



G R O S S M O N T C O L L E G E

President's Report to the Governing Board December 13, 2019

OUTREACH

Culinary Arts students and faculty volunteered at several events in November. A dozen students volunteered at the annual San Diego Bay Food + Wine Festival, a weeklong event in early November. Program students also created 200 chocolate gifts for State Sen. Brian Jones office for his first-ever Community Legislative Open House held on Nov. 14 in Santee, which featured several local nonprofit organizations from throughout the 38th State Senate District. The students culminated their month of volunteering by baking pies for Father Joe's Villages annual day-before Thanksgiving meal for the homeless held Wednesday, Nov. 27.

In partnership with Student Health Services, the San Diego Blood Bank held a blood drive on campus in mid-November. During the two-day drive, more than 70 donors participated, including 27 first-time donors. In total, the blood bank collected 57 pints, saving 171 lives in our community.

During November and December, the Grossmont College Outreach team hosted several campus visits, including a tour of 4th graders from National City and seniors from Mt. Miguel High School. They also participated in several events for the Third Binational Education Week sponsored by the Mexican Consulate, and presented several Cash for College Financial Aid Workshops at various high schools throughout the county.

ENGAGEMENT



Grossmont College Speech and Debate Team (from left: Mitch Montoya, Caleb Jenkins, Stephen Straw, Alex Moreau, Nick Durham, Josias Guerra, Catherine Texeira, Jameer Pritchard)

In late November, Grossmont College hosted its 27th Annual Griffin Invitational Speech and Debate Tournament. Communication students volunteered as event staff and Communication professors served as judges during the event, which featured participants from 21 colleges and universities. Several Grossmont College students placed in the tournament, including Andrew Jassick for first place in Poetry and finalist in Dramatic Interpretation, Catherine Texeira placed second in Speaker Award in Open Division IPDA, Jameer Pritchard placed second in Novice Program Oral Interpretation, and Nick Durham placed third

in Novice Impromptu Speaking. Their latest win demonstrates the team's consistently high-ranking performance following wins throughout the semester. Congratulations to the team and advisor Roxanne Tuscany for another successful event and performance!

Grossmont College administrators, faculty, staff and students volunteered at the first All-Campus Thanksgiving held in Griffin Gate in late November. The event, hosted by Student Affairs, featured a hot Thanksgiving meal with turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetables and more. More than 150 students attended the event, where they were able to share what they were thankful for via a note station while enjoying fall décor and a yule log fireplace on the video screens in the room.



Volunteers serve students at the first All-Campus Thanksgiving.



Students enjoy a free dinner while learning about student service and academic programs.

Dozens of students attended the Evening Student Success Fair in late November. During the event, evening students were able to learn about the many student success and academic programs on campus. The event featured free food, giveaways, live music and more.

The Inter-Club Council hosted its annual Fall Festival on Nov. 20. Despite being held inside Griffin Center due to rain, the festival had a turnout of nearly 400 students. More than a dozen clubs participated in the event, hosted

alongside the Associated Students of Grossmont College. In addition to food sale fundraisers, students were also able to get a caricature done, enjoy the selfie station, and create arts and crafts, among other activities.

The first week of December featured the annual Destress Week sponsored by the Associated Students of Grossmont College, Tutoring Services and Via Rápida. The event featured several study jam sessions in Griffin Gate, adult coloring stations, table games, massage sessions, yoga, Zumba, pet therapy provided by Love on a Leash, and giant hamster ball races. The event is designed to help students destress and manage anxiety prior to finals week and the holiday season.



President Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh before his run in a giant hamster ball.

RETENTION



Girl Scouts write Thanksgiving notes for Basket Brigade.

Thanksgiving dinner distribution. Forty students and their families received a free Thanksgiving meal bag, which included fresh produce, a turkey and boxed items to create a Thanksgiving meal. Meals were distributed the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

CalWORKs hosted its annual holiday party in early December. Due to inclement weather, this year's event was held inside Griffin Center. It featured a visit from Santa, face painting, artificial snow, and gifts for more than 300 Grossmont College students and their families.

The CalWORKs Club and program hosted the annual East County Basket Brigade the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The one-day event featured volunteers creating and delivering meal baskets for more than 50 CalWORKs students and their families. In addition to CalWORKs Club, Girl Scouts from several local troops created Thanksgiving notes for basket recipients. This is the third year the college has hosted this event.

Gizmo's Kitchen, the student food pantry, hosted its first-ever



Children visit with Santa Claus at the annual CalWORKs Holiday Party.