Campus Wide
Initiatives & Highlights
College2Career Day, September 27

- Held in the University Center, popular event hosted hundreds of young people curious about college pathways and potential careers.
- COC faculty members and staff from academic and Career Technical Education (CTE) programs were available for questions as well. More than 25 college departments participated.

- Students of all ages were given the opportunity to explore promising college programs and career fields, as well "test drive" careers with industry professionals, connect with college instructors, and get a taste of the wide range of programs available at College of the Canyons.
Domestic Violence Event & BMW Resource Fair
October 1

• To raise awareness of domestic violence, students were invited to “speak out” by making a t-shirt and encouraged to break the silence and let their voices be heard.

• Held in conjunction with the SCV Domestic Violence Center in Newhall and the Body-Mind-Wellness (BMW) in partnership with COC, t-shirts were made that were then placed on display at the BMW Resource Fair on campus, held Oct. 1 with the Clothesline Project.

• The Clothesline Project is a nationwide opportunity for people to display their t-shirts depicting significant personal meaning or in honor of a loved one who was a victim of domestic violence.

• The colors represent a different type of abuse, and the goal was to raise awareness about this type of violence and other forms of abuse faced everyday.
National Manufacturing Day Event
October 2 & 3

- College of the Canyons partnered with Hart Union High School to host their first Manufacturing Day event.
- This event provided students and job seekers a unique insight into the variety of career paths available, while also shedding light on the hundreds of skilled job opportunities that many may not know are available.
- The event began Thursday with a public panel of local professionals in the manufacturing industry.

- The event continued Friday with 120 students from Hart District high schools toured local manufacturing business and visited the Valencia campus to tour the college’s welding, computer networking and electronic system labs.
Resume Rallies
October 7 & 8

• The Job & Career Center hosted a pair of resume rallies (Oct. 7 at Valencia campus and Oct. 8 at Canyon Country campus) for job seekers to have their resume critiqued and updated, free of charge, on a walk-in basis.

• Always a well-attended and popular event, it is hosted by the outstanding staff in Career Services. They provide a great service to help provide people with the right tools to get into (or back into) the work force!

• Approximately 90 people were assisted with their resumes, aided by 8-10 professionals!
Congressman McKeon Visits COC
October 9

• Congress McKeon visited the College of the Canyons along with Morris Thomas, Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services.

• They met in the Special Collections Room of the Library with Jerry Buckley, James Glapa-Grossklag, Peter Hepburn and Eric to discuss the locations for the Congressman’s memorabilia display and the storage of historical documents.

• They also visited two of David Andrus’ Political Science classes to speak with students (including one of our veteran students).
Leon Malmed’s Presentation
October 27

We Survived ... At Last I Speak - This is Leon Malmed's true story of his and his sister Rachel's escape from the Holocaust in occupied France.

• Mr. Malmed, an accomplished businessman and current member of the Lake Tahoe Community College Foundation Board of Directors, visited COC.
• While here, he and his wife Patricia attended Chancellor’s Circle dinner, and Leon enjoyed training for his next bike competition by riding over 40 miles of trails in Valencia while he was here!
• Monday, he provided an insightful presentation to a packed room of students and staff in Hasley Hall.

• Later that afternoon, a reception was held in the UCEN lobby where Leon was available to sign books. His presentation that evening was well received by a crowd of close to 500!
“The Lebowski Cycle” in the Art Gallery
October 28 – December 4

- Inspired by the cult classic film “The Big Lebowski”, Southern California artist Joe Forkan presents his exhibit in the COC Art Gallery.
- This is a series of paintings and drawings exploring layered narratives, using European art masterpieces merged with the 1998 Coen brothers’ film.
- The exhibit opened October 28 and runs through December 4.
- An artist’s reception was held Tuesday, October 28 and a special “closing party” will be held on Saturday, December 6 from 3:00-7:00 pm.
As part of its ongoing 45th Anniversary Celebration, College of the Canyons hosted a dedication ceremony for the Simi Dabah Sculpture Collection.

The ceremony was held at 1:30 pm on Thursday, Nov. 6, in the PAC lobby and was a great event!

Mr. Dabah and his wife Julie were present. He participated in a “Q&A” about his career during an interview conducted by Dr. Carmen Dominguez for those present. He was beaming with pride that he has so many pieces displayed at both the Valencia and Canyon Country campuses -- the largest public collection of his work!

We are honored to have his work displayed at COC. The Dabah’s have become fast-friends of the COC Family, and we look forward to getting to know them even better in the future!
CCC Advisory Committee Meeting: Nov 5

The Canyon Country Campus Advisory Committee met at the CCC on Wednesday, Nov 5:

- I provided an update on the District, overview of events, college happenings, and new, different and exciting things that have happened since the last Advisory meeting (spring 2014).
- Dr. Theule provided information about CCC, Weekend College, Study Equity Plan, and facilities changes including the outdoor research garden, the new computer lab, and the mini-grant for a greenhouse that are in the works.

- A Q&A followed, where we discussed: ways to partner with Hart, scheduling representatives from high schools to familiarize them with CCC, AB86 adult education initiatives, and the Career Pathways project.
Star Party
November 7

• The 10th Star Party, entitled “Interdisciplinary Exploration” was a great success!

• Over 500 people attended and enjoyed a variety of information tables and opportunities to learn and explore.

• Several departments and a variety of disciplines represented by faculty and students participated in the event. Some of those included physics, chemistry, geology and anthropology and featured a number of hands-on exhibits and interactive displays.

• There was also a water bottle rocket competition between the Astronomy Physics Club, the Engineering Club and MESA.

• And of course, there were several local astronomy clubs with telescopes on site, which were pointed to the stars and planets for everyone to enjoy!
We are creating partnerships with two high schools in Beijing and Anging, China.

School administrators from those schools are promoting COC to their students to attend a summer 2015 international education program.

Representatives from COC and ISP met with 600 students and their parents to introduce ISP and the educational opportunities we offer.

We also met with one of the largest recruiting agencies (Gateway) in Beijing with offices located throughout China to discuss bringing 50-100 students by Spring 2015.
International Services and Programs (ISP) Update

• ISP is participating in “Proyecta 100,000” a project proposed by the Mexican government which aims to send 100,000 Mexican students to the U.S. for English language education by 2018.

• This project is part of President Obama’s “100,000 Strong in the Americas” program.

• COC is a key player in the program’s first year and has been selected as one of 160 US institutions to host the first wave of Proyecta students.

• COC is currently hosting 100 Mexican students for a month-long crash course in English.
Signature Events – Partnerships in the Making
Oktoberfest Event for Emeriti Scholarship Fund, October 17

- 90 people attended the event held in the UCEN lobby and had a great time socializing with friends, making namensschilders (name tags), sampling beers and playing games.
- This year’s event raised more than $1,500 for the Emeriti Scholarship fund!
Chancellor’s Circle Dinner
Oct 25

- Over 200 Chancellor’s Circle members, community members, administrators, staff and faculty gathered for this year’s Chancellor’s Circle Dinner
- The Culinary Institute served as the backdrop for the social hour with fantastic appetizers made and served by the COC Culinary students.
- The TLC was the setting for the dinner, which included an incredible performances by Julie Lawson’s vocal groups.
- We had a great group of prospects in the room and it was a wonderful evening. My thanks go to the COC Foundation team for making it such a successful event.
Single Mother’s Outreach – “Empowering Hearts” Event
November 1

- This year’s event was again held in the UCEN Lobby and was very well-attended.

- COC’s own Debbie Rio (Dean, Enrollment Services) was a very deserving honoree this year!

- Debbie was honored at the event along with Kiki Hacker (wife of COC Foundation Board member Jeff Hacker), Linda Hafizi, Adele Macpherson, Kacey Surratt and Raquel Turner.

- There were approximately 150+ people in attendance.

- Once again, SCV artists provided their talent as a backdrop to highlight the amazing stories of this year’s honorees.
COC Vintners Society Event
November 6

- Thursday evening, Nov 6, 40 donors of the Vintners Society with I-CuE gathered in the Art Gallery for a special wine pouring event.
- Law Estates Winery from Paso Robles was featured at this first event for the donors to the Wine Studies Classroom in the new Culinary Arts Institute.
- The Culinary students were on hand to prepare and serve appetizers for the event.
- At the event, I thanked those in attendance for their work and support towards helping us with the Culinary campaign, and extended a special thank you to Diana Cusumano for her outstanding leadership as well.
- My thanks to the Foundation Board co-chairs for helping to host this event – Steve Chegwin, Julie Sturgeon and Steve Corn.
Ribbon Cutting for SCV Incubator
November 18

• College of the Canyons, the city of Santa Clarita and the Small Business Development Center, along with several business organizations and partners, opened the first SCV Business Incubator.

• The SCV Business Incubator supports entrepreneurs and business startups seeking access to expert guidance, tools, and the connections they need to grow their companies and flourish in the community.

• The former Newhall Library building has been converted into a space that now features a reception area, several work spaces for budding businesses, a conference room and a classroom which entrepreneurs can access for meetings and educational opportunities.
Recognition, Awards & Accomplishments
Bruce Fortine on SCV TV for COC’s 45th!

- On Monday, September 22, Mr. Fortine and Ms. Christine Colindres, ASG President, were interviewed on SCV TV by Tammy Edwards and Dave Caldwell.
- They spent an hour talking about the College in 1969, the first classes at Hart, the first faculty members, Board of Trustees, and establishment of buildings on the campus over the years.
- Christine discussed the ASG's involvement in the 45th anniversary celebrations, as well as the many activities planned for students, staff and community members to help mark this historic occasion.
- The show was taped and aired later. Bruce and Christine did a great job representing COC and bringing great pride to our College!
A Retirement Party was held for Pete Bellas, as he prepared to leave COC (again)!

Approximately 75 people were in attendance in the UCEN lobby to eat, drink and wish Pete well in his retirement endeavors.

His wife Susan was also present, and provided the entertainment at the event, which was enjoyed by everyone.

I provided comments about Pete’s time at COC and the incredible job he has done with his outstanding team in the Economic Development Division.

Bruce Fortine and Steve Zimmer provided Pete with a Resolution, honoring his years at COC and wished him the best in the future.

SCV Chamber CEO, Terry Crain and Rosalind Wayman from Supervisor Antonovich’s office were also there to present Resolutions and praise the work Pete has done with their organizations.
California Dreaming Reception
October 8

- A Reception was held at the Newhall Library to honor our students and their great artwork!
- It was a great opportunity to meet the artists and share their talents with the City and the community members who attended.
- “California Dreaming” will be on exhibit in The Community Room at the Old Town Newhall Library now through February 1, 2015. It features the work of COC’s illustration students from the Graphic and Multimedia Design Department.
Fall 2014 Sports Update

• **Women’s Golf**
  ✓ WSC Champions and 2nd place finish in the State.
  ✓ Lost to College of the Desert by three strokes after being down by 14 after first round.

• **Men’s Cross Country**
  ✓ WSC Champions.
  ✓ Southern California Champions and will run for the State Title.

• **Women’s Soccer**
  ✓ WSC Champions and will host first round of the play-offs.

• **Women’s Volleyball**
  ✓ WSC Champions
  ✓ Last conference game tomorrow night at home vs. Antelope Valley College. If they win, they will go undefeated in Conference.
  ✓ Play-offs start next Tuesday, November 25th.
Dr. Jia-Yi Cheng-Levine recognized for her sustainability efforts.

- Senator Fran Pavley (District 27) distributes a monthly e-newsletter and recognizes a business, person or organization in her district who is dedicated to preserving and sustaining our environment.
- In October, Senator Pavley honored Dr. Jia-Yi Cheng-Levine, English professor, Director, ISP, and head of the Sustainability Center at COC.
- Dr. Cheng-Levine is passionate about educating students and the community on environmental issues.
- In 2006, she founded and chaired the Sustainable Development Committee bringing conferences and notable speakers to campus, and was instrumental in launching the Santa Clarita Environmental Education Consortium (SCEEC). SCEEC’s mission includes environmental literacy for the next generation at all levels of education in the SCV to develop K-12 environmental education. SCEEC also hosted their annual “Green Up!” environmental leadership conference in Oct at COC.
- Dr. Cheng-Levine's colleagues acknowledge her tireless dedication to environmental education and sustainability programs. By providing a hands-on education and encouraging young people to seek innovative solutions to environmental concerns, Dr. Cheng-Levine helps to instill lifelong values of sustainability in her students.
New Honors Society on Campus

• Students have organized a new chapter on campus for Sigma Zeta, the National Science and Mathematics Honors Society.
• There are only a few chapters at the community college level, so it is impressive that the students compiled all the necessary information to get Sigma Zeta at COC!
• As such, the chartering ceremony will be held on Friday, November 21 at 2:30 pm in STCN-129!
• Congratulations to Dr. Miriam Golbert (Department Chair & Professor, Biology) on this outstanding accomplishment that our students have helped to acquire on our campus!
Winner of the 2014 Sigma Chi Eta Advisor of the Year Award...

- The Lynn M. Disbrow Advisor of the Year Award recognizes the faculty advisor that has dedicated his/her time, energy and service to the student members of their Sigma Chi Eta Chapter (the Communications Honor Society).
- The advisor that has best provided guidance and has manifested the goals of Sigma Chi Eta will receive this honor.
- We are pleased to announce that our own Victoria Leonard, Professor/Department Chair, Communication Studies has been selected as the winner of the 2014 Sigma Chi Eta Advisor of the Year Award.
- Ms. Leonard has been invited to accept this award at the 100th National Communication Association (NCA) Centennial Convention in Chicago this November.
- The award will be presented during the annual Sigma Chi Eta Business Meeting on Friday, November 21.

CONGRATULATIONS, VICTORIA!
Model United Nations Team (MUN) wins three awards!

- This year’s Model United Nations team (MUN) participated in the Trojan Model United Nations Competition hosted by USC.

- Students from UCLA, Claremont-McKenna, Berkeley (including the former president of the COCMUN Club), UC Davis, Univ of La Verne, and a number of other colleges and universities were there to compete, and COC was one of only two community colleges participating. We had 23 delegates, the other college had two!

- Three COC students won Honorable mentions: Naomi Cheriegate (President of the MUN Club), Ryan Arroyo, and Elise Levy. (Ryan and Elise also won awards at the COCMUN conference we hosted in the University Center in October).

- They competed against some very qualified students who are, in many cases, farther along in their educational careers, but COC always comes out strong and holds their own! We are very proud of them!
COC FBLA-PBL Wins at California State Business Leadership Conference

- A team from COC Future Business Leaders of America – Phi Beta Lambda, placed first in Division “A” Business Case Analysis competition held at FBLA-PBL California State Business Leadership Conference on November 8.
- All teams received the same Harvard Business Review case of a detailed scenario describing actual problems and decisions faced by a company.
- Each team of four members made a seven-minute presentation before a panel of judges outlining their analysis of the case and their recommendations.
Facilities Update
Student Art in the Student Services/Administration Building

A great feature of the new building will be the student art collection.

• It began as a LEAP project in 2010, and ASGs support, along with Funds for the Future have enabled us to invest in purchasing student art over the last four years.

• Seven collections will be featured:
  ✓ Work by the COC Art Department Faculty members
  ✓ Work from “Life as Art: Images from an Unseen World” (Micro Biology Photos)
  ✓ Graphics and Multimedia Design Projects, including works from the exhibits of “Where the Good Life Takes You”, “California Dreaming” and “Intersections”
  ✓ Student Photography
  ✓ Student Prints
  ✓ Student Paintings
  ✓ Cul-de-Sac Literary Magazine covers

What a wonderful way to celebrate student success!
Student Services/Admin. Bldg. Construction Update

• As soon as we receive the final inspections on the elevator and fire alarm, we will be ready to move in the new building – currently scheduled for December 1st.

• Concrete contractors are working to finalize exterior flatwork, walkways and curbs. Once complete, landscapers will follow with clean-up of the site.

• As a reminder, Lot 1 will be closed for the duration of the project.
Institute of Culinary Education (I-CuE)

Construction Update

• The specialty flooring contractors are on site and starting to prep the floor for the epoxy flooring.
• Once the flooring work is complete, the kitchen equipment contractors will follow with moving in all of the ovens, refrigerators and appliances that makeup the three teaching kitchens.
• Work will continue inside the building as the framing contractor proceeds to finish the drywall.
• The tile contractor is busy in the restrooms while the HVAC, plumbing and electrical contractors make the final connections.
• This 12-month project is expected to be complete in December and move-in date is expected to take place once the Fall semester concludes.
Grants Update
New Grant to Increase Institutional Effectiveness

- COC was awarded a $12.5 million grant ($2.5 million a year for just under 5 years) from the Chancellor’s Office to increase institutional effectiveness of California Community Colleges while reducing the number of accreditation sanctions and audit findings. We will do this through the following:
  
  ✓ Create an online clearinghouse.
  ✓ Offer additional workshops/webinars to supplement the existing resources.
  ✓ Create technical assistance teams.
  ✓ Create an Executive and Advisory Committee.
  ✓ Conduct an evaluation by the RP Group.

- In conducting these activities, the State Chancellor’s Office, the Statewide Academic Senate, RP Group Consortium (RP Group, 3CSN, CLP), Foothill College, and Lee Consulting will be partners.

- We also plan to reach out to ACCJC to partner with this group to take advantage of this amazing opportunity!
Recent Grants Funded

Approved September 2014:

- State of California Governor’s Office
  - $75,000 for SBDC for adult hourly consultants to help small businesses identify capital

- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
  - $296,530 over three years for Campus Suicide Prevention Grant

Approved October 2014:

- Chancellor’s Office – Closed Captioning Fiscal Agent
  - $500,000 for renewal of grant

- U.S. Department of Education Title V Grant
  - $2,600,000 over five years to expand education opportunities for, and improve the attainment of, Hispanic students; and to expand and enhance academic offerings, program quality, and institutional stability.
What’s on the Horizon?

Mark your calendar!
Scholarly Presentation
November 20

- **Dr. Phil Gussin** (faculty member, Political Science) is the Scholarly Presenter, and will present, “*In the Eye of the Beholder: Perceptions of Bias in the Media*” in the PAC on Thursday, November 20 at 6:00 pm.
- The presentation will be focusing on perceptions of bias in the media with an emphasis on the challenges that scholars have to confront when attempting to measure the presence, direction, and extent of bias in the news.
- A reception will be held immediately following the presentation in the lobby at 7pm.
10th Annual EOPS Holiday Book Festival
December 6

• This year’s Book Fair will be held on Saturday, December 6, 9-11am in the Student Support Center.

• Please provide any donations of books by Monday, November 24. The children range from 2 months to 14 years of age.

• Books can be dropped off at the switchboard or EOPS/CARE/CalWorks Office.

• Please join us for this heartwarming annual event!
PAC Update
PAC Events – Upcoming Student Performances

The holiday season always affords some great entertainment opportunities!

“The Illusion” - A wildly entertaining tale of passion, regret, love and disillusionment, “The Illusion” is based on French playwright Pierre Corneille’s 17th century masterpiece “L’illusion Comique”.

• Performances are scheduled 8:00 pm, November 21 and 22, and 2:00 pm, November 23.

Electronica Musique and Multi-media Concert – an evening of the most innovative music, dance, and multi-media.

• December 3 at 8:00 pm
PAC Events – Upcoming Student Performances

Welcome the holiday season!

“Holiday Jazz” – Welcome the holiday season, as the band and guest vocalist Katherine Lench-Meyering perform many of your favorite holiday songs.
• Friday, December 5 at 7:30 pm

“Solopalooza” – Wed/Thurs, December 10-11, 7:30pm
• Original, provocative and entertaining solo shows written and performed by COC Theatre students.
PAC Events – Upcoming Student Performances

“Potpourri of Dance” – You will smile and tap your feet to the showcase of high-spirited dances choreographed and performed by COC students, faculty and guest artists.
• Thursday-Friday, December 11-12, 8:00 pm

“Holiday Moonglow” – The Chancellor’s Caberet Series presents Holiday Moonglow, with the award-winning vocal jazz choirs House Blend and Just Jazz performing the very best arrangements of your favorite holiday and jazz standards.
• December 12, 6:30 and 8:30pm Holiday Cabaret.

“A Touch of Frost” – Sat, Dec 13, 5 and 7:30p (Chamber singers and Voices of the Canyons, UCEN lobby)
Happy Thanksgiving!