



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 5-5-23

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Over the last few weeks, members of the College community have participated in important relationship building activities with our K-12 partners. The Cañada leadership team joined members of the Sequoia Union High School District (SUHSD) leadership team for the second annual two-day Equity Leadership Training, led by the Skyline College Equity Institute. The K-14 Equity Leadership Training with SUHSD and Cañada College is a component of the Living the Promise MOU that we established last year with Ravenswood City School District, SUHSD, San Francisco State and Cal State East Bay. In addition, as part of the Living the Promise MOU, Cañada College Welcome and Acceptance Letters (see attached) were emailed to more than 2,200 graduating seniors (and their parents) from SUHSD. Hard copy letters will also be mailed to the students' primary households this month.

This past Friday, I attended the Ravenswood Education Foundation's spring fundraising event, Shine Brighter Together. I left inspired after hearing from student Jaila Powell on how students felt supported because of the significant work of the Ravenswood School District led by Superintendent Gina Sudaria and her incredible team. It has been wonderful connecting with our educational partners to discover ways we can collectively support our communities.



Student Leadership Awards

Last Friday, April 28, the Center for Student Life and Leadership Development held its 10th annual Leadership Awards with the theme “Sakura Matsuri.” Sakura Matsuri, the festival that celebrates the blooming of cherry blossoms, is an important time in Japanese culture. The cherry blossom symbolizes renewal and optimism, and how beautiful life can be--this is something that aligns with Student Life’s vision this year as we continue to come out of the pandemic and engage our students in community building. More than 75 people joined in the celebration of student engagement through Student Life. Raquel Rodriguez won the Unsung Leader Award, Pamela Vorsatz won the Emerging Leader Award, Oliver Simpson won Most Involved Leader, Nimsi Garcia won Advisor of the Year, Luis Romero won Outstanding Achievement in Leadership, the Astronomy Club won Club Event of the Year, the ESL Conversation Club won New Club of the Year, and Phi Theta Kappa won Club of the Year.



Honors Showcase

On April 27 and May 4, honors students presented their research at the Cañada College Honors Research Showcase! Additionally, seven Cañada students were invited to present at the prestigious Bay Honors Consortium Honors Research Showcase at Stanford University on Saturday, May 6. During the event, Professor Susan Mahoney was recognized for leading our Honors students for the past six years. At Cañada College, honors coursework is open to all motivated and curious students who are interested and willing to dig deeper into course material by undertaking independent research projects.



ESL Recognition Event

On Tuesday, our ESL Department celebrated with the campus community to honor our ESL students and found inspiration from hearing the students' personal stories. Our community partners at Upward Scholars also joined the celebration as many of our ESL students are also part of their program. Upward Scholars provides adult immigrants the boost they need to move up the economic ladder through education and career development support.



Middle College Signing Day

Middle College celebrated College Signing Day with Class of 2023. Many students will go straight to a four-year university, while some will continue to pursue their Associate's degrees at Cañada College before transferring to a university. Students in this year's graduating class are also planning to attend international universities, art and trade programs, as well as joining the military.



Updates from Cañada Athletics

Our playoff-bound Colts Baseball team (22-17-1) saw seven players named to the All-Coast North team this week, led by outfielder Joey Lee and infielder Owen Crevelt on the first team. Lee hit .376 during the regular season, ranking third in the league in hitting, while scoring a team-best 36 runs, and adding 25 RBIs. He hit a Coast-best .436 in conference-only games. Crevelt hit .310 overall with 33 runs and 24 RBIs. He hit .381 in Coast-only games.

The Colts begin the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA) Regionals at Merced on Friday in a best-of-three series. It is the ninth playoff appearance for Head Coach Tony Lucca.

In Women's Soccer, Sophomore goalkeeper Jenna Vath is transferring to Daemen University in Amherst, New York. Vath, who has been with the program since 2019, played in 38 career games. She logged a 0.94 goals against average with six shutouts this past season for the Colts, who reached the second round of the CCCAA playoffs and had a 1.91 goals against average and three shutouts in 2021. Go Colts!



Save the Date: Mural Ribbon Cutting on May 15

Our mural is nearly completed and the day to celebrate a special piece of Cañada history is almost here! The campus community is invited to the Cañada Mural Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Monday, May 15 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Enjoy refreshments and performances on the Upper Lawn as we officially debut our mural to the Cañada Community! For questions, please contact Dr. Michiko Kealoha at 650-306-3373 or kealoham@smccd.edu.



Employee End-of-Year Celebration – RSVP by May 12

Please join us for our Employee End-of-Year Celebration! The event will be held at the Cañada Vista Clubhouse on Thursday, May 18 from 12-1:30 p.m. All college employees are invited to celebrate the end of the year together. During the celebration, we will be honoring our retiring faculty and staff, faculty who have achieved tenure and our Classified Employee of the Year. The event flyer is attached. Please RSVP to canpresident@smccd.edu by May 12.



Classified School Employee Appreciation Week Celebration

Our Classified Professionals are the unsung heroes who play key roles in creating a warm, welcoming and supportive environment that contributes to the success of our students. Celebrate our Classified employees at an appreciation event with warm beverages and breakfast goodies in the Building 8 Lobby on Thursday, May 25, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Thank you for everything that you do!



Staff Support Needed for Commencement

Cañada's 55th Commencement Ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 27 at 10 a.m. and there are a number of opportunities for staff to participate and help make this event

a memorable one for our graduates and their families. To assist with this special event, please click the [commencement job assignment link](#). Commencement assignments include: setup crew, graduate registration, getting grads ready, commencement usher, cleanup crew and more. Staff support on this day makes the graduation experience for students possible. Important: CSEA employees are entitled to overtime in the form of pay or comp-time – this is the employee's choice. Please inform your supervisor of your choice. We hope staff will be a part of the Cañada Commencement team and appreciate your consideration.



Please Let Us Know Your Opinion of Cañada's Participatory Governance Processes

Please take a few minutes (about seven) to complete [this survey](#) to provide your perspective on how well the College's participatory governance Councils, Senates, Committees, program review, budgeting and related processes are working.

I hope you enjoy the cool weekend! I'm hoping for the warm days to return soon.

Sincerely,
Kim