

College of the Canyons

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

ACCESS. ENGAGEMENT. SUCCESS.





Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook

Chancellor



**“Don’t sit down and wait
for the opportunities to come.
Get up and make them.”**

~ Madam C.J. Walker

The first Friday of June is by far my most favorite day of the year. It’s Commencement, when hundreds of graduates file into the Honor Grove to the cheers of thousands of friends and family, and those at College of the Canyons who helped make the day of accomplishment and recognition possible.

The students’ energy is infectious, and as I stand on the stage and shake their hands, I am reminded anew why I do what I do, and I am even more inspired to continue leading College of the Canyons forward in its efforts to enhance student access, engagement and success.

The evident belief our students have in their capabilities reminds me what our team of faculty, staff, administrators, and volunteers can accomplish. Together, we are united in our drive to deliver for our students and our community. By always working to create new opportunities, focusing on innovation, and being willing to form dynamic partnerships, we create ongoing success that benefits everyone we serve.

Creating Opportunities

College of the Canyons serves as a gateway of opportunity for the more than 37,000 students we serve each year. Their aspirations and goals are as varied as their circumstances and stories. But they are united by their desire to achieve, and their appreciation for the opportunities that College of the Canyons makes available.

During the 2022-23 academic year, we celebrated the 15th anniversary of the opening of the Canyon Country campus. We established the campus on Sierra Highway in direct response to the demand for educational opportunity on the eastern side of the Santa Clarita Valley. In the late 1990s, the largest percentage of our students lived in Canyon Country and surrounding areas. By opening a campus there, we eliminated the need to drive across town to attend class. Since its opening in fall 2007, the campus has served 70,000 unique students, confirming that making education more accessible creates more opportunity for student achievement.

We celebrated another milestone by marking the 50th anniversary of the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program, which is the second oldest program of its kind in Los Angeles County. Since 1972, COC’s EMT program has trained more than 5,000

EMT students. That initial training opens the door of opportunity for graduates to pursue careers in related fields like firefighting, law enforcement and nursing.

New funding unlocks new opportunities, and our purposeful and strategic pursuit of grants and other revenue outside of state-allocated resources resulted in the generation of more than \$15 million in grant revenue, including a \$3 million Title V: Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions award from the U.S. Department of Education, a \$1.5 million Native American Student Support & Success Program allocation from the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office, and a \$500,000 National Science Foundation award to engage students in bee biodiversity research. These awards will enhance our efforts to serve both student populations and ultimately lead to increased rates of student success.

The Power of Partnerships

We are fortunate to benefit from the power of one that is unique to the Santa Clarita Valley. In our service area, we have one city, one county, one high school district, one chamber of commerce, one industrial association, and one economic development corporation. Much of what we achieve at College of the Canyons is directly attributable to our commitment to partnerships with these and nearly 100 other organizations. We recognize that our partners bring unique strengths to the table, and when we combine our organizations’ respective capabilities, we can achieve more together than we could by working alone.

Partnerships have enabled us to create job opportunities for students that sometimes have difficulty finding employment. The Ready to Work Academy, a partnership between College of the Canyons and Carousel Ranch, provides vocational training for special needs students in a classroom setting and work experience at partner companies such as Starbucks, Holiday Inn Express, Bluemark, AMS Fulfillment, and Pet Care Plus. The Uniquely Abled Academy provides hands-on CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machine training to individuals on the autism spectrum, who are highly sought after by employers for their ability to focus and attention to detail. And, just this year, we partnered with USC’s University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles to

BY THE NUMBERS



\$336,800

College of the Canyons Foundation scholarships awarded to 381 students

\$15,016,557

Grant revenue generated to support innovation & student success

\$2.5 MILLION

External funding generated to provide business and industry training

#17

COC's national ranking for Hispanic student enrollment

55,000

Square footage of the new Student Services & Learning Resources Center



1,787
Associate of
Arts/Science
Degrees

1,246
Associate of Arts/
Science Transfer
Degrees

2,595
Certificates of
Achievement &
Specialization

Students Served

37,182

2022-23 Unduplicated Headcount

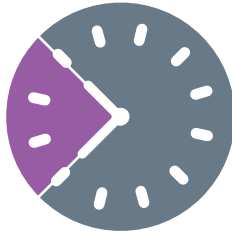


Female: 39% Male: 60.3%

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Attendance

25%
Full-time
(12+ units)

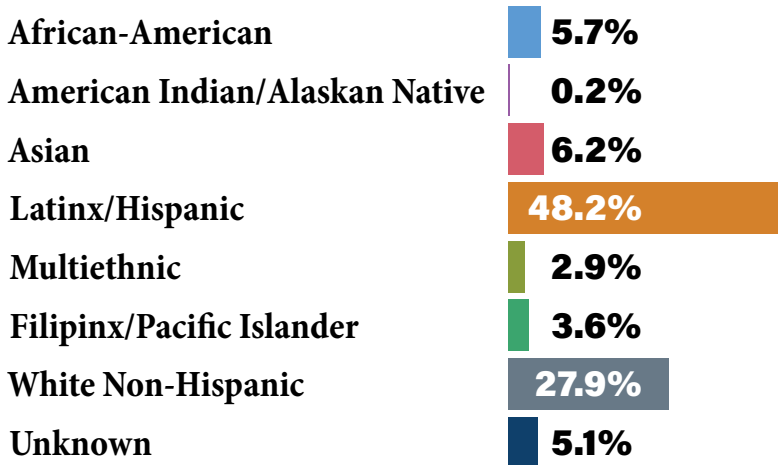


75%
Part-time
(11 units or less)

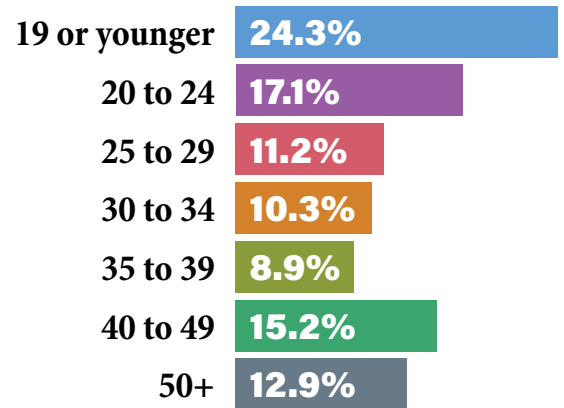


Median wage increase
of students who completed
career education courses

Students By Ethnicity



Students By Age



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

By collaborating with partners across the community, College of the Canyons creates new possibilities for students and serves as a resource for the Santa Clarita Valley.

Job Fair Draws Hundreds

College of the Canyons partnered with the City of Santa Clarita, Santa Clarita Valley Economic Development Corporation and America's Job Center of California to host the SCV Job Fair in October 2022. Held at the city's Canyon Country Community Center, the event drew hundreds of job seekers and more than 100 employers.



Manufacturing Day Inspires Students

COC hosted Manufacturing Day at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center to provide a deeper understanding of modern manufacturing and opportunities available within the industry to students, parents, and the public.



Summit Highlights Human Trafficking

College of the Canyons hosted the Annual Human Trafficking Summit in the Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook University Center. The standing-room-only crowd, plus more than 100 online participants, heard from human trafficking survivors from the Power Project and nationally and internationally known experts in the field. The event was sponsored by the Sunrise Santa Clarita Valley Rotary Club and the COC Civic Engagement Department.



'An Afternoon with Dr. Angela Davis'

Political activist and renowned scholar Dr. Angela Davis spoke at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center (PAC). Part of COC's Anti-Racism Speaker Series, "An Afternoon with Dr. Angela Davis" was an hour-long event that offered audience members the opportunity to hear Davis discuss how to become an activist, lead as a woman in any space, and inspire others to get involved.

Accelerated TK Credential Pathway Created

In response to an anticipated increase in demand for Transitional Kindergarten (TK) teachers, COC launched an accelerated Early Childhood Education TK credential pathway for currently credentialed teachers who will be or may be teaching TK.



International Animation Festival Launched

The college hosted the inaugural International Animation Festival to showcase the work of student animators at the high school and college level. With no submission fee, the two-day festival provided a great opportunity for first-time animators from around the world to exhibit their work.



Learning by Doing

Incoming 9th- through 12th-grade students considering careers in manufacturing participated in the Nuts, Bolts & Thingamajigs Metal Mania summer camp at the Valencia campus. Students cut, drilled, shaped, and welded using the Welding Technology Department's state-of-the-art equipment. A second camp was held specifically for girls, giving them an opportunity to explore career options.



INNOVATION & DISTINCTION

College of the Canyons is widely recognized for innovative programs that bolster student access, equity, engagement, and success.

COC Recognized for Student Voting

College of the Canyons was the only California community college named among “America’s Best Colleges for Student Voting” by *Washington Monthly* magazine for its commitment to inspiring students to vote and actively participate in community decisions. To document the efforts of colleges and universities promoting civic engagement, the magazine highlighted more than 230 institutions around the country.



Technology Use Earns State Award

The Biological and Environmental Sciences Department was awarded the State Chancellor’s Office Innovative Use of Technology Award at the Chief Information Systems Officers Association Technology Summit in San Francisco. The award, received by Professor Shane Ramey (right), recognizes cutting-edge advancements in the department’s microbiology laboratories.



Ranked Among Top Colleges for Hispanics

College of the Canyons was ranked 17th and 35th nationally in *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education Magazine* for enrolling the largest number of Hispanic students and granting the most degrees, respectively. In addition, the college was ranked No. 9 among the Top 10 Schools by Major for its Parks Recreation, Leisure, Fitness and Kinesiology degrees.



COC Receives DEIA Champion Award

College of the Canyons received the 2022 Institutional Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) Champion Award from the Association of Human Resource Officers/Equal Employment Officers. The award is given to an educational institution within the California community college system that has demonstrated efforts toward an organizational culture that maximizes every opportunity to be intentional and innovative in creating and advancing DEIA within the community.

EMT Program Celebrates 50th Anniversary

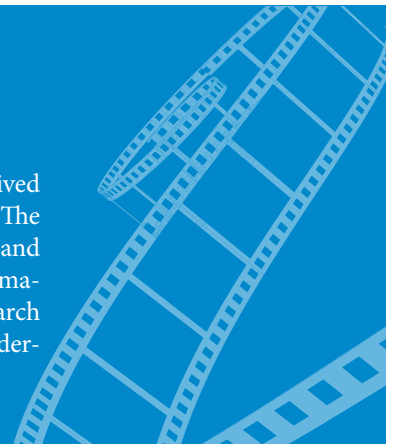
College of the Canyons celebrated the 50th anniversary of its Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program, which is the second oldest program of its kind in Los Angeles County. Since 1972, the EMT program has trained more than 5,000 students, with many going on to launch successful careers in firefighting, law enforcement, nursing, and related fields.





Cinema Instructor Receives Annie Award

College of the Canyons cinema instructor Mindy Johnson received the prestigious June Foray Honor at the 50th Annie Awards. The juried award is given to individuals who have made a significant and benevolent or charitable impact on the art and industry of animation. Johnson was recognized for her expertise, continued research and groundbreaking discoveries into the earliest women and under-represented groups in the animation and film industry.



Paralegal Student Wins National Award for Essay

College of the Canyons paralegal studies student Ryan McLaughlin won the American Association for Paralegal Education Lambda Epsilon Chi national honor society scholarship after taking first place in the annual essay competition. McLaughlin is the second College of the Canyons student to win the \$1,500 scholarship award in as many years.



Staff Member Named Statewide Classified Employee of the Year

Frederick Bobola (above, with award), an instructional laboratory coordinator at College of the Canyons, was named a 2023 Classified Employee of the Year by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. Bobola was one of five California classified employees to receive the prestigious statewide award at

a Board of Governors meeting in Sacramento. The annual award is given to community college classified employees who demonstrate the highest level of commitment to the Vision for Success, which is the mission of the California Community College System, and equitable student outcomes.



COC Student Named to ALL IN Voting Honor Roll

College of the Canyons student Jesse McClure was one of 175 students to be recognized nationally as part of the 2023 ALL IN Student Voting Honor Roll for his voter registration, education and turnout efforts ahead of 2022's historic midterm elections. The ALL IN Student Voting Honor Roll awards college students doing outstanding work to advance nonpartisan democratic engagement at participating campuses across the country.



English Instructor Honored with Hayward Award

Angeli Francois (left, with plaque), a College of the Canyons English adjunct instructor, received a 2023 Hayward Award for Excellence in Education from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges for her dedication and commitment to serving and empowering students from diverse backgrounds and experiences

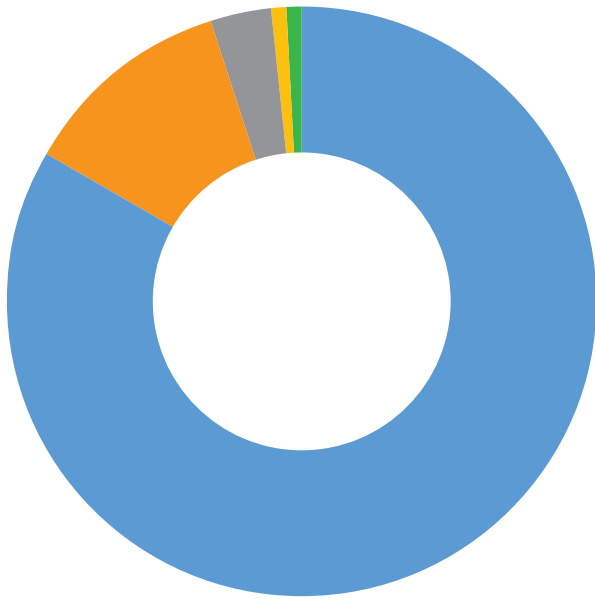
COC Recognized for Equitable Course Placement

College of the Canyons was named a 2023 Champion for Excelling in Equitable Course Placement in Campuswide English Enrollment, Latinx English Enrollment, and Black English Enrollment by The Campaign for College Opportunity.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Fiscal Resources Expand College Programs & Services

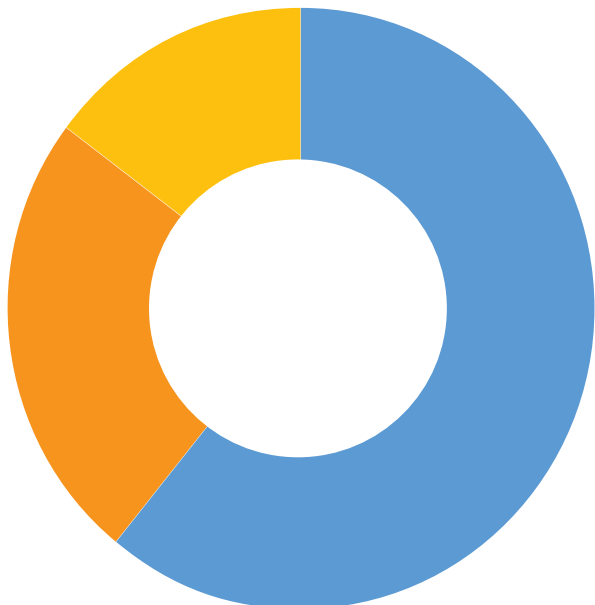
By growing its resources through multiple funding sources, including state, federal and private grants, the college consistently expands and enhances student enrollment, programs and services while building on its record of sound fiscal management. Since 2002, the college has received the highest possible rating on 98 percent of its finance and performance audits that review the district, the College of the Canyons Foundation and general obligation bonds approved by local voters.



2022-23 Revenues

(Unrestricted General Fund)

Apportionment, Property Taxes & Enrollment Fees		
Apportionment, Property Taxes & Enrollment Fees	\$116,328,100	83.46%
Other State Sources	\$16,369,098	11.74%
Local Sources	\$4,392,314	3.15%
Facility Use Rentals	\$1,373,148	0.99%
Federal Sources	\$85,776	0.06%
All Other Sources	\$825,521	0.59%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$139,373,957	



2022-23 Expenses

(Unrestricted General Fund)

Salaries	\$82,782,688	61.10%
Benefits	\$32,826,325	24.23%
All Other Expenses	\$19,867,119	14.66%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$135,476,132	

Key Grants Awarded in 2022/23

\$7.5 million - Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI), California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

College of the Canyons continues to coordinate a statewide program that provides technical assistance to all 116 California community colleges in accreditation, student performance outcomes, fiscal viability, and compliance with state and federal guidelines.

\$3 million - Title V: Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions, U.S. Department of Education

Supports the college's Latinx student success program to expand counseling, academic advising, and Open Education Resources (OER) materials.

\$1.5 million - Native American Student Support & Success Program, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

New initiative to develop student success programs specifically for Native American student populations.

\$1.3 million - Child Care Assistance Means Parents in School (C-CAMPIS), U.S. Department of Education

Funds early childhood education improvements, including more day-care hours for students, additional staffing, facility upgrades, and new classroom technology for children.

\$598,719 - Centers for Excellence in Veteran Student Success (CEVSS), U.S. Department of Education

Enables COC to establish a Veterans Resource Center at the Canyon Country campus and expand veteran student support at both campuses.

\$500,000 - Research Coordination Networks in Undergraduate Biology Education (RCN-UBE), National Science Foundation

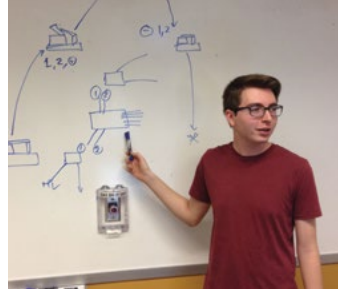
Project to engage community college students in research through The BUZZ: Engaging Community College Students in Native Bee Biodiversity Research.

\$100,000 - California Learning Lab Seeding Strategies to Close the Calculus Equity Gap, Foundation for California Community Colleges

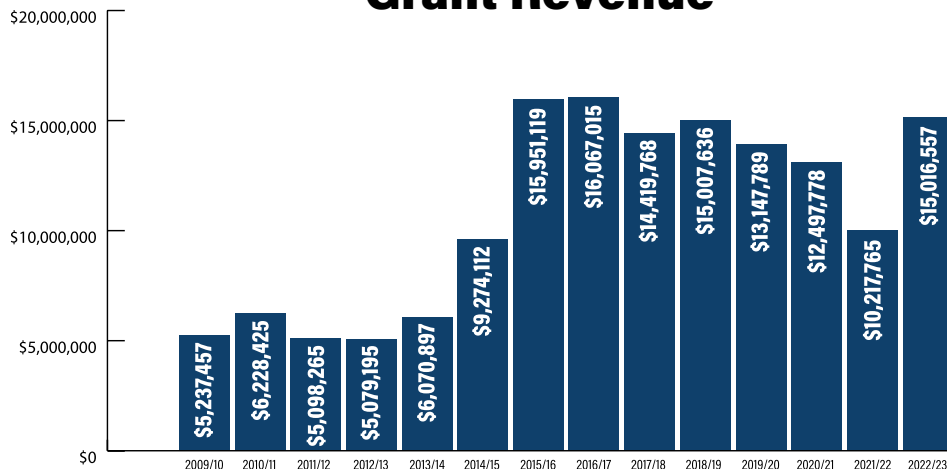
Development of streamlined pathways between Pre-Calculus and Calculus I to improve the student learning experience and create a community of practice among mathematics faculty.

\$145,000 - L.A. Care Health Plan CalFresh Outreach Grant, California Association of Food Banks

Expansion of CalFresh food benefit initiatives and program launch at the Canyon Country campus.



Grant Revenue



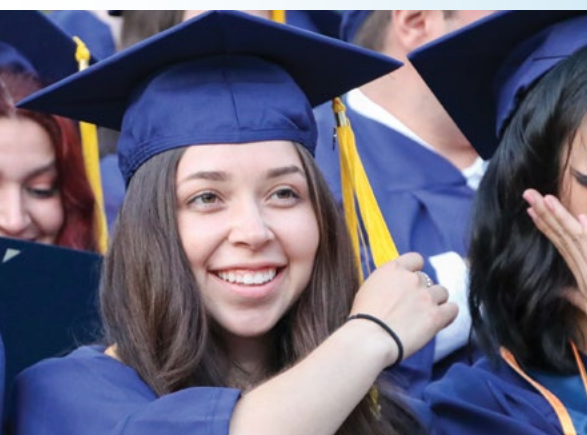
2009-2010 \$5,237,457 • 2010-2011 \$6,228,425 • 2011-2012 \$5,098,265 • 2012-2013 \$5,079,195 • 2013-2014 \$6,070,897 • 2014-2015 \$9,274,112 • 2015-2016 \$15,951,119 • 2016-2017 \$16,067,015 • 2017-2018 \$14,419,768 • 2018-2019 \$15,007,636 • 2019-2020 \$13,147,789 • 2020-2021 \$12,497,778 • 2021-2022 \$10,217,765 • 2022-2023 \$15,016,557

HONORING THE CLASS OF 2023

Class of 2023

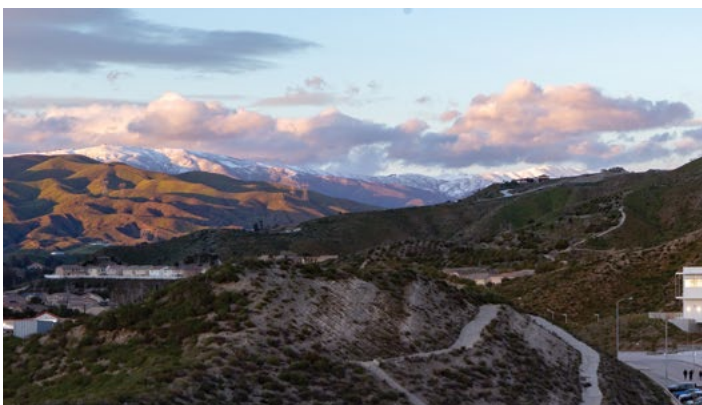
- More than 3,000 degrees conferred to 2,206 students who petitioned for graduation
- 108 majors represented
- 881 students earned two or more degrees
- 914 students graduated with honors - 3.5 GPA or higher
- 91 valedictorians - 4.0 GPA or higher





BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

College of the Canyons continues to upgrade and enhance its facilities with funding provided by both the State of California and Measure E, the \$230 million bond measure local voters approved in 2016.



CANYON COUNTRY CAMPUS

Student Services & Learning Resources

Construction of the Student Services & Learning Resources Center was completed in late 2022, followed by interior furnishing and department move-ins. The 55,000-square-foot building, whose design mirrors the adjacent Takeda Science Center, officially opened on April 25, 2023. The center houses key student support services such as the TLC (The Learning Center), Library, and Student Health & Wellness Center, as well as classrooms and staff offices.

Health & Natural Sciences

The next major permanent facility at the campus will be the Health & Natural Sciences Building, which will replace the modular buildings in Quads 3 and 4. Design plans were being finalized in mid-2023 and expected to be submitted to the state for approval later in the year. The single-story facility will provide 25,000 square feet of instructional space for programs such as anthropology, astronomy, organic chemistry, physical science, biology, environmental science, pharmacy lab tech, diagnostic medical sonography, pharmacy tech, and medical lab tech.



VALENCIA CAMPUS

Boykin Hall Modernization

A comprehensive renovation of the college's original science building continued to bring it up to date with current standards. Built in 1975, Boykin Hall is undergoing seismic upgrades and the replacement of all plumbing, HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning), electrical, and data systems. When completed in 2024, the 26,000-square-foot facility will essentially be an entirely new building from the inside out.

Intercultural Center

The Intercultural Center, a dynamic learning space with programming and opportunities to support the goal of enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion, was completed in a formerly open-air area on the ground floor of Bonelli Hall in May 2023. The center is home to the Undocumented Resource Center and a variety of alliance groups. Its open, flexible design can accommodate workshops, events, meetings, open study, counseling, and training sessions.

Student Center

Modernization plans for the Student Center were finalized and submitted to the state for approval. Built 50 years ago for a projected 5,000-student campus, the 40,000-square-foot building will see food services moved to a more visible and convenient location, new meeting and social spaces, and additional offices for student development services. The changes will transform a dated and inadequate building into an active, vibrant facility that nurtures student engagement. Once approved, construction is expected to begin in mid-2024.

Accessibility Upgrades

Work on Phase II of the ADA Transition Plan and Barrier Removal project began in late 2022, with completion expected in late 2023. This phase focuses on ensuring paths of travel – such as parking, signage, walkways, stairs, and ramps – comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Phase I of this long-term, campuswide project was completed in 2020.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

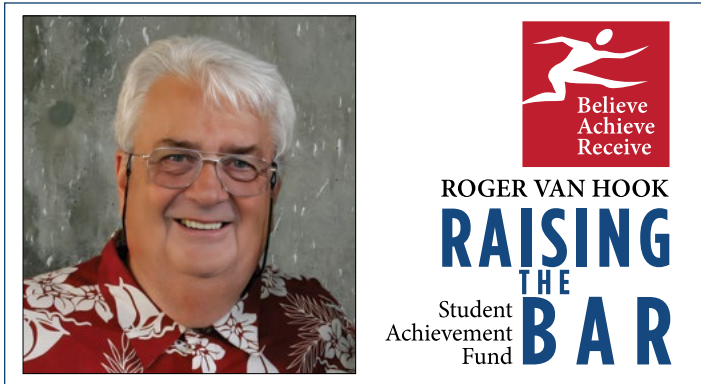
Advanced Technology Center

The development of a world-class Advanced Technology Center continued to progress, with an existing 13,000-square-foot facility in the Centre Pointe business park undergoing renovations to create an interim center. Designed to prepare students for highly skilled positions in CNC machining, advanced manufacturing, welding, and construction technologies, the temporary facility was on track for a late 2023 opening. The next phase is a permanent, 30,000-square-foot facility in the city's center, which is projected to be completed in late 2026.



A FOUNDATION OF GROWTH

The College of the Canyons Foundation continues to build community connections that support campus innovation and continued student success.



Raising the BAR on Student Support

Known for his ability to connect with others and instill in them the confidence to pursue their goals, Chancellor Dr. Dianne Van Hook's husband Roger taught speech communications at Long Beach City College for 43 years. To honor his lifetime of dedication and care for others, the Foundation established the Roger Van Hook Raising the BAR (Believe, Achieve, Receive) Student Achievement Fund after his passing in September 2022. The purpose of the fund is to help close gaps not covered by other services and resources to ensure that students maintain their dignity, foster a "can do" spirit, stay on their path, and fuel the momentum to not only dream it, but to do it. In less than a year, the fund generated more than \$250,000 that will help students remove the barriers that stand in the way of their achievement.



Randy Moberg and Mitzi Like-Moberg Earn their Spurs

The COC Foundation honored Randy Moberg and Mitzi Like-Moberg for their service to College of the Canyons and the community by presenting them with the 2023 Silver Spur Award in March 2023. A current member of the foundation's Board of Directors, Randy has been foundation chair, a longtime supporter of the college's Patrons of the Arts program, and has served on the foundation's Executive Committee, Finance Committee, and Planned Giving Committee. Mitzi currently serves as a board member for the Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital Foundation and the Santa Clarita Valley Economic Development Corp. Together, Randy and Mitzi have supported the Chancellor's Circle program for more than 15 years and have co-chaired numerous Silver Spur committees.



Reception Connects Scholarship Winners and Donors

The College of the Canyons Foundation held a reception in May 2023 at the Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook University Center to honor students who received scholarships and give them a chance to thank the generous donors who fund scholarships. Through the 2023 Canyons Scholarship Program, the foundation distributed \$336,800 to 381 students. Of the 416 scholarships awarded, 84 were funded by the Associated Student Government.

Newhall Foundation Awards Grant

The Henry Mayo Newhall Foundation awarded a \$40,000 grant to the COC Foundation that will support students and classroom instruction:

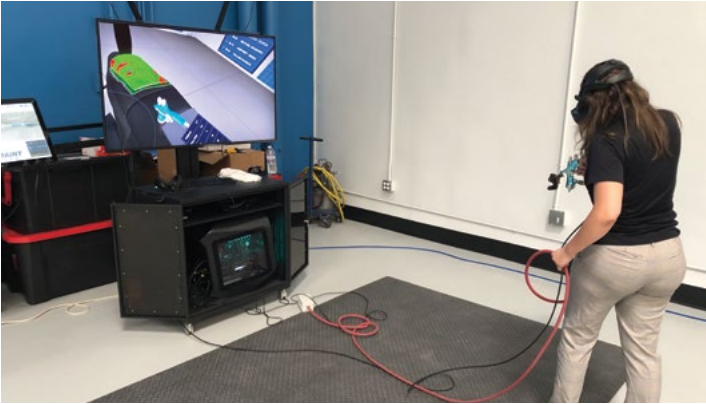
- \$10,000 will fund scholarships for deserving Santa Clarita Valley students.
- \$10,000 was designated to foster faculty innovation at COC.
- \$20,000 was earmarked to purchase a state-of-the-art Pyxis Medication Dispenser for COC's Nursing program.

Hoops Tourney Nets Scholarship Funds

The COC Foundation hosted its first-ever 3x3 Basketball Tournament in April 2023, raising \$3,500 for scholarships and educational programs for students in need. With 12 teams participating and a lively crowd cheering them on, the tournament was a day full of fun, sportsmanship, and community spirit. And, given its inaugural success, it looks to be even bigger next year.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Workforce and Economic Advancement Division continued its mission of fueling economic growth by preparing students with the knowledge and skills that meet workforce needs, and providing customized workforce training to help regional businesses and industries increase productivity and maintain a competitive edge.



2022-23 By the Numbers

- \$2.5 million in external revenue raised
- 2,325 clients/companies served
- 5,131 individuals served
- 1,031 entrepreneurs counseled
- 3,314 jobs created locally
- \$4.5 million in client sales growth
- \$16.6 million in client capital raised

Aerospace Careers Take Flight

A unique collaboration with Northrop Grumman has reaped rewards for both students and the aerospace company perhaps best known for the B-2 stealth bomber. Launched in 2021, the first-of-its-kind Low Observable Training Program has put students on a fast track to certification and employment. Two more cohorts graduated the following year. All graduates have been either hired immediately or given contingent offers of employment pending security clearance from the Defense Department. Low observable technology, also known as stealth, is used in the production of aircraft and other sea, land, and space vehicles to make them less visible to radar and other detection systems.

Special Needs Students Empowered

The Ready to Work Academy is revolutionizing vocational training for special needs students. Launched in 2019, then paused more than two years when the pandemic hit, the program held its first, long-awaited graduation in 2022. A partnership between College of the Canyons and Carousel Ranch, the academy provides vocational training in a classroom setting and work experience at partner companies such as Starbucks, Holiday Inn Express, Bluemark, AMS Fulfillment, and Pet Care Plus. Originally offered with a single course in hospitality, the academy has expanded its curriculum with courses in warehouse fulfillment and culinary arts.

Uniquely Abled Academy Success

The demand for Uniquely Abled Academy graduates couldn't be any better, with all students completing the program and receiving offers of employment. The academy, which provides hands-on CNC (computer numerical control) machine training to individuals on the autism spectrum, graduated its fourth cohort in 2022. That very day, representatives from 10 manufacturing companies were on hand to interview the graduates.

Robotics Training Program Launched

College of the Canyons laid the groundwork for a new fast-track program in robotics to prepare individuals on the autism spectrum with lucrative careers in manufacturing. Launched in partnership with USC's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, the Robotics Programming Training Program was seeded with a \$260,000 grant that supports the Uniquely Abled Project's mission to create pathways to employment for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Technology Center Gains Ground

A permanent Advanced Technology Center moved closer to reality with the college's approval of an agreement to purchase land and a 30,000-square-foot facility planned to be built on Valley Center Drive at the halfway point between the Valencia and Canyon Country campuses. The state-of-the-art center will prepare students for highly skilled positions in CNC machining, advanced manufacturing, welding, and construction technologies. In the interim, a temporary location in the Centre Pointe business park was readied, with an opening slated for late 2023.



CANYON COUNTRY CAMPUS

The Canyon Country campus (CCC) is a vital part of COC's educational landscape, providing a beautiful campus location that offers a comprehensive educational experience for students. CCC provides a variety of in-demand instructional programs and supportive student services, and the campus regularly hosts community events and engagement opportunities such as the popular Star Parties and Garden Walks.

Celebrating its 15th anniversary during the 2022-23 academic year, the Canyon Country campus has served more than 70,000 unique

students since its opening in fall 2007. The anniversary year was marked by several developments, including expanded instruction in the Takeda Science Center and completion of the adjacent Student Services & Learning Resources Center.

Opened for student use in spring 2023, the four-story building was designed to foster engagement, interaction, and connection. It features multiple classrooms, workshop rooms, and student study rooms, as well as spaces for student services and gathering areas across 55,000 square feet of space.



A Space for Students

The Student Services & Learning Resources Center houses the following services:

- Academic Accommodations Center
- Admissions & Records
- CalWORKs
- Communications Center (Switchboard/Mailroom)
- Classrooms and computer lab
- Counseling
- Employment Center
- Empowerment Programs
- EOPS
- Financial Aid
- Library
- MESA Center
- Personal & Professional Learning (NC)
- Student Business Office
- Student Health & Wellness Center
- Technology Center
- The Learning Center (TLC)/Tutoring
- Veterans Resource Center
- Welcome Center

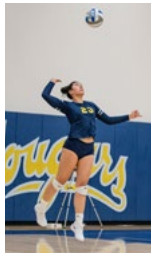
STUDENT SERVICES
LEARNING RESOURCES

COUGAR ATHLETICS



A Continued Tradition of Excellence

Canyons Athletics continued to build on its reputation for success with standout team and individual accomplishments backed by committed coaches and support staff coming together to enhance the Cougars' winning tradition.



New Hall of Fame Class Honored

The COC Athletics Department hosted the 2023 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center. The traditionally biennial event had not been held since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but returned with a new format that featured a blue carpet welcome and a distinguished class of honorees that included Harlan Perlman, Assistant Coach, Women's Basketball (1992-2019); 1986 State Championship Baseball Team; 1996-97 State Runner-Up Women's Basketball Team; 2007 State Finalist Women's Volleyball Team; and Chris Low, 2011 & 2012 State Champion (800m).

Athletic Facilities Named to Honor Coaches, Board Member

The college's Board of Trustees approved the naming of athletic facilities to honor legendary Cougar athletics head coaches and faculty members Lee Smelser and Mike Gillespie, along with longtime board member Michele Jenkins in March 2023. The West P.E. Gymnasium features "Lee Smelser Court," while the Cougar Field baseball facility will be dedicated as "Mike Gillespie Field" and the softball team room as "Michele Jenkins Team Room." Special dedication ceremonies will be held for each facility during each sport's respective 2023-24 seasons.



Women's Golf Finishes Second at State Tournament

COC finished runner-up at the California Community College Athletic Association (3C2A) Women's Golf State Championships at Morro Bay Golf Club in November 2022. Canyons finished two strokes behind champion Modesto College, while freshman Motoko Shimoji finished as runner-up to the individual state title. The Lady Cougars also brought home the program's 11th Western State Conference championship earlier in the season.

Women's Volleyball Reaches State Tournament for Second Year

COC claimed the WSC South Division title before advancing to the 3C2A state championship tourney for the second time in as many years. That postseason run capped a season in which the Lady Cougars were a perfect 12-0 against conference opponents and finished ranked No. 6 in the state.

Baseball Hits Regional Finals

Canyons played in the 3C2A Southern California Regional Finals for the first time since 2013 after a postseason run that saw the No. 19 Cougars post an opening-series win over No. 6 Orange Coast College before triumphs over No. 15 Southwestern and No. 22 Grossmont College in the Super Regional Round. COC then took a game over No. 2 Saddleback College during the Regional Finals before losing that series 2-1. The Cougars ended the 2023 campaign with an overall record of 28-19 while going 13-8 in the WSC South Division.

Team Conference Championships



Women's Golf
Western State Conference



Women's Volleyball
WSC, South Division



Men's Golf
Western State Conference



Football
SCFA National Division,
Northern League



Western State Conference Players Of The Year



Andy Ambriz
Baseball



Aly Grodell
Women's Volleyball



Sabrina Sveiven
Women's Volleyball,
Libero of the Year



Lauryn Bailey
Women's Soccer



Kylie Yuzon
Women's Soccer,
Goalie of the Year

Western State Conference Individual Titles



Alyssa Hamilton
Women's Swim
200-yard Freestyle



Layne Buck
Men's Track & Field
Long Jump

115 Cougar student-athletes graduated or transferred.

60 Cougars committed to playing at the four-year level.

Western State Conference Coaches Of The Year



Lisa Hooper
Women's Volleyball



Clay Timmons
Women's Volleyball



Gary Peterson
Men's & Women's Golf



lay the groundwork for a new fast-track program in robotics to prepare individuals on the autism spectrum for lucrative careers in manufacturing.

Commitment to Innovation & Enhancing our Organizational Effectiveness

Our Low Observable Training Program is the only one of its kind in the state. Multiple cohorts of students have learned how to apply the coatings that make aircraft and other sea, land, and space vehicle less visible to radar and other detection systems in an intensive program that uses a combination of hands-on and virtual training. The multi-week program qualifies them for immediate employment with Northrop Grumman, which partnered with us to establish the program.

We're meeting the need for skilled employees in other fields through an innovative new program. The state-of-the-art Advanced Technology Center will prepare students for highly skilled positions in CNC machining, advanced manufacturing, and welding. The interim location will soon welcome its first students, and a permanent location moved closer to reality with the college's approval in spring 2023 of an agreement with a local developer to purchase a new 30,000-square-foot facility that will be built to house the ATC and facilitate the cutting-edge training it will offer.

Consistent Success

Opportunities, innovation, and partnerships lead to ongoing success, and that was particularly evident this year as both the college and individual employees were recognized for their excellence. We were ranked among the top colleges in the nation by *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education Magazine* for enrolling the largest number of Hispanic students and granting the most degrees, respectively. We were named a 2023 Champion

for Excelling in Equitable Course Placement by The Campaign for College Opportunity. We received the 2022 Institutional Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) Champion Award from the Association of Human Resource Officers/Equal Employment Officers. And, the Biological and Environmental Sciences Department was awarded the State Chancellor's Office Innovative Use of Technology Award for creating a "paperless" biology lab.

At the individual level, Frederick Bobola, an instructional laboratory coordinator at College of the Canyons, was named a 2023 Classified Employee of the Year by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. Angeli Francois, a College of the Canyons English adjunct instructor, received a 2023 Hayward Award for Excellence in Education from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges.

What we have achieved this year is truly remarkable. Our accomplishments are inspired by our most valued partners, people like you who believe in the power of education, and who are willing to invest their time or their resources to help us create new opportunities for our students to succeed. I thank you for your commitment to College of the Canyons, and for believing that we can reach the lofty goals we set for ourselves. With your support, we not only reached our goals, but best of all, we empowered our students to achieve theirs. That is the most important accomplishment of them all!



Dr. Dianne Van Hook
Chancellor







SANTA CLARITA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Dr. Edel Alonso • Mr. Sebastian C. M. Cazares • Mr. Jerry K. Daniels • Mr. Charles L. Lyon • Ms. Joan W. MacGregor

Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook, Chancellor