



August 13, 2019

Welcome Back!

I am proud to welcome you all back to the 2019-20 academic year. We are all returning to our campus at an exciting time as we gear up for new students, faculty, staff and the opening of a new Science and Technology Building!

In my third year as Cañada's President, I remain deeply impressed by the strong, shared commitment we have to our College mission: to provide our community with a learning-centered environment, ensuring that all students have equitable opportunities to achieve their transfer, career education, and lifelong learning educational goals. The College cultivates in its students the ability to think critically and creatively, communicate effectively, reason quantitatively, and understand and appreciate different points of view within a diverse community.

As you know, last year I embarked on a learning campaign, engaging with faculty, staff, students, alumni and local community members. Based on what I learned, it is clear to me that Cañada is truly a great institution known for its quality programs, dedication to students, and commitment to community.

During the 2018-19 Academic Year, we realized several major accomplishments:

- Completed the College's Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER)
- Launched a free shuttle service to connect our community better with our campus
- Launched the Cañada College Promise Scholars Program
- Hosted the First Annual President's luncheon, raising \$60K for student scholarships
- Hosted the 2nd annual Awareness Summit
- Implemented the provisions of AB 705, including a new Writing Center
- Saw our student athletes set records and compete effectively both on and off the field

Thank you to all who made these campus-wide initiatives a reality!

To help the College move forward, faculty, staff, and administrative leadership recently participated in a Leadership Retreat at which they helped clarify the initiatives to which we will turn our attention this year. These initiatives – or strategic priority projects - will help the College achieve the goals set out in our 5-year Education Master Plan. These projects evolved from our Guided Pathways efforts, our accreditation self-study, the work of the PBC's Strategic Enrollment Management Committee,

our new Student Equity & Achievement Plan, Strong Workforce goals, the State Chancellor's Vision for Success, and the district-wide goals articulated by the SMCCCD Board of Trustees. These strategic priority projects include:

- Re-Design College Processes: Constituent Relationship Management system (CRM)
  - Streamline the matriculation process
  - Organize student "Success Teams" aligned with Interest Areas
  - Build data dashboards and train data coaches to support these efforts
  - Scale the number of Peer Mentors aligned with Interest Areas and programs
- Establish Interest Areas and Program Maps (implement Program Mapper)
  - Use the program mapping exercise to optimize the course schedule for student completion
- Develop Career Exploration opportunities for students that are aligned and integrated with Interest Areas
- Re-design Academic Support
  - Launch Writing Center
  - Scale peer mentoring and EPIC supplemental instruction programs
  - Integrate retention programs into larger academic support structure
- Build First Year Experience (FYE) programs (starting on October Flex Day) aligned with Interest Areas
- Expand opportunities for Early College experiences (dual enrollment; Middle College)
- Expand College capacity to assist students with Job Placement
- Create an equitable experience for Online Students to support student success

Another important issue for the 19-20 academic year will be Cañada's Accreditation Visit. It is imperative that, as a campus, we are all prepared. We will continue to discuss the Accreditation Standards when appropriate. The ACCJC site visit team will take place September 30-October 3, 2019. All information pertaining to the upcoming visit can be found at this [link](#).

A key part of the re-accreditation process is demonstrating that we monitor the quality of our academic programs and our students' learning. We are a college that is, first and foremost, dedicated to educating students. We work to continually improve and implement a system to assess our students' learning and to review our academic programs to effectively inform our faculty's efforts to enhance the education we provide.

In closing, I share with you some of the special events that will take place on campus this year. Please be on the lookout for announcements throughout the year.

- Save the date for our Second Annual President's Luncheon, held at the Hiller Aviation Museum on Tuesday, October 22. Our inaugural luncheon raised \$65,000 for student scholarships and we are looking to increase that number with this year's event. For more information, visit [www.canadacollege.edu/luncheon](http://www.canadacollege.edu/luncheon). We are always looking for faculty and staff support in planning the event. Contact Megan Rodriguez Antone to learn how to get involved.

- In an effort to continue removing barriers for our students, I am proud to share that we are entering our second year of offering free direct shuttle service to Cañada from East Palo Alto. The schedule can be viewed at [www.canadacollege.edu/shuttle](http://www.canadacollege.edu/shuttle).
- In addition to our free shuttle service, SMCCCD and SamTrans have partnered to offer free bus service for San Mateo County community college students through a limited time custom bus pass. This custom bus pass will allow for unlimited rides on all SamTrans routes from August 14 through August 31. Students currently enrolled at either Cañada College, College of San Mateo or Skyline College are eligible to take advantage of this limited time offer. SamTrans staff will be on site at Cañada College to distribute free fare on Wednesday, August 14 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Thursday, August 15 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. and Monday, August 19 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

I hope you join me in my excitement for all that the 2019-2020 academic year will bring. Welcome back, and I look forward to seeing you around campus!

Sincerely,  
Jamillah Moore, Ed.D.  
President