



Student Access, Diversity

Cross-Cultural Studies

The College Cross-Cultural Studies Department hosted the **San Diego-East County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Program** “Art, History and Culture Day” in May. The day featured two panels: “The Middle Eastern Refugee Experience” with **President Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh**, **Renee Nasori**, and students **Moreen Hakeem** and **Elham Husaini**; and “Community Service Learning and YALLA: Tutoring East County refugee youth” with YALLA Academy Director **Janice Reynosa** and two GCC tutors, **Lillian Tonda** and **Andrew Henderson**. Presentations included: “The Safe Zones Project” for Grossmont’s LGBTQQ community with **Dr. Sue Gonda** (History); “A Challenging History for California Indians in East County” with **Cheryl Hinton** (CCS/Anthropology); and “Activism through Art: a history of the Chicano muralist projects in San Diego County” by EOPS Associate Dean **Mario Chacon**. The year-long Chamber program has been assisting emerging business leaders to enhance their leadership skills, involvement, and knowledge of the community for the past 25 years.



Nursing Cohort

The first students in the **Registered Nurse (RN) to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)** cohort with Point Loma Nazarene University started at Grossmont in the summer of 2015 and will finish the program in August. **Of the first 17 students to enter the program, 16 are successfully completing it.** Those students walked at Point Loma Nazarene’s Commencement on May 7. Three additional cohorts have been added at Grossmont, and the most recent one hit the cap of 25 students, so there is now a wait list to get in. Congratulations **Senior Dean Debbie Yaddow** and the Nursing Department!

Whodunnit DNA Kits

Beginning in fall 2016, the **Biology Department** will work in partnership with the Southern California Biology Center (SCBC) to reach more secondary school teachers and students. Grossmont will serve as a distribution site for the Crime Scene Investigation Lab Kit, provided by the biotechnology company Amgen. Biology professor **Craig Milgrim** was instrumental in this effort and **Cami Yonally** will serve as the site coordinator in prepping the kit. Yonally will train this summer at SCBC at Miramar College. The biology department also will collaborate with the forensics program to provide those students access to the kit. A “Whodunnit” DNA

workshop for **Grossmont Unified School District secondary science teachers** is scheduled for the fall 2016 semester.

Learning and Student Success

Commencement 2016

The total of certificates and degrees awarded this academic year was 3,270. **Monica Zech**, public information officer for the City of El Cajon and the keynote speaker, was awarded an **honorary Associate of Arts degree**. Highlights from Commencement 2016:

- 286 graduating students received honors by virtue of an **overall grade point average of 3.5 or higher**.
- 11 students completed their studies with **perfect 4.0 grade point averages**.
- 58 graduates achieved membership in the **Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society**.
- Female students received **1,227 degrees**, while male students received **820 degrees**.
- The oldest graduate, **Bruce Furchner**, is 76 years old and received an associate degree in Music for Transfer Certificate – University Studies.
- The youngest graduate, **Hinsseene Regassa**, is 17 years old, and graduated with an associate degree in university studies communication and language arts with honors.
- 77 international students received degrees; **35 of them were from Japan**.
- **98 veterans and their dependents** earned degrees and certificates.



Ceremonial Endings:

- The **Students of Note ceremony** on Friday, May 13, honored 26 students who overcame various hardships while completing their studies. This was the 24th annual award program.
- The **First Annual Veterans Recognition Dinner** was held Wednesday, May 18, with 20 veterans participating, along with their families and friends.
- 9 recruits from the San Diego County Sheriff's Department and the El Cajon Police Mounted Unit **graduated from the Police Academy** on Friday, May 13.
- 33 students graduated in the **Nursing Pining Ceremony** on Tuesday, May 31.
- **Office Professional Training (OPT)** graduation was held Friday, June 3.
- **Middle College High School** graduation was held Monday, June 6.
- The **Child Development Center** held its annual end-of-the-year picnic on Wednesday, May 25. The celebration is held at the end of each school year during finals week and marks another successful year for the student parents who attend college classes while their children receive childcare and early education services at the college's Child Development Center. This year, more than 200 people from the center families and staff, along with Dr. Javier Ayala, the Dean of the CTE Workforce division, joined in the celebration.

- **Cardiovascular Technology** held its banquet on June 1st at the Admiral Baker Golf Club.
- **Respiratory Therapy Dinner Celebration** was held on June 1st at the Rancho Bernardo Winery.

Health Assessments

On Saturday, May 21, **cardiovascular technology students** participated in Carotid Screenings for **Grossmont Hospital's senior community outreach department**. They assessed 30 patients with the limited criteria of above or below 50 percent blockage. One of those assessed sent a letter to the department complimenting them on their efficiency, friendliness and knowledge, ending with: "Thank you for providing this service to the community and the training for your students."

Geographical Society Winner

Jared Lardie, a geography student, **placed second overall in a GIS competition** at the 70th annual conference of the California Geographical Society held in San Jose in May. Judges listened to a short summary from each of the 36 students (32 who were from CSU and UC schools) presenting while examining their GIS posters, scoring each on the basis of research methodology, use of GIS, cartography and poster layout skills, and organization. His winning project is titled, "Rooftop Rainwater Collection: A Financial Exploration Utilizing LIDAR for Commercial Sites in San Diego County." Lardie's instructor was **Judd Curran**, professor of geography.

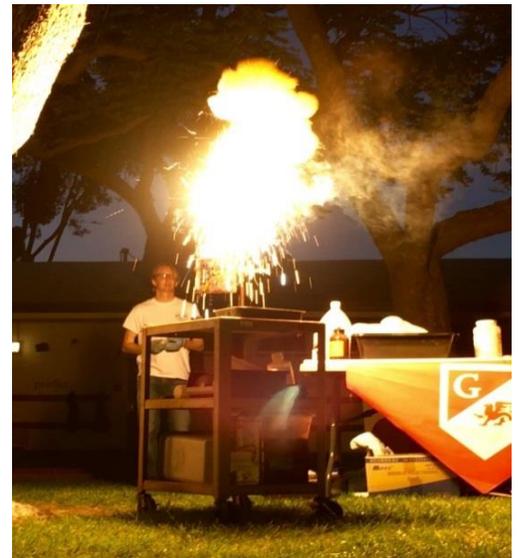


Volunteer of the Year

The San Diego County Health & Human Services Agency honored Grossmont student **Tina Snow Thornton as the Foster Youth Mentor Program Volunteer of the Year**. Thornton has spent the past six years mentoring two foster siblings, one now 20 and the other who will be 18 in June. She volunteered **more than 2,200 hours with the program**, and also helped guide and support more than 170 other adults who have become mentors through a program at The Rock Church in Point Loma. Thornton earned a certificate through the Office Professional Training Program (OPT), with a specialization in accounting.

Wonders of Science

The **Grossmont Science Club** provided a silly putty station to allow parents and children to make their own, smoke and flame demonstrations, and a station where students could build and launch their own bottle rockets at a science night at Fletcher Hills Elementary in May. **Chemistry professor Jeff Lehman** and the Science Club also participated in the San Diego STEAM Expo on campus on Saturday, May 14.



OPT Funding

The OPT program has been **recommended for funding** from the Women's Give San Diego organization. The final decision will be made at the state level, but the local organization highly recommends the Grossmont College program for the full amount requested – **more than \$39,000 for a two-year period.**

Fiscal and Physical Resources

This summer, facilities will be working on **two significant upgrades to the Grossmont campus infrastructure.** They will be replacing the campus' main electrical feed and will begin work on an upgrade to the central air conditioning plant adjacent to the LRC. Construction started on Friday, June 3.

Scope of Work Includes:

- Full closure of the west perimeter drive from Lot 1 to Building 34.
- Full closure of Lot 2.
- Partial closure of Lot 1.
- Partial or full closure of various walkways in and around the CDC and Buildings 30, 31 and 34.
- Construction on the west side of the LRC.

The perimeter road along west side of the campus will be closed during construction, with an anticipated reopening to the public by Monday, Aug. 15.

Pathway to Success:

The Campaign for College Opportunity named **Grossmont ninth among the 113 California colleges** for its strong and effective pathway for students to transfer from community college to a California State University campus.

Grossmont is being honored for conferring 473 Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT) in 2014-15. Grossmont grew ADT production by 157 degrees from the 2013-14 academic year. In 2014-15, **Grossmont transferred 763 students to the CSU system.**

Value and Support of Employees

Jazz Man of the Year

Derek Cannon was honored as **Jazz Artist of the Year** by the Southern California Jazz Society at the annual fundraiser in March at the Musicians Union in San Diego. The award was for his work as Music Department Chair and Director of Jazz Studies at Grossmont, and for his mentorship of aspiring young musicians in the community.

Improve your productivity

Employees are encouraged to sign up for a **training series to explore how effective management can improve overall productivity.** The series is based on the book, **“The 5 Choices: The Path to Extraordinary Productivity”** by Kory Kogon, Adam Merrill, and Leena Rinne. The first session was held June 16. The second session will be held from 1-3 p.m. on Monday, June 27, in the District Annex Conference Room at Grossmont College. This session

can stand alone and does not require participation in Part 1. To pre-register, contact Bryan Banville at bryan.banville@gcccd.edu

Economic and Community Development

Port of San Diego Employee Training

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District is providing a series of **customized training classes to the Port of San Diego through a new partnership with the Employee Training Institute (ETi) at San Diego Community College District.** In September 2015, a needs analysis was conducted with Port management and team leads to determine a starting point for curriculum design. Five topic areas were identified, including electrical safety, gardening landscape and irrigation, lean operations, machinery operations safety, and hazardous waste management. About 90 employees in the General Services department at the Port are enrolled in the mandatory weekly training programs that began in February and will continue through August.

America on Main Street

Admissions and Records staff **Linda Elia, Lisa Lundgren** and **Monica Blando** participated in the third annual America on Main Street in El Cajon on Saturday, May 21. They handed out Grossmont promotional items and brochures, and talked to more than 200 people at the all-day community event.

Theatre Arts Summer Conservatory

High school and college actors, actresses, costume designers and stagehands will team up once more for the 2016 version of **Grossmont College's Summer Conservatory program**, which culminates with a musical adaptation of the Jules Verne classic, "Around the World in Eighty Days." The screenplay was written by Theatre Arts instructor **Jeannette Thomas** and is being directed by Theatre Arts instructor **Brian Rickel**. The third Annual Summer Conservatory Program enables student performers and technicians to learn what it's like to work in a professional theatre through daytime or evening classes that teach specialized skills. High school students can earn college credit, and the course culminates with 10 performances at the Stagehouse Theatre from July 28 through Aug. 6. For more information, call (619) 644-7234.

