



A Message from President Kim Lopez

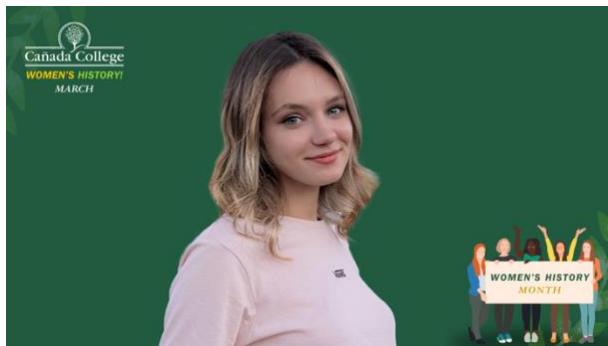
Weekly Update: 3-7-25

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: Nida Apa (pictured below in the Zoom background that she designed), Francesca Re Fraschini (pictured below in the Zoom background that she designed), Evalyne Chen, Andrea Enriquez and Joshua Estrada.

Cañada College continues to proudly celebrate our stories, cultures, traditions, achievements and the challenges we have overcome. We remain committed to recognizing heritage months and providing workshops and professional development on equity and anti-racism, supporting our college's mission, vision and values.



Women of Color Collaborative Kicks Off Women's History Month

The Womxn of Color Collaborative held its Womxn's Hxstory Month celebration on Wednesday with a documentary film and discussion. Participants watched *Black Feminist* (available in our Library's [video database](#)) to learn about the Black feminist movement and how it came to be.

Following the film, there was a lively discussion about what people learned, the importance of the movement and how to grow the inclusiveness exhibited. Participants enjoyed snacks and walked away with a book authored by bell hooks called All About Love, which focuses on the power of self-love. To join for more events, please sign up [here](#). *Note: bell hooks is always spelled with the first letters of her first and last name as lowercase [to shift the focus from her identity to her ideas](#).



Interest Area Speaker Series: John Dillard

John Dillard, Cañada College alumnus and currently a water resources engineer, was the featured speaker on Wednesday's Speaker Series where he shared insights on sustainable water management and climate-driven challenges. A graduate of San Jose State University, John has contributed to critical projects like transboundary water conflict analysis in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basin and groundwater sustainability initiatives. It was an inspiring evening, hearing about his impactful work and attendees gained valuable knowledge on developing resilient water infrastructure and ensuring equitable access to resources in the face of climate change.





Honors Research Presentation Explores Asian American Experiences

On Thursday, the STAR Program, Honors Transfer Program and Cultural Center collaborated to host the Honors Research Presentation. During the presentation, students shared their incredible research pertaining to the experiences of Asian and Asian-American communities, particularly those in the Bay Area. Students shared their research on forced segregation in Asian American communities, the impact of Covid-19 on hate crimes and mental health and how intersectionality places a role on conflicts in literature. During the presentations, students proposed calls to action to the community to ensure we come together to support each other. This prompted discussion regarding mental health, taking action in local politics and what the Cañada community offers to support our Asian American communities on campus.



Urgent: Scholarship Reviewers Still Needed

The Financial Aid Services Department, in partnership with the SMCCCD Foundation, is inviting faculty, staff and administrators from Cañada to serve as scholarship reviewers for the 2025-26 Cañada Scholarship Program.

Reviewers will be assigned between 20 to 40 scholarship applications to evaluate from March 4 to 16 on AcademicWorks, the online platform used by the three SMCCCD colleges. The time commitment is expected to be no more than 6-8 hours, offering a rewarding opportunity to connect with our students. This role is purely voluntary. Reviewers will receive detailed instructions and a scoring rubric. If you're interested in this enriching experience, reach out to Patricia Flores at floresp@smccd.edu.

Autumn McMahon Honored with PTK's 2025 Distinguished Advisor Award

Please join us in congratulating Autumn McMahon on being named a recipient of Phi Theta Kappa's 2025 Distinguished Advisor Award—a prestigious recognition of her exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication as a chapter advisor. Autumn's commitment to mentorship and student success has created a transformative impact on our PTK scholars, fostering growth, ambition and academic excellence. Her achievements will be celebrated at PTK Catalyst 2025 in Kansas City, Missouri (April 3–5), where she will join fellow honorees from across the nation. Autumn embodies the spirit of service and innovation that defines our college community, and we are immensely proud to see her contributions recognized on such a distinguished stage. Congratulations, Autumn—your work inspires us all!



Flex Day Proposals Due Monday, March 10

The Professional Development Planning Committee (PDPC) is putting out a call for proposals for the April 17 Flex Day. The deadline for proposal submissions is Monday, March 10; please submit proposals using this [flex day proposal form](#).

The theme for this Flex Day will be Disability Justice and Accessibility. As such, the Equity and Antiracism Planning Committee is planning an opening session that centers the voices of students and employees with disabilities. If you have a disability, you are invited to share your experiences with the Cañada community using [this survey](#). Additionally, if you are able, please share this survey with your students. For questions, please contact Flex Day Coordinator, [Ellen Young](#).

2025 Classified Employee of the Year Due Tuesday, March 11

Each year, the [Board of Governors](#) along with the State Chancellor's Office seeks nominations from each community college district for their Classified Employee of the Year Award. All members of the Cañada Community are encouraged to nominate a classified employee for Cañada's award. To nominate someone, please review the [award criteria](#) and complete the attached nomination form. Please note that there are five questions requiring a narrative reply. All nominations must be received by end of day Tuesday, March 11. Please submit your completed nomination form to the Office of the President at CANPresident@smccd.edu. The College Cabinet will then review the nominations and make a final selection by March 12 to ensure that we meet the deadline for submitting our nominee to the District. We look forward to receiving your nominations. Please contact the President's Office if you have any questions.

Multi-Stall All-Gender Restrooms

In further support of our Trans and Gender Non-Conforming Community (TGNC), and in honor of student requests, our college has added a multi-stall all-gender restroom in Building 18. To locate the all-gender restrooms on campus, please utilize [this map](#). To learn more about resources and support for our TGNC community, please follow [this link](#).



WebSMART Update

SMCCCD is rolling over to a new version of WebSMART. This upgrade will include cosmetic and functional changes to WebSchedule, the Course Registration process and other WebSMART modules such as Financial Aid, Student Services and Employee Services (HR). WebSMART 9 is planned to go live on March 8, 2025. If you need assistance, don't hesitate to [contact the SMCCCD Help Desk](#). SMCCCD will be sharing tutorial videos soon.

I wish you a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,
Kim