



## *President's Report to the Governing Board*

### *August 18, 2015*

---

#### 🐾 **Cuyamaca College's 2015 Convocation**

The fall semester kicked off on Wednesday, August 12, with our annual Convocation. The morning started with breakfast in the Student Center followed by the official program. **Interim President Wei Zhou** addressed a packed crowd in the Student Center, welcoming everyone back to the college for the upcoming academic year. The theme for Convocation this year was "Efficiently Providing Access and Improving Student Success." Presentations highlighting the theme of the morning included *Equity-Minded Approach to Student Success* by **Vice President Scott Thayer** and **Academic Senate President Alicia Muñoz**; *Enrollment Management* presented by **Interim Vice President Scott Herrin**; and *Fiscal Management*, presented by **Vice President Sahar Abushaban**.

Service Awards were presented to 33 college employees, representing a total of 515 years of cumulative service to the college. Six new employees were welcomed into the college family: **Mr. Alejandro Centanino**, Instructional Lab Assistant, Intermediate; **Ms. Brittany Gardner**, Instructional Lab Assistant, Intermediate; **Ms. Diana Jacobs**, Instructional Lab Assistant; **Mr. Ross Nelson**, Instructional Lab Assistant, Intermediate; **Ms. Layla Shaba**, Instructional Lab Assistant; and **Ms. Natalija Worrell**, Child Development Center Technician.

#### 🐾 **Outstanding Faculty Awards**

**Ms. Alicia Muñoz**, Academic Senate President, presented the fifth annual Outstanding Faculty Member Award for full-time faculty to **Mr. Jesús Miranda**, Counseling Faculty. The Outstanding Faculty Member Award for part-time faculty was presented to **Mr. Seth Slater**, English Instructor, and Accreditation Co-Chair. Each were nominated, by their peers, and recognized as faculty members who had distinguished themselves in service to the college and its students in and outside of the classroom.



### 🐾 Student Expresses Gratitude for Degree Earned

When Ms. Diane Stoltz first came to the college with questions about the Water/Wastewater Technology (WWTR) program, she was unemployed after being discharged from her previous job. She was looking for a direction and a program that might afford her a "new start." During her time at Cuyamaca College, Diane excelled in all of the WWTR classes she took, as well as completing all of the general education requirements for an AS degree. In addition to earning degrees in Water Treatment and Water Distribution, she also earned a "reconfigured" Backflow and Cross-Connection Control degree including obtaining her Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester certification from the American Backflow Prevention Association. The APBA test is a written exam, followed by a "hands on" skills test proctored by APBA. In 2014, Diane was one of the first two students to earn the new Water Resources Management degree. Diane has since completed an internship under the auspices of the WWTR 290 Cooperative Work Experience program. She worked 120 unpaid hours at the Viejas Tribal Government Public Works Department, where she learned to operate a wide range of heavy construction equipment (bulldozer, backhoe, skid-steer, forklift, dump truck) as well as performing water sampling, well testing, bar-screen cleaning, and other water/wastewater related tasks. She recently sent **Mr. Don Jones**, Coordinator of the WWTR program, the following note: *I thank you for your encouragement and belief in me; this wasn't an easy journey. There were many times I didn't think I had made the right choice in selecting the water industry for my final career. Although I hold four degrees in this industry I'm extremely excited and believe this career path is the right fit. I must admit that it felt good to have the City of San Diego seeking my employment and being able to turn them down. The program you have at Cuyamaca is the exception to the rule! Other colleges only offer a generalized degree in Water Technology; Cuyamaca offers specialized degrees, which I believe makes the difference. I know having the degree in Backflow and Cross Connection Control is what solidified this position for me. I stood out from the rest of the candidates because no one else has this degree. I truly appreciate the advice and guidance you gave me, I don't believe I would have gotten this far without them! I want you to know that I genuinely believe that the water program at Cuyamaca wouldn't be what it is without you. I know the hard work you put into it and that you are still putting into it; you take great pride and offer a top notch program, and I thank you!*

### 🐾 Child Development Center Hosts Grossmont College CDC Staff



The Cuyamaca Child Development Center hosted the staff of the Grossmont Child Development for a Great Teachers Day of Discussion and Reflection. The facilitators of this event were **Ms. Denise Blaha** and **Ms. Kristin Zink** from Cuyamaca College, and Ms. Sandi Meschoulam and Ms. Kathryn Ingram from Grossmont College. The teachers from both sites came together to engage in discussions by sharing their successes,

challenges, and solutions. The discussions were lively and enlightening! The teachers came away with excellent ideas and enjoyed getting to know each other. The staff at the CDC hopes to make this a bi-annual tradition.

### 🐾 Cuyamaca College Joins Consortium to Help Men of Color Succeed

Cuyamaca College has joined a national consortium dedicated to improving student success among men of color in community colleges. We joined Grossmont College and about 50 other community colleges and universities across the country in signing on with the National Consortium on College Men of Color, a project of the Minority Male Community College Collaborative, also known as M2C3. The collaborative, which is affiliated with San Diego State University's doctoral program in Community College Leadership,

partners with colleges to find ways to improve student success of a historically underrepresented and underserved student population.

#### **🐾 Chinese Students Visit Cuyamaca College**

Fifteen Chinese international students from Shandong China visited the college the week of August 10. The students, in conjunction with the American Culture and Education program, spent time at the college as part of their international exchange program. The students, along with their instructors, took several photographs and video of the college that will be shared through social media outlets overseas along with their high school headmasters and district officials. The hope is to develop an annual summer program that allows more international high school students the opportunity to become more familiar with Cuyamaca College and its facilities.



#### **🐾 Library Display: Children's Summer Reading Program**

We invite you to the library to see our featured children's books and programs.

---

## Upcoming Events

*A complete list of college activities can be found on our website, [www.cuyamaca.edu](http://www.cuyamaca.edu)*

---

#### **Welcome Week**

Activities began on Monday, August 17.

#### **College Hour: Chaldean Culture and Traditions**

##### **Food, music, and dance performances**

Monday, August 24

1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Grand Lawn



#### **Communication Across Cultures**

Thursday, September 10, 2015

1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Student Center, I-209

Presented by Ms. Heather Belk, Director of Associated Students at the University of California, San Diego

#### **Diversity & Social Justice**

Wednesday, September 23, 2015

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Student Center, I-207

Presented by Ms. Grace Bagunu, Doctoral candidate in Leadership Studies at the USD

## **Understanding Diversity through Mediation and Personal Narratives**

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

10:30 to 11:30 AM

Student Center, C-145

Presented by Ms. Jocelyn Pacheco, Doctoral candidate in Higher Education from the joint program with Claremont Graduate University and SDSU

## **College Hour: Latino Heritage Celebration**

Thursday, September 17, 2015

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Grand Lawn

## **Cuyamaca College Athletics Schedule – Home Games**

**Men's Soccer** vs. Golden West College

Friday, August 28, 2015

4:00 p.m.

**Women's Soccer** vs. Taft College

Friday, September 4, 2015

1:00 p.m.

**Men's Soccer** vs. Rio Hondo College

Friday, September 4, 2015

4:30 p.m.

**Cross Country** Balboa 4 Mile

Saturday, September 5, 2015

8:00 a.m., Balboa Park

**Women's Soccer** vs. Grossmont College

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

2:00 p.m.

**Men's Soccer** vs. Cypress College

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

4:00 p.m.

**Women's Golf**

Wednesday, September 9, 2015

12:00 p.m., Sycuan Golf Course

**Women's Soccer** vs. Los Angeles Valley College

Saturday, September 12

12:00 p.m.

**Women's Soccer** vs. Santa Ana College

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

4:00 p.m.

**Women's Volleyball** vs. San Diego City College

Friday, September 18, 2015

5:00 p.m.

**Women's Soccer** vs. Oxnard College

Saturday, September 19, 2015

12:00 p.m.

**Women's Volleyball** vs. Imperial Valley College

Wednesday, September 23, 2015

5:00 p.m.

**Men's Soccer** vs. Pasadena City College

Friday, September 25, 2015

4:00 p.m.

**Men's Soccer** vs. Imperial Valley College

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

1:00 p.m.

**Women's Soccer** vs. Southwestern College

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

3:15 p.m.

