week and will attend an AB705 Implementation Workshop hosted by the CA Acceleration Project later this month to help them determine how to best support students under AB705, perhaps with additional tutoring for those who have difficulty tackling rigorous transfer-level coursework. "It

would be inequitable to just say sorry kids, welcome to English 105, sink or swim,” said Kitamura. ■

## CSM Launches Discounted Grab & Go Meals for Students

CSM students are now able to pick up an affordable meal for just \$5 in the Bulldog Bookstore. “Grab & Go” meals include a sandwich, fresh fruit and a bottled water. Students must show a current CSM student ID to purchase the discounted meals, which are subsidized by ASCSM. The Grab & Go meals program is intended to help address food insecurity for CSM students and was organized by SparkPoint, Second Harvest, ASCSM, and the Bulldog Bookstore. ■



## ASCSM Celebrates the New Academic Year with Welcome Week

The Associated Students of College of San Mateo greeted CSM students with a rousing week of free food and giveaways to ease students into their first weeks of the semester. Student retention is a priority for ASCSM. Since the beginning of the school year can be

stressful, especially for new college students, Welcome Week is a key part of ASCSM's programming.



The festivities took place Tuesday and Wednesday, August 28-29. The first day, senators gave out Ay Caray Taqueria burritos, Super Cue boba and drawstring bags filled with CSM accessories.



Later in the day, Mendocino Farm sandwiches, Super Cue boba and drawstring bags were given out to the night class students. On day two, there was free food from Cuban Kitchen, Super Cue boba and more drawstring bags. Students enjoyed the Cuban sandwiches, fried plantains and quesadillas. Night students had free Mendocino Farm sandwiches, Super Cue boba and drawstring bags.



ASCSM has added night students to Welcome Week programming in recent years in an effort to be more inclusive of our entire campus community. Overall turnout was huge, with ASCSM handing out more than TK meals, TK bobas, and TK bags. There were consistent lines and all the food was devoured each day. We look forward for more events made for our students! ■

## Fire Technology Department Dedicates New Engine to Beloved Instructor Don Ciucci

The CSM Fire Technology department is honoring the late fire instructor Don Ciucci by naming its new fire engine in his memory. The Fire Academy dedicated the Don Ciucci Training Engine on August 13, 2018. Chief Ciucci's nephew Chris Wettstein, who also teaches in the CSM Fire Technology program, presented the new engine in his honor. The new engine is a 1999 Pierce pumper that was donated to the Fire Academy by Chief John Kammeyer of the Central County Fire Department.

Chief Ciucci passed away on July 21, 2018. He grew up in San Francisco and attended City College of San Francisco and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, where he earned his BS in city and regional planning. He worked for the Daly City Redevelopment Agency from 1972 to 1979, then joined the Daly City Fire Department. While there, Chief Ciucci earned the Ed



Bent Instructor of the Year award and was named 2003 Training Officer of the Year by the California Firefighter's Association.



Chief Ciucci retired in 2005 from the fire service as a deputy fire chief. He was instrumental in the hiring and training of hundreds of firefighters all over the state of California, especially San Mateo County. Chief Ciucci began teaching at CSM in 2006, teaching Fire Science curriculum core courses such as building construction instruction and firefighter survival. He also oversaw the in-service academy, a rigorous 15-week program.

"For the future CSM students that never had a chance to meet Chief Ciucci, the engraving on the side of the engine will ensure that he will never be forgotten," said

Christy Baird, CSM Fire Technology instructor/coordinator and captain with the Palo Alto Fire Department.

The newly donated engine replaces the older engine that is being donated to the Woodland Hills Rotary Club. According to Captain Baird, it is destined for a village in Mexico that does not have its own firefighting equipment.

Ciucci lived in Pacifica with his high school sweetheart Debby Wettstein, late daughter Angelina, and son Matthew. Angelina worked for the Daly City Fire Department and Matthew is currently working at Daly City Police Department. Ciucci also adored his two grandchildren, Maggie and Mikey. ■

## CSM welcomes LaShonda Kennedy to its Workforce Development Team

LaShonda Kennedy has joined CSM's Workforce Development department as the new program services coordinator. She has extensive experience in project management, workforce development, community outreach and program development and evaluation.

"I am excited about the opportunity to develop a co-op/Internship program from the ground up," LaShonda commented. "Our hope is that CSM students use their college experience to help them select a career field and to increase their awareness of local career opportunities."

LaShonda received her undergraduate degree in communications, and her master's degree in counseling education from Wake Forest University. She started her career in corporate human resources and project management, then transitioned to the public school system. She worked in the Denver Public Schools and at Kirkwood Community College.

LaShonda has been a board member of the African American Museum of Iowa, the Iowa Women's Foundation and the United Way of Johnson and Washington Counties. She is still a member of the Association of Junior League's International Governance Board and the Corporate Roundtable Board of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators. ■



## CSM Student Featured on San Francisco State's Website

Jordan Chavez, who serves as the ASCSM secretary and a student assistant in the Office of Student Life and Leadership, participated in San Francisco State's Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program this summer. He conducted research in a biology lab in the 10-week program, as one of only 12 undergraduate students from all over the U.S. He was profiled on the SFSU website in an article posted this past Monday:



<http://news.sfsu.edu/news-story/summer-program-inspires-students-stick-science> ■

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **ASCSM Club Fair**

**Wednesday, September 26 & Thursday, September 27**

**10 am - 1 pm**

CSM College Center Building 10, Bayview Dining Room

CSM student clubs and student organizations showcase their activities and recruit new members at this annual fair. Free food and giveaways.

## **All-College Ice Cream Social**

**Thursday, September 27, 2018**

**12:30 - 2:30 pm**

CSM College Center Terrace, Second Floor

CSM will be holding an ice cream social to welcome all new faculty, classified staff, and administrators, and also to celebrate those with 10, 20, 30, 40 years of service.

## **CSM Cross Country: Toro Park Invitational**

**Friday, September 28, 2018**

**All day**

Toro Park, Salinas

Come out and cheer on the Bulldogs!

## **CSM Softball vs. San Francisco State**

**Saturday, September 29, 2018**

**12 pm**

CSM Softball Field

Come out and cheer on the Bulldogs!

## **In Pursuit of Science: A Decade of Academic Journey from CSM to Stanford**

**Wednesday, October 3, 2018**

**5:30 - 6:30 pm**

CSM Science Building 36, Planetarium

2004 CSM graduate Aashish R. Jha, Ph.D. will give a talk on his career working on HIV and malaria immunology, genomics, human adaptation, cancer biology, and the microbiome. Part of the Science-in-Action Speaker Series.

## **The Sky Tonight Planetarium Shows**

**Friday, October 12, 2018**

**7:30 & 8:30 pm**

CSM Science Building 36, Planetarium

Come for a live presentation about what's visible in the night sky tonight, followed by a full dome immersive movie about fascinating topics in astronomy! The 50-minute show runs twice, at 7:30 pm again at 8:30 pm.

## **CA State Senator Jerry Hill**

*Presentation and Q&A*

**Monday, October 15, 2018**

**9:10 - 10:00 am**

CSM Central Hall Building 16, Room 209

California State Senator Jerry Hill will speak to a College of San Mateo political science class and answer questions about California politics and government. The event is free and open to the public.