

FALL 2021 NEWS & UPDATES

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SAN MATEO COLLEGES

of Silicon Valley

Winner of the Presidential Award of Excellence in expanding US higher education abroad.





Jing Luan, Ph.D.
Provost

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

You will read about the great stories of our students who have transferred to the world's highly selective universities plus some very exciting updates. After a rough year where most colleges struggled with enrollment numbers, we have the highest number of applications ever. We have also

developed a very student-focused vaccination and safety protocol. Our Global Online Learning (GOL) program has been successfully providing students the opportunity to earn affordable college credits online. We now offer University Credit Program (UCP) to give high schools worldwide the ability to place students in cohorts and earn the same college credits accepted by 140+ universities.

After 35 years of working mostly as an executive in American higher education, it is bittersweet that I am announcing my retirement scheduled for Spring 2022. As an immigrant, I have found my career extremely rewarding. I have been the president or chairman of many organizations. In the late 1990s, I was one of the first to **promote the use of Big Data** in American higher education management. Of late, I led my team to win the US government's most prestigious **Presidential E-Award in international education** in 2020 – the first among all community colleges in the nation. Our colleges are in a great place and our model of recruitment and student life-cycle management has made a difference for institutions in a highly competitive world. As I bid you all goodbye in this newsletter, I'm more than ever optimistic about the future. Stay focused and invest in your time and energy wisely!

University Credit Program (UCP)

Earning an American bachelor's degree is a process of accumulating college credits. Students can start doing that before they are admitted to the university either as a freshman or a transfer student. These include AP/IB course exams and our new University Credit Program (UCP). The big difference is that UCP provides students the unique opportunity to take actual American college courses on their high school campus to make them highly competitive in university admissions. Current high school students age 16 or above who meet the eligibility requirements can take our pre-selected General Education courses as a group. These college credits will be directly accepted by universities in our 140+ university network.

Not able to offer AP or IB programs at your high school? Consider UCP!

High schools interested in adopting UCP for their campus can email international@smccd.edu for more information.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

SMCSV is requiring all students to be vaccinated in order to take in-person courses and receive in-person services. Starting November 3rd, students will be asked to upload their COVID-19 vaccination information or request a medical or religious exemption in WebSMART. FAQ are answered at www.smccd.edu/international/covid-19.php

Q: What will happen if I'm not vaccinated?

A: All students are required to be fully vaccinated and submit proof of vaccination or receive medical/religious exemption by the time of spring registration. From November 3rd - January 13th, students without proof of vaccination or approval of exemption on file will receive warnings through messages and phone calls that they will be dropped from in-person courses unless they change their status. From January 14th onward, students without the proper documentation on file will be prevented from registering or adding in-person courses for Spring 2022.

Q: How can I upload my proof of vaccination?

A: Starting November 3rd, students will be able to upload their proof of vaccination, medical exemption request, or religious exemption request on WebSMART.

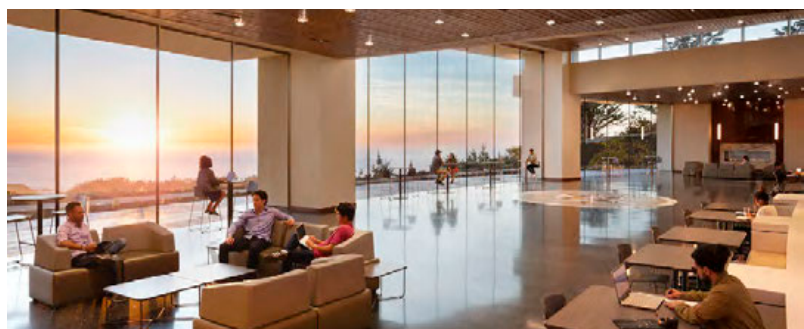
Q: Which vaccines are approved by SMCSV's Office of Admission?

A: SMCSV closely follows the guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and as of July 1, 2021, the following vaccines have been approved by the CDC and World Health Organization (WHO):

- Pfizer
- AstraZeneca
- Covishield
- Johnson & Johnson
- Moderna
- Sinopharm
- Sinovac

Spring 2022 Application Fee

Since our campuses are once again open for in-person learning, we will be reinstating the \$50 application fee starting October 15, 2021.



Spring 2021 Transfers

Our College University Partnership (CUP) Program has over 144 members, with the majority offering Transfer Admission Guarantees (TAG) and transfer scholarships. Some even offer Conditional Letters of Admission. Students who complete TAG requirements at our colleges will be guaranteed admission into a university to complete their bachelor's degree. A total of 170 international students successfully transferred to a 4-year university during Spring 2021, which included UC Berkeley, UC Los Angeles, and UC San Diego.



Transfer Student Highlights

Jadesha Culmer

UC Berkeley

*Former SMCCCD Student Trustee
Received multiple scholarships
Bahamas, Cañada College*



Oudom Seang

Swinburne University (Australia)

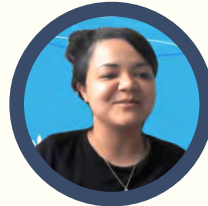
*Swinburne Int. Excellence Scholarship
(50% of the tuition fees)
Cambodia, Skyline College*



Jessica Pardim Araujo

Mount Holyoke College

*Full scholarship from both Mount
Holyoke College and Smith College
Brazil, College of San Mateo*



Jovan Clement Young

Oregon State University

*Oregon State University Scholarship
(\$6,000/year up to 4 years)
Indonesia, Skyline College*



Samuele Mian

Menlo College

*Valedictorian Scholarship
(\$46,625/year)
Italy, Skyline College*

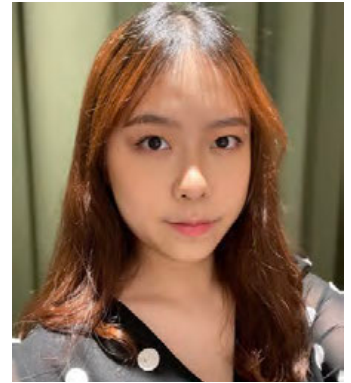


Mingsha Mo

UC Berkeley

"Being an international student at Skyline College has been one of the most important and rewarding experiences of my life. So many wonderful academic and extracurricular opportunities are available to every single student. All the staff and students I've met have helped build a warm and supportive community for me."

China, Skyline College



Pisith Keo

UC Berkeley

"I feel very delighted to receive these opportunities which empower me to help other students and inspire new students to challenge themselves and keep chasing their dreams."

*Won Emerging Leader of the Year Award
Created the Cambodian Club
Received multiple scholarships
Cambodia, Cañada College*



Manraj Singh Gill Rajinder

UC Berkeley

"Just being in Silicon Valley exposed me to the possibilities available here. CSM's faculty helped mentor me when I needed guidance on decisions like pursuing engineering as a career choice."

*Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society President
TED x CSM Co-Founder
1st community college intern at HP
Malaysia, College of San Mateo*



CSM Ranks #2 on List of Best Community College in the US

WalletHub's study, published in June 2021, looked at 18 factors of cost and quality for more than 650 institutions across the country, including the cost of in-state tuition and fees, student to faculty ratio, retention, graduation, and transfer rates. College of San Mateo ranked number 2 of the best community college in the U.S. This is the second time CSM leads the ranking. In 2020, College of San Mateo ranked third in the country.



Certificates & OPT

The number of international students pursuing the Optional Practical Training program, known as OPT, continues to be a growing trend for international students in the U.S. OPT allows international students and recent graduates to work in their field of study at a U.S. company after completing a program of study including a certificate program. Our certificate programs are now offered to international students at all three of our colleges.

Check out our certificate programs at www.smccd.edu/international/certificates.php

Homestay Application Fee

The Homestay Program has successfully placed hundreds of international students with local host families since Fall 2016. Applications for Spring 2022 are currently being accepted and the \$250 application fee will be reinstated on October 15, 2021.

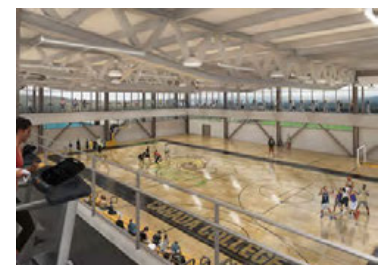
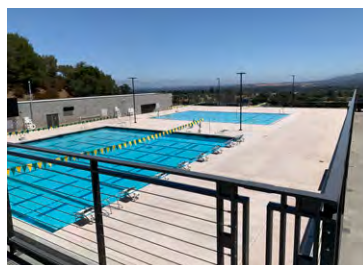


University Access Program (UAP)

Get an early start on your college education by earning transferable college credits while taking intensive English courses in the University Access Program! It's a good fit for students with a TOEFL iBT 49+, IELTS 4.5+, or Duolingo English Test 85+. Guaranteed admission to Skyline College after completion of the program. UAP is currently accepting applications for their 6-week Summer 2022 program. Learn more at www.skylinecollege.edu/international/uap.php

Cañada College Kinesiology and Wellness Center

Home to the Cañada College Athletics, Kinesiology and Dance Department, the newly completed Cañada College Kinesiology and Wellness Center has fully opened this semester. The 105,000 square foot facility includes two swimming pools, a competition gymnasium, multiple classroom spaces, offices, fitness rooms, and an outdoor rooftop track with view of the Silicon Valley. The new facility is a beautiful and expansive place for Cañada College athletic teams, Kinesiology classes, students, faculty, staff and community members to enjoy.



Global Beca Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the deserving group of students who received our Global Beca Scholarship for Fall 2021:

- Brittany S. (Ecuador)
- Chenran K. (China)
- Chel M. (Myanmar)
- Gulnazik B. (Kyrgyzstan)
- Hsu Wai H. (Myanmar)
- Htet Z. (Myanmar)
- Htin Aung K. (Myanmar)
- Jiahong H. (China)
- Lasheana H. (Indonesia)
- Linxue G. (China)
- Mowen T. (China)
- Wai K. (Myanmar)
- Xinrui Z. (China)
- Yurang L. (China)
- Zishuo W. (China)