



## Cañada College President's Advisory Council

December 11, 2024 from 12-1 p.m.

### MINUTES

#### **President's Advisory Council Members**

Alicia Aguirre, faculty/Councilmember, Cañada College/City of Redwood City  
Amy Buckmaster, President & CEO, Chamber San Mateo County  
Barrie Hathaway, President & CEO, JobTrain  
Bill Graham, President, Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital  
Dr. Cathy Sandeen, President, Cal State East Bay  
Crystal Leach, Superintendent, SUHSD  
Elizabeth Wells, Executive Director, Foundation for a College Education  
Dr. Esme Ortiz, VP, High School & Post-Secondary Success Programs, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula,  
Gina Sudaria, Superintendent, Ravenswood City School District  
Ivan Martinez, Executive Director, PAL Center  
John Pimentel, Trustee, SMCCCD  
Larry Moody, Government Affair & Community Liaison Director, JobTrain  
Dr. Linda Prieto, Executive Director, Upwards Scholars  
Lisa Hicks-Dumanske, Executive Director, Redwood City Library Foundation  
Dr. Lynne Mahoney, President, San Francisco State University  
Melissa Stevenson Diaz, City Manager, City of Redwood City  
Pam Jones, Former Faculty/Community Member, Cañada College  
Patty Hall, Former Faculty/Community Member, Cañada College  
Patricia Siguenza, Vice President, BioAnalytical Sciences, Genentech  
Rafael Avendaño, Executive Director, Redwood City Together  
Rosanne Foust, President & CEO, SAMCEDA  
Shweta Bhatnagar, Associate Director, Community Relations, Stanford University  
Megan Barber Allende, Executive Director, San Mateo County Community College Foundation  
Wade Painter, President & CEO, Monterra Credit Union  
Kim Lopez, President, Cañada College  
John Fraire, Interim VPSS, Cañada College  
Ludmila Prisecar, VPAS, Cañada College  
Chialin Hsieh, VPI, Cañada College  
Karen Engel, Dean of PRIE, Cañada College  
Megan Rodriguez Antone, Director of Community Relations & Marketing, Cañada College  
Linda Bertellotti, Executive Assistant to the President, Cañada College

**Attendance:** Kim Lopez, Megan Rodriguez Antone, Karen Engel, Chialin Hsieh, John Fraire, Ludmila Prisecar, Rosanne Foust, Lynn Mahoney, Barrie Hathaway, Pam Jones, Jaleh Naasz, Megan Barber-Allende, Patty Siguenza, Rafael Avendaño, Ivan Martinez, Larry Moody, Elizabeth Wells, Lisa Hicks-Dumanske, Esme Ortiz Wade Painter

Topic	Discussion
Welcome	<p>President Kim Lopez welcomed attendees and emphasized the importance of understanding the College's goals and progress as part of the accreditation process. The goal for the meeting was to ensure the President's Advisory Team understood the College's current objectives and progress, and to hear feedback from the community. Kim Lopez shared that the College had just finished its accreditation cycle, which occurs every seven years.</p>
Fall 2024 Enrollment Update	<p>Presenter: President Kim Lopez</p> <p><a href="#">Presentation</a></p> <p><b>Enrollment Update</b> Kim Lopez presented an enrollment update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cañada College experienced 11% enrollment decline in 2021-2022, a deeper drop than many other community colleges in the state.</li> <li>• In 2022 the college began to recover, showing a 2% increase in enrollment, while the state average for other community colleges was 5%.</li> <li>• The college saw a 12% increase in enrollment during the 2022-2023 year, which is significant for Cañada College, while the state average increase was around 10%.</li> </ul> <p><b>Impact of Free Community College Initiative (SB 893)</b> Kim Lopez shared that Cañada College implemented the Free Community College Initiative (SB 893) in the 2022-2023 academic year. This initiative was implemented in 2022-2023 and waives all fees for students with a goal of transferring or obtaining an associate's degree or certificate.</p> <p>Barrie Hathaway asked if the increase in enrollment could be attributed primarily to the free tuition initiative.</p> <p>Kim Lopez acknowledged that multiple initiatives have contributed and emphasized that the Free Community College Initiative has played a significant role, noting a 23% increase in district-wide enrollment.</p>
Institutional Self Evaluation	<p>Presenter: Dr. Karen Engel, Dean of Planning, Research &amp; Institutional Effectiveness</p> <p><b>Institutional Self Evaluation</b> The College is in a significant year of its seven-year reflection exercise.</p> <p><b>New Accreditation Standards</b></p>

	<p>The College is among the first to be evaluated under new and significantly updated accreditation standards adopted last year. These new standards focus heavily on continuous improvement, marking a shift from simply explaining how the College meets accreditation requirements to demonstrating how the college evaluates its effectiveness and addresses equity concerns.</p> <p><b>Focus on Continuous Improvement</b> The new standards require not just alignment with accreditation criteria but also the evaluation of how well the College is meeting those standards.</p> <p><b>Accreditation Timeline</b> Ongoing timeline for the accreditation process, with updates and continued progress in the self-evaluation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spring 2024 – Self-Evaluation and Reflection Begins</li> <li>▪ 2024-25 – Drafting ISER</li> <li>▪ December 15, 2025 – Institutional Self-Evaluation Report Due</li> <li>▪ Spring 2026 – Peer Review – Team ISER Review</li> <li>▪ Fall 2026 – Peer Review – Focus Site Visit</li> <li>▪ January 2027 – Commission Action</li> </ul>
<p>Interactive discussion of Cañada’s key goals and priority projects for 2024-25: Progress and Challenges.</p>	<p>Kim Lopez presented the College Goals 2022-27. The goals consist of four major components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Student Access, Success and Completion</li> <li>▪ Equity-minded And Antiracist College Culture</li> <li>▪ Community Connections</li> <li>▪ Accessible Infrastructure and Innovation</li> </ul> <p><b>Alumni Engagement Platform &amp; Story Sharing</b> Pam Jones posed a question about how the story of Cañada College is stored and how the college ensures it includes all of the diverse communities it serves.</p> <p>Megan Rodriguez Antone explained that a social media consultant was hired two years ago to gather and share stories from current and past students, as well as community members, through various platforms. Testimonials gathered through video, shared on social media and used for community outreach.</p> <p>Larry Moody posed questions about tracking student participation in the Promise Scholars program due to athletics and new athletic facilities. Karen Engel replied that there is a strong partnership between the athletic and Promise Scholars programs, with athletes receiving full-time student support, including dedicated counseling.</p> <p>Larry Moody expressed his interest in connecting with the Athletics Director to explore any tracking related to student-athletes participating in both athletics and the Promise Scholars program. Kim Lopez recognized and supported the idea and also provided background information that Cañada has data-sharing agreements with</p>

organizations like Sequoia.

Pam Jones mentioned concerns raised about underrepresentation of African American students, particularly from Menlo Park, and the need for clarity on the consultant's findings; there is a need to prevent misunderstandings and demonstrate inclusivity more effectively.

Karen Engel stated that Cañada College receives federal funding due to its designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution, which requires 25% of students to identify as Hispanic, and also qualifies as serving Asian American, Native American, Pacific Islander, or Native Hawaiian students (10% of the student body).

Karen Engel presented the following:

**Evening College Reinvigoration:**

- Focus on expanding evening college offerings to better serve working students (70% work, many full-time).
- Increased evening class availability and clustering of classes for convenience.
- 34-degree programs and six certificates available in evenings, weekends, and online.
- Growing trend in evening class enrollment, particularly among part-time students.

**Job Train Partnership:**

- Expanding partnership with JobTrain, including presence at Menlo Park and East Palo Alto locations.
- Identifying programs and classes, especially credit-bearing ones, to be offered alongside JobTrain services.

**Community Connections:**

- Cañada College plans to move into East Palo Alto in 2026, with listening sessions held in North Fair Oaks and Belle Haven.
- Feedback gathered includes the need for reliable internet, computers, software, and support for career development.
- Pilot programs planned for 2025 to refine offerings for 2026.

**Work-Based Learning and Apprenticeship Programs:**

- Continued focus on engaging employers and providing work-based learning opportunities.
- Launching two new apprenticeship programs:
  - Extended Reality - healthcare pathway training using virtual reality simulations.
  - Digital Marketing - developing skills in digital marketing.

Rafael Avendaño mentioned his experience with an AmeriCorps-style grant in the early 2000s, where students received stipends while gaining work experience with community organizations.

Larry Moody highlighted the potential of Cañada serving as a launch pad for students interested in nonprofit work or those with specialized skill sets needing placement opportunities.

<p>Fashion Sustainability Extravaganza and Donor/Community</p>	<p>Megan Rodriguez Antone provided updates on Community Connections – Expand Alumni Connections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The goal is to double alumni engagement by 2027.</li> <li>• An intake form is being prepared to understand alumni needs, career growth, knowledge sharing, and foster meaningful connections.</li> </ul> <p>Kim Lopez added the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Efforts to involve more alumni, especially in the committee.</li> <li>• Groundbreaking for a new Child Development Center next semester, serving as a lab for the district's largest early childhood education program.</li> <li>• Expanding sustainability efforts into academic programs beyond environmental science; upcoming event on sustainability in fashion.</li> </ul>
<p>Appreciation</p> <p>Earth Day (April 22, 2025)</p> <p>Closing Comments</p>	<p>Presenter: Jaleh Naasz, Fashion Department Instructor/Program Coordinator</p> <p><b>Event Overview:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The event will celebrate Earth Day's 55th anniversary on April 22nd with a sustainable fashion show.</li> <li>• The goal is to highlight student work, foster community connections, and promote sustainability in fashion.</li> <li>• The fashion show will feature student-designed garments with models and pets, creating a fun and engaging atmosphere.</li> </ul> <p><b>Event Purpose:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Showcase the talent and diversity within the fashion program.</li> <li>• Align with sustainability priorities in the fashion industry and integrate campus departments like the Cultural Center for a diverse representation.</li> <li>• Collaborate with local galleries and animal shelters to emphasize sustainability and community involvement.</li> </ul> <p>Jaleh Naasz encouraged everyone to attend and share resources for the event's success. Kim Lopez inquired about partnering with San Francisco State University for the event.</p> <p>Lynn Mahoney discussed clarifying the partnership focus, potentially related to sustainability or broader collaboration. The fashion team is interested in exploring recycling concepts for the event.</p> <p>Megan Barber Allende appreciated members' support and mentioned the fashion show is still in development, possibly including a fundraising component. The event aims to be fun, with encouragement for board members to attend and invite friends.</p>

Kim Lopez concluded the meeting with the following points:

- The next meeting is scheduled for March. Invitations will be sent out if not already in participants' calendars.
- A reminder that the fashion extravaganza fundraiser is approaching, and any ideas or interest in contributing to the event are welcomed.
- Contact information for Jaleh has been shared for event-related inquiries. Alternatively, participants can reach out to Megan or the appropriate person for further assistance.
- Need to prepare for the March meeting and continue collaborating on ideas for the upcoming fashion event.

The meeting adjourned at 1:01 PM.

**Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, March 12, 2025, 12-1 PM via Zoom.