

SAN MATEO COUNTY  
**COMMUNITY**  
COLLEGE DISTRICT

*Cañada College • College of San Mateo • Skyline College*

# Combined Report of the College Presidents

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## CAÑADA COUNSELOR ACKNOWLEDGED FOR STATEWIDE WORK



Congratulations to Cañada's Learning Disability Specialist/DRC Counselor, Jenna French, who was awarded the 2020 RJ Scuderi Exemplary Award at the California Association of Post-Secondary Education and Disability (CAPED) conference. CAPED is the preeminent association advocating for and with students with disabilities in postsecondary education. For the past two years, Jenna has served as the CAPED California Co-Chair. When COVID-19 hit, there were no policies or processes for Learning Disability (LD) Specialists at the community college level during emergencies. Jenna, along with her co-chair, formed a new statewide council, "CAPED LD CIG Representative Council," made up of LD Specialists from each region.

The council created the "Guidance for Temporary Disability Services and Accommodations" as well as, the "LD Specialist Roles and Best Practices During COVID-19" handout. Working with the Chancellor's Office, these handouts and guidance were created to support Disability Support Programs and Services (DSPS) offices statewide during these challenging times. They were sent to DSPS Directors/LD specialists in Fall 2020 and presented at the CAPED conference. Jenna remarked that it was an honor to be recognized for this hard work to support LD specialists and DSPS offices statewide.

## CAÑADA STUDENTS RECOGNIZED BY BAY HONORS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



Think You?!, the Proceedings of the Bay Honors Research Symposium, is the collection of student work of those who present at the Bay Honors Research Symposium. The Symposium is held annually and is organized by the Bay Honors Consortium. All students who present at the Symposium are accepted via a competitive process and all work is done as part of an honors course, or an honors contract, at a California Community College. In order to have their work published on Think You?!, students must have presented their work at the Symposium and have their work fully vetted by their mentoring professors. The mentors check the work for accuracy, ethics with respect to procedure, correct citation for the discipline, and overall logic of work. Students submit a paper of their work, a video of their presentation, or both.

The Bay Honors Consortium (BHC) Proposal Committee met in early March 2020 to review the proposals that the Cañada College Honors students submitted and selected the best proposals to be presented at the Bay Honors Research Symposium. Out of 209 proposals submitted, they accepted 93, which is 45 percent of submissions. The original plan was

## BOARD REPORT | JANUARY 27, 2021

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to hold the 2020 Symposium at Stanford on May 2. However, due to COVID, the BHC made the difficult decision to cancel the in-person Symposium and, alternatively, honor the hard work of the stellar students by publishing Think You?! 2020. The following Cañada College Honors students, and their respective professors, were recognized and published by the BHC in Think You?! 2020.

- In Art History, mentored by Denise Erickson, Students Renalyn Ejada and Jeison Velásquez were recognized with "What Responsibility does Public Art Have to the Public?"
- In Literature, mentored by Lisa Palmer, Student Nigel Hawkins was recognized with "They'd Rather Us Dead: Racism, Drugs, and Oppression in 1950s Harlem." In Hawkins' research, he expands on the disparities in housing, education, and opportunity between White Americans and Black Americans living in Harlem. Hawkins relates his childhood to Sonny, who is a character in American Novelist James Baldwin's story, Sonny's Blue's. Hawkins says, "When I read Baldwin, I understood how the society I lived in pushed me away from recognizing who I truly am. Baldwin inspires me and gifts me a new perspective towards the direction I am going toward in my life."
- In Economics, mentored by Paul Roscelli, Student Elena Thai was recognized with "The Price is Not Always Right: How Offline and Online Pricing in Drugstores Impact Retailers and Consumers." In Thai's research of online pricing, she found "Online shopping has become a pertinent method of shopping over the years due to its convenience, ease, and accessibility, but within drugstores there is evidence of price discrimination which is selling identical products at different prices to maximize profits."
- Also, in Economics, mentored by Paul Roscelli and Rebekah Taveau, Student Kaisen Yao was recognized with "Conflict and Resolution: The 2007-08 Financial Crisis." Kaisen's goal was to "analyze the causes - overdependence on financial derivatives, credit-rating agencies' fraud, and the widespread economic globalization - and the socio-economic consequences in the U.S. In order to avoid a

recurrence of a recession, the U.S. government should appropriately reduce the use of expansionary policies such as tax cuts and interest rate cuts."

- In Psychology and Economics, mentored by Paul Roscelli and Patty Hall, Students Jana Gaskin and David Chabra were recognized with "Ignorance in the Age of Information: The Truth about Vaping." Gaskin's and Chabra's goal was to reveal the true effects of vaping and investigate teen misconceptions about e-cigarettes. In Gaskin's and Chabra's research, they found "Understanding what drives ignorance, especially among adolescents, is pivotal in discovering strategies to discourage the pursuit of vaping and similar behaviors. Battling misinformation with facts can potentially help curb the recent surge of vaping among young adults and teens."

Gaskin, who submitted two proposals on vaping, says, "Cañada supported David and I through informative consultations. Every professor we interacted with gave prompt, clear responses that were immensely helpful in answering questions and guiding research. Additionally, we worked closely with the Cañada Middle College program to gain access to high school students for the survey we conducted as part of our research process. We were also aided by Cañada Research Librarians, who helped direct us to the correct databases and library resources."

Chabra agreed and said, "Cañada's support was invaluable during our research project. We also got many great suggestions from other faculty members about different articles to research." Gaskin advises Cañada College students looking to write and be published in Think You?! should "Choose a topic that you're genuinely interested in and passionate about, because the process of creating an academically rigorous research project is long and difficult even when you're really excited about it, so trying to get through that process when you're bored and unmotivated would be really challenging."

Congratulations to all of the students, and their mentors, on your work and recognition.

# College of San Mateo



## CSM WELCOMES NEW DEAN OF BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY



Francisco Gamez joins College of San Mateo as the new Dean of Business and Technology. He has over 20 years of experience in higher education working in both private and public institutions as an administrator in both student and academic affairs.

Francisco has taught at NDNU and University of San Francisco on both the undergraduate and graduate level in both business/management and education. As an administrator, he has worked at various institutions including Stanford University, University of Southern California, University of San Francisco, and Sonoma State University.

Francisco also served as Dean of Business, Science, Multimedia Arts, and Applied Technology at Berkeley City College leading CE initiatives such as Strong Workforce and Perkins, as well as college wide priorities such as Guided Pathways and Enrollment Management prior to his appointment at CSM. He holds a Doctorate in Education, Organizations and Leadership from University of San Francisco.

## CSM RANKED #16 FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRADUATE EARNINGS



CSM was recently listed as one of the top 50 community colleges whose graduates earn the most money. Ranked 16th on the list, mid-career pay comes in at \$74,800 and early career pay at \$52,200. View the full list at [Newsweek.com](https://www.newsweek.com).

## THIRD BI-ANNUAL EQUITY SUMMIT BRINGS TOGETHER OVER 300 EDUCATORS, STUDENTS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS



**EQUITY SUMMIT**  
AT SKYLINE COLLEGE  
**2020**

FRIDAY NOV. 6, 2020  
9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. PST

Hosted via Zoom,  
visit [equityinstitute.com](https://equityinstitute.com)  
to register

If you have questions, contact Katrina Pantig at [pantigk@smccd.edu](mailto:pantigk@smccd.edu)

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
**BREE NEWSOME BASS**  
Community Organizer and Activist

**FEATURED SPEAKERS**

- DR. RONI ELLINGTON**  
STEM Educator, Scholar, and Consultant
- OLMECCA**  
Bilingual Hip-Hop artist, producer, and scholar.
- DR. ALLYSON TINTIANGCO-CUBALES**  
Co-Founder of Community Responsive Education
- DR. CESAR CRUZ**  
Homies Empowerment School Designer

Logos for Skyline College and Equity Institute.

On Friday, November 6, 2020, the Equity Institute at Skyline College hosted the 3rd Bi-Annual Equity Summit, a virtual half-day professional learning experience that featured 10 national thought leaders, practitioners, and activists who shared their perspective, expertise, and recommendations for advancing equity, social justice and re-imagining educational spaces. This year's featured keynote speaker was activist and filmmaker, Bree Newsome Bass. The experience brought together over 300 educators, students, and community members who logged onto zoom from throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, Central Valley and Southern California, and out of state.

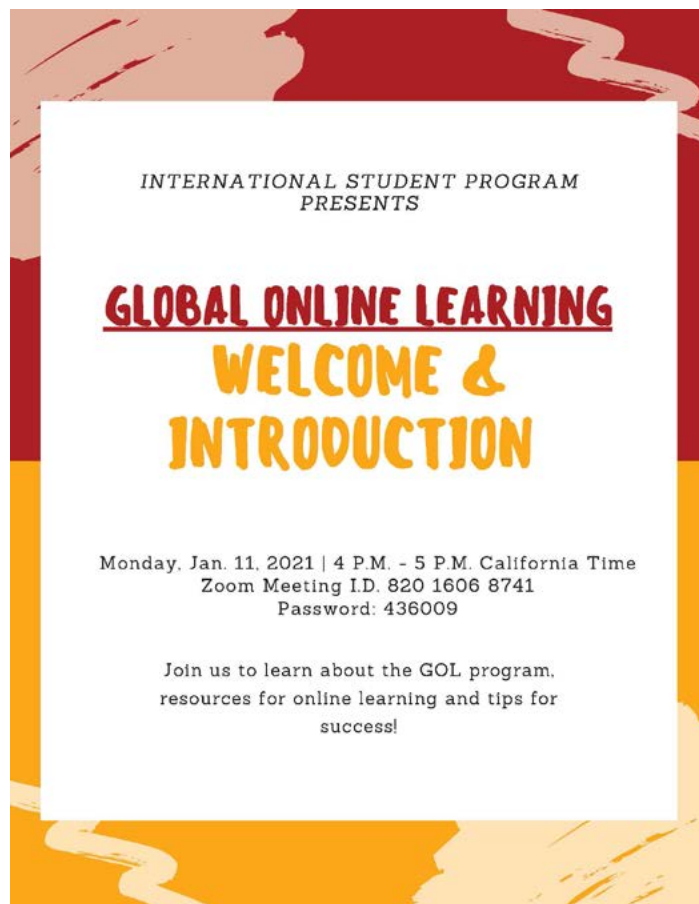
The program commenced with opening remarks from President Melissa Moreno, El Manager Katrina Pantig, and a moment of silence for the passing of Tom Mohr. The first half of the Summit experience consisted of three 15-minute “Equity Talks” on Humanizing Pedagogy (Dorinda Carter-Andrews, Ph.D.), Culturally Responsive Teaching (Cesar Cruz, Ed.D.), and Transformative STEM Teaching and Learning (Roni Ellington, Ph.D.). Following the presentations, attendees were invited to an informal community engagement session facilitated by Michelle Batista, Director of Student Support. During this session, participants had the opportunity to network and have dialogue about the topics presented. The formal program resumed with the Equity Plenary, Transformative School Leadership which featured panelists, Michael Benitez, Ph.D., Allyson Tintiangco-Cubales, Ed.D, and Darrick Smith, Ed.D, moderated by Ali Michael, Ph.D. Panelists spoke authentically and passionately drawing from their experiences as faculty and administrators and the impact they have been able to make in their respective institutions and communities.

The event culminated with a Keynote Address from Bree Newsome Bass. Her keynote addressed historical movements for racial justice and liberation, critiquing white supremacy and anti-black racism that has grown and intensified, and reflecting on her journey as an activist and organizer. Following her talk, Bree engaged in an interview style conversation facilitated by Equity Summit and Equity Institute Founder, Lasana O. Hotep, Director for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging at UC Berkeley. Their conversation painted more details to Bree’s key milestones as a leader and what led her to the courageous and iconic act of climbing up and removing the Confederate flag from the South Carolina State House in 2015. The full experience culminated with a hip-hop performance by Bi-lingual artist, producer and activist, Olmeca.

A participant shared, “The experience taught me to align your fight for equity with your daily actions. It’s not just the march, the book you read, the forums you attend. Equity should be fought for in the normal processes of your day, not just a discussion. Think and reflect on how the actions we individual choose each day contribute to equity/inequity in our communities.”

*Article by Katrina Pantig*

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM WELCOMES NEW GLOBAL ONLINE LEARNING STUDENTS FOR SPRING 2021!**



On January 11, 2021, the International Student Program (ISP) hosted a welcome zoom session for newly admitted Global Online Learning (GOL) students. The GOL program is a district-wide program that provides international students with the opportunity to take online classes through Skyline College, College of San Mateo, or Cañada College without leaving their home countries. GOL is an excellent opportunity for international students to start their college education at home. They can come to Skyline College to continue with their academic program when it is safe to do so.

This semester, ISP welcomed new GOL students from Canada, China, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. The welcome zoom session kicked off with the Vice President of Instruction, Dr. Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza, and Dean

## BOARD REPORT | JANUARY 27, 2021

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of Global Learning Programs and Services Division, Russell Waldon, welcoming the students to our campus community. Dr. Taylor-Mendoza spoke about how Skyline College has long been committed to inclusion and diversity in the community and how international students play a big role in the mission. The event provided GOL students with both an opportunity to introduce themselves and to learn more about the ISP staff that they will be working with for the duration of their studies.

For more information on the GOL program at Skyline College, please contact the ISP office at [skyinternational@smccd.edu](mailto:skyinternational@smccd.edu).

*Article by Chikako Walker*