



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 3-14-25

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Celebrate Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month! Celebrate by honoring the achievements and contributions of women throughout history and check the [college calendar](#) for upcoming events. Show your support by using a special [Zoom backgrounds](#) designed by Cañada Students in the Menlo Studio program.

Puente University Tour: Spring 2025

On March 7, the Puente Project students toured California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly) to explore and learn more about higher education. This was a fantastic chance to experience the campus, meet current students, and gain insights into the various programs and resources available to them. Following the visit to Cal Poly, they headed to the historic Mission of San Juan Bautista. This beautiful mission, founded in 1797, offered a glimpse into California's rich history and cultural heritage. It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to reflect on their journeys and the importance of education in shaping their future.



Queer Students of Color Conference

The Cultural Center and Brave Space Collective worked together with Skyline College and College of San Mateo last Friday to host the 2nd Annual Queer Students of Color Conference. The theme this year was “Queerness Transcending Borders” which hosted 116 participants. Cañada brought on TRANScend and the San Mateo County Pride Center to host four professional development workshops for all SMCCCD employees. Plenary sessions included two-spirit drum medicine with Wakan Wiya and a “Speaking in Queer Tongues” student panel. Students were able to choose from eight different workshops, including: zine publishing, healthy bodies and minds, Queer parenting and raising Queer communities, Queering academia, Queerness in social movements and Queer Hxstories around the world. The conference also featured local Queer-owned businesses Made Out of Dough and Rose and Thorn—please consider using them if planning an upcoming event.



Trans Day of Visibility

On Monday, the Cultural Center and Brave Space Collective worked together with the Health Center to bring together an afternoon of resources and stories that highlighted our Trans and Gender Non-Conforming (TGNC) community. The event had free BoiChik Bagels for lunch, a local business that is Gender-Non Conforming owned. Thank you to Cañada’s Dr. Wong who talked about the gender affirming care available to all our students. He spoke on how to find a surgeon through the LGBTQHealthCare Directory, how despite current federal communications all gender affirming care in California is still legal and offered with support at our college, and how anyone doing hormone injections can get extra support on how to self-inject from our health care team on campus. The group also learned how the Mental Health Association of San Mateo County Cedar Street Apartments is supporting students in finding low-cost housing. The afternoon concluded with stories from our Trans students and alumni who shared their experiences transitioning, discrimination and assault they’ve experienced, as well as Trans Joy in being able to be in community.

If you are interested in drafting and proposing a TGNC mural with the Cultural Center team, please send a message at canculturalcenter@my.smccd.edu.



Please Provide Feedback on our Institutional Self Evaluation

The public comment period on the first draft of our Institutional Self Evaluation Report (ISER) will close on Friday, March 28, at 5 p.m. [Drafts of each of the four accreditation standards are available here](#). Please feel free to make comments directly in the drafts or email members of the ISER Writing Team directly: [Hyla Lacefield](#), Faculty Accreditation Lead or [Karen Engel](#), Dean of PRIE and Accreditation Liaison Officer. Thank you!

Please Attend Upcoming Webinars on Student Form Updates

SMCCCD is updating student forms and embedding them into the Student Success Links. This change has advantages, including streamlining the process for students, improving staff workflows and replacing fillable .pdfs with an automated system. Please attend one of these webinars to better understand the change. The system will go live on April 1. A special webinar for Deans will be held on March 28.

March 25, 10 to 11 - [SMCCCD webinar](#)

March 28, 10 to 11 - [Deans training](#)

March 28, 1 to 2 - [SMCCCD webinar](#)

APRIL 1, REGISTRATION form goes live!

April 9, 11 to 12 - [SMCCCD webinar](#)

April 11, 11 to 12 - [SMCCCD webinar](#)

Save the Date: Eco Elegance Fashion Show

This Earth Day, join the Cañada College Fashion Design & Merchandising Department for an inspiring student-led fashion show celebrating sustainability and creativity.

The [Eco Elegance](#) event showcases innovative designs that blend style with environmental consciousness, highlighting the talents of our emerging student designers. This free program includes booths offering insights into sustainability, fast fashion and mindful design practices. Discover how art and fashion intertwine to tell a story of eco-friendly elegance Support our students, witness their vision come to life, and leave inspired by the future of sustainable fashion. Don't miss this celebration of artistry and eco-conscious design!

Tuesday, April 22 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Building 3, Main Theater



55TH ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY | SUSTAINABLE FASHION IS NOT A TREND. IT'S A RESPONSIBILITY

ECO
Elegance

Cañada College
Fashion Department
Presents

TUESDAY
APRIL 22

Cañada College
Theater

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
4200 Farm Hill Blvd.
Redwood City, CA

For more information visit:
canadacollege.edu/fashion

Free Event

I wish you a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,
Kim