



## ADVOCATING FOR OUR DISTRICT



Delegations from the District recently traveled to Sacramento and to Washington, D.C. to advocate for community colleges. The team in Sacramento was comprised of trustees Elena Adams, Bill Garrett, Debbie Justeson, Grossmont College Grossmont College Student Trustee Amy Bianchi and Cuyamaca College Student Trustee Sonia Mendoza-Reyes, Chancellor Lynn Neault, Grossmont President Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh, Cuyamaca College President Julianna Barnes, and Communications and Public Information Director Anne Krueger.

At the state Capitol, our District joined with representatives from other community colleges in San Diego and Imperial counties to meet with state legislators and advocate for improved funding for community colleges, which are underfunded compared to other higher education segments in California, increased Cal Grant funding, and continued support for the California Promise scholarship grants.

In Washington, D.C., Trustee Brad Monroe, along with the student trustees and Krueger, met with Rep. Susan Davis, Rep. Juan Vargas, an aide for Senator Kamala Harris, and Undersecretary for Education Casey Sacks. The group urged legislators to expand Pell grant funding, invest in workforce development, and assist Dreamer students affected by the recession of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Act (DACA).



## WELCOME TO OUR NEW EMPLOYEE

**James Lu**, research and planning analyst, Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness. James previously worked for UC Santa Cruz as an assessment analyst for the Office of Institutional Research, where he was part of a team assessing student outcomes to help the university make informed decisions. He received his bachelor's in economics from Cal Poly Pomona and his master's in applied social research from Hunter College, part of the City University of New York (CUNY) system.

