



C U Y A M A C A
· C O L L E G E ·

President's Report to the Governing Board October 15, 2019

Physics Class Visits JPL

On Thursday, September 26, Cuyamaca College's Physics 210 class took a field trip out to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, CA. JPL is the nation's oldest rocketry facility and is connected with both CalTech and NASA. The facility started as a group of students who blew up bits of CalTech until the university bought them a piece of land a safe distance from campus. All JPL projects are unmanned, studying our solar system via remote robotics. They have many famous missions including Voyager, Cassini, and Insight. They are currently preparing their 2020 Mars mission to search for signs of life that may have existed on Mars. On this tour we were able to give students a comprehensive history and view of the campus including a trip to the actual Mission Control and the three story cleanroom where missions are assembled.



Counseling Services' Department Retreat

Counseling departments from both colleges held a joint retreat which included team building exercises, sharing out of program updates, and operational practices. Additionally, the Dean of Counseling Services held an all staff/faculty/student hourly retreat which included Career, Veterans, Assessment, Outreach, Transfer, and General Counseling. The goal of this retreat was to improve our cohesion as a department with team building exercises and creating informative mission statements for the future.

Cuyamaca College Recognized in Statewide Report

Cuyamaca College's math and English programs were recognized in a recent statewide report released by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC). President Julianna Barnes was invited by the PPIC to serve on a panel in Sacramento on October 8 for the report's release. The report entitled "Broadening Access to Transfer-Level Courses at California's Community Colleges," highlights the California community colleges that have significantly expanded access to and success in transfer-level math and English in light of Assembly Bill 705. Well before AB 705 was enacted, Cuyamaca College led the state in scaling its developmental education reform efforts receiving both state and national recognition. Seen as an equity



imperative, the college's efforts have benefitted all students with significant increases in access to and success in transfer-level math and English.

Transfer Fair



On September 30, the annual Transfer Fair was held in front of the Communications Building B. Representatives from over 34 colleges attended the event, and met with over 200 students. The students were given answers to questions about majors available, major requirements, impacted majors, GPA requirements, tuition costs, student involvement and student groups, and any other questions they had. Along with the representatives, the students had a chance to interact with Transfer Center Coordinator Dr. Amaliya Blyumin. Those that participated believed the event was a success.

EOPS 50th Anniversary Celebration

September 2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services in California. In 1969, state legislation (SB 164) was signed by Senator Alquist addressing the needs of low-income, first generation and underrepresented students who have been historically overlooked. Since 1969, EOPS has helped millions of college students reach their educational goals by creating specialized services that meet the needs of these unique students in nontraditional ways, to facilitate their move into four-year institutions and meaningful employment. Today EOPS at Cuyamaca College provides additional supportive services such as academic, financial, and personal support to reduce barriers for students and assist them in successfully attaining their educational goals.



Encuentros Conference



On Saturday, September 21, Cuyamaca College proudly hosted its second annual Encuentros Leadership and Education Conference with over 150 parents and students in attendance from Spring Valley Academy, EJE Academies Charter School, along with Mountain Empire High School, Monte Vista High School and Mount Miguel High School. Partnering with Encuentros Leadership of Northern San Diego County, which was organized in 2003 to address the alarming level of incarceration and high

school push-out rates of Latino males, Cuyamaca has risen to the challenge to help address the critical educational, social and economic issues impacting the quality of education and life opportunities for Latino young men within our East County Community.

Summer Bridge Program

Pathway Academy was able to successfully develop and pilot their first Summer Bridge Program this past summer. Ninety-three students enrolled and participated in the summer bridge program and, more importantly, all ninety-three students were retained and completed the summer program. Pathway Academy was also able to enroll all ninety-three students into three course sections of Counseling 120 (College and Career Success) this Fall 2019 semester to establish its third incoming freshmen student cohort for 2019-2020. Pathway Academy is currently conducting Sophomore Seminars for second year college students to be informed about UC & CSU transfer process, financial aid, transfer deadlines, internships, and general guidance for students preparing to transfer and/or graduate. Lastly, Pathway Academy is providing monthly “Student Success Workshops” for students currently placed on academic/lack of progress probation. These workshops are semester long (one each month) and focus on study skills workshops, Mindfulness & Growth Mindset sessions, and personalized tutoring services. Our program data shows that students that participate in Student Success Workshops increase their GPA and place out of academic probation.

San Diego County Office of Education Presents Resolution

The San Diego County Office of Education presented Dr. Julianna Barnes a resolution in recognition of Cuyamaca College’s Kumeyaay Studies Program at the regular board meeting on Wednesday, October 9, at the East County Regional Education Center in El Cajon. The Resolution reads: *“Be it resolved that the San Diego County Board of Education hereby recognizes Cuyamaca College’s Kumeyaay Studies Program and requests elected officials in the County of San Diego and all of its citizens recognize the unique needs of its American Indian learners.”*

Outstanding Women at Cuyamaca College

President Julianna Barnes and part-time faculty member Julie Ducharme were finalists along with dozens of outstanding women in San Diego County for the *San Diego Magazine’s Celebrating Women* gala that was held at The New Children’s Museum in downtown San Diego. There were awards in several categories, including Woman of the Year, Industry Leader, Nonprofit Visionary, Rising Star, and Military Service. The judging panel consisted of winners from the past five years. Chancellor Miles was also a finalist.