Dear CSM Community,

Happy New Year! I hope your winter break was relaxing and rejuvenating.

As we continue to learn to live with Covid, I encourage us all to take a moment to breathe deeply, to slow time and create space to focus on the basics. As a college community of educators and learners, we are our best resource as we prepare for our students to return to campus and support each other in our work. I am continually inspired by the resilience and dedication we all have shown these past semesters, and I am fully confident in our ability to adjust to conditions as they change. As we pull together at the start of this semester, I am reminded of the wisdom, and even good humor, of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whom we honor on Monday: “We may have all come on different ships, but we’re in the same boat now.”

In our common purpose, we realize our strength to continue—to fulfill our responsibilities to our students and each other. Our important work of educating the many, many students who rely on us ensures their upward social mobility.

In Fall 2021, our students, classified staff, faculty, and administrators did an admirable job in furthering college goals and objectives. The following summarizes some of the highlights by institutional priority:

**Antiracism/Equity Initiatives**

- A new learning community, Voices in Action (women athletes), was launched.
- Katipunan (Filipinx support initiative) and Brothers Empowering Brothers (men of color support initiative) continued their planning and program development.
- PRIE administered our student anti-racism survey which is live, with over 1,000 responses. Analysis will be shared later this term at IPC.
- The first college Ombudsperson position in the District was board approved and will be housed in the Office of Equity.
- Multicultural Center and Dream Center, Undocu-Student Coalition, successfully advocated for an Undocumented Student Non-Resident Tuition Fee Waiver.
- “At the Root” Student Podcasts included Associated Students President Andrea Morales’ project that focuses on healing, uplifting, and unifying communities impacted by the socio-political climate.
• Peer Educators in Personal Counseling connected with 1,489 students and partnered with 76 faculty and staff to provide mental health workshops, presentations, and activities on suicide prevention, self-care practices, and how to de-stress.

Centennial Celebration
• Expanded [Centennial website](#) was launched!
• [Four Centennial committees](#) made great strides in their planning efforts for their respective focus areas: Gala, Fundraising, Campus Activities, and Community Engagement.
• Almost 40 historical [Centennial stories](#) completed and posted to Centennial site in fall.

Community Partnerships
• The Coastside listening tour increased CSM’s engagement in the community and informs the new Coastside Education Plan.
• The 2+2 agreement between Menlo College and College of San Mateo led by business and accounting faculty and Dean Gamez have established university pathways.
• Veterans Resource and Opportunity Center November event, sponsored by the SMCCCD Foundation and our sister colleges focused on how to transfer military experience into the workforce. Representatives from Tesla and the Federal Reserve participated.
• We established a community partnership with Half Moon Bay, Ayudando Latinos a Soñar, volunteering in food and toy drives.
• SparkPoint expanded basic needs services, helping 550 students through the districtwide Food Voucher Program and another 120 students with the Food Pantry (in collaboration with Second Harvest); four CSM students utilized the Emergency Hotel Voucher Program.
• CSM Food Distribution with Second Harvest in seventy-nine weeks served 575 families weekly for a total of 60,650 families; 3,093,150 lbs of food were distributed for a total grocery offset of $5,536,739.

Effective Communication
• Launch of online [Academic & Career Communities](#) (Guided Pathways) and [Program Mapper](#).
• PRIE developed and launched EMP [Data Dashboards](#).
• The resource request process was completed and all [approved positions](#) have been communicated to campus.
• The CSM Safety Committee provided a venue for faculty, classified professionals, students, and administration to receive health, safety, COVID updates, and voice their concerns on policy matters.
• Launch of [President’s Communications](#) webpage where community and internal president messages are posted for reference.

Strategic Planning
• The initial [dual enrollment plan](#) is complete.
• Integrated planning timeline, process, and templates were developed.
• The International Education Program has increased the number of international applications.
• Promise Scholars expanded to serve more students.
• Economic and Community Development has been incorporated into college strategic planning.
• Partnered districtwide to select a digital ad agency to begin building long-term strategic district and college advertising plans.

Student-Focused Recovery
• Academic counseling consolidated one-stop front desk service to combine Welcome Center and Counseling areas for a more efficient, prominent way to welcome students.
• The College added Hyflex classrooms in response to faculty and student demand.
• Districtwide Academic Senate workgroup defined modalities and provided guidance for quality teaching.
• Utilized HEERF III funding for direct student aid, laptops, hotspots, and Hyflex spaces.
• Facilities ensured college spaces were prepared and safe to welcome students back in Spring 2022.
• The College provided fee support to undocumented students.
• Financial Aid awarded a total of $5,190,725 in direct student aid from emergency funds.

Once again, thank you for your service. I realize not everything can be noted on this list but this is a snapshot of campus life. This spring, let’s continue to pull together as we welcome students back, navigating an ever-changing environment, and celebrate our centennial.

I will provide more operational updates and some takeaways from my initial 100-day listening tour in a mid-semester message. Until then, enjoy Flex Days and I look forward to seeing you on campus.

In unity and strength,

Jennifer