



## A Message from President Kim Lopez

### **Weekly Update: 12-6-24**

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

### **Lizette Bricker - Vice President of Student Services**

I am pleased to share that, pending board approval, Lizette Bricker will serve Cañada College as our Vice President of Student Services. She will begin on Monday, February 3, 2025. Additionally, John Fraire has agreed to remain as Interim VPSS through January 2025 to help with the transition.

Lizette Bricker (She/Her) has more than 20 years of student services experience in the K-12, community college and four-year university level. Most recently, her experience includes more than 10 years in community college leadership and administration. She is currently serving as Vice President of Student Services at Ohlone College. Prior to Ohlone College, she served as Dean of Enrollment Services and Support Programs at College of San Mateo (CSM), and Acting Vice President of Student Services at CSM during the height of the pandemic. Prior to that, Lizette's other roles have included Interim Dean of Counseling and Program Supervisor for a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Title V grant at Cañada College. She also served as a High School Counselor at Desert Mirage High School, Adjunct Counselor for General Counseling, Disabled Student Program and Services, and EOPS at College of the Desert. She was also an English Adjunct Faculty, teaching English Composition, Writing and Literature both at College of the Desert and Brandman University. She began her career at CSU San Bernardino as a College Recruiter, and also worked for UC Riverside in their Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP).

Lizette serves as Region 4 Representative and board member for the Chief Student Services Officers (CSSO) Association. She has been actively involved with the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA) as a team leader for their Mentor Program. Through the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI) at the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, she was trained and participated as a Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) Coach.

Lizette earned her BA from San Diego State University and her MA and MS from California State University, San Bernardino. She was born and raised in Indio, CA. Lizette is a proud Latinx, first-generation, community college transfer student. It was her participation in the EOPS program that was the foundation to realizing her educational goals, an experience that solidified her commitment to support programs and services at the community college level.

Lizette is a mother of two, Lucas and Sofia, and is married to her partner, Chris. She enjoys good food, discovering new restaurants, and spending time with family and friends. She also has a passion for traveling, reading, music, dancing Ballet Folklorico and listening to podcasts.



### **Colts Men's Soccer Headed to State Championship!**

Our Cañada College Colts Men's Soccer Team is heading to the 3C2A State Championships! Cañada is making its first state championship appearance under head coach Erik Gaspar. The last time the Colts qualified for the 3C2A Soccer State Championships was in 1999, under Cañada Hall of Fame coach Frank Mangiola. The Colts will play Southern California #2 seed, Cuyamaca College. The game is scheduled for today, December 6, 10 a.m. at American River College in Sacramento. The game will also be streamed live and available at <https://baosn.tv/cccaa/>.



## Colts Send-Off

Thank you to the Cañadians who showed support yesterday afternoon as the Colts boarded the bus to Sacramento to head to the championship!



## Please Provide Feedback on this Year's Program Review Process

The PBC Program Review Sub-Committee invites you to provide feedback on this year's program review process. Please find a [link to the survey here](#). The survey will be open until December 20<sup>th</sup>. Your feedback helps us continuously improve this process. Thank you!

## Honoring Professor Alicia Aguirre

Our great colleague, Cañada College Professor and fierce ESL program coordinator, Alicia Aguirre, will be recognized on Monday, December 9 at Redwood City Hall. Alicia has been an incredible public servant and will be honored for her work in the community as she ends her term on City Council. Additional information can be found on the attached invitation. We invite the campus community to join in celebrating Professor Aguirre.



## Cañada in the Community: Family Connections

On November 25, Dr. Kealoha was invited to lead retreat activities for the teachers, staff and Board of Directors of Family Connections. [Family Connections](#) is a local foundation for whole-family success—empowering under-served families in East Palo Alto, Redwood City and Daly City by providing free, high-quality early learning programs and basic needs services to families. Cañadians Mayra Arellano and Iliana Garcia-Ruiz both serve on the Board of Directors and multiple Cañada students serve as teachers with Family Connections. The afternoon was filled with story-sharing and creating community commitments.



## Industry Insights: Cañada CAT Club Hosts Portfolio Review for Digital Art & Animation Students

On November 26, the Cañada Animation and Technology (CAT) Club held a portfolio review session for Digital Art & Animation (DA&A) students, with several industry professionals in attendance. Every discipline taught in Digital Art & Animation was represented by at least one student portfolio, showcasing the depth and breadth of the types of classes DA&A offers. Industry professionals included Jimmy La (Graphic Design), Angie Sham (Photography) and John Hays and Ed Bell (Animation). Professors Dominique Wu (Game Design) and David Gainey and Paul Naas (Animation) also took part in providing feedback to students, drawing on their years of industry experience. After the reviews concluded, students chatted informally with the assembled professionals, gaining further insight into their next steps to prepare for industry jobs. The CAT Club is already planning another review for the Spring semester, and the DA&A faculty in attendance were very pleased with the initiative, effort and success of the event.



### **Dual Enrollment High School Visit**

On December 3, a group of approximately 100 Dual Enrollment students from Woodside High School, along with their staff, visited our Cañada College campus. They were warmly welcomed by Stephen Redmond, Director of Middle College, and James Carranza, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences. The students took a tour of our beautiful campus, guided by our Outreach team. Following the tour, they enjoyed some pizza and participated in a student panel where current Cañada College students shared their experiences and future plans. Additionally, the students experienced a fun scavenger hunt during the campus tour, including a quiz to test their knowledge about Cañada College.



### **Brothers Achieving Milestones (BAM): End of Semester Celebration**

This week, the Brothers Achieving Milestones (BAM) End of Semester Celebration was a nice gathering that brought campus community members together for a meaningful afternoon. Over a delicious lunch from Backyard, attendees had the chance to mingle, connect and celebrate the achievements of the semester.

It was a great reminder of the power of community and shared success—thank you to the team for putting together such a memorable gathering!



### ESL 912 Final Project Event

Our amazing ESL 912 students put their English skills into practice yesterday morning with a variety of fun, hands-on activities! From leading games and karaoke to creating art and learning how to spread a tamal, they shared their cultures in the most delightful ways. A big thank you to everyone who joined us in supporting and celebrating our English learners—you helped make it a great experience!





### **First Aid, CPR and AED Training at Skyline College on January 9, 2025**

The Adult First Aid/CPR/AED course incorporates the latest science and teaches students to recognize and care for a variety of first aid emergencies such as burns, cuts, scrapes, sudden illnesses, head, neck, back injuries, heat and cold emergencies and how to respond to breathing and cardiac emergencies for victims about 12 years and older. Successful students will receive a certificate for Adult First Aid/CPR/AED valid for two years. The course is open to all district employees and is capped at 25 participants. The course will be held at Skyline College in Rooms 6-202 and 6-204 from 12:30 – 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 9, 2025. Here is the new registration link for the training- <https://forms.gle/yUhMje8hvoSuX5Jg6>

Have a wonderful weekend and I hope Finals week is smooth for everyone,

Sincerely,  
Kim