



# G R O S S M O N T C O L L E G E

## *President's Report to the Governing Board April 21, 2020*

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### NOTABLE



Grossmont College alumna Cedrice Webber successfully auditioned for NBC's "The Voice" in March. A former student assistant in Admissions & Records, Webber won a place on the televised singing competition with her performance of Peggy Lee's "Fever." She joined Team Legend, led by award-winning recording artist John Legend, and will compete with others during the program's 18<sup>th</sup>

season.

In late March, Culinary Arts Coordinator and instructor James Foran won the season premiere of Food Network's "Chopped." The cooking competition featured three other pastry chefs from across the country in the episode, titled "Chock-Full of Chocolate." The program features chefs who compete and turn baskets of mystery ingredients into a three-course meal.



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### OUTREACH



In March, Grossmont College's Outreach program created two videos in response to COVID-19. One video featured hand washing protocol as developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the other was how to greet others while practicing social distancing.

Additionally, the team produced a video about GradGuru, a smartphone app that provides reminder notifications and other information to students. All three videos are available for viewing on the [Grossmont Outreach YouTube channel](#).

In early March, Grossmont College hosted the "First Friday" breakfast with the East County Chamber of Commerce. During the event, Chancellor Lynn Ceresino Neault spoke, alongside other event sponsors, two of whom were Grossmont College alumni. The First Friday breakfast is a networking event for business owners, community members and those interested in business development in San Diego's East County.

On March 5, Grossmont College's Via Rápida, the First Year Experience (FYE) program, hosted Dia de Familia for local families. Hundreds of prospective and current students and their families visited the event for a Baile Folklorico performance and free tacos while meeting with local nonprofit organizations and employers about public service careers in law enforcement and public safety. The event also featured Grossmont College career education programs, including an outdoor crime scene.



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## ENGAGEMENT

As the campus is closed to students and the public, many engagement activities have moved online. Associated Students of Grossmont College have continued to host their board meetings via Zoom and are continuing their outreach on census and student advocacy issues. They continue to host virtual open office hours on Zoom each weekday morning and afternoon.

The Career Center has moved its upcoming workshops to Zoom, including its 21<sup>st</sup> Century Job Skills Workshops held at 10 and 11 a.m. each Friday for the remainder of the semester. The Career Center continues to offer career counseling, career exploration workshops, day in the life presentations and internship information sessions in a virtual environment. For the most up-to-date information, visit [Career Services on Facebook](#).

The Common Ground, which serves as a student cross-cultural center and includes the Office of Student Engagement, is rescheduling its activities to online modalities, including student club events. Upcoming virtual events include Open Mic sessions, Griffin Dialogues diversity lecture series and Dungeons & Dragons tabletop gaming, among other activities.

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## RETENTION



Using remaining Student Equity and Achievement funding, Grossmont College opened a simplified emergency grant application for students in need. In the first two hours of application availability, more than 1,200 students applied for awards of up to \$500, exhausting the currently available funds of \$50,000. Currently, the college is working with the Foundation for Grossmont & Cuyamaca Colleges to raise additional funds for students in need.

The Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) workgroup, in partnership with Student Success & Equity, is offering stipends to instructors to develop or adapt free, open-licensed, shareable online course materials. Faculty are invited to submit proposals that meet one of two goals: the curation of existing open educational resources (OER) to tailor them to one's own course, or the creation of new materials that are self-published under a Creative Commons license. The two goals of the ZTC initiative are to reduce

the financial burden on students by giving them access to free high-quality learning materials, and to increase student success and equity by ensuring that all students can access the materials they need to succeed in their courses.

The CalWORKs Program, which serves students who receive Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF), has produced several “how to Zoom” videos in various languages. The videos are currently available in English, Spanish, Arabic, Kurdish, Farsi and Swahili, with additional languages to be offered as student need arises. The videos are available on the [CalWORKs YouTube channel](#).