



C U Y A M A C A
· C O L L E G E ·

President's Report to the Governing Board *June 18, 2013*

🐾 Scholarships & Awards Recognition Ceremonies

On Thursday, May 16th, the Cuyamaca College Botanical Society (CCBS) along with the Ornamental Horticulture Department hosted the 32nd Annual CCBS Scholarship and Awards Banquet where more than \$27,000 was awarded to 34 deserving students. Scholarship donors and guests, members of the Cuyamaca College administrative staff along with OH Department instructors and staff were part of the 107 people that attended the event at the beautiful Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice on the University of San Diego Campus in Linda Vista.

On May 17th, the Cuyamaca College Financial & Scholarships office held their annual Scholarships & Awards Recognition Ceremony at the Student Center where scholarship recipients and donors were recognized. With a room filled with family and friends, 17 scholarship recipients were able to attend the ceremony that included words of wisdom and gratitude from guest speakers Mr. Ernest Ewin, FGCC Executive Director of Development, and Ms. Cassandra Steppat, an Osher scholarship recipient. A reception followed where staff, faculty, and administrators were able to meet and congratulate the recipients personally and meet their family and friends. For 2012-13, approximately 125 students received scholarships totaling approximately \$128,000.

🐾 Finals Week Pancake Breakfast

On May 28th, the Associated Student Government sponsored a “study break” that featured a FREE Pancake Breakfast with all of the toppings. In addition to endless pancakes, students were treated with all the extras -- eggs, bacon, and lots of coffee to give them energy for their exams. Students also were given free bluebooks and scantrons at the event.

🐾 First Year Experience Celebrates with Completion Ceremony

Cuyamaca College's First Year Experience Program (FYE), in cooperation with the Outreach, High School & Community Relations department, hosted the 2012-2013 FYE Participant Completion Ceremony. The event was held on Friday, May 31st in the Student Center.

Approximately 175 people witnessed the FYE participants receive their completion certificate. The faculty leading the 4 FYE teams also gave out team awards. The FYE Champion for the year was the Alphas, the cohort led by Counselor **Mr. Greg Gomez**.

The Completion Celebration marked the official end to the FYE cohort of 2012-2013. Along with **President Zacovic** is the FYE team for this year: **Mr. Greg Gomez, Mr. Jesus Miranda, Mr. Adam Erlenbusch, Ms. Vanessa M. Porras, Ms. Reem Asfour, Ms. Mary Garcia, Ms. Laura Jarrous, and Mr. Ryan Shumaker.**



Kudapaw Carnival



The Associated Student Government sponsored the Kudapaw Carnival on May 22nd, which was a great way for students to celebrate the end of the semester and take a little break before the start of finals. (Kudapaw is the given name of our coyote.) Students had the opportunity to listen to some local bands, eat some free kettle corn

and snow cones, and try out the inflatable obstacle course and dunk tank. In addition, several student organizations including the Student Veterans Organization, CCASL, EOPS Club, and the Psychology Club had tables set up to advertise their organizations.

Cuyamaca College's 35th Annual Commencement Celebration



Under a bright spring sky, students celebrated their achievements at the 35th annual Cuyamaca College Commencement Ceremony held on Thursday, June 6th. Hundreds of family members, friends, and colleagues filled the Student Center Plaza and cheered for all the students who earned associate's degrees and certificates this year. This year 620 Associate degrees were awarded, along with 210 Certificates. Graduates ranged in age from 20 to 64 years old. This year's commencement keynote speaker was Mr. Alex

Montoya, Manager of Latino Affairs with the San Diego Padres. During the ceremony, Mr. Montoya handed out an autographed copy of his book, "Swinging for the Fences" to each graduate. **Ms. Viktoriya Sinelnikov**, a science and mathematics major, graduated with a 4.0 grade point average and delivered the valedictory speech. When Viktoriya started at Cuyamaca College in 2007, the Ukrainian immigrant spoke little English. She had worked as a nurse in the Ukraine, and came to the United States in 2004 to marry a fellow countryman. She now plans to transfer to San Diego State University. "Cuyamaca College is a place where all professors, tutors, and other educational resources are ready to help everyone to succeed," she said.



Track Team Participates in State Championship

Cuyamaca College's track team participated in the State Championships in late May. Cuyamaca College student **Mr. Leo Banales** finished 2nd in the Men's Steeplechase and earned All-American status. **Mr. Ryan Maize** finished 5th in the same event and qualified for USATF Junior Nationals in June. He is only the 4th Cuyamaca College athlete to qualify for this prestigious meet! **Ms. Tia Knight** finished 2nd in the 100m hurdles and earned All-American status. We are proud of the continued success of our Track and Field program. A special thanks to our two head coaches, **Dr. Patrick Thiss** and **Mr. Tim Seaman**. They are outstanding!

District Services Star Award Recipients

Ms. Patty Branton, from Facilities, received the *District Services Star Award*. She was nominated for her service in assisting the Classified Senate with their planning of Classified Staff Appreciation Day.

Her nominator commented, saying “Patty provided immense support during the planning and execution of the Classified Staff Appreciation Day on March 25, 2013. She worked tirelessly with Classified Senate, Cuyamaca Technology, and those in her department to make sure every class had the proper room. The day could not have been a success without the efforts of Patty.”

Ms. Patty Tackett, in the Grounds department at Cuyamaca College, also received a *District Services Star Award*. She received this award for her service at the Classified Staff Appreciation Day. Her nominator said “As we were setting up for Classified Staff Appreciation Day, Patty came up and volunteered to help. She delivered water, sign-in sheets, and gave out presenter gifts to all the workshop classrooms. Her support that morning was an incredible selfless act, and we appreciated it immensely! Thank you Patty!” Ms. Branton and Ms. Tackett have once again shown us how they exemplify the *Cuyamaca Way*! Thank you for all that you do!

🐾 5th Annual After-Commencement Party

Following commencement, faculty, staff, administrators, and District personnel were invited to the annual After Commencement Party at the Water Conservation Garden. To celebrate the end of the academic year, approximately 60 employees came and relaxed under the twinkling lights while enjoying great refreshments, drinks, lively conversation and music. Faculty emeriti, **Mr. Jim Custeau**, provided a tribute to Auto Technology instructor, **Mr. Pat Garity**, who is retiring after 24 years of dedicated service to the Cuyamaca College Automotive Technology program.

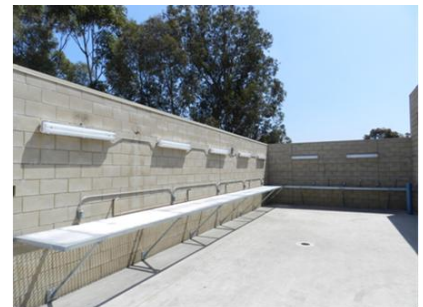


🐾 Center for Innovation Activities

The Center for Innovation within the Office of Continuing Education and Workforce Training serves as the umbrella for many of the contract and grant-funded professional and vocational programs housed at Cuyamaca College. Many are regional programs funded to serve all of San Diego and Imperial Counties. Below is a brief summary of some of their recent activities:

Water/Wastewater Technology Program: Construction of a backflow prevention training facility for Cuyamaca College’s Water/Wastewater Technology Program is scheduled for completion on June 7th.

The facility provides eight workstations where students will learn how to install and test a backflow assembly, a device which protects the public water supply from contamination due to backflow from a home or business. Certified backflow assembly testers are employed by water agencies and plumbing contractors and can start their own business as well. The grant-funded, \$14,000 facility is located outside the Automotive Technology Facility and each workstation includes lighting, electrical power and water. This permanent facility replaces a temporary facility in the Botany Greenhouse behind Building H.



Mr. Don Jones, from Cuyamaca College’s Water and Wastewater Technology Program and subject matter expert for the WaterWorks Grant, presented at the California Water Environment Association’s 2013 Annual Conference in Palm Springs. CWEA provides education and training for California’s wastewater professionals. Don’s presentation, *Community Colleges’ Role in Training the Next Generation of Water and Wastewater Industry Professionals*, described the expected impact of Baby

Boomer retirements on California's wastewater agencies and key strategies for training and certifying the new workers needed.

Mr. Mike Uhrhammer started on April 29th, and will manage the WaterWorks Grant through its completion in October. Mike co-facilitated a statewide water industry skill panel for the Center for Innovation in February, is an adjunct faculty member in Cuyamaca College's Water and Wastewater Technology Program, and has 10 years of experience in the water industry with Padre Dam Municipal Water District in Santee.

Workforce Innovation Partnership Grants (Green Ventures): The Sustainable Green Building class with California Conservation Corps members concluded on May 28th. The students had the advantage of participating in GRID Alternative's yearly Solarthon, which GRID Alternatives led crews to install solar electric systems on ten low-income homes. When asked if they enjoyed participating in the Solarthon, several California Conservation Corps member students responded that it "felt great to work on low-income homes knowing that the work completed would benefit others". One student said, "It was nice to do something for the environment (solar panels), help people (low-income families), and learn (installing solar panels on homes) all at the same time."



Upcoming Events

A complete list of college activities can be found on our website, www.cuyamaca.edu

College for Kids

The College for Kids summer program begins July 8th and runs through August 1st. These enrichment programs for children between ages 8 and 14 are committed to teaching new and meaningful skills as students participate in classes such as art, dance, fitness, science, media, and more! College for Kids registration began May 6th at www.cuyamaca.edu/preview/CFK/.



Fall 2013 Convocation

Wednesday, August 14th

Student Center, beginning at 8:00am

Farmer's Market at Cuyamaca College



The Rancho San Diego Farmer's Market is held at Cuyamaca College from 9:00am to 2:00pm each Saturday. Fresh fruits and vegetables, health and fitness sessions, live music and more! In a short period of time, this market has become extremely popular with the local community.