



Weekly Update 12-11-20

Dear Campus Community,

Thank You, Ruth, and Happy Retirement!

Please join me in congratulating our Registrar, Ruth Miller, on a very successful 45 ½ years of service at SMCCCD. Ruth retires at the end of this month. Ruth began working in the San Mateo County Community College District on September 1, 1975, where she accepted a Cashier's position at Skyline College. Her office was located in the Box Office where she would sell tickets to the many performances at the time, process the Community Education registrations, coordinate the Facilities rentals and take care of the Associated Students Accounts. In 1975, computers were not used and everything was done via paper and pen and all student interactions were done face-to-face.

In 1989, Ruth took a detail position in Human Resources where she took care of all aspects of the employees at Cañada. The assignment lasted almost nine months. Shortly after her detail assignment was over, she applied, and was hired, for the A&R III position in the Cañada College Admissions' Office. As part of her position, she was in charge of all applications and registrations. Ruth mentioned that, in those days, the application and registration process was done via mail, over the phone and in-person. She remembers that the lines during in-person registration ran from the cafeteria, past Room 2-10 and down toward the parking lot. During the in-person registration period, Ruth and her team would work until everyone in line was served by 9 p.m. Sometimes, they would not get off work until 11 p.m.!

In 1994, a new position was created in the Admissions and Record's Office - Assistant Registrar. Ruth applied for and was hired for this new position. For many years, she served the College in this role overseeing all aspects of Admissions. A number of years back, the Assistant Registrar title was changed to Registrar, which is her title today. Ruth has shared that she has many fond memories working for the District and Cañada serving students during the past 45 ½ years. Cañada has been a second family to her, especially in Admissions and Records, where she has made life-long friends.

From all of us at Cañada, we thank you for your 45 ½ years of supporting students and our community and wish you a restful retirement. We look forward to celebrating you (along with other employees who retired during the pandemic) in person when it is safe to gather and celebrate.



Gratitude Wall

As we close this semester and say goodbye to 2020, I invite you to share what you're grateful for and what your hopes are for 2021 on our [Gratitude Wall](#).

Virtual Holiday Hour – December 16 from 10-11 a.m.

Everyone is invited to our campus-wide virtual holiday hour as we share stories and wish each other a happy and healthy winter break. Log into the Zoom Room in your most festive holiday gear and dust off that ugly sweater! We need a good laugh - don't you? See you in the holiday Zoom Room on Wednesday, December 16 from 10-11 a.m.!

Zoom Link: <https://smccd.zoom.us/j/98719718785?pwd=ZTE3MSt5MXdRSnQ2b3A2VWpFSFkvUT09>

Meeting ID: 987 1971 8785

Passcode: 960335



Leadership Updates Enrollment Services & Support Programs

Please join us as we celebrate and welcome transitions on our leadership teams for the Division of Enrollment Services & Support Programs. More information about celebrations for our staff will be shared in the Spring 2021 semester.

- Admissions & Records Registrar - Cañada College Registrar, Ruth Miller, has announced her plans to retire in December 2020. We are very appreciative of all the hard work that Ruth has invested in the campus community – nearly five decades of service! She has always focused on providing the best possible service to Cañada College students, classified professionals, faculty, and administration. Please join us in extending the warmest appreciation to Ruth for her exemplary service at the College. In the interim, please join the team as we welcome Maria Lara-Blanco as the incoming Cañada College Registrar (detail). Congratulations, Maria!
- Financial Aid Director - Ariackna (Ari) Soler has accepted the position to be the Director of Financial Aid at Skyline College. Please join the Financial Aid team in wishing Ari the best on the next stop in her journey. Meanwhile, Margie Carrington will serve as the Interim Director of Financial Aid Services. Margie had recently retired from this Director position in March 2020. She will rejoin the team as we commence the search for a full-time, permanent Director. Welcome back, Margie!

College Antiracism Task Force

Cañada College's Antiracism Task Force has been hard at work since the group was formed in mid-Fall semester. Our membership includes student, classified professional, faculty, and administrator representation, as well as a plan to secure an external consultant. As a bridge between the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters, the group has set up a series of tasks for all members that will inform their work for the Spring. Specifically, the Task Force will focus on (1) strengthening and refining the Antiracism framework, (2) setting up Flex Day and professional development opportunities for resource-sharing, and (3) braiding communication between and among the various campus, District, and statewide communities for equity, social justice and antiracism. Please stay tuned for more Task Force updates, including opportunities for feedback, in the Spring semester.

Cultural Center Partnership with Career Ladders Project

Cañada College has partnered with the [Career Ladders Project](#) (CLP) to support the exciting development of our Cultural Center. CLP has been a system-wide partner to the California Community Colleges in creating equity-minded redesign through initiatives such as our Colt-ivate college redesign with all Guided Pathways efforts. Specific details about opportunities to share your insights about our upcoming Cultural Center will be available to the campus community as we begin Spring semester courses.

TRIO Director Updates

Cañada College is home to two different TRIO federal grant programs: Student Support Services (SSS) and Upward Bound. The sudden departure of our TRIO SSS Project Director in Fall 2020 created an opportunity to dialogue with the Department of Education about stronger opportunities for TRIO success at Cañada. With that, please welcome Maria Huning in her new shared role as Director of both the TRIO Upward Bound and TRIO SSS programs.

Her years of experience at Cañada and in TRIO will provide visionary and seamless leadership between both TRIO communities at the College.

Stay safe, stay healthy, stay strong.

Sincerely,
Jamillah Moore, Ed.D.
President