VIRTUAL COMPLETION CELEBRATION

On May 22 at 6:00 p.m., the Virtual Completion Celebration video premiered. This celebration did not replace the postponed commencement ceremony. However, it provided an opportunity to virtually celebrate our graduating students. Graduates and employees submitted fun pictures holding signs with inspiring messages. We appreciate the hard work our faculty and staff have done to provide excellent online instruction and student services. This semester has been difficult, but our students have expressed sincere appreciation for the care and effort we have shown them over the past several weeks. Next month’s report will provide data on how many students earned degrees and certificates.

LEON S. PETERS HONORS TRANSFER & SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION VIDEO

On May 21 at 6:00 p.m., the Leon S. Peters Honors Program recognition video premiered. Students submitted videos highlighting their transfer plans and thanked the Leon S. Peters family for their continued support of the program.

BIOLOGY STUDENTS ANALYZE REAL WORLD DATA THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH CARNEGIE MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE RESEARCH (C-MOOR)

C-MOOR provides access to real world data, state of the art computational tools, and interactive online tutorials. Biology Instructor Dr. Alcazar has incorporated these components into an innovative research experience embedded inside the required freshman biology curriculum, thereby preparing students for future research opportunities and success in advanced academic programs. District Director of Environmental Health & Risk Management Darren Cousineau applauded our faculty on this program. His daughter, Anna, is a Leon S. Peters Honors Program student and a collaborator on the C-MOOR project. According to Darren, this is “illustrative to how much our instructors, all across the District at every campus, are working with our students in this time of COVID-19. I am so proud of Anna, and of course, this is way beyond my comprehension!” Thank you to our entire science faculty!

RESOURCES HELP STUDENTS FINISH STRONG FOR FINALS

Various options were available to help students prepare for finals including extended tutorial center hours, library resources, and zoom appointments with student success coaches. In addition, President Dr. Lori Bennett provided an inspiring video message.

PRESIDENT DR. LORI BENNETT RE-ELECTED AS A MEMBER OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES (CEOCCC) BOARD

Congratulations to President Dr. Lori Bennett! She represents the Central Valley region, and her duties include analyzing and making recommendations on legislation and the state budget, plus serving on committees and task forces.

NATIONAL POETRY MONTH CELEBRATED

The library faculty and staff along with English Instructors Von Torres and Melanie Sanwo organized the “Virtual Poetry Read-In and Write-In” on April 30. This was a wonderful interactive event where participants shared their favorite poems and writings.
NEW CTE PROGRAM EARNs APPROVAL FROM THE STATE CHANCELLOR’S OFFICE

The new Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program will start taking applications this fall. Students will have the opportunity to earn an associate of science degree and be prepared to work in various settings, such as a hospital, clinic, or private practice. Employment in this field is expected to grow by 32% to 43% by 2024.

CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATED WITH LEGENDARY LEADER DOLORES HUERTA

On May 5 Ms. Huerta held an online presentation “Reclaiming Cinco de Mayo” for students and staff. She highlighted the history and importance of Cinco de Mayo.

CCC EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED AT VIRTUAL SERVICE AWARDS

On April 30, President Dr. Lori Bennett hosted the annual Employee Recognition Awards event. Congratulations to all of the amazing employees who were recognized!

5 Years
Nina Roby
Alex Adams
Stephanie Babb
Tyler Johns
Paul Johnson
William Kerney
Nanci Surnaya
Ralph Marrufo
Cristyn Lynch
Jennifer Marta
Alisha Rabara
Megan Bennett
Chad Bogosian
Galin Dent
Max Hembd
Tiffany Sarkisian
Sandra Aguiler
Ermalee Aguilar
Stacy Ross
Colleen Brannon
Karle Hannigan

10 Years
Karen Anderson
Diane Schoenbug
Jennifer Simonson
Daniel Pattillo

15 Years
Margee Loya
Derek Dormady
Jason Gardner
Natalie Minas
Jeff Burdick
Janice Ledgerwood
Reynani Hawkins

20 Years
Russell Hickey
Jose Castaneda
Cheryl Lock
Becky Allen
Kirtley King
Joseph Libby

25 Years
Kaye Reynolds
Leslie King

30 Years
Anthony Romero

CCC PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT UPDATE

A college-wide planning retreat was held on January 31 as part of the college’s six-year planning and assessment cycle. The group reviewed and updated our Mission, Values, and Vision statements. College Council reviewed the feedback and formed an ad-hoc group to draft a proposal. All constituent groups reviewed and approved the draft with minor edits. On May 7, College Council discussed and accepted the recommended changes. College Council unanimously supported the final draft. As part of the accreditation process, CCC submitted the updated statement to the Board of Trustees for review and approval. The college will be updating its Strategic Plan this fall.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FACULTY WHO EARNED HIGHER EDUCATION DEGREES

We are very proud of our faculty who recently earned higher educational degrees. Teresa Ishigaki, Tiffany Sarkisian, Tracy Stuntz, Pa Nhia Xiong earned doctoral degrees. Isaac Reyna earned a master's degree.