



# A Message from President Kim Lopez

## Weekly Update 12-02-22

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

### **TODAY: Facilities Forum on December 2 from 1-2 p.m.**

Please join us for the Facilities Forum today from 1-2 p.m. The Capital Improvement team will provide an update on the various construction projects that are occurring at the College, including the modernization project of Building 13.

Zoom Link: <https://smccd.zoom.us/j/89385466561>



### **Chancellor Finalist Forums**

If you missed any of the Chancellor Finalist Forums, or would like to revisit any of them, the recordings are available. You can view all of the finalists' bios, forum recordings and feedback forms on the Chancellor Search Finalists [page](#) or use the direct links below. After watching the forums, please submit a feedback form for each candidate.

Finalist	Forum Recording	Feedback Form
Santanu Bandyopadhyay, Ph.D.	<a href="#">Forum Recording</a>	<a href="#">Feedback Form</a>
Rowena M. Tomaneng, Ed.D.	<a href="#">Forum Recording</a>	<a href="#">Feedback Form</a>
Bradley Davis, J.D.	<a href="#">Forum Recording</a>	<a href="#">Feedback Form</a>

The deadline to submit feedback forms is Monday, December 9 at 5 p.m. Thank you for your participation and input in this important process.

## College Welcomes Two New Deans

On November 30, the Board of Trustees approved Dr. Wissem Bennani and Kathleen Sullivan-Torrez as Cañada's newest Deans.



*Dr. Wissem Bennani - Dean of Enrollment Services & Support Programs*

Dr. Bennani holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in accounting from Saginaw Valley State University and a Doctorate in Education (EdD) with emphasis in Community College Leadership from San Francisco State University. He has been a strong advocate of community college internationalization, social justice and equity in education.

Dr. Bennani has more than a decade of professional experience in enrollment management and student support services. Since he joined SMCCCD in 2014, he served as the Manager of the International Student Program at Skyline College and the Interim Dean of Enrollment Services and Support Programs at Cañada College. Before his work at the District, he served in different roles related to student engagement and support programs at Saginaw Valley State University. Wissem enjoys traveling, spending time with his wife and three children and loves hiking in the beautiful Bay Area.



*Kathleen Sullivan-Torrez - Dean of Kinesiology, Athletics and Dance*

Kathleen (Kat) Sullivan-Torrez joins Cañada College as the Dean of Kinesiology, Athletics, and Dance (KAD) on January 3, 2023. Kat has many years of experience in the California Community College System working at the Los Rios Community College District. Recently she served as the Interim Dean of Kinesiology and Athletics and Head Athletic Director at American River College. She has also served as a full-time faculty member and volleyball coach, department chair and Academic Senate representative.

Kat has been involved in athletics her whole life. Raised in a family with five brothers, she is a first-generation college graduate. Her BA is in Telecommunications Radio/Television Broadcasting and her MA is in Education, with an emphasis in Physical Education.

### **With Gratitude to Matt Lee**

I'd like to acknowledge Matt Lee, who has served as the Interim Dean of KAD for the past two years. Matt has provided leadership and administrative oversight through collaboration with instructional faculty, classified staff, students and administrators on campus and throughout the entire district. Matt has provided strong and thoughtful leadership for Cañada College's Kinesiology, Athletics, and Dance (KAD) Division through a difficult transition and he has accomplished this with humility, grace and always with our student-athletes' academic, social and emotional success in mind. The entire College is grateful for Matt's stewardship and we deeply appreciate Matt's services to KAD as the Interim Dean and Athletics Director. Matt will resume his role as the Kinesiology Program Director.

### **PTK Induction Ceremony**

On November 18, Cañadians celebrated Kappans from Cañada, CSM and Skyline at the Phi Theta Kappa Induction ceremony. Congratulations to the many Cañada students involved in the Honors Society. It was wonderful to watch them be officially inducted and honored for their leadership work.



### **Oxford Day Academy Visits Cañada**

Also on November 18, a group of 10 Oxford Day Academy Dual Enrollment ESL 800 students, a staff member and ESL instructor Ben Finateri came to visit our campus. Vice President of Student Services, Dr. Manuel Pérez, and Mayra Arellano, Director of High School Transition and Dual Enrollment, personally welcomed them to our campus when they arrived. Once they settled in, Mayra gave a presentation about programs that Cañada College offers. Then, our Outreach team provided a campus tour where they visited the



Kinesiology & Wellness Building, Welcome Center, Financial Aid Department, SparkPoint and DREAM Center.

### **Indigenous People's Sunrise**

On November 24, Student Life sponsored an opportunity for nearly 20 Cañadians to participate in the Indigenous People's Sunrise Gathering. At the event, the group communed at 4 a.m. to commemorate the 1969-71 occupation of Alcatraz by the Indians of All Tribes. Student Life leaders stood at the historic location of resistance with community members and heard from speakers across the globe on the importance of decolonizing education, the Red Power Movement, and how we need to be in collective solidarity for liberation. The event was an incredible reminder for our campus to fight for collective health, human rights, and indigenous sovereignty. To learn more about how you can get involved with Student Life's efforts for inquiry, solidarity and liberation, you can email [canstudentlife@my.smccd.edu](mailto:canstudentlife@my.smccd.edu).



### **Cañada Announces New Partnership with Touro University California College of Pharmacy Program**

Cañada College is proud to announce a new partnership with Touro University California College of Pharmacy's three-year Doctor of Pharmacy degree (PharmD). The program, which is located in Vallejo, is for students completing their Associates of Science Degree. Each academic year, Touro University California College of Pharmacy will offer guaranteed interviews for the PharmD program to Cañada College students who complete all required courses and earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better. A set amount of seats will be reserved for Cañada College students.

Touro University California College of Pharmacy Program is an excellent opportunity for those looking to join the pharmacy field. It provides outstanding professional and personal development opportunities in a student-centered and intimate learning environment. The PharmD Program provides the necessary tools to become outstanding pharmacists and advances the student experience through interprofessional community service. For more information, please reach out to Mary Ho, Director of Post-Secondary Success and University Center and Dr. Julian Branch, Director of Workforce Development.

**Holiday Gathering –  
RSVP by Dec. 6**

The entire college community is invited to the Campus Holiday Gathering! Mix and mingle over light refreshments and merriment.

Friday, December 16  
from 12 to 1:30 p.m.  
Location: Building 8  
Lobby

Please RSVP [here](#) by  
December 6.



  
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**DATE: FRIDAY, DEC. 16, 2022**  
**TIME: 12–1:30 P.M.**  
**LOCATION: BUILDING 8 LOBBY**

**PLEASE RSVP  
BY DECEMBER 6**



<https://tinyurl.com/22uwzkw>

**Annual High School and Community Partner Forum**

Please help spread the word that on December 7, Cañada College will host its fourth annual High School Counselor and Community Partner Forum from 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. After being held virtually for the past two years, this event will be held both in-person at Cañada College in Building 6, Rooms 101/102 as well as via Zoom. The event will provide community partners with important Cañada College updates as well as workshops on the steps to apply, transfer options, certificate programs and information on the Dream Center. It will also be a great opportunity to connect with Cañada College staff, faculty and administration and provide feedback on how the College can best connect with our community.

Enjoy your weekend!

Sincerely,  
Kim