

# SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT'S GOVERNING BOARD MONTHLY UPDATE



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March 24, 2022

## PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

### Accreditation – A Reason to Celebrate

Upon the completion of the Exit Report meeting held on March 3, you could hear the pride felt throughout the main campus. The Exit Report indicated no recommendations for Palomar to meet accreditation standards, and only three recommendations for institutional effectiveness improvement. The visiting team commended the College on several items, with a formal commendation related to Professional Development. This is the most positive Exit Report ever received by Palomar. It is important to take a moment to celebrate the feedback from our Peer Review Team. As an institution we are grateful for the leadership of Senior Director, Michelle Barton for keeping us focused on our goals, for the incredible dedication of our Accreditation Writing Leadership Team (AWLT), and to all employees and students who participated in the development of the Institutional Self Evaluation Report (ISER) during the last two years. We are looking forward to the official report from ACCJC in July.

### Women's History Month

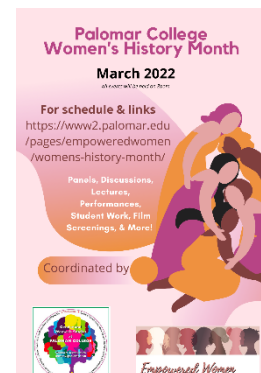
During the entire month a group of dedicated faculty, staff and administrators, conducted dozens of seminars and discussions in celebration of Women's History Month. The topics varied from healthy mindsets, working moms, the crisis of missing Indigenous women in the United States, women in the labor movement, Title IX: Rights, Resources, and Responding to Sexual Misconduct, and a presentation from our students on Women Inventors, Intellectuals, and Activists. In addition, a blood drive sponsored by the Palomar Health Center and Palomar Black Faculty Staff Association was held.

### Congratulations Dr. Kahn

Dr. Kahn will be leaving the District in early May to take become the President of Shoreline Community College (near Seattle, Washington). Albeit bittersweet for Palomar College, we could not be happier for this well-earned accomplishment. Since 2013, Dr. Kahn's student-focused work has always been a model of professionalism and dedication. His positive impact will be felt for years to come. I am very grateful for the dedication of Dr. Kahn and wish him well as he continues his successful path in higher education.

### Campus Engagement

On March 14, we hosted a very special opportunity to learn from author and celebrated advocate Haben Girma. The event was designed and developed through a partnership between our Disability Resource Center and Student



Women's History Month  
Promotion

Accessibility Services (SAS) at MiraCosta College. Haben shared with us how she became an advocate and what we can do to make our community more inclusive.

Throughout the month discussions were held to review the current budget, the impact of the Governor's Budget Proposal and the processes and timelines required to develop the District's FY2022-23 budget. I am extremely

appreciative of the time we as an institution spend to improve our fiscal health and look forward to continuing the collaborative efforts to establish institutional goals and the utilization of sound fiscal processes to do so.



*Haben Girma and Dr. Star Rivera-Lacey*

Throughout the month, I met with a number of colleagues during my open office hours as well as with the leaders of the Council of Classified Employees (CCE) and the Palomar Faculty Federation (PFF). With our continued focus on increasing enrollment, a meeting to discuss internal strategies on improving enrollment at our Education Centers was held. One very recent accomplishment is the repair of the digital marquee at the Escondido Education Center. We are now able to provide updates to our community with regularity.

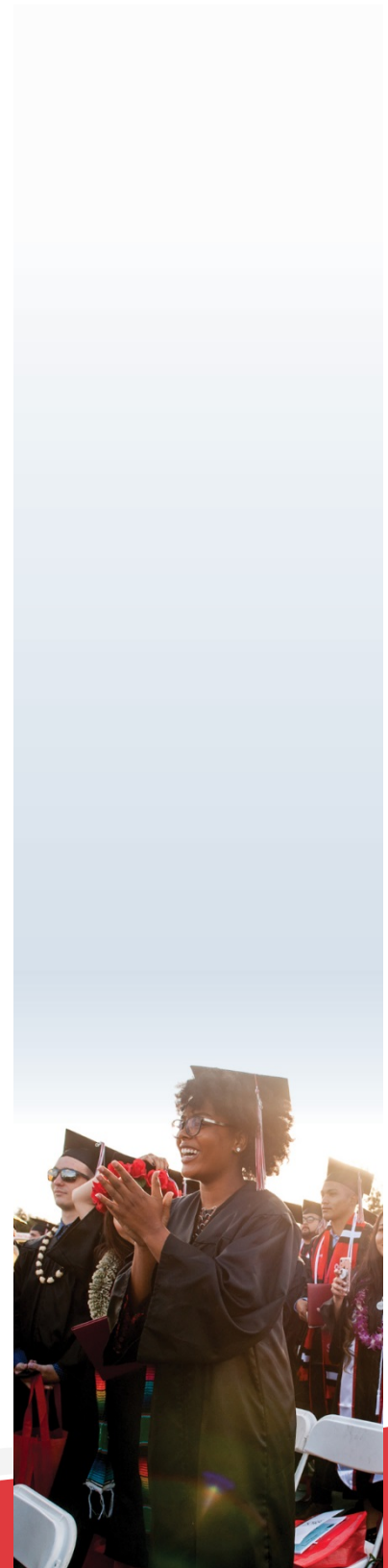
I had the opportunity to enjoy the Puente Club sponsored movie night. We watched *A Better Life*, a film that explores the Chicano/a experience in America. Puente, a national award-winning program that helps students transfer to obtain 4-year degrees, is a great asset to our students.

Last but not least, I must commend our Performing Arts department for the *Little Shop of Horrors* production. It was outstanding! This is one of my favorite musicals and seeing it performed so well was a moment of true Palomar pride. Our Performing Arts department is another great reason that Palomar College shines.

### **Community Engagement**

With the intention to be the best ambassador possible for Palomar College, I spent time engaged with colleagues and leaders in higher education throughout the month. After the accreditation visit concluded, I attended the Community College League of California's CEO Symposium in San Diego. A specific focus was placed on system-wide enrollment decline, COVID-19 protocols, and new funding models.

Later in the month, it was a pleasure to connect with Foundation Executive Director, Stacy Rungaitis, foundation board members and staff, President's Associates members, and community leaders at the Celebrating Women in Business event hosted by the North San Diego Business Chamber. Also held in San Diego, the American Council on Education Conference 2022 offered me the opportunity to represent Palomar College on a national stage. I participated on a panel discussion regarding community college leadership that centered on inclusive practices, institutional policies, institutional



innovations, employee retention, student degree attainment, and student completion. The panelists included Dr. Julianna Barnes (President, Cuyamaca College), Dr. Carlos Turner Cortez (Chancellor, San Diego Community College District), Dr. Mark Sanchez (Superintendent/President, Southwestern Community College), and Dr. Ted Martinez (Superintendent/President Emeritus, Rio Hondo College).

The celebration of student achievement at the USC Latino Scholarship Gala held in mid-March was extremely special. Students were recognized for their exemplary academic achievement, leadership, and community service. I felt honored to sit at the same table as the California Community Colleges State Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley where we were able to discuss Palomar and our recent positive accreditation report.

I had the privilege of providing the keynote address at the EOPS Student Leadership Conference on March 17. The theme this year was, “We are EOPS Strong: Rising Through Adversity!” I spoke about my passion and commitment to making higher education more accessible and inclusive. If you’re unfamiliar with EOPS (Extended Opportunity Programs and Services), it is a state-funded program designed to provide counseling, retention, and support services to increase college enrollment for those individuals who have previously not considered college as an option. Our own Palomar EOPS strives to alleviate the educational barriers that preclude many students from college attendance. This engagement was followed by an opportunity to speak with EOPS employees throughout the County at their Spring Retreat.

## OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION

### **Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Instruction**

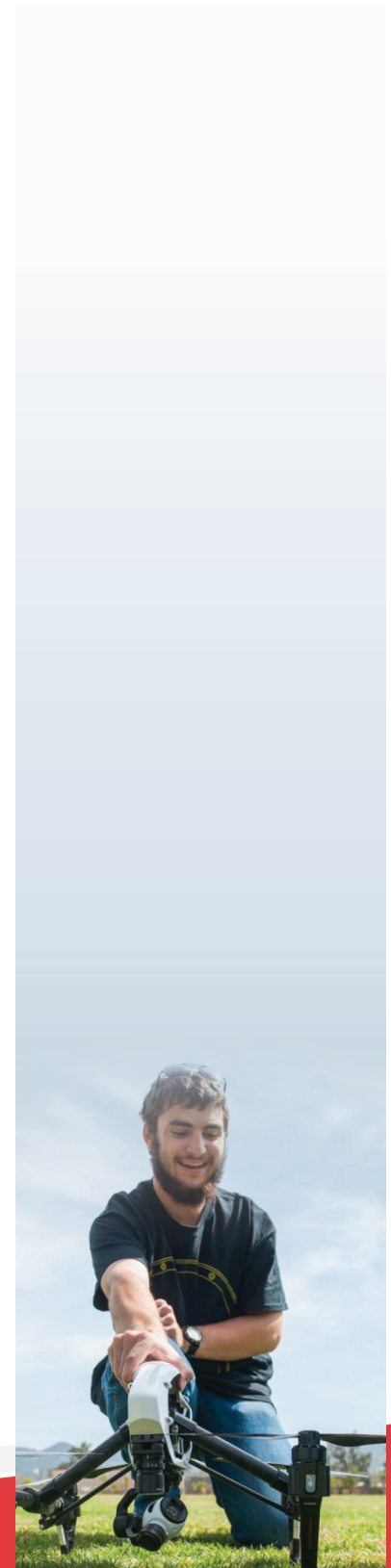
March has been a busy month for the Office of Instruction. Our primary focus at the start of the month entailed preparations for our virtual accreditation visit. Partnership meetings moved forward this month with progress made on our cybersecurity pathway with National University at the Rancho Bernardo center. We met with representatives from the City of Escondido to discuss strengthening partnerships to benefit the Escondido Education Center. An initial meeting was held regarding the California Medicine Regional X Hub. This is an exciting project that partners Palomar College with UC San Diego and community colleges in the region to apply for funding to structure pathways for students of color who wish to pursue medicine as a career. This and many other great opportunities are ahead for Palomar College!

### **Languages and Literature Division**

In collaboration with Dean Menchaca, the ‘Equitable Placement and Completion Improvement Plan’ progress report on our AB 705 implementation was submitted. Both English and ESL are in compliance.

### **Library**

The library has organized two displays. At the LRC in San Marcos the display features books that have been banned in communities within the United States. Palomar College English professors are celebrating these banned books in their classrooms. At the Ernest J. Allen Library at the Escondido Education Center, a Celebration of Women’s



History is on display inclusive of books and DVDs highlighting women who have made positive contributions to society.

### **English**

Due to the receipt of HEERF funding, the English department now has embedded tutors to assist students. The Palomar College Foundation provided a grant for Professors Jen Backman and Kevin Kearney to continue their work on developing an Honors program. The program will be in place in a few years. The department is offering two scholarships this year to students, the Betty Webb and Richard Norlin Scholarship and a new English Department Faculty Emeriti Scholarship.

### **English as a Second Language (ESL)**

ESL is piloting hyflex in 2022. The department has announced two scholarships for ESL students this semester, the ESL Resident Scholarship and the ESL Educational Scholarship. The department has received noncredit grant funds to support Peachjar K-12 advertising, iPads for ESL registration support, and ESL appointment booking software upgrades. In person bilingual support and services are provided to ESL students at all sites while discussions with potential community partners have started to explore future off-site offerings of ESL classes.

### **Tutoring**

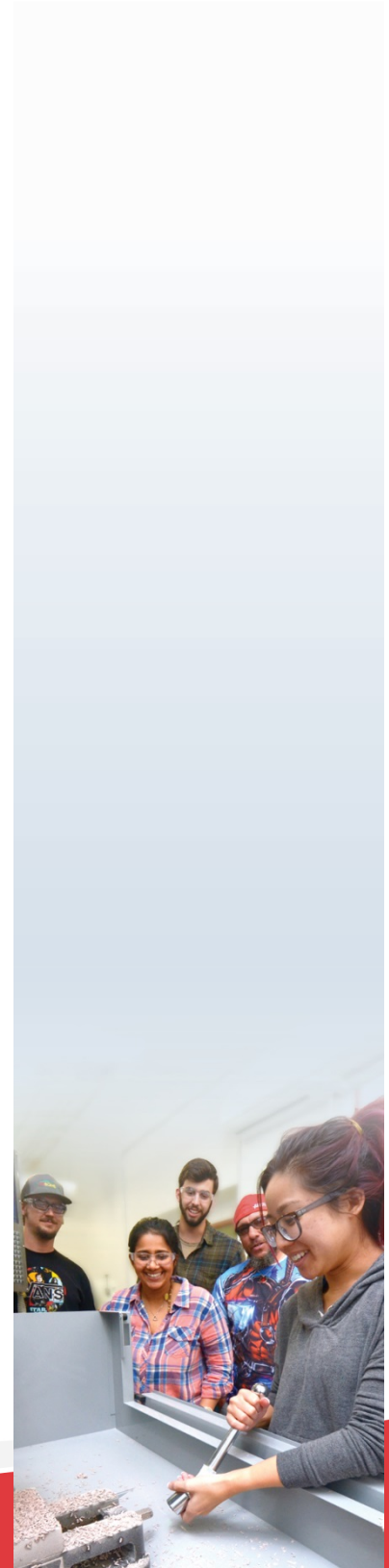
Plans to move STAR (Students Taking Academic Responsibility) from the third floor of the LRC to the Reading, Writing and ESL lab in the Humanities building are underway. This move will make room for the STEM and Math tutoring centers to be in one convenient location for students. In addition, our STAR team has trained and added five new student tutors to the team. To help promote the tutoring services on campus, bookmarks were designed and distributed to key offices on the main campus. In addition, the team participated in the planning of the semester(ly) Tarde de Familia event. The event is an orientation to Latino parents and students on college access, services and opportunities. The proctoring center was recently re-opened and several full-class paper exams have been administered.

### **World Languages**

World Languages has received Comets Affordable Learning Materials (CALM) grants for French, German, and Italian to create of Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) materials as part of their mid-term objective to become a totally no book cost department. A German game night will be hosted on campus. This is a fun night where students and faculty come together to have fun and play various card and board games in German.

### **American Sign Language (ASL) & Speech**

The winning streak of the debate team continues. Three tournaments in February resulted in the continued success of student Cipriana Rodriguez in her Persuasive Genre and Zac Dybeck in IPDA Debate and Extemporaneous Speeches. Both took first place in various tournaments, while staying undefeated in their events at the State Tournament. The Speech and Debate Team will next participate in the National Online Forensics Championship.





## **Social and Behavioral Sciences Division**

### **Kinesiology**

Kinesiology continues to build relationships with their counterparts at CSU San Marcos. Chair Joe Early met with Kinesiology chair Sean Newcomer at CSU San Marcos and gave Sean a tour of our current facilities. They also discussed our future stadium and field house. Later in the month, Interim Dean Diane Studinka met with Kinesiology chair Joe Early, faculty Lacey Craft and Leigh Marshall, and CSU San Marcos chair Sean Newcomer, and Dean of the College of Education, Health, and Human Services, Jennifer Ostergren to discuss curriculum pathways for transfer, outreach for prospective transfer students, and possible participation in athlete research studies.

### **Collaborations and Partnerships**

Our progress in collaborating with Migrant Education continues. Jennifer Finn from Dual Enrollment joined our meeting this month to discuss contracts and contract language. As the details are finalized, the plan is to offer one Chicano Studies (CS) class to Migrant Education students in fall 2022, with the hope to offer additional CS and other classes in the future.

Progress is continuing with our colleagues at MAAC Project Head Start. Jenny Fererro has been working with MAAC to provide some onsite student advising sessions for Palomar pathways and CA Commission on Teacher Credentialing Permits.

Some smaller projects have also advanced with Psychology 230 fall and spring poster sessions that are scheduled to be held in the Dome in fall 2022, and a possible conversion of the current racquetball courts to indoor golf driving ranges. Additional efforts are being researched with tutoring on how to ensure students in PSYC/SOC 205 statistics courses have access to academic support with the elimination of the math prerequisites.

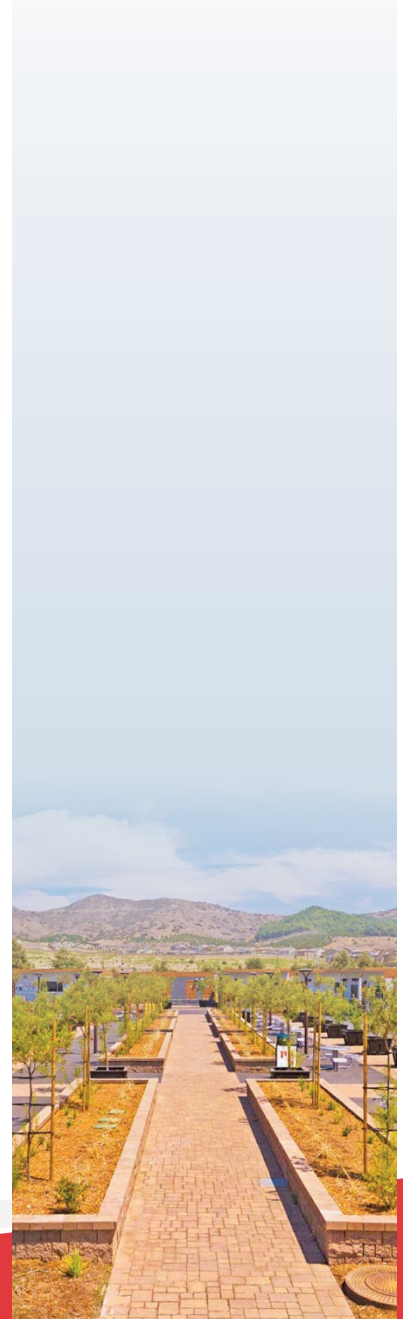
## **Math, Science, and Engineering (MSE) Division**

### **Curriculum**

The Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) has approved the curriculum changes to the Nursing program whose changes emphasize a shift to contextualized learning. Professor Krystal Rypien has been presenting the findings of her sabbatical report with a focus on incorporating diversity, equity, and inclusion into biology curriculum. The project includes a variety of underrepresented microbiologist profiles and instructional modules that align the scientists' work into the curriculum concepts. The presentation has been very well received and we look forward to her continued collaborations across the District.

### **Grants**

Palomar College is a sub-awardee on a new NSF grant awarded to Southwestern College. Representing Palomar College is Professor Wing Cheung as the Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) of the grant. He will guide Palomar College through the offering of summer drone camps for high school students in the region and virtually for students in the Pacific Islands. Students will also have the opportunity to earn our non-credit drone certificate by completing an additional non-credit course after the conclusion of the camp. This project will diversify the composition of the drone workforce and support diversity, equity, and inclusion in our drone program.



### **Student Support, Outreach, and Honors**

Math/STEM tutoring activities have increased by 50% both online and face-to-face. The Public Policy Institute of California recognized the STEM Program in its December 2021 report as “a good example of how intersegmental collaboration could support AB705 math pathways. STEM Core students are interviewing with our Growth Sector partners for competitive internships.

On March 10, “The Women in STEM” event was held. This was a networking opportunity for future women in STEM students to connect with STEM professionals, faculty, and peers. It promotes a supportive environment for students to discover their own STEM identity by learning and enhancing their knowledge in various STEM careers, internships or research opportunities, and personal development.

### **Workforce, Community and Continuing Education**

There are 300 current enrollments for the Military Leadership program. These enrollments include 300 apprentices and Credit for Prior Learning students. An estimated 200 students will be eligible for the Certificate of Achievement at the end of the Spring semester. The program website was recently updated. The new URL is [www.palomar.edu/milprogram](http://www.palomar.edu/milprogram). The program is working on a Department of Labor Apprenticeship Building America grant application.

With a goal to enroll 25-30 formerly incarcerated new students, the Transitions (Incarcerated/Formerly Incarcerated) program is currently recruiting students for the Summer 2022 program. Additionally, PCTV interviewed 15 formerly incarcerated students for an upcoming documentary film.

### **Career, Technical, and Extended Education**

The Fashion Design program will be holding their annual fashion show, MODA, on May 11, in person for the first time in two years, using the LRC as a backdrop.

Architecture and Interior Design programs will be hosting a Portfolio Show + Juried Critique + Open House at their new home in the Rancho Bernardo Education Center on May 25.

The Welding Exhaust system, a multi-year Strong-Workforce funded construction project, is now installed and working. Faculty have already reported a significant reduction in ambient noise, and a consultant will be conducting sound testing next week. The Automotive and Diesel programs are actively preparing their programs for electric vehicle service training. This will include professional development for faculty this summer, new curriculum, and installation of Level 2 Charging Stations in the existing facilities. They are working closely with employer partners and advisory committee members to identify best practices, equipment, training, and job opportunities for their students.

The Career Education Committee just reviewed \$1.6M in faculty initiatives for Perkins and Strong Workforce funding for the 2022-23 academic year. In addition, they have also approved a record \$1.9M in new CTE projects this year, including new computers for the Architecture, Interior Design, and Machining programs, new training tools for the Automotive and Diesel Technology program, and major equipment upgrades for Nursing, Dental, Emergency Medical Education, Fire, Police, Media Studies, and



Kinesiology programs. The Committee has streamlined the application process, which has encouraged more faculty to apply.

## STUDENT SERVICES

### Office of Student Life & Leadership

The planning for the 2022 Commencement on May 27 at 5:00 p.m. is moving forward. The first planning meeting with campus partners took place on March 9. As details become available, they will be added to the Commencement website.

### Counseling Services

#### Puente

Palomar's Puente Project hosted their first in-person event on February 26, where students met professionals from the community at the Puente Mentor-Mentee Mixer.

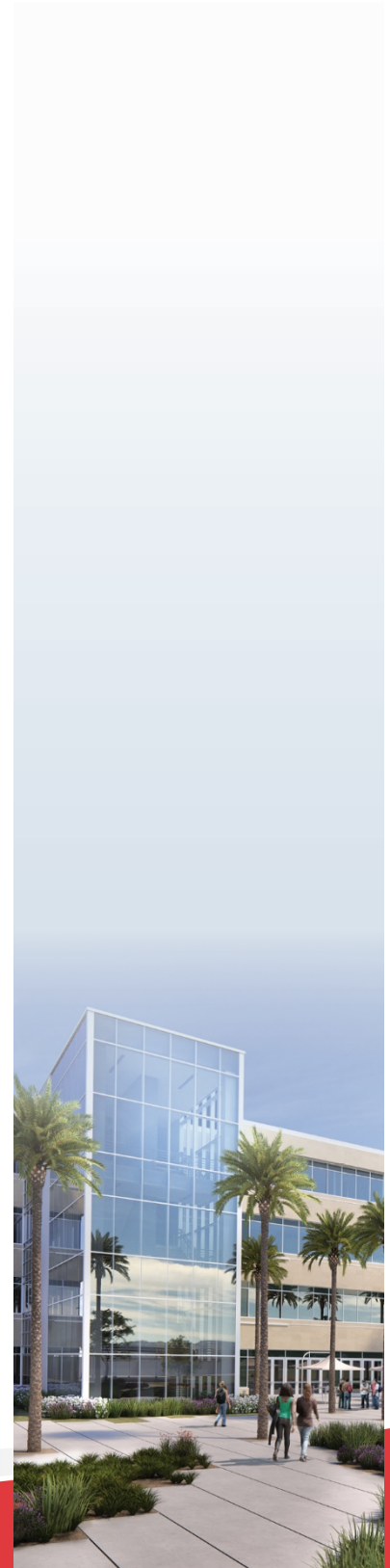
Puente English Professor/Co-Coordinator, Sonia Gutierrez, traveled with some of our Puente students to the A2MEND Conference held March 3-4. Puente students participated in a variety of interactive workshops and became inspired alongside their Umoja peers from Palomar and MiraCosta Colleges.

The Puente Professors/Co-Coordination, Cynthia Cordova, and Sonia Gutierrez, attended the Virtual Puente Statewide Training held March 10-11, where they had the opportunity to learn about exciting developments within the organization, participate in culturally relevant workshops, and collaborate with other Puente faculty teams from the San Diego region. The Puente Statewide Office raised \$35,000, which will be directed towards Puente Student scholarships throughout the state! The Palomar College Puente Project recently hosted a Virtual Puente Mentoring Evening on March 15, centering Choques Culturales (cultural collisions) where mentors and mentees dove into deep conversations surrounding educational and personal transitions.

### EOPS/CARE/CalWORKs and FYRST

With the semester in full swing, our team is focused on providing meaningful support to the students we serve. There are a lot of great efforts in motion as we work to develop skills to enhance the opportunities for our students on personal, academic, and professional success. On March 11, the EOPS Team hosted Moses Maddox, a Recruitment and Talent Development Manager, to present a student workshop on LinkedIn, the first of a four-part series focused on career readiness. The series, titled Rise Academy, will also include a workshop on developing an elevator pitch/public speaking, resume review, and will culminate with an etiquette dinner, where participants will learn the ins and outs of networking and etiquette in a professional setting. In addition to this career series, workshops are in development on study skills and invisible disabilities, improving your GPA, time management, and stress relief.

On March 11, our CARE and CalWORKs teams partnered with MiraCosta College to host our annual Single Parent Conference, titled Radical Self-Care. Our CARE and CalWORKs participants engaged in a series of workshops focused on self-care and bonded over the shared experiences of being a single parent. As a team, we focus on moving from a deficit model to one that is based in the strengths we possess and the opportunities that lie ahead.



And finally, looking ahead the EOPS/CARE/CalWORKS and FYRST Team will be hosting our third annual Many Faces of Women in Leadership Panel discussion, titled Courageous Conversations, on Friday, April 15. We will have a diverse panel of women leaders join for an intimate discussion about their personal journeys, overcoming challenges to achieve personal and professional success.

### **Career Center**

The Career Center and Workforce Development Department are pleased to announce the launch of Handshake, the country's premier college-to-career network. Used by thousands of employers, 2-year colleges and 4-year colleges, including the California Community Colleges, California State Universities, and University of California systems. Starting March 14, students were notified through messaging strategy. Students will be able to attend Zoom Skillshops to get more information and coaching on Handshake, as needed.

### **TRiO/NCEOC**

TRiO/NCEOC will be partnering with Palomar College Transitions programs to support students with a memorable summer program. NCEOC has been a key component in supporting transitions students with admissions, enrollment and FAFSA to begin the summer component. We are excited to support NCEOC/Transitions students with more academic success opportunities this summer.

NCEOC is also ready to support with enrollment efforts at Palomar College. NCEOC will be partnering with Enrollment Services, Financial Aid, and Counseling to offer four more enrollment events in the month of April and May. The goal will be to clear the holds on student accounts to ease the enrollment process for summer and fall terms, have students meet with a counselor, and work with students to complete and submitted their FAFSA.

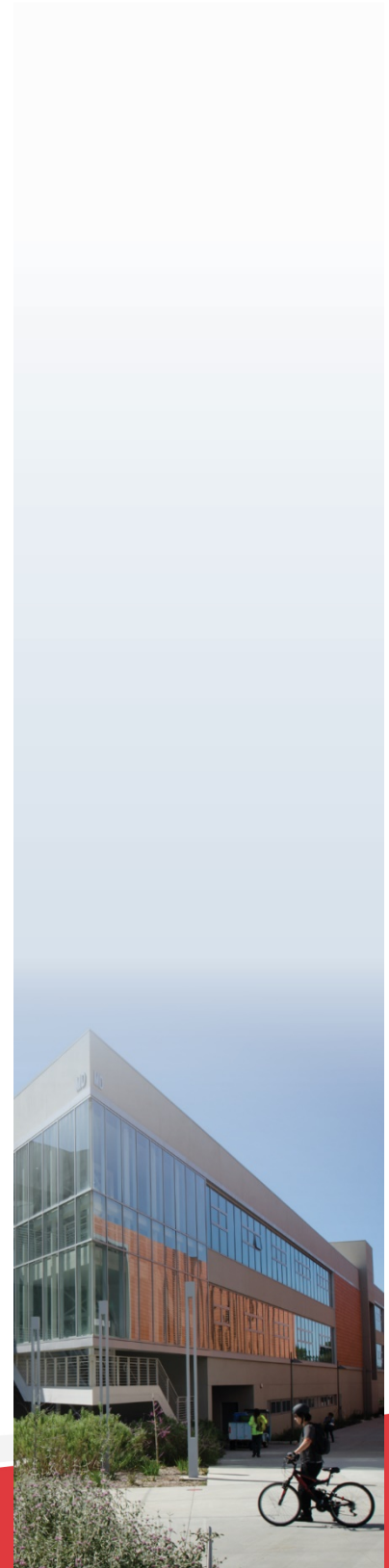
## **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

### **Campus Police**

Campus Police will be adding a reserve/volunteer police officer to the department this month. Kyle Hodges is a Palomar College Police Academy graduate and works full-time in the finance sector. He is certified by the Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) and will work alongside our officers on patrol and at events on campus.

### **Facilities**

Approval was received from the Division of the State Architect to move forward with installing the previously approved electric vehicle charging stations through the SDG&E "Power Your Drive" program at the Fallbrook Center. Installation is scheduled to start soon.





## HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

### **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Antiracism Work**

On April 5 Human Resource Services will meet with Professional Development (PD) colleagues and the Fiscal Services department to look over some initial recommendations regarding PD as required under AP 3000 Antiracism. A review of AP 7127 Restrictions Governing the Employment of Applicants is also underway, ensuring that the District is not creating any unnecessary barriers to formerly incarcerated applicants.

Human Resource Services is waiting to hear back from the Chancellor's Office regarding the new due date for our EEO Plan. Our Multiple Methods document will still be submitted in the next several months. An inquiry was also sent into the Chancellor's Office to get clarity on additional funding for the District including \$50,000 in Faculty Cultural Competency and \$50,000 in EEO funding. We hope to hear back by the end of the month in order to apply it to our budget plan.

### **Benefits, Workers Compensation, Leaves, and Accommodations**

The Affordable Care Act 1095 tax forms were successfully mailed to all employees on February 10. The required 1095 digital data file was transmitted on March 17.

Human Resource Services coordinated two workshops for Women's History Month, these included Women and Burnout workshop and a discussion on Title IX: Rights, Resources, and Responding to Sexual Misconduct.

The part-time faculty spring 2022 semester open enrollment has just concluded. The benefits office will begin the planning process for the fall 2022 full-time employee open enrollment.

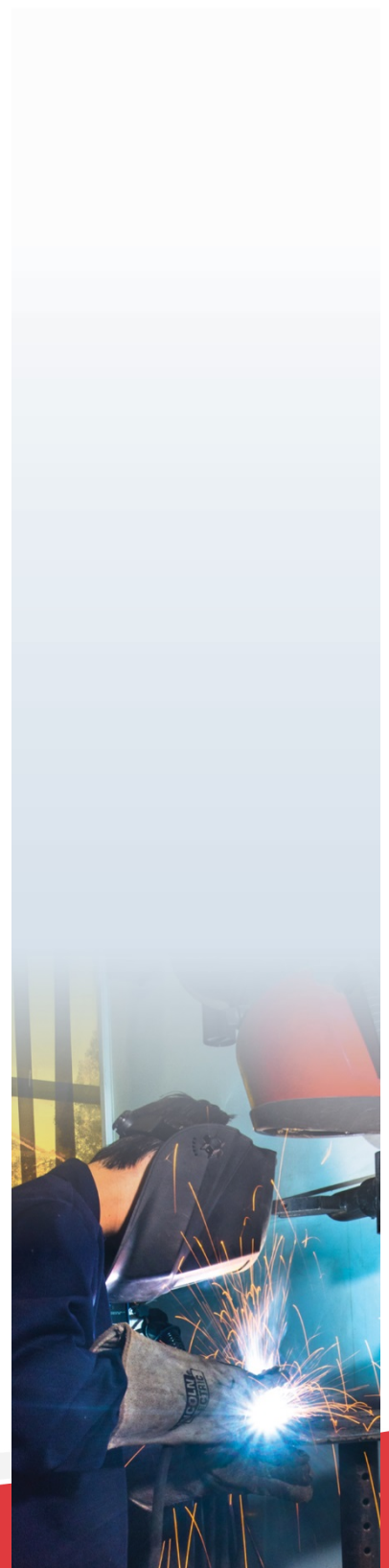
The benefits office has worked with our workers' compensation and liability insurance carrier, Keenan & Associates, to transition to a new workers' compensation medical provider network. The District has removed Concentra as a preferred medical facility and added Sharp Rees Steely in Rancho Bernardo, as well as Kaiser On-The-Job. For our injured workers who live in the Temecula region we have added the Healthpointe medical facility. These changes formally took effect March 21.

The benefits office is currently managing non-COVID-19 leave for 38 full and part-time employees. There is currently only one employee experiencing the need for COVID-19 related leave.

### **Recruitments**

Our recruitment team is working to ensure the needs of the institution are met. Here are the recruitment figures as of March 21, 2022:

- 53 permanent recruitments in progress
  - 9 – Admin/CAST
  - 23 – Classified
  - 20 – Faculty
  - 1 – Certificated/ECE
- 51 part-time faculty recruitments in progress



- 10 additional part-time faculty postings have closed and departments are still hiring from those application pools

## INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND PLANNING (IR&P)

### Accreditation

Wow! We did it! After more than two years of preparation, we successfully navigated our virtual peer review site visit. The visit was held from February 28 - March 3. The Team Chair indicated that the visiting team found our ISER to be comprehensive and well-written. It addressed all accreditation standards and eligibility requirements. During the visit, visiting team members met with approximately 75 faculty, administrators, classified staff, and students in formal meetings, group interviews, and individual interviews. The team met with all members of the Governing Board and observed a meeting of the Board. In addition, two open forums were held to provide the College community and others an opportunity to share their thoughts with members of the visiting team.

During the exit report meeting, the Chair indicated that the team was providing a commendation related to our Professional Development program(s). He also reported that the team found no compliance recommendations. Finally, he noted three recommendations to improve institutional effectiveness. We are proud of the work each individual performs on this campus to meet our accreditation standards, but more importantly, fulfilling our students' needs.

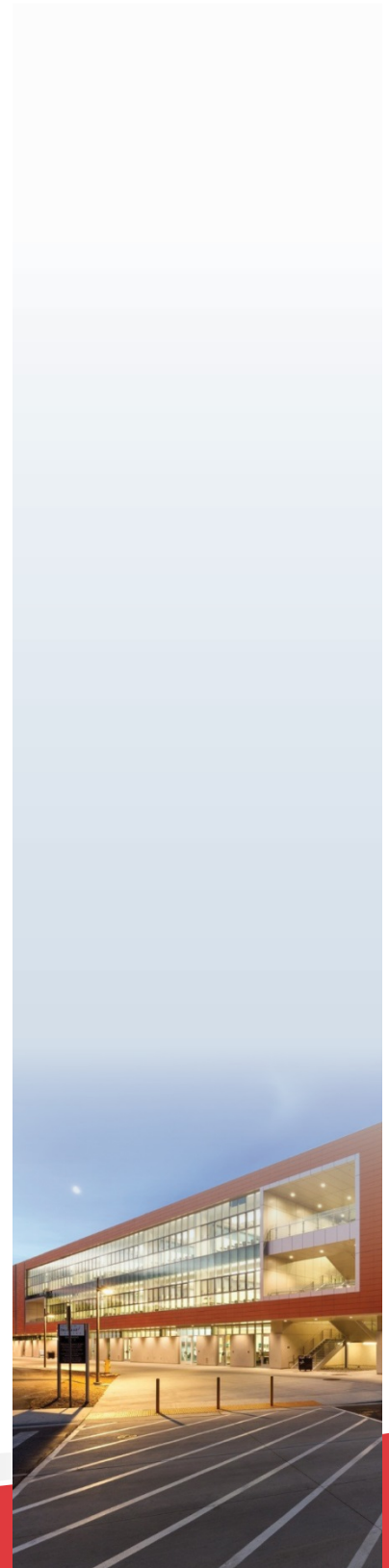
Despite this achievement, accreditation work continues, with the preparation of required reports. Fiscal Services is preparing the College's annual Fiscal Report for Accreditation and the Office of Institutional Research and Planning is preparing the Annual Report for Accreditation. Both reports are due on April 8.

### Integrated Planning

Executive team members have prioritized the one-time technology, and facilities resource requests as submitted through the 2021-22 Program Review and Planning (PRP) process. Institutional Research and Planning (IR&P) is collating the prioritized requests for each area and finalizing overall college submissions for funding consideration.

### Institutional Research and Planning (IR&P)

IR&P has completed several external requests for information and reports including but not limited to a request for data to support a regional economic impact study for career education programs, and a request for data to support a regional study regarding men of color participating in career education programs. IR&P is also responding to a statewide survey documenting Spring enrollment and finalizing data for the annual accreditation report. The Spring Intersegmental Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) surveys are due on April 6. The team is busy reviewing data and facilitating the completion of those surveys as well. In addition, a student mental health survey in partnership with Student Health Services was launched and we are programming our new annual governance evaluation survey.



## 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. The strategy generates qualified traffic to the associated landing pages and palomar.edu website. In the month of February, the campaign generated over 839,000 impressions, while remaining cost efficient.

Compared to the previous March, we experienced a 11.5% increase in new users, inclusive of a 32% increase in new sessions on palomar.edu. The increase in new users and the increase in new sessions is significant as our digital marketing strategy is designed to bring prospective students to our College.

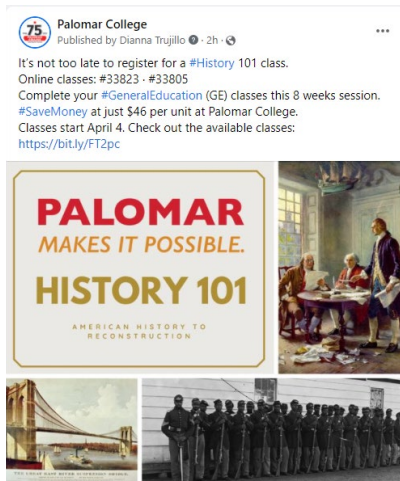
The Makes It Possible refreshed web streaming advertising campaign, inclusive of ad copy that features awareness of the opening of all sites for face-to-face courses, support of fast track courses, and academic areas, launched on February 28 and will continue to run through the end of May. The investment is 4-times the investment amount we typically purchase during the spring term and is designed to support summer and fall enrollment goals. The campaign includes endorsement ads featuring alumni and radio personality Jesse Lozano and Over-the-Top (OTT) video advertising. The OTT ads are targeted to platforms and programming that is aligned with our student demographics. In May, the campaign will launch the promotion of open enrollment. Sample endorsement ads can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

A year-over-year performance comparison of our social media platforms shows steady growth for all channels. Our growth in Facebook “Likes” increased 2%, and followers on Twitter grew 2% compared to this time last year. Instagram is continuing to show the largest year-over-year increase at 12%. LinkedIn followers continue to increase as well, with a 5% increase in March 2022 compared to March 2021. Followers on our recently launched TikTok channel grew by 25% in March compared to the previous month. This is the largest increase of growth since the launch of our TikTok channel in December.

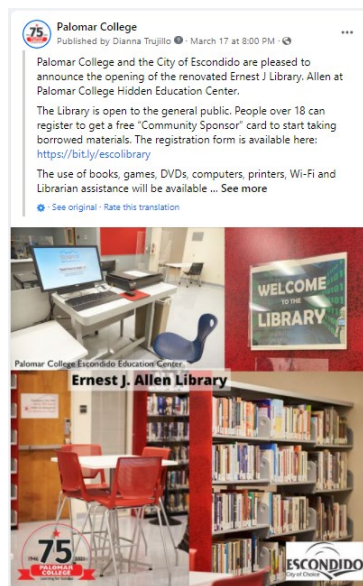
Social media remains the 4<sup>th</sup> ranked source of all traffic generated to the Palomar.edu website. During this month, we experienced a 68% increase in social media traffic compared to March 2021. Both Facebook and LinkedIn generated the majority of the social media traffic to Palomar.edu. The other overall top channels of traffic to the website are organic search, direct traffic, and referral traffic.

Throughout the month of March, our social media posts centered on supporting Spring 2022 enrollment goals, inclusive of fast-track classes and low enrolled classes. In addition, Women’s History Month, the start of parking enforcement on March 7, student support services, performing arts, and an awareness campaign centered on the re-opening of the Ernest J. Allen library at the Escondido Education Center.





*Fast Track Class Promotional Post*



*Escondido Education Center Library Post*

## Community and Media Relations

Late in the month of February, we issued a press release on our [return to onsite work, teaching and learning](#), garnering press mentions in Village News, Coast News, The Vista Press, Yahoo News, and Patch.com. Our press release regarding the public forums associated with our [accreditation visit](#) also earned press mentions in the San Diego Union Tribune, Village News, The Vista Press, and Patch.com. In early March, we issued a media advisory on the upcoming [Palomar College Community Showcase](#), which gained coverage from Patch.com and The Vista Press.

Due to the pandemic it has been difficult to keep our photo library replenished with new photography. We are focused on doing so now that the main campus and Education Centers are open. In the past two weeks we have photographed our students in action at the main campus, and the event hosted for Celebrated Author, Lawyer Haben Girma.

## Internal/External Communications and Public Affairs

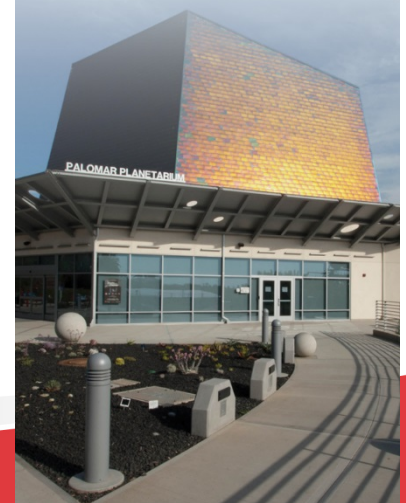
On February 4, we issued [Palomar News](#) to all subscribers and College employees. We also issued featured stories on [Haben Girma](#) and the [event held on March 14](#). Additional stories on one of our elite alumni [Superior Court Judge Marie Wood](#) and our [stellar women's basketball team](#) were also published.

## FOUNDATION

### Fundraising Activities

#### Grants

The Palomar College Foundation received a grant of \$75,000 from the City of San Marcos COVID-19 Community Grants Program, administered by the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation. The City of San Marcos generously offered the grant program to aid





residents impacted by COVID-19. Funding will allow low-income San Marcos residents attending Palomar College in Fall 2022 to receive direct emergency grants and textbook assistance.

A generous grant of \$15,000 was approved by Kaiser Permanente in support of their partnership with the Foundation for 2022. Kaiser Permanente is proud to sponsor three events through this grant including the Community Showcase on May 4, the Golf Classic on October 10, two President's Associate gatherings in June and December, as well as a membership to the President's Associates.

Hunter Industries approved a grant request for \$10,000 in partnership with the Palomar College Foundation for 2022. The funding includes a President's Associate membership as well as support for the student success program in the Foundation.

### Scholarship Program

The Foundation received \$14,034 from the Matthew and Marion Dietschman Education Fund held at the San Diego Foundation to support students in either the Nursing or Paramedic programs. In addition, \$3,000 was received from Cal Coast Cares to support student scholarships in 2022.

The General Scholarship application closed with 736 completed applications submitted. All applications are under review by members of the Palomar College scholarship committee with final awards will take place in April.

### Community Engagement

#### Community Showcase 2022

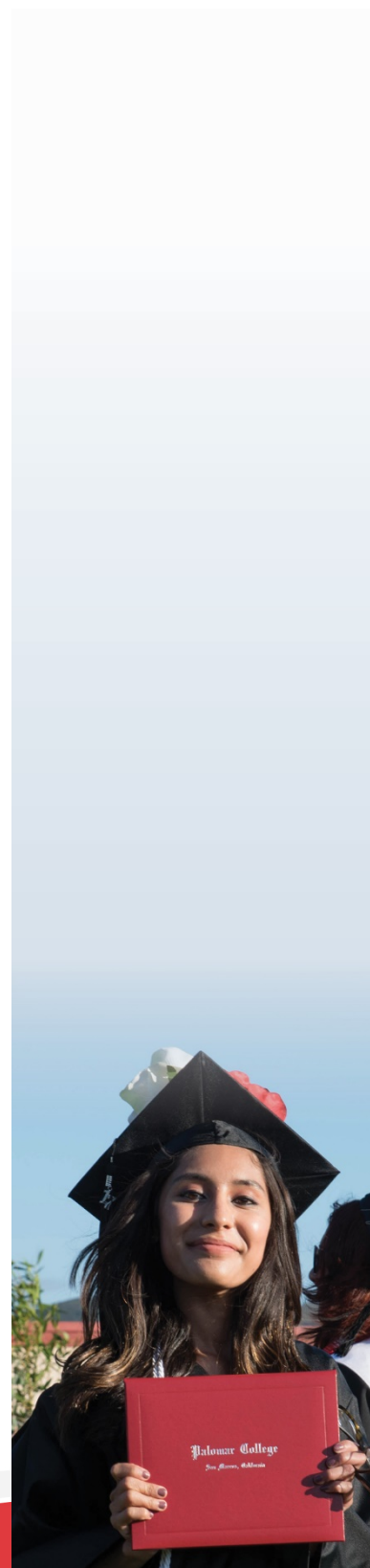
"A Time for Celebration," Palomar's 2022 Community Showcase, will take place at the California Center for the Arts, Escondido on Wednesday, May 4 from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. The event will feature a community presidential installation with an introductory address from Dr. Star Rivera-Lacey. In addition, we will pay tribute to John Masson through the Comet Award, and celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Palomar College with the opening of the time capsule. Come together with campus and community leaders, and nine premier sponsors from across North County as we celebrate 75 years of student success at Palomar College. Later in the day, the celebration continues with a lunch for all employees at the main campus.

#### North San Diego Business Chamber & Women's Week

Executive Director Stacy Rungaitis serves on the Board of Directors for the North San Diego Business Chamber. The chamber hosted two key events including the Chairman's Circle breakfast on March 18 and San Diego Women's Week. Dr. Rivera-Lacey joined Stacy and two Foundation staff and three Foundation board members for the Women's Week mixer at Bernardo Winery on March 9.



Foundation Board Member, Dr. Lin Tian; Scholarship Coordinator, Kim Hartwell; Executive Director Stacy Rungaitis; Foundation Board Member, Will Rivera; and Dr. Star Rivera-Lacey



### **Escondido Education Center Advisory Council**

The Escondido Education Center Advisory Council met on March 10. This was the first meeting of this council held in person due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The group was able to see the Escondido Education Center first-hand with a full tour of the facility. Professors in the HVAC and EME/Paramedic programs provided detailed program information as well.

