

Cañada College

Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

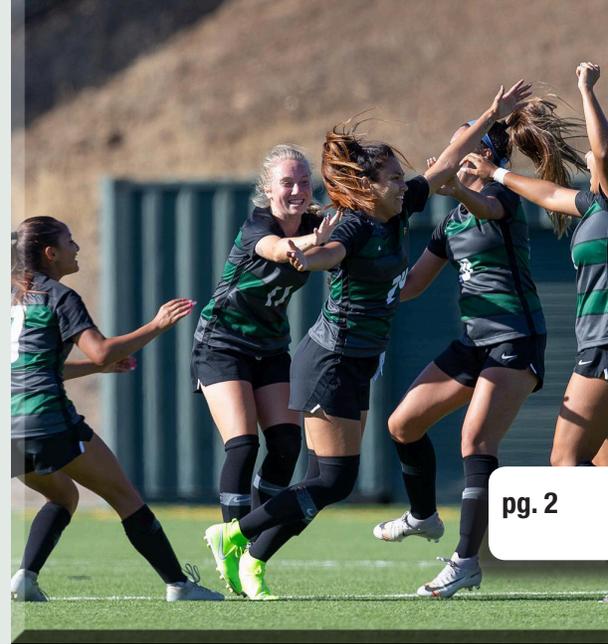
January 22, 2020

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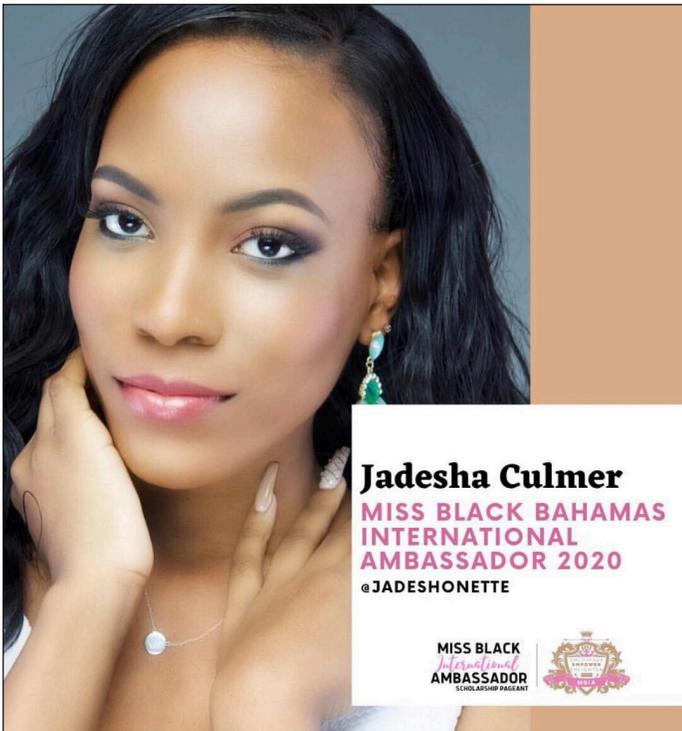
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Student Leader Chosen to Serve as an International Ambassador



Cañada College student Jade Culmer was recently crowned Miss Black Bahamas International Ambassador 2020. The Miss Black International Pageant, formally Miss Black US Ambassador Pageant, is a global program that encourages,

empowers and enlightens black women in communities, states and nations. As Ambassadors of Change, each woman serves as a rising voice in the community and seeks to make a difference. This is done through educational forums and events that focus on health disparities, poverty, violence and major issues that plague black women globally.

Ambassadors of Change also serve as role models and partner with key political figures to bring support to their efforts and platforms. As an International Ambassador, Jade will receive a scholarship and grant opportunities to further her education and platform, "Black Minds Matter: Diversity in Leadership," which is geared towards empowering young women who aspire to be leaders.

At Cañada College, Jade is a Math major and Fashion Design minor. She is very involved on campus and serves as an Executive Board Member and Commissioner of Activities on Student Senate. She is the Chair of the Housing Insecurities Initiative, an International Student Center Ambassador, tutor, and has served as a Mental Health Ambassador with Active Minds as well as an employee at the Bookstore. Jade hopes to transfer to Harvard upon graduating from Cañada College.

Soccer Teams Complete Successful Season

Congratulations to the Cañada College Men's and Women's Soccer teams who advanced to the Coast Conference playoffs!

The Men's Soccer Team finished the season ranked #19 nationally per the United Soccer Coaches Top 25 Poll and per the National Junior College Athletic Association DIII Men. See the full poll, [click here](#). Go Colts!



Student Receives Prestigious Research Scholarship

A Research Analyst is a professional who prepares investigative reports on securities and assets.

Carol Liu is an aspiring Research Analyst, mother of two, and Cañada College student. Carol's accuracy, strong analytical mind, and excellent work ethic was recognized by her employer, Karen Engel, who recommended that Carol apply for the California Association of Institutional Research



(CAIR) Samuel Agronow scholarship. The Sam Agronow Scholarship supports students who are pursuing a degree or certificate in the field of institutional research. Carol decided to apply after writing a compelling personal statement and acquiring two letters of recommendation from her professors. Two weeks later, Carol was notified that she had won the \$2,000 scholarship which will allow her to fund her future certification extension program through UC San Diego.

Creating and designing analysis fact sheets is Carol's passion as she believes the data tells a story and analyzing the data provides the opportunity to improve. As a first-generation immigrant, Carol's family and career ambitions inspire her to continue excelling academically. Carol also looks to her Cañada College family, as they always support her and make her feel empowered through education. Carol's dream job is to be a Research Analyst in the community college system to ensure schools continue to run as efficiently as possible and allow all students the opportunity to succeed.

Carol's advice to anyone looking to work in the research field is to stay curious and ask many questions. She also suggests being as helpful as possible. Even if you are not asked to do something, go the extra mile and do it anyways because the hard work will pay off.

Phi Theta Kappa Completes Honors Action Project

Every year, the Cañada College Phi Theta Kappa student chapter, Beta Zeta Nu, completes an Honors in Action (HiA) project where students choose a topic to research and propose an action from that research. This year, the students wanted to better understand what motivates young people to engage in behaviors that most people would consider unhealthy and/or risky. The behavior they chose to examine, as the "proxy" for risky behavior generally, was vaping.

The students researched two different social science areas as possible explanations for the rise of vaping: Rational Ignorance (R.I) and Cognitive Dissonance (C.D.) Rational ignorance states that when the cost associated with learning something exceeds the perceived benefit gained by learning that thing, it is rational to remain ignorant of that knowledge. Cognitive dissonance states that an individual's cognition is made up of cognitive elements such as desires or values. When these elements come into conflict, the individual will experience cognitive dissonance which can be manifested as physical or psychological discomfort. When experiencing cognitive dissonance, individuals will try to resolve their discomfort by realigning their cognitive elements.

Phi Theta Kappa Completes Honors Action Project (cont.)

In preparation, the Chapter read several seminal articles on R.I. and C.D. and researched the health costs (and benefits) of vaping. They discussed the topic with campus librarians, campus faculty experts and local experts and developed a unique survey instrument that tested both explanations (RI and CD). They also distributed, collected, analyzed and drew some statistically significant correlations from the survey instrument from more than 170 students at local high schools and Cañada's Middle College High School. The survey indicated that 14% of students polled had vaped within the last week and 86% of the students had not vaped within the last week.

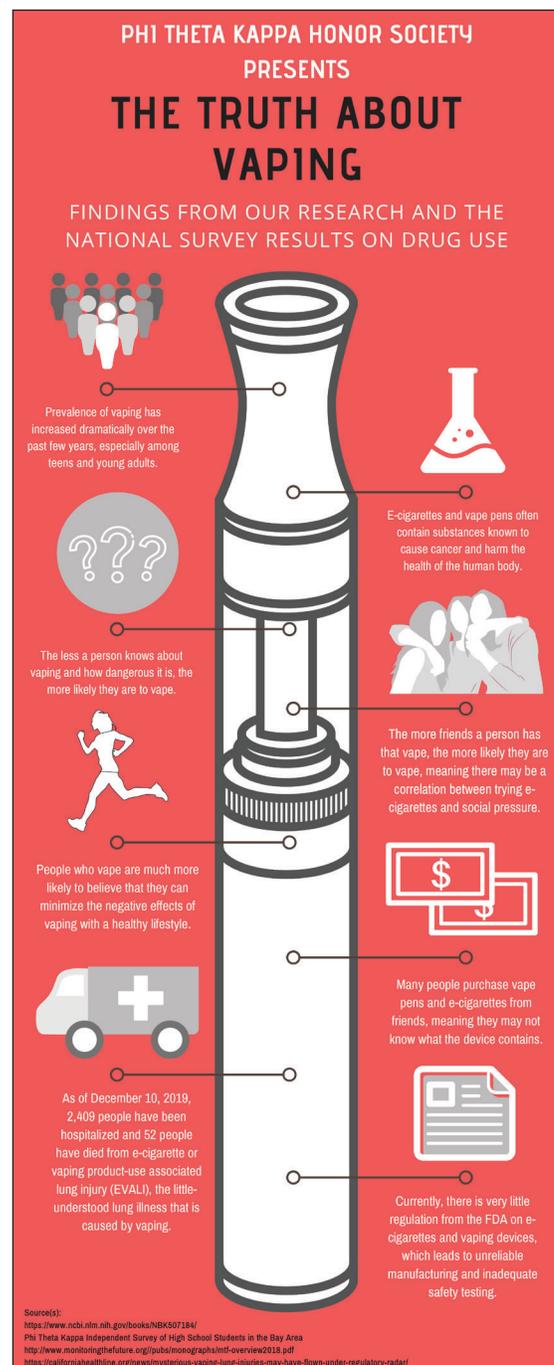
The Chapter also assessed each individual's knowledge of vaping and its dangers, and then looked for a correlation between their awareness of the facts and their frequency of vaping. The correlation was -0.33, meaning that the more a person knows about vaping and how dangerous it is, they are 33% less likely to vape.

They compared students' knowledge of vaping and how much free time they typically have with their frequency of vaping, to try and determine if rational ignorance could offer an explanation for the prevalence of vaping. However, the Chapter found no significant correlations, meaning that their rational ignorance hypothesis was not supported by their research.

The Chapter asked students how many of their friends vaped and then looked for a correlation between higher numbers of friends using e-cigarettes and frequency of vaping. The correlation was 0.39, meaning that the more friends a person has who vape, they are 39% more likely to vape. The Chapter believed that this represented a possible resolution of the students' cognitive dissonance about vaping, where they believe that if everyone else is doing it, they can do it too.

The Chapter also looked at whether or not students who vaped believed that the negative effects of

vaping are minimized by healthy behavior, and correlated stronger compensatory health beliefs with frequency of vaping. The correlation was 0.33, meaning that the more a student minimizes or compensates for the risks of vaping, the more likely they are to vape. The Chapter believed that this represented a possible resolution of the students' cognitive dissonance about vaping, where they were aware of the risks but believed that they could make up for any negative effects with an otherwise healthy lifestyle.



Fifth Annual Jacket and Toy Drive Supports Half Moon Bay Community

Cañada College held its Fifth Annual Jacket and Toy Drive, generating donations to serve around 75 families. This year, the College partnered with ALAS (Ayudando Latinos A Soñar), a Latino Cultural Arts and Social Services Program, to benefit families in Half Moon Bay. The donations were collected on campus, in partnership with several clubs and departments, including: the Cañada College Outreach Department, Education and Human Development, Educators Now (student club), SparkPoint, Beta Zeta Nu (Cañada College's Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa), Office of Student Life & Leadership Development, the Library and the Learning Center.

On December 16, Cañada College students, faculty and staff were on hand to personally deliver the toys and jackets to children, while connecting with their families. Children and parents also heard a brief presentation on educational opportunities available to them at Cañada College where they could sign up to receive additional information to enroll. In addition to the jackets and toys, families received information packets that included promotional materials, including class schedules.

Thank you to all members of the campus community who donated toys and jackets and helped us to strengthen our partnership with the Half Moon Bay community.



upcoming events:

JANUARY 13, 14 & 15

Welcome Week & Lunar New Year

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. on Jan. 14 on the Upper Lawn

JANUARY 17

Men's Basketball vs College of San Mateo

7 p.m. at College of San Mateo Gym (Building 8)

JANUARY 31

Men's Basketball vs Foothill College

7 p.m. at College of San Mateo Gym (Building 8)

FEBRUARY 5

Internship Fair

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in The Grove

