



A Message from Interim President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update 9-3-21

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

My first month at Cañada has flown by. I have been asked to serve on the San Mateo Chamber Education Committee and on Wednesday, September 1st, I participated in a panel presentation with newly hired Superintendent of Sequoia Union High School District, Dr. Darnise Williams and Superintendent of San Carlos Unified School District, Dr. Jennifer Frentress.

Thank you to everyone who joined, both in-person and virtually, to give a fond farewell to Graciano Mendoza. He will be missed! A small screening committee (Diana Tedone-Goldstone, Rachel Corrales and I) interviewed Interim VPA candidates this past week and we plan to hire this position by mid-September.



Cañada in the San Francisco Chronicle

You may have seen that our new Kinesiology & Wellness Building was featured in the San Francisco Chronicle this week! You can read the article [here](#). Folks can sign up to receive updates on the Kinesiology & Wellness Building, when information is available, at www.canadacollege.edu/b1info.

Campus Tours are Back!

As Cañada College staff, faculty and students transition back to campus this Fall 2021 semester, the Outreach Program Office is excited to offer in-person campus tours. The tours have been updated to incorporate the newest buildings and enhancements to the campus, including a sneak peek of our brand new state of the art Kinesiology and Wellness building. The reservation system and landing page will go live by September 14 in preparation for two full weeks of tours beginning the week of September 28, 2021. Tours will be scheduled for Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. These tours are intended for our Cañada College community. More information about how and where to reserve your spot for a campus tour will be shared in the coming weeks. Additional tours to the public will be scheduled in the coming months.

Enhanced Success Team Support for Guided Pathways – Dedicated Retention Specialists

Guided Pathways continues to grow and will expand its support structure for this final year of its 5-year implementation timeline. As part of Cañada's COLTIVATE college redesign, our Interest Area Success Teams will now include support from a dedicated Retention Specialist per Interest Area. This focused attention from Retention Specialists will include continued coordination and regular meetings with Special Program Retention Specialists to support all first-time, continuing, and returning students through Communities of Practice conversations. These meetings focus on developing and expanding best practices and techniques for connecting and communicating regularly with students in an effort to build a sense of community. Please stay tuned for additional updates about expanded support for students through Guided Pathways in the coming weeks.

Dr. Pérez Accepted into HACU's Leadership Academy

Congratulations to our Vice President of Student Services, Dr. Manuel Alejandro Pérez, who has been selected to be a part of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) Leadership Academy/La Academia de Liderazgo! Dr. Pérez is one of 25 fellows from institutions throughout the country to join HACU's third cohort. The Leadership Academy/La Academia de Liderazgo, is a one-year program to prepare the next generation of culturally diverse leaders for executive and senior level positions in higher education and is designed to increase diverse representation in executive and senior-level positions in higher education. Fellows participate in an array of leadership

development activities to prepare them for leadership roles in the full spectrum of institutions of higher learning with an emphasis on HSIs and Emerging HSIs. You can



read the full announcement [here](#).

Welcome Captain Elzey!

Please give a warm Cañada welcome to our new Public Safety Captain, Al Elzey, Jr. Al was born in Seoul, Korea and raised in San Francisco. After graduating from J.E. McAteer High School, Al attended and played football at the College of San Mateo and San Francisco State University. He then earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Management from Union Institute and University. Al was hired by the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office in 1994 as a Correctional Officer, was promoted through the ranks to Captain and recently retired from the Sheriff's Office after serving 28 years. During Al's career at the Sheriff's Office, he worked in the cities of East Palo Alto, North Fair Oaks and unincorporated Redwood City and in the North and South Coast. In his spare time, Al enjoys coaching and attending his kids' sporting events, cooking and traveling. Al is married to his wife Sasha and together they have two children: 14-year-old Alexa and 11-year-old Chase.



Updates from our Planning & Budget Council

We held our first Planning & Budget Council (PBC) meeting of the year on Wednesday. At the meeting, the group discussed several items including: the outcomes of the Leadership Retreat and draft Annual Plan, results of the Cultural Center Focus Group, preparation for our Program Review process and feedback from our Participatory Governance Survey. For more information, visit the [PBC website](#).

Labor Day

In Honor of Labor Day, our campus will close for a declared recess beginning Saturday, Sept. 4 and reopen on Tuesday, Sept. 7.

Thank you for your hard work this week and I wish you all a wonderful long restful weekend.

Sincerely,

Kim