



## Supporting Students

With all the changes surrounding COVID-19 it is important that students continue to have access to support programs offered via Cuyamaca College. Student Support Services has worked diligently to transition their services to a remote modality.

Students need to have a safe space to share their concerns, frustrations, anxiety, and other challenges they may be experiencing in this unprecedented time. Cuyamaca College Personal Counseling holds twice-weekly, virtual student support groups. There is no cost to attend, but students must RSVP.



Due to the campus closure, Cuyamaca Cares is unable to physically host the Care Fair, an annual event that brings regional service providers to campus. This year, staff put together a Virtual Care Fair with a directory of nearly 20 community agencies and resources providing housing, medical, mental health, and personal support services.



In addition to student and employee resources, our Virtual Campus microsite includes a variety of community resources. It is designed to centralize a number of resources -- links to unemployment information, health care access, food, housing, and utility assistance, and resources for specific communities.

Cuyamaca College received \$1.4 million from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). Funds will be disbursed to more than 1,800 students who have requested funds through the Cuyamaca Cares Emergency Fund. More than 150 of those students are disproportionately impacted.

Additionally, 106 students with the greatest need will receive laptops and one year of Internet access. The technology purchase is made possible by funds from the San Diego Foundation and the GCCCD Foundation.

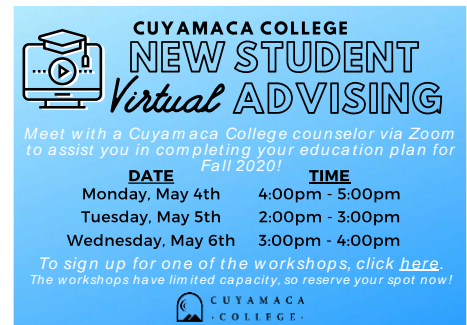
## Cultivating (Virtual) Campus Community

In an effort to maintain connection with our campus community and to share information, we continue to hold virtual town halls. On Friday, April 24, President Barnes held a town hall to share stories of success in our remote modality, discuss the formation of plans to return to campus, and planning to mitigate the fiscal impact of the pandemic. Nearly 100 faculty and staff attended. On Tuesday, April 28, 110 employees joined Dr. Barnes and the Presidents of the Academic and Classified Senates in a dialogue about the re-opening of campus. On Wednesday, May 6, Nicole Salgado, Interim Vice President, Administrative Services hosted a forum to share data related to the budget implications of pandemic for this academic year, and what is currently known about planning for the 2020-21 fiscal year.



Student services continues to connect with students through virtual events. On Thursday, May 7, a special commencement-specific virtual forum was held to share with students the plans for virtual commencement. Counseling and Outreach are hosting virtual advising sessions for local high school Valhalla, Steele

Canyon, and Granite Hills. Each session allowed for 40 students to participate and there continues to be interest. At the end of May, the Outreach team will hold virtual drop-in Zoom sessions to assist students with on-boarding steps.



## Virtual Commencement Celebratory Efforts



Commencement 2020 will be offered in a virtual format. Students will be able to add their name, photo, degree, and a brief, written personal message to the commencement ceremony.

We are also developing a number of engagement opportunities for students on social media, including celebratory filters with mortarboards, balloons, and confetti (see sample photo), Coyote "tattoos," and printable signs. We urge you to join us on social media to celebrate our grads using the hashtag #CuyamacaGrad2020. Social media posts using this hashtag will be added to the virtual ceremony website.

## Summer Session

Summer session has been modified to begin June 22, and will be offered online only. Courses are strategically targeted to keep students on track with their educational plan and to help advance a new skill set. Courses are offered in the following disciplines: Art, Automotive Technology, Biological Sciences, Business, Child Development, Communication, Counseling, Economics, Engineering, English, Exercise Science, Graphic Design, Health Education, History, Mathematics, Music, Nutrition, Political Science, and Psychology.

