



## A Message from President Kim Lopez

### Weekly Update: 6-19-25

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

### Walk with Cañada College in the Redwood City Fourth of July Parade

Cañada College is proud to continue its tradition of participating in the Redwood City Fourth of July Parade and we invite students, employees, alumni, friends and family members to celebrate with us! The parade will take place the morning of Friday, July 4 and this year's college theme is *Academic Excellence. Community Driven.* It's a fun and festive way to spend Independence Day with your loved ones, while representing our college in the community. All participants who register will receive a free Cañada College shirt!

Sign up [here](#) by Monday, June 30.

Please note: this is a volunteer opportunity; no pay or compensation is available. Questions? Please contact Sergio Suarez, Student Life and Leadership Manager, at [suarezs@smccd.edu](mailto:suarezs@smccd.edu).



## Cañada College Welcomes Future Grads to Campus

You may have seen a bit more foot traffic on our campus last week as Cañada College hosted the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula (BGCP) summer programming for more than 170 Future Grad high school students. The 10th and 11th graders were from Carlmont High School, East Palo Alto Academy, Menlo-Atherton High School, Tide Academy and Redwood High School. This special programming is a part of the MOU Cañada College holds with BGCP to help build a seamless pathway for low-income, first generation students in Southern San Mateo County.



## Cañada Celebrates Pride, Equity and Community with SMC Celebrating Pride, Equity and Community with SMCCCD

Last Saturday, Cañada College proudly joined our SMCCCD partners in the 13th Annual San Mateo County Pride Celebration Parade. This vibrant event is a space to champion inclusion and wellness for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender/Transexual, Queer, Intersex, Asexual/Allies (LGBTQIA) folx in our community. I had the honor of walking alongside Cañada students and staff to demonstrate our commitment to educational service, equity and belonging. Together, the three SMCCCD colleges stand united in uplifting diverse voices and creating inclusive pathways for all students across our District.





## Leadership Transition in the Humanities & Social Sciences Division

After eight years of dedicated service to Cañada College, James Carranza will be stepping down from his role as Dean of the Humanities & Social Sciences (HSS) Division on June 30, 2025, with his official departure set for July 31, 2025. Pending approval from the San José/Evergreen Board, James will begin a new chapter as Dean of Language Arts and Library at San José City College starting August 1, 2025. This opportunity allows him to advance his work in English, ESL, World Languages, Journalism and more.

James leaves behind a tremendous legacy of collaboration, student-centered leadership and meaningful contributions to HSS. In his own words: *"Institutions may have histories, but it's the people who hold the memories. I hope I've contributed even in some small way to positive memories for you to carry forward."* We are deeply grateful for his leadership and wish him all the best in his new role. If you see him on campus before June 30, please take a moment to wish him well.

To ensure a smooth transition, we will assign an Acting Dean during the Interim Dean recruitment. The following timeline for selecting an Interim Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences:

- Position Posted: July 10, 2025
- Interviews Conducted: Week of August 4, 2025
- Board Approval Submission: August 27, 2025
- Target Start Date: August 28, 2025

The interim appointment will run through June 30, 2026, with the permanent Dean recruitment process beginning in January 2026 for a July 1, 2026 start. We will keep the campus community updated as we move forward. If you have any questions, please reach out to Dr. Chialin Hsieh, Vice President of Instruction. Please join me in thanking James for his outstanding service and wishing him continued success!



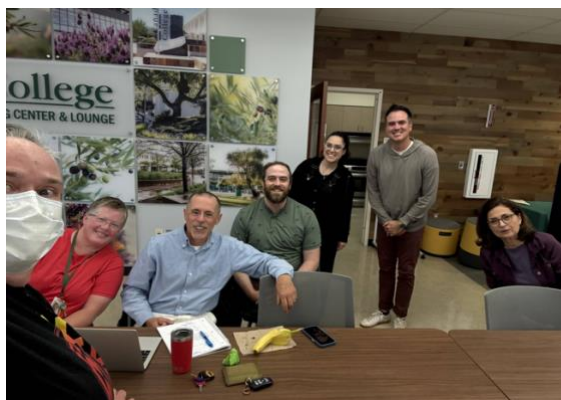
### **Mariel (Maggie) De Paz Fernandez, College Recruiter**

Pending board approval, Maggie De Paz Fernandez (she/her) will serve Cañada College as the new College Recruiter for Cañada's Outreach team! Maggie has been the inaugural Program Services Coordinator at the Cultural Center, where she has helped established cultural programming, events and services. Maggie has collaborated with various campus programs, departments and community organizations during her time at the Cultural Center to provide learning experiences, celebrations and events for Cañada's campus community. She is excited to transfer her skills to the College Recruiter position by engaging the community in the many opportunities Cañada has to offer and continuing to build on the relationships she has established at Cañada College.



### **SLO/Assessment Retreat Emphasizes Clarity, Support and Streamlined Processes**

On June 10, SLO (Student Learning Outcomes) Coordinator Paul Roscelli, along with Division Leads Katie Schertle, Nick Martin and Hyla Lacefield, joined David Eck, Lindsey Irizarry and Anniqua Rana for an SLO/Assessment Retreat to plan action steps for Summer and Fall 2025 in support of program mapping and accreditation efforts. The retreat focused on clarifying faculty responsibilities for SLO and PLO (Program Learning Outcomes) assessment, enhancing communication and onboarding and identifying programs in need of targeted support. Attendees explored strategies to streamline tools like Nuventive - such as updating user roles, integrating program review content and improving access to reporting features. The Social Sciences, ESL and Library Departments were commended for their progress. The team reaffirmed a shared commitment to supporting faculty, honoring their time, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. The guiding principle: minimize busywork, maximize meaningful work.



I hope that you are having a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,  
Kim