



Outreach

Pathways to Success Academy – Las Colinas Women’s Detention Center

Earlier this month, representatives from Grossmont College and the San Diego Sheriff’s Department presented about the college’s Pathways to Success Academy, a program that provides classes to residents at the Las Colinas Women’s Detention Center, at the Strengthening Student Success Conference. The session illustrated how an educational program within a correctional facility can introduce and inspire inmates to continue pursuing a college education upon release. The presentation also included a guide for building a program from an initial idea to partnership to implementation and evaluation.

Leadership Fellows from the National Community College Hispanic Council

Last month, the student ambassadors with the college’s Outreach Department hosted a campus tour of Leadership Fellows from the National Community College Hispanic Council (NCCHC). In partnership with the American Association of Community Colleges, NCCHC has worked to advance the number of Hispanics in leadership positions at community colleges across the country. Each year, the program hosts a Leadership Symposium and its fellows program.

Drone Program

As part of its \$6 million federal America’s Promise grant through the U.S. Department of Labor, the Division of Career/Technical Education and Workforce Development will launch its drone program with free piloting classes later this month. The unmanned aerial systems (UAS) program is comprised of two tracks: surveying and mapping, and cinematography. The program will provide UAS Ground School and Federal Aviation Administration 107 certification classes to become licensed commercial drone pilots. Once students complete the ground school module and possess a drone pilot license, they can then go onto one of the two tracks.

Swing Under the Stars

On Thursday, Oct. 11, the Music Department hosted its first-ever Swing Under the Stars, a student scholarship concert fundraiser featuring the JazzKatz Orchestra and free swing dance lessons. Held in the Main Quad, the dance lessons were taught by Nancy Boskin-Mullen, Adjunct Associate Professor in the Dance Department, and her students. The JazzKatz Orchestra, a 14-piece big band jazz ensemble, was led by Grossmont College music alumnus Chaz Cabrera and lead vocalist Whitney Shay. The group performed for more than 200 guests, and the



Student Veterans Organization hosted a fundraiser barbecue for their organization in conjunction with the event. Swing Under the Stars is based on the department's prior Salsa Under the Stars fundraiser concerts that raised a combined \$6,800 for student scholarships during its two concerts held during the 2017 – 18 academic year. The next Salsa Under the Stars fundraiser concert will be held in April 2019.

Engagement

40th Annual Career Expo

The Career Resource Center hosted its 40th Annual Career Expo in the Main Quad. Hundreds of students were able to meet with more than 100 local employers and exhibitors, some of whom held on-the-spot interviews with prospective applicants. Some of the featured industries at this year's event included education, law enforcement, fiscal management services, healthcare providers and much more. The event also enjoyed support from 10 sponsors, including: Grossmont College Career/Technical Education and Workforce Development, Public Consulting Group (PCG), Viejas Casino and Resort, Sharp Healthcare, WHPacific, LAZ Parking, Point Loma Credit Union and Childcare Centers. The event also featured an opportunity drawing prize for interested students: a Parrot Mambo Minidrone.



Theatre Arts “Arcadia”

The Theatre Arts Department debuted its first production of the new academic year, Tom Stoppard's “Arcadia” at the Stagehouse Theatre earlier this month. The smart and witty start to the 2018 – 2019 season was directed by department Chair Beth Duggan, and delved into the relationship between the past and the present, order and disorder, certainty and uncertainty. Additionally, Theatre Arts students debuted “Galoshes of Fortune” this week, with its first performance at Rancho San Diego Elementary. The student ensemble will perform at 15 primary schools through Dec. 6 thanks to funding support from The Rice Family Foundation, a national nonprofit that funds local initiatives focused on education, health and the well-being of families. The Stagehouse Theatre will host three performances of “Galoshes of Fortune,” based on a story by Hans Christian Andersen, on Nov. 2 and 3.

Hyde Art Gallery Exhibits

The Hyde Art Gallery debuted two new exhibitions from San Diego artists in October, including “Respira,” featuring Gloria Muriel; and “Cirque de Luna,” featuring Cheryl Tall. The concurrent exhibitions feature two innovative artists, with Muriel specializing in painting and Tall specializing in ceramics. Both Tall and Muriel have produced large bodies of work that have been exhibited and collected nationally and internationally. “Respira,” part of the college's Latinx Heritage Month celebration, will be on display through Oct. 26, and “Cirque de Luna” will be on display through Nov. 6. Both exhibitions are free and open to the public.

National Cyber League

The college's Computer Science and Information Systems Department is forming its first-ever student team for the National Cyber League, a defensive and offensive puzzle-based, capture-the-flag style cybersecurity competition. The competition features a virtual training ground that helps students prepare and test themselves against cybersecurity challenges that they will likely face in the workforce. The National Cyber League challenges are based on the CompTIA Security+™ and EC-Council Certified Ethical Hacker certifications. The competition starts in November and ends in December.

Retention

California Teaching Pyramid

The Grossmont College Child Development Center, which has been recognized by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson for its commitment to social and emotional development of young children and families, recently joined a special project known as the California Teaching Pyramid. The California Teaching Pyramid is a program that supports social-emotional development of children and families, and promotes inclusion and belonging for families who have children with special needs and/or challenging behavior. The Child Development Center is one of two Teaching Pyramid Partner Sites in San Diego County, and, as part of their participation, center staff receive specialized professional development to support the center's implementation of the Teaching Pyramid framework and provide important feedback that will inform practices at other early childhood programs throughout the state. The Child Development Center currently serves 90 families, the majority of whom are low-income students currently studying at Grossmont College.

Financial Literacy Workshop

Later this month, Grossmont College Financial Aid and Scholarships will host a financial literacy workshop in conjunction with the San Diego Center for Economic Education at Cuyamaca College. The workshop, which is generously supported by the Foundation for Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges, will provide staff, faculty and administrators training to better assist students in making better financial decisions. The workshop will be held Oct. 30 in Griffin Gate.

Undocumented Students Week of Action

In conjunction with other community colleges across the region, Grossmont College is hosting its Undocumented Students Week of Action this week. Presented by the Dreamers Movement student organization, the Dream Center and Via Rápida (Title V program), the week's on-campus activities include presentations by local community activist Eduardo "Kiki" Ochoa, an Un-DACA-mented Resource Fair, California Dream Act Day, and a panel of AB 540/DACA recipients who are working and making a difference on campus and in the community. Declared by the California Community Colleges Board of Governors during their meeting last month, the Week of Action is a statewide, student-led advocacy campaign that includes providing support and community resources to undocumented students.

Institutional Capacity

Construction Update

Several meetings have taken place between the project group for Arts and Communications Complex Phase II and academic departments. While the original construction plans called for a second and third phase of renovation of the existing buildings in the 200s complex, the project group is proposing new construction in a single phase. Construction for a new and final second phase is anticipated to begin in August 2021.

Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative

Grossmont College hosted its third visit from its partnership resource team for the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative projects related to participatory governance, annual planning and student learning outcomes. The team visited with college and district staff, faculty and administrators who have been working on these projects since the college solicited IEPI assistance in fall 2017. During the visit, the team gauged the college's progress on its projects and discussed future challenges and opportunities related to implementation of its new systems.