

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CENTER

Lizette Bricker

Interim Dean, Counseling
brickerl@smccd.edu

Supinda Sirihekaphong

International Program Manager
sirihekaphongs@smccd.edu

Kathy Kohut

Program Services Coordinator
kohutk@smccd.edu

Nisa Nik

Hongcen "Catherine" Tu

Noor Razali

Quang "Neon" Le

International Ambassadors
caninternational@smccd.edu

Cañada College

Building 3, Room 103
International Student Center
4200 Farm Hill Boulevard
Redwood City, CA 94061
Phone: (650) 381-3544
Fax: (650) 381-3518
[www.canadacollege.edu/
international/newsletter](http://www.canadacollege.edu/international/newsletter)

Contribute to *The Olive Branch*,
by emailing the Ambassadors.

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Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 17

FALL 2016, NOVEMBER 28

Learn and Grow: Be a Student Ambassador

By: Quang "Neon" Le

I applied to be an International Student Ambassador for the Fall 2016 semester to seek mentorship from Supinda, as well as to find out if an office job fits my personality and work style. During my time as an Ambassador, I was able to do both and also get a lot of other benefits. Since I won't be continuing as an Ambassador next semester, I'd like to share with you the benefits of being an Ambassador and encourage you to apply for the position.

Professionally, the biggest benefit is the learning experience that I get from being assigned tasks that I'm unfamiliar with that are out of my comfort zone. From being assigned to meet with many different faculty and staff to organize meetings, I was able to learn how to properly manage time. From presenting to a big crowd, I was able to realize my weak points in my public speaking ability. But the biggest of all, by having this position, I have learned and understood much more about the work flow in an office as well as how to work better as a team.

Personally, I have also made a new friends and connections as well. Having the opportunities to talk and meet new people, I was inspired and was able to learn a lot. One thing that I

really like is that I've learned to be kind and sincere to others in a way that is different from my usual way. These people that I've met and worked with have changed me in a way that can't be described by words, I feel like I've grown much more as a person through this job.

If you are interested in becoming an International Student Ambassador, you can submit an application by Wednesday, November 30. If you want to know more information, you can find a job description, application, and recommendation forms at this link <http://canadacollege.edu/international/meetthestaff.php>.

After submitting your application, an email should be sent to you to schedule an interview. You should prepare for the interview by reviewing your knowledge about the campus including all the services that are available.

I wish you the best of luck and hope you're having a wonderful semester.



Important Dates

Wed, Nov 30-10:00am-4:00pm, Transfer Ctr
CSU & UC Application Q&A: Meet with a counselor to ask about transferring.

Thu, Dec 8, 11:00am-1:30pm, Bldg 9-110

CSU East Bay Admissions Representative
Nov 1, 2016-Mar 2, 2017

SMCCD Foundation Scholarship Application
The application for SMCCD Foundation scholarships are open. Instructions and personal essay workshops listed here: <http://canadacollege.edu/financialaid/scholarship.php>.

Thu, Dec 1, 3:30pm, Bldg 9-154

ASCC Student Senate Meeting: Be a student leader and learning more about joining the student government and what they do.

Mon, Dec 5, 3:30pm, Bldg 2-10

Interclub Council Meeting: Learn what clubs are doing on campus and how to start a club.

Thu, Dec 8, 9:00am-1:00pm, The Grove

Treat Yo'Self Event: Join ASCC and learn about social justice issues surrounding body image, the LGBTQIA community, and in a time of finals and the holidays—learning to treat yo' self.

Stress Relief: Take a Breather

By: Quang "Neon" Le

Before we are able to bathe ourselves in relaxation during winter break, we must first go through the hardest of tests and assignments these next few weeks. We'll be engulfed under hours of study and work. It is this time of year that stress can be a really big problem. Through this article, I hope to share with you ways that not only will help you combat stress of this semester but also for the future.

The biggest advice that I would like to give is that no matter what, you should always have to have "me" time. Adult life is tough, working hard and studying everyday takes most of your time leaving you with no time for yourself, but do try to allocate time to relax. Use that time to relax and maybe engage in your hobbies that you enjoy. You could play some games and watch some series on Netflix or if you prefer, be by yourself.

You could also go out with friends and enjoy the wonderful things that are offered here in the Bay Area like Union Square at San Francisco, the San Mateo Japanese Garden or the awesome Vietnamese cuisines in San Jose and so much more.

Volunteering is also a great way to relax and you could always visit the ASCC programming board at <http://canadacollege.edu/studentlife/programmingboard.php> to find out about what volunteering opportunities are available. Work hard but don't forget to enjoy your youth my friend! Good luck!



Thanks

To all the students who attended the

International Thanksgiving Celebration



Zhen "Jessica" Yu from China, Majoring in Biology

How is your experience at Cañada College; are you involved in any campus activities/clubs and/or events?

My experience at Cañada College has been wonderful. I went to the MAP picnic and several museum tours on the weekends. It is very nice to have off campus activities

What is most surprising/different about living in the U.S.?

The biggest difference I found would be the weather in U.S. It is usually sunny but it could get cloudy and really windy.

Also the mornings and evenings are kind of chilly and it is kind of dry everyday.

What is the best thing about your experience in the U.S.?

The best thing about being in the U.S. would be meeting people from all over the world. It is very hard to go to a single place and have the opportunity of talking to people with different origins. I feel very blessed.

What tips would you give other international students?

Talk to people and make connections. Living in a completely different environment might be hard and frightening at first, but there are so many things that are waiting for you in the future. Participate in activities and make new friends, you'll find life here is as great as home!

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Thoughts on the U.S.
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The Olive Branch

Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 16

FALL 2016, NOVEMBER 18

Thoughts on the U.S. Elections Outcome

By: Supinda Sirihekaphong

It is important to pause and reflect during times of uncertainty. After losing my beloved King of Thailand, the shocking outcome of the U.S. Presidential Election, attending a 2-day training that would make it easier for international students to apply to Cañada College, launching a summer study abroad program, and planning for International Education Week, I was able to reflect on Veteran's Day, 3 days after the elections. In gratitude to my sister, Captain Sunisa Medina and all active military and veterans, I took a peaceful walk along the San Andreas fault line and realized how quickly one's life can change and how unsettled I felt of the uncertainty.

So I chose to focus on what I do know. I do know that my position allows me to bring people from different races, classes, religion, and sexual orientation together to explore their similarities and differences and hopefully share common goals and values. As an international education professional and daughter of immigrant parents, I declare my global citizenship and renew my commitment to all students and their pursuit of higher education as a means to improve their lives and those of others. I hope you'll join me?

Important Dates

Tue, Nov 21, 2:00-4:00pm, Bldg 8

International Thanksgiving Celebration

Thu-Fri, Nov 24-25-**Thanksgiving (NO CLASSES)**

Mon, Nov 21/28, 10am-4pm, Transfer Ctr

CSU & UC Application Q&A: Ask a counselor
Questions about your transfer application.

Nov 1, 2016-Mar 2, 2017

SMCCD Foundation Scholarship Application

The application for SMCCD Foundation
scholarships are open. Instructions and
personal essay workshops listed here:

[http://canadacollege.edu/financialaid/
scholarship.php](http://canadacollege.edu/financialaid/scholarship.php).

By: Kathy Kohut

The results of last Tuesday's Presidential Election were surprising and shocking to millions of Americans. According to a poll by ABC News, close to half of Americans have negative feelings about the future of the country. Many of us, including me, woke up the next morning with increased fear, depression, and a sense of despair due to the extreme statements made during the campaign by future President Trump.

So what does this mean for us now? There are many unknowns. No one knows how many of the policy statements Trump made during the campaign will become reality. That being said, the damage has already been done to the U.S.'s reputation as a destination welcoming international students. Many predict that we may see a drop in international student enrollment in the U.S. as a result.

However, one professional stated, "it is important to keep in mind that many of the extreme promises Trump made would require significant changes to existing law that, even with a sympathetic Congress, are highly unlikely to happen."

What can we do personally? The best advice I've heard comes from HBO news commentator, John Oliver, stating "For the past 8 years, we've had a President [Obama] who we could assume would stand up for the rights of all Americans [and visitors]. Going forward, we don't know if the next President will do this. So we must stand up for each other. "Take action to prevent racism and promote inclusion in your communities. Represent your home country in a positive way. Volunteer your time, donate to peace organizations, or just be kind and open-minded with everyone you meet.



UC Admissions: Personal Insight Questions

By: Hongcen "Catherine" Tu

Did you know that the University of California has new Personal Insight Questions as a part of their admissions application? The questions give you the opportunity to show who you are besides your academic records. Take it seriously. Try to finish it as soon as possible, and don't wait until the last day! There is one required question and you must also answer 3 of 7 additional questions. Here are some tips on answering the questions.

Required Question: Please describe how you have prepared for your intended major, including your readiness to succeed in your upper-division courses once you enroll at the university.

Think about experiences that developed your interest in your major, but don't write too much about how your interest developed. Also, explain what skills you have developed related to your major that will help you succeed after you transfer. Don't forget to demonstrate that you have in-depth knowledge of your major.

Question 1: Leadership

You can talk about your leadership roles in a variety of settings; such as a mentor or a tutor. Describe how you helped resolve an important dispute at school or in your community. The most important thing is that you need to show how this experiences changed or affected you.

Question 2: Creativity

Firstly, creative thinking means to devise new ways to carry out tasks, solve problems, or meet challenges. You can write about a situation where you used creativity to find a solution, and what you have learned from it. Secondly, you may describe your passions and your habits, and how those skills help you. Thirdly, relate your creativity to you major and career.

Question 3: Greatest Talent or Skill

This one is similar to question 2, and you can definitely talk about a talent or skill that makes you proud and consider how they helped you outside the classroom.

Question 4: Educational Opportunities or Barriers

An educational opportunity must be academic focused, and you need to explain how this opportunity led to your success in college. The barrier could be many things:



being the first in your family to attend college, having a learning disability or limited financial means.

Question 5: Significant Challenge

This is a good place to explain your academic records and your situation. Take use of it!

Question 6: Volunteer Service

You might want to focus on recent events, and don't be afraid to write "small" things as long as it had a positive impact. You could explain what inspired you to get involved and what you have learned.

Question 7: What is the one thing that you think sets you apart from other candidates applying to the University of California? You may share information that can help the university know you more. Given who you are, what makes you believe that you belong to one of the UC's campuses.

For more information about the new Personal Insight Questions, check out: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/personal-questions/transfer/index.html>

Good luck on all your application process! I hope all of you get to go to your dream university!

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Counseling Appointment

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The Olive Branch

Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 15

FALL 2016, NOVEMBER 8

Got Goals? How a Counsellor Can Help You

By: Noor Razali

According to a special report from the National Association for College Admission Counseling, a third of students end up transferring to other colleges or universities. But how do students transfer, what steps do they need to take to transfer. Here are a few questions you can ask a counsellor to help you achieve your goals of transferring.

What classes do I need to take to transfer?

There are thousands of college and universities in the U.S. and each one have their own admissions requirements for transfer students. Luckily, counsellors receive up-to-date information about admissions policies, including new Associate Degrees for Transfers for California State University system and changes to admissions policies to University of Southern California. Many private universities also communication with counsellors on changes to their application process as well. Counsellors also have useful tools like GPA calculators and goal planning applications that help students stay on track to reaching their goals.

"How do I find a college or university that is best for me?" Counsellors are trained to guide students on how to choose a school that best fits our personality and academic preference.

Transferring to a university is a long process, especially when filling out the application. Nearly every school requires a personal statement or essay. A strong essay could be help a student gain admission to their dream school. On the other hand, a poorly written essay with a bad choice of topic can tip a student's application into the rejection pile. *But what makes a good personal statement?* Now that's a good question to ask a counsellor.

Sometimes we might feel that we already have everything together, but later on we realize we still need help. Being independent is a good thing, but asking for help doesn't make you less smart. It shows that you're a proactive and resourceful student.



Important Dates

Tue, Nov 8-Election Day

Fri, Nov 11-Veteren's Day (NO CLASS)

Tue, Nov 8, 12:30pm-1:30pm, Bldg 9-123

UC Personal Insight Questions: Get tips from a UC Berkeley rep about answering these questions thoughtfully and effectively.

Thu, Nov 10, 12:30-2:30pm, Transfer Ctr

Mon, Nov 21/28, 10:00am-4:00pm, Transfer Ctr

CSU & UC Application Q&A: Ask a counselor about all your transfer application questions.

Mon, Nov 14, 12:30-2:00pm, Transfer Center

Transfer Q&A: Ask an academic counselors to find answers to your transfer questions.

Mon, Nov 14, 11:00am-1:30pm, Bldg 9-154

CSU East Bay Admissions Rep on Campus

Thu, Nov 10, 1:00-2:00pm, Bldg 9-206

Resume & Cover Letter Workshop

Thu, Nov 17, 1:00-2:00pm, Bldg 3-142

Interviewing Essentials Workshop

Nov 1, 2016-Mar 2, 2017

SMCCD Foundation Scholarship Application

The application for SMCCD Foundation scholarships are open. Instructions and personal essay workshops listed here:

[http://canadacollege.edu/financialaid/
scholarship.php](http://canadacollege.edu/financialaid/scholarship.php)



International Education Week 2016

November 14 - 17, 2016 | Cañada College

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

ASCC International Celebration

9:00am-1:00pm, 7:00-8:00pm, Upper Lawn
Join the Cañada community in celebrating its diversity. Performances by student clubs and a cultural costume photo booth!

Got DACA? Yes you CAN Study Abroad

2:00-3:00pm, Social Science Hub, Library
Undocumented students with DACA may be eligible for advance Parole to study abroad. Learn more about studying in Barcelona.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Phi Theta Kappa Speaker

2:00-3:30pm, Bldg 6-101
Entrepreneur, Wences Caseras, speaks about *Bitcoin* as a global virtual currency.

STEM Speaker Series

5:00-6:00pm, Bldg 6-101
Andrea Trese and Alice Rystov share their work with *Engineers Without Borders*.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Study Abroad Fair

11:30am-1:30pm, The Grove Cafeteria
Learn about study abroad opportunities and scholarships for study abroad.

I Studied Abroad and You Can Too!

12:00pm, ASCC Club House, Bldg 3-354
Meet fellow students who studied abroad and learn how they made it happen!

MAP CLUB International Film Night

3:30pm-5:30pm, Bldg 3-148
Pan's Labyrinth, a fantasy story about an 11-year-old girl after the Spanish Civil War.

2017 CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST



Submit a photo of your home, travels, or

culture to the Cañada College Calendar Photo Contest. Email a photo with your name, title, and description of photo to caninternational@smccd.edu by Thursday, November 10. Online voting at <https://goo.gl/forms/afj8KB8LgalJv1P62>

THE GROVE SPECIALS

MONDAY: Chicken Masala with Naan
10% discount with military ID
TUESDAY: Beef Gyro with Tzatziki Sauce
WEDNESDAY: Chicken Chow Mein
THURSDAY: Pork and Cheese Pupusas

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Reveille Ceremony

9:00 & 10:00am, Flag Pole by Bldg 8
Join Cañada College in honoring our veterans in a flag raising ceremony.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Life Overseas

11:00am-12:00pm, Bldg 9-257A
Hear student veterans share their stories about their military service abroad.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS & ORGANIZING PARTNERS: Associated Students of Cañada College (ASCC), Classified Senate, CRCC Asia, Glee Club, DREAM Center, International Student Center, Malaysian Little Organization (MYLO), Multicultural Awareness Project (MAP) Club, Phi Theta Kappa Society, SMCCD Study Abroad, STEM Center, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Peace Corps, Veteran Resource & Opportunity Center (V-ROC), Volunteers in Asia



Zhao "Bob" Hongli from China
Majoring in Mathematics

How is your experience at Cañada College; are you involved in any campus activities/clubs and/or events?

I feel comfortable here. Classmates are friendly, and professors are approachable. Besides, I joined MAP club, a club for multicultural studying and communication. Also, I'm running for the ASCC senator.

What is most surprising/different about living in the U.S.?

It's surprising that I could see a lot of Chinese people here; they make me feel like home. I have more spare time here compared to the time I was in China.

What is the best thing about your experience in the U.S.?

Getting to know people from different countries is great, and I could also improve my English at the same time. I'm excited that I get chances to try new things.

What tips would you give other international students?

Get involved in various activities, instead of being bookish. Don't be afraid of the amount of homework, and believe that no pain, no gain.

Save the Date!

Tuesday, November 15

Interested in sharing your culture at International Education Week?

Contact International Student Ambassador Nisa at niknisa@live.com or Catherine at hongcentu@my.smccd.edu.



The Olive Branch

Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 14

FALL 2016, OCTOBER 24

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Get an Internship

Recruiting International
Students from Abroad

How to Get an Internship and the Benefits

My name is Neon and I'm from Vietnam. I came to the U.S. to get a degree and learn more about myself and be independent. I believed that one way to reach these goals was to get an internship in my field of study, Electrical Engineering.

At Cañada College I made connections with my professors and classmates and they inspired me and helped me to find two internships. One internship is teaching at a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) organization. I'm also interning at Menlo Security as a Quality Assurance (QA) Engineer. I'm learning a lot about myself through these internships. I've always loved computer hardware, but I always wondered whether I could actually sit still in one spot for that long. Through this internship, I have learned that I absolutely love coding and I can see myself continuing what I am doing now in the future but at a much more advanced environment.

In addition, through this internship, I'm learning that tech companies are trying to be a more fun and diverse atmosphere rather than a serious one, so I don't have to worry about sitting in one place for long periods of time.

I'm grateful for these internships because I've found out what I enjoy and what my future career may be. I recommend all students to do an internship. I couldn't have reached this stage of my life without the friendly and inspiring professors and classmates at Cañada College.

So if you're ready to do an internship, here's what you need to know. If you're not sure where to find an internship, stop by the Career Center for information on how to create a resume and websites that post internships: www.canadacollege.edu/careercenter/. If you're a STEM major, additional internship opportunities can be found here: www.canadacollege.edu/stemcenter/internships.php.

Finally, if you do find an internship off campus that is paid, you will need to request Curricular Practical Training (CPT) employment authorization from the International Student Center. The eligibility requirements for CPT authorization are:

- Have been an F-1 student for one year.
- Work must be related to your major.
- Registered in cooperative/practicum units.

Visit this link for more information:

www.canadacollege.edu/international/resources.php.

Important Dates

Mon, Oct 31 **Dress up for HALLOWEEN!**

Mon, Oct 31, 1:00-2:00pm, Bldg 9-106

UC Application Workshop: Learn how to complete your transfer application to UCs.

Wed, Nov 2, 2:00-3:00pm, Bldg 9-106

CSU Application Workshop: Find out how to complete the CSU Mentor Application.

Fri, Nov 4, 6:30am, Meet at the Library

UC Davis Campus Visit: Spend a day at UC Davis. Sign up at the Learning Center.

Sat, Nov 5, 7:30am-2:00pm, Library

San Jose State University Visit: Spend a day at SJSU. Sign up at the Learning Center.

Mon, Nov 7, 9:30am-12:00pm, Transfer Center

UC Berkeley Rep on Campus: Sign up for an appointment at the Welcome Center.

Tue, Nov 8, 12:30pm-1:30pm, Bldg 9-123

UC Personal Insight Questions: Get tips from a UC Berkeley rep about answering these questions thoughtfully and effectively.

Thu, Nov 10, 12:30-2:30pm, Transfer Center

CSU & UC Application Q&A: Ask a counselor about all your transfer application questions.

Mon, Nov 14, 12:30-2:00pm, Transfer Center

Transfer Q&A: Ask an academic counselors to find answers to your transfer questions.

Recruiting International Students from Abroad

By: Supinda Sirihekaphong

In early October, I had the opportunity to travel to Pakistan with EducationUSA Pakistan (www.usefpakistan.org/) on their South Asia Tour to recruit international students on behalf of the San Mateo Community College District. I visited five high schools and participated in three college fairs.

I participated in the tour with other colleges and universities across the U.S., including Colorado State University, Ohio Wesleyan University, Savannah College of Art & Design, as well as other community colleges, such as Foothill & DeAnza Colleges and College of the Desert. All of the colleges and universities shared the same goals of increasing and diversifying their international student population and introducing Pakistani students to the range of educational opportunities in the U.S.

I also learned a lot from the high school visits, including the Pakistani education system. I met with many high school counselors that were excited to learn about community colleges transfer pathways to four-year universities and actually had an opportunity to talk about communication colleges on Pakistan's TV show, *World this Morning*. You can check out the show on <http://bit.ly/2d5z1kr>. It was my first time on TV and I hope I represented community colleges well.

What I learned most from recruiting international students from abroad is that no matter where students are from, they have the same challenges and concerns. Students stress out over getting good grades, struggle with time management, and are concerned with prioritizing goals of getting into a good school to make their parents happy or pursue their dreams and passions.

This visit renewed my commitment to helping students achieve their goals and creating safe spaces for students to explore their potential. It's not an easy task, but it is a worthwhile one.



Save the Date!
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Interested in sharing your culture
at International Education Week?
Contact International Student Ambassador
Nisa at niknisa@live.com or Catherine at
hongcentu@my.smccd.edu.

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Be Prepared for an
Earthquake

Meet University Reps at
Transfer Day

Dear Campus Community,

Next Thursday, October 20th is the Great California Shake Out. Cañada College will participate in this national event, with earthquake drills at 10:20 am and 7:20 pm and take approximately 15-20 minutes. The Great Shake Out is intended to provide preparation and practice for earthquakes.

Event Information: Great California Shake Out at Cañada College

Time: 10:20 am and 7:20 pm



DROP where you are, onto your hands and knees. This position protects you from being knocked down and also allows you to stay low and crawl to shelter if nearby.



COVER your head and neck with one arm and hand

- If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl underneath it for shelter
- If no shelter is nearby, crawl next to an interior wall (away from windows)
- Stay on your knees; bend over to protect vital organs



HOLD ON until shaking stops

- Under shelter: hold on to it with one hand; be ready to move with your shelter if it shifts
- No shelter: hold on to your head and neck with both arms and hands.

Important Dates

Mon, Oct 17, 3:30pm, Bldg 2-10

Inter-Club Council: Check out what clubs on campus are planning for students.

Tue, Oct 17, 10:30am-1:00pm, The Grove

Transfer Day: Meet university reps and learn about admissions eligibility.

Tue, Oct 17, 4:00-6:00pm, Soccer Field

Women's Soccer vs. Evergreen College

Wed, Oct 19, 2:00pm, 3:00pm, Bldg 9-307

Social Science Hub: Can Bitcoin Solve the Migration Crises? Presented by PTK

Thu, Oct 20 & 27, 3:30pm, Bldg 9-154

ASCC Student Senate Meeting: Come learn about how the student government!

Thu, Oct 20, 7:00-11:00pm, Meet at Library
Field Trip Macario: Day of the Dead story told through music and dance. Email valenzuelay@smccd.edu to register.

Fri, Oct 21, 8:00pm, Parking Lot 10

Fall Star Party: Observe the stars up close. Presented by Astronomy Club.

Mon, Oct 31 **Dress up for HALLOWEEN!**



Transfer Day Annual College Fair

Date: Tuesday, October 18, 2016

Time: 10:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

Location: The Grove
(Cafeteria/BLDG 5)

From here you can go anywhere!

This is an excellent opportunity to meet with university representatives and explore your option of transferring to a four year university. (CSU, UC, private, and out-of-state universities).

List of the university participants is available at:
<http://www.canadacollege.edu/transferecenter/transferday.php>

For more information contact
the Transfer Center at
(650) 306-3493
cantransctr@smccd.edu

Meet with a UCLA Admissions Rep and other 4-year Universities!

Not sure where to transfer to or where to start your university search?

Next week on Tuesday, Oct. 18th from 10:30am to 1:00pm, in The Grove, Cañada College is hosting Transfer Day. This is a time for students to meet with UC, CSU and private university representatives to ask questions about majors, admission, housing, financial aid, and other information.

Our UCLA admission representative will be meeting one-on-one with students in the afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00pm. This is a unique opportunity for students to receive expert admission advising directly from UCLA! To schedule your individual appointment, send an email by noon Oct. 17th to gibsonk@smccd.edu or haroy@smccd.edu, include your preferred time to meet in the email.

Your exploration starts here!

October 29 • 10am–Noon



ATTEND OUR OPEN HOUSE

- Tour the campus
- Meet and mix with NDNU students
- Hear about majors and programs offered
- Learn about admissions and financial aid
- FAFSA completion workshop

While you explore your options for college, see how Notre Dame de Namur University (NDNU), a smaller, private university, may be just what you are looking for. Get the personal attention you deserve and the classes that you need to graduate on time. NDNU is the third oldest college in California and offers over 30 undergraduate, graduate, and teacher credential programs.

Space is limited.
RSVP now.

ndnu.edu/ugevents
(650) 508-3600

EXPLORE. ENGAGE. APPLY.



ndnu.edu

Notre Dame de Namur University | Established 1863 | San Francisco Peninsula

**NOTRE DAME
DE NAMUR UNIVERSITY**

1500 Ralston Avenue, Belmont CA 94002

Open House

Saturday, October 29

10am–Noon

The Olive Branch

Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 12

FALL 2016, SEPTEMBER 26



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CENTER

Lizette Bricker

Interim Dean, Counseling
brickerl@smccd.edu

Supinda Sirihekaphong

International Program Manager
sirihekaphongs@smccd.edu

Kathy Kohut

Program Services Coordinator
kohutk@smccd.edu

Nisa Nik

Hongcen "Catherine" Tu

Noor Razali

Quang "Neon" Le

International Ambassadors
caninternational@smccd.edu

Cañada College

Building 3, Room 103
International Student Center
4200 Farm Hill Boulevard
Redwood City, CA 94061
Phone: (650) 381-3544
Fax: (650) 381-3518
www.canadacollege.edu/international/newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

STEM Speaker Series

MAP Club Picnic

STEM Speaker Series Begins

Each semester, the STEM Center organizes the "STEM Speaker Series". The STEM Speaker Series will have professionals from various STEM fields talking about their careers/research and educational paths, as well as providing advice for current Cañada College students.

This is an absolutely wonderful opportunity for everyone to open their mind and learn about the tips and tricks on how to succeed in the major they are pursuing while enjoying FREE FOOD! Not only that, you will get a chance to connect with these professional people and grow your network. Last semester, we had a speaker from Game Engine Unity that connected with the Video Game Design Club and took them to the Unity headquarters which was really cool.

The STEM Speaker Series happens every **Wednesday from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM** starting from September 21st through

November 16th. It is located in building 6-102. Don't miss out on this opportunity!

<http://canadacollege.edu/stemcenter/speakerseries.php>

Neon Le, Student Ambassador

The STEM Center at Cañada College Science Technology Mathematics
STEM SPEAKER SERIES
FALL 2016
Wednesdays: 5:00-6:00 pm
Location: Bldg. 6-102

Sept 21	Alex Kaffka Vice President of Energy and Solar "Solar Power and Cañada College"	
Sept 28	Sherry L. Palacios, PhD Research Scientist, Bay Area Environmental Research Institute NASA Ames Research Center "What's it Like to Work at NASA as an Oceanographer?"	
Oct 5	Patricia Santana, MD Internal Medicine at Palo Alto Medical Foundation, San Carlos Center "My Journey to Becoming a Doctor"	
Oct 19	Lessandro DeSousa Design Engineer Consultant, BKF Engineers, Surveyors, Planners, Redwood City "From Cañada to Consultant, Designing your Path"	
Oct 26	Justin L. Rubinstein Research Geophysicist - US Geological Survey (Menlo Park) "A Man-made Earthquake Surge in the Central US"	
Nov 2	Connie Chung PhD Student "Science Teaching Through the Arts"	Tory Johnson PhD Student Biochemistry Stanford University "Science Teaching Through the Arts"
Nov 9	Cheri Markt Engineering Professor at Cañada College "Mechanical Design in the Oil and Gas, Aerospace and Consumer Device Industries"	
Nov 16	Andrea Trese Associate Engineer / EOA "Engineers Without Borders"	Alice Rystov Automation Engineer/Genentech

For more info: canadacollege.edu/STEMcenter/SpeakerSeries FREE and open to all

Important Dates

September 27 - Interviewing Essentials Workshop, 1-2 PM, Location TBD – email cancareercenter@smccd.edu. In this workshop, you will learn about the purpose of an interview, different types of interviews, how to prepare and more!

September 27 - Target, Reach and Safety Schools: A Balance List of Options, 1-2 PM, CIETL (Building 9, Room 154) Don't focus on just getting in! Learn how to create a well-rounded list of schools that are a good fit for you.

September 27 - Target, Reach and Safety Schools: A Balance List of Options, 1-2 PM, CIETL (Building 9, Room 154) Don't focus on just getting in! Learn how to create a well-rounded list of schools that are a good fit for you.

September 27 - Cañada Women's Soccer vs Skyline College, 1:30 PM; **Men's Soccer vs Monterey Peninsula College**, 4 PM, Cañada College Soccer Field



STUDENT CLUB

INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT CENTER
CAÑADA COLLEGE

Cañada College



All are Welcome to the MAP Club Picnic!

The MAP (Multicultural Awareness Project) is a student club centered around learning and sharing about cultures, traditions and foods from all around the world. We bring together students who have an interest in multicultural diversity and provide a safe proactive learning space for Cañada College students to explore other languages, traditions, foods, and cultures.

The MAP Club plans to meet twice a month on **Thursdays from 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**. The first meeting was last Thursday where we welcomed several new members from the US as well as other countries.

We are holding our first event of the year coming up soon – a Picnic!! Check out our Facebook page for the latest updates about this exciting event and more:

<https://www.facebook.com/CCMapClub>

Club Officers:

President: Raghad "R" Abd. Aljawad

Vice President: Vladislav Miftakhov

Treasurer: Noor Razali

Secretary: Iffah Jasni

ICC: Karen Eskander

Noor Razali, Student Ambassador

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Contribute to *The Olive Branch*,
by emailing the Ambassadors.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Spirit Week Events

September is TAG Month

The Olive Branch

Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 11

FALL 2016, SEPTEMBER 13

Volunteer with Cañada in Your Community

The College has launched, "Cañada in Your Community," a program geared to serve members of our community, outside of the classroom. This community relations program is also a wonderful way to bring students, faculty, staff and administrators together to engage in a variety of service related events, such as toy drives, food bank sorts, and festivals/events in Redwood City.

Our next *Cañada in Your Community* event was brought to us by our colleagues at TRIO, who volunteer for this annual event. We invite you to participate in the ***Coastal Clean-up on Saturday, September 17***. This event is open to the entire college and family/friends are encouraged to join the fun! If you are interested in participating, **please confirm your attendance [here](#)**.

Also, if you have a recommended community event/program for Cañada to partner with, please send an email to the College Recruiter, Mayra Arellano at arellanom@smccd.edu. We look forward to seeing you on September 17!

Important Dates

- Tue, Sep 13, 4:00pm, Soccer Field
Women's Soccer Cañada vs. DeAnza College
- Sat, Sep 17, 1:00pm, Soccer Field
Men's Soccer Cañada vs. Evergreen College
- Thu, Sep 15, 1:00-2:00pm, 16-110
UC TAG Workshop
- Wed, Sep 21, 12:30-1:30pm, Bldg 16-110
UC TAG Workshop
- Mon, Sep 19, 12:00pm, 1:00pm, Bldg 9-123
UC Personal Insight Question Workshop:
Presented by UC Berkeley
- Thu, Sept 15, 22 & 29, 3:30pm, Bldg 9-154
ASCC Student Senate Meeting: Come learn
about how the student government is
working for you and get involved!



Employment Workshop for International Students



Come learn about:

- How can I work as an F-1 Student?
- What do I include in a resume?
- Can the Career Center help me find a job?
- What is cooperative education?
- What is American business etiquette?

Wednesday, Sept 14

2:00 – 3:00pm

Bldg 3-142



Presented by:



Are you ready for Spirit Week! Get your student body card, stop by the Center for Student Life & Leadership Development in Bldg 5-354 near the Grove!

*MUST HAVE YOUR FALL 2016 CANADA COLLEGE STUDENT BODY CARD TO PARTICIPATE!

POKÉMON

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF CANADA COLLEGE'S

SPIRIT WEEK

SEPT 13, 14 & 15
UPPER LAWN

9AM-1PM
7PM-8PM

9/13 TUES
DAY 1
NACHO BAR
LEMONADE



9/15 THURS
DAY 3
CLUB RUSH
SUSHI



9/14 WED
DAY 2

BOBASAUR MILK TEA
BUILD-A-PIKACHU



DON'T MISS OUT & FOLLOW US

@CANADAASCC



TO ACCESS THIS DOCUMENT IN ALTERNATE FORMAT, OR TO REQUEST A REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION TO ATTEND THIS EVENT, PLEASE CONTACT THE CANADA COLLEGE WELLNESS CENTER @ 650-306-3259. A MIN. OF 5 WORK DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE NEEDED.

TAG in September!

What is TAG? Transfer Admission Guarantee Agreement (TAG) is a contract between community colleges and the University of California that offers students guarantee admission as long as they meet the TAG eligibility requirements.

Why should I apply for a TAG? By applying for a TAG, you will receive early review of your academic records, early admission notification and specific guidance about major preparation and general education coursework.

Where can I TAG to? Students have the opportunity to TAG with **only one of the six** UC campuses: UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Merced, UC Riverside, UC Santa Barbara, and UC Santa Cruz.

What are the requirements?

1. Complete 30 transferable units at the time of application.
2. Meet the course requirements for your major.
3. Meet the minimum required GPA.
4. Complete 60 transferrable units by the end of Spring for fall admission.

For more detailed information, here's a list of minimum GPA requirements and to see other specific requirements, such as list of eligible majors and semesters, check out the TAG Matrix at <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/tagmatrix.pdf>.

How do I pursue TAG?

1. Meet with a counselor to discuss your major and eligibility, including course transferability, and transfer GPA.
2. Create an account in [Transfer Admission Planner](#) for UC.
3. Enter in your personal information and academic records.
4. Lastly, meet with the Transfer Center counselor to finalize your contract before submitting it in September (1-30). Feel free to schedule an appointment with your counselor if you have any other questions.

Important! The UC TAG application deadline is September 30. And you may file a TAG application with only one UC campus.

For more information on transferring and UC TAG requirements, check out the [Transfer Center's website](#) or [this flyer!](#)

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Congratulations, Globa
Beca Scholarship Winners

Welcome Gil Perez,
International Counselor

Get Involved with
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The Olive Branch

Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 10

FALL 2016, SEPTEMBER 1

Congratulations, Global Beca Recipients!

The Global Beca Scholarship for New International Students is proud to announce the recipients for the Fall 2016 semester.

In Jung Lee

Citizenship: South Korean
Major: Fashion Design
Hobbies: Cooking
What I like most about Cañada College: I love my instructors and classmates, and the scenery around campus is splendid!



Luis Fernando Mendez

Citizenship: El Salvador
Major: Business Administrations
Hobbies: Soccer, cooking
What I like the most about Cañada College: The people are very friendly and help you with any problems you have. Not only the staff at Cañada are friendly, but the students too.



Penglu Li

Citizenship: China
Major: Math
Hobbies: Movies, Sports
What I like the most about Cañada College: The campus is a great place to study.



Name: Anish Thapa

Citizenship: Nepal
Major: Engineering
Hobbies: Travelling, soccer, video games, hiking
What I like the most about Cañada College: The learning environment and the people here are great. They help you whenever in need.



Scholarship applications for continuing students will be available in November, to find out more about scholarships, check out: <http://canadacollege.edu/financialaid/scholarship.php>

Important Dates

Mon, Sep 5

NO CLASS-Labor Day

Thu, Sep 8, 2:00-3:00pm, Bldg 3-142

Academic Success in the U.S. Workshop

Join the ISC Ambassadors and learn how you can be a successful student!

Wed, Sep 7, 1:00pm-2:00pm, 16-110

UC Application Workshop

Mon, Sep 12, 12:00pm, 1:00pm, Bldg 9-123

Transfer Agreement Guarantee Wrksp

Presented by UC Santa Cruz

Mon, Sep 12, 9:30am-12:00pm, Transfer Ctr

UC Santa Cruz Rep on Campus

Mon, Sep 19, 9:30am-12:00pm, Transfer Ctr

UC Berkeley Rep on Campus

Tue, Sep 13, 1:00pm-2:00pm, 9-206

Career Center Workshop: Ready to work? Do you have a resume?

Thu, Sep 14, 2:00-3:00pm, Bldg 3-142

Employment Wrksp for Int'l Students

Academic Success Workshop for ESL and Int'l Students



Come learn about:

- How you can be academically successful?
- Why is it important to participate in class?
- What is plagiarism and academic integrity?
- How can Cañada College help me succeed?
- Why academic success is not enough to transfer to a 4-year university?

Thursday, Sept 8

2:00 – 3:00pm

Bldg 3-142



Presented by:



International Student Ambassadors

Get Involved with the ASCC Programming Board!

"People who volunteer tend to have higher self-esteem, psychological well-being, and happiness." -Snyder

Do you find yourself saying, "I want to be more involved and volunteer but..."

- I have a busy schedule, I don't have time to volunteer?"
- I can't commit to a weekly volunteering schedule?"
- It's difficult to commute between places?"

Well then, Programming Board is perfect for you! Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to contribute and be part of the Cañada College family!

What is ASCC's Programming Board?

The Associated Students of Cañada College (ASCC)'s Programming Board is a team of inspired students with the passion of organizing and promoting campus wide events!

Who can be a member? You can! It is open to the entire Cañada College community.

What will I have to do? You'll get to do many different and amazing fun activities and tasks! Besides 1) attend creative brainstorming meetings, and 2) help plan campus wide events, you can also 3) help out during the event day! The best part about volunteering for events is that we will work with your schedule! Since we're on campus, you can get *volunteering experience between your classes!*

Why should I join?

- Make new friends and contacts on campus;
- Great resume builder opportunity;
- Gain leadership skills;
- Receive volunteer hours;
- Volunteering is good for your body and mind;
- An opportunity to learn, grow, and have fun at the same time;
- Also, you can even count it as Cooperative Education and receive up to 3 units!

When and where are the meetings? Every Tuesday 4-5PM in the Student Life & Leadership Development Clubhouse in Bldg 5!

How to attend? Relax and have fun! Just bring yourself and ideas!

Programming Board provides a variety of social, educational, and cultural events open to the entire campus community and you can be a part of it!

Cool! Where do I sign up? Click here: [Sign Up for Programming Board Now!](#)

For more information, please feel free to email Nisa (ASCC Commissioner of Publicity) at niknisa@live.com or visit our website at: <http://canadacollege.edu/studentlife/programmingboard.php>

Welcome our new International Counselor Gil Perez!



The International Student Center is happy to welcome Gil Perez, our new part-time counselor for international students. Gil's previous experience working with international students at the City College of San Francisco will be invaluable to both international students and ISC in improving our services to international students.

Gil is available for 30 minute appointments on Monday and Tuesday starting mid-September. Here's a few words from Gil and please give him a warm welcome!

"Hello students! I hope you are all having a wonderful start to the fall 2016 semester! My name is Gil Perez and I am excited to join the International Student Center team in my role as a college counselor.

I was born and raised in Daly City, CA. I currently reside in the East Bay with my two small dogs (a pekingese and maltese/shih tzu). I enjoy long-distance running and discovering new places, things to do and restaurants.

I attended City College of San Francisco and earned an associate degree for transfer in psychology. I then transferred to San Francisco State University and earned a bachelor degree in psychology and a minor in health education. SF State is also where I received my master degree in college counseling.

I have worked with international students in various counseling capacities (academic, transfer, career, and personal). I aim to help you plan your studies efficiently and effectively through the counselor-student partnership we build together. I am thrilled to continue serving international students and supporting each and everyone of you through your unique journey towards achieving your educational goals here at Cañada College. I look forward to meeting you all very soon!"

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Welcome New Students

Welcome Kathy Kohut

Welcome Silicon Valley
Intensive English Program

The Olive Branch

Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 9

FALL 2016, AUGUST 17

Welcome New International Students

Cañada College welcomes over 40 new international students this Fall 2016 semester, bringing the international student population to over 140. The students are from 18 countries including Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Burma, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, India, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Republic of Congo, Serbia, South Korea, Mexico, Nepal, Philippines and Ukraine.

The campus community welcomed them at a Welcome Luncheon on Monday, August 1 along with new students in our new Silicon Valley Intensive English Program. President Jamillah Moore congratulated the students on their journey as an international student in the U.S. and International Student Ambassadors Noor Razali, Neon Le, and Cassandra Fekir shared their experience and tips on transitioning to the U.S. ASCC President Cindy Streitenberger and international student Raghad Abd-aljawad encouraged the students to get involved and share their culture with the campus community.

The new international students also had an opportunity to tour downtown Redwood City and received a warm welcome from Redwood City Mayor John Seybert, other council members, and members of Redwood City International. Their orientation ended with a day touring San Francisco with other new international students from Skyline College and College of San Mateo.

We're excited to grow our international student population and provide more opportunities for our community to understand and appreciate different points of view within our diverse community.



Important Dates

Tue, Aug 16, 1:30pm-2:30pm, Bldg 3-104

Makeup International Student Orientation

All new international students who did not attend the orientation on Wednesday, August 3 must attend to review F-1 rules.

Wed, Aug 17, 11:00am-1:30pm

First day of the semester

Wed, Aug 17, Thu, Aug 18, & Mon, Aug 22
7:30am-12:30pm, Upper Lawn

ASCC Welcome Back Week: Get your student body card and supplies including a chance to win Cañada gear!

Tue, Aug 30

DEADLINE to ADD/DROP classes and to submit an ISC Check Form



Don't forget to submit the ISC online check in form:
<http://canadacollege.edu/international/forms.php>

Welcome Kathy Kohut

The International Student Center is happy to announce our new full-time Program Services Coordinator, Kathy Kohut. She comes to Cañada with extensive experience as an educational and accreditation consultant and director for English language training centers. Kathy has already jumped right in and welcomed our new international students during orientation and has helped them register in their first classes at Cañada! Here are a few words from our new team member!



Hello Students! I hope you had a great summer. I'm happy to be your new International Program Services Coordinator. I look forward to meeting each of you and helping you this semester.

I've worked in international education for over 15 years and have worked with students from more than 30 countries. I've also been an international student myself when I studied in St. Petersburg, Russia. I understand how rewarding and challenging it can be to study in a different country. Besides Russia, I've lived and worked in Chiba City, Japan as an English language teacher. I've studied Spanish, Russian and Japanese languages – but need to practice speaking them more!

I love travelling, learning foreign languages, playing piano, and enjoying the beaches of Pacifica with my 2 year old daughter and terrier dog. I'm also a foodie and enjoy trying new restaurants.

My advice to you is to take advantage of the opportunities and resources you will find at Cañada, and get involved! The memories you make and experience you gain through involvement on campus and in the community is what you will remember years from now.

Important Reminders

1. Don't forget to submit the **Online Check In Form** at <http://canadacollege.edu/international/forms.php>. The deadline to submit the check in form is the ADD/DROP deadline on Tuesday, August 30.
2. International students must **be registered full-time (at least 12 units)**. Only 3 units of online classes count towards full-time registration and any dropped classes do not count towards registration.

ISC Expands to Welcome



SILICON VALLEY

INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM

The International Student Center is will also be home to SMCCD's Community, Continuing, and Corporate Education's new Silicon Valley Intensive English Program (SVIEP). This exciting new program of study is offered at Cañada College and Skyline College for students seeking high-quality, intensive English instruction. Upon successful completion of SVIEP level 4, students will be guaranteed admission to one of our three colleges (Cañada College, College of San Mateo, and Skyline College). For more information, call SVIEP at (650) 381-3514 or visit www.smccd.edu/sviep.

Yuri Goda serves as the Program Services Coordinator for SVIEP where she works closely with the ESL faculty as well as communicates with international and local students. Prior to this, Yuri founded an English language school in Japan. She was responsible for curriculum development as well as teaching, and also helping students with applications and visa support. Yuri returned to the U.S. as an international student after living and working in Tokyo, Japan for over a decade. She holds a BA in Economics from UC Santa Cruz, and a MA in Education, Second Language Acquisition from Saint Mary's College of California.

Kassandra "Kassi" Fekir is the International Student Ambassador for SVIEP. She is no stranger to Cañada College, since she has served as a Peer Mentor in the BTO Peer Mentorship Program, a tutor in the Learning Center and Club Officer of Intervarsity Fellowship. Kassi is excited to help international students in SVIEP transition to a U.S. classroom and social environment.

3. **Waitlisted for a class?** Check your My.SMCCD.edu email everyday. If you receive an email notifying you that a space has opened up, you have 24 hours to register for the class. If classes have started and you are still on the waitlist, attend the first day of class and obtain an ACCESS CODE from the professor.
4. Download your **health insurance card** from www.4studenthealth.com or stop by the ISC.
5. Want to **sell or buy used textbooks** to fellow international students? Stop by the International Student Center to check out our textbooks for sale.