



Student Access, Diversity

Inter-Club Council Thanksgiving Food Drive

As part of its annual Thanksgiving food drive, Inter-Club Council distributed 13 baskets comprising a Thanksgiving meal to students and their families. The food drive also serves as a competition among student organizations, with the California Nursing Students' Association placing first, Against All Odds placing second, and the Dreamers Movement organization placing third.

Multicultural Conversations

About 55 students, faculty, staff and community members attended the October and November Multicultural Conversations workshop. Led by Dr. Tanis King Starck, Assistant Dean for Special Projects in the College of Education at San Diego State University, the workshops included rich conversations about race, gender equity, unconscious biases and stereotypes. Attendees indicated the conversations were inclusive and welcoming to talk about current issues and learn about different cultures and points of view.

Learning and Student Success

New Voices: A Student Reading

The widely popular New Voices event concluded the Fall Readings Series with student readings on Monday, Dec. 5. Accomplished students from this semester's Creative Writing Program amazed us with original works of poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, drama, and other unique forms of literary and spoken word art through their readings and performance.

Hyde Art Gallery Student Art Exhibition

Currently on display in the Hyde Art Gallery is the fall 2016 Student Art Exhibition running until Dec. 13th. These collected works, ranging from ceramics and sculptures to paintings and digital design, are the incredible and innovative projects produced by this semester's Grossmont College Students.



DeStress Fest

De-Stress Fest returned Dec. 5 – 9. Presented by Associated Students of Grossmont College, Inter-Club Council and Student Affairs, De-Stress Fest featured a week's worth of events designed to help students prepare for finals week. Events include refreshments, games and giveaways from the EOPS Club.

Assistive Technology Showcase

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Class of 2017 held its Assistive Technology Showcase on Thursday, Nov. 17th in the Health and Sciences building. Attributing its success to the students of instructor Darlene Cook's assistive technology course, this event demonstrates creative projects and innovative devices produced to simplify the lives of the physically challenged. The OTA program hosted a program preview for prospective students on Dec. 6.

Speech and Debate

The Speech and Debate Team received high marks, winning several awards, at two recent tournaments held in November. The team competed in Palomar College's Tournament with Jonah Naoum placing third in Open Persuasion, Open Speech to Entertain, and seventh in Open Extemporaneous Speaking and Daniel Zaragoza winning Top Novice in Extemporaneous Speaking. In the Griffin Invitational, Bridget Riley and Daniel Zaragoza placed second in Novice Program Oral Interpretation and Novice Impromptu respectively. Congratulations to the team and their advisor Roxanne Tuscany, communications professor!



Alumni Success

Zachary Bunshaft, now working as a staff assistant and legislative correspondent for Rep. Susan Davis in Washington D.C., is a Grossmont College alumnus. From a role in a Grossmont College production to an associate degree in history and behavioral sciences, Zachary launched his promising career into politics with high praises about Grossmont College, crediting his success to the quality of education provided to him. Though he started with an undecided major and graduated with no student debt, he continues to urge students to ponder over career choices early on in their Grossmont College education.



Value and Support of Employees

Adjunct Faculty Recruiting Event

Approximately 400 people attended the Adjunct Faculty Recruiting Event held in mid-November. Attendees participated in information/orientation sessions co-facilitated by Academic Affairs and Human Resources; engaged with department chairs, deans, faculty and staff; and were briefly interviewed. In addition to faculty, staff and administrators, 15 students helped to staff the events as ambassadors.



Thank You Grams

In November, the Classified Senates hosted their annual Thank You Gram fundraiser. At Grossmont College alone, staff, faculty and administrators gave and received 200 thank you grams from campus and district colleagues. The effort helped the new Grossmont College Classified Senate raise \$400. Thanks to all who participated!

Economic and Community Development

Basket Brigade

Grossmont College partnered up with the Basket Brigade of San Diego, preparing Thanksgiving Day meals to people in need. With the help of volunteers and donors, they were able to provide Thanksgiving food baskets to over 200 families in San Diego County. In addition, the Grossmont College Child Development Center, the Inter-Club Council Thanksgiving Food Drive, ASGC, and District Services were able to collect food and monetary donations for their respected charitable projects. Thank you to all those who have participated or donated for the cause!

Regional Drone Technology Workshop

On Nov. 28, Grossmont College hosted a regional drone workshop. More than 60 community members attended the event, including local business owners. The event was organized by Javier Ayala, Dean of the Division of Career Technical Education/Workforce Development, and included representatives from Computer Science and Information Systems Department, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, Klein Educational Systems and Minds-I. Based on the high interest and new state funding, efforts are now underway to develop a program for drone programming.

Employer Engagement Event

About 20 local employers attended the Employer Engagement Event organized by Grossmont and Cuyamaca colleges Career Technical Education divisions. Held in November, the event took place in the Main Quad at Grossmont College and allowed dozens of students to interact with local employers.

Economic Impact Report

In late October, the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District released an economic impact report that found that the District contributes \$1 billion to the region's economy. The comprehensive report is based on data from 2014-15, and analyzed spending by the district on operations and payroll, the monetary benefits of a college education, and the savings to taxpayers through lower social service costs as a result of well-trained and employed alumni. [More information about the report is available on the District website.](#)

Culinary Arts in the Community

The Culinary Arts Department showcased its chocolate-making skills at State Sen. Joel Anderson's annual holiday open house that was held on Dec. 7. The department shared chocolates made by students with attendees. Anderson represents the 38th State Senate District, which includes La Mesa, Lemon Grove, El Cajon, Santee, Poway, Alpine, Ramona, San Marcos, Escondido, Fallbrook and northeast San Diego County.

HIV Testing

In partnership with Student Health Services, Family Health Clinics provided free HIV testing for World AIDS Day on Dec. 1. More than 97 Grossmont College community members were tested that day, a record for the college and for the testing staff agency. According to college staff, the testing crew was happily overwhelmed by the college community's response and had to request more tests and testing staff. A big thank you to Student Health Services staff for coordinating this successful event!



Fiscal and Physical Resources

\$6 Million CTE Federal Grant

Thanks to a new \$6 million federal Department of Labor Grant, Grossmont and Cuyamaca colleges will be able to fund a multitude of programs to educate and train people for industries requiring highly-skilled workers. In hopes of filling in-demand technical careers, this new initiative will recruit and teach underserved groups such as veterans, Native Americans, and the unemployed. Targeting careers with advancements in technology, focus will be committed to new programs – including Grossmont College's drone technology initiative. The colleges will partner up with industry leaders to develop and expand San Diego County's workforce.