



## A Message from President Kim Lopez

### **Weekly Update: 4-18-25**

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

### **President's Student Leadership Award Nominations: Due Tuesday, April 22 at 4 p.m.**

Each year, the President's Student Leadership Award is presented to a graduating student for exemplary leadership and scholarship. The recipient is selected from nominations received from faculty, staff and students of the Cañada community and will be recognized at the Commencement Ceremony and program. The nomination process is now open through Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 4 p.m.

We look forward to your thoughtful nomination of an individual graduate you believe exemplifies the spirit and purpose of this Award and fulfills its criteria:

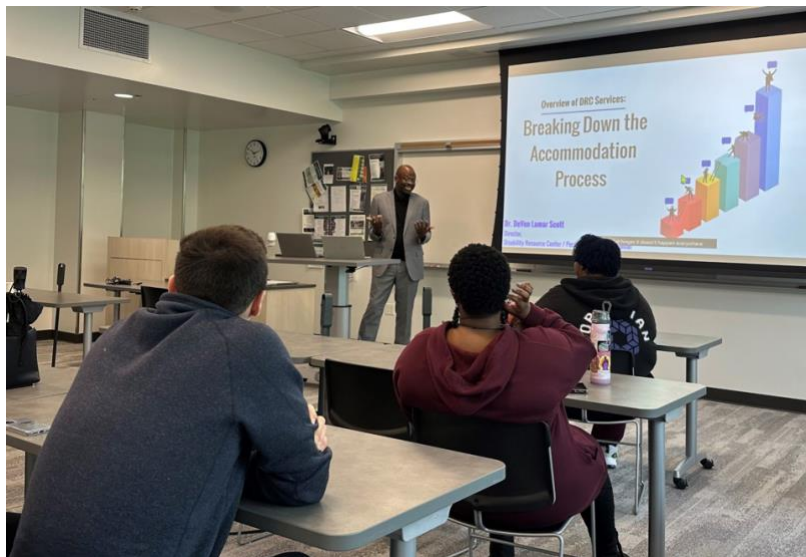
1. has made meaningful contributions to the lives of students, his/her community, and/or Cañada College
2. develops, pursues, and achieves personal educational goals
3. demonstrates leadership qualities that represent the values and mission of the College
4. achieved a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.8 or higher
5. is a graduating student in Summer 2024, Fall 2024, or Spring 2025

Any member of the Cañada community - faculty, staff and students - may nominate for this award. The selection committee will consider all complete nominations received, so please make sure your submitted form includes an attachment supporting your nomination. Remember to submit complete nomination form with attachment by **Tuesday, April 22, at 4 p.m.** to the Office of the President at [canpresident@smccd.edu](mailto:canpresident@smccd.edu).

## Please Provide Your Flex Day Feedback

We hope you enjoyed the fantastic workshops provided by our colleagues at yesterday's Flex Day. If you haven't already, please complete the [Flex Day Feedback Form](#) to help us know what we can do to better support you!

Recordings, handouts and other resources from this and past Flex Days can be found on the [Flex Day Resources](#) page. The resources from this Flex Day will be available by the end of next week. The Professional Development Planning Committee will be planning the August 2025 Flex Days in the coming weeks. If you are interested in hosting a workshop, please complete a [Flex Day Proposal](#) by Friday, May 9.



## San Francisco Public Defender Shares Insights on Renowned Bay Area Artists

Last Thursday, Matt Gonzalez, Lead Attorney for the San Francisco Public Defender's Office, gave a talk at the Cañada College Art Gallery, where his personal collection—featuring works by Bay Area Figurative Movement artists Paul Wonner and Theophilus Brown—is currently on display. Matt shared stories of his friendships with the artists and reflected on his journey as a collector immersed in San Francisco's art scene.

The exhibition, open through the end of the semester, offers students and the community a rare chance to view significant California art on campus. Art Professor, Emilio Villalba, expressed excitement about future programming and hopes to host more events like this one. For gallery hours and additional information, please visit the [Cañada College Art Gallery page](#); admission is free.



## Cañada College Shines at 2025 APAHE Conference

Cañada College staff, faculty and students recently participated in the 2025 Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) Conference, held at the Oakland Marriott Hotel. The STAR Program team, alongside peer mentors, presented "*Nurturing Success: The ARC Pathways Initiative's Holistic Approach*" in collaboration with ARC grant partners from San Francisco State University, College of San Mateo and Skyline College. For upcoming celebrations and events, please visit the AANHPI Heritage Month calendar for April and May activities.



## Earth Fest Sparks Inspiration and Action at Cañada College

Cañada College hosted its first-ever Earth Fest, a lively celebration of sustainability and environmental awareness sponsored by Peninsula Clean Energy. The event brought students, staff and local organizations together to explore interactive exhibits, join in meaningful conversations and enjoy eco-conscious activities. In partnership with Transportation Day, Earth Fest also highlighted sustainable transit options, with SparkPoint offering resources like the Fast Track and Way2Go programs to support student mobility. Attendees participated in a campus clothing swap, took home native plants and visited SMCCCD's Museum of Tomorrow to learn about the green economy through immersive exhibits. The event fostered community connection and inspired action toward a more sustainable future.





## Exploring Pathways in the Social Sciences

Students connected with faculty and peers during an engaging afternoon centered in the Social Sciences Hub, exploring majors, classes and career opportunities in the ten academic disciplines that make up the Social Sciences. They also enjoyed a light lunch, learned about honors courses and the Honors Transfer Program and toured the Library and COLTS-U Transfer Center. Students expressed their appreciation for this opportunity to learn more about the personal experiences of the faculty and the "inspiring" and "educational" talks and tours!





### **Womxn of Color Collaborative Investing: Work Smarter Not Harder**

On Wednesday, the Womxn of Color Collaborative brought students and staff together to discuss investing options, how to get started and provided tools for attendees to feel more comfortable with this topic. Ariela Villalpando, Promise Program Services Coordinator, and Melissa Maldonado, SparkPoint Coordinator, led the discussions as attendees gave each other tools and resources during discussion.

Melissa and Ariela also provided book recommendations for students to continue exploring investment options and growing their knowledge in the field for themselves and their families. The workshop was paired with Mexican food from La Corneta - tamales, flautas, rice, beans and churros!



## Eco Painting Workshop

Also on Wednesday, student Adelina Palacios, and the Cultural Center hosted an eco-painting workshop session where participants were provided with recycled glass bottles to paint their own flower vase. Adelina discussed the importance of recycling materials in our daily lives and how this is done in different countries. Participants painted beautiful and colorful flower vases to take home!



## Cañada Marketing Team Receives Statewide Awards

Congratulations to the Cañada College Marketing team for being recognized by higher education professionals throughout the state with two Pro Awards at the annual California Community Colleges Public Relations Organization (CCPRO) conference. The team brought home Gold for its work in Graphic Design and Silver for Photography.



## **ZTC/LTC Momentum Continues to Break Records**

With census now complete for all late-start ZTC (Zero Textbook Cost) and LTC (Low Textbook Cost) courses, the final stats for this semester shows continued growth and impact:

- ZTC: 169 sections of 103 courses
- LTC: 19 sections of 10 courses
- 5,459 (duplicated) students
- \$520,130 in estimated savings
- 85 unique faculty (40.67% of instructors)

This success stems from strong administrative support, consistent messaging at department meetings and growing student demand. Summer 2025 is looking promising and textbook adoption updates for Fall 2025 are underway. Thank you to the Textbook Affordability Committee for their hard work to continue this momentum to support our students.

I wish you a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,  
Kim