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August 2, 2024

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Success Continues in the 2024-25 Academic Year

With summer 4-week and 8-week sessions well underway, we are experiencing yet another academic term with increased enrollment. It is our expectation that the fall semester will also show more students enrolled than the previous fall.



Palomar College psychology student

The President's Cabinet met on August 1 to solidify our focus on tactical approaches in support of our enrollment management strategies. Our dialogue enabled us to further build upon existing successful initiatives and identify opportunities that will have a meaningful impact on enrollment recovery going forward.

Our All College session on August 23 will give us an opportunity to connect with one another, share details on our enrollment management strategies and touch on major initiatives for this academic year. We will begin with breakfast at 7:30 a.m., followed by updates from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and ending with lunch. The All College session is a great way to kick off the new academic year. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at this important gathering as we get set to engage all of the new and continuing students on August 26, the first day of the fall semester.

Two New Fellows

The National Community College Hispanic Council has selected Nellie Martinez, Project Director for TRIO Educational Talent Search and North County Education Opportunity Center as a fellow. Nellie is one of 25 fellows in a yearlong program designed to advance the number of Hispanics in leadership positions in the nation's community colleges. Jenny Fererro was recently selected as a recipient of the 2024 Wheelhouse Summer Scholars fellowship. This particular award and mentorship opportunity is for Ph.D. and Ed.D. students whose equity-focused research centers on the California Community Colleges. Please join me in congratulating our fabulous colleagues!



Nellie Martinez (top) and Jenny Fererro (bottom)

New Academic Leaders

Nichol Roe our Dean of Career Technical and Extended Education, and Jenny Fererro, our Dean of Instruction, started their work this summer as our newest academic leaders. Jenny and Nichol join Dr. Leanne Maunu, Dean of Languages and Literature Dr. Amrik Johal, Dean of Student Life and Leadership, and Dr. John Escobedo, Dean of Math, Science and Engineering. I am excited for our college as we continue to serve the needs of our students and the region's workforce.

Campus Engagement

The Paramedic Academy graduation ceremony for Cohort 62 was a perfect celebration and a great reminder of the important contributions we make to the workforce of the future. These students will make a difference in the lives of others, and I could not be prouder.



Paramedic Program Cohort 62 Graduation Ceremony

Speaking of bright futures, I attended the official start of the Rising Scholars Cohort 7. The summer cohort will end just in time for these students to start the fall semester. Each time I am able to spend time with our Rising Scholars team and witness the work they do to change the lives of our students; I am always impressed with their collective commitment.



Rising Scholars Cohort 7 and Palomar College employees



OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION

During the month of July, the Vice President of Instruction and a small team attended the Enrollment Management Academy with an emphasis on learning practices that may be employed to enhance the Education Centers and Student Services. Instruction also sent a team composed of faculty, staff, and administrators to the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Curriculum Institute. The theme of the institute was *Curriculum Unmasked: Revitalize, Revamp and Reignite*. Participants were able to attend four general sessions and choose from over 72 breakout sessions. The team did a great job of splitting up during the breakout sessions so that they could bring back as much new information as possible to support our work.

Languages and Literature Division

The World Languages department is pleased to announce the addition of Chinese 101 and Arabic 101 to the fall class schedule. Both courses have been on hiatus for several years.

Fallbrook Education Center

The Fallbrook Education Center has worked to expand degree and certificate programs that students can complete entirely at the center between face-to-face and online offerings along with the required associate degree and transfer general education courses. The addition of classes from three public safety programs are in alignment with the workforce needs within the northern region of the District.

The programs currently offered at the center include Associate of Science degree and Certificate of Achievement in Fire Technology, Associate of Science degree in Administration of Justice, Certificate of Proficiency in Emergency Medical Technician, Associate Degree for Transfer in Psychology, Associate Degree for Transfer in Sociology, and Certificate of Achievement in Associate Teacher. In collaboration with the Public Affairs Office, [a press release](#) to increase awareness of these programs was issued to community news agencies.

STUDENT SERVICES

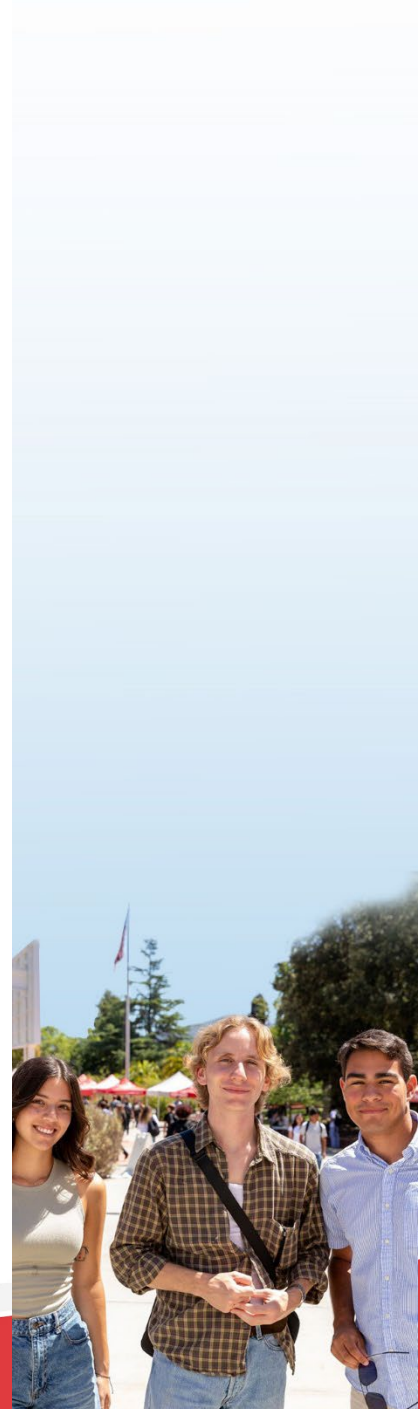
Counseling Services

TRIO Educational Talent Search (ETS)

TRIO ETS hosted 40 middle school students from Hidden Valley Middle School, Del Dios Academy, and Mission Middle School on a trip to the San Diego Culinary Institute and the Birch Aquarium on July 9. On July 11, forty high school students from Orange Glen High School, Del Lago Academy, Escondido High School, and San Pasqual High School attended a trip to San Diego State University and the Natural History Museum. To finish the month, ETS hosted in person and online appointments to support high school seniors with enrollment and financial aid questions.

GEAR UP

The GEAR UP team attended the national GEAR UP conference in Washington DC from July 21-July 24. The conference is sponsored by the National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP).



Upward Bound

The Upward Bound program successfully hosted its 6-week summer program at the San Marcos campus. The program served 40 students, offering courses in engineering, robotics, and math, along with additional enrichment activities, including a visit to the Planetarium. The final phase of the program, 48 students attended a memorable trip to Washington, D.C., where they explored the nation's capital and deepened their understanding of American history. A highlight of the trip was the opportunity for students to place a wreath during the ceremonial wreath-laying at Arlington National Cemetery on behalf of Palomar College.



Upward Bound students participating in a trip to Washington D.C.

Office for Student Success

In collaboration with the counseling department and key student services and instructional leaders, the Office of Student Success is implementing student success teams. As a focus of this team-based approach individualized guidance to complete educational tasks and student milestones will be first targeted to first and second year Black/African American students.



Palomar College wreath placed at Arlington National Cemetery

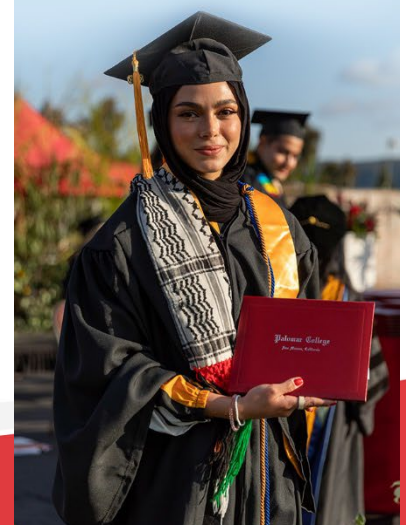
The second and related initiative will be led by a Pathway Advisor, a new team member, who will connect students to instructional faculty experts in their fields of interest.

Throughout the implementation of the first student success team two success coaches are connecting Black/African American students with appropriate student support programs and services using a case management model. The team will have multiple “check-ins” with students throughout the academic year. The first check-in is focused on successful enrollment and completion of an education plan in preparation for the start of the fall semester. Our success coaches are actively checking the status of these initial milestones in Highpoint and scheduling students with our Black Student Success program counselors. During the first check-in campaign, we observed a 42% increase in enrollment of Black/African American students going from 146 newly enrolled students to 208 in a 2-week period. In addition, there was a 34% increase in completion of a first-semester education plan starting with only 80 students having an education plan, increasing to 107 students having an education plan in the same period.

The office for student success is also partnering with Palomar Promise, TRIO Student Support Services (SSS), and Extended Opportunities Programs & Services (EOPS) to conduct an in-person welcome event, on August 14. The event will feature a series of hybrid workshops presented by other Student Support programs.

Extended Opportunities Programs & Services (EOPS)

The EOPS team has been hard at work over the summer in preparation for a successful fall semester and academic year. A vacant Supervisor position and Outreach Specialist position were filled over the summer. These two hires ensure that a structure is in place to execute our mission and continue to grow our support programs. Additionally, EOPS is currently in



the process of hiring two full-time Counselors, one to serve the NextUP Foster Youth population, and the second to serve EOPS and Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (C.A.R.E) students, addressing the needs of some of Palomar's most vulnerable student populations.

During the summer, EOPS has collected more than 200 applications from incoming Palomar College students who will require services. Recruitment of new program participants is ongoing. The team also took time to engage in strategic planning and professional development during the fall retreat on July 26 at the Rancho Bernardo Education Center.

During the 2024-25 academic year, the EOPS program will celebrate its 55th anniversary. We are excited to reflect on the successes of the past and recognize that there is still much work to be done to address barriers to educational access created by economic and educational disadvantage. Given the significance of the 55th anniversary, we will work to further highlight EOPS in various forums across the campus community throughout the year. Region X is hosting the 55th annual California Community College Extended Opportunity Program and Services Association Conference in San Diego this fall. The Palomar College EOPS team is integrally involved in the planning of the conference.

Enrollment Services

As of July 1, Outreach & Onboarding officially became known as the Office of Student Recruitment. They will be hosting Comet Kickoff on August 16 to welcome and share resources with two hundred incoming students.

Student Health Services

The Student Health Center is continuing both in-person and telehealth appointments for students enrolled in summer courses as well as scheduling students for their requirements to prepare for their academic programs (i.e., Paramedic, EME, Child Development). We also continue to triage student COVID submissions.

Behavioral Health Counseling Services in collaboration with the health promotions team is busy planning events for fall such as class presentations and workshops. Interns will begin in August.

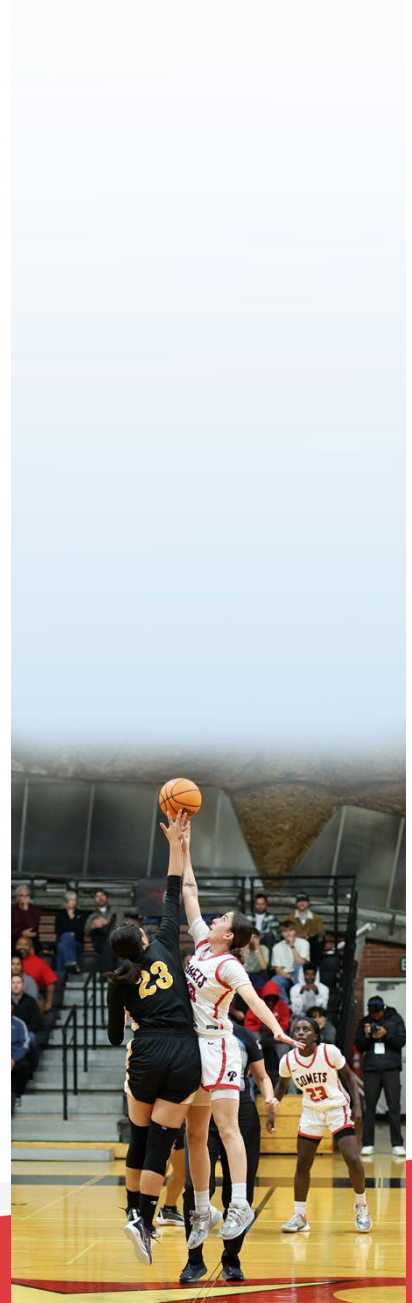
Student Life and Leadership

The new Manager of Basic Needs, Katie Ramos, assumed her role on July 22. Katie has been meeting with colleagues across the college and becoming acquainted with basic needs offerings for students at all Palomar College locations.

Throughout the month of July, Student Activities Coordinator, Brooke Beckett, provided student activity card support at the Fallbrook, Escondido, and Rancho Bernardo Education Centers. It was an opportunity to engage students on getting involved while studying at Palomar College. Brooke also set dates to visit each center for the fall semester.

The Student Life team has planned Comet Welcome Days on August 27th and 28th in the Student Union Quad. Over twenty campus partners will be joining to share their resources with students.

The Student Life team met with ASG Executives to begin planning a fall ASG retreat, which will focus on leadership development, team building, and ASG operations. They also began planning their civic engagement initiatives for the fall semester, including multiple voter registration events.



Dean of Student Life & Leadership, Dr. Amrik Johal, attended the inaugural Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (NHPI) Educators Symposium at Long Beach City College on July 19. The symposium centered on the importance of data disaggregation, community building, and cultural awareness in serving Pacific Islander students across California's three tiers of public higher education.

The Anita and Stan Maag Food and Nutrition Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. during the summer. Personal hygiene, diapers, and wipes are available in addition to fresh and shelf stable food items. During the fall, farmer's markets will be held every Tuesday. Specific times and locations will be on the events calendar on Palomar.edu.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal Services

While work continues to close out the 2023-24 fiscal year and finalize the 2024-25 Adopted Budget, fiscal services established an improved approval process for the payment of vendor invoices. The Adopted Budget will be presented at the Governing Board meeting on September 10.

Business Services

The prequalification process for contractors who wish to bid on Prop M projects is ongoing with applications being vetted to qualify bidders for the current open bid process for the Fallbrook 40 building project, and the upcoming Athletics Phase II (Fieldhouse) project that will be going out to bid soon. This prequalification process is required annually both for ongoing contractors and new contractors who wish to bid on Prop M projects for the District. As of July 30, we have received nearly 110 applications and the team is working through them diligently, advising contractors as they are approved.

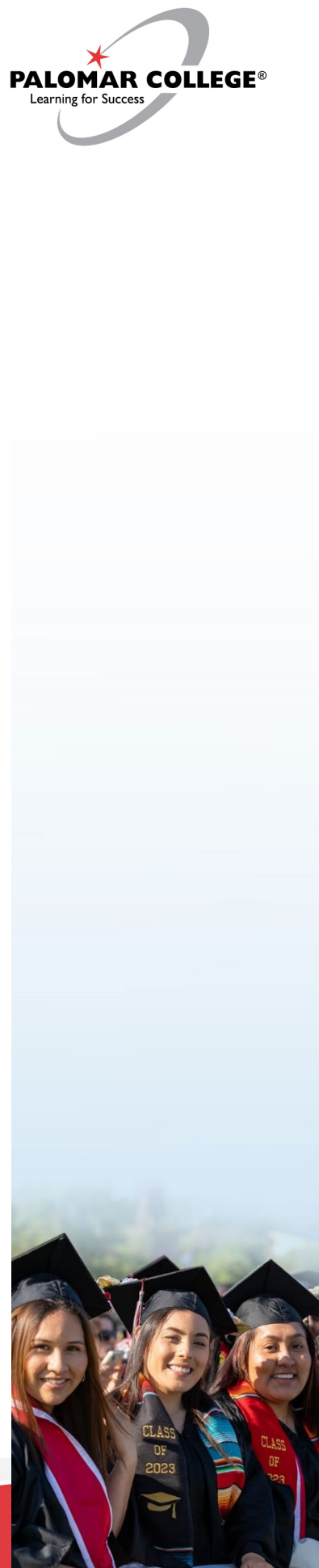
The Fallbrook 40 bid closes on August 15, and contractors will be selected for each of the 32 bid packages included in this project. Once the apparent lowest responsible/responsive bidder is determined, contracts are anticipated to be awarded at the Governing Board meeting on October 8. Prior to October 8, Business Services will work with the Facilities team to vet each respondent's bid package and confirm prequalification status.

Campus Police

The Scottish Rite of San Diego awarded Sgt. Montes police officer of the year recognition. The 30th annual event honored officers and deputies from out the County for their excellent work in protecting their respective communities.

On July 10, an additional full time police officer joined the department. In alignment with our efforts to increase female police officers with the 30x30 initiative, Nicole Davis will be our second full time female police officer. She served with the Oceanside Police Department with extensive investigative experience and at MiraCosta College as a dispatcher. In support of our 30x30 Initiative, Chief Moore attended the webinar: *Breaking Barriers and Blazing a Path: Growing Women Professionals in Law Enforcement*.

During the month of July Campus Police Officers received training on the implementation of the latest Taser 10. The taser is used to help to de-escalate situations without resorting to lethal options. Chief Moore met with the Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Instruction and the instructional deans regarding the availability of safety presentations for staff working on campus. Two deans have hosted campus police at their meetings and helpful feedback has been received on efforts to protect students, faculty, and staff. Further, Sgt.



Montes and Chief Moore attended a regional briefing hosted by CSU San Marcos and the California Office of Emergency Services. Strategies were shared for the upcoming political season and potential protests and civil unrest. Lastly, Chief Moore and Sgt. Montes attended “Stop Human Trafficking,” a symposium featuring District Attorney Summer Stephan and Sheriff Kelli Martinez as well as survivors of human trafficking.

Construction & Facilities Planning

Prop M Projects

The Athletics Stadiums project is wrapping up with the remaining construction work focused on completing the football press box. The elevator has been installed and is awaiting inspection. The football scoreboard is going through final set-up. Staff training will be scheduled.

The Fallbrook 40 project construction bid process is underway, with contractor bids due on August 15. The Athletics Phase 2 project bid documents are being prepared so that bidding can proceed once the Fallbrook 40 bid is complete.

Facilities

The Custodial Department has performed extensive deep cleaning in preparation for the fall semester. Maintenance staff members have been busy preparing for the fall semester by replacing nine HVAC systems, updating building emergency systems, replacing flooring in some areas, as well as performing various painting projects.

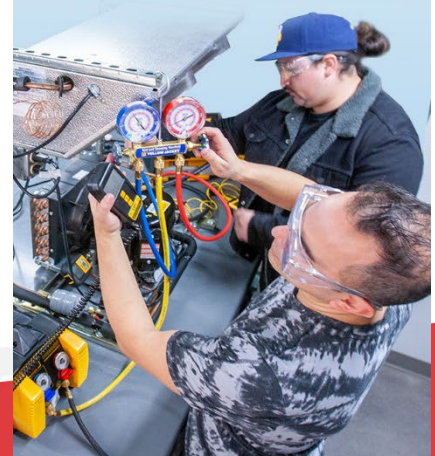
Environmental Health and Safety

Emergency evacuation practice drills at multiple buildings and campus locations took place in July. The department also coordinated the distribution of Narcan with the Student Health Center. It will be placed in all AED cabinets across the District.

Information Services (IS)

The IS Systems and Programming Team remain busy working on technical tasks in support of several projects and initiatives. Projects include programming work needed for the final rollout of the basic needs and food lockers during the fall semester. As well as design and development of a new data collection page, processes, and reporting in support of the Chancellor’s Office mandated Vision Aligned Reporting (VAR). Work also includes the installation of numerous legislative and regulatory updates and patches to our PeopleSoft student system in support of new State and Federal Financial Aid calculations, evaluations, processing, and disbursement. The team worked on the programming needed for student and class data extracts/feeds to our updated, cloud-based Nuventive system in support of improved student Learning Outcomes analysis and reporting for the Instruction Office. Lastly, the team provided design and development of technical enhancements to support additional, automated fraud detection processes in our CCC Apply student application downloads and processing.

The Technical Services and Audio-Visual (AV) teams continue to support technology enhancements and installations needed for numerous department remodels, moves, and additions. Included is the infrastructure and AV equipment installations for the new EDGE Center, which is well underway and expected to be completed by mid-August. This team has also been very active in supporting numerous, on-going computer and other technical equipment additions and upgrades for new and existing employees and classrooms. As normally is the case this time of year, the Technical Services team is very busy refreshing and updating systems, applications and other software in dozens of classrooms and student labs, in preparation for instruction in the fall semester.



The IS Network and Data Center (NADC) team continues to work closely with Facilities on the final installation and configuration of infrastructure, equipment, devices, and technical systems for the new athletics facility. The NADC team is also wrapping up the installation of the new security cameras and license plate reader system as part of the Escondido Education Center Safety and Security project.

And finally, IS efforts continue to enhance our Cybersecurity profile. Recent updates and progress in this area include the rollout of Multifactor Authentication (MFA) for employees working in several departments that collect, store, and manage Personally Identifiable Information (PII) and other sensitive data, as well as implementing a regular, recurring cadence of workstation and server patching to reduce security vulnerability and risk.

HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES (HRS)

Human Resources has been working on many of the new fiscal year updates to salary schedules, including annual step progressions, entering the COLA for classified employees effective July 1, and the rehiring of short-term and student employees.

Benefits

We are currently working on system improvements to enhance reporting, billing, and enrollment management for employee benefits. These improvements will streamline practices and provide better accounting of benefit enrollments, changes, and ongoing benefit administration for permanent employees, retirees, and part-time faculty.

Full-time employee benefit open enrollment begins August 1 and concludes August 30. Any changes will now be submitted via digital forms available in the open enrollment communications sent via email, the benefits guide, and the open enrollment website. If an employee does not wish to change any of their benefits, they are not required to act during the open enrollment period. The benefits team will host employee drop-in hours two days per week in August. Employees who participate in Health or Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) must make an appointment to meet with an American Fidelity representative. Our SISC medical insurance representative will hold virtual presentations on August 20 at 10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. We will host three Employee Assistance Program virtual workshops in August. These include *Raising Diversity in Your Home (virtual)* on August 20 at 1:00 p.m., *Compassion Fatigue (virtual)* on August 21 at 1:00 p.m. and *Helping Our Children Achieve Their Dreams (virtual)* on August 22 at 1:00 p.m. On August 23 at 1:00 p.m., an in person workshop *Using Your Employee Assistance Program (EAP)* will be held in H-112. Employees can sign up through the PD Portal to obtain Professional Development credit.

Recruitment

Recruitment figures as of July 29, 2024

- 26 permanent recruitments in progress
 - 3 – Admin/CAST
 - 21 – Classified
 - 2 – Faculty
- 63 part-time faculty recruitments in progress
 - 19 additional part-time faculty postings have closed, and departments are still hiring from those application pools



DEIAA OFFICE



Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Nicole Belisle was accepted into the first cohort of the Association of California Community College Administrators' (ACCCA) Social Justice and Career Advancement Institute in late June. This institute gave her an opportunity to network with equity leaders throughout the state and sharpened her social justice groundings to grow equity based institutional effectiveness throughout the district.

Dr. Belisle, the Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Human Resources Anna Pedroza and the Professional Development team, Luis Guerrero and Matt Grills met over the summer to discuss the implementation of AP 3000. The administrative procedure includes nine main components to bolster anti-racist strategies to support the whole Palomar community. Expect more communication regarding plan implementation at the beginning of Fall 2024.

INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH, PLANNING & GRANTS (IRPG)

Accreditation

The Accreditation Writing Leadership Team (AWLT) met briefly over the summer to discuss the status of the mid-term report. This report requires a reflection on the District's assessment of student learning outcomes. To support this, the District is upgrading its database for storing and reporting on student learning outcomes assessments. This upgrade will continue through the fall, and the AWLT will incorporate it into the mid-term report.

Integrated Planning

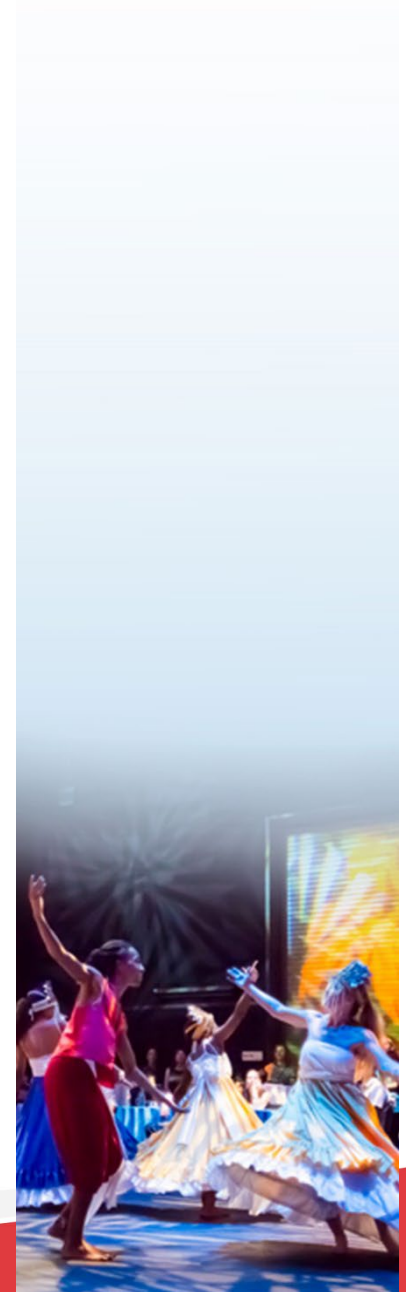
In partnership with ALMA Strategies, the Office of Institutional Research, Planning, and Grants submitted Palomar's comprehensive Needs Assessment for Center Status for the Rancho Bernardo Education Center to the Chancellor's Office (CO). This assessment details the educational benefits and community needs that support the elevation of the Rancho Bernardo Education Center (RBEC) to full center status. The CO will review the study and may contact the District with questions. If the assessment is approved, the CO will include RBEC in its report to the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office for the establishment of new centers. Following this, the CO will include RBEC on the California Community Colleges Board of Governors' agenda with an action item to approve center status in January 2025.

Institutional Research

Throughout July, the Institutional Research, Planning, and Grants (IRP&G) research team continued to advance its significant research agenda. Researchers addressed requests to examine the performance of students who received approval to enroll in more than 19 units. Additionally, they began developing a research plan to review noncredit student demographics, course-taking patterns, and performance. The team also collaborated with Enrollment Services to review a new data table designed to improve reporting on projected and actual Full-Time Equivalent Students (FTES).

Grants

The Grants Manager, in collaboration with Student Services, has finalized and submitted three proposals for the U.S. Department of Education TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) program. These proposals aim to provide a comprehensive array of services to students with demonstrated academic needs. The proposed services include academic advising, tutoring, financial aid workshops (including FAFSA completion), financial and economic literacy (including personal finance management), monitoring academic progress toward degree completion, and assistance with 4-year university admission and financial aid.



PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE



Marketing/Advertising/Promotion

The Palomar Makes It Possible digital advertising strategy inclusive of programmatic advertising as well as brand related enrollment-focused ads continued. This integrated digital advertising strategy generates qualified traffic to the associated landing pages and the palomar.edu website. In the month of June, the campaign generated nearly 459,000 impressions, while remaining cost efficient.

The integrated marketing and communications campaign to support summer and fall enrollment goals continued. The campaign includes outdoor and transit advertising, as well as an updated web streaming campaign with endorsement ads featuring alum and radio personality Jesse Lozano and Over-the-Top (OTT) video advertising. The OTT ads are targeted to platforms and programming that align with our student demographics. Ads specific to our Camp Pendleton education site also continued.



Digital Billboard Advertising for Fall



Roadside Signage at Camp Pendleton

The Palomar.edu website continues to perform well. Compared to the previous July we experienced a 9.7% increase in users and a 9.4% increase in new users on the palomar.edu website. These statistics are indicative of the effectiveness of paid and earned media campaigns.



Social media remains the 5th ranked source of all traffic generated to the Palomar.edu website. Facebook, TikTok, Instagram, and Twitter generated the majority of the social media traffic to Palomar.edu. The other overall top channels of traffic to the website are LinkedIn, Reddit, Google Sites and Yelp. The other overall top channels of traffic to the website are direct traffic, organic search, and referral traffic.

A year-over-year performance comparison of our social media platforms shows steady growth for all channels. Our growth in Facebook “Likes” and Twitter followers increased 1% and 3% respectively compared to last July. Followers on LinkedIn grew 4% compared to July 2023. Instagram is continuing to show a significant increase at 18%. Followers on our TikTok channel grew 51% compared to the previous July and 2.3% compared to last month.

Throughout the month of July our social media posts centered on increasing awareness for the summer and fall course registration, open 4-week and 8-week courses, application workshops, and important deadlines.



Sample Social Media Post in June



Sample Social Media Post in June

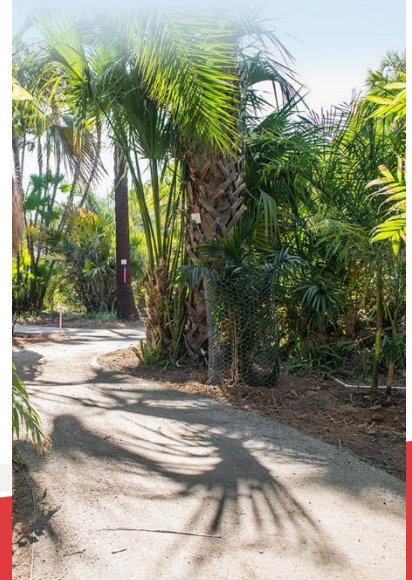
Community and Media Relations

PIO Lanthier Bandy attended both the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings of the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce. She also hosted a FY 2024-25 planning meeting with PIOs in the San Diego and Imperial Counties Community College Association (SDICCCA). This meeting also formalized the transition of SDICCCA PIO duties to the PIO of Imperial Valley College.

A [press release](#) announcing the agreement between Palomar College and California State University at Sacramento (CSU Sacramento) giving priority to high-achieving Palomar College students with an interest in Black history and culture to transfer to the new Black Honors College of California (BHC) at CSU Sacramento was sent in early July. To engage the community in the northern portion of our District, a [news story](#) on the programs offered at the Fallbrook Education Center was issued to the media partners in the area. A [third news release](#) was distributed with the exciting story of two new academic deans joining the Palomar College administration. All of the stories were covered by community and local media outlets. These stories published can be found on the [Palomar News website](#). Palomar College received a total of 324 media mentions in the month of July. This equates to a publicity market value of nearly \$270,000.

Internal/External Communications and Public Affairs

In collaboration with the Office of the President, PIO Lanthier Bandy facilitated hosting of the San Marcos Unified School District (SMUSD) summer retreat at Palomar College. The



retreat brought administrators and department leaders from all of the SMUSD schools to the LRC community room. At the request of Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Student Services Nick Mata, PIO Lanthier Bandy facilitated a collaborative discussion on affordable housing with the City of San Marcos and Palomar College consultants. She also attended the California Community College Chancellors Office Government Relations Liaison meeting.

PIO Lanthier Bandy serves as the Palomar College Civic Engagement Coordinator to bring awareness and engagement among students as to the importance of staying involved in voting and government affairs. In collaboration with the student life and leadership team, an updated Civic Engagement plan for the College will be submitted to the Secretary of State in October. As part of the plan, U.S. Congressman Scott Peters is scheduled to provide a keynote address to students on October 16.

We are pleased to note the Governing Board will ratify the hire of the Senior Graphics Coordinator at the August 13 meeting. The Creative Services team centered their energy on supporting the need for windscreen designs for both the football and softball stadiums, promotional artwork for the 2024-25 performing arts season, event and enrollment signage and promotional item orders.

FOUNDATION

Fundraising Activities

Grant Program

Our established relationship with the District Attorney's Community Grant Program has proven successful. Following our 2023 grant submission, the Foundation was invited to apply for a continuation grant and received \$50,000 to support the Rising Scholars Summer Program.

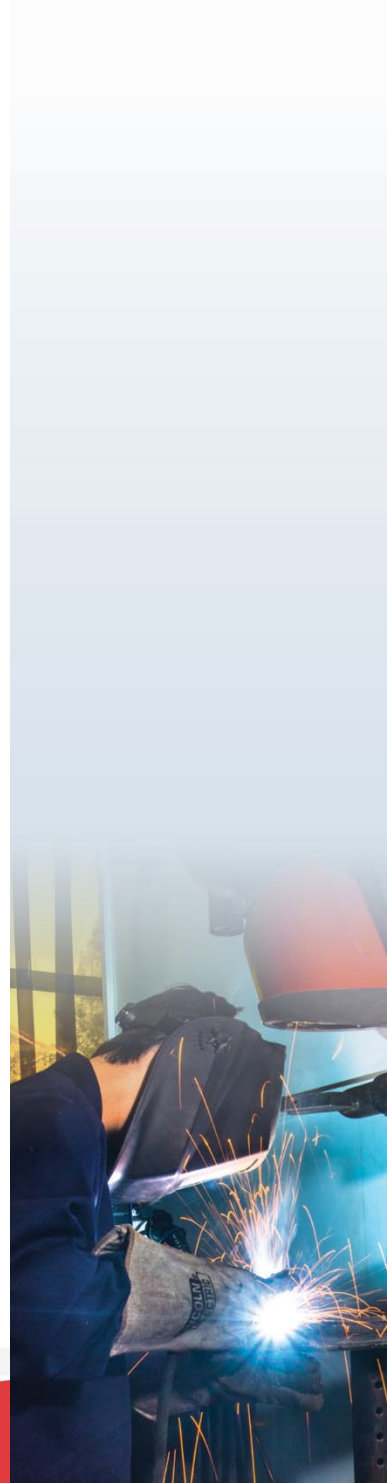
The Foundation has been approved for a \$15,000 grant from Hunter Industries. These funds will support the membership of the President's Associates, the Emergency Grant Program, and unrestricted funds to help remove financial barriers for Palomar College students. We are grateful to Foundation Board member, Katie Johanski, Director of Risk Management for Hunter Industries who serves on the Foundation Board of Directors and advocates for Palomar College student support.

The President's Invitational Golf Classic

The Foundation's plans are well underway for the upcoming President's Invitational Golf Classic, which will be held on October 21. Our amazing volunteer golf committee and Foundation team have been hard at work executing the many variables to make the event a wonderful success for another year. The Foundation has already secured 23 sponsors to date, totaling \$88,500 in sponsorships, along with many auction items valued at over \$73,000.

Major Gifts & Scholarship Program

The Foundation continues to draw support from generous donors during the month of July for both well-established scholarships and the newest additions to our ever-growing list. The Eleanor Zion scholarship received a boost of \$500 this month to continue its legacy of providing financial support for accounting students looking to move forward to obtain a bachelor's degree for over the last five years. While the brand-new Greg Wease Scholarship saw another large gift of \$1,000, compounding on its successful venture to becoming an endowment, a goal it has already met and surpassed in its inaugural year. These gifts will be able to sustain financial help for students within the CFT program for many years to come.



Community Engagement

The Foundation gave a tour to Jenna Morina, Talent Acquisition Advisor from SDG&E, showcasing Palomar College's Career Training program and to discuss future workforce collaborations. In addition, Sarah Richards a national journalist interested in serving on the Foundation Board of Directors toured the San Marcos campus to learn more about Palomar College and the mission of the Foundation. Executive Director Rungaitis also met with two potential donors Sanjiv P of Bytes and Sylvestre Atempa to discuss initial giving opportunities of interest.

Executive Director Stacy Rungaitis was recommended by Foundation Board member, Tiffany Rosik to participate in the REF Global Nonprofit Leadership Program as a Founding Member in 2024-25. In addition, Executive Director Rungaitis participated in the California Community College Veteran Symposium sharing a session with North San Diego Business Chamber CEO, Chris Thorn on the importance of community relations, workforce development pipelines for veterans through chamber advocacy, and alternative funding options to support veteran programs.

The Foundation issued a Request For Proposal for a new audit and tax service firm. Several interested firms have responded with the selection going before the Foundation Board of Directors in October.

