



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

NOVEMBER  
2022

REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS



## JOIN US FOR A FEAST!



## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Student Trustee Corona! He has been elected SSSCC Region I's Legislative Affairs Director. His student advocacy will reach statewide.



I had the pleasure of spending time at the Coast Center College Day on October 20th. The Coast Center welcomed over 150 students from Noyo HS, Fort Bragg HS, Mendocino HS, Three

Rivers Charter School, and the Coast Center. The coast team of Coast Center Supervisor, Katherine Brown, STNC Coast Center Assistants Marcia Williams, Kailyn McCord, and Dean Amanda Xu with additional support from Lake Center Assistant, Machiko Shimada, and North County Center Assistant, Tammy Carlson did an amazing job.

Thank you to the staff and faculty from across the district for participating. Areas included student services (Financial Aid, EOPS, Counseling, CAMP, Native American Student Resource Center, Learning Center, MESA, Career Hub, Student Life, Disability Resource Center, Women in STEM Club), academic departments (PTA, English, Spanish, Cooperative Work Experience, Ceramics, Construction, Photography, Math, Culinary, Theater, Fine Woodworking, Digital Arts and Media, Computer Science, Administration of Justice, English as a Second Language, Biology, and Agriculture) and the Mendocino College Foundation and Mendocino Coast Health Foundation.

## STUDENT SERVICES CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Financial Aid Technicians Victoria Ramos, Yasmin Muniz, and Jenny Yang attended the 2022 California Community Colleges Student Financial Aid Administrators Association Conference (CASFAA) titled "Better Together" held in Santa Clara, CA, from October 22-25. This conference provides financial aid professionals with federal and state updates on the latest policy changes. Financial Aid Technicians had the opportunity to listen to and apply the new updates to our daily processing duties and prepare for the future academic year. Coming in 2024-2025: The New FAFSA presentation provided essential guidelines and updates on the changes due to FAFSA simplification and the expansion eligibility for the Federal Pell grant starting the 2024-2025 academic year. In addition, other training provided essential information to build engagement and protect student-identifiable information.

EOPS staff Nancy Heath and Juvenal Vasquez attended the California Community Colleges EOPS Association (CCCEOPSA) Conference held in Palm Springs October 25-27. The conference included four excellent keynote speakers, an array of exciting and educational workshops, and opportunities to connect with EOPS staff from other colleges. In addition to the speakers and workshop presenters, we were provided with updates from the Chancellor's Office staff, a Legislative Advocacy update, and gathered with staff from the other colleges within our region for a regional meeting.

Vice President Ulises Velasco and CAMP Manager Mariana Martinez attended the first COLEGAS annual conference in Long Beach on November 2-4. The conference was titled "Pa'delante Juntos Podemos" and centered on creating a supportive environment for Latinx professionals in the community college system as they navigate the established structures to better support students in a culturally responsive way. VP Velasco attended for a more extended period of time to assist with the execution of the conference as a member of the executive board of this organization.

## TRANSFER CENTER SERVICES

After the successful piloting of the Transfer Talk Series last year, Transfer Counselor/Coordinator Mark Osea again reached out to his colleagues to offer this service this Fall. On Tuesday, September 27th, the Transfer Talk Series kicked off with Yuliana Sandoval, Director of Financial Aid & EOPS, presenting "Financing the Next Two Years." On Tuesday, October 25th, EOPS Counselor Meztlí Aviña presented "Preparing Your Transfer-Mation," a unique workshop offered for the first time to assist students with the mental and emotional preparation needed for transferring to a four-year university. The next session will be on November 29th with EOPS Counselor Emily Hashemian to discuss the support services offered at Mendocino College and those offered at four-year universities.

## SPRING REGISTRATION

The Admissions and Records Team is preparing for spring registration. Priority registration begins November 14th, and open registration for the spring term begins November 18th.

## REG-2-GO START

The Reg-2-Go season had a successful start at Ukiah High School, with 60 students indicating interest in Mendocino College to further their education. In the coming months, the Outreach Team will meet with students at 11 schools throughout the district to provide Reg-2-Go services and will continue to collaborate with Financial Aid staff during FAFSA nights and participate in community events district-wide.

## BASIC NEEDS SUPPORT

Over the past month, gently used clothing donations were collected to offer to students in need. All students were invited to shop in the Clothing Closet on campus in the Basic Needs Center. The clothing closet provided everyday wear, outerwear, and business casual clothes to students free of charge. While shopping, students were offered support applying for Cal Fresh benefits. The Clothing Closet Event occurred between October 24th and 27th.

## VETERAN'S DAY EVENT

The Veterans Day BBQ and Resource Fair is scheduled for November 10th in the Pomo Plaza. The event will feature a tri-tip BBQ cooked by our friends at Savings Bank of Mendocino County and informational booths featuring local businesses and agencies serving veterans and their families. All are invited to attend.

**WEAVING WEDNESDAYS**

Weaving Wednesdays were hosted in the Native American Student Resource Center (NASRC) and supported by Director of Student Life and Support Bonnie Lockhart and NASRC Specialist Anthony Billy on October 5th, 12th, & 19th between 11-3 pm. Students learned to weave twine baskets out of rattan and learned to dye reeds. Students improved their weaving skills each week, and some even taught each other new techniques. Students are excited to learn different styles and gather traditional materials. Weaving Wednesdays will pick up in November in the Library during the transition of the NASRC to its new centrally located space on campus.

Weaving Wednesdays were followed by jam sessions by students who utilize the NASRC. This started when one of our Native students shared with the NASRC Team that they would like to host Jam Sessions and invite other students on our campus to participate. The weekly Jam Session has become a space for students to bring their instruments and voices together and play music. This student support group encouraged a student to share that they would "rather be at the Jam Session than the bar".

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Oct 4 - Nov 6: Faculty Art Exhibition

Nov 2: Dia de los Muertos

Nov 4: Native American Heritage Day

Nov 10: Veteran's BBQ

Nov 18 - 20: Perspectives Dance Show

Nov 24 - 25: Thanksgiving Holiday

Dec 1: MC Family Feast

Dec 1: Jazz Band Concert

Dec 2: Holiday Ceramics Sale

Dec 3-4: Symphony Concert

**OCTOBER 18TH FACULTY IN-SERVICE**

On Tuesday, October 18th faculty participated in a special non-instructional day in-service. All full-time faculty and some part-time faculty attended workshops and planning sessions for a full day of professional development. During the morning, breakout sessions led by faculty were held to discuss culturally responsive teaching, grading for equity, and facilitating effective classroom discussions. Counselors met to work on their College Career Success curriculum. In the afternoon, faculty met in their Learning and Career Pathways to complete their Program Maps. These maps will offer students a guide for completing degrees and certificates.

**PUMPKINFEST**

Mendocino College hosted a booth during PumpkinFest over the weekend of October 15-16. Our booth was overwhelmingly popular. This event takes a large amount of time to plan and pull off. Thank you to Anastasia Simpson-Logg for leading us and Jenny Yang, Yasmin Muniz, Esmeralda Muniz, Mo Menlove, Naoto Horiguchi, Rose Bell, Malissa Donegan, Manuel Galicia, Brianna Zuber, Mary Lamb, Betsy Helms, Patrick Butler, Tony Novelli, and Nayeli Chaidez for making it happen.

**KZYX**

Director of Financial Aid and EOPS, Yuliana Sandoval, and Articulation Officer and Transfer Counselor, Mark Edward Osea, participated in the KZYW Mendocino College Radio Hours hosted by Julie McGovern, Executive Director of the Mendocino College Foundation on November 1st. The segment was titled "Affordability of Community College and options available at Mendocino College." The show highlighted the affordability of community college, the resources available at Mendocino College to assist prospective and existing students, and the opportunity for students to continue their education at a four-year institution.

**ASMC HALLOWEEN PARTY**

ASMC student leaders organized and executed a Halloween Party on October 31st with the support of the Director of Student Life and Support Bonnie Lockhart. They decorated Lowery Student Center with spider webs, lights, streamers, and fog for the event. Students prepared excellent snacks, including cupcakes that had sugar glass on top, themed juices, and mummy pigs in a blanket. Students hosted various activities, including a Pumpkin Carving contest and a Costume Contest. Additionally, there was music, scary movies, pool, and ping pong. This created an excellent environment for approximately 40 students to hang out on Halloween.

**BOARD SUB-COMMITTEES**

The land acknowledgment board sub-committee continues its work. A preliminary statement was shared with constituency groups at PBC. Feedback gathered from the constituency group has been summarized and shared with the sub-committee. The health benefits board sub-committee is in the process of selecting a date for its initial meeting.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEE TRAINING MATERIALS**

The Community College League of California, <https://ccleague.org/resources/publications>, produces a variety of publications to assist trustees in fulfilling their roles and responsibilities.

Electronic copies of the following publications will be emailed to trustees. Other reports and publications can be sent to trustees upon request.

- Board and CEO Roles: Different Jobs, Different Tasks, updated 2020
- Introduction to Fiscal Responsibilities, updated January 2021
- Trustee Handbook, updated January 2021

The League hosts annual events and webinars that are specific to the development of trustees. The following is a link to event and webinar information, <https://ccleague.org/leadership-development/i-am-a-trustee>.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEE STIPENDS AND MILEAGE**

Below is information concerning the Trustee's monthly stipends and mileage claims. The range of stipends for Trustees is based on Educational Code Section 72024. Stipend amounts are tiered based on district size (FTES). The maximum amount that can be set for districts with 1,000 to 10,000 FTES is \$240. MLCCD Board Policy 2725 sets our stipend rate at \$100.

For comparison, the table below are the stipend rates at similar sized district in the North/Far North region.

District - Stipend
Mendocino - 100
Redwoods - 240
Siskiyou - 240
Lassen - 240
Lake Tahoe - 0
Feather River - 120

Trustees may claim mileage reimbursement for official meetings, conferences, and functions outside of district boundaries. Within district boundaries, a trustee may claim mileage reimbursement for scheduled board meetings away from the Ukiah campus or to attend official college events at any location.

**TRUSTEES ACKNOWLEDGED**

Trustees Nickerman and Tomkins are acknowledged for their service to Mendocino College at the November 2022 board meeting.