



GROSSMONT COLLEGE

President's Report to the Governing Board February 15, 2022

The Grossmont College Strategic Plan, which evolved from Grossmont College's Achieving the Dream goals, is focused on outreach, engagement, retention, and institutional capacity.

ENGAGEMENT



Convocation. Week of Welcome. Black History Month. Random 60. Grossmont College was a beehive of activity while transitioning into the spring, 2022, semester.

The successful January 24 spring Convocation was laser focused on student equity and student success. The emphasis on Care, Connections, and

Collective Impact resonated through the words and messages of all those presenting, including guest speaker Gloria Corral, President and CEO of the Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE). Among the highlights – and there were many – was a detailed update of Grossmont College's [march to accreditation](#), which prioritizes continual improvement in serving students; the commitment to self-reflection, as evidenced by the new [Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents book study group](#); and the launch of Random 60 and [related webpage](#) to celebrate Grossmont College's 60th anniversary with random acts of kindness.

Most important is the commitment to transform words into deeds in addressing equity and social justice.

Putting words into action was evidenced by a busy Week of Welcome, which transitioned online seamlessly in the wake of the Omicron surge, and an abundance of activities throughout February to celebrate Black History Month. Week of Welcome featured events such as Self-Advocacy & Utilizing College Resources, a Career Services Open House, a Vision Board/Goal Setting workshop, and a Virtual Student Hangout. Highlights of Black History Month, which began



February 1, include a Black Excellence Panel of Black Professionals, Black Movie Screenings, an Afro-LatinX Connection, African-American Literature Readings, and more.

OUTREACH

Grossmont College in has installed 30 large pole banners celebrating the college's 60th anniversary along the Grossmont College Drive perimeter road. The project illustrates the diversity of Grossmont College and projects a welcoming atmosphere as students return to campus. It is part of an ongoing series of initiatives to not only beautify the campus, but also recognizing the decades of service to students and the contributions from students to Grossmont College.



Other outreach activities included a Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service during which Grossmont College volunteers distributed more than 100 meals to the campus community during a drive-through food distribution in partnership with the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank. Earlier in the day, professional staff launched a letter-writing project to residents at the Los Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility in Santee. A little more

than a week later, on January 28, more than 700 members of our East County community took part in the latest monthly food distribution at Grossmont College in partnership with Feeding San Diego.

RETENTION

Grossmont College has embarked on a new pilot project aimed at boosting enrollment and retention of Black and African-American students on campus. Working with Umoja and A2MEND, case managers are being assigned to reach out to, engage with, track progress, and provide supports to a small cohort of first-year Black men. Benchmarks and goals are being set.

The project is funded through Student Retention and Enrollment Outreach dollars included in the state's Immediate Action Budget Package. Under state guidelines, funding is to be used primarily to engage



former community college students who may have withdrawn due to the impacts of COVID-19, as well as with current students who may be hesitant to remain in college and prospective students who may be hesitant to enroll in college because of the pandemic. Guidelines also call for “high touch, personalized contacts with target populations.”

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY



Grossmont College, an East County hub for the performing and visual arts, is looking at options for modernizing the 200s Complex that houses several programs in the Division of Arts, Languages, and Communication, including the Theatre Arts, Dance, Communication, and Visual Arts and Humanities departments. Nearly \$56 million remains from Proposition V bond funding, and one option calls for using those dollars to modify initial

plans and replace buildings with modern structures encompassing the same amount of space. Administrators, faculty, professional staff, and student representatives will provide input as plans move forward in building a stronger sense of community for the arts through equity-based planning.

The 200s Complex includes Arts and Ceramics (Building 27); Music (Building 26); the Stagehouse Theatre (Building 21); Communication, Dance and Art (Building 24); Ceramics Dry Storage (Building 29A); Ceramics Kiln (Building 28); and the old Hyde Art Gallery (Building 25).