

The Bulldog bulletin

A Biweekly CSM Student E-Newsletter



Volume 1 • Issue 1

Message from ASCSM President

Hello CSM Students,

The intention of this newsletter was originally meant to update and inform students on events around campus. However, the pandemic has given another purpose for the Bulldog Bulletin. I hope that it will help to inform you about important news from the College, the BLM movement, the COVID-19 situation, amongst other things, and how it affects the school.

In the midst of COVID-19—which has shut down the entire country because of its severity and lethality—a large majority of us are protesting and raising awareness for the Black Lives Matter movement. Black lives have always been unfairly oppressed and discriminated against, and the fact that we have to go out and protest to emphasize that during a pandemic no less, only shows our resolve and support for our Black peers.

The chancellor of the San Mateo County Community College District along with the three college presidents released an announcement on racial injustice on June 3rd, and we are going to reiterate it here, as a reminder that the College stands behind the Black Lives Matter movement. CSM is doing its part to combat racism and discrimination, and this newsletter will serve to announce their progress.

In recent weeks Dr. Jeremiah Sims, the director of equity at CSM, held a student forum called “Speaking Truth to Power,” discussing the injustice and inequity around the school. There will be more forums and discussions such as this in the upcoming weeks and this newsletter will help to lead you there.

It is my pleasure to announce the Bulldog Bulletin for students. and I hope it will serve you well throughout the next year.

Nguyen Thanh Joseph
Your 2020–2021 ASCSM President



UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Registration for Fall 2020
Ongoing through Tuesday,
August 18

**End of six-week
summer session**
Saturday, July 25, 2020

**End of seven-week
summer session**
Saturday, August 1, 2020

End of eight-week session
Saturday, August 8, 2020

**Summer 2020 official grades
available on WebSMART**
Thursday, August 13, 2020

Fall Semester 2020 begins
Wednesday, August 19, 2020

**Late Registration Period for
Fall 2020 Courses**
Wednesday, August 19 –
Tuesday, August 25

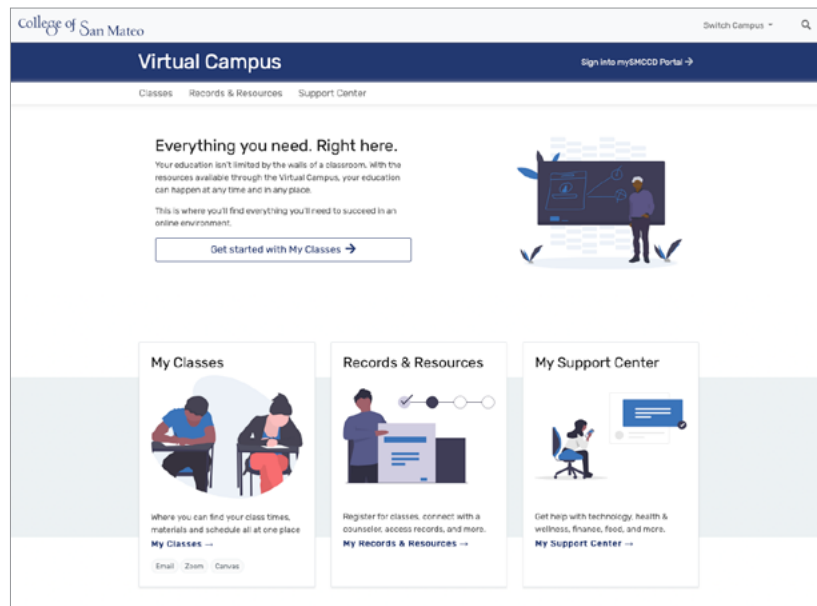
STAY UP TO DATE
WITH ASCSM

**VIEW ASCSM
AGENDAS & MINUTES**

SMCCCD Shares Racial Injustice Statement Following Death of George Floyd

On June 3, 2020, the San Mateo County Community College District sent an email to all Cañada, CSM, and Skyline students and employees. The message was a shared statement from District and College leaders against racial injustice. Read the [full message](#) on the CSM website.

CSM Launches Virtual Campus: One-Stop for Most Requested Student Resources



A new virtual campus website has been launched for CSM students to help simplify their virtual experience this fall. With three main sections, “My Classes,” “Record & Resources,” and “My Support Center” it’s now easier than ever to find the most commonly requested information and links. And if you are taking classes at Cañada or Skyline, you can easily switch between each college’s Virtual Campus with the dropdown in the upper right-hand corner of the page.

Check out the CSM Virtual Campus!

CSM Personal Counseling closed July 24 – August 18

Crisis Hotline:

650-579-0350

Crisis Text Line:

Text HOME to 741741

Crisis Hotline (Spanish)

888-628-9454

Off-Campus Free or Low-cost Counseling Services:

Wright Institute Clinical Services

510-239-2018, wics@wi.edu

Up to 8 free remote counseling sessions

USC Telehealth Online Clinic

866-740-6502; Free remote short-term counseling services

The Ben Fund

www.thebenfund.org; Up to ten free sessions for 20-30 years of age living in Foster City and San Mateo

Greenlight Clinic

www.greenlightclinic.org, 415-742-4306; Free short-term counseling for 14-26 year old up to 6 months in San Francisco

One Life Wellness Center (San Carlos)

www.onelifecounselingcenter.com

650-394-5155

Open Path: low fee therapy

www.openpathcollective.org

\$30-\$60/hr. Lifetime membership is \$59

Mental Health Apps

LYFTLY: Free mental wellness app

TALK SPACE: Messaging therapy - 3 months free with app

International Student News Update

On July 13, the Trump administration reversed its decision that would have required international students to depart the country if they were only enrolled in online classes. We are thrilled that, at least for now, our international students will be able to remain in the U.S. and continue their studies fully online this fall.

We firmly believe that having students at our College from other countries helps to add valuable perspective and diversity in our classes. These students enrich the education we offer. And for our international students, as with all of our students, our colleges represent an accessible educational opportunity and a path to educational growth, personal fulfillment and rewarding careers.

Read the original U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) [news announcement](#).

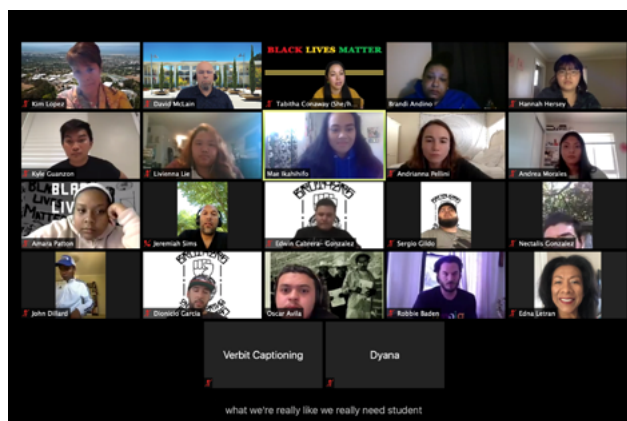
Read the [news article](#) announcing the reversal from *The Hill*.

CSM Students Speak Truth to Power

On Thursday, July 9, CSM students convened virtually in a first student-centered conversation on racial inequity. With almost 100 participants and 14 student panelists, this was a critical opportunity for CSM's administration and employees to hear directly from students on the challenges they've been facing. To encourage open sharing, the event was not recorded.

Interspersed in the panel were some faculty and staff who took turns asking the students questions. A bit shy at first, the students quickly began opening up about their experiences and thoughts, culminating in a list of 19 student requests to College administration.

This list is currently being shared throughout the College and with our students to begin action on the requests.



SMCCCD Launches Professional Development Program to Help Professors Enhance Online Education

The San Mateo County Community College District is providing summer professional development to 1,000 instructors, counselors, and student support staff at Cañada College, College of San Mateo, and Skyline College. The 25-hour training program involves technical training, mentoring and peer support to enhance online education across the community college district.

The scope of the training program is massive, providing professional development for 650 college faculty and hundreds of counselors, staff, and administrators. The training program is supported by more than \$1.4 million in Federal CARES Act Funding, as well as District funds.

"This is a sweeping program to support our faculty in providing the very best online education possible," said Michael Claire, Chancellor of the San Mateo County Community College District. "I am so proud of the way our faculty, staff, and students made the sudden adjustment to online learning when the virus

struck this winter. We are committed to working with our faculty to offer best-practice online courses and keep our students on track throughout this pandemic.”

The new training program, called Quality Online Teaching & Learning (QOTL), provides foundational instruction in five key areas:

1. Use of technology for teaching online
2. Digital literacy
3. Best practices for online communication
4. Educational equity in online courses
5. Student readiness through support resources

Photography Students Document Life Under COVID-19

When the shelter-in-place order came in mid-March, educators everywhere scrambled to adapt by providing education virtually. Programs that were most significantly affected included hands-on courses like science labs, music, and art. In these cases, instructors were uniquely challenged to bring their classes into a new modality, including CSM Professor of Photography Richard Lohmann.

Most of his photography courses require students to use the darkroom to produce a portfolio of 12 final prints, but with the campus closure, this critical lab component was now inaccessible. With a sharp pivot, Lohmann decided to throw out the portfolio project and directed all of his classes to work on a single new assignment titled, “Living Under COVID-19: A Visual Diary.”

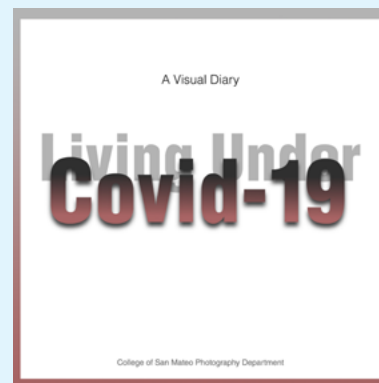
The project required students to submit 10 of their best weekly images that documented their thoughts, feelings, and observations under the COVID-19 pandemic. Lohmann would critique and grade the work, then put the best images into a weekly compilation to be shared with his classes. During the first week’s grading, he realized there was something different about this assignment—the images coming back were timely, personal, and very good. But the images kept getting better and ended up being some of the best he’s seen in over 30 years of teaching photography.

Eight weeks and 3,000 photo submissions later, Lohmann said, “After seeing the hard work and consistent improvement the class put into this assignment, I decided that something big had to be done. We needed a capstone, and our capstone will be the publication of a hardbound book.”

The books are currently in production and the students are excited to hold the physical culmination of their work soon. The following pages highlight a few samples of the work:

“In this book we demonstrate how students respond when assignments are directly related to the lives they are living.”

- Richard Lohmann -

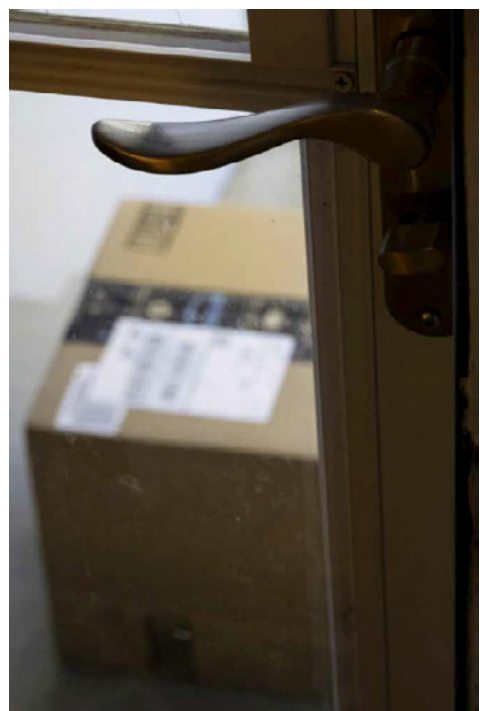




Ian Petrolia



Jennifer Bains



Ben Eloy



Alia Kind

Other Updates at a Glance

- New simplified [Admissions & Records website](#) launched —
- [Online 2020-21 Catalog](#) now available ([PDF Version](#)) —
- CSM's Child Development Center is closed through fall —
- [Free Headspace](#) (meditation and mindfulness tools) —
for those furloughed or unemployed

