



Women in Water Symposium

The Center for Water Studies, established by an NSF ATE grant in 2016, responds to both the educational needs of students, and the workforce needs of the water/wastewater industry. In January 2020, the Center hosted the Women in Water Symposium at Cuyamaca College. The event was attended by nearly 200 women in the industry looking to advance their careers and those looking to break into the industry. Water professionals from around California spoke on three different tracks – getting started in the industry, transitioning in the industry, and advancing a career in water/wastewater. The day ended with networking and a tour of the Water Conservation Garden.



The Center features educational pathways leading to certifications in water treatment, water distribution, wastewater treatment, and wastewater collection. Students learn in state-of-the-art facilities at Cuyamaca College include a wet lab for backflow tester training and cross connection, an above-ground water distribution system, and a fully equipped water quality laboratory.

Cuyamaca College 6th Annual Powwow



Native-American tribes from throughout the West were well represented at Cuyamaca College's 6th Annual Powwow on Saturday, February 1. The event drew more than 2,000 to the free, public event celebrating American Indian culture complete with bird singing, gourd dancing, storytelling steeped in spiritual significance, and more. New this year, the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation crowned their powwow princess during the event.

The Cuyamaca College event is the only powwow organized and hosted by a community college in San Diego County. It has been vital in dispelling misconceptions and misinterpretations of Native American history and culture. The powwow was sponsored by Cuyamaca College's Native American Student Alliance, the Division of Equity & Engagement, Student Affairs and Associated Student Government.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend Celebrations



Faculty, staff, and administrators participated in and enjoyed a number of community events in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend. The College was represented at both the educators breakfast hosted by Zeta Sigma Lambda Foundation on Saturday, Jan. 18 and at the All People's Breakfast on Monday, Jan. 20. The highlight of the weekend was the more than 80 members of the GCCCD family that together marched in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade behind our first-ever float.

Dr. Josh Franco Recognized by APSA

Dr. Josh Franco was awarded a grant by the Association of Political Science Association (APSA), the flagship national organization for Political Science. His grant, *"Peer to Peer Pedagogical Partnership"*, will bring together a team of UC, CSU, and community college political science professors to discuss curriculum and degree pathways for students. Through this partnership, a Summer Bridge program for new students will be developed.

Additionally, Dr. Franco was interviewed by APSA on his experience teaching at a community college, and the article appeared on the association's website: "Josh Franco, Ph.D. provides advice for graduate students interested in pursuing a career at a community college."



Faculty News

Guillermo Colls, Chair of the ESL department, wrote an article that was published in the CATESOL Journal titled *"Leaps of Faith: Cuyamaca College's ESL BOOST Program"*

Dr. Lauren Halsted, chair of the English department, was invited by the New York Museum of Modern Art, to present on her late uncle, Fred Halsted, work with film. She is also working on a book based on her uncle's work.

Open Educational Resources Funding

The Academic Senate of the California Community Colleges funded four Cuyamaca College Open Educational Resources projects. More than 60 proposals were submitted, only 24 were funded.

The goal of the funding is to increase student success and address educational inequalities by increasing the availability of open educational resources (OER), and adoption of OER text-equivalents by California community college (CCC) faculty. Funded proposals will address identified gaps in currently available OER. Funded activities must increase the likelihood of faculty adoption of OER by either making an OER text-equivalent available, improving upon an existing OER text-equivalent, or developing ancillary resources that facilitate OER adoption.

Cuyamaca's projects are:

- Spanish – Karla Gutierrez (Elementary Spanish I and II - OER Ancillaries in the form of LibreTexts and H5P)
- Psychology – Dr. Marissa Salazar (Research Methods in Psychology OER Ancillary Package Project)
- Political Science – Dr. Josh Franco
(1) Ten-chapter OER text with accompanying PowerPoint lecture slides and (2) Create OER text and ancillary materials.)