Community Celebrates Grand Opening of SparkPoint CSM Center

More than 200 campus and community members gathered at CSM on November 14 to formally launch the new SparkPoint Center.
President Mike Claire and San Mateo Mayor Rick Bonilla greeted the crowd, followed by comments from CSM Health Services Director Emily Barrick and United Way Bay Area President Anne Wilson. Two students shared their stories about how SparkPoint has helped to support their education, including Jessica Hudson and SMCCCD Student Trustee Gabriela Topete Eng Goon.

Many community and campus organizations participated in the event, including SparkPoint partners United Way Bay Area, Second Harvest, San Mateo Credit Union, Samaritan House, StarVista, HIP Housing, Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County, and the SparkPoint Centers of Cañada College and Skyline College. Many CSM student services and organizations showcased their programs with tabling and tours. Festivities included food, live entertainment by Professor Rudy Ramirez’s band Zanzibar, prize drawings, and tours. Most important, 30 students and community members signed up for SparkPoint CSM financial coaching.

Since its soft opening in October, SparkPoint CSM has already had a significant impact:

- Established a roster of 48 clients (students and community members) to date, 37 of whom have met with SparkPoint staff for more than two financial coaching sessions
- Provided free groceries to an average of 60 households per week, amounting to 1,500 lbs. per week
- Distributed student snack baskets at 12 campus locations
- Co-organizing discounted student Grab-N-Go meals at the Bulldog Bookstore and Pop-up Pantry Grocery Service at EOPS/CARE
CSM Accounting Students Explore Careers at Google

Last week, CSM’s Career & Workforce Hub took two groups of students to Google for a campus tour and meet-and-greet with CSM alumna Stephanie Cheung. Stephanie got her start as an accounting student at CSM and transferred to UC Berkeley. Since then, she has worked for Price Waterhouse Coopers, Twitter, Apple and now Google, where she works as a finance manager.

Students had the opportunity to experience a day in the life of a “Googler” as they explored the campus, ate lunch in the famous Google cafeteria, and learned how to prepare to land a career at the company. Stephanie provided an overview of the history of the company, Google teams, the hiring process, and most importantly, what skills and traits recruiters look for in job candidates (something referred to internally as “Googliness.” We’re serious; Google it!).

Students noted the diversity that they saw on Google’s campus. “I’ve heard at least five different languages spoken today,” one said. This sparked discussion amongst the group
about the importance of company culture and of supporting an inclusive, diversified workforce that brings various perspectives to solving problems and working in teams.

Stephanie will be joining CSM as an adjunct professor teaching Managerial Accounting (ACTG 131) this coming spring 2019 semester. “Don’t forget to register early!” she said to the group as they boarded the bus back to CSM.

To learn more, visit the CSM Career & Workforce Hub on [LinkedIn].

**Dr. Mike Holtzclaw Named Next Vice President of Instruction**

College of San Mateo is pleased to welcome Dr. Mike Holtzclaw as its next vice president of instruction. Mike currently serves as the senior dean of the San Ramon Campus for Diablo Valley College. He succeeds Dr. Sandra Stefani Comerford, who will retire in January after five years as vice president of instruction. Mike will join CSM in January.

At DVC, Mike functions as the chief administrator for a branch campus of 3,000 students, overseeing instructional and student services programs, facilities and information technology. He had previously served as dean of science, engineering and mathematics at Ohlone College, where he established relationships with NASA/Ames, Lawrence Livermore and Lawrence Berkeley Labs for student internships and faculty externships. He also led a team of faculty and staff to design and equip Ohlone College’s new Science Center.

Mike began his career in higher education in 1988, serving as assistant dean of admissions at Lewis & Clark College. In 1997, he joined the faculty of Central Oregon Community College where he taught geography, serving as chair of the geography department. There, he became an instructional dean where he provided administrative
oversight for science, business, aviation, culinary, and natural and industrial resources. He was also the administrator responsible for learning communities and the College's study abroad program.

Mike has been an active community member. He served on a K-12 budget committee in Bend, Oregon, held an elected position on the High Desert Educational Service District Board, and was a planning commissioner in Bend for eight years. He has lived in seven countries, studied six languages and has visited more than 55 countries.

Mike was the first person in his family to attend college. He holds a B.A. in international affairs with a minor in Soviet and East European studies from Lewis & Clark College as well as an M.A. and Ph.D. from The Ohio State University.

Kristi Ridgway New Dean of Language Arts

Kristi Ridgway has been named dean of language arts for College of San Mateo. A faculty member in English and ESL, Kristi has served as interim dean of language arts since August 2017. A former journalist and editor, she has found a calling at CSM to serve a culturally and linguistically diverse population.

Kristi started teaching in the San Mateo County Community College District as an adjunct faculty member in ESL. She became a full-time ESL faculty member in 2005. Since then, Kristi has taken on a number of faculty leadership roles over the years. She managed the day to day operations of College for Kids at CSM, wrote CSM’s BSI grant request and proposed career pathways for Health and Business. She has expanded professional development funding and coordinated activities and reporting for CSM’s SSSP and Equity programs. Kristi also encouraged and recruited faculty to attend the California Acceleration Project workshops, which put CSM’s curriculum years ahead of the requirements specified in AB 705.

Kristi was also instrumental in strengthening the partnership with the San Mateo Adult School. She served as part of the team that planned and executed a $2.2M
ACCEL block grant to work with local adult schools, and she wrote and piloted alternative placement measures for adult school students.

Kristi has an M.S. in teaching ESL from the University of Southern California and a B.A. in journalism and mass communication from Drake University.

Hilary Goodkind Named Dean of PRIE

Dr. Hilary Goodkind has been named CSM’s dean of planning, research, innovation, and effectiveness (PRIE). She has served as interim dean of PRIE since February 2018. Hilary has worked at a variety of educational institutions as a researcher and a faculty member and has an extensive background in education, research, strategic planning, organizational development, and community involvement.

Hilary spent six years at Lane Community College in Oregon where she conducted organizational assessments and cultivated business and community relationships. She was part of a research team charged with refining the admissions system for the Oregon university system, and taught at the Graduate School of Education at Oregon State. After moving back to California, Hilary provided research, strategic planning, and other consulting services to many educational institutions including Stanford University, Diablo Valley College, the Foothill-DeAnza Community College District, the San Mateo County Community College District, and the University of Oregon. She also served as an elected trustee for the Happy Valley School District for six years.

Hilary has worked with more than 100 businesses, non-profits, and government agencies including Goodwill Industries, NASA-Ames Research Center, Santa Barbara Workforce Investment Board, San Mateo County Workforce Investment Board, Hospital Council of Northern and Central California, Hewlett Packard, National Semiconductor, Oregon Medical Labs, Sony, Extreme Networks and others. She served as the west coast director for the Center for Quality of Management, a consortium of 124 multi-national corporations, and currently serves on the board of NOVA, a nationally recognized workforce investment board.
Hilary has a bachelor’s degree in psychology from U.C. Santa Cruz; a master’s in educational policy and management from the University of Oregon; and a doctorate in education, leadership, technology, and administration from the University of Oregon.

**CSM Celebrates Día de los Muertos**

CSM students and the San Mateo community celebrated Día de los Muertos on November 1 in the College Center plaza. Full of bright costumes, energetic dancing, arts activities, music and food, the festival continued a long tradition at CSM.
A number of community groups participated, including Calpulli Tonalehqueh Azteca Dance Group, La Raza 93.3 Radio, and Bay Area Lowriders & Classic Cars. Students organized a kids zone and craft stations, served traditional foods, and the CSM cosmetology department offered face painting.

The plaza was filled with altars/ofrendas by Mana & Vakatasi, Veterans Resources, Communication Studies. Multicultural & Dream Center, Anthropology, Project Change, Puente Project & Puente Latinx Club, the CSM Library, EOPS, Sista2Sista, Umoja & Umoja Club, Year One Promise, METaS and MESA. It was organized by the Puente Latinx Club, Puente Project, CSM Library & Makerspace and ASCSM.

District Employees and Students Get Healthy at Fall Health Fair

The 21st Annual Fall Health Fair at College of San Mateo took place this year on Halloween, resulting in a colorful event. Students, faculty, staff and community members were able to take advantage of free health services such as free flu shots, blood pressure checks, and gain information on a variety of programs on campus and in the community.

Healthcare professionals and agencies from the community offered a wide variety of health assessment services and health education information, including the San Mateo Public Health Department (Communicable Diseases, TB Clinic, STD Clinic), San Mateo County Dental Society, Massage, Reiki, Chiropractor, American Red Cross and others.
Bulldogs Finish Another Strong Season

In only its third season, the CSM Women’s Volleyball team posted a 20-9 overall record and qualified for the CCCAA post-season. They ended the season ranked #22 in the state. Hannah Gamez, Lille Tuivailala and Honoria Aguilar were named First Team All-Conference.

Bulldog Football finished with an 8-3 overall record and a 5-0 record in the Bay Six — arguably the toughest league in the state. This is the third consecutive year the team has posted a perfect record in league and was a three-peat league champion.

Coach Tim Tulloch, in his first year at the helm, received Coach of the Year honors in the Bay Six. CSM’s Barry Palu was named Bay Six Defensive MVP. Nine other Bulldogs won all-conference honors: Michael Fifita (offensive line), Kepu Fonua (offensive line), George Quobti (offensive line), Cesar Silva (kicker), Jalen Lampley (returner), Nate Talakai (defensive line), Heikoti Vaisima (defensive line), Andre Neal (defensive back), and Trey Smith (defensive back).