



## **Weekly Update 4-23-21**

Dear Campus Community,

### **Cañada College to Host 2020 & 2021 Virtual Commencements on Friday, May 28**

Due to the emergence of COVID-19 early last year, Cañada College did not hold a 2020 commencement ceremony but promised our 2019–2020 graduates one at a future date. On Friday, May 28, 2021, Cañada College will follow through on that promise by premiering the 2020 Virtual Commencement ceremony on YouTube at 5:30 pm. That event will be followed by the 2021 Virtual Commencement at 7 pm. Both ceremonies will be available to watch any time after the premiere and links will be shared with the campus in May.

Students who earned degrees and/or certificates over the last two years are currently being contacted with details on how to participate. Until then regalia, diploma covers, and other commencement items can be ordered from the [Cañada College Bookstore](#). The pandemic has been a monumental challenge but our students persevered and achieved their academic goals. While a virtual commencement is not what we originally envisioned when we postponed the 2020 event, we are excited to celebrate the past two years of our graduates' successes.

### **Be a Part of Virtual Commencement!**

Faculty and staff are invited to participate in virtual commencement by submitting a five-second clip of themselves holding "Congratulations, Cañada Grads!" signs, waving, dancing, giving thumbs up, etc. The original sound in these clips will not be used, so be sure to show your excitement through your body language, attire, or signage. NOTE: it's also recommended to avoid calling out specific class years in the clips so the clips can be used for both virtual ceremonies. Submitted clips will be edited into an opening montage that sets the mood for each ceremony. To get a feel for what we are creating, an example of a virtual commencement opening can be found [here](#).

**[Submit Your Five-Second Commencement Video Clip to this Dropbox Folder](#)**

Please submit your five-second clip to [this page](#) by 8 a.m. on Monday, May 3. For questions, please contact the [Cañada College Marketing Department](#). Thank you for helping us celebrate our students at virtual commencement!

**San Mateo County Board of Supervisors Awards \$2 Million Grant to Promise Scholars Program at SMCCCD**

On Monday the San Mateo County Community College District announced that the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors has funded a \$2 million grant to the Promise Scholars Program at the San Mateo County Community College District. The grant pays for two years of tuition, books and fees for 500 local college students to attend Cañada College in Redwood City, College of San Mateo in San Mateo, or Skyline College in San Bruno. The grant is being allocated from County Measure K funds. You can read the full announcement [here](#).



**TODAY: Critical Conversation: Community Read**

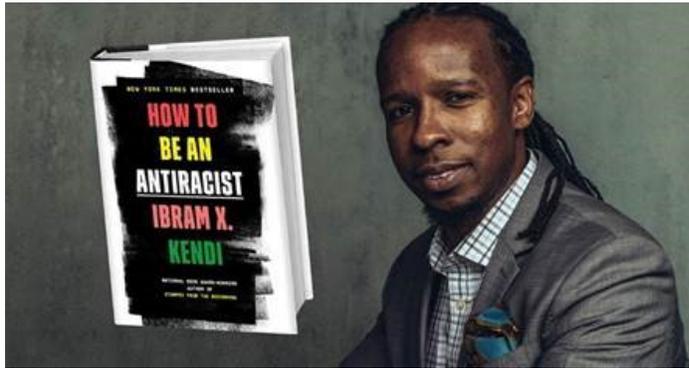
Friday, April 23 from 1:30-3 p.m.

Log in [here](#).

We will be reviewing and discussing Ch. 16-18. Topics: failure, success, survival.

The Cañada College campus community is invited to engage in a Community Read of Dr. Ibram X. Kendi's *How to Be an Antiracist*.

The sections of the book have been distributed throughout the 2020 – 2021 academic year and will be paired with a critical conversation Zoom session. The dialogue will center on race with Dr. Kendi's book as a springboard for the conversation. The dialogue may, and is encouraged, to explore the deeper impacts of race for each of us on campus, in our communities, and in the world. Please mark your calendars and review [this website](#) for additional details, including how to access the readings.



### **Planning & Budgeting Council Updates**

At their April 21, 2021 meeting this week, the PBC took a number of important actions, including recommending to the College President that:

- The math faculty replacement position be filled
- The College institutionalize a new Umoja Program
- That the Umoja program be allowed to request resources in the 2020-21 cycle (as an exception)
- The new Technology Committee's bylaws and College Technology Plan for 2021-23 be approved

As the College's Accreditation Oversight Committee, PBC approved due dates and a timeline for the [Program Review process for 2021-22](#), as well as a new process for requesting and granting extensions and deferrals for comprehensive program review and annual updates, if necessary.

PBC also certified that the Divisions followed PBC's resource prioritization process and forwarded those priorities to the College President for funding in the 2021-22 fiscal year budget.

## Virtual Office Hours – Friday, April 30 from 7:30-9 a.m.

Are you ready to kick off the weekend with virtual coffee and conversation? President Moore, Vice President Robinson, Vice President Mendoza and Vice President Pérez will be “open” for Virtual Office Hours, via Zoom, Friday, April 30 from 7:30-9 a.m. The campus community is invited to drop-in for a virtual cup of coffee and open discussion.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://smccd.zoom.us/j/84961305637?  
pwd=SVNjQzhNSTd4RXc0T2dWMHFudVIHQQT09](https://smccd.zoom.us/j/84961305637?pwd=SVNjQzhNSTd4RXc0T2dWMHFudVIHQQT09)

Meeting ID: 849 6130 5637

Passcode: 911492

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,84961305637# US (San Jose)

## Virtual Connect to College

Our annual Open House, Connect to College, will be held, virtually, on May 6 from 6-8 p.m. This is the time to welcome members of the community to learn about Cañada’s academic programs and student support services. For more information please visit <https://canadacollege.edu/connect>. Please contact [Olivia Cortez-Figueroa](#) to get involved or for questions.



### Connect to College Program

- Introduction & Welcome
- Student Support Services
- Academic Programs
- Student/Alumni Panel
- Q&A



Register Now!

Questions? Contact Olivia Cortez-Figueroa at [cortezfigueroao@smccd.edu](mailto:cortezfigueroao@smccd.edu)

## **Tune In To TRIO**

TRIO UB & SSS staff are in the midst of helping students as they finish up the semester and celebrate those who are graduating. With this, they are hosting a weekly office hour until the end of the semester called Tune In To TRIO. The session is for students and community members who are looking for more information on TRIO and/or want to check in. Additional information can be found [here](#).

## **Rapid Response Hotel Stay Program**

The San Mateo County Community College District's Basic Needs Taskforce (BNTF)\*\* Housing Insecurity Subcommittee has launched the Rapid Response Hotel Stay Program to provide short-term emergency housing support for students who do not have safe or stable housing and who would otherwise be unsheltered. If a student is housing unstable, they may be eligible to receive a 3-night hotel stay (extendable to 6 nights if a weekend is involved) and will work with SparkPoint and Core Agencies (i.e. Fair Oaks Community Center in Redwood City and Samaritan House in San Mateo) to explore longer term/stable housing. If students are working with community partners, they may be eligible for one week extensions up to a total of four weeks. The pilot program is set to launch on Monday, April 26, 2021.

This District-wide effort is made possible thanks to \$100,000 in funding provided by our Board of Trustees in an effort to address students' basic needs around housing insecurity. Special thanks to the BNTF Housing Insecurity Sub-Committee members for their work in designing and launching this program. For more information on the Rapid Response Hotel Stay Program, or if students would like to sign up, please call 650-381-3550 or email [cansparkpoint@smccd.edu](mailto:cansparkpoint@smccd.edu). Our team is working on a short online form that will be posted once finalized.

\*\* The Basic Needs Taskforce, led by, President of Cañada College, Dr. Jamillah Moore, and, Vice Chancellor of Auxiliary Services, Tom Bauer, is comprised of over 25 individuals across the three campuses and addresses three pillars of student basic needs: food insecurity; housing insecurity and mental health.

## **Black Student Success Week**

California Higher Education Leaders will host Black Student Success Week, April 26-30. Daily webinars will be held throughout the week from 12-1 p.m. You can register for the webinars [here](#).



Stay safe, stay healthy, stay strong.

Sincerely,  
Jamillah Moore, Ed.D.  
President