



President's Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

Acting President Kim Lopez ~ November 20, 2019

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College of San Mateo Named a Top 150 U.S. Community College by the Aspen Institute



The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program named College of San Mateo as one of 150 community colleges eligible to compete for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among America's community colleges. Based on strong and improving student outcomes—including in learning, completion rates, employment rates and earnings, and equity—15 percent of community colleges nationwide have been invited to apply for the Aspen Prize.

"This national recognition reflects the superior quality of a College of San Mateo education," said Acting President Kim Lopez. "I'm proud of our faculty and staff who have worked so hard to support student success."

The 150 community colleges eligible to compete for the 2021 Aspen Prize were selected from a pool of nearly 1,000 public two-year colleges nationwide using publicly available data on student outcomes. The eligible colleges are located in 39 states and represent urban, rural, and suburban campuses with enrollment ranging from 500 to 75,000 students.

College of San Mateo

College of San Mateo will be submitting its application in early December to compete for the Aspen Prize. The criteria include student completion outcomes, transfer outcomes, labor market outcomes, student learning, and equity, among other criteria.

In addition, CSM is eligible to apply for the Excellence and Equity in Community College STEM Award, which recognizes outstanding community college STEM programs. CSM will enter its Electronics Power Systems and Instrumentation and Nursing programs to compete for the STEM award. Eight colleges will receive prizes of \$50,000 each for program development and scholarships.

Data show that over the last two years, student retention, graduation rates, and degree completion have improved at the top tier of 150 Aspen Prize-eligible colleges.

The top ten finalists for the 2021 Aspen Prize will be named in May 2020. The Aspen Institute will then conduct site visits to each of the finalists and collect additional quantitative data, including employment and earnings data. A distinguished jury will make award decisions in spring 2021.

Previous winners of the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence are: Miami Dade College (FL) and Indian River State College (FL), 2019; Lake Area Technical College (SD), 2017; Santa Fe College (FL), 2015; Santa Barbara City College (CA) and Walla Walla Community College (WA), 2013; Valencia College (FL), 2011.

For a full list of the top 150 eligible institutions and to read more on the selection process, visit www.highered.aspeninstitute.org/aspen-prize.

For information on CSM Programs visit:

CSM Fact Sheet

CSM Workforce Hub

Equity at CSM

STEM@CSM ■

Faculty Members Celebrate 10-, 20-, and 30-year Anniversaries in Awards Ceremony



Faculty Awardees (left to right): Rose Yun Negrete, Cynthia Erickson, Michael Vargas (kneeling), Sam Abboud, Stan Isaacs, Barbara Jones, Lee Miller, Janet Black, Jim Smyth, Kathy Sammut, Mary Valenti. Photo by Julio Ruggiero.

College of San Mateo is fortunate to have so many passionate faculty members who have dedicated long careers to teaching. CSM hosted an awards ceremony on October 31 to celebrate teaching anniversaries for those who have been with the District for 10, 20, and 30 years. Acting President Kim Lopez greeted the group and Academic Senate President Arielle Smith gave an inspirational talk about the meaning and impact of teaching in community colleges. Each dean provided short remarks about the contributions of the faculty members in their divisions.

The honorees include:

10 Years	
Rose Yun Negrete	Counseling
Michael Vargas	Counseling
Sam Abboud	Business & Technology
Cynthia Erickson	Business & Technology
John Dao	Mathematics & Science
Anne Gearhart	Mathematics & Science
Ilene Simon	Mathematics & Science
Julie Withrington	Mathematics & Science
Sarah Artha Negara	Kinesiology, Athletics, & Dance
Denaya Dailey	Kinesiology, Athletics, & Dance
Kalina Tabatt	Academic Support and Learning Technologies
Lee Miller	Creative Arts & Social Science

20 Years	
Kathy Sammut	Counseling
Daniel Ghiorso	Business & Technology
Stanley Isaacs	Business & Technology
Barbara Jones	Language Arts
Anniqua Rana	Language Arts
Charles Rope	Language Arts
Nataliya Gavryshova	Mathematics & Science
Cheryl Gregory	Mathematics & Science
Siamack Siawoush Moughadam	Mathematics & Science
Michelle Warner	Kinesiology, Athletics, & Dance
James Smyth	Creative Arts & Social Science
Michele Titus	Creative Arts & Social Science

30 Years	
Mikel Schmidt	Kinesiology, Athletics, & Dance
Mary Valenti	Counseling
Keith Marshall Jr.	Business & Technology
Muriel Brennan	Language Arts
Janet Black	Creative Arts & Social Science



Assembly Member Kevin Mullin Visits CSM Classes



Photo by Celeste Safie.

Each semester, CSM political science professor Lee Miller arranges for local elected officials to appear in class. On October 7, State Senator Jerry Hill visited with CSM students. And on November 6, Assembly Member Kevin Mullin spoke with combined classes of Miller, Leighton Armitage, and other students.

Mullin spoke about efforts in California to build more affordable housing, lower the voting age to 17, and to reduce the influence of dark money in elections by expanding the requirements to disclose the names of the donors who paid for political advertising. He answered questions from the students in attendance. ■

Student and Faculty Writers Shine in Writers' Ruckus

A large contingent of students, faculty, and staff came out for the Fall Writers' Ruckus, held each semester to showcase the writing of CSM faculty and students and honor CSM's transferring English majors. Organized by CSM English faculty, the fall Ruckus took place November 7. Participants shared their fiction, poetry, academic and personal essays, and memoirs. As always, the Ruckus ended with an open-mic session for students and faculty. ■



Photos by Celeste Safie.

Fall Health Fair Promotes Campus Wellness

CSM Wellness Center held its annual Fall Health Fair on October 30. About 300 CSM students, faculty, and staff members were able to get health tips and learn about services from more than 20 exhibitors. Many participants received their flu shots and took advantage of giveaways such as free reusable SparkPoint shopping bags, produce, and pizza.

The Health Fair enjoys support from a wide range of community organizations: San Mateo Public Health Departments, San Mateo Dental Society, North East Medical Services, Lions Special Needs, Al-Anon/Alateen, Narcotics Anonymous, Freedom Center, American Red Cross, Cancer Connections, Food Addicts in Recovery, StarVista, Ogilvy, "I Can," CORA (Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse), Rape Trauma Services, El Concillio of San Mateo, Stanford Medicine, and massage, acupuncture, and chiropractic providers. CSM departments and organizations included Nursing, Personal Counseling, SparkPoint, the Veteran's Resource Opportunity Center, and the Disability Resource Center. ■



Photos by Julio Ruggiero.

VROC Holds Veterans Day Luncheon

The Veterans Resource Opportunity Center held a luncheon on November 7 to commemorate Veterans' Day. Students and staff gathered to enjoy food and honor those who have served our country. ■

CSM Football Ranked #1 in California and the Nation



Going into their final regular season game on November 16, the Bulldogs are ranked #1 in the California community colleges coaches' poll and have clinched their fourth straight Bay 6 League football title. The team remains unbeaten this season at 9-0.

CSM holds the lead in the poll of California Community College football coaches conducted by the JC Athletic Bureau, which also serves as a proxy for national rankings. The Bulldogs are ranked ahead of No. 2 Riverside and No. 3 Saddleback.

As the only unbeaten National Division team in Northern California, CSM has wrapped up home field advantage for the state regional playoffs, which begin Nov. 23. The Bulldogs face rival and second place City College of San Francisco on Saturday, November 16, at 1 p.m. at CCSF. ■

UPCOMING EVENTS

CSM VROC Toys for Tots Toy Drive

Donate toys for children around the Bay Area

Through December 6

Central Hall Building 16, Room 150

Join the CSM Veterans Resource Opportunity Center, CSM Veterans Club and the US Marine Corps Reserve in spreading holiday joy by donating new and unwrapped toys to our Toys for Tots toy drive.

23rd Annual CSM Jazz Festival

Featuring Chris Byars with the CSM Jazz Big Band

Friday, Nov. 22, 2019 • 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

CSM Theatre, Building 3

Join us for this all-day jazz festival featuring 18 local high school big bands. From 12:15-1:15, you'll have a chance to hear noted saxophonist and arranger Chris Byars, a mainstay of the NYC jazz scene, as he performs his original arrangements with our very own CSM students. Free and open to the public.

CSM Fall Dance Concert

Saturday, Nov. 23, 2019 • 7:00 pm

CSM Theatre, Building 3

CSM Dance presents an entertaining production featuring performances from CSM's dance club, dance classes, and amazing guest artists!

Make a Difference Volunteer Fair

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019 • 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

College Center Building 10, Bayview Dining

CSM Career Services hosts this annual event for local organizations looking for volunteers. Come and find out how you can give back to your community by helping others. Open to students, faculty, staff, and CSM community members.

Side By Side By CSM!

An all-Sondheim program presented by The Voices of CSM

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019 • 7-10 pm

CSM Theatre, Building 3

Join us for a wonderful evening of the music of Broadway composer Stephen Sondheim. Free and open to the public.

Winter Electronic Music Concert

Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019 • 7:00 pm

CSM Theatre, Building 3

A showcase of new music by CSM students in the Electronic Music Program. Performances cover a wide variety of musical styles: pop, classical, experimental, hip-hop, jazz, house, techno and electronica.

Honors Project Student Showcase

Friday, Dec. 6, 2019 • 1:00-4:30 pm

College Heights Conference Room 468, Building 10

Honors Project student poster session and student presentations.

CSM Jazz Big Band Winter Concert

With special guests, Aragon High School Big Band

Friday, Dec. 6, 2019 • 7-10 pm

CSM Theatre, Building 3

Come hear the big, exciting, swinging sounds of our big band! 19 of our talented musicians playing classics of big band repertoire from Mary Lou Williams, Duke Ellington, Toshiko Akiyoshi, Chris Byars and more!

UPCOMING EVENTS

CSM Small Jazz Ensembles Winter Concert

Monday, Dec. 9, 2019 • 7–9 pm

CSM Theatre, Building 3

Don't miss the end of the semester concert for our Small Jazz Ensembles, featuring three different bands of our excellent music students playing an incredible range of material from the whole history of jazz.

The Sky Tonight Planetarium Shows

Friday, Dec. 13, 2019 • 7:30 and 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.

CSM Women's Basketball - CSM Invitational Tournament

Thursday, Dec. 19, 2019 - Saturday, Dec. 21, 2019 • Start Time TBA

CSM Gymnasium Building 8

CSM Women's Basketball vs. Skyline

Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2020 • 6:00 pm

CSM Gymnasium Building 8

CSM Men's Basketball vs. Skyline College

Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2020 • 7:00 pm

CSM Gymnasium Building 8