



Outreach

Adult Re-Entry Program Open House

On Friday, Jan. 12, the Adult Re-Entry Program held its spring 2018 open house. About 100 prospective students attended the event that included information about academic programs, Student Services, in-demand jobs and the local labor market. Prospective students were also able to meet staff and faculty, tour campus and attend Admissions and Financial Aid workshops.

Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility

Also on Jan. 12, Grossmont College and the Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility celebrated the end of the semester for a second cohort of students enrolled in Pathways Academy, a partnership between the San Diego Sheriff's Department and the college. During the ceremony, teachers, students and college leadership reflected on the semester, coursework and personal development. The program ended with coffee, cake and socializing.

"Best of East County" Awards

Grossmont College performing and visual arts received high marks from East County residents as part of the East County Californian's "Best of East County" Awards. The Hyde Art Gallery was recognized as No. 1 for best art gallery, the Stagehouse Theatre for No. 2 for best live theatre and Music for No. 2 for best live music. The Best of East County Awards will be recognized at the Best of East County Party on Feb. 8 in El Cajon.



OPT Outreach

In partnership with East County Schools Federal Credit Union, the Office Professional Training program created an outreach video featuring faculty, staff and students currently enrolled in the long-standing free program that trains students to become office professionals in one semester. To watch the video, [visit the East County Schools Federal Credit Union Facebook page](#).

Congresswoman Susan A. Davis

Congresswoman Susan A. Davis, who represents the 53rd District that includes Grossmont College, hosted a Q & A session regarding the new federal tax law recently passed by Congress. After an introduction by President Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh, Rep. Davis provided some brief remarks about the new law. During the event, attendees were able to ask guest speakers questions and obtain helpful information provided by local resource agencies.

Engagement

MLK Parade

On Jan. 14, Grossmont College participated in the 38th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade. Students, faculty, staff and their families joined the districtwide contingent and

community members to celebrate the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The parade took place in downtown San Diego and included floats, high school bands and drill teams, and other marchers from throughout San Diego. The annual parade is coordinated by the Zeta Sigma Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., the oldest African American fraternity in America.

Speech and Debate Team Tournament

The Griffin's Speech and Debate Team scored big again at the PSCFA Fall Championship Tournament held at Moorpark College in December. The team took the third place team trophy, with Theo Hayes winning second place in Open Dramatic Interpretation, Daniel Zaragoza placing third place for Jr. Impromptu Speaking and finalist for Jr. Extemporaneous Speaking, and Amanda Afentakis placing as finalist for Jr. Extemporaneous Speaking. Congratulations to the team and advisor Roxanne Tuscany!



Outreach Ambassadors and Via Rápida Peer Mentors

Earlier this month, two important groups of Grossmont College students were trained – Outreach Ambassadors and Via Rápida Peer Mentors. The two training programs focused on sharing information about college programs and services. Outreach Ambassadors will work with prospective students at high schools, adult education centers, community events and on campus, while Peer Mentors help first-year students acclimate to their first year at college as part of the college's Title V grant.

Athletics

- Griffin Athletics had a busy winter with women's water polo and women's indoor volleyball finishing their seasons strong. **Women's water polo** wrapped up their season with a victory against Miramar College. Sophomore Madison Stockton and freshman Jasmin Miller were named First Team All-Conference and All-Pacific Coast Athletic Conference (PCAC) Team, and Miller was named Second Team All-Southern California, Second Team All-Conference and All-PCAC Team, respectively. Sophomore Alex Hultman and freshman Camryn Raley were also named Second Team All-Conference for the season. Meanwhile, **women's volleyball** ended their season with a 3-0 loss to Irvine Valley College in the second round of the SoCal regional Playoffs after winning the PCAC South Division for the eighth straight season. Freshman Alexis Morris was named First Team All-Southern Region and PCAC Player of the Year. She was joined in receiving First Team honors with sophomore Khalia Jordan, sophomore



Felicia Marshall and freshman Kayli Barrera. Two players were also named to the Second Team All-PCAC Team, including freshman Erin Roberts and freshman Naomi Talisa Leilua. Desiree Howard, Nicole Donais and Kiersten Kerch rounded out the team's accolades with honorable mentions. Congrats to women's water polo and women's volleyball!

- Meanwhile, men's and women's basketball held their annual tournaments last month. Men's basketball hosted the 46th Annual Grossmont Tournament, beating Victor Valley and Palomar colleges before losing to 2016 state champions City College. The college also hosted the 30th Annual Women's Basketball Tournament, with the women's team winning the tournament consolation championship game against Southwestern College. Congrats to men's and women's basketball teams for their exciting starts to conference play!

American Associate of Physics Teachers Winter Conference

Physics Instructor Philip Blanco and honors student Devin Potratz presented a joint work at the American Association of Physics Teachers 2018 Winter Conference held earlier this month in San Diego. The presentation, "1, 2, 3, Escape! Using the Oberth Effect for interplanetary and interstellar travel," described the team's use of an aerospace industry software package to simulate different strategies for sending a spacecraft away from Earth's orbit to the outer solar system and beyond, and compared their flight times and fuel requirements. Potratz is a first-year student in physics and this was his honors project associated with his three-semester sequence in the department. He hopes to transfer to University of California San Diego or UC Berkeley.



Retention

- In [a story written by the San Diego and Imperial Counties Community College Association \(SDICCCA\) for the American Association of Community Colleges' 21st Century Center blog](#), Grossmont College was one of nine local community colleges featured in a story about food insecurity programs throughout the region. The article noted Grossmont College's food pantry efforts, as well as its participation as a host for Basket Brigade, a national program organized by the Anthony Robbins Foundation to provide Thanksgiving dinner to local families in need.
- Last year, [the Aspen Institute announced the 150 community colleges eligible for its prestigious 2019 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence](#). The list included Grossmont College, the only college listed as eligible in San Diego and Imperial counties, and one of 16 eligible in California. With a singular focus on student success, the Aspen Prize recognizes institutions with outstanding achievements in four areas: learning; certificate and degree completion; employment and earnings; and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students. The top 10 finalists for the 2019 Aspen Prize will be named in May 2018. The grand prize winner receives a \$1 million prize in addition to the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance.

Convocation

- Spring 2018 Convocation will take place on Monday, Jan. 22, at the Main Gym. Breakfast will be served at 8 a.m., with the program beginning at 9 a.m. Breakfast has been generously supported by East County Schools Federal Credit Union. This year's convocation will recognize new staff and faculty, announce the President's Leadership Award, and provide an abbreviated update on the college's status. Additionally, attendees will be fully immersed in the voices of our college's students, with planned performances by the Speech and Debate team, displayed artwork and more. Lunch will be held in Griffin Center at 12:30 p.m., and Buildings 10 and 60 will be closed to the public until 1:30 p.m. to accommodate interested staff members.

Institutional Capacity

Modular Village

The new modular village in Parking Lot 5 is nearing completion, with staff and faculty expected for occupancy on Jan. 22. During the winter break, construction crews connected utilities and replaced the ADA ramp, and other personnel moved furniture into the space that will house former occupants of Bldgs. 31, 38B, 38C and 36 while those spaces under renovations that begin later this semester.

Extended Office Hours

To provide service to new and existing students, office hours will be extended for Student Services departments and programs Bldgs. 10 and 60. From Jan. 20 through Feb. 3, offices will be open from 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Fridays and 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Saturday. Please note that, due to Convocation, Student Services offices in Bldg. 10 and 60 will be closed from 8 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 22. Additionally, the Cashier's Office in Bldg. 10 is included in the extended hours and will be open during Convocation.

You're Invited

- For its first production of the spring 2018 semester, the **Theatre Arts Department** will present "Inside the Actor's Process: Classical" to the public at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 2 and 3, and at 2 p.m. on Feb. 3. The production will include vignettes from classical theatrical productions and explore how actors can approach these works in a way similar to modern realistic plays. "Inside the Actor's Process: Classical" is also a touring production presented at high schools throughout the San Diego region. For tickets, visit the Stagehouse Box Office temporary located in Bldg. 20, [go online](#) or call ext. 7234.
- The **Hyde Art Gallery** will present its first exhibition of the spring 2018 semester, "Len Davis: a network of familiarity," Jan. 29 through Feb. 23. Davis works in assemblage, collage drawing and works on paper that revolve around themes of everyday life issues encountered with the human figure present. An artist's lecture will take place from 2 – 3 p.m. in Bldg. 26, room 220, and a Closing Reception will be held from 4 – 6 p.m. in Hyde Art Gallery, both on Feb. 20. An artist's workshop will be held from 10 a.m. – noon, Feb. 21, in Bldg. 24, room 274. To RSVP for the workshop, please RSVP to Hyde Art Gallery Technician Alex Decosta at alex.dacosta@gccd.edu.

