



## Student Access, Diversity

### 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Literary Arts Festival

The [19<sup>th</sup> annual Literary Arts Festival](#) will take place April 27 – 30. This year's festival features Roxane Gay, author of "Bad Feminist," on April 27 in Griffin Gate, and Iraq War veteran and poet Brian Turner on April 30, as well as numerous other authors and students in the Creative Writing Department. The Literary Arts Festival is presented by the English Department, Creative Writing Program and the World Arts and Culture Committee.

### "Everything Comes from the Streets"

Grossmont College hosted two events celebrating the influence of low-riders in San Diego's Chicano community. On April 14, a screening of the documentary, "Everything Comes from the Streets," with director and University of San Diego ethnic studies professor Alberto Lopez Pulido, Ph.D., was followed by a noon low-rider car show featuring music by the Manny Cepeda Trio and several speakers, including Art Professor Jennifer Bennett, History Professor Carlos Contreras and Cross-Cultural Studies Professor Danny Martinez.



### DEI Hosted Transgender Speaker

Grossmont College's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee hosted transgender speaker and author Zander Keig on April 15. Keig spoke about his transition experience – he transitioned from female to male later in life – with about 100 students, faculty and staff in Griffin Gate. The event was organized based on interest in transgender issues following the "Coming Out" panel organized by the DEI Committee in fall 2014.



## Student Success

### ASGC and Student Trustee Elections

Associated Students Grossmont College and student trustee elections took place in early April. The 2015 – 16 president-elect is Baredu Morka, recent scholarship recipient and former refugee, and the student trustee-elect is Rafael Navarette, a student-veteran who most recently served as president of ASGC for 2014 – 15. Voter participation was nearly double last year's rate, attributable to ASGC and candidate outreach efforts.

### Speech and Debate Team

The Grossmont College Speech and Debate Team once again garnered top awards at the California Community College Forensics Association State Competition in Woodland Hills, Calif., last month. Cameron Martin received silver awards in poetry and prose interpretation, Hannah Conway received a bronze award in prose interpretation and Kian Kline received a bronze award in program oral interpretation. The Speech and Debate Team is led by Roxanne Tuscany, communication professor.



### ASGC and ICC Student Awards Ceremony

The 53<sup>rd</sup> annual ASGC and ICC Student Awards Ceremony took place in April. The event honored outstanding student leaders for their academic, service and student life achievements during the 2014 – 15 academic year. Dozens of students, family members, faculty and staff attended the event that took place in Griffin Gate. Honorees included outstanding students from each academic division, athletes of the year, man and woman of distinction, most outstanding club, most outstanding club member and most outstanding academic advisor.

### Women's Tennis Team

The Grossmont College women's tennis team is the 2015 Pacific Coast Athletic Conference Tennis Team Champions. The Griffins also won the Singles and Doubles Championships, with Jaella Conway receiving PCAC Co-Athlete of the Week honors following her performance. Conway, No. 1 singles player from Grossmont College and member of the No. 1 doubles team with Katie Salinda, defeated Palomar College's Bettina Olah (singles and doubles) and Theresa de Anda (doubles). Grossmont College women's tennis will compete in the California Community College Tennis Championships April 23 – 26.



## **Value and Support of Employees**

### **College Recognition Ceremony**

Faculty and staff will be celebrated at the annual College Recognition Ceremony at 3 p.m., May 14 in Griffin Gate. Recognition and awards announced at the event will include Excellence in Teaching, Vice President Support Staff, Kudos Awards and faculty publications, creative works and degrees.

### **“Entrances & Exits”**

"Entrances & Exits," the Grossmont College Dance Department's annual faculty choreographed showcase will be held at 7:30 p.m., April 23 – 25, at the Joan B. Kroc Theatre, 6611 University Ave., San Diego, 92115. Featuring a diverse mix of dance pieces covering a full range of genres, the concert consists of 10 faculty-choreographed pieces performed by Grossmont College dance students. Presale tickets are \$12 or \$15 at the door. For ticket information, call ext. 7766.

## **Fiscal and Physical Resources**

### **Annual Planning Forum**

The daylong Annual Planning Forum, “Back to the Future,” was held April 17 in Griffin Gate. Dozens of faculty, staff and administrators reviewed data and learning outcomes, activity outcomes and recent student focus group data; and discussed emerging groups and cohorts in need of attention, districtwide outcomes and goals and the college’s strategic direction.

## **Economic and Community Development**

### **Health and Wellness Fair**

On April 15, Student Health Services hosted the annual Health and Wellness Fair that included several local organizations and businesses that shared health-related information, free screenings and other resources. Participants in this year’s Health and Wellness Fair included San Diego County Health and Human Services, Sharp HealthCare, Planned Parenthood, The Center, PFLAG, Family Health Centers of San Diego and the Mexican Consulate of San Diego, among others. The college’s health occupations programs also participated in the event, providing free EKG screenings, finger casts and more.

### **International Mobil Film Festival**

Grossmont College will sponsor the fourth annual International Mobil Film Festival, a two-day event that showcases films shot only with cellphones. The festival takes place 11 a.m. – 7 p.m., Saturday, April 25, and 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., Sunday, April 26, in the Digital Arts Building (Bldg. 20), and features 36 films, workshops, exhibits and an awards ceremony. The event is free and open to the public; free tickets are available on the [festival website](#).

### **“Romeo and Juliet”**

In March, the Theatre Arts Department partnered with El Capitan High School to present a special, sold-out performance of “Romeo and Juliet.” The high school’s students are required to read the Shakespearean play and the performance was exclusively attended by El Capitan High School students and their families.