

# GUIDED PATHWAYS

## Newsletter



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- **About Guided Pathways**

Guided Pathways is a transformative effort taking place at many colleges across the United States. Guided Pathways aims to improve student success and reduce the time and cost that students take to complete their educational goals. It does so by creating clear paths for students, helping the students to choose which path is best for them, supporting the student to stay on their path, and ensuring that the students are learning while on their path. More information about Guided Pathways can be found on the Chancellor's Office website at <http://cccgp.cccco.edu/About-Guided-Pathways>.

- **Leading the Guided Pathways Effort at Cuesta College**

- **Guided Pathways Implementation Team (GPIT)**

In fall semester 2018, the Academic Senate and College Council approved the formation of the Guided Pathways Implementation Team (GPIT) to oversee the development of Guided Pathways at Cuesta College. The team meets on the first and third Thursday of each month at 9:00-10:30 a.m. in the PDC, room 3134 with Polycom to N3213. Meetings are open to all, so you are welcome to stop by and listen to the progress. Meeting dates, agendas, and minutes will be posted on the Guided Pathways website at [cuesta.edu/about/leadership/vpaa/Guided\\_Pathways](http://cuesta.edu/about/leadership/vpaa/Guided_Pathways). Agendas and minutes are also posted in SharePoint.



### **Guided Pathways Implementation Team (GPIT)**

Front Row, left to right: Carissa Negri (student), Lara Baxley (Co-Chair), Heidi Webber (Co-Chair), Ryan Cartnal (Co-Chair), Madeline Medeiros (Co-Chair), Que Dang, Cherie Moore, Rachael Barnett  
Back Row, left to right: Lindsay Bachman (student), Jill Stearns, Mark Sanchez, Becci Carter, Carina Love (Student Engagement Taskforce, but not GPIT), Regina Voge, Deborah Wulff, Anthony Gutierrez  
Not pictured: Alex Kahane, Allison Merzon, Erin Lastreto, Jennifer Noriega  
Photo: Ritchie Bermudez

- **Guided Pathways Implementation Team Leadership**

- GPIT Co-Chairs

- Lara Baxley, chemistry faculty, Guided Pathways faculty co-coordinator
    - Heidi Webber, counseling faculty, Guided Pathways faculty co-coordinator
    - Madeline Medeiros, dean, Guided Pathways administration co-coordinator
    - Ryan Carnal, dean, Guided Pathways administration co-coordinator

- GPIT Advisors

- Jill Stearns, President
    - Deborah Wulff, Vice President of Academic Affairs
    - Mark Sanchez, Vice President of Student Services

- The GPIT co-chairs and advisors meet regularly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (off weeks from GPIT meetings).

- **Meta-Major Development**

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A key component of Guided Pathways is the development of meta-majors. Meta-majors are broad groups of programs that have related courses and similar employment outcomes. They are not majors, they are groups of majors. Meta-majors help students to see how different programs are related and they help students who are undecided because students can select start college in a meta-major instead of being required to choose one specific major. Examples of meta-majors can be found at [bakersfieldcollege.edu/academics/pathways](http://bakersfieldcollege.edu/academics/pathways)

The GPIT has created a Meta-Major Taskforce to direct the development of meta-majors at Cuesta College. The taskforce has started by researching meta-majors at other colleges and by studying the draft meta-majors that were created at the Guided Pathways Summit in 2017. The next task will be to engage the campus community – including students, faculty and staff – in the refining of meta-majors and determining a more meaningful name than “meta-major”. Be on the lookout for surveys and townhall events where you can provide input on these important decisions.

- **Program Mapping**

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Program maps are guides that demonstrate to students and prospective students the classes that they could take each term in order to complete a particular goal, such as transfer to a university or preparation for employment in a particular field. At Cuesta College, program maps are being developed by the collaborative efforts of division chairs, lead program faculty members, and counselors. After a map is developed, it is checked by the area dean and counseling faculty before being published to students. Program maps have been developed for most of the Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) and are being mapped this semester for our local Associate degrees.

Cuesta College has been accepted into a cohort of institutions who are piloting a computer program call the Program Mapper that clearly displays program maps on a website. Currently, Cuesta’s program maps are being input into the Program Mapper, but they are not yet available to the public and will only be made public after they have been vetted by the appropriate entities. To see an example of the Program Mapper at Bakersfield College, visit [programmap.bakersfieldcollege.edu](http://programmap.bakersfieldcollege.edu)

- **Communication**

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Proper communication is vital to successfully implementing Guided Pathways at Cuesta College. The Guided Pathways leadership must communicate clearly to the campus community and provide a variety of methods to gather input from you. We will communicate with the you through Newsletters, the Guided Pathways website, open forums/townhalls, and workshops. In addition, the faculty co-coordinators are visiting each academic division during one division meeting this semester.

For great communication to occur, we must also hear from you! Therefore, please attend open forums, townhalls, and workshops. Ensure that you are well educated about Guided Pathways and be prepared to provide input at these events. In addition, be on the lookout for occasional surveys regarding various aspects of Guided Pathways Implementation. Your answers to the surveys will help us to optimize our efforts to help students. Finally, if you have any questions, comments, suggestions, etc. please email us at [GuidedPathways@cuesta.edu](mailto:GuidedPathways@cuesta.edu).

- **Upcoming Guided Pathways Events**

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- **Equity, Economic Mobility & Guided Pathways: The Case for Urgency and Implementation**

Rob Johnstone, Founder & President, National Center for Inquiry & Improvement  
Friday, March 22, 9:00-11:00 a.m.  
Room 5401

- Keep apprised of more events at [cuesta.edu/about/leadership/vpaa/Guided\\_Pathways](http://cuesta.edu/about/leadership/vpaa/Guided_Pathways)

- **Guided Pathways Fun Fact:** National research on colleges who have implemented Guided Pathways shows that it generally takes four to five years for an institution to implement the model because it requires a comprehensive and transformative institutional commitment.
- **Questions, Concerns, or Suggestions?** Please email us at [GuidedPathways@cuesta.edu](mailto:GuidedPathways@cuesta.edu)