

# THE OLIVE BRANCH

Cañada College International Student Newsletter

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## International Student Center

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*Contribute to The Olive  
Branch by e-mailing the  
Ambassadors*

Welcome Back Kathy!

On Tuesday September 12th the International Student Center welcomed back to the office Kathy Kohut, the International Program Manager. Kathy had been out on maternity leave since May 2017 after giving birth to her second daughter, Annalisse. She is now the proud mother of two beautiful daughters including her older daughter Karina.



## Important Announcements:

***Attention international students! Has your address changed over the summer? If so, please stop by the International Student Center to update your I-20.***

### **Monday September 18**

Humboldt State University Visit  
12:00pm-2:00pm — The Grove Atrium

*\*Want to get \$200 to use in  
The Grove or Bookstore? Go to  
page 4 to find out!*

### **Wednesday September 20**

Global Internship Informational Session  
12:30pm-2:00pm — Bldg. 3 Room 142

### **Wednesday September 27**

International Student Workshop on Campus Involvement  
1:30pm—2:30pm — Bldg. 13 Room 113

### **Thursday November 30**

Transfer application deadline — CSU and UC schools





# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CENTER CAÑADA COLLEGE

## Meet our 2017-2018 International Student Ambassadors

Bindi (Szujung) Lee, Taiwan

Major: Interior Design

Interests: Food, Netflix, Swimming, Yoga, Salsa, Being active as much as possible.

*Favorite thing about Cañada:*

The people; Cañada is a warm campus, people are positive and motivated. Especially people from International Student Center.

*What's most surprising or different about the U.S?*

People eat really fast or at irregular times. I'm surprised to see restaurants are always full in the late afternoon considering people eat really fast. In comparison, if you hang out with friends in Taiwan for dinner time, you will likely spend 2-3 hours. We seem slow.

*What's the best thing about your experience in the U.S?*

Shiv Shankar Yadav

Major : Computer Science

Interests: Cricket, computer games, travel, sci-fi movies, yoga, and meditation

Campus Involvement: Student assistant at Cañada college library & book store, Math jam tutor, Computer science club.

*How is your experience at Cañada College, are you involved in any campus activities/clubs and /or events?*

My experience at Canada college is amazing. Everyone here is very helpful and motivates me to achieve my goals. I always like the group study in the stem center . The small class room makes me easy to interact with professor and classmates.

*What's the most surprising and different thing about US?*

When I came here, I met the people from all around the world . I tasted variety of food of different countries. There is lots of extracurricular activities and free foods on college. The homework in class is online.



Time is money. Americans all tend to be punctual. That is the best thing ever. Another thing is nature, California has the best seasons and environment to experience skiing, hike, beach, etc.

*What tips would you give other international student?*

Be open-minded as life goes up and down, especially living in foreign country. Don't let it beat you down. Also, there are so many people to help you academically or emotionally. Talk to people, find the resources, and make friends.

*What is the best thing about your experience in the US?*

Before studying to US, I always focus on studying but when I come to US , I started to involve in campus. I made lots of friends. Visited many places across the bay area.

*What tips would you give other international students?*

Always learn and be open minded. Get out of your comfort zone and involve in college activities. Utilizes all of the college resources.



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CENTER CAÑADA COLLEGE

## Meet our 2017-2018 International Student Ambassadors

Hongli "Bob" Zhao, China

Major: Applied Mathematics

Interests: Finance, languages, literature, playing the piano, bodybuilding and swimming



Hello everyone. My name is Hongli Zhao, I go by Bob. I'm an international student from China studying as a Math major at Cañada College; I plan to double major in Mathematics and Computer Science after I transfer in Fall 2018. I started at Cañada in Fall 2016, and now I serve as an International Student Ambassador. One thing I love about this college is the cozy environment. The class is very small so students get to know each other very well and their professors in-person; everyone here is a friend to another. The staffs are all very friendly and always ready to offer extra help - just don't be shy to ask for it.

Campus involvement: ASCC Commissioner of Finance, Learning Center Tutor, PTK Liaison / Vice President of Public Relations

### *Favorite thing about Cañada*

Everyone has his/her own uniqueness but blend well in a great community. You get to deal with people with different world views, absorb bits of positive mentalities from everyone, and integrate into a philosophy of your own.

### *How is your experience at Cañada College, are you involved in any campus activities, clubs and / or events?*

Colleges shall not only shower students with dew of knowledge, but shall also teach a man how to fish and feed him for a lifetime. The experience with the ASCC has taught me what is professionalism and teamwork, and it also made me knew what is the responsibility for a man. I have become not only a top student, but also an adult. I have understood that being a college student is not all about good grades but also about socializing and nurture the skills appertaining to bring a productive part of the society.

### *What's most surprising or different about the U.S.?*

My cultural shock was but trivial because I have been studying English with my Australian teacher for 10 years so I have a fundamental idea of how to think Western and what to expect from a Western country. Plus I have *Great Expectations*. However, I truly did not expect and prepare for the cultural heterogeneity in the United States. Getting used to dealing with people from various countries and cultures took me quite a while.

### *What is the best thing about your experience in the U.S.?*

Freedom and diversity are two of the most important features I have seen that best describes America. There are always new things to expect everyday. Everyone is free to have his/her own opinions, but in a positive way that others are able to learn from them. As time goes by, you start to marvel at the harmony that different people create, and learn to respect others' ideologies.

### *What tips would you give other international students?*

Only one tip - step out of your comfort zone but with tactics. Be brave to meet with new people, be open-minded to new ideas. Always see the bigger picture. However, sometimes it is okay for you to step back and feel protected. Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm; however, don't force yourself to fake enthusiasm.



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CENTER CAÑADA COLLEGE

## Meet our 2017-2018 International Student Ambassadors

Luis Méndez, El Salvador

Major: Business Management

Interests: Soccer and Sports, video games, travelling & Business News

*How is your experience at Canada College, are you involved in any campus activities/clubs and/or events?*

Since I came to Canada I decided that I wanted to be involved on campus. My support system always is there for me. In my first year, I joined Student Senate (ASCC) to develop my leadership skills. In my second semester, I was inducted into the Phi theta Kappa Honors Society. As a tutor at the learning center, I had this great opportunity to help students. This Year aside from being involved in the clubs and organizations I mentioned before, I became one of the news international student ambassadors.

*What's the best thing about your experience in the U.S?*

The best thing about my experience in the U.S is that I learned how to be a role model student you need to find a balance between academics and campus involvement plus the friendships that you build that will last forever. It is a great experience!

**\*Attention current international students: Want to earn some extra spending money?**

Give \$200. Get \$200.

Refer your F-1 friends to our SVIEP program (<https://smccd.edu/sviep>) and everybody wins. Every time you refer an F-1 student, and the F-1 student successfully transfers to our school, then you and the person that you refer will each receive a \$200\* credit to the bookstore and/or the cafeteria.

Make sure your friend enters your name at bottom of the application to receive the credit.

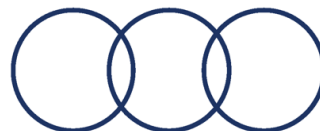
\*non-redeemable for cash

*What's most surprising or different about the U.S?*

The most surprising thing about the U.S is how you don't feel judged and that everyone has their own style and even though we are all different in The U.S I feel that we are just one community. It is amazing!

*What tips would you give to other international students?*

Get out of your comfort zone and communicate to other students! Take risks and get involved on campus, try to take every opportunity to grow as a student, as a leader and a professional.



SILICON VALLEY

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INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM