

2019-2020

# ANNUAL REPORT





# Letter from the President



I'm not sure any of us could have predicted where the 2019/2020 academic year would end up. From where we stand today, fall 2019 seems like such a long time ago it's difficult to try and summarize the last twelve months.

For Skyline College, this has been a year of celebration and challenge unlike any we've experienced before, in more ways than one.

And through it all, I have never been more inspired to lead an institution and witness the incredible fortitude, ingenuity, and passion of our students, faculty and classified professionals. Each of these groups has shown their commitment to meet challenging circumstances head-on to ensure that higher education persists amidst an unprecedented reality. I am in awe, profoundly moved, and incredibly grateful for our entire Skyline College community.

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## SKYLINE COLLEGE'S 50th ANNIVERSARY

Remarkably, this academic year began with a celebration of Skyline College's 50th Anniversary. The campus came together at several wonderful events to celebrate the legacy of a college that has changed the face of our local community – creating opportunities for generations and upholding the promise of education for all, no matter one's position or circumstance. It was a time to reaffirm our mission of empowering and transforming a global community of learners, an opportunity to look back at our history and salute all those who had been a part of it, and a moment to look ahead at the bright future of this institution.

## LIVING AND WORKING THROUGH A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

It feels like we had hardly finished celebrating Skyline College's incredible milestone when the COVID-19 pandemic struck. Our campus community, and our nation, were thrust into shelter-in-place and suddenly all of us needed to stay home. This created some nearly instantaneous challenges for our students, faculty and classified professionals as every single course and student service needed to be transitioned to an online modality in the span of a few days. What would have been considered an insurmountable task became a necessary reality and our amazing faculty and staff pulled it off.



We are continuing to live in, and work through, these challenges as summer and fall classes are conducted remotely, but I have confidence in the foundation that has been laid and in the work that is continuing. I know Skyline College will emerge from this global crisis stronger than ever.

### **COMING TO TERMS WITH RACIAL INJUSTICE**

As the pandemic continues, we are also witnessing, and taking part in, a long overdue national reckoning on race in this country, sparked by the senseless killing of black people at the hands of police officers. It is shocking, traumatizing, and profoundly wrong that people of color, and black people in particular, continue to face the injustices of racism in their daily lives. Our nation must continue the work of self-education and the dismantling of systems of oppression to create a more equitable society – and Skyline College must continue to be part of that work.

### **GRADUATING CLASS OF 2020**

It also saddens me deeply that we did not get to properly celebrate the graduating class of 2020 at an in-person commencement ceremony. These students made the decision to pursue their higher education – not an easy decision in the best of times – and they persevered and continued that education through a pandemic. The class of 2020 deserves a special commendation for their fortitude and their willingness to face this challenge head on. I am so very proud of them.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

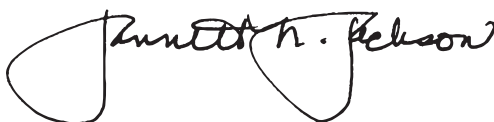
It has been an incredible honor to serve as Interim President of Skyline College during its landmark fiftieth year. I've been so moved by the faculty, staff and students of this incredible institution.

I'm also excited to welcome Dr. Melissa Moreno as the next President of Skyline College. I know she will be ready to hit the ground running to lead us into the next year and beyond.

Despite all the challenges this year has brought, Skyline College has much to be proud of and I wish all of you the very best. What an honor to become a part of this incredible community.

Through it all, I have never been more inspired to lead an institution and witness the incredible fortitude, ingenuity, and passion of our students, faculty and classified professionals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jannett H. Jackson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and end.

Dr. Jannett Jackson  
Interim President of Skyline College



# 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



The 2019/2020 academic year marked Skyline College's milestone 50th anniversary. To celebrate the momentous occasion, Skyline College launched a full semester of celebratory activities centered around a 50th Anniversary Gala. This fundraising event, attended by over 200 guests in the beautiful new Farallon Room located inside the new Environmental Science Building, succeeded in raising more than \$100,000 to support the Promise Scholars Program and the President's Innovation Fund – a mini-grant process that allows faculty and staff to launch creative and effective approaches to achieving Skyline College's mission, vision and values.

The fundraiser consisted of a cocktail hour, a four course-meal, a program including a commemorative video, award presentations, a silent auction and dancing. Lloyd LaCuesta, retired broadcaster from KTVU served as the Master of

Ceremonies for the evening and San Mateo County Supervisor David Canepa gave an inspirational keynote address advocating for free college and using his platform as an elected official to make a difference in the county. The Gala will be remembered as a special evening full of dancing, celebration, and fun.

A few weeks after the gala, the students, faculty and classified professionals of Skyline College gathered to celebrate the 50th Anniversary at a free campus-wide barbecue celebration. The event featured five food trucks parked throughout campus with a variety of awesome free food to choose from including chicken and waffles and Filipino Burritos – participants lined up for free lunch tickets that they could spend at any truck of their choosing. Many people also walked away with some free 50th anniversary swag from the marketing table to show their Skyline College pride.







For 50 years, Skyline College has been empowering and transforming the people of this community.

On top of all that, radio station 99.7 hosted a booth where they blasted music and radio DJ Saint John was there to get people hyped up. The station also raffled off two tickets to 99.7's Poptopia concert featuring Normani, Halsey and headliner Lizzo! The winner received tickets and an opportunity to meet their choice of artist prior to the concert.

Additionally, Skyline College's fifty-year history came to life with the 50th Anniversary Exhibition at the Skyline College Art Gallery. Artifacts, old photographs, and marketing materials reflecting five decades of change in technology and tastes were selected from a deluge of donated or loaned memorabilia and recently discovered college archives. Also included were a selection of artworks culled from past gallery exhibitions.

The exhibition facilitated a thoughtful examination of the college's material culture, providing access points to myriad stories that support the institution's narrative, allowing students, staff, faculty, and the community at large to connect meaningfully to, and have a sense of reality of, the past as well as honor the wisdom, voice, and experience of the college's diverse communities and relationships with the broader local and global communities.

For 50 years, Skyline College has been empowering and transforming the people of this community – these events were a small opportunity to give back and give thanks to the people who make that possible every day: the students, faculty and staff of this college. ■







# Accreditation



Accreditation is about examining the ways we accomplish Skyline College's mission: taking a good hard look at our practices, policies and procedures to evaluate the quality of our institution and ensure that we're never settling for the status quo and are consistently innovating for our students.

This year Skyline College, along with sister colleges Cañada College and the College of San Mateo, was officially reaccredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). Skyline College was reaccredited with flying colors, receiving no recommendations for improvement, a rare accomplishment.

Since the college's last accreditation in 2013, the institution has been hard at work transforming itself through the Comprehensive College Redesign, which examines processes and procedures across every facet of the college to remove barriers to student success. That redesign provided the framework for the 2019 accreditation cycle, allowing us to share with the accreditation visiting team our commitment to being a student-ready college.

The Accreditation Site Visit represented an opportunity for Skyline College to show what an amazing and inspiring place Skyline College truly is.







## PREPARING FOR THE SITE VISIT

The Accreditation Site Visit represented an opportunity for Skyline College faculty, staff and administrators to greet their peers from community colleges from around the state and show them what an amazing and inspiring place Skyline College truly is. But preparing for the Accreditation Site Visit takes years of hard work – and we wanted to make sure it was a truly collaborative process.

Over 200 faculty members, staff, administrators and students came together from across the college to create the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) – the document that represents Skyline College’s own evaluation of our institution. It is an in-depth examination of every aspect of our college done by the people who work and study here. Hundreds of hours of reflection, evidence-gathering, and writing went into the creation of the report to provide the basis upon which the college would be evaluated.

## GETTING THE CAMPUS INVOLVED


The key to a successful site visit, beyond creating the ISER, is to ensure that the campus community is involved and prepared. The college created a beautiful Accreditation Quick Guide that provided answers to frequently asked questions and provided a high-level summary of key elements of the ISER. In the year leading up to the site visit, open forums were regularly hosted to inform the campus and get them excited about the visit. And in the month prior to the evaluation team’s arrival, the college released a weekly trivia contest – answers could be found within the Quick Guide, and winners received prizes to incentivize participation.

## THE SITE VISIT AND REACCREDITATION

During the site visit, the accreditation evaluation team met with the College President, administrators, program coordinators, faculty, classified professionals, students, lead writers of the ISER and members of the SMCCCD Board of Trustees. They also hosted two open forums so that everyone on campus could have direct

access to the team and participate in the process. At the end of the visit, the team announced their decision to forward no recommendations to the ACCJC, and several months later Skyline College received the official letter announcing its successful reaccreditation for another seven years.

The College is especially proud that the ACCJC recognized Skyline College for exemplary performance in “demonstrating a campus-wide commitment to equity, as evidenced by the creation of the Equity Training Series, the Equity Institute, the Equity Summit, and its engagement in the Skyline College Comprehensive Redesign.”

“This news from the ACCJC is great validation that our colleges and our district are world-class institutions for quality teaching and learning, upholding high standards of policy and practice and stewarding the resources we have been given by taxpayers,” said Karen Schwarz, President of the San Mateo County Community College Board of Trustees. “A stamp of approval from the ACCJC is an assurance to our community that our district and colleges are serving students with integrity and fidelity.” 



# Equity Institute



In 2018, Skyline College launched the Equity Institute (EI) to transform the landscape of higher education by helping colleges develop and sustain institutional approaches to equity and student success. During the 2019/2020 academic year, the EI hosted 360 faculty, classified professionals, and administrators from 32 California Community Colleges at the equity academy, "The Anatomy of a Transformative Course" on November 13-15, 2019 and "Counseling in the Era of Equity" on February 19-21, 2020.

Equity Academies (EA) are immersive professional learning experiences where colleges register "teams" of 10 faculty, staff and administrators to develop strategies for implementing equity centered work at their institutions. Participants who attend EAs can expect to engage in activity-based learning, critical self-reflection, gain tools and resources to improve their practice, and hear from critically acclaimed thought leaders in the areas of equity, social justice, and education.

At the beginning of spring semester, the EI secured the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative Grant (IEPI) from the State Chancellor's Office. With this support, the EI partnered with the Bay Area Entrepreneur Center to develop a Business Plan and Marketing plan to help communicate the work of the EI to external colleges and organizations. The IEPI simultaneously provided funding to compensate faculty and staff who serve as Equity Academy facilitators and to create an EI Faculty Liaison position. These efforts are key to ensure that the work of the EI is informed by an equity minded faculty perspective.

The EI also facilitated the fourth-annual Equity Training Series (ETS), a program sponsored by the Division of Student Equity and Support Programs. ETS is a semester long intentional sequence of professional development experiences that bring together staff, faculty, and administrators to engage in a teaching and learning experience centered on equity and cultural fluency. On



May 1st, ETS graduated a cohort of 30 Skyline College, faculty, staff and administrators at the ETS Recognition Ceremony. During the ceremony participants presented individual and group projects that were developed integrating ETS concepts and theories into daily practice to advance student success at Skyline College.

In collaboration with Dr. Lauren Ford, Interim Director of Strategic Initiatives and Planning, the EI hosted the inaugural Equity Institute Fellows Program (EI Fellows) on February 22, May 29-May 30, 2020. This cohort included ten highly engaged education practitioners from community colleges throughout the state to engage in three full-day seminars. The EI Fellows curricular pillars included learning the EI's frameworks and concepts, developing leadership/facilitation skills, and provided an opportunity for networking. Developing this community is key to sustaining the work of the EI because as a result of engaging in this experience, EI Fellows are certified Equity Academy Facilitators and have the opportunity to facilitate future equity academies. ■

Equity Academies are immersive professional learning experiences where teams develop strategies for implementing equity centered work at their institutions.





# At a Glance

Skyline College is committed to developing culturally rich and globally informed educational opportunities for an annual population of over 17,000 students. Students can choose from approximately 100 degree and certificate programs to achieve their educational goals in an affordable and supportive

environment. Key transfer agreements in place with a wide range of public and private colleges including UC Berkeley, UCLA, UC Davis and San Francisco State University make Skyline College a top destination for students working to transfer to a four year college or university.

## CURRICULUM



**28** Associate Degree  
for Transfer Programs



**01** Bachelor of Science  
in Respiratory Care



**33** Associate Degree  
Programs



**47** Certificate  
Programs

## DEGREES/CERTIFICATES AWARDED



**1013** AA/AS/BS Degrees

=100



**431** Certificates

=100

## TRANSFERS TO UC/CSU

=10

Transfers to University of California Campuses 2018-2019

Davis 42



Berkeley 37



Los Angeles 18



Santa Cruz 18



San Diego 13



Santa Barbara 10



Irvine 9



Merced 3



Riverside 3



**TOTAL 153**

Transfers to California State Universities 2018-2019

San Francisco 359



San Jose 50



East Bay 42



Sacramento 13



Sonoma 8



San Luis Obispo 5



Chico 4



Fullerton 4



Other 21



**TOTAL 510**



## DUAL ENROLLMENT

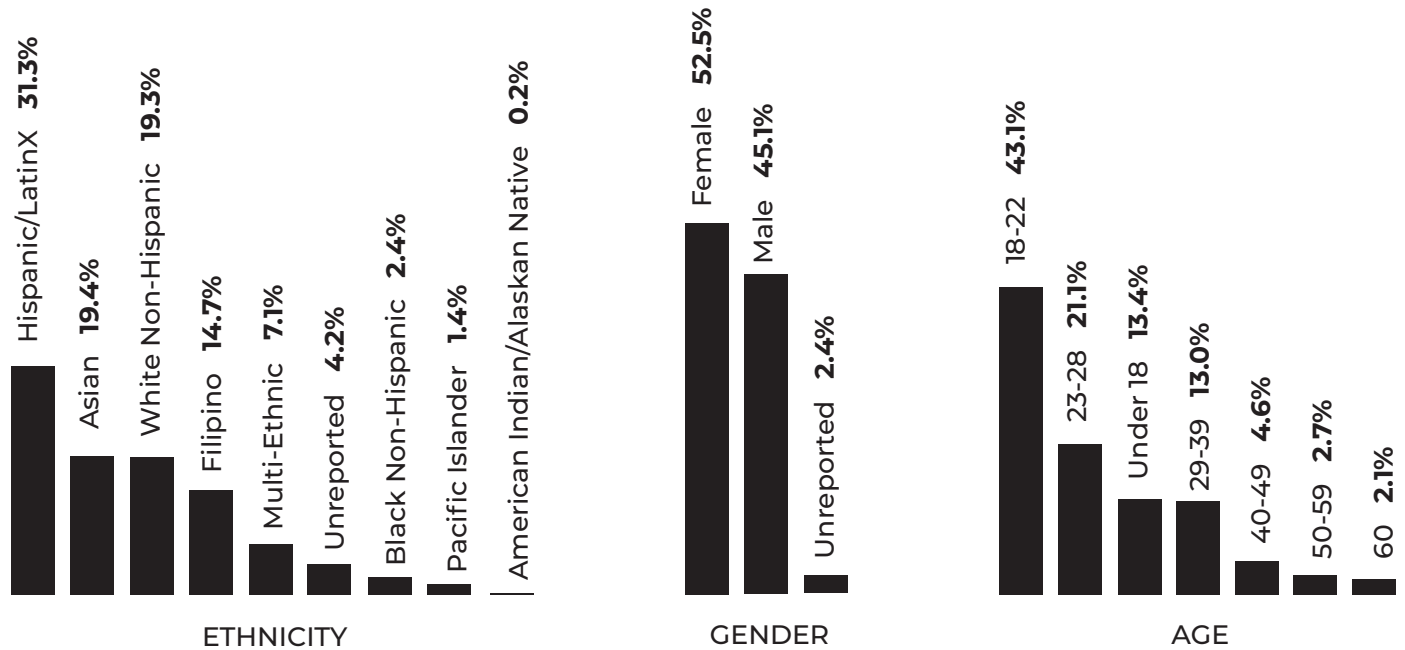


**1742** Students served



**80.05%** Successful Completion Rate

## UNIQUE HEADCOUNT



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

From 2019-2020, Skyline College enrolled **309** international students originating from 45 countries.



NE COLLEGE

achieve.

[skylinecollege.edu](http://skylinecollege.edu)







# Financials & Facilities Highlights

Skyline College, as part of the community-supported San Mateo County Community College District, continued to transform the strong financial support from the county into an excellent option for those seeking higher education, either locally, within California, or from abroad. Consistent with State Chancellor's Office strategic goals, the District-wide implementation of the Promise Scholars Program entered its second year yielding notable improvements in student persistence and completion rates. Extramural support included the second year of a multiyear grant totaling \$3 million over three years from the State of California for Innovation in Higher Education, as well as more than \$600k at Skyline College resulting from support provided by Assembly Bill 19 (AB19).

In late March 2020, Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act which distributed \$14 billion to higher education including \$214 million for Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI). Skyline College's allocation totaled more than \$2.4 million and \$181k respectively. Of this support, 75%, more than \$1.8 million is being distributed to students to continue their education. The remaining amount will be invested in professional development and improved technology to expand and strengthen Skyline College's ability to conduct remote/digital instruction.

Skyline College was also awarded \$500,000 to support Improving Online Career Training Education (CTE) Pathways through a grant which aims to increase wages and improve social mobility in a rapidly changing economy. The Improving Online CTE Pathways grant program was developed by the California Virtual Campus – Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI) with an allocation of \$35 million in one-time funding and with direction from the Board of Governors and Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges. The Improving Online CTE Pathways program was designed to leverage existing capabilities within the CCC system, while also integrating together with the CVC-OEI's objectives.

The Skyline College Express shuttle service also was awarded a continuing two-year grant from the San Mateo County Transportation Authority extending through Fiscal Years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022. The service continues to serve students, staff and the community through the generous support from the grant and matched with District/College funds. ■





# Foundation Update



San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation promotes philanthropy throughout our community, ensuring that everyone in San Mateo County can afford and achieve a higher education at Skyline College, Cañada College, and College of San Mateo. Through the generosity of individual, corporate, and foundation donors, the SMCCCF provides scholarships for San Mateo County Community College District students and funding for programs at the three colleges.

Even during the best of economic times, many students at Skyline College and in the District face significant financial barriers to achieving the dream of completing a college education. Since 1966, the Foundation has been here to help. The SMCCCF distributes over 850 life-changing scholarships annually and supports over 100 programs including the Promise Scholars Program, campus STEM and Veteran's Resource Centers, and various Skyline College departments. Scholarships are awarded in a ceremony each May – a beloved tradition that brings together students, donors, faculty, staff, the Foundation, and friends in gratitude and celebration.

During the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing economic decline, the Foundation immediately embraced its responsibility to the District's students. The SMCCCF Foundation Emergency Fund and the Undocumented Student Fund were immediately established to cover students' most basic needs in this time of crisis. So far, over 1,000 emergency grants have been distributed from both these funds.

In addition to raising funds from its own donors, the Foundation regularly collaborates on fundraising efforts with Skyline College. SMCCCF Executive Director, Tykia Warden, serves on Skyline College's President's Council alongside other corporate and organizational supporters from northern San Mateo County. Moreover, Foundation staff serve on Skyline College's major events working committees, helping to create such events as the annual President's Breakfast and the college's 50th Anniversary Celebration gala.

The SMCCC Foundation wishes to thank the Board of Directors. Their continued partnership and support enhances and strengthens the Foundation's ability to fundraise for all the colleges in the District, including Skyline College. ■





NAME  
ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE, ZIP

 Skyline  
COLLEGE  
*Scholarship Recognition*  
San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation  
Scholarship - \$250  
  










# Associated Student Leadership



The ASSC received the leadership and curriculum training needed to develop their vision for a more engaged Skyline College.

The Associated Students of Skyline College (ASSC) had a memorable year of growth, collaboration, education, and community. This student government began the year with just 8 members and an interim advisor before blossoming into a full cabinet with a permanent advisor. The teamwork between the Student Life staff and the original eight resulted in a widely successful special election in the fall with all positions filled, welcoming 17 new members.

At the ASSC's 2019 fall leadership retreat at Camp Monte Toyon, they received the leadership and curriculum training needed to develop their vision for a more engaged Skyline College highlighted by their commitment to creating a better sense of community on campus through intentional programming and support.

That commitment resulted in 34 immersive experiences during fall 2019 alone, double the total from the previous academic year. The campus community participated in different educational activities, student-created exhibits, student-led workshops, film screenings, critical panel dialogues, cultural sharing through tabling and food while hosting engaging speakers like queer Tongan poet-activist - Loa Niumeitolu as their fall 2019 college lecture series speaker. From celebrating Latinx heritage month with low riders, conchas, and pupusas to hosting a traditional Batok tattoo ceremony during Filipinx American history month - the ASSC wanted programming to reflect its students. This resulted in amplifying the voices of the LGBTQIA+ community by creating safe spaces for transformative dialogue and education led by community members, which ultimately led to our district's first-ever "Tonga Day" - where we held a traditional Tongan Kava ceremony facilitated

by a member of the royal family. All of these events were in collaboration with different clubs, departments, programs, organizations on our campus and in our surrounding community.

Our campus also celebrated Black history month with a surprise visit from the cast of the film *Last Black Man in San Francisco*, and were transitioning into women's history month when the shelter-in-place order occurred. In response, the ASSC created a YouTube channel housing its collaborative programming - continuing to provide spaces for learning, connecting, and community building through a virtual modality. Highlighted by Dr. Allyson Tintiangco-Cubales and Dr. Jocyl Sacramento as our inaugural virtual college lecture series speakers leading a workshop and featuring Dr. Regina Stanback Stroud in the "Sheroes Amongst Us" women's panel.

Lastly, in spite of COVID19 - the ASSC led its first-ever electronic elections resulting in 600+ students voting, double the totals from prior years. The ASSC looks forward to more engaging years like this in the future. ■





# Building 12 Grand Opening



After two years of construction, the brand new Environmental Science Building at Skyline College opened in September, 2019.

Over 400 people celebrated the momentous occasion at a ribbon cutting event that hosted elected officials from across the region, local community leaders, faculty, staff and lots of students. The energy in the room was palpable as attendees conducted self-guided tours to learn about the environmental design of the building and check out the state-of-the-art classrooms and learning resources.

Speaking to all in attendance, Interim President Jackson stated, "This college has always striven to be at the forefront – to push against the status quo – and move our institution forward together...This Environmental Science Building stands as a symbol of that legacy."

The Environmental Science Building project was years in the making as teams from the district's Facilities Planning, Maintenance & Operations' Division and Skyline College worked closely with DES Architects to determine what was needed in this new space and how it could best serve students and our community. From there, a beautiful design was born and the construction planning set in motion with XL Construction. And slowly, but surely, the building rose up from Vista Point as hundreds of individuals worked countless hours to make it happen.

Dr. Jackson concluded her remarks with a look to the future: "The Environmental Science Building or Building 12, is about looking to the future. It quite literally encourages us to look to the horizon and the world beyond this campus. And, it encourages us to think big and dream even bigger." ■









# Promise Scholars Program

The Promise Scholars Program at Skyline College will enter into its third year of full replication of the City University of New York (CUNY) Accelerated Studies in Associate Programs (ASAP) model. The ASAP model, a comprehensive support program that provides financial, academic and intensive counseling support, has proven to double two-year and three-year graduation rates for participating students and more than 45,000 students have benefited from the ASAP model in the CUNY system, to-date.

Skyline College was the first California Community College to attempt replication of the model through its Promise Scholars Program. The program began ASAP replication with a little more than 500 students in its Fall 2018 cohort, and has expanded to serve 750 first-time, full-time students annually at Skyline College. The Fall 2018 cohort has just finished up their second year, and the Promise Scholars Program is seeing very positive results, with initial data indicating that the two-year completion rates (graduation and/or transfer) will match the ASAP benchmark of 25%, and more than double Skyline College's historical two-year graduation and transfer rates for participating students. Students in the Fall 2018 and Fall 2019 cohort have also persisted at higher rates than comparison students at the college.

The Promise Scholars Program has had the opportunity to expand its reach through the generous support of the Chancellor's Innovation Grant. The Promise Scholars Program is now replicated across the San Mateo County Community College District (SMCCCD), serving 2,000 Promise Scholars annually across the district's three colleges. In addition, the grant has supported technical assistance for three additional California Community Colleges – Pasadena City College, Lake Tahoe Community College, and Cuesta College – to explore replication of the Promise Scholars Program model at their campuses. SMCCCD has hired WestED evaluators to support a comprehensive evaluation of the program and its impact for students, but from initial indicators, the Promise Scholars Program is having a meaningful impact on students' lives and increasing student completion rates at Skyline College and beyond. ■

The Promise  
Scholars Program  
is now replicated  
across the San  
Mateo County  
Community College  
District.













# Dual Enrollment



Skyline College's Strategic Partnerships and Workforce Development division has led collaborative efforts across the campus to expand high school partnerships throughout San Mateo County culminating in the launch of the comprehensive Dual Enrollment program at Skyline College.

Since inception, the program has increased engagement and established strategic partnerships and formal College and Career Access Pathways Agreements with Jefferson Union High School District, South San Francisco Unified District, San Mateo Union High School District and Sequoia Union High School District. Students at these high school have the opportunity to take college classes at their high schools during their academic day in a variety of pathways and transfer preparation courses including biotechnology, network engineering, child development, automotive, languages and more.

Dual enrollment strives to increase access to college for students who have not previously viewed that as an option and to address inequities that may have existed in their educational journey. The program also develops seamless pathways from high school to community college career education and transfer pathways and reduces the educational debt of students as a result of their post-secondary educational experience. Finally, it improves high school graduation rates and high school student overall college and career readiness.

Dual enrollment strives to increase access to college for students who have not previously viewed that as an option.

The program led to 1,200 new enrollments in the 18/19 academic year and just over 2,000 enrollments in the 19/20 academic year with plans to grow to nearly 3,000 enrollments in the 20/21 academic year.

Core elements of the program include: high touch service-centered support and on-boarding for students, integrated strategies and practices that remove barriers for success, and cross-collaborative work teams made up of Skyline College faculty and High School partner teachers.

The Comprehensive Dual Enrollment Program continues to expand strategic partnerships across our communities and to advance the key priorities of Skyline College and the San Mateo County Community College District. ■





# COVID-19 Response



The spring 2020 semester was one of particular challenge, resilience, and hope. The COVID-19 Pandemic dramatically altered the landscape of our lives, and as of publications, continues to do so. Education across the state, nation and the globe was forced to adapt to a new reality – remote learning, online classes, zoom meetings and more were suddenly the new normal. Students, faculty and staff had to adapt at the drop of a hat as a shelter-in-place order took effect in mid-March, and instructors needed to find new ways to ensure students would finish out the semester.

But amidst these sudden and significant challenges came a response from our district community that deserves recognition and commendation. Faculty, staff and administrators came together to ensure that instruction and student services would continue in a new modality, and students by and large made the bold choice to continue their higher education in the face of real challenges. We highlight a few examples of the work being done by students, faculty and staff below:

## FINDING NEW WAYS TO CONNECT TO CAMPUS COMMUNITY

The pandemic crisis has affected Skyline College students in various different ways, but one common feeling is missing the connection to the campus - being around other people, experiencing events, and opportunities to connect with community members. But the Associated Students of Skyline College stepped up to offer new ways to stay connected.

The ASSC led immersive virtual experiences like workshops on different cultures, critical community collaborations, and student-centered dialogue. They have highlighted how to

access critical student services on social media and are actively working with campus partners and community connections to continue providing virtual opportunities for education, connection, and community.

## PROVIDING FOOD ASSISTANCE TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

The San Mateo County Community College District, in partnership with Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, started holding weekly free drive-thru emergency food distribution on Fridays at the College of San Mateo (CSM) campus. Our goal has been to increase access to healthy and nutritious food for



Amidst these sudden and significant challenges came a response from our district community that deserves recognition and commendation.



students, their families and our community, while also following COVID-19 health and safety guidelines.

The program serves roughly 1,000 families each week, which each family receiving 35-45 lbs. of food per visit. Over the past eleven weeks, nearly 355,000 pounds of food has been distributed to about 9,100 families. This has offset an estimated \$532,000 in food costs for our students and community.

### **TRANSITIONING TO REMOTE LEARNING**

Faculty and students alike were faced with the challenge of transitioning from in-person learning to a fully online modality. The district cancelled classes for four days so that faculty could swiftly transition and students could prepare for this new reality. Skyline College distributed hundreds of laptops and Wi-Fi hotspots for students who needed them and faculty swiftly adapted their curriculum so their students could finish the semester successfully. Skyline College's Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning was instrumental in providing professional development resources and trainings for faculty who needed assistance in updating their classes, and they remain a critical resource as we move into the fall semester. ■





# STEM Center Opening



On Monday, November 18, 2019, over 200 people gathered for the inaugural ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of the Science, Technology, and Health STEM Center at Skyline College.

Launching with seed funding through Skyline College's STEM Pathways Grant, the STEM Center works to engender a vibrant community of students, faculty and staff all supporting each other to foster student success within Science, Technology, Health, Engineering, and Math courses.

The three large touch-screen TV's in the space flexed their potential by switching back and forth between their two key functionalities. The first functionality is connecting to computers through screen-sharing (either via WiFi or cable connection).

Second, converting to digital whiteboards allowing guests to write and draw welcoming messages and fun exercise problems.

Many students in various clubs took this opportunity to showcase some of their current research projects/interests. The Astronomy Club, Engineering & Robotics Club, SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers), and WISER! (Women In Science and Engineering Represent!) were all in attendance. On display were a series of telescopes, engineering simulation models, biotechnology lab equipment, a distillation lab demonstration (synthesizing crude oil), computer graphics models, student research posters, math games/puzzles, and a solar boat built by students.





The STEM Center will serve the students by providing a space to collaborate, learn, and connect. With the additional space and immediate vicinity to faculty offices, students gain the opportunity to work closely with their faculty and mentors. The STEM Center also looks to rethink how office hours are conducted by hosting them so that faculty meets the students where they are at, literally.

From inception to design to construction, development of the STEM Center at Skyline College was realized through the dedication and hard work of a diverse set of teams and individuals throughout the College, district and design construction partners. ■





# Pister Scholarship Winner

While growing up in Nigeria, Pearl Ibeanusi knew she wanted to be a leader, but as a woman she found roadblocks everywhere. "I have always pictured myself as a manager or leader in an organization," says Pearl, "but I was afraid to share this...in a country that does not foster women's education, let alone their leadership." But when Pearl immigrated to the United States, she vowed to pursue her education and prove to herself that she had what it takes to succeed.

Years of hard work later and Pearl has graduated from Skyline College with an associate degree, and is also the recipient of the prestigious Pister Scholarship, awarded to just 13 community college students nationwide who wish to transfer to UC Santa Cruz, show exceptional achievement despite adverse socio-economic status and have demonstrated a commitment to assisting and improving the lives of others.

The road to transfer hasn't been easy, but Pearl has, time and again, shown that perseverance and determination can push you through any challenge. Raising six children while pursuing her education, Pearl found Skyline College through taking courses at the South San Francisco Adult school where professor Serena Chu pushed her to consider enrolling.

Pearl did enroll, and found success by making the most of several key campus organizations, including TRiO, ASTEP and the Women's Mentoring and Leadership Academy where Professor Daniel Powell was instrumental in sharing leadership skills, building confidence and improving communication.

Pearl also became active in the Associated Students of Skyline College, serving first as Commissioner of Finance, then as vice president and finally as Student Body President where she sat on the College Governance Council, among others. For Pearl, ASSC was critical in helping her get involved with decision making and connected her with college leadership.



Pearl has, time and again,  
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determination can push you  
through any challenge.

It was in this role that Pearl met Interim Skyline College President, Dr. Jannett Jackson, with whom she developed a quick bond and who pushed Pearl to apply to UC Santa Cruz.

Thanks to the Pister Scholarship and her clear determination to further her education, Pearl will be enrolling at UC Santa Cruz with hopes of pursuing her Master's degree in the future. Her passion for education, and her appreciation for the system that has helped her succeed, is driving her to someday share her passion with other students as well. ■





# Skyline Shines Award Winners

Each year a college employee or group, along with a community individual or group, are honored with the Skyline Shines award. This year, there were three winners.



## College Employee or Group: **Nancy Kaplan-Biegel**

Nancy Kaplan-Biegel is best known as the creator of the college's Journalism Program, and the faculty advisor to the award-winning Skyline View newspaper. Nancy is firmly committed to ensuring that all students strengthen their ability to be critical consumers and creators of media.

This professor's work behind the scenes for accreditation, within the journalism classroom, and as an advisor to the first-rate student newspaper has truly improved our institution as a whole. More importantly, she has guided students to be more critical and engaged citizens.



## Community Member: **Duggan's Serra Mortuary**

Duggan's Serra Mortuary is a family-run organization in Daly City that has been serving San Francisco Bay Area communities for over 50 years. The steadfast support this organization has provided to Skyline College for more than 15 years through countless donations to student scholarships, annual funds, Promise Scholars Program support, event sponsorships and more, has paved the way for other community supporters to join. The President of the organization has attended nearly every President's Breakfast over the last 19 years. He is passionate about giving back to the community and donates to nearly all the vital nonprofits in our community.



## Community Member: **Teresa Proaño**

Teresa Proaño is an alum of Skyline College who attended school at night while working full time and caring for her three children. She graduated in 1999 with honors.

Theresa is extremely passionate about serving the community through positions she holds on nonprofit boards. She also lends her talents in event planning and fundraising to Seton Medical Center and Daly City Peninsula Library Associates. She is longtime supporter of the local Chambers of Commerce, a Daly City Host Lion, a board member of the Daly City Food Pantry and Dining Center and of course, a member of the Skyline College President's Council. This individual is our most enthusiastic President's Council member, our biggest fundraiser and a true leader.



# SKYLINE COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

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## MISSION

To empower and transform a global community of learners.

## VISION

Skyline College inspires a global and diverse community of learners to achieve intellectual, cultural, social, and economic and personal fulfillment.

