



Student Services *connection*

Student Services

Admissions and Records	619-660-4275
Articulation	619-660-4530
Assessment	619-660-4426
Athletics	619-660-4516
CalWORKs	619-660-4340
Career Services	619-660-4450
CARE	619-660-4293
Counseling	619-660-4429
DSPS	619-660-4239
EOPS	619-660-4204
Financial Aid	619-660-4201
First Year Experience	619-660-4422
Health Services	619-660-4200
High School/Outreach	619-660-4422
High Tech Center	619-660-4299
International Students	619-660-4565
Scholarships	619-660-4537
Student Affairs	619-660-4295
Transfer Center	619-660-4439
Unlimited Potential (UP!)	619-660-4204
Veteran Services	619-660-4282
Veterans' Resource Center (VRC)	619-660-4060
Vice Presidents Office	619-660-4301

Happy New Year!



Student Services would like to wish our campus colleagues a very happy new year. We hope you were able to recharge your batteries over the winter break as we prepare for the Spring 2014 semester.

Although I have only been here less than a semester, I have already begun to think of Cuyamaca College Student Services as my home. I am excited about collaborating and partnering with Instruction and Administrative Services, and hope that this newsletter provides insight into the wonderful work being done on behalf of our students by the Student Services faculty and staff.

I look forward to helping our students reach their academic and educational goals. Together, we can continue to make a difference in the lives of all of our students.

Scott W. Thayer, Ed.D.
Vice President, Student Services

Student Services

What's New?

Student Services is gearing up for full implementation of "3SP."

The College will provide:

- Orientation
- Assessment
- Counseling
- Educational Planning
- Progress Alerts (follow-up)

Students must declare an academic goal upon application, a specific course of study, and will create an educational plan to guide them.

De-Stress Fest Activities

The Associated Student Government leaders sponsored a series of "De-Stress Fest" activities to help students feel energized during their stressful week of finals.

The events included:

December 11:

Therapy dogs from the San Diego Humane Society at the Student Center. There were informational tables from the Health Center and Health & Human Services/Up2SD.

December 12:

Students enjoyed a free catered pancake breakfast with all the works in I-207 & I-208. During this event, students also received bluebooks, scantrons, and a free neck massage from Joel's Holistic Center.

FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid has proven to improve the success rate of our students. Students receiving financial aid on average attempt and complete more units per semester, have higher GPAs, and have higher persistence rates than non-financial aid students. Please encourage students to apply for financial aid. It's free and there's nothing to lose. In fact, most students are eligible for the Board of Governors Fee Waiver (BOGW) which waives the enrollment fee (\$46/unit). For a student carrying 12 units, that's a savings of \$552!

We've awarded over 5500 BOGWs so far this year. We've also awarded over 2600

Pell Grant awards totaling \$7.9 million! For the spring semester, eligible students awarded with a Pell Grant will have a Book Voucher available for them to use to purchase books at the campus bookstore two weeks before the semester begins.

After January 1, students can submit their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online for the upcoming 2014-15 academic year (www.fafsa.ed.gov). The sooner they apply the better. Financial aid is available for full-time and part-time students. Please refer students to the Financial Aid office or [website](#) for assistance.

TRANSFER CENTER

Services for Arabic Speakers

Ms. Aklas Sheai, located in the Transfer Center, assists Arabic speaking students in their transition to Cuyamaca College, including help with Financial Aid, Arabic language challenges and other counseling services. If you know Arabic speakers, please let them know that she may be contacted by phone, 619-660-4487, or email: aklas.sheai@gcccd.edu.

Newly Approved Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT)

Cuyamaca College has eleven Associate Degrees for Transfer approved by the

state for Cuyamaca College students: Communication Studies, Psychology, Sociology, History, Political Science, Studio Arts, English, Business Administration, Mathematics, Physics, and Music. All of these may be found in the college catalog or in the Addendum to the catalog. Early Childhood Education is currently under review at the state level. Kinesiology has been approved locally, but cannot be submitted until C-ID issues have been resolved. The ADT's are generating a great deal of student interest, particularly now that many are approved at San Diego State University.

HEALTH SERVICES

In Fall 2013, 478 students received Body Mass Index (BMI) screenings and diet/exercise education and 85 flu vaccinations were given. *Stress Management* is an important goal of Health Services staff. It is their goal to provide outreach education to students and staff related to stress management, depression, and suicide prevention.

Diversity Dialogues Spring 2014 Schedule

Out of the Closet, Into Power
February 19, 2014
12:30 PM to 1:30 PM
Presenter: Dr. Davina Kotulski

Our Diverse Communities
February 24, 2014
11:00 AM to Noon
Presenter: Floyd Lai

Facilitating Student Success
for Men of Color in Community
Colleges
March 4, 2014
1:30 PM to 2:30 PM
Presenter: Dr. Frank Harris &
Dr. Luke Wood

Leader Versus Leadership
March 26, 2014
12:30 PM to 1:30 PM
Presenter: Grace Bagunu

Understanding your Identity
in a Diverse Society
April 8, 2014
11:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Presenter: Freddie Sanchez

Understanding Social Justice
and Diversity as a Means to
Build Community
May 8, 2014
1:30 PM to 2:30 PM
Presenter: Kenyon Whitman

Visual Impairment Etiquette
May 12, 2014
Noon to 1:00 PM
Presenter Robert Garcia

For additional information on
the Diversity Dialogue Pro-
gram, please contact Lauren
Vaknin in the Student Affairs
Office at 619-660-4295

EOPS

Maria Brown, former Cuyamaca College student who is now at San Diego State University, was recently featured as a success story on the CSU website "A Degree with a Guarantee". Maria, a former foster youth and single mother of three children, graduated with an ADT in Sociology. [Watch her story here.](#) (online version only)

EOPS' Simone Robbins is First Student to Win the Cuyamaca Way Award

Simone Robbins broke new ground by being the first student ever to win the Cuyamaca Way award, which is traditionally presented by the college president in recognition of college employees who exemplify the thirteen traits of the Cuyamaca College culture. Simone, who also is a participant in the UP! (Unlimited Potential) program for former foster youth, was honored for her work in the newly formed Native American Student Alliance (NASA) organization on campus, which recently participated in the 3rd Annual Native American Dance College Hour for Native American History Month.

NASA held a food drive during the event to benefit the EOPS/CARE Food Pantry, which provides food to all Cuyamaca College students in need of these resources. Donations to the food pantry are accepted throughout the year, with food bins housed in both staff lounges on campus.

EOPS Student Monica Sias Wins \$1,000 Scholarship for Region X from the CCCEOP-SA

EOPS student Monica Sias was recognized for her outstanding academic achievement and awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the California Community College Extended Opportunity Programs and Services Association. This year, Cuyamaca College EOPS was given the task of selecting one of its students as a beneficiary of this scholarship. Monica is an emancipated foster youth from Colorado. She had no one to lean on for financial and personal support but all that

changed when she attended Cuyamaca College and eventually became an active participant in the EOPS program. She credits EOPS for helping her stay on task and motivated. "I had no friends, family, nor employment when I arrived and now I have all of that because of the EOPS program." Obtaining a college education has been a challenging process for her. Monica has been a full time student while working 20 hours a week, yet has maintained a 4.0 GPA. Even when she was having instability in her personal life, she has always maintained stellar academic progress; especially now that she knows her career goals. Monica is also the Vice President of the EOPS Club. It is because of her leadership that the EOPS Club is one of the most active clubs on the campus. Monica is majoring in Microbiology, a major that consists of advanced levels of science and math courses, all of which requires tremendous hours of studying. Her goal is to transfer to UC Riverside. She plans on participating in undergraduate research in genetics. After her bachelor's degree, she is interested in attending medical school to become a M.D. She wants to practice medicine and provide quality health care to underrepresented populations.

EOPS Students Outperform All Students on Campus

In 2012-13, EOPS students outperformed other students on campus on academic indicators for success including GPA, semester units attempted and earned, course retention and success, and fall-to-spring persistence. Despite entering college with multiple barriers, EOPS students excel due to the intensive supportive services provided by the EOPS/CARE program. These supportive services include three counseling contacts per semester, development of educational plans, personal and career counseling, peer mentoring, book vouchers, meal and gas cards, and homework support. Congratulations to our EOPS students!

Census Rosters due

February 10th!

A friendly reminder to instructors that census rosters for spring 2014 sixteen week courses are due February 10, 2014. Please be sure to submit via WebAdvisor.

Save the Date Spring 2014 Events

Welcome Back: Donuts & Coffee
January 27, 2014
10:00 AM

Welcome Back Involvement Fair
January 29, 2014
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Student Movie
January 30, 2014
3:30 PM

Spirit Night at the Basketball
Game
February 5, 2014
5:00 PM

Student Org Involvement Fair
February 12, 2014
Noon

College Hour: Women's History
Month
March 20, 2014
10:00 AM

College Hour: Health Fair
April 22, 2014
10:00 AM

College Hour: Career
Development
May 7, 2014
1:00 PM

ADMISSIONS AND RECORDS

The Importance of Accurate Census Rosters

Just a friendly reminder that it is important to make sure your rosters are accurate as of Census. Please keep in mind to be eligible for large class bonuses and TA hours you will need to submit your census roster one day prior to census.

Accurate census rosters are not only important for the college to stay in compliance with state regulations, but there are numerous federal implications for students receiving financial aid or Veteran GI Bill benefits. Incorrect census rosters and last dates of attendance may result in students owing thousands of dollars!

Priority Registration Updates

Due to changes in state regulations a new registration priority system will be in place effective Fall 2014.

The following are changes effective Fall 2014:

- Veterans, Foster Youth, CalWORKs, EOPS and DSP&S students who have gone through program requirements and have completed assessment, orientation and advising will all receive first priority for course registration.

- All students must maintain good academic standing or risk losing their priority registration if their cumulative GPA falls below a 2.0 at the end of the Spring 2014 semester.
- All students must complete at least 50% of their overall enrolled units or risk losing their priority registration at the end of the Spring 2014 semester.
- All students who have earned 90 or more degree applicable units will lose registration priority and will be able to register during open registration. (Exceptions may be made for high units majors and students must complete the online petition process).

Students are highly recommended to complete online orientation, assessment and advisement well in advance of June 30th, 2014. Please visit <http://www.cuyamaca.edu/admissions/changes> for more information.

Course Repetition Updates

New course repetition rules are in place that will limit the number of times students may repeat a class. Please visit <http://www.cuyamaca.edu/admissions/changes> for more information.

COUNSELING SERVICES

The Counseling department welcomes the following new additions to the Counseling Department: Interns Mary Garcia, Asma Yaki, and Rhoda Carino-Diokno. Four Adjuncts: Jorge Guerrero, general counseling and transfer; Nicholas DeMeo, general counseling; David Halttunen and Abdul Buul, general counseling and athletics

Counseling is offering many more sections of courses this semester than have been offered in the past. Thirty-three sections of COUN 110, 120 and

130 will be offered in the Spring semester.

Our Counselors have serviced students for 1,500 appointments and 2,167 drop-ins since the first week of the semester, for a total of 3,667 student contacts, compared to 3,025 total student contacts for the same time period last year.

Fall 2012	Fall 2013
3,025	3,667
Student Contacts	Student Contacts

Save the Date Spring 2014 Events

Professional Development Week
January 21-24, 2014

**State of the College
(Spring Convocation)**
Wednesday, January 22, 2014
Begins with breakfast at 8:00am
Student Center

**Sustainable Landscape
Conference**
Thursday, March 6, 2014

Spring Recess
April 14-19, 2014

Spring Garden Festival
Saturday, April 26, 2014
Grand Lawn & OH

Coyote Music Festival
Saturday, May 3, 2014
Grand Lawn

Commencement
Wednesday, June 4, 2014

[Athletics Schedule](#)

DISABLED STUDENTS PROGRAMS & SERVICES

HOW CAN WE ASSIST YOU? DISABLED STUDENTS PROGRAMS and SERVICES (DSPS)

Disabled Students Programs and Services provides federal and state mandated support services for students who have a verifiable disability. We are currently serving 1,578 students with disabilities at Cuyamaca College. Our support services start at our main office, in A-113 where students receive a comprehensive orientation to our program including disability, academic, personal and career counseling and authorized academic accommodations. We also provide specialized services such as

Learning Disability Assessment and Speech & Language Services.

The High Tech Center our instructional hub is located in C-114 where students receive Alternate Media, Adaptive Equipment, Assistive Technology and Test Proctoring. **New** for spring 2014, we are offering specialized tutoring in Basic English and Math and intervention workshops for students who need additional support in the area of study strategies and advocacy. When you have time please stop by our office or call us if you have any questions. Main Office 619-660-4239 and HTC 619-660-4299.

ASSESSMENT

Big Changes in Assessment

Accuplacer, an online placement test, measures the students' knowledge in arithmetic, elementary algebra, college-level math, reading comprehension, and sentence skills, was implemented in Fall 2013. It is not a pass or fail test; rather, it is an adaptive test wherein the computer automatically determines which questions are presented

to the students based on the response to prior questions. This technique selects just the right questions for the student based on their level of ability. As students demonstrate a greater skill, the more challenging the questions will become. Students can make an appointment through WebAdvisor. For questions regarding assessments, please contact Marcella Brown, Assessment Specialist, at (619) 660-4426.

CAREER SERVICES

Career Services at Cuyamaca College had a very successful turn-out of students, alumni, and community members for their fall 2013 Job Skills workshops. The three series workshops ran October and November, starting with "Resume Writing" in which participants learned strategies on writing a resume in today's technological world. The second workshop focused on interviewing strategies in which we demonstrated our new "Perfect Interview" program whereby students can practice interviewing online from home. Students are able to see themselves via a webcam and email their interviews to faculty and counselors for review. The workshop series concluded with "Job Search Strategies" just in time for students looking for seasonal part-time jobs and for our fall graduates applying for their dream

career. All three workshops were well attended with every seat full. Career Services continues to provide follow-up Career Counseling for students and alumni. Stay tuned for our spring workshop series in which we hope to add more workshops to meet the demands of our students, alumni, and community! Stop by Career Services in the One Stop. Students are encouraged to sign up on our job board to look for jobs employers have posted for Cuyamaca College students specifically. Students can also get log-in directions for our assessments and career/job search for personality types, learning styles, multiple intelligences, values, skills, interests, and interviewing. Call the center at 619-660-4436 or visit www.cuyamaca.edu/career for more information.

DREAM ACT

Borderless Spaces Program on Campus

In January 2013, the California Dream Act gave undocumented students the right to access financial aid and to receive EOPS services. In turn, EOPS initiated the Borderless Spaces Program to serve these stu-

dents. In collaboration with SDSU, EOPS staff encouraged students to form their own campus organization to give them a voice. Staff training will occur in the spring 2014.

ATHLETICS

Men's Soccer: New Head Coach Brian Hiatt-Aleu guided the Men's Team to a 2nd place finish in the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference. The Coyotes were led by Silver Batras who was the #2 scorer in the PCAC with 18 goals.

Women's Soccer: Daniel Codina ended his very successful 10-year run as the Lady Coyotes Head Coach to move on to other coaching opportunities. His 2013 squad placed third in Pacific Coast Athletic Conference - Southern Division. The women's team is welcoming their new coach for 2014, Mark Spooner.

Women's Volleyball: Head Coach Karolyn Kirby continued to help the Volleyball squad progress in her second season. Stand-out players, Mireya Ortiz (1st team) and Kayla Kulunek (2nd Team) were awarded All-Conference honors by the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference.

Women's Cross Country: Second-year Head Coach Anthony Garcia's team placed 3rd in the Pacific Coast Conference Championships and Qualified the team to the Southern California Regional Championship. Run-

ner Miranda Fisher continued on to represent the Lady Coyotes after qualifying as an individual to the State Championship race. Sylvia Longworth, Miranda Fisher, Kailene Gini, and Nanci Romero were named to the PCAC All-Conference Team.

Men's Cross Country: Head Coach Tim Seaman's Men's Cross Country team had another outstanding season qualifying to a second consecutive State Championship. The team placed 3rd in the Pacific Coast Conference and ran an outstanding race at the SoCal Regionals to qualify to the State Championship. Clayton Rule, Chris Corley, Dane Randolph, and James Stubbmann were named to the PCAC All-Conference Team.

Women's Golf: Head Coach Louise Parks guided the fledgling Women's Golf team through their first full season in the Orange Empire Conference. Individual Jessica Diaz qualified to the Southern California Regional Tournament. Coyote Golfers Jessica Diaz, Lark Herrick, and Christie Pasternick were named Second-Team OEC All-Conference.

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE (FYE)

In 2013-14 our First-Year Experience Program is serving 173 participants from three of our local high schools; Monte Vista, Mount Miguel, and Chaparral. The participants were divided into the following five teams, and each are led by their FYE Counselor; The Alphas (Greg Gomez), The Bounty Hunters (Adam Erlenbush),

The Goonies (Laura Jarrous), The Dreemers (Reem Asfour), and The Baby Blue Devils (Jesus Miranda). Each FYE team is competing in academics and in monthly competitions and the winning team is crowned the 2013-14 FYE Team Champion and they are honored at the FYE Completion ceremony in May.



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD:

Greg Barr, Bill Garrett, Edwin Ramon Hiel, Debbie Justeson, Mary Kay Rosinski

STUDENT MEMBERS: Elsa Hernandez, Zack Gianino

CHANCELLOR: Cindy L. Miles, Ph.D. **CUYAMACA COLLEGE PRESIDENT:** Mark Zacovic, Ph.D.