



C U Y A M A C A  
· C O L L E G E ·



**Governing Board Report  
February 2021**

---

# SUPPORTING STUDENTS

## Welcome to Spring Semester

As we continue to serve students remotely for support and instruction, Cuyamaca College started the Spring semester with a solid plan to assist and engage students.

- **Zoom Virtual Help Center**-- The [Virtual Help Center](#) is a one-stop location to help students with a variety of services on campus. If students are looking for a place to start with questions, forms, applications, registration, WebAdvisor, etc. they can drop-in to the Zoom Room and receive help from an Ambassador in real time.
- **Virtual Campus** -- Our [Virtual Campus](#) website is a repository of student service and community resources, communication archive, and more
- **Textbook Ordering and Pick up** - All textbooks for spring were available for ordering online. Students had two delivery options: shipping for a flat rate and socially-distance curbside pickup.
- **Library Book and Calculator Checkout** - The library staff scheduled socially-distanced and outdoor pick up for book and calculator checkout. Students were able to drop by and pick up requested materials from the library.
- **Drive-thru Food Pantry** - Despite being winter break, the Harvest Food Pantry continued to provide students and employees access to food.



# ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

## Alumnus Profile: Meet Abdi Hussein



Former Cuyamaca College student, Abdi Hussein, was a featured student panelist for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Black History Month Celebration week of events. Hussein is currently a senior at Alabama State University.

He is a championship-level student athlete pursuing a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with a concentration in psychology and sociology. His goal is to be a life-long physical/mental wellness advocate and to provide Black/Somali/Muslim

representation in the field of healthcare management.

Hussein earned an Associate's degree from Cuyamaca College in Social and Behavioral Science in 2019 and is on track to complete his bachelors later this year.

# FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

## Karen Marrujo: Full Time Faculty Awardee

Karen Marrujo is a full-time faculty member in English. She calls herself “Chicanagüense” because of her Nicaraguan, Chicana, and American background, and she uses that diverse background in her classroom as the foundation of encouraging students to share their unique stories.



“Every assignment Professor Marrujo gives us allows us to gain a better understanding about certain subjects like privilege, along with gaining stronger writing skills,” said a current student.

A native San Diegan, Karen has been in the college classroom for 13 years as a student, tutor, and instructor. Her classroom is a space for students to strengthen their personal voices; she builds authentic relationships with students and her teaching is rooted in equity and social justice. She empowers her students to develop agency in the classroom and in their world. She adds popular media (e.g. memes, films, music, and television) to her lessons to connect with students and encourages them to explore artistically.

“Professor K teaches with such passion and patience. She gives so much to her classes,” said a current student. “Her lesson plans are so well thought out and she incorporates different media types that all of us are familiar with and relates to her lessons.”

In addition to teaching, she is a fiction writer. She holds bachelor’s degrees in English and Political Science and a master’s in creative writing. She is a former SDICCCA intern and AmeriCorps service member.

## Anaid Stere-Lugo: Part Time Faculty Awardee



Anaid Stere-Lugo is a part-time faculty member in Spanish. She started teaching at Cuyamaca College in 2015 shortly after receiving her master's degree in Spanish from SDSU. With extensive teaching experience in community colleges and universities, Stere-Lugo is widely recognized by her students for creating an engaging classroom.

"I'm honestly amazed at how she has managed to create what feels like an interactive classroom environment through zoom, using breakout rooms and voluntary and involuntary participation in every class," stated a current student.

In addition to classroom work, she has extensive tutoring experience with college-level, and elementary, middle and high school students in English and Spanish.

"She really cares about her students and wants them to succeed," stated a student. "She is understanding and always makes herself available to help."

# ON CAMPUS CHANGES

## Cuyamaca College Serves as Vaccine Site

Cuyamaca College has partnered with Operation Collaboration (a consortium of local fire agencies), to allow our campus to serve as a vaccination site for their operational/agency staff. Vaccinations began on Monday, Feb. 1, 2021.



At this time, the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) has not activated Cuyamaca College as a community vaccination site, which means that no members of the public may be vaccinated on our campus. This may change

in the future at the discretion of HHSA.

Operation Collaboration personnel staff the site seven days a week. They use the lobby of the Samuel M. Ciccati Performing Arts Center for restroom access, equipment storage, and respite. They are responsible for their own cleaning, disinfecting, trash removal, etc.

The vaccine is administered in the courtyard area outside the B-Building. All safety protocol are strictly enforced: face coverings are mandatory, physical distancing will be required, equipment/chairs/writing implements will be disinfected between uses, etc.

As an added benefit, Operation Collaboration will provide vaccines to all District employees who meet the current statewide tier guidelines.