



Outreach

Theater Arts presents “Beauty and the Beast”

The Theatre Arts Department presented its Summer Conservatory production, “Beauty and the Beast” in late July and early August. Nearly 500 youngsters from throughout East County attended the production through their school district’s extended care program. Students attended the original production featuring local high school and college students, met the actors and crew members following the show, and received a small gift from the college and the department. Next year’s Summer Conservatory will feature “The Little Mermaid.” Theatre Arts’ next production, Tom Stoppard’s “Arcadia,” will debut in October.



Via Rápida

The college’s Title V program, Via Rápida, hosted its first orientation for the first-year program. Taking place over the course of four days, more than 100 students attended the orientation that included presentations from a variety of college programs and departments. The Via Rápida program also includes embedded tutors in accelerated English courses and a peer mentoring program that matches first-year students with student mentors.

Outreach – Parkway Plaza

In coordination with Cuyamaca College Outreach and the Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges Promise program, Grossmont College is staffing a kiosk at Parkway Plaza mall. Outreach staff from each group is sharing information with prospective students and their families to promote enrollment in the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District.



Strong Workforce Star Award Winners

Grossmont College promoted its award-winning career education programs via an underwriting campaign on KPBS-FM in July and August. The sponsored announcements recognized the college’s 10 Strong Workforce Star Award winners and directed listeners to learn more on the college’s new career education website, grossmont.edu/careers.

Engagement

Griffin Works

The Division of Career Technical Education and Workforce Development has launched a new internship program in partnership with the Career Center. The new program, dubbed Griffin Works, will help students learn about various industries, make valuable connections, build their resumes and get professional experience. The program will also work with local employers to help them pre-screen and match student applicants with internship openings. The hope is that the program will grow the number of students in internships, while helping local employers find qualified employees. Griffin Works will host student information sessions in August, September and October. For more information, please contact Erica Olmos, Career Navigator, at erica.olmos@gcccd.edu.

ASGC Leadership Retreat

The Associated Students of Grossmont College held a daylong leadership retreat on Aug. 16. Throughout the day, student leaders learned about a variety of topics, including the college's governance reorganization, diversity and inclusion, and other topics. The students also spent time planning for the upcoming year and growing student involvement on campus.

Week of Welcome

The Week of Welcome, the first week of classes, at Grossmont College will feature a variety of student events, including information booths on Aug. 20 and 21; Transfer Center Open House on Aug. 21; All Campus Activities and Information Fair and a Financial Aid Workshop on Aug. 22; and "I Stand with Dreamers" Day, Career Center Open House and Walk with the President on Aug. 23. For a full listing of events, visit the Grossmont College events calendar at grossmont.edu.

Retention

Griffin Experience

On Aug. 17, the Outreach Department hosted its second annual Griffin Experience for new students. The event helps create school pride and connect students with college programs. In addition to Outreach, students received presentations centered on engagement and retention services. Student Engagement Coordinator Susan Berry made a presentation about the Common Ground, Gizmo's Pantry and student clubs; and Student Success Liaisons Shardai Zaragoza and Alexis Lytle shared information about the Grad Coaches program and available support services. The nearly 100 students in attendance also received a welcome gift that included a Grossmont College drawstring backpack and school supplies.

Open Educational Resources

In its second year as a member of the Rice University OpenStax Institutional Partner Program, Grossmont College will save more than 3,800 students more than \$200,000 on textbook costs this upcoming academic year by using open educational resources, or OER. OER are freely accessible, openly licensed, text, media and other digital assets that are useful for teaching, learning and assessing, as well as for research purposes. The estimate for this upcoming year is in addition to the 1,660 students impacted and \$160,000 saved, thanks to OER, during the 2017-2018 academic year. While these numbers demonstrate a large impact for the college's students, it's actually an under-estimation, as there are additional courses with "zero textbook costs," or

ZTC, that do not require textbooks and are not using OER. Congratulations to the college’s OER/ZTC team for their hard work on behalf of students!

Institutional Capacity

English and Math Placements

In a preliminary review of the data, Grossmont College has seen a dramatic increase in the number of students placing directly into transfer-level English and mathematics courses. The increase is attributed to the implementation of multiple measures in the Accuplacer assessment test by the English and Mathematics Departments. With the multiple measures in use, the vast majority of students – about 74 percent – are placing into English 120 and 50 percent of students are placing directly into Math 120 or higher (see graphics below). With the increase in placements, there’s been an increase in course scheduling, as well. For example, based on the projections provided to the English Department, a total of 74 sections – 15 more than had originally been scheduled – are closed and/or waitlisted, with more than 2,500 students enrolled in English 120 for the fall semester. Congratulations to the English and Mathematics Departments for implementing multiple measures and for their successful student-centered work thus far!

