



## A Message from President Kim Lopez

### **Weekly Update: 5-2-25**

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

### **Honoring 25 Years of Service: James Carranza and Christine Huynh**

On Monday, I was honored to recognize two outstanding members of the Cañada Community at the SMCCCD 25 Year Service Awards: James Carranza and Christine Huynh.

James Carranza began his SMCCCD teaching career as a Puente English Instructor and Coordinator and later as Dean of Humanities at College of San Mateo (CSM). During his time at CSM, he held various faculty and administrative leadership roles, including Academic Senate President. In 2017, James joined Cañada College as Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences. He continued to champion student success and equity - supporting the COLTS (Community of Learning Through Sports), serving as the founding dean of Cañada's UMOJA program and expanding off-campus ESL programs and the College for Working Adults program. In addition to his work at both CSM and Cañada College, James served on the District's Equal Employment Opportunities (EEO) Committee and created/coordinated the launch of SMCCCD's two-year pilot Faculty Diversity Internship Program (FDIP).

Christine Huynh came to the United States with her family as a political refugee. Through hard work, perseverance and a deep commencement to education, she has built a meaningful and lasting legacy at Cañada College. Christine's Cañada journey began as a Student Assistant in the Humanities and Learning Center, where she spent three years helping fellow students achieve academic success. She went on to serve as Office Assistant II in the EOPS/CARE program for seven years, proudly supporting students in achieving their academic goals. For the past 18 years, she has served as Payroll Technician, supporting Adjunct faculty with care and precision. A proud graduate of Cañada College, Christine earned her Associate's Degree in Accounting and continued her studies at San Francisco State University.

We are deeply grateful to both James and Christine for their decades of service, leadership and commitment to our students and college. Congratulations on this remarkable milestone!

## **Hillsdale High Students Explore Education Careers at Cañada College**

Last Friday, 30 Hillsdale High School Dual Enrollment students and three ECE (Early Childhood Education) instructors visited Cañada College for an inspiring day focused on Early Childhood Education. They toured Child Development Centers at Skyline College, College of San Mateo and a local preschool to observe early learning in action. At Cañada College, students enjoyed a campus tour, lunch and a talk from a current ECE student who shared her journey in the field. The day concluded with an inspiring presentation from a City Year Senior Vice President, who highlighted service opportunities as a powerful path to leadership and impact.



## **International Student Picnic**

Also last Friday, the International Student Center brought together students, families and friends for its bi-annual International Student Picnic! Attendees (including some four-legged family members) shared a delicious meal, enjoyed games such as Amoeba and Guess the Word and took part in egg hunting and face painting. The afternoon was filled with laughter, friendly competition and new connections, as students bonded with new friends and reconnected with familiar faces.



## **District-Wide Collaboration Powers Sneaker Ball Celebration for Black Student Success Week**

The Cultural Center, Black Student Union and Office of Equity worked together with the College of San Mateo's Umoja Community, Office of Equity and Pride Center, District Antiracism Council, as well as Skyline's Office of the President to support statewide events for Black Student Success Week. The final event planned together was a state-wide Sneaker Ball held at colleges throughout the District. The event included dancing, iHeartRadio, Black-owned businesses, a photobooth, sneaker donations, delicious food, student scholarships and a ton of fun with students, faculty, staff and administrators!





## **Fashion Meets Art: Cañada Students Showcase Creative Collaboration**

Last Saturday, the Fashion Program partnered with Gallery House Art in Menlo Park for a unique fashion and art project, where students drew inspiration from featured artists to create original designs. These collaborative pieces were featured as a capsule collection in the Eco Elegance fashion show. At the event, designers and artists came together for a more intimate event to showcase their work and discuss their creative process. The project highlighted the powerful intersection of visual art and fashion design, celebrating innovation and sustainability.



## **Cañada in the Community**

On Wednesday morning, members of the Cañada team, joined by Chancellor Melissa Moreno and SMCCCD Trustees Mike Guingona, Wayne Lee and John Pimentel attended JobTrain's Breakfast of Champions. At the fundraiser, the community had a chance to celebrate JobTrain's student successes and get a glimpse into how JobTrain supports our community.



## **Fraud Prevention Workshop Empowers Campus Community**

Yesterday, the SparkPoint Program, in collaboration with the Patelco Credit Union Team, hosted an informative workshop on fraud prevention. Students, faculty, and staff came together to learn how to recognize suspicious activity, safeguard personal information, and stay alert in the digital age. The session offered practical tools and strategies to help the campus community protect themselves from fraud. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to making this event a success.



## **Dr. Anthony Ocampo Highlights Intersectional Identity and Coalition Building During AANHPI Heritage Month**

Dr. Anthony Ocampo, Professor of Sociology at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and author of *Brown and Gay in LA: The Lives of Immigrant Sons* and *The Latinos of Asia: How Filipino Americans Break the Rules of Race* served as the keynote speaker for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander Heritage Month. With 100 students, staff and faculty in attendance, he spoke on themes of Asian American identities and histories, coalition building across communities of color, today's political landscape and his journey of being queer and Filipino. The event was coordinated by the [AANHPI STAR Program](#) and [Cultural Center](#) and funded by ASCC and supported by Social Sciences.





### **Cañada College Sets Record at UC Berkeley Honors Symposium**

A record 10 Cañada College Honors students presented at the competitive Bay Area Honors Research Symposium at UC Berkeley this past weekend. The presenters did a fabulous job! Congratulations to all the student presenters and thank you to the faculty and staff who supported them.



### **Four-Year Campus Visit Team Highlights**

Over the Spring 2025 semester, various student services programs continued to organize campus visits to local universities, which is a critical step in students' transfer exploration. TRIO Student Support Services (SSS), COLTS-U Transfer Center, Undocumented Community Center (UCC), STAR Transfer Pathway Program, Cañada College Cultural Center, MESA, Learning Center, Project Change and NextUp/FYSI all collaborated to organize four campus visits.



In addition to visits to San Jose State University and Cal State East Bay, UC Davis hosted a symposium dedicated to transfer students, and the STAR Transfer Pathway program sponsored its semesterly district-wide visit to San Francisco State. Close to 40 students had the opportunity to tour campuses and learn more about transfer admissions requirements, financial aid, housing and support services. Some students were also able to connect with currently enrolled Cañada alumni! The 4-Year Campus Visits team plans to continue offering these valuable visits in the future.



### **Please Evaluate Our Participatory Governance Processes**

PBC is kindly asking everyone to please take a few minutes to respond to our annual survey evaluating how well our participatory governance processes are working for each constituency group at Cañada this year. [Click here](#) to complete the 5-minute survey. Thank you!

### **Staff Support Needed for Commencement**

Cañada's 57th Commencement Ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 24 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](#).

Important: CSEA employees working at the Commencement ceremony are entitled to overtime compensation. This overtime must be preapproved by the employee's supervisor. Once approved, the employee may choose to receive either overtime pay or compensatory (comp) time. This is at the discretion of the employee. If you have any questions, please contact a member of CSEA Chapter 33 leadership. We hope staff will be a part of the Cañada Commencement team and appreciate your consideration.



### **Student Email Access Through OneLogin and MFA**

Beginning May 27, students will begin accessing their SMCCCD email accounts (Gmail) through the [My.SMCCD.edu](https://my.smccd.edu) OneLogin portal, just like faculty and staff do now. As part of this change, multifactor authentication (MFA) will also be enabled for student accounts to help protect their personal information and improve overall account security. The District has sent out a student notification, and any questions can be directed to the [student helpdesk](#).

I wish you a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,  
Kim