



MARISSA GUZMAN'S ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AT THE 95TH ANNUAL WESTERN STATES COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE



Clovis' very own Marissa Guzman recently attended the 95th annual Western States Communication Association (WSCA) conference. Marissa, a second-year English/communication studies double major, was invited and presented her research paper "NetChoice V Paxton: The Dilemma of Prioritizing Open Social Media Discourse or Government Control." The paper

was so impactful to the editors that Marissa sat on a graduate-level panel with colleagues who either held PhDs or were pursuing doctoral degrees. Her presentation was well-received by the audience, and she was asked thought-provoking questions that interrogated her paper with academic rigor.

Marissa also attended the San Diego State University reception, where she networked with faculty and students from the department. As a first-generation student, Marissa realized that this conference allowed her to grow familiar with the graduate school application process. Academic scholars from across the nation created a warm and welcoming environment for Marissa, and the diverse representation allowed her, as she put it, "feel as though I belong in this space." I look forward to taking more scholars to next year's conference which will be held in San Diego, where the theme for academic papers is *Resistance*.

CCC HOSTED TOWN HALLS FOR EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS

In response to concerns regarding immigration policy, CCC hosted two town halls for employees and students.

The Employee Town Hall was held on February 11th. Chief Flores and the SCCCD Police Department presented a Know Your Rights training. Chief Flores provided information about campus, local, and federal policies, as well as what employees' rights are in situations that may arise with immigration officers. Dr. Chahal and the Vice Presidents were also present to take questions.

The Student Town Hall: Navigating Change Together was held on February 13th. Administrators and staff addressed topics on campus and federal policies, financial aid, hate speech, protecting vulnerable students, DEIA, and campus and staff support.

Read more from the Clovis Roundup Article: <https://clovisroundup.com/ccc-hosts-student-town-hall-about-navigating-change-together/>

CAMPUS CATS ARE GETTING SPAYED AND NEUTERED

Since last year, faculty, staff, and students have enjoyed seeing the newest addition to our campus – cats! We want them to stay on our campus, but it is important to spay and neuter them. The CCC Conservation Club has partnered with a local animal agency to have the campus cats receive veterinary check-ups, vaccination, and be neutered. They are using the fundraiser funds to pay for these services. To make a donation to The Conservation Club to help pay for the costs of spaying and neutering, please see the Business Office in AC3-250.

CCC CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Clovis Community College proudly celebrated Black History Month with a dynamic lineup of events honoring Black heritage, culture, and contributions. The month began with an engaging Opening Ceremony featuring Brandon "Griot B" Brown, followed by a Black-Owned Vendor Fair.



Our Wednesday activities kicked off with Cocoa and Culture, a creative session led by local artist James Graham. Students and staff also had the opportunity to visit Colonel Allensworth, California's first Black-founded town, for a day of historical reflection. Wellness and self-care were emphasized through a soothing Sound Bath Experience and a free massage session. Culinary talents took center

stage in the Sweet Potato Pie Contest, while literary appreciation was celebrated at the 7th Annual African American Read-In. The festivities concluded with a special BAASE Movie Night featuring *The Great Debaters*, bringing the community together for an evening of inspiration and reflection. Interim President Chahal gave a warm welcome at the Opening Ceremony and participated in the Read-In.



A heartfelt thank you to the Black History Month planning committee: Caryss Johnson Franklin, Akyia Ervin, Sasha Fisher, Siena Flores, Maricarmen Figueroa, Clarke-Lauren Richard, and Dean of Students, Gurdeep Hébert, for organizing an unforgettable month of learning, connection, and celebration!

SPEECH AND DEBATE CLUB ANNUAL SPEECH GALA

The Speech and Debate Club held their 2nd annual Speech Gala on February 6th. This event is to highlight our top competitors and the events they have worked on over the course of the academic year. The gala was attended by



students, faculty, and community members. It was nice to see that we had more participation from the community members than ever before. Tickets were sold for attendance as the team is looking to raise money for future tournaments. The Clovis Speech and Debate team offers the widest range of events in the district, everything from interpretation events like poetry performances to Lincoln Douglas Debate. The team is excited to report that the Speech Gala event raised \$1,500 - the largest amount raised for a one-time event and filled the financial gap that allowed the students to register for the California Community College State Forensics Tournament to be held from March 13th to the 16th.

CCC HOSTING THE STATEWIDE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

The ASCCC Executive Committee meeting will be held on March 7, 2025, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. in AC1-150.



ACCREDITATION UPDATE

On Wednesday, February 19th and Thursday, February 20th, Clovis Community College had the pleasure of hosting our Peer-Review Team representing ACCJC. This on-site visit was the final step in the process to reaffirm our college's accredited status. After a full day of interviews in the response to the four Core Inquiries posed by the team, an open forum session, campus tour, President interview/meeting, and exit report, our college is proud to share that we received no additional recommendations and one commendation to be published by the peer-review team as part of their final report to ACCJC. The team's report will be reviewed by ACCJC in June, and the college should receive a confirmation of the commission's action in June/July.



CRUSH ATHLETICS UPDATE



Clovis Community College had 70 student-athletes qualify for the Kiwanis Torch of Excellence with a GPA of at least 3.2. This is up from 42 qualifiers last year and represents almost 2/3 of our entire student-athlete population. Marcus Jauregui from the men's cross country and track & field program was named to the 3C2A Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll, the highest

academic honor awarded by our governing body. There are over 24,000 3C2A student-athletes statewide and Marcus is one of just 18 total to receive this recognition. Marcus was a spring 2024 graduate and is currently competing for Fresno State. This marks the fifth year in a row that Clovis has had a student-athlete named to this prestigious list. Read more here <https://gocloviscrush.com/sports/mtrack/2024-25/releases/20250207n6blg5>

CCC HOSTS THE SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF CLOVIS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD EVENT

The Soroptimist International of Clovis held their annual Live Your Dreams Awards event on February 6th. The program is a unique education award for women who provide the primary financial support for their families. This year the club recognized 39 incredible women with a scholarship grant and of those recipients, 16 are Clovis Community College students. Administrators Kira Tippins, Rebecca Kinlow, and Kimberly Duong were in attendance to support the event and CCC student recipients.

CCC SPONSORS THE VETERANS STAND UP EVENT

Central Valley Veterans held their 10th Annual Central Valley Women's Stand Up honoring their female veterans, active duty, reserve, and National Guard service members. The event included female veteran focused sessions that addressed the needs and concerns of women veterans and current service members. CCC was a proud Friend of Women Veterans business sponsor of the event. Natalie Minas, Veterans Program Specialist, tabled the CCC Veteran's Resource Center and shared the wonderful programs and resources Clovis Community College has to offer with many women Veterans interested in coming back to college. "It was a fabulous to connect with female veterans for all over the valley," said Natalie. Also in attendance was Clovis Community College Alum Heidi Ecker. Watch news clip: <https://abc30.com/post/standing-supporting-central-valley-women-veterans/15923309/>



CCC CHOIR PERFORMS AT THE CLOVIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SALUTE TO BUSINESS AWARDS

Students from the CCC Concert Choir performed at the Clovis Chamber of Commerce's "Salute to Business" awards banquet held at the new Clovis Senior Activity Center on January 30th. The CCC Choir is led by music Director Tony Gennaro and accompanied by Joy Gaje on the piano. Students performed the National Anthem, a musical setting of the Robert Frost Poem "The Road Not Taken," and an arrangement of the jazz standard "Cry Me a River."



The choir will continue to develop a musical program for their Spring Concert, held on Monday March 24th, 2025, at the Shaghoian Concert Hall. View the photos here: <https://scccd.canto.com/b/NR9TM>

FREE TAX PREP TO THE COMMUNITY

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program at Clovis Community College in Fresno, CA, provides free tax preparation services for individuals and families with an annual income of \$67,000 or less. Tax returns are prepared by trained and IRS-certified volunteers. Our campus is currently providing this service on Fridays and Saturdays until April 12, 2025. Advance registration is required, and eligibility restrictions apply.

CCC FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP ON MARCH 1ST

The [Financial Aid Office](#) will hold an in-person Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) Workshop, designed to assist students and their families in navigating the financial aid application for the upcoming academic year. The workshop is for incoming high school seniors, as well as prospective and continuing students and includes **multilingual assistance**.

Important Changes to the FSA ID: In line with new regulations, it is now required for most parents to obtain an FSA ID to complete the FAFSA. Additionally, students are no longer able to fill in information on behalf of their parents. Parents who do not have a Social Security Number may also be required to create an FSA ID. Our staff will provide step-by-step assistance in setting up an FSA ID for all attendees.

Drop-In Assistance: Whether you have specific questions or need comprehensive guidance, our staff are available throughout the event to provide support.

"COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS" WITH INTERIM PRESIDENT DR. MONICA CHAHAL

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| January 26-27 | CCLC Legislative Conference |
| January 28 | Reedley College State of the College Breakfast |
| February 5-7 | CCBA National Conference |
| February 11 | CAPP Partnership Meeting with Clovis East |

View CCC events on the [website calendar](#)