



Student Access, Diversity

EOPS Summer Institute

The Extended Opportunities Programs and Services (EOPS) Summer Institute Program celebrated its closing ceremony in late July. This year's cohort included 75 students in three groups tied to linked courses in Math, Counseling and English. This year's program enrollment was the largest in department history thanks to Student Success and Support Program funding that allowed any new student who assessed into MATH 88, MATH 90 or ENGL 105 to participate. The closing ceremony featured comments from college leadership and participating students, a video summary of the summer's activities, and the awarding of certificates of completion to each student participant.



Adult Reentry

Several events were held in early August to help adult re-entry students transition into Grossmont College, including the Adult Re-Entry Orientation and the AARP 50+ Jobseekers. Both programs assist adult students entering or re-entering Grossmont College in finding academic and career success. The AARP 50+ program is funded through a grant from the AARP and is specifically for students ages 50 and better.

Student-Orientation-Advising-Registration Workshops

This summer, Counseling piloted a new program designed to assist students with orientation, advising and educational planning. In July and early August, Student-Orientation-Advising-Registration (SOAR) Workshops were held daily in the LTRC, room 104. Hour-long sessions were available to students each week, with counselors providing students with assistance on WebAdvisor and registration, and developing a one-semester education plan for fall 2015.

Student Success

Week of Welcome

The fall 2015 semester began Aug. 17, with the Week of Welcome or WoW. During WoW, faculty, staff, administrators and students volunteer to answer new students' questions at three on-campus information tables; campus departments and programs host information sessions, tours and open houses; and students enjoy the All Campus Information and Activities Fair from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 20, in the Main Quad; among other activities.

Achieving the Dream

With many student success initiatives underway, there's a campuswide effort to integrate these initiatives through a new partnership with Achieving the Dream. As a network of 200-plus community colleges, Achieving the Dream leads a national, comprehensive effort to improve student success in higher education. With the assistance of Achieving the Dream mentors, the college's working group will work to "braid together" its student success- and equity-focused programs. More information on Achieving the Dream will be made available on September 18th when there will be a college-wide discussion on how this national program will help us pull together all of our student success initiatives. For questions, contact Chris Hill, senior dean of College Planning and Institutional Effectiveness.

New Technology Resources

This fall, Grossmont College will introduce three new technology resources designed to assist students, including GradGuru, Intelliresponse and StudentLingo.

GradGuru is a currently available smartphone app, available for both Apple and Android platforms that helps students never miss an Admissions & Records, Financial Aid or Counseling deadline. Intelliresponse is a knowledge database of the top 100 questions asked by students that will be available in September via the Grossmont College website homepage. [StudentLingo](#) offer students on-demand student success workshops via video. Information on these new technology resources will be made available on the Faculty/Staff page of the college website as it becomes available.



Value and Support of Employees

College Convocation

Faculty and staff attended the Fall 2015 College Convocation on Monday, Aug. 10. Breakfast was donated by the East County Schools Federal Credit Union, followed by the program at 9 a.m. This year's convocation featured a Q&A with our President Dr. Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh, and keynote speaker Joshua Davis, author of "Spare Parts," presented on "Developing Human Potential."

During Convocation, **Academic Senate President Tate Hurvitz** presented the Distinguished Full-Time Faculty Award to **Jeff Lehman**, chemistry professor. Hurvitz commended Lehman for his involvement on campus, including his role in Academic Senate and on campus committees, and as an instructor and advisor, and for his involvement off campus, including his role on the San Bernardino Search and Rescue Team.



Classified Convocation

Classified Convocation, held July 30, featured breakfast, a Q&A with the new president, and three break-out sessions that focused on using Outlook, "Insights into Behavior and the Implications on our Interactions," and a presentation from the Helix Water District on the state drought. Feedback and suggestions for future professional development activities are welcome; please complete the [Classified Convocation survey](#) to provide your thoughts.

New Dean of CTE/WD – Dr. Javier Ayala

The Division of Career /Technical Education and Workforce Development welcomed a new dean in July, Javier “Dr. J” Ayala. Ayala worked most recently as dean of career and technical education at the State University of New York Monroe Community College, where he worked with the division to launch programs in cybersecurity, information technology, mechatronics, golf and the first accelerated manufacturing program at Monroe Community College. He also helped secure several grants, including a \$14.6 million U.S. Department of Labor grant; philanthropic support from corporations, such as Corning; and partnerships with companies such as Verizon and Google. Ayala can be found in the Instructional Deans Office, also known as the deanery.

AOJ Coordinator to be interviewed on Discovery Science Channel

Tina Young, Administration of Justice coordinator and professor, will be interviewed later this month for “What on Earth,” a new series on the Discovery Science channel. The program will interview Young as a subject matter expert in crime scene forensic technology for an investigation related to a 2013 reported murder on a jetty in the Netherlands. While the crime scene was later denounced as a hoax, Young will be interviewed on the crime scene technology used in such a case. An air date for “What on Earth” is yet to be announced.

Fiscal and Physical Resources

Construction Update

Summer campus construction came to an end in mid-August. Parking in lots 2, 3 and 4 is now available to students, employees and visitors. The repaving and restriping of these lots helped create dozens of new parking spaces. The pool also received a facelift this summer, including installation of a new deck and energy-saving equipment that will help lower utility use. Lastly, renovations to Bldg. 36 were completed in time for the start of classes on Aug. 17. Renovations included refurbishing classroom spaces and creating new office space for college programs.

Planning for Prop. V construction is underway in the 200 and 300 complexes. The 200 complex planning group is continuing to meet with the architects to enhance the complex by updating classrooms and office spaces, and building a new multipurpose theatre. Architect selection is also underway for the 300 complex, with a list of the top four firms under review by the screening committee made up of faculty, staff and administrators.

Economic and Community Development

Summer Camps

This summer, coaches in the Athletics Department hosted several summer camps for local children. Camps included basketball camps lead by both women’s basketball **Coach Karen Caires** and men’s basketball **Coach Doug Weber**, and tennis camps lead by women’s tennis **Coach Megan Haber**. About 250 local children attended the weeklong camps throughout the summer, learned basic to advanced skills in their sport of choice, and received information and promotional materials about Grossmont College.



“Cinderella”

This year’s second annual Summer Conservatory production of “Cinderella – A Pop Musical,” closed on July 31. The production featured ‘80s and ‘90s music, and local high school and college students on stage and behind the scenes. The 10-run performance was 99.84 percent sold out, including performances attended by local AARP members, and local elementary and middle school students enrolled in the Extended School Services programs in the La Mesa-Spring Valley and Lakeside Union school districts.

SDICCCA’s “A Way with Words”

As a part of the San Diego and Imperial Counties Community Colleges Association (SDICCCA) and in partnership with the public radio program “A Way with Words,” Grossmont College will participate in the “In a Word” fundraising celebration on Sept. 17 to honor distinguished alumni of local community colleges. Grossmont College’s distinguished alumni nominee is Brad Daluiso, a former NFL kicker and Super Bowl veteran, and board member for the Foundation for Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges. “In a Word” is sponsored by Janet and Jim Sinegal, co-founder and former CEO of Costco and an alumnus of City College. For more information, visit www.sdccd.edu/inaword.

