



Cuyamaca College *News*



CUYAMACA
COLLEGE

GROWING FOR YOUR FUTURE

FALL ISSUE 2006

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College Celebrates *New* Student Center Groundbreaking

More than love was in the air this past Valentine's Day at Cuyamaca College as the college broke ground for its \$18 million student center. The excitement was palpable since this is a moment that has been in the making for seventeen years. In 1989, students at the college approved a one-dollar per unit assessment fee, which over the years has grown to \$748,000 and now will be used in conjunction with local bond funds to pay for the construction.



Left to right: Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, Cuyamaca College President; Dr. Omero Suarez, GCCCD Chancellor; Rick Alexander, Trustee; Deanna Weeks, Governing Board President; Rosalyn Johnson, ASCC President; Bill Stanford, Student Trustee

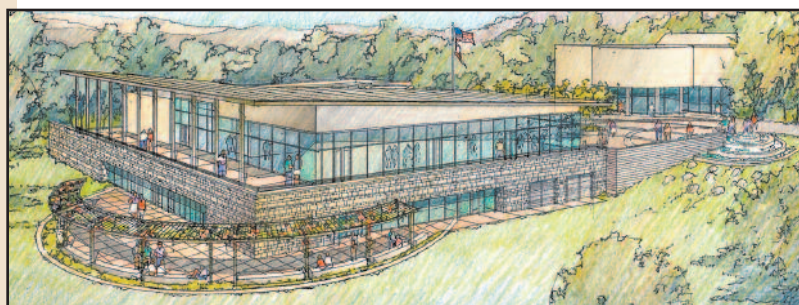
Dr. Geraldine Perri, college president, talked about how the groundbreaking marks a new era in how student life is defined at the college. "Gone will be the days of dining at the Coyote's Shack—I mean Den," she said. "Gone will be the days of a mini-bookstore or crowding around the few benches for a rest in between classes."

The 47,000 square foot, two-story student center, which is scheduled for completion in Fall 2007, will provide students with a wide-range of services and facilities under one roof. The center will house the bookstore, health and wellness center, student government and club offices, an administrative office, a student-run copy center, student lounge and game room, a food court, dining areas, a convenience store, coffee shop and three multi-purpose rooms.

The building itself, designed by LPA Inc., will have a contemporary, yet organic look with many floor-to-ceiling windows and skylights. One particularly notable feature is its asymmetrical, sloped roof that will work as an on-site rain gauge during inclement weather. According to Jim Raver, the building's architect, the building's proximity to the Science and Technology Mall was the impetus for the unique element, which can be used by physical science students to study hydraulic forces and to record rainfall.

"The rain gauge feature ties in with the Indian meaning of the word, 'Cuyamaca' which is, 'Place where the rain falls from the heavens.'"

Governing Board President Deanna Weeks summed up the feelings of most at the groundbreaking when she said, "Cuyamaca students have waited a long time for this facility which represents another block in the foundation that will help ensure student success at Cuyamaca College."



Cuyamaca College Student Center Scheduled for Completion, Fall 2007



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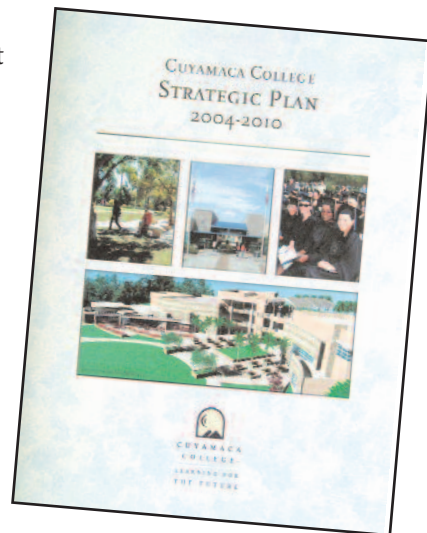
Dr. Geraldine M. Perri

A Message from the President

Cuyamaca College is in a season of celebrations! As the President of Cuyamaca College, I am enthusiastic about how the college's Strategic Plan 2004-2010 continues to be the catalyst for progress and activities at the college. Faculty, staff, students and administrators provide the energy and drive that keep Cuyamaca College moving forward in realizing our strategic plan values through the myriad of institutional plans, events and recognitions this past spring. I want to share a sampling of why we have cause to be jubilant.

The value of Academic Excellence and Program Development is definitely alive and well – with the Academic Master Plan, Technology Plan, Student Services Master Plan and Annual Implementation Plan providing the direction of the college.

Our endeavors in the area of Student Success have resulted in the re-naming of the Transfer Center to the University Transfer Center. The Center's newsletter is an added bonus to keep our students informed of transfer opportunities and deadlines. The Transfer Achievement Celebration is in its second year and boasts the transfer of 600 students to four-year colleges and universities around the United States. We awarded \$108,250 in student scholarships at our annual Scholarship Award Ceremony – our biggest year ever; and \$27,870 in Ornamental Horticulture scholarships at the Cuyamaca College Botanical Society annual event.



The Facilities and Physical Environment is progressing so quickly, it's a challenge to stay abreast of the latest developments. The Science and Technology Mall is nearing completion and we marvel at how much gets done seemingly overnight. The Student Center's groundbreaking event in February launched that construction project right away; and the Communication Arts Center is definitely on the college's map. I must commend our college community for the excitement and enthusiasm expressed on a daily basis about how expeditiously our construction projects are advancing. Our college community has been exceptionally gracious as three major construction projects are in full swing, and I am honored to serve alongside such a great group of faculty, staff and students.

In the area of Community Relations, Cuyamaca College leads the pack! Our Outreach Department ambassadors are busily making appearances in the community and at local high schools. In fact, the Outreach Department was presented the prestigious "Golden Coyote" award for their efforts. This award is a testament to the dedication of this group of students who represent Cuyamaca College in our community.

Last, but not least, the Resource Development value of our Strategic Plan remains an area of much success. The Annual Cuyamaca College Foundation Dinner Dance broke all records with its highest-ever record of over \$100,000 raised. Foundation funds will provide scholarship support to our students and fund special college projects.

Cuyamaca College is definitely "moving on up!" Our goal of 15,000 students by the year 2015 is only nine years away! We can see the fruits of our labor, and together we look forward to a future that is filled with student successes as we press on towards our vision of "Learning for the Future."

Sincerely,

Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.
President

Academic Senate, A Reflection and an Update



Jan Ford

The Cuyamaca College Academic Senate has been working diligently to strengthen and enhance academic excellence and student access. A curriculum package developed by faculty included nineteen new courses, modifications to twenty-one courses, approval of sixteen additional courses to be offered through distance learning, and new programs in Business Data Management, Early Childhood Intervention, and Communication.

Also concerned about the rising cost of books, the Senate awarded \$250.00 in book vouchers to

students who participated in the two college schedule kick-off events. The awards came from faculty contributions.

The 2006-2007 academic year will definitely be a busy one for the Senate, and the new senate officers Michael Wangler, vice president, Kari Wergeland, officer-at-large, and Peter Haro, part-time officer-at-large, will be looking for faculty who want to join and help Cuyamaca move forward. Shared governance doesn't work without faculty participation.

Accreditation Progress Report

Work on writing the College Accreditation Self Study is on track for the year—and it has been a team effort! Four major teams have completed drafts addressing Institutional Mission and Effectiveness; Student Learning Programs and Services; Resources; and Leadership and Governance. Beyond these efforts, however, the heart of the process has centered on taking stock of the college organization, systems and processes.

One example of careful assessment that has taken place through the Self Study is the re-visiting of the college and district mission statements. Working through shared governance groups, including the District Coordinating Education Council and the college Innovation and Planning Council, faculty and staff have amplified the mission statement to include a more detailed discussion of the community population and a description of the programs and services offered. The college and district strategic visions and philosophies have also been incorporated.

The Steering Committee, comprised of all co-chairs of standard committees as well as representatives from constituencies, includes President Geraldine Perri; Cuyamaca College Foundation representative Allan Brown; Academic Senate President Jan Ford; Classified Senate Vice President Maggie Gonzales; Associated Student President Rosalyn Johnson; Michael Wangler and Cristina Chiriboga Accreditation Co-chairs; Kathryn Nette (Standard I), Teresa McNeil (Standard II), Donna Riley and Arleen Satele (Standard III), and Gene Morones (Standard IV).

New Executive Dean of Institutional Advancement



Henri Migala

Cuyamaca College has a new Executive Dean of Institutional Advancement, Mr. Henri Migala. Mr. Migala comes to Cuyamaca with impressive credentials and experience. He has a Masters degree in Public Health from the University of North Texas and an M.A. in Anthropology/Sociology from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Before coming to Cuyamaca, he served as Director of Health Programs for the International Relief Teams organization in San Diego. As director, he had a wide

range of responsibilities including new program development, fundraising and grant writing, grant administration and management, media relations, as well as partnership development with public and private agencies and community groups. Mr. Migala also has experience as a college instructor, having taught at San Diego City College, UCSD and San Diego State University.

In his new role as Executive Dean of Institutional Advancement, Mr. Migala will be responsible for the institutional advancement of the college through resource development and promotion of college and community relations. He will be coordinating the grants program, and working with staff and faculty to identify and develop grant resources. In addition to serving as the liaison to the College Foundation, he will be the college's official Public Information Officer.

New 2006-2007 ASCC Officers

Students at Cuyamaca College recently elected new officers for the 2006-2007 school year. Brian Hash is the new Associated Students of Cuyamaca College President. Brian's military background and dedication to teambuilding will provide ASCC with a fresh perspective. Wegahta Medhanie will serve as Executive Vice President; Charles Taylor is now Evening Vice

President, and Bill Stanford will be returning as Treasurer. Filling the post of Student Trustee to the GCCCD Governing Board is Pat Ardilla. A working parent, Pat will bring a new dimension to this role and will certainly prove a valuable student resource to the Board of Trustees.

Cuyamaca College

Faculty and Staff

O.H. Instructor is also Editor

Susan Butler, who teaches floral design in the Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture program, is a contributing editor to the recently published AIFD *Guide to Floral Design, Terms, Techniques, & Transitions*. The publication, unveiled at the 2005 National American Institute of Floral Design (AIFD) Symposium, is a 350-page reference source for floral designers.

Math Instructor Wins Award

The Greater San Diego Mathematics Council for the Outstanding Classroom Mathematics Award selected Eric Preibisius, Cuyamaca College math instructor, for the Post-Secondary Level award for 2005-06. As part of the award, Eric received a \$175.00 check to be used for the mathematics program at Cuyamaca College.



Dr. Marsha Fralick

Counselor Achieves Prominence in Personal Development

Cuyamaca College Counselor, Dr. Marsha Fralick gave a very successful

presentation at the National Conference for the Freshman Year Experience held in Atlanta, Georgia. Over 100 conference participants attended her presentation "Career Planning for the New Millennial Generation." Her presentation included research she conducted at Cuyamaca College and generated increased interest in her textbook, *College and Career Success*, which is now used in eight states across the country.

Connie Elder Nominated for Educator Award

Connie Elder, CIS instructor, was nominated for the prestigious Athena Pinnacle Educator Award for the second time. Athena is an organization that contributes to the vitality of women's roles in the San Diego technology community and nurtures the next generation of women executives. The Pinnacle Awards recognize women and men who support the Athena vision: To foster personal and professional change through inclusion, risk taking, education, recognition and diversity of thought thereby enhancing competitiveness and opportunity in the San Diego business community.



Connie Elder

Paralegal Instructor is Internet Expert

Stephanie Tripp, part-time instructor in the Paralegal Studies Program, co-presented a course offered by the National Business Institute titled, "Internet Strategies for Legal Professionals." An attorney who has practiced law and taught continuing legal education seminars to California attorneys, Stephanie has also lectured to various professional groups on cost-effective legal research and is a recognized expert in the field of Internet research for legal professionals.

Top Honors Awarded to New O.H. Instructor

Nick DeLorenzo, a landscape design instructor in the Ornamental Horticulture program, received the President's Award from SD/ASLA Design for the Clubhouse at the Woods at Eastlake. Nick also received honor and Merit Awards for other projects.

Classified Staff Featured

Maggie Gonzales, Jan Recktenwald and Shari Ball, Cuyamaca College classified staff members, were featured in the May 4th edition of *The East County Californian* in an article entitled "Career Change: Going Back to School Later in Life." The article focused on the challenges and benefits of attaining a degree in higher education.



(left to right) Maggie Gonzales, Jan Recktenwald, Shari Ball

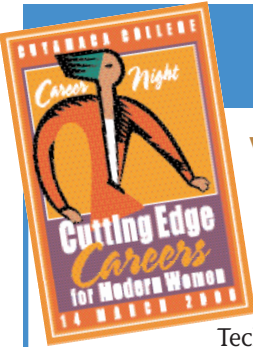
Instructors Selected for Science Workshop

Three Cuyamaca instructors were selected to attend the Case Studies in Science Summer Workshop in Buffalo, New York. Terrie Nichols, math; Robert Mazalewski, ornamental horticulture; and Laurie Leblanc, chemistry, attended a five-day workshop sponsored by the National Science Foundation, which focused on training and facilitating the writing of an interdisciplinary case study on environmental science.

As workshop participants, they will publish their case study in the national peer-reviewed case collection at the University of Buffalo. The team is pursuing a case study, which will enable them to do an investigation of an environmental problem, both experimentally and mathematically. They hope this experience will be the beginning of many collaborations between college disciplines.

Success Stories!

The College



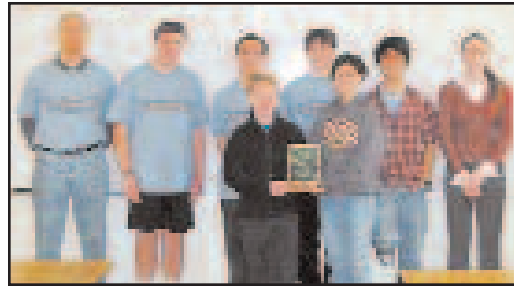
Women in Technology Career Night

The young women who attended the Women in

Technology Second Annual Career Night "Cutting Edge Careers for Modern Women" came away informed and excited about the many opportunities for women in technology. The very successful event focused on math, sciences, technology, and trades currently underrepresented by women. Over 250 young women and their parents attended the event, which featured keynote speaker, Bridget Landry, Deputy Systems Uplink Engineer of the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, CA.

Environmental Forum

The Cuyamaca College Environmental Health and Safety Technology Department's Annual Spring Industry Panel Night was a great success. Recognizing how important it is for students to interact with the community and business world, the event sponsors provided students with career information, job contacts, and increased cooperative work experience opportunities. This event is also designed to increase community awareness and outreach. Under the leadership of adjunct instructor Rick Wilson, the program has more than doubled in size over the past five years.



Math Science Field Day First Place winners, Francis Parker High

Math Science Field Day

Teams of students from various San Diego County high schools including Francis Parker, La Jolla High, Patrick Henry, Helix High, Canyon Crest, Carlsbad, Escondido, Mira Mesa, Vista, San Diego, and Scripps Ranch High School participated in the 43rd Annual High School Math Field Day sponsored by Cuyamaca College. Over 130 team members participated in the event. A total of thirty medals were awarded to individual students while teams were awarded prizes such as graphing calculators donated by Texas Instruments. Math instructors, Eric Preibisius and Tammi Marshall organized the event.



Automotive Skills Day 2006

Cuyamaca College students present and past attended the high school automotive contest sponsored by the college Automotive Department in partnership with ASC (Automotive Service Council). Nearly fifty high school students exhibited their automotive skills in advanced and basic automotive areas for thousands of dollars in prizes, basic hand tools and cash. One exciting addition to this year's event were the two past program graduates, Richard Hogue and Steven Jennings, who brought their own teams to compete from Granite Hills and El Camino high schools where they are now teaching.



600 Students Receive Degrees and Certificates

On May 31st, Cuyamaca College held its 28th Annual Commencement exercises. Close to 600 students received their associate degree or certificate. Award-winning political cartoonist, Steve Kelley was this year's commencement speaker. Dianne Wilcox was named Valedictorian.



Students

Transfer Student to Attend CalTech

Cuyamaca Student Silas Bennett, was recently accepted to the University of California, Berkeley as well as the California Institute of Technology. He will be attending Cal Tech in fall 2006 as an Applied Physics major and will study alternative fuel and energy issues.

Track and Field Faculty and Students are Stars

Cuyamaca College has several new track stars, each recognized for their excellence by the Foothill Conference. Coach Patrick Thiss was named Foothill Conference Track and Field Coach of the Year for Men's Track and Field, and

Coach Jennifer Williams was named Foothill Conference Track and Field Coach of the Year for Women's Track and Field. Michelle Thompson was named The Foothill Conference Field Athlete of the Year, and David Mosier was selected Foothill Conference Track Athlete of the year.

Golden Coyote and Faculty Awards at Spring Convocation

When faculty and staff gather to begin each new Spring semester, one of the highlights of the event is the award ceremony. At the Spring 2006 Convocation, President Perri presented Golden Coyote Awards to faculty, staff and students who have demonstrated their excellence in ways that keep the college flourishing.



Academic Excellence & Program Development:

Lindy Brazil, Chuck Charter, Jackie Hider, Mary Graham, Susan Haber, Angela Nesta, Lyn Neylon, Eric Preibisius, Deanna Thompson, Peter Utgaard, Michael Wangler, Nancy Perry, Debra Miller, Tim Buckles, Susan Haber, Donna Riley

Student Success:

Jan Ford, Teresa McNeil, Mary Graham, Al Taccone, Kathryn Nette, David Burnett, Rosalyn Johnson, Bill Stanford, Outreach Ambassadors, Barbara Meese, Beth Appenzeller

Facilities and the Physical Environment:

David Suter, Eric Reuter, John Heimaster, Brad Monroe, Larry Sherwood

Community Relations:

Therese Botz, Kathy McWilliams, Laurie LeBlanc

Resource Development:

Pam Lawless, Susan Crabtree, Barbara Nghiem, Billie Levan, Sara Grasmick, Madelaine Wolfe, Donna Lee-Cristaldi, Brad Monroe

Faculty of the Year!

In addition to the Golden Coyote Awards, two other very significant awards were given to faculty recognizing their outstanding teaching. Senate President Jan Ford presented the 2006 Faculty of the Year awards to adjunct ESL instructor Guillermo Colls and CIS instructor Jodi Reed. Both instructors were lauded by their students and peers for their dedication to students and their excellent teaching.



Jan Ford, Guillermo Colls



Jan Ford, President Perri, Jodi Reed

Sabbatical Projects Improve Teachers and Teaching

Cuyamaca College faculty always work hard to improve their teaching skills and increase their knowledge. Evidence of four instructor's dedication to the college can be seen in the projects each completed during their sabbaticals.

Brad Monroe, ornamental horticulture instructor, visited horticultural sites on three continents and twelve countries, including botanical gardens, parks, arboretums, nurseries, educational institutions and garden shows. He took over 11,000 photos and video clips for use in presentations to students and faculty and has also posted 750 of the best photos online.

CADD Technology Instructor *Therese Weeden*, taking her lead from the college's Academic Master plan, sought to find information on the best way to improve the CADD (Computer Aided Drafting and Design) program at Cuyamaca and "design a new learning culture in smart lab environment in Room G-101."

She visited several CADD labs throughout the state and consulted with CADD instructors and managers during her leave.

Inwon Leu, math instructor, wanted to learn more about teaching online and as a result of her sabbatical project, she has developed a new online statistics course. She became a student in an online class to know what her own online students will face, explored software and various online platforms, attended workshops and then wrote curriculum for the course.

ASL Instructor, *Therese Botz*, used her sabbatical to work on improving student retention, persistence and success in American Sign Language. She was able to travel to Gallaudet University and consult with College President I. King Jordan and Jerald Jordan, Immediate Past President World Games for the Deaf. This project allowed her to create instructor modules for training adjunct faculty and work towards closer alignment with the Grossmont College ASL program.

Professional Development Academy Serves East County Businesses



Cuyamaca College's Professional Development Academy (PDA) has been busy providing East County employees with new and improved customer service and supervision skills. Since the grant began in April 2005, the PDA has served almost 1700 students in just over 100 training sessions.

Classes have been delivered at Cuyamaca's REBRAC Center in El Cajon and onsite at various employers such as Kaiser Permanente, City of La Mesa, Dixieline Lumber, Padre Dam Municipal Water District and Golden Acorn Casino. Students range from employees in the City of La Mesa's Planning Department to pharmacists at Kaiser. Pam Brasher, Director of the Santee School District's Project SAFE, said that the PDA Supervision classes provided her staff with tools needed to affect change the next day, and participants felt the training was well worth their time and effort.

"As East County businesses experience stiffer competition, more diverse customer and employee bases and higher costs of having and maintaining employees, they are turning to us for help," shares Jennifer Lewis, Project Specialist for the PDA. Employers are reaping the benefits of a better-trained workforce and, in turn, East County's economy is growing thanks partially to the classes offered by Cuyamaca's PDA.

To learn more about this exciting program, visit the new PDA website at www.ProfessionalDevelopmentAcademy.com

C.S.I. Comes to Cuyamaca

As a creative way to enhance student learning, Biology Instructor Dr. Kathryn Nette and Chemistry Instructor Laurie LeBlanc, ended their fall semester biology and chemistry classes on a high note with an exercise that made students investigators at the scene of a crime. Much like the investigators in the popular television show *CSI*, students in these classes worked together using chemical and biological analysis to solve a crime that had been staged as part of the exercise.

Before starting their investigation, students heard a real Crime Scene Investigator from the San Diego Sheriff's department talk about the methods used by someone doing this type of job, as well as the educational preparation

needed for such a position. Students involved in the project learned about current scientific techniques, how to integrate chemical and biological concepts and work in cross disciplinary teams, and sharpened their writing and presentation skills.



TITLE III Grant Fosters Innovation

In its third year, the federal Title III grant program continues to provide support for innovation at the college.

Designed to address college needs in three areas—curriculum development, technology integration, and faculty training—the grant has fostered a spirit of experimentation in the classroom and in counseling services. Eleven projects were funded in 2005-06 from an English-as-a-Second Language mini-reading lab to the creation of online counseling. Cuyamaca students now have access to a counselor and can ask questions at any time of day or night.

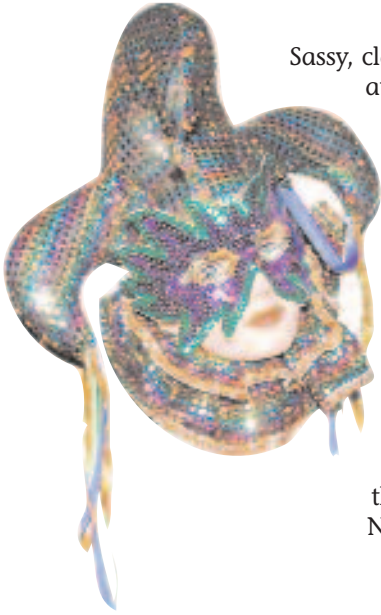
One major focus of the grant is to promote awareness college-wide of the needs of high-risk students. Various departments



have developed approaches to establishing learning communities in classes and instructional programs. The Math department, for example, has created a drop-in group study session for beginning Algebra students; through this activity, students can count on peer support and hands-on coaching to succeed in this critical gateway class.

In fall 2006, Title III will sponsor the nationally renowned intensive On Course Learning Institute for college faculty and staff. Scheduled to take place over a three-day period, September 15-17, at the University of San Diego, the seminar will provide training for faculty on how to employ learner-centered strategies for empowering students to become active, responsible and successful learners. The Title III Project Coordinating Task Force, comprised of faculty and administrative staff from both Instruction and Student Services and chaired by Title III Activity Director, Maria Mendoza-Bautista, continues to guide the grant activities and provide leadership for planning and evaluation.

Foundation's Masquerade Ball Breaks All Records



Sassy, classy, or in disguise, all types of costumes were on display at the 7th Annual Cuyamaca College Dinner Dance and Auction – Masquerade. Over 250 attendees bid on items donated by college departments, individual staff members and businesses. Up for auction were items such as Taylor Guitars, a Deering Banjo, vacations, season passes to the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, Sharp LCD TV, Toshiba Media Center, signed Lorenzo Neal football, signed Bruce Bochy baseball and much, much more.

All records were broken for sponsorships, silent auction, live auction and raffle, and over \$100,000 was raised. A wide range of individuals, businesses and community groups made this event possible including the co-sponsors, the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation and Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians.

*Cuyamaca College
Foundation President,
Patty McCormack*



*Master of Ceremonies,
Auctioneer and
Cuyamaca College
Foundation Member,
Ken McCormack*



**GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS:**

Rick Alexander • Timothy L. Caruthers, D.C.
Bill Garrett • Deanna Weeks
Student Members: Pat Ardilla • Cathy Keyes
Chancellor: Omero Suarez, Ph.D.
Cuyamaca College President: Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.

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