

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CENTER

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international/newsletter](http://www.canadacollege.edu/international/newsletter)

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

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

MAP Club is Looking for  
New Officers

Introducing our New  
Ambassadors

# The Olive Branch

## Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 8

SPRING 2016, MAY 23

## The MAP Club Needs New Officers!

Do you want to build your leadership skills and resume while having fun? Do you want to make new friends from all around the world? Want to share your culture while learning about other cultures?

The **Multicultural Awareness Project (MAP) Club** is a safe and fun space for all students to come and share their stories. We come from different parts of the world with so many rich stories and experiences that would benefit us all to learn from each other. As an international student, you are automatically a member.

What do we do? We normally hold bi-weekly MAP meetings, and host International Film Nights, but we can do more depending on what our members want to learn! We are currently looking for new members and most importantly, new Fall 2016 MAP Club Officers! This is a great opportunity to test your leadership skills and get involved on campus. The club is yours to explore. We are looking for officers who are enthusiastic and passionate about diversity on campus, and who are interested in having fun!

Do I have to be an international student? Of course not! MAP Club is a place for all who are interested in learning and sharing different cultures regardless of where you're from. If you are interested in becoming an officer or a member, please feel free to email [cmapclub@gmail.com](mailto:cmapclub@gmail.com) or [caninternational@smccd.edu](mailto:caninternational@smccd.edu).

Clubs are a great way to get involved, build friendships, and they are a great resume builder! There are clubs of all types on campus depending on the interests of the student body. If there is not a club that suits your interests, you can start a new one! How do I do that? All you need are:

1. At least FOUR students currently enrolled at Cañada to serve as club officers
2. At least ONE full-time faculty or staff member to serve as the club advisor and,
3. Complete and turn in a Club Application.

For more information on starting a club on campus, please visit: [http://canadacollege.edu/  
studentlife/clubs.php](http://canadacollege.edu/studentlife/clubs.php)

## Important Dates

Mon, May 23—Fri, May 27

**Final Exam Week**

Fri, May 27, 2-3pm, Upper Lawn

**Commencement Rehearsal**

Sat, May 28, 10am-1pm, Upper Lawn

**Graduation Commencement**

Mon, May 30

**Memorial Day: Cañada Closed**

Fridays, June 3

**Summer Fridays: Cañada Closed**

Mon, June 13

**Summer Semester Starts**

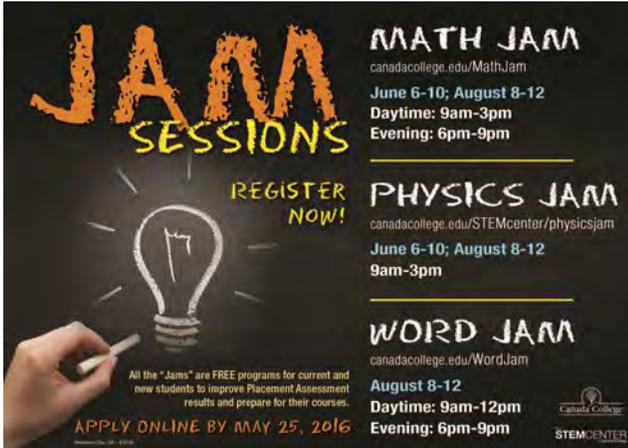
Mon, July 4

**Independence Day: Cañada Closed**

Mon, Aug 1—Wed, Aug 3

**International Student Orientation**

## Good luck on your final exams!



**JAM SESSIONS**  
REGISTER NOW!

**MATH JAM**  
canadacollege.edu/MathJam  
June 6-10; August 8-12  
Daytime: 9am-3pm  
Evening: 6pm-9pm

**PHYSICS JAM**  
canadacollege.edu/STEMcenter/physicsjam  
June 6-10; August 8-12  
9am-3pm

**WORD JAM**  
canadacollege.edu/WordJam  
August 8-12  
Daytime: 9am-12pm  
Evening: 6pm-9pm

All the "Jams" are FREE programs for current and new students to improve Placement Assessment results and prepare for their courses.  
APPLY ONLINE BY MAY 25, 2016

Cañada College  
STEM CENTER

# Introducing Our New International Ambassadors



**Quang "Neon" Le, Vietnam**

**Major:** Engineering

**Interests:** Hip-hop dance, vlogging, deep conversations

**Campus Involvement:** STEM Center Tutor and Student Assistant

**Favorite thing about Cañada:** You are surrounded by ambitious and versatile people that will change you in positive ways.

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

I met lots of people who taught me to try my best. In the past, I always tried hard at school and work, but I never tried my best. The STEM Center is my second home. As a student assistant, I check attendance for STEM Speaker Series; the computers and other STEM events.

**What's most surprising or different about the U.S.?**

I didn't experience cultural shock at all, because I was part of the English Club in high school, so I had no problem with the language. The only thing I find difficult is making good friends. In Vietnam, I'm used to having deep conversations. But here in the U.S., people don't often have deep talks.

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

Meeting the person who changed me, which I didn't expect. I grew up with friends who used to judge other people; here, I've learnt to be happy and be positive.

**What tips would you give other international students?**

Learn to make the most out of everything.



**Khairunisa "Nisa" Nik, Malaysia**

**Major:** Economics

**Interests:** Movies, music, traveling, art & design

**Campus Involvement:** ASCC Senator, Learning Center Tutor, MAP Club Officer

I cherished every moment of being an International Student Ambassador, even our weekly staff meetings. But I've got to say, I'll miss preparing for events with the team such as Flex Day and the International Student Achievement Ceremony. It taught me the true meaning of teamwork. Being an Ambassador has given me the chance to try out new things and even though it was tough, I had great support to motivate me, give me confidence, and teach me that the sky's the limit. I'm sad to see Dominique, Moody, and Alexandra go, but I know that we'll always be there for each other.

For next semester, I am looking forward to testing my limits and most importantly, working with the new International Student Ambassadors. I know we'll do great!



**Hongcen "Catherine" Tu, China**

**Major:** Mathematics

**Interests:** Swimming, fashion modeling, travelling, baking, music and movies

**Campus Involvement:** STEM Center Tutor

**Favorite thing about Cañada:** Everyone is able to find a place that best fits him. People here have positive attitudes and are encouraging.

**How is your experience at Cañada College?**

There are many academic and leadership opportunities. The small class size makes it easy to interact with professors and classmates and everyone is friendly.

**What's most surprising or different about the U.S.?**

People, including strangers, are willing to help out and are enthusiastic and students dress casually at school.

**What's the best thing about your experience in the U.S.?**

I learn that study is not the only priority, getting involved is also important. I'm exposed to more opportunities both academically and socially. I've met lots of different kinds of people, who make me become a critical thinker.

**What tips would you give other international students?**

Learn to be independent and open-minded. Be brave to talk to others. Always remember who you are and what your goal is. There are plenty of chances, so improve yourself so that you don't miss meaningful opportunities.



**Noor Syahirah Binti Razali, Malaysia**

**Major:** Chemistry

**Interests:** Books and movies

**Favorite thing about Cañada:** Everyone is like a family.

**How is your experience at Cañada?**

It is wonderful. Everyone is like a family. It doesn't matter where you came from, they treat you equally.

**What's most surprising or different about the U.S.?**

We are free to wear what we want or be who we are. Back in my country, colleges have restrictions on clothing. Another thing is that, nobody judges you on what you wear.

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

Everything from culture to education to people! I used to be so dedicated on learning only that I forgot to grasp the things that's happening around me. Being here, makes me realize that study isn't everything. Get away from the books and start being involved. There's so many things in U.S. that you can't miss.

**What tips would you give other international students?**

Get out from your circle! You came all the way to U.S. so, make use of it. There's a lot of things to learn from Americans.

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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

From Here You Can Go  
Anywhere

It's Almost Over

Bigger Pictures to Paint

# The Olive Branch

## Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 7

SPRING 2016, MAY 9

### From Here you can go anywhere

By Dominique Franceschi

If you could go back in time to your first semester, what advice would you give yourself? As I finish my last semester at Cañada College, I can't help but think back on all the amazing things that have happened in the past two years, and how much I have discovered and learned about myself. So from "present me" to "past me", or from "present me" to "present you", here is some advice.

**It's not all about the grades:** Not to say that GPA is not important, but it definitely is not the only thing that matters. Sure some 4-year universities ask you for a minimum GPA, but how do you think they decide after that? Get involved in your campus or community, join a few clubs (or start one), become part of something, and make yourself stand out from the thousands of other applicants that have the required GPA.

**Get Involved:** Not only will it look good on your transcript, but if you find yourself in leadership positions, you will gain key abilities that will be valuable in your personal and professional future, no matter what your field of study is. Also, it's the fastest way to meet people that share your

interests, and ultimately, make lasting friendships.

**Ask questions:** The saying "there is no such thing as a stupid question" is a cliché for a reason, because it is true. If you are unsure about something, then ask! It's better to know whether you are right or wrong before you finish that 15 page research paper, not after.

**You are not alone:** I'm sure right now you are thinking "well I came to the United States by myself, of course I am alone". The truth is, there is at least another 100 students that have gone through the same thing, and at least 40 are going through with it at the same time you are. Also, we have an amazing team at the wellness center who are trained to assist international students. Talk to them about it. You'll find out you are not alone, so there is no reason for you to be.

Lastly, not just at Cañada, but in life in general, you get what you put in. How invested you are in your education and community will affect how much you get out of this experience, and if you give it a chance, this can be a wonderful experience. Best of luck!

### Important Dates

Thu, May 12, 1-2pm

Social Science Hub (Library)

**Psychology Club Meeting:** Meet other students majoring or interested in Psychology!

Thu, May 12, 5:30-8:30pm

Bldg 6-102

**ASCC Leadership Awards:** Come celebrate and learn about all the student leaders and clubs!

Fri, May 13, 12-2pm, Bldg 6-102

**International Student Achievement Ceremony**

Fri, May 13, 4:30-6:30pm, Gym

**Cañada Recognition Ceremony:** Come celebrate scholarship recipients and transfer success!

Thu, May 19, 9am-1pm, Upper Lawn

**Connect to Culture:** Celebrate Cañada's talent and diversity!



**Congratulations**  
You are invited to the  
**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT  
Achievement  
Ceremony**

New International Student Ambassadors will be announced.  
International Student Transfers, Completion & Scholarships  
will be recognized.

**FRIDAY MAY 13, 2016 12-2PM**  
**BLDG 6-102**  
BUILDING BEHIND THE GROVE  
DRESS CODE: SEMI FORMAL  
ALL STUDENTS PLEASE RSVP BY MAY 10

# It's Almost Over!

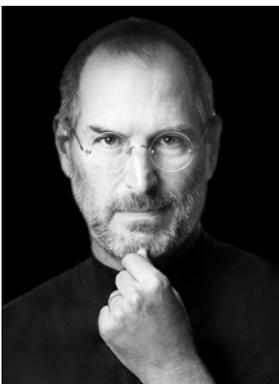
By: Moody Metry

It has been a long semester, but it went by in just a blink of an eye. I can still remember my first day of classes, with excitement all over my face, and now we are getting ready to finish our semester with finals in a few weeks.

I am sure that this semester had its ups and downs for everyone, but remember, "Failure is the beginning of success." Just make sure not to give up or say "whatever." If you failed at anything during this semester, try to realize that it is not the end of the world, and that you still and will always have the chance to get back up and try again.

As we are approaching a new semester, try to remember all the time that you failed or gave up and said to yourself that you won't allow this to happen. If you keep this in your mind you will see the difference very soon, because once you focus on something, you will find out that you are working towards this particular goal, without even you noticing it.

Life is not easy. You will keep going up and down throughout your life, the trick is that you have to make sure after you fall, to get back up and wipe off the dust and keep going. The most successful people in history, from Martin Luther King, Jr. to Steve Jobs, all of them had a hard time and they were rejected by a lot of people, but they believed in themselves, and they wiped off the world's opinion, and they made a difference.



*Thank you Moody and Dominique for your inspiring articles and leadership!*

# Bigger Pictures to Paint

By Raihan "Ann" Amir

Studying in the U.S. had always been just a dream to me and when I turned 18 the dream became a reality. I am proud of myself for getting where I am today, but I am well aware that my journey is just about to begin.

Being the only girl and the youngest among my siblings, people underestimated what I'm capable of doing. In Malaysia, I grew up living with three big brothers who taught me that nothing comes easy in life. My biggest dream was to graduate from UC Berkeley, but now I would tell my 12-year old self that I have even bigger dreams than that.

Here at Cañada College, I do things that I thought I could and would never do. I got my first car and it may not be a Chevy Camaro, but it is one of my most valuable possessions. I have unforgettable road trips with amazing people. I hike up a long trail with a bunch of friends and rope swing into a lake. I look forward to weekends with my friends and to drive all the way to places like Monterey at midnight to catch the sunrise, or when we feel less ambitious, to some lookout and enjoy the views of city lights. I sing, dance, and act with people who love performing as much as I do and I get stuck with my friends at an airport because of a missed flight.

I take risks that result in triumphs and sometimes, enlightening failures too. Whenever I feel drained, that's when I remind myself that I'm human and somehow, it keeps me on my toes. I challenge myself to become a part of something big such as the student government or something small like local environment or charity events.

I've met people who want to see me succeed. I've created meaningful relationships with people who just want to have good time and want to improve themselves simultaneously. It is inspiring to see how they can affect me in such a positive light and these are the little things that make me smile and make life worth living.

If someone asks me what my biggest dream is now, I would say to leave a mark in people's lives and inspire them to keep fighting for what they believe in, just like how other people had influenced me to do just that too. Because I believe that there is a lot more to life than just getting a degree from the most prestigious university. It's about creating unforgettable moments with the right kind of people. When I go back to my home country, I want my family and friends over there to know that I have made the most out of my time in the land of the free. Like I said, I still have a long way to go and I have bigger pictures to paint on my canvas.

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Recruiting Students  
in Mexico

# The Olive Branch

## Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 6

SPRING 2016, APRIL 25

## Check Out the Career Center

By: Dominique Franceschi

Do you ever stop and wonder, if everyone is getting the same degree I am, how am I going to set myself apart from them? Well as students, you have tons of opportunities to make yourself stand out. One very effective method, is to find an internship to make your resume more interesting. And how do you do that? Well, lucky you, we have a wonderful Career Center here at Cañada College that offers lots of free services to help you make the most of your time here at Cañada College.

The primary goal of Career Services is to assist students to develop and carry out both short- and long-term employment and career goals. Services provided include: Advising, A resource library of career exploration and job hunting books detailing preparatory education and training and labor market trends for career areas, EUREKA, a computer based California career information system and Access to over 100 career related websites.

The Career Center also hosts events every semester include an Internship Fair, (where companies come looking for

prospective student interns), a Job Fair (where companies come looking for part time employees), and Major 2 Careers, (an event where they help you see all the career possibilities a single major may have).

The Career Center is located in Building 5, Room 332, in The Grove. You can also call them via phone at (650) 306-3401, or email them at [cancareercenter@smccd.edu](mailto:cancareercenter@smccd.edu). Contact them today, and start setting yourself apart from everyone else! Remember with the right tools, *Cañada can take you anywhere!*



## Important Dates

Thu, Apr 28

**DEADLINE** to drop class with "W"ithdraw

Thu, Apr 28, 1-2pm, Social Science Hub (Library)

**Psychology Club Meeting:** Meet other students majoring or interested in Psychology!

Tue, Apr 26—Thu, Apr 28, Upper Lawn

**Vote for your ASCC Student Government!**

Thu, May 5, 1-2pm, Bldg 9-106

**UC TAG:** Want to transfer to UC, learn about the Transfer Admission Planner & TAG.

Wed, Apr 27, 12-1pm, ASCC Clubhouse Bldg 5-352

**Chat n' Chew:** Make new friends and have lunch with other international students.

The Annual  
**GOLT CLASSIC**  
3RD ANNUAL GAME FEATURING THE  
**CAÑADA COLTS**  
VS  
**SKYLINE TROJANS**  
TUESDAY, APRIL 26 • 2:30 PM  
AT CAÑADA BASEBALL FIELD  
FREE PROMOTIONAL ITEM TO FIRST 50 STUDENTS WITH ID!  
PLEASE ARRIVE AT 1:30PM TO RECEIVE PROMOTIONAL ITEMS AND FOOD.  
HOT DOG, SODA,  
OR CHIPS **ONLY \$1.00** CASH ONLY  
[www.canadacollege.edu/baseball](http://www.canadacollege.edu/baseball)

# Become an International Student Ambassador

International Student Ambassadors are an important part of the International Student Center. They help students throughout an international students entire time at Cañada College from even before they arrive on campus. The International Student Ambassadors are in constant contact with prospective students and students who have applied and are admitted. Once students arrive in the U.S., they are assigned a group of new international students and serve as peer-mentors to make sure that all new international students have a great first semester. They also help provide international services and help plan orientation and fun programs like Chat n' Chew!

We are now looking for new International Student Ambassadors. If you're interested, please apply by Thursday, April 28 by downloading and submitting an application form and recommendation letter(s) here: [www.canadacollege.edu/international/pdfs/ISA\\_Job\\_DescriptionApplication.pdf](http://www.canadacollege.edu/international/pdfs/ISA_Job_DescriptionApplication.pdf). Good luck!



CONNECT WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**CHAT 'N CHEW**

(TUESDAY) MARCH 22  
APRIL 5  
APRIL 13

(WEDNESDAY) APRIL 19  
APRIL 27

INTERNATIONAL LUNCH TIME!\*

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH

STUDENT LIFE CENTER CLUB HOUSE BLDG 5-352

ACROSS FROM THE GROVE

12-1PM

\*LUNCH WILL NOT BE PROVIDED

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CENTER  
CAÑADA COLLEGE

# International Student Recruitment in Mexico

By Supinda Sirihekapong

Last week, I spent seven days travelling to Monterrey, Guadalajara, and Mexico City to recruit international students in Mexico.

I found Mexico to be rich in culture and history and the people very friendly and hospitable. The prospective students I met were eager to learn more about community colleges and higher education in the U.S.

The highlight of my trip was delivering *The San Mateo Daily Journal* to Ana Laura Hinojosa's mother. Ana Laura was on the front page of the Sports section featuring the Women's Tennis team's winnings.



APRIL 26, 2016 | TUESDAY  
3-5PM | BLDG 3-148



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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Be an International  
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Join Multicultural  
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Tutoring at the  
Learning Center

# The Olive Branch

## Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 5

SPRING 2016, APRIL 7

## Be an International Student Ambassador!

By Moody Metry

Whenever I tell someone that I work as an International Student (IS) Ambassador, they would immediately ask, so what do you do?

I've been at Cañada College for almost 2.5 years, and 2 of those years I've been part of the IS Ambassador experience, along with three other co-workers. The experience was more than I expected and it's been amazing. I believe that most of the skills that I've gained throughout my experience at Cañada was because of being an IS Ambassador.

As an IS Ambassador I am responsible for many things, mainly I serve as a peer-mentor to a group of new international students. I try to make sure that they get the most out of Cañada during their first semester, and I also help them with their transition to the United States. Along with that, I have the opportunity to organize events, mainly Fiesta Cañada during spring of 2015. These are just two things among many more.

Those experiences weren't just memories to

me, they actually shaped me in many different ways including developing leadership skills, being professional, a good communicator, and being able to manage my time, meet deadlines, and much more!

If you're looking for an on campus job that will challenge you

to grow in many ways, you should apply to be an IS Ambassador. The application deadline is April 28 and you can find the application here: [http://canadacollege.edu/international/  
meetthestaff.php](http://canadacollege.edu/international/meetthestaff.php).



## Important Dates

Mon, Apr 11, 12:30pm-2:00pm, Bldg 6-101

**One Love Training:** Join ASCC and learn about healthy relationships and how to avoid relationship abuse before it escalates.

Wed, Apr 13, 11:00am-1:30pm, The Grove

**Spring Job Fair:** Meet over 60 employers ready to hire you for summer jobs and internships. Come dressed professionally.

Thu, Apr 14, 12:30-1:30pm, The Grove

**ASCC Student Government:** Come meet the candidates who are asking for your vote to represent you and improve Cañada!

Thu, Apr 21, 12:30 – 1:30pm, Bldg 13-115

**Career Center Workshop:** Learn about how to impress during an interview.

Thu, Apr 21, 3:30-5:30pm, Bldg 9-154 (CIETL)

**ASCC Senate Meeting:** Check out what the student government is planning for you!

Thu, Apr 21 and 28, 1:00-2:00pm, Library SS Hub

**Psychology Club Meeting:** Meet other students majoring or interested in Psychology!

Tue, Apr 26—Thu, Apr 28, Upper Lawn

**Vote for your ASCC Student Government!**

# Multicultural Awareness Project (MAP) Club

"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart." - Nelson Mandela

Do you want make new friends from around the world and learn about their culture ? Do you want spread knowledge about your language and culture to others?

MAP Club is a safe and fun space for all students to come and share their stories. We come from different parts of the world with so many rich stories and experiences that would be beneficial for us to learn from each other. Come check out our meetings! (As an International student, you are automatically a member).

## What do we do?

**MAP meetings**, each with a different theme, have 3 goals:

- 1) Learn something new about a culture or country.
- 2) Talk about the similarities between cultures.
- 3) Have fun!

**MAP International Film Night:** MAP will host 2 films nights, featuring foreign films which will be screened in their original language and free food from the films' country. The last Film Night, we watched was *Little Women* in conjunction with International Women's Day. Come attend the next Film Night to find out what will be showing on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 3-5pm in Bldg 3-148.

**How do I join MAP Club?** Come to one of our meetings! Our next meeting will be on April 12, 3-4PM at Bldg 3-104.

**How often does MAP meet?** We meet every other Tuesday from 3-4pm. We only have two meetings left for this semester on April 12<sup>th</sup>, and May 10<sup>th</sup>. Don't miss out!

**If I miss a meeting, will you kick me out?** Attending all meetings is not mandatory. We are students just like you. We know tests and homework can be overwhelming. So come to the MAP meetings to relieve stress, share your culture, have delicious food and have a good laugh!

**Do I have to be an International Student to be a member of?** Of course not! MAP is a place for all who are interested in learning and sharing different cultures regardless where you're from. If you have any questions, please feel free to email [ccmapclub@gmail.com](mailto:ccmapclub@gmail.com).

# Tutoring at the Learning Center

By: Dominique Franceschi

After midterms, is there a class that you are finding challenging? Don't worry, you are not alone and there are many resources available to help you!

Located in the second floor of building 9, The Learning Center has 145 PC computers with internet access available for students. Microsoft Office Suite 2013 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Publisher and FrontPage), and a wide variety of additional software are available and this is only the beginning.

One of the most valuable tools I have found that has helped me be a successful student is the free tutoring offered in the Learning Center for virtually any subject. Here is some more information so you can make the most of this valuable resource.

**Drop-In Tutoring:** means you don't need to schedule an appointment, just drop in and meet with an available tutor.

**Tutors have been trained to help:** Being good at something and knowing how to convey knowledge to others are two very different things. All the tutors at the Learning and STEM Center have received a semester long course on effective tutoring practices.

**IT'S FREE!** While you will be asked to sign a form, tutoring is absolutely free for all registered students.

So how does it work? Tutoring is provided on a first come, first serve drop-in basis. There are two easy steps you need to complete when you come to the Learning Center:

1. Sign into the computers with your G-number.
2. Grab a flag to let tutors know you need assistance!

It's that easy! Keep in mind tutoring sessions are limited to 20 minutes if there are other students waiting. For more information, including tutors by majors, visit <http://canadacollege.edu/learningcenter/tutoring.php>.



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international/newsletter](http://www.canadacollege.edu/international/newsletter)

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by emailing the Ambassadors.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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# The Olive Branch

## Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4

SPRING 2016, MARCH 14

## Women's Tennis at Cañada College

By: Dominique Franceschi

After 14 years, Cañada College reinstated its Women's Tennis Team last Fall. The team is led by Head Coach Rick Velasquez and Assistant Coach Garth Haynes, a former Cañada College two time State Champion and professional tennis player. Three of our international students are on the team and on February 5, participated in the seven team Mission College Tennis Tournament and came home with five trophies! Here are some player highlights!

### Joelle Huelse

**Place of Birth:** Germany

**Major:** Business Administration

**Highlights:** Ranked German Junior Tennis Player. 2nd place in the #1 flight in singles and 1st in the #2 flight in doubles at the Mission College Tennis Tournament.

### Diana Barcelata

**Place of Birth:** Veracruz, México.

**Major:** Communication Studies

**Highlights:** Ranked Mexican Junior Tennis Player. 1st in the #2 flight in doubles and 1st champions in her flight at the Mission College

Tennis Tournament.

**What do you do when you are not playing Tennis?:** I like going to concerts, going shopping, going to the movies and watch series.

### Ana Hinojosa

**Place of Birth:** Monterey, Mexico

**Major:** Economics/Environmental Science

**Highlights:** Ranked Mexican Junior Tennis Player, #10 in the National level and #1 in State level. Finalist in doubles of a national championship. Represented her state in the National Olympics twice and played competitively at state, regional, sectional and national tournaments in Mexico.

**What do you do when you are not playing Tennis?:** I

enjoy simple things like hanging out, going to the movies, and going to the beach.



## Important Dates

Tue, Mar 15, 11:00am-1:00pm, The Grove  
**Internship Fair:** Find an internship in your major, over 50 employees will be there!

Wed, Mar 16, 8:30-11:00am, Bldg 6-101  
**Majors & Careers for ESL Students:** Learn about career pathways based on majors.

Wed, Mar 17, 3:30-5:30pm, Bldg 13-115  
**Interview Essentials:** Come learn about how to be prepared for a job interview.

Wed, Mar 16, 9:30am-12:00pm, The Grove  
**Job Zone:** Office Depot, Trader Joe's and other employers will be hiring on campus!

Tue, Mar 15, 3:30pm – 4:30pm, Bldg 9-154 (CIETL)  
**Interclub Council Meeting:** Learn about what student clubs are doing on campus.

Thu, Mar 17, 3:30-5:30pm, Bldg 9-154 (CIETL)  
**ASCC Senate Meeting:** Check out what the student government is planning for you!

Fri, Mar 18  
**DEADLINE: Submit your progress reports**

Thu, Mar 24, 9:00am-12:30pm, Upper Lawn  
**Heritage of Asian Pacific Islanders (HAPI) Festival:** Celebrate the diversity of Cañada!

Mar 27-Apr 2  
**NO CLASSES: Spring Break**

## Explore Redwood City and the Bay Area During Spring Break

There will be no classes during Spring Break from March 27 to April 3 at Cañada College. This is a great time to explore Redwood City and the Bay Area. Here are some places you might be interested in checking out.

### San Mateo County History Museum

2200 Broadway, Redwood City, CA 94063

[www.historysmc.org/](http://www.historysmc.org/)

The San Mateo County History Museum's goal is to preserve San Mateo County's historical sites, develop an archive of the County's history and provide interactive and meaningful learning experiences for visitors to explore San Mateo's history depicting it's original Native American inhabitants to today's rich diversity and innovation.

### Filoli Gardens & Country Estate

86 Cañada Road, Woodside, CA 94062

[www.filoli.org/](http://www.filoli.org/)

Filoli is a site of the National Trust for History Preservation and is an excellent example of the Golden Age of American garden design and country house architecture. Less than one mile down the road, visit the Pulgas Water Temple.

### Pulgas Water Temple

[www.sfwater.org/index.aspx?page=93](http://www.sfwater.org/index.aspx?page=93)

San Francisco built Pulgas Water Temple as a monument to the engineering marvel that brought water more than 160 miles across California from the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the Bay Area. The Beaux Arts style features columns and Corinthian capitals to reflect the architecture of ancient Greeks and Romans, whose engineering methods were used to build the new water system.

### Golden Gate Bridge

<http://goldengatebridge.org/visitors/>

The Bridge connects San Francisco to California's northern counties. With its 746-foot tall towers, sweeping cables, signature International Orange color, and Art Deco styling, it is a sensory experience featuring color, light, and sound. With more than 10 million annual visitors, be ready for crowds and changing weather conditions.

## Tax Reporting Forms for International Students

By now you should have received tax forms and instructions sent by the International Student Center. Even if you haven't worked in the U.S., you still need to submit tax forms.

If you did not work in the U.S., you will need to submit FORM 8843 [www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8843.pdf](http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8843.pdf), complete Part 1 & 3 only and sign page 2 and mail it by June 15 to: Department of Treasury Internal Revenue Service Center Austin, TX 73301-0215

If you earned more than \$3,950, you will need to complete FORM 8843 and FORM 1040NR [www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040nre.pdf](http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040nre.pdf) and mail it by April 8 to:

If you are owed a tax refund:  
Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service  
Austin, TX 73301-0215

If you must pay taxes:  
Internal Revenue Service  
P.O. Box 1303  
Charlotte, NC 28201-1303



### Tax Workshop for International Students



Tuesday, February 16, 2:00 – 3:00pm, Bldg 3-104  
Wednesday, March 16, 2:00 – 3:00pm, Bldg 3-142  
Thursday, April 7, 2:00 – 3:00pm, Bldg 3-104



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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Happy Lunar New Year

Supporting Students  
Fosters Connections

The Black Dot

# The Olive Branch

## Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3

SPRING 2016, FEBRUARY 19

## Happy Lunar New Year of the Monkey

By: Alexandra Zhuang

In China and other parts of Asia, the lunar calendar's new year falls on February 8, 2016.

There are twelve Chinese zodiac signs represented by animals and this year is the monkey!

### What does the monkey represent?

People born in the year of the monkey tend to be intelligent and successful in their careers and wealth. They're quick-witted, sociable, and enthusiastic. Their shortcomings are jealousy and arrogance.

### How do people usually celebrate the Chinese New Year, also called the Spring Festival?

Chinese people love the color red, which represents energy, happiness, and good luck, that's why Chinese have the custom of sending lucky money in red envelopes "hongbao" in Chinese. Usually those who are married give out the red envelopes. In the past, your Chinese classmates might be upset not being able to receive hongbao since they're far away from home, but luckily, with the development of

technology, now they have online hongbao, allowing users to send cash through electronic payments. A red envelope fever thus occurred since the program rolled out!

Another popular activity is to watch the Spring Festival Gala or "yuan xiao" on New Year's Eve. Almost everybody who owns a TV at home would enjoy the show!

### How to say Happy New Year in Chinese?

Xin nian kuai le!

### How can you celebrate the Lunar New Year?

Redwood City will be hosting it's 6th Lunar New Year Festival at Courthouse Square on Saturday, February 27 from 11:00am-4:00pm. Come join the Multicultural Awareness Project Club and other Cañada international students.  
[www.redwoodcity.org/residents/redwood-city-events/cultural/lunar-new-year](http://www.redwoodcity.org/residents/redwood-city-events/cultural/lunar-new-year)



## Important Dates

Tue, Feb 23, 9:30-11:30am, Learning Ctr  
**Personal Statement Workshop:** Get tips on what to include in a personal statement.

Tue, Feb 23, 3:00-4:00pm, Bldg 3-104  
**Multicultural Awareness Project (MAP) Club Meeting:** Come learn about different cultures and meet new friends.

Wed, Feb 24, 12:00-3:00pm, Bldg 3-142  
**ASCC Black History Month:** Learn about the inspiring history of Blacks in America.

Thu, Mar 3—Fri, Mar 4  
**NO CLASSES**—Flex Day for Faculty & Staff

Thu, Feb 25, 3:30pm – 5:30pm, Bldg 9-154 (CIETL)  
**ASCC Senate Meeting:** Learn about what the student government is planning.

Wed, Mar 2, 12:30-2:30pm, Bldg 13-115  
**Career Center Resume & Cover Letter Wksp**  
Mon, Feb 22, 10:00am-2:00pm, Transfer Center  
**San Francisco State University Rep on Campus**

Thu, Feb 25, 11:30am-1:30pm, Transfer Center  
**UC Santa Cruz Rep on Campus**  
Mon, Feb 22 & 29, 11:00am-3:00pm, Transfer Ctr  
**John F. Kennedy University Rep on Campus**

Wed, Mar 2, 10:00am-2:00pm, The Grove  
**Menlo College Rep on Campus**

# Supporting Students of Color Fosters Connections

By Supinda Sirihekaphong

Associated Students of Cañada College Presents:

**Black History Month**

Dr. Frank Harris III



"Student Success for Men of Color in Community Colleges"

February is Black History Month, when the U.S. recognizes the contributions of African Americans to the U.S. Despite

slavery being abolished 150 years ago when the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution was passed in 1865, African Americans and other people of color, still face other types of racism that limit their opportunities to basic human rights such as an education.

I attended the ASCC sponsored event, "Student Success for Men of Color in Community Colleges," and was reminded of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." Being a person of color myself, I have experienced being "the outsider" and have consciously chosen to live and work in communities that values it's diversity instead of fear it or shun it. I've also chosen a career path where I can actively be a part of bringing people together to challenge some of the prejudices we hold of "outsiders."

In the presentation, Dr. Frank Harris III shared with us, the four elements to supporting students:

1. Challenge students
2. Provide support so that students can overcome those challenges
3. Have high expectations
4. Provide authentic care so that students can rise up to those high expectations

Dr. Harris explained that these elements must be practiced with an anti-deficit perspective where we must:

1. Recognize that students want the best for themselves
2. Hold high expectations
3. Convey mutual respect
4. Avoid unintentional micro-messaging

I appreciate these opportunities that remind me about why I come to work everyday and the importance of connecting with people, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "People fail to get along because they fear each other; they fear each other because they don't know each other; they don't know each other because they have not communicated with each other."

# The Black Dot

By Moody Metry

The past week was Random Acts of Kindness Week (RAK) sponsored by the Associates students of Cañada College (ASCC). On Wednesday, we also had Club Rush and one of the clubs on campus, formally known as Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, had a white board with a black dot on it, and a question that asking "What do you see?"

Naturally, the answer that comes to mind would be "I see a black dot", that was my response too. The idea behind this activity was to make people think in a broader point of view, and to realize what they didn't see, then to apply it to their lives.

The main idea is that people would just see the black dot, and forget about the white space around it. Most often as international students, we come to the United States, and realize that it is not the same as back home, we would conclude that life here is challenging and sometimes it even leads to depression among a lot of us. However, one possible way to overcome the challenge of culture shock is to think outside of the box, meaning that you have to face the problem in a different way than you were used to and to take your eye off the black dot. For example, try adapting to the new environment that you are in by seeking help, making friends, getting involved or make yourself available to people, and most importantly make sure to be open minded and accept new ideas. I am writing this based on my experience thus far. There is more than just a black dot in whole white page.

## Tax Workshop for International Students



Tuesday, February 16, 2:00 – 3:00pm, Bldg 3-104  
Wednesday, March 16, 2:00 – 3:00pm, Bldg 3-142  
Thursday, April 7, 2:00 – 3:00pm, Bldg 3-104

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CAÑADA COLLEGE

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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

ASCC Leadership Retreat

SMCCD Welcomes a New Housing Coordinator

Redwood City Sister & Friendship Cities

## Back to Nature with the ASCC Family

By: Nisa Nik

In three words, the ASCC Retreat experience left me --- SORE, INSPIRED & THANKFUL!

Over the weekend, ASCC graciously invited non-members to attend their ASCC Spring 2016 Leadership Retreat at Camp Monte Toyon in Aptos, CA. I was fortunate to have been the lucky few to join them.

It was a wonderful weekend full of workshops and outdoor activities that pushed us to challenge ourselves, set personal and professional goals, understand our roles and responsibilities as student leaders, and be more sensitive of our surroundings.

The weekend was jammed packed with workshops that were eye-opening such as the visit by the Director of the Disability Resource Center (DRC), group activities that tested our communication skills and knowledge of Cañada College, and other activities that encouraged us to step out of our comfort zone.

After a long day of rope-challenge courses, rock-climbing, and activities, we ended the retreat with a night of bonding with s'mores by the bonfire, and an endless night of karaoke.

By the end of the retreat, my whole body was

sore, but I was motivated and inspired to help those around me. Thank you ASCC, Misha and Maggie for including us and making us feel welcomed. I hope to be able to be a part of this family, and if not, be able to volunteer during events to encourage participation and help students feel included in the Cañada family.

The Associated Students of Cañada College (ASCC) is the student government at Cañada College. The members are elected and appointed student representatives who organize and promote campus wide programs and events, protect student rights, and represent the student voice on campus committees. If you're interested in joining ASCC stop by the Student Life & Leadership Center at Building 5, Room 354 and attend two ASCC Meetings: Thursdays, 3:30pm-5:30pm in Building 9, Room 154.



## Important Dates

Fri, Feb 5, 9:30am, Learning Ctr

Thu, Feb 11, 1:30pm, Learning Ctr

**Personal Statement Workshop:** Get tips on what to include in a personal statement.

Wed, Feb 10 & Tue, Feb 16, 5:00, Bldg 9-123

Thu, Feb 11, 11:00am, Bldg 9-123

Wed, Feb 17, 2:00pm, Bldg 9-123

**Scholarship Workshop:** Learn how to complete an SMCCD scholarship application. For more workshop dates and times: <http://canadacollege.edu/financialaid/scholarship.php>

Thu, Feb 18, 11:59pm

**DEADLINE: SMCCD Scholarship Application**

Fri, Feb 12—Mon, Feb 15

**NO CLASSES**-Lincoln and President's Day

Sun, Feb 7

**DEADLINE:** Last day to Drop with no "W"

Tue, Feb 16

**DEADLINE:** Petition for Associate Degree

Tue, Feb 16, 11:00am, Bldg 3-142

**Celebrate Black History Month**

Tue, Feb 16 & Thu, Feb 18, 9:00am, Upper Lawn

**Random Acts of Kindness:** Be a part of Cañada's awesome community building event!

Wed, Feb 17, 9:00am, Upper Lawn

**Club Rush:** Find out about and join a student clubs on campus and get involved!



# SMCCD Welcomes New Housing Coordinator

I hope you had an enjoyable and a restful break as well as a Happy New Year!

My name is Julnar, and I am the new SMCCD Housing Coordinator. I'm here to introduce myself and tell you about how I can help you find a place to live.

Prior to the winter break, I began work as the International Student Housing Program Coordinator working with international students at all three SMCCD colleges (CSM, Cañada, and Skyline) to find safe and affordable housing. Many of our international students look forward to the opportunity to learn about American culture and have expressed an interest in living with families. Therefore, we created a homestay referral program to help students find homes with local families. Besides the home stay, I can help you find an apartment or home share, that is close to your campus.

If you are still not sure about your housing yet, or if you know one of your friends who is looking for a place to live, please feel free to call me at 650-306-33338 or email me at [msalamjulnar@smccd.edu](mailto:msalamjulnar@smccd.edu) so I can provide you with more information about what is involved in and refer you to the right

## Redwood City Sister & Friendship Cities in China and Mexico

Did you know that Redwood City has two sister and friendship cities in Mexico and China? Redwood City's sister cities include Zhuhai, China, Colima and Ciudad Juarez in Mexico and Qingyuan, China is a friendship city.

In order to be a Sister City of Redwood City, cities should be similar to Redwood City, such as have a institution of higher education, have a working port, and be committed to conserving the environment.

This past December and January, Cañada College welcomed delegations from our sister and friendship cities in China. We are hoping that we will welcome more Chinese students from this city.

These opportunities also strengthen our ties to Redwood City's City Council and nonprofit organization Redwood City International that helps organize many of the cultural events such as the Lunar New Year Festival. Hosting delegations also provide students with opportunities to build their leadership and public speaking skills as well.



Tennessee Tech University  
Date: February 9  
Time: 01:30 pm-03:00 pm  
Location: Transfer Center,  
Building 9, 1st Floor



Tennessee Tech University has over 60 undergraduate majors and 20 graduate programs including: Engineering, Business, Agriculture, and Education.

We offer scholarships up to 50% to international students.



Visit our website for more information about admissions, academics, and opportunities.  
[www.tntech.edu/international/admissions](http://www.tntech.edu/international/admissions)

### Employment Workshop for ESL & International Students

Come learn about:

- F-1 Employment Rules
- How to find a job on and off campus?
- What is a resume?
- What is cooperative education?



Wednesday, February 10  
12:30 – 1:30pm  
Bldg 13-117

Cañada College Career Center

Cooperative Education Cañada College

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CENTER CAÑADA COLLEGE



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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Welcome New  
International Students

Tips on Applying for a  
SMCCD Scholarship

New Year,  
New Challenges

# The Olive Branch

## Cañada College International Student Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2016, JANUARY 22

## Welcome New and Prospective International Students to Cañada College

Cañada welcomed over 20 new international students from Brazil, China, Colombia, Sweden, Kazakhstan, Israel, Italy, Russia, Luxembourg, and Nepal. This brings our total number of international students to 134.

On the first day of class, Cañada also hosted a group of 40 high school students from China who were visiting U.S. colleges and universities. Hopefully, we convinced them to apply for admission to Cañada!



## Important Dates

Mon, Jan 25, 7:30am-12:30pm, Upper Lawn  
**Welcome Week:** Get your Student Body Card to receive FREE Cañada gear.

Tue, Jan 26, 1:00—2:00-m, Bldg 9-123

Thu, Feb 4, 1:00-2:00pm, Bldg 9-123  
**Scholarship Workshop:** Learn how to complete an SMCCD scholarship application. For more workshop dates and times: [http://canadacollege.edu/  
financialaid/scholarship.php](http://canadacollege.edu/financialaid/scholarship.php)

Tue, Jan 26, 10:00-11:00am, Learning Ctr

Wed, Feb 3, 4:00-5:00pm, Learning Ctr  
**Personal Statement Workshop:** Get tips on what to include in a personal statement.

Wed, Jan 27, 1:00-2:00pm, Library Bldg 9-307  
**To Drop or Not to Drop:** Need help deciding on whether to drop or class or not?

Wed, Jan 27, 10:00am-12:00pm, Main Theater  
**Human Trafficking Awareness:** Come here amazing survival stories and don't miss this chance to be the change you want to see!

Tue, Feb 3, 1:30-2:30, Bldg 9-206  
**DegreeWorks Workshop:** Helpful tools in to help plan to complete a degree and transfer.

Thu, Jan 28 and Feb 4, 3:30-5:30, Bldg 9-154  
**ASCC (Student Senate) Meeting:** Join the student government in action to improve your experience at Cañada.

# Apply for a Scholarship

By: Alexandra Zhuang

Do you know that half of international students who applied for a SMCCD scholarship received one or more scholarships? It's a great way to award your hard work and achievements by getting additional money to pay for your tuition!

## How to apply for SMCCD Scholarships?

1. You need to create a SMCCD Scholarship allocation account at <https://smccd.academicworks.com/opportunities>. A My.SMCCD.edu email is required.
2. Complete the application questions.
3. Upload your unofficial transcript (request it through WEBSMART in "Student Records").
4. At least one recommendation letter from a SMCCD faculty or staff. You will be asked to provide the name and email address of the person you asked to write your recommendation. Ask this person FIRST before entering their information.
5. A personal statement

## What are the scholarships that I could apply to?

You only need to submit one application and the documents above and you will automatically be matched with scholarships for which you are eligible for. You will also be presented with a list of any other "apply to" scholarships that you may be eligible for once you respond to questions specific to these scholarships.

## What if I still need assistance about my scholarship application and personal statement?

Attend a Scholarship Workshop hosted by the Financial Aid office! See dates and times here on the Scholarship website: <http://canadacollege.edu/financialaid/scholarship.php>

**Deadline for the 2016-2017 Scholarship Application is Thursday, February 18.**

### Transfer Workshop for ESL & International Students

Come learn about:

- Honors Transfer Program
- U.S. Educational System
- How to Transfer to a 4-year University
- DegreeWorks and Project Assist
- Transfer Center Services



**Wednesday, January 27**  
12:30 – 1:30pm  
Bldg 9-106

# New Year, New Challenges

By: Supinda Sirihekaphong

I hope you had a wonderful winter break and had time to relax and also reflect on the last year and make new year's resolutions to help you focus on accomplishing your goals.

As for me, I went home to New York for the first time since moving to California, four years ago. It was a wonderful time but it also reminded me that change is needed to grow.

Although much of my old neighborhood remained the same, the tall, old trees that lined the boulevard and the diversity that always piqued my curiosity, much has changed as well. The diversity has increased with more young, White families and professionals moving to the neighborhood and new businesses catering to them. Hopefully, this is a good change.

My friends and family also remained the same, their presence and hugs warmed my heart, but each of them four years older and four years wiser, reminded me how much I have grown.

My trip home made me realize that although my past does not change, I must be open to change because then I get stuck in the past and do not grow. More importantly, I realize that change is difficult, so my new year's resolution is to be more accepting of the fact that learning, growing, living is hard and that I should embrace those challenges and not fear or run away from them because it will only make me a better person.

### Class Participation Workshop for ESL & International Students

Come learn about:

- What is class participation?
- Why is class participation important?
- How to improve your grades by participating?



**Wednesday, February 3**  
12:30 – 1:30pm  
Bldg 13-117

