

December 10, 2025

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PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

A Fond Farewell

On November 19, Palomar College came together to wish a fond farewell to Superintendent/President Dr. Star Rivera-Lacey. Upon receiving a plethora of kind wishes in celebration of four and a half years of leadership at Palomar College, Dr. Rivera-Lacey expressed her gratitude and appreciation to colleagues and student leaders for their commitment to achieving accomplishments that will impact students far into the future.

On December 1, Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Instruction Dr. Tina Recalde stepped in as Acting Superintendent/President.

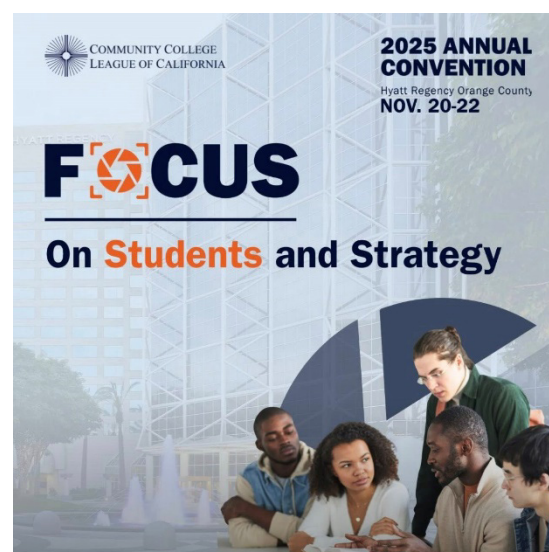
Building Collaborations

During the month of November Dr. Rivera-Lacey attended the California Community Colleges Organización de Latinx Empowerment, Guidance, and Advocacy for Success (COLEGAS) annual conference and the Community College League of California (CCLC) Annual Convention.

The COLEGAS conference addressed the collective power of communities to advance equity and justice through a reimagination of systems, to champion inclusivity and drive transformative change as it relates to student success. Workshops included an array of topics including the formation of legislation to increase access to education, the importance of dual enrollment programs and the need to include



Palomar College Governing Board Trustee Roberto Rodriguez and Superintendent/President Dr. Star Rivera-Lacey



An image of collateral for the Community College League of California 2025 Annual Convention - Focus on Students and Strategy.

formerly incarcerated student programming into curriculum planning.

The CCLC Annual Convention was specific to the mission of community colleges as they serve all 2.2 million students with a strategic focus on equity. The agenda also included a keynote address from California Community College Chancellor Dr. Sonya Christian and a federal government affairs update from the American Council on Education.

California Community College Chancellor's Office Regional Convening

Palomar College was well represented at the Vision 2030 Regional Convening hosted by the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO). The 2-day convening provided community college districts with an opportunity to align career training and education strategic plans with the CCCCCO Vision 2030. Vision 2030 reaffirms our responsibility to meet learners where they are, through partnerships with community-based organizations, labor, and industry. It reinforces the importance of Credit for Prior Learning (CPL), dual enrollment, and continuing education pathways for adult learners. The Palomar College team worked diligently to identify strategies and next steps and will share learnings with the campus community in the coming months.



Palomar College leaders at the CCCCCO's Regional Convening

OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Instruction Dr. Tina Recalde delivered a welcome address at the Veterans Day celebration on November 10. The event centered on honoring all who have served and their families.

Instructional Services hosted a training workshop for Academic Department Chairs, Academic Department Assistants, and Deans on November 14. The workshop focused on the facilitation of a smooth transition to the new scheduling methodology by training participants on implementing the new Standardized Attendance Accounting Method and new block schedule template that will be used for the Fall 2026 semester.

Language and Literature Division

The Palomar College Speech and Debate Team recently competed in two major events: the Ray Dahlin Invitational, hosted at the San Marcos Campus, and the Griffin Invitational at Grossmont College. Our students delivered outstanding performances and received deserved recognition for their work. These include Tanner Mejia, 1st place in poetry. Izzy Brousseau, 3rd place in communication analysis; and Choevwe Chapele, 3rd place in programmed oral interpretation. Congratulations to all team members for representing Palomar with excellence!



On November 18, Café International returned with an exciting theme - Holidays Around the World. This well-attended event featured cultural activities, festive games, and even salsa dancing, creating a vibrant space for students to celebrate global traditions while sharpening their language abilities.

This fall, the English as a Second Language (ESL) department engaged students and the community through vibrant cultural events, including Día de los Muertos celebrations, a Multicultural Voices showcase, and creative activities like pumpkin decorating and a “Thankful Tree.” Looking ahead, the ESL program will expand its reach by launching a class at Pauma Elementary school in Spring 2026 and new opportunities are being explored in the Fallbrook area. Enrollment continues to grow at the Escondido Education Center with nearly 500 registered ESL students. The department is continuing to foster connections with students through tutoring.



Ofrenda in the ESL Tutoring Center at the San Marcos Campus

The ESL program at the Fallbrook Education Center hosted several Día de los Muertos events, including beautiful entryway installations at St. John’s Episcopal Church and a special cemetery honored loved ones. Guests also enjoyed a Costa Rican candy-making tutorial.

Social and Behavioral Sciences Division

The Social Work and Human Services (SWHS) 100 class successfully organized a donation drive benefiting the Palomar College Basic Needs Center. Students collected a significant amount of clothing, hygiene products, and food items to support peers in need. This event was especially meaningful for SWHS students, as it allowed them to earn service-learning hours through planning and participation while making a positive impact on the campus community.

The Child Development and Education department and the Early Childhood Education Lab School invited students, staff, and community members to reconnect with creativity through an evening of process art. Participants embraced the joy of exploration, focusing on the creative journey rather than the final product. With a little play, color and imagination, everyone experienced learning through the eyes of a child.



Palomar College employees and students participating in an evening of process art.



Career Technical Extended Education Division

A cross-functional team attended the 2026 Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) conference, representing our continued commitment to expanding access and advancing the importance of Credit for Prior Learning (CPL). Our delegation included faculty from the Military Leadership program, CPL, Veterans Resources and Career, Technical and Extended Education. The team engaged in national conversations on workforce pathways, CPL processes and enhancing student success.



Palomar College employees at the CAEL conference

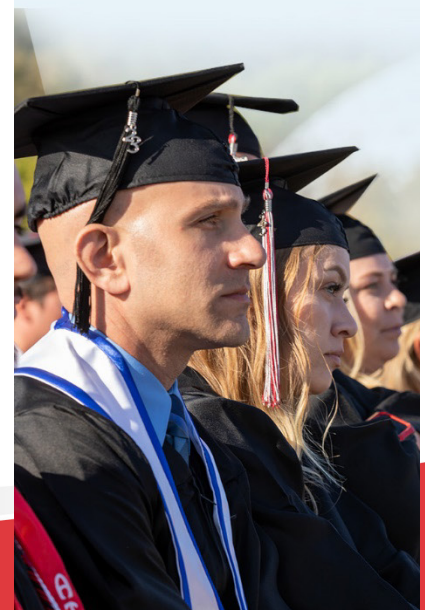
Workforce, Community and Continuing Education

Palomar College hosted San Diego Trades Day on November 13, welcoming nearly 800 high school students from across the county. Students engaged in hands-on demonstrations from a diverse group of employers in construction, engineering, technology, sustainability, and other high-demand sectors. They also had the chance to explore Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs at Palomar College, gaining a clearer understanding of the training and career pathways the college offers. The event provided an invaluable opportunity for students to discover potential career options and experience what these professions look like in the real world.

The Palomar College Comet Career Center hosted its annual Trade & Industry Career Fair on October 29. More than 200 Palomar students attended the event and connected with representatives from 18 companies. Organizations engaged directly with students, sharing information about immediate job openings, apprenticeship opportunities, and their company cultures. The event was tailored for students in the Trade and Industry pathway, including those pursuing careers in Automotive & Diesel Technology, Drafting & Machining, Design & Manufacturing Technologies, HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning), Water Technology, Woodworking, and Welding. Participating employers included: Ability Plumbing; City of Escondido; City of San Diego; City of San Marcos; County of San Diego; Goodwill Industries; Hunter Industries; LA Metro; Lighteum Medical; Olivenhain Municipal Water District; Omni La Costa Resort & Spa; San Diego MTS; San Diego County Water Authority; Senior Aerospace; Spooner's Woodworks, Inc.; Symons Fire Protection; and Vallecitos Water District.



Comet Career Center Trade & Industry Career Fair



Fallbrook Education Center and Camp Pendleton Site

In collaboration with the ESL department, Associated Student Government, Chief Diversity Office, and the library, and the Fallbrook Education Center Instruction Office, a Día de los Muertos celebration was held on October 30. The event was well attended by students, their families, friends, and community partners, and provided a meaningful opportunity for students to honor and share their cultural traditions while practicing the English skills they've been developing in class. In addition, students, faculty, and administrators served traditional food items. Student work was exhibited, along with engaging presentations, and a vibrant Folklórico dance performance. Students also led academic tutorials and performed a short drama highlighting Día de los Muertos traditions.



Student performance featuring Día de los Muertos traditions

HMC Architects provided a presentation to Palomar College Interior Design students on the history of the Fallbrook Education Center and the new building project, including design and the furniture planning process. The presentation took place as part of their field trip to Cultura, the furniture vendor for the new Fallbrook Education Center building. Interior Design department Co-Chair Jessica Newman, Fallbrook Education Center Director Ryan Williams, and Senior Education Center Coordinator Yvette Maynard joined the students.



Interior Design students, faculty, and staff attending a field trip to Cultura.

Students explored and evaluated furniture options and offered thoughtful feedback on a range of furniture options. Their participation offered meaningful real-world experience and contributed valuable insights that will directly inform the final furniture selections for the new Fallbrook facility.

A second cohort of 15 Camp Pendleton Brig students who completed their courses during the semester were honored during a small completion ceremony in November. The students participated in two noncredit courses that make up the Certificate in College Preparation, also known as the Academic Skills Program. These courses strengthen foundational skills in reading, English, and mathematics. Students who complete the sequence earn a Certificate of Competency. To further expand opportunities for students, credit courses will be offered at the Brig beginning in Spring 2026.

STUDENT SERVICES

Student Life and Leadership

The Associated Student Government (ASG) hosted and collaborated with several departments for events and presentations designed to connect with our students. The ASG



partnered with Campus Police for their annual Trunk or Treat celebration for our students. The ASG also hosted a Comet Hour costume contest for both staff and students.

In collaboration with the Active Minds club, Student Health Services, and Basic Needs, a Harmony Hour: Music, Mind, and Movement, featuring yoga, live music, a drumming circle, and a resource fair was hosted on November 12.

In addition, on November 10, the ASG, Student Life & Leadership and Palomar Promise hosted a Civic Engagement Skillshop, “Why Your Vote Matters.” This session was presented by the non-partisan League of Women Voters and focused on empowering students with knowledge about voter participation, ballot access, and the impact of civic engagement on their communities.

Student Life & Leadership also collaborated with Palomar Promise on November 13 to deliver a “Your College Era: Clubs, Connection & Student Life” workshop. This workshop highlighted the many opportunities for students to get involved in campus life, explored how engagement promotes a sense of belonging, and helped students navigate pathways to leadership, and community-building.

Basic Needs

The Basic Needs department concluded its fall opportunity drawing, providing direct support to 120 student winners, including 20 turkeys, fifty \$50 grocery gift cards courtesy of the San Diego Food Bank, and 50 snack baskets with Palomar merchandise. We are grateful to our campus partners who helped promote the drawing.

On November 12, Basic Needs partnered with the Promise Program and the San Diego Food Bank to host a “Thriving at Palomar: CalFresh and Basic Needs Resources” workshop. The workshop was designed to support students navigating federal benefit delays and connecting them to CalFresh assistance and community food distributions. During Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (November 16–22), our California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office student ambassadors exhibited to increase awareness and connect students experiencing food or housing insecurity to resources.

The Anita and Stan Maag Food and Nutrition Center continued providing comprehensive food support to students and their families. In response to the SNAP/CalFresh funding delays, weekly food distribution limits temporarily increased from 20 to 30 pounds per student, and up to 40 pounds for students with dependents, resulting in a significant increase in service demand. In November, the Center welcomed 148 new students, supported 379 students and their households across more than 1,600 visits, and distributed 8,408 pounds of food, which is triple the typical monthly volume. The Center also distributed hygiene kits, diapers, and period products for households with dependents, assisted students with CalFresh applications, and connected several students to emergency housing resources.

To expand access beyond regular operating hours, Campus Care Lockers fulfilled 84 districtwide orders for groceries, hygiene supplies, diapers, and period products.



Palomar College students and employees participating in the ASG costume contest



Additionally, Grab and Go Stations distributed approximately 1,475 pounds of snacks and fresh produce at the San Marcos campus, with an additional 590 pounds distributed across the education centers, ensuring resources remain accessible for evening students and those located off the main campus.

Rising Scholars

On November 5, Rising Scholars staff attended the Veterans Day and U.S. Marine Corps birthday celebration at the Vista Detention Facility, where currently incarcerated military veterans take Palomar College classes as part of the partnership with the San Diego Sheriff's Department.

Rising Scholars also partnered with Cal State San Marcos and MiraCosta College to co-host a Thanksgiving dinner on November 25 for over 125 formerly incarcerated students and their guests. In addition, Palomar College Rising Scholars, CSU San Marcos Project Rebound, and MiraCosta College Transitions Scholars were awarded a shared \$4,000 North County Higher Education Alliance (NCHEA) grant, which will support the schools to co-host a Fair Chance Resource Fair in April.

International Education Office

With the assistance of the Palomar College Foundation, the International Education Office was able to reestablish its scholarship program and award 13 international students this academic year. The scholarship program will continue to award scholarships annually.

International student and Palomar College soccer player Jakub Kozlowski was named Pacific Coast Athletic Conference offensive player of the year. The men's soccer team includes five international students. The team qualified for the California Community College Athletic Association SoCal Regional playoffs.

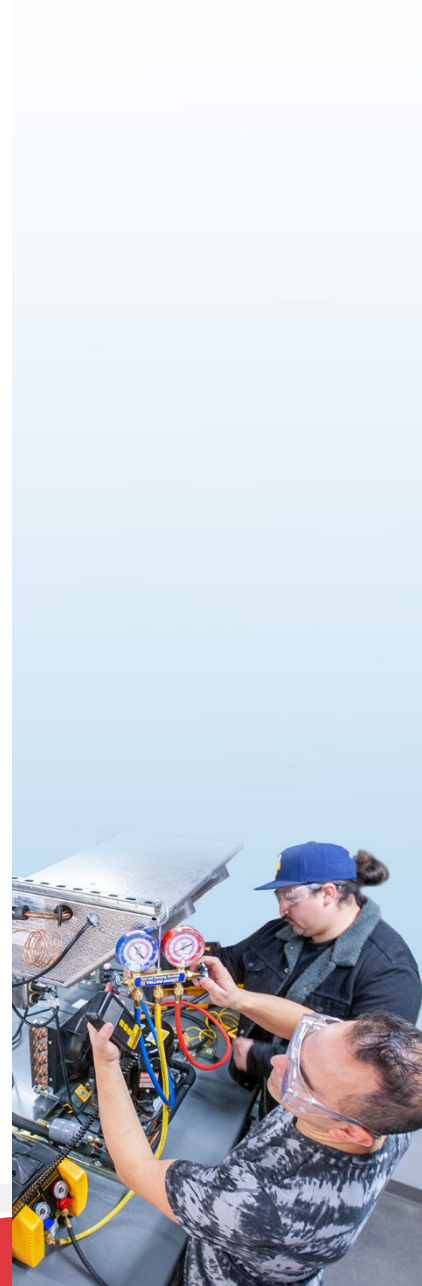
A Friendsgiving dinner for international students and guests was held in collaboration with the International Student Association (ISA) November 20. Many of the students experienced the traditional Thanksgiving meal for the first time. During the gathering, students and staff expressed their gratitude and enjoyed music and games.

Systems, Technology, and Projects

At the start of November, 34,000 students were messaged via text regarding their specific date and time for priority registration. This effort officially launched the spring 2026 registration period.

A multi-department collaboration led to the launch of a new solution for math, English, and ESL placement. In addition, the text and chatbot capabilities were transitioned from Mainstay to Element 451 as part of our new CRM platform.

Student Services began the data collection and program management solution for our Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander program. The goal is to have the technology solution in place by the end of Spring 2026 for the program to begin managing participation data in Fall 2026.



FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal Services

Accounting and Accounts Payable Departments

Accounts Payable has streamlined the invoice approval process within campus departments to provide for improved payment timelines. The Accounting Office is working with our auditors to help complete the FY 24-25 audit and an update of AP 7400 - Per Diem Travel Allowance.

Budget and Payroll Offices

In November, the Budget Office is preparing the preliminary work for the development of the FY 2026-2027 annual budget. Similarly, the payroll department is preparing to meet the deadlines for W-2 distribution to all employees in January.

Cashier's Office

The Cashier's Office collaborated with the Student Services division to assist students in understanding specific student account details, inclusive of financial aid, scholarship, and categorical grant payments.

Facilities Department

Construction & Facilities Planning

Significant progress was made this month on the Fallbrook 40 project, including the completion of metal decking, roof concrete slabs, and the irrigation well tie-in. This is in addition to considerable work on the second floor of the building. On the Athletics Phase 2 project, the buildings started to take shape with the erection of structural steel. This part of construction is anticipated to be 60% complete by mid-December. The site was also weatherized in anticipation of seasonal rain.

Staff attended the annual Community College Facility Coalition Conference held in November. Presentations included California's economic outlook, Division of the State Architect (DSA) projected workloads, sustainability, and progressive design-build successes. Construction & Facilities Planning Manager Dennis Astl presented the Palomar College sustainability benchmarking effort that is ongoing.

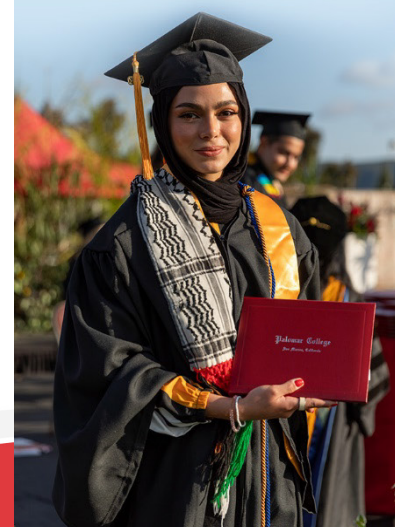
Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S)/Risk Management

EH&S completed all required steps with building safety leaders within the district to develop and execute evacuation plans. The Q Building evacuation plan is scheduled for completion in early 2026. The plans established standardized processes for updating emergency team rosters, verifying emergency supplies, and scheduling annual follow-on evacuation drills with EH&S oversight.

Expanded operational support for employee safety and regulatory compliance continued with the completion of 22 ergonomic assessments, equipment installations, and workstation deliveries across the district. Additionally, 14 hazardous waste collections, including accumulation-area inventories and shipments were executed. This included a successful seven-week cleanup and abatement project that was completed in Rooms NS-117, NS-121, and NS-125.

Custodial Services

Staff continued to provide daily cleaning services across the district, ensuring classrooms, restrooms, and common areas remain clean, safe, and ready for use. Custodial services provided extensive support for numerous campus events in November, including the Trades Career Fair, Veterans Day Celebration, Apprenticeship Trades Day, Ray Dahlin Invitational Speech Tournament, ASG Harmony Hour, multiple football games, and athletic events.



Building and Ground Services

Building Services completed an emergency HVAC repair for a lab at the Fallbrook Education Center and responded to an unplanned SDG&E power outage that impacted the entire San Marcos campus. In addition, seismic water fittings were replaced on the NS building, two main water supply valves repaired on the baseball field, and tile was secured on the side of the MD building. Drainage improvements and protective bollards were also installed on the northwest side of Parking Lot 12.

Grounds Services conducted a clean-up project adjacent to the old library and the T and LRC buildings, parking structure, and the Performing Arts complex. In addition, planters in parking lots 1 and 2 were cleared of invasive vegetation and brush removal continued in the Arboretum, and new specimens were planted.

HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES (HRS)

The district's negotiating team attended the annual California Public Employers Labor Relations Association (CalPERLA) conference. The conference provided workshops on legal trends as well as best practices for collaborative negotiations.

The district and the Palomar Faculty Federation (PFF) were able to reach agreement on the 2024-2025 reopeners. Both parties worked collaboratively in doing so. The district looks forward to the contract reopeners with both PFF and our Counsel of Classified Employees (CCE) with the intention to sunshine articles for reopeners in the new year.

Benefits

We understand that times of transition and change can sometimes bring added stress or uncertainty. We also recognize that the holidays often come with additional stress. It is important to take care of our mental and emotional well-being, and to know that support is available. The district offers an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) which provides confidential counseling, consultation, and resources for all employees and members of their household. These resources can be accessed by contacting the benefit's office at benefits@palomar.edu or from the Human Resources website at <https://www.palomar.edu/hr/>.

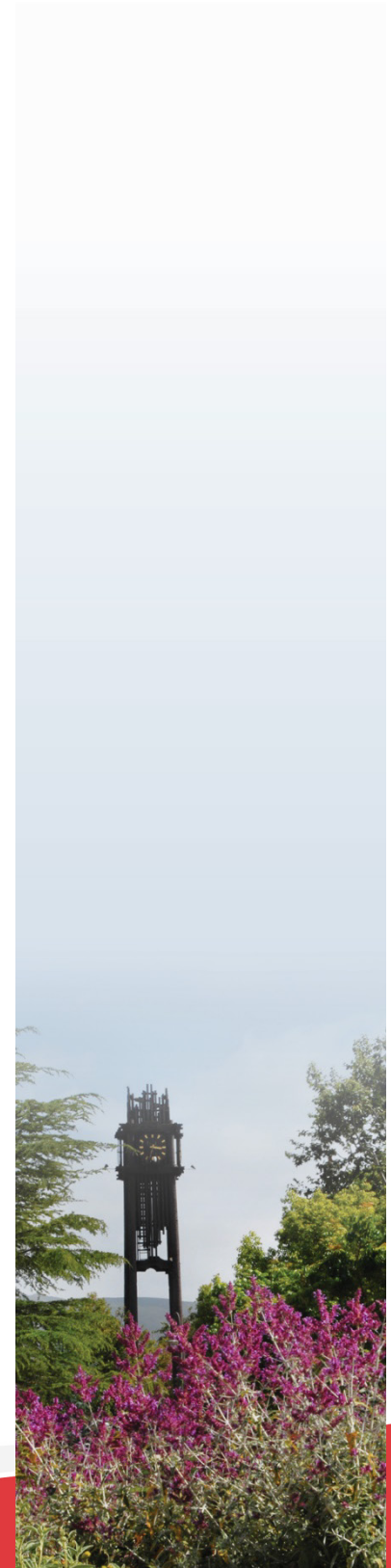
Recruitment figures as of December 1:

- 22 permanent recruitments in progress
 - 6 – Admin/CAST
 - 15 – Classified
 - 1 – Faculty
- 65 part-time faculty recruitments in progress
 - 24 additional part-time faculty postings have closed, and departments are still hiring from those application pools

CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICE

Accessing Higher Ground

Members of the Accessibility work group attended the Accessing Higher Ground conference in person and virtually. Accessing Higher Ground focuses on the implementation and benefits of accessible media, universal design and assistive technology in the university, business, and public setting; legal and policy issues, including the American's with Disabilities Act and 508 compliance; and the creation of accessible media and information resources,



including webpages and library resources. The team looks forward to sharing their insights with the campus community. The information and materials from the conference sessions will help the team better support the district's larger accessibility efforts and the success of all our students.

COLEGAS Conference

A group of dedicated equity-minded Palomar College employees benefited from attending the annual COLEGAS conference in Sacramento. This year's conference theme, "Unidxs Podemos: Uplifting through Education, Democracy, and Change" centered on the collective power of our communities to advance equity and justice. The COLEGAS mission is to develop, elevate, and increase leadership from the Latinx community in higher education. The team will be sharing their learnings through our shared governance structure in spring 2026.

INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH, PLANNING & GRANTS (IRPG)

Accreditation

The Institutional Effectiveness, Planning, and Fiscal Stewardship Council (IEPFSC) has reviewed the Accreditation Midterm Report and advanced it to the College Council. The College Council completed its first reading in November and will act on the report on December 12. The Governing Board will receive the report for review in January/February, and the final submission to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) is due in March 2026.

Integrated Planning

In preparation for the CCCCO's Regional Convening on Vision 2030, the Senior Director of IRP&G has mapped the Palomar College Education Vision Plan goals and objectives to the Vision 2030 goals, metrics, and strategic directions to ensure alignment.

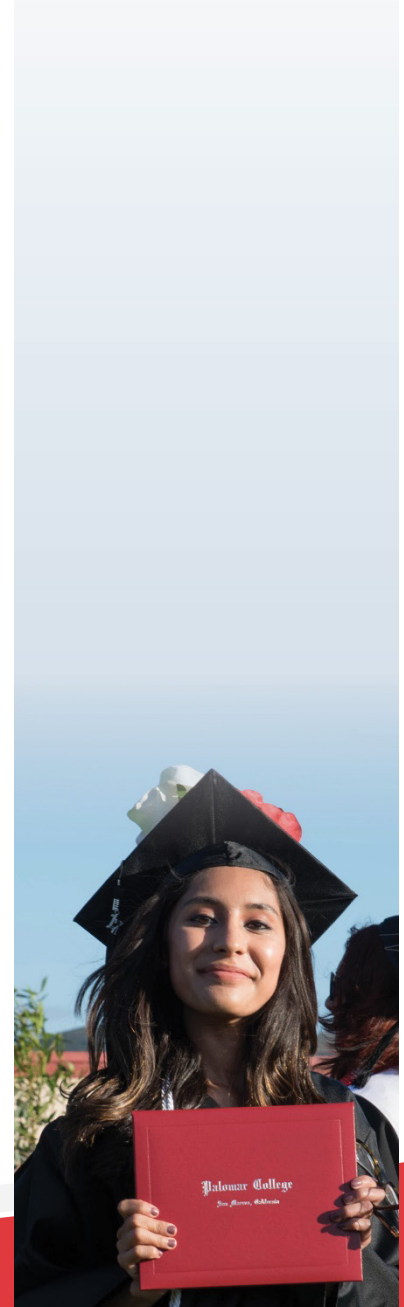
During Fall 2025, the Program Review and Resource Allocation Committee (PRRAC) evaluated one-time resource requests submitted through the 2024–25 Program Review and Planning (PRP) cycle. Requests significantly exceeded the designated PRP allocation. To address this, PRRAC applied its annual prioritization process to identify recommendations for distributing available funds. These recommendations were forwarded to IEPFSC in November. The majority of the approved funding will strengthen instructional programs and student services by supporting upgrades to classrooms, equipment, and technology aligned with program plans.

Institutional Research

IRP&G continues to advance its fall research agenda, which includes producing several data reports related to lower-division general education requirements, adding new filters to the Distance Education dashboard to identify courses that have earned a quality badge through the state's Peer Online Course Review program, and completing the Dental Assisting alumni survey. The office is also progressing on the development of its Management Information Systems (MIS) data integrity review dashboard and is focused on finalizing documentation for its data dashboard standards.

Grants

During November, the college applied to Mentor-Connect, a national initiative that supports STEM faculty in developing competitive proposals for the National Science Foundation's Advanced Technological Education (ATE) program. The application was selected, and Palomar will participate in the upcoming cohort. Over the next several months, the project team will work closely with Mentor-Connect advisors to refine the project scope,



strengthen partnerships, and develop the evaluation and budget components in preparation for submitting a strong ATE proposal in the next application cycle. Palomar College has successfully participated in Mentor-Connect previously, which resulted in an ATE grant award supporting our Wastewater Technology program.

IRP&G also supported the submission of a planning-grant proposal to California Volunteers to design the infrastructure for launching a College Corps Fellows program in Fall 2026. If funded, this planning phase will focus on producing a detailed implementation plan for a service-learning pathway that prepares students for civic leadership.

In addition, IRP&G hosted a launch meeting for the new National Science Foundation's ATE subaward from the Southwestern Community College District. The meeting with the Co-Principal Investigator confirmed project timelines, reviewed award terms and conditions, and established the fiscal, reporting, and monitoring controls needed to support successful implementation.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

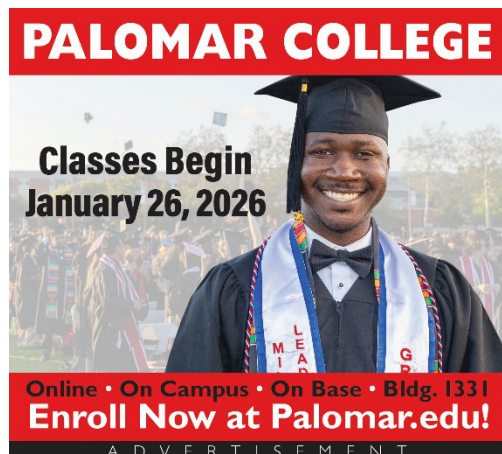
Marketing/Advertising/Promotion

The integrated marketing campaign with a specific focus to support the spring 2026 enrollment goals launched on November 3. The campaign includes the Palomar Makes It Possible digital advertising strategy, inclusive of academic area advertising as well as brand-related enrollment-focused ads, generated qualified traffic to the associated landing pages and the palomar.edu website. Digital bulletin advertising on Interstate 15, a full-page ad in the North County Informador and an associated web banner on the publication's website are also running during the spring 2026 enrollment campaign. A web streaming campaign that features iHeart Radio Palomar College alum and radio personality Jesse Lozano also launched and a direct mail postcard was delivered to 155,000 households within the district. In partnership with facilities, spring 2026 enrollment focused "Palomar Makes It Possible" banners were installed at the San Marcos campus.

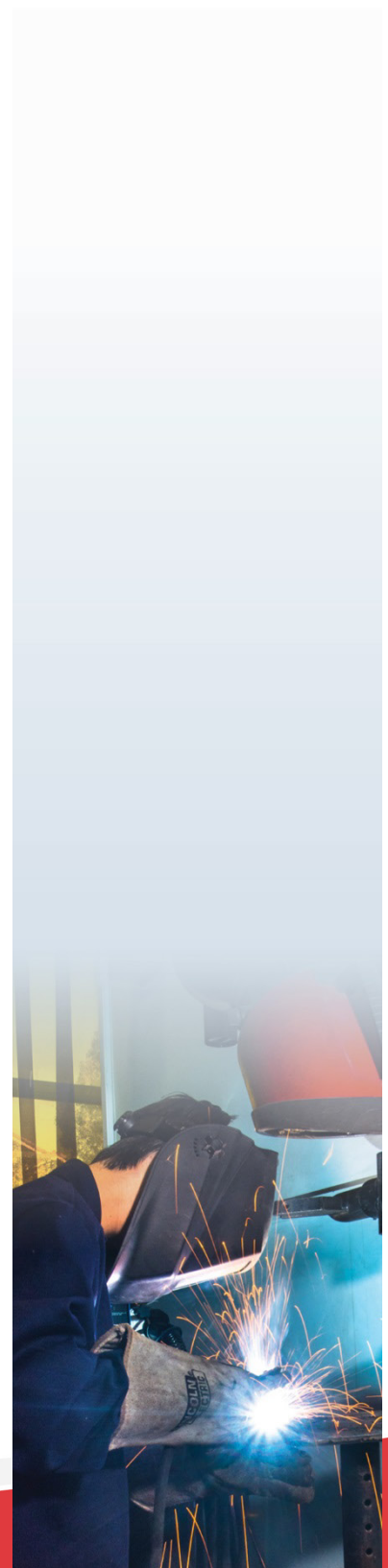
The campaign also includes community print advertising and banner ads on community news websites to reinforce the brand in and around the education centers. Specifically designed to increase awareness in the southern region of the district, a cinema ad at the Angelika Carmel Mountain Theatre and digital bus shelter ads were implemented. To support enrollment at the Camp Pendleton site, an ad on the digital



Sample spring 2026 banner designed for the San Marcos campus



An image of the digital marquee ad at the entry gate to Camp Pendleton



marquee on the base and sponsorship of an email to subscribers launched on November 17. A billboard on base will be posted at the end of the December to further support enrollment goals.



Compared to November 2025, new user traffic to the palomar.edu website increased 51%. These results are positively impacted by the comprehensive advertising strategy implemented in November. Social media traffic remains the 4th ranked source of all traffic generated to the Palomar.edu website. Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn generated the majority of the social media traffic to Palomar.edu. The overall top channels of traffic to the website are direct traffic, organic search, and referral traffic.

A year-over-year performance comparison of growth within each of our social media platforms shows mixed results. Facebook followers increased by just over 1% and X followers were flat compared to last November. Followers on LinkedIn grew 6% compared to November 2024. Instagram is continuing to show a significant increase at 13%. Followers on our TikTok channel grew 14% compared to the previous November.

Throughout November, our social media posts focused on enrolling for the spring semester, student support services, student focused events, performing arts, and the upcoming opportunity to apply for the Bachelor of Science in Building Performance and Environmental Design.



Sample Social Media Post



Sample Social Media Post

Community and Media Relations

A press release was issued regarding [Serving Students During the Government Shutdown](#) and feature stories were published on the successful [Palomar College Foundation Golf Tournament](#), the [CCC to HBCU Caravan](#), and a [student success story](#). These stories are available on the [Palomar News website](#). Palomar College received 361 media mentions in November, including mentions from local, regional, and online media organizations, with an overall publicity value of over \$1.34 million. In November, PIO Julie Lanthier Bandy worked with student reporters from the Telescope to assist in conducting interviews with members of the Governing Board and leaders of various departments within the college.

On November 18, the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce Rising Stars program was hosted at Palomar College which was attended by PIO Julie Lanthier Bandy and Palomar College Foundation Executive Director Stacy Rungaitis, elected officials and their representatives, and administrators and faculty from the San Marcos Unified School District. PIO Lanthier Bandy also attended the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce executive committee and



board of directors meetings, and the annual Holiday Chamber of Commerce VIP Reception hosted with San Marcos Mayor Rebecca Jones.

Internal/External Communications and Public Affairs

PIO Lanthier Bandy attended the government affairs meetings hosted by the California Community College Chancellor's Office and the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT). In addition, she attended the San Diego and Imperial Counties Community Colleges Association (SDICCCA) monthly meeting, and a legislative planning meeting with SDICCCA Public Information Officers.

The Creative Services team designed and delivered projects to support a variety of initiatives and events, including the 2024-25 Annual Report, additional collateral, and marketing materials for the new Baccalaureate degree in Building Performance and Environmental Design, and the Performing Arts department.

FOUNDATION

Fundraising Activities

Major Gifts

The Foundation launched the annual Giving Tuesday campaign on November 3 with a goal of raising \$65,000. The campaign included student stories delivered via email and on social media, in addition to a "Dough Nation" coffee-and-donut gathering at the EDGE on December 2. All gifts made during the campaign were matched dollar-for-dollar by a generous donor. As December 2 ended, nearly \$98,000 was raised. The funds raised will directly impact students through scholarships, textbook and laptop support, and emergency grants.

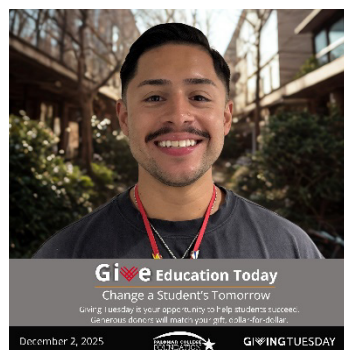
The Foundation also established a Giving Tree for the first time, which is available in the EDGE through January 7. Employees are encouraged to select an ornament representing a specific student need that they can fund through a donation to the Foundation.

Grant Program

The magic golf cart tour was successful again as Executive Director Stacy Rungaitis toured members of the Jewish Community Foundation. As a result, support in the amount of \$35,000 was awarded for the Foundation's Emergency Grant Program. This funding will provide immediate assistance to students facing unexpected financial hardships that threaten their ability to remain enrolled in their classes.

We also received approval from the San Marcos Community Foundation for \$500 to support laptop assistance for students in the Rising Scholars Program.

In addition, the Foundation recently submitted a grant request to Kaiser Permanente to help fund Foundation events that strengthen community awareness and donor engagement. A separate request was submitted to The Angel Society of Fallbrook to support parking fees for 22 English as a Second Language students attending classes in Fallbrook.



A sample Giving Tuesday social media post featuring a Palomar College student



Scholarships

We are proud to announce receiving over \$2,000 in contributions for the Laura Johnson Scholarship, a testament to the continued support of our community in empowering students to achieve their educational goals. In addition, we are thrilled to share that nearly \$290,000 in scholarships have been awarded for the fall semester, providing vital financial support to help students pursue their academic dreams. These milestones reflect our collective dedication to fostering opportunities for success, and we are deeply grateful to all those who contribute to making these initiatives possible.

Donor Meetings

Executive Director Stacy Rungaitis conducted additional donor meetings with Mike O'Donnell, a recent contributor to the Math, Science, and Engineering Division. Mike expressed interest in becoming more involved and potentially providing support to the Friends of the Arboretum as well. Stacy also met with long-time Foundation partner Greg Snaer to explore potential prospects for philanthropic engagement and identify individuals who may be interested in supporting Foundation initiatives. In addition, she connected with a prospective donor couple who are interested in assisting welding program students who struggle to afford the required materials. Discussions are ongoing to determine how best to structure this support.

Community Engagement

The Foundation was proud to support the annual Veterans Day celebration lunch at the San Marcos campus on November 10 and the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce Rising Star's event on November 18. Executive Director Rungaitis attended the North San Diego Business Chamber Chairman's Circle luncheon on November 7 and the Board of Directors meeting on November 20. She also attended the North County Philanthropy Council Meet the Funders event on November 14.

The Foundation team hosted residents of the LaCosta Glen community at the Rancho Bernardo Education Center. These community members enjoyed touring the center and learning more about the anchor programs including Fashion, Interior Design, and Architecture.



La Costa Glen residents touring the Rancho Bernardo Education Center

