



CUESTA COLLEGE

President's Newsletter

September 15, 2015



Hello Cuesta colleagues,

You may have noticed that we are no longer holding regular monthly Presidential Forums. Instead, I will send monthly newsletters to keep you informed on important issues and/or events that are newsworthy.

Please take a moment to peruse this first newsletter. I hope you find it informative, interesting, and helpful.

Dr. Gil Stork
Superintendent/President

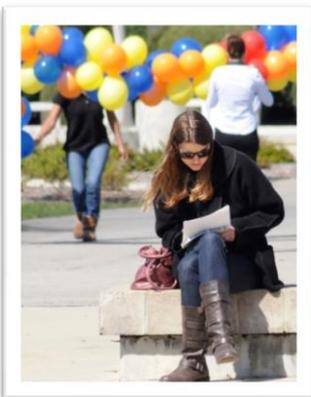
What's New



Measure L

We are almost one year into Measure L, the \$275M bond passed by SLO County voters last November to pay for longstanding facility, infrastructure, and technology needs. Recently, a total of 26 modulars on both campuses were vacated by faculty and staff, who now reside in new temporary structures. Major repairs to various roofs have taken place, and technology upgrades will soon begin. We are continuing to work on the faculty office challenge with additional modular office buildings to appear on the SLO

Campus soon. There have been many changes to the campuses, and many more changes are soon to come. Thank you for your patience. For everything you need to know about Measure L, including construction alerts, updated maps, and new building renderings, visit the bond's official web page, www.cuestacollegebond.info.



Fall Semester Is Underway

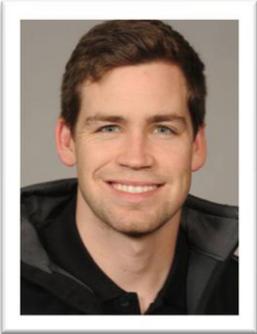
The Fall semester is now in full swing. For information on what's new for the semester – including 10 new full-time faculty – [click here](#). In case you missed Opening Day, you can view the event in its entirety on Cuesta's You Tube page, just [click here](#). The event featured staff and faculty awards, various recognitions, information on developing the college's [Educational & Facilities Master Plan](#), Measure L updates, and just how much water the college has saved over the past several months (hint – it's a lot more than the [State requirement of 25%!](#)) I also included my comments relative to preparing the college for change.

Congratulations!



2015 Paramedic Program Graduation

Fourteen Cuesta College's Paramedic Program students graduated on September 4th. The ceremony featured keynote speaker San Luis Obispo County Sheriff Ian Parkinson, student speaker Atascadero Fire Department Captain Casey Bryson and was attended by various representatives of the EMS community. Congrats to the graduates!



WorldSkills Participant

This past August, recently graduated Cuesta College student Michael Mullen represented the United States in Automobile Technology during the biennial WorldSkills Competition in São Paulo, Brazil. He was the sole Californian – and second Cuesta College student ever - to compete as one of 19 members of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam in the international event. The competition consisted of five 3-hour modules, each designed to test a different area of automotive repair. "It was really an honor to be selected to represent the USA," said Michael. "I had imagined this as possibility for a couple years and it was really overwhelming to be chosen." Congratulations Michael on your accomplishment!



Vice President Sandee McLaughlin to Retire

At the September 2nd Board of Trustees meeting, it was announced that Assistant Superintendent/President, Student Services and college centers Sandee McLaughlin will retire at the end of the 2016 academic year. Sandee has served the college since 1986 in the capacities of Financial Aid/EOPS Director, Dean of Student Services, and Executive Dean of the North County Campus and College Centers and VP of Student Services. During her tenure, she's chaired and co-chaired many key college committees including the Planning and Budget Committee, the Educational Master Plan Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee and the Cultural Diversity Student Equity Committee. Sandee will be greatly missed and is well deserving of a hearty congratulations!

Hello/Goodbye

As the Cuesta family changes, I would like to acknowledge our new full-time employees as well as those who are retiring. At the September Board of Trustees meeting, the following individuals were welcomed aboard:

Classified New Hires:

- Gina Barbosa, Student Services Assistant
- Jamie Corley, Nursing/Allies Health Secretary
- Sean Grometer, Multimedia Electronics Technician
- Heather McElroy, Physical Science Lab Technician
- Sharese McGee, Bookstore Purchasing Technician

Management, Supervisor, Confidential New Hires:

- Janet Shepard, Foundation/Advancement Director of Grant Development

In The News

In case you missed it, Cuesta College was recently featured in a couple fun and informative news segments.



Cuesta's Welding Program hit the small screen in a segment on KSBY in which our father-daughter teaching duo (Mike and Kory Fontes) were profiled. You can watch the entire segment [here](#). Thanks for making Cuesta look good, Fontes'!

KSBY also featured a video that was recently created by the college's student-run newspaper, *The Cuestonian*. The video, made in response to the [recent mountain lion sightings](#), shows viewers how to stay safe in a mountain lion encounter, and features our very own mascot, Cougie. You can watch the news segment in its entirety [here](#), and the Cuestonian's video [here](#).

Mark Your Calendar



September 16 (SLO) & 17 (NCC) * Constitution Day: The NCC event includes a lecture by Daniel Sheehan, Constitutional and public interest lawyer, public speaker and educator. The SLO Campus celebration will feature various local officials and a voter registration booth. For more information, click [here](#).



September 18-20 * Central Coast Writer's Conference: The conference will take place on the SLO Campus and remains open for registration. It includes 50 workshops, a writer's boot camp, panel discussion and more. For more information, click [here](#).



September 24 * Clay Stomp: Help mix 4,000 pounds of clay with your feet! All of it will be used by the ceramics students during the year. The stomp will take place from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., on the grassy area between the Fine Arts building and the cafeteria on the SLO Campus.



September 27 * SLO Winds Pops Concert: *By George!*, a presentation of the music by George Gershwin, will hit the main stage of the CPAC at 3:00 p.m. Joining the SLO Winds is vocalist (and faculty member!) Inga Swearingen and pianist Rudolf Budginas. For more information, click [here](#).



October 7 * Board of Trustees Meeting: Stay informed on important district matters, including the budget, Measure L and more. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month on the SLO Campus in room 5401 and PolyCom to the NCC in room N3213. Open session at 4:00pm. For meeting agendas click [here](#).



October 16 * Learning Disabilities Conference: “The Many Faces of Learning Disabilities” is geared toward professionals, teachers, students and parents who have children with disabilities. The focus is learning disabilities in Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Late-Deafened and Deaf-Blind individuals. Pre-registration is now open. For more info, click [here](#).

For more information on events, click [here](#).

For more information on college news, click [here](#).

We hope you enjoyed the President’s Newsletter.

Questions? Contact Media Relations Coordinator [Lauren Milbourne](#).