



SAN MATEO COLLEGES
of Silicon Valley

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**FALL 2018
NEWS & UPDATES**





Jing Luan, Ph.D.
President

Dear Colleagues,

We pride ourselves in helping thousands of deserving students each year achieve their dreams and become leaders in their chosen fields. Through the San Mateo Colleges of Silicon Valley, the educational experiences of both international and US domestic students are enriched as students gain a higher level of cultural competency and are able to navigate an increasingly interconnected, interdependent global society and economy.

We are excited to share with you news and updates for Fall 2018. In this issue, we highlight our commitment to innovation, leadership, diversity and elite student services.

Thank you for your continued support of our three San Mateo Colleges of Silicon Valley. View all 13 issues of the Newsletters here: smccd.edu/international/partners.php.

Thanks for reading,
Jing

Jing Luan, Ph.D.
President, San Mateo Colleges of Silicon Valley

STUDY AND WORK IN CANADA OR AUSTRALIA WITH A SILICON VALLEY EDUCATION!



Diane Arguijo,
Director of
International
Education

In response to the overwhelming interest of our students to transfer to universities in countries where they can have opportunities for longer post study work visas and pathways to permanent residency, we have expanded our transfer agreements to universities in Canada and Australia. Presently, we are in the final stages of signing Transfer Admission Guarantees (TAGs) with Royal Roads University in Victoria, Canada, and Australian Catholic University (Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney). Students who complete an associate's degree for transfer (in selected majors) at one of our colleges, will now have the opportunity to transfer to Royal Roads University or Australian Catholic University to complete their bachelor's degree in two more years. Updated information on these universities will be posted to our international student website in late November.



WE'VE REACHED 119 COLLEGE UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS!

We are excited to report that since the publication of the Spring newsletter, we have added the following Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) universities. Each university listed below offers a wide array of quality academic programs, and in some cases, lower tuition costs and/or transfer scholarships.

- McNeese State University, Lake Charles, Louisiana
- Pepperdine University, Malibu, California
- St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas
- University of Minnesota, Duluth, Minnesota

In order to provide our students with detailed information on each of our partners, we are in the process of creating a website to promote in detail our university partners. We hope to get the webpage up and running by January 2019.

DEDICATED INTERNATIONAL COUNSELORS

To further enhance our students' transfer performance, each of our three colleges now have dedicated international student counselors:



Richard Saroyan
Counselor
Cañada College



Lydia Chen
Counselor
College of San
Mateo



Carlos Romero
Counselor
Skyline College

SAN MATEO BEITEI SCHOLARSHIP MATCHING PROGRAM

These six students from BEITEI, Cambodia are full scholarship winners of the San Mateo BELTEI Scholarship Matching Program. Congratulations!





US AMBASSADOR'S VISIT

US Ambassador to China, Terry Branstad, visited our colleges on June 19, 2018, to brief the college community and the Silicon Valley tech companies on the US trade policies with China. He reassured the audience that the US continues to believe in international education. Pictured here are (from the left) Ambassador Terry Branstad, Chancellor Ron Galatolo, and CSM President Mike Claire.

SMCSV HOMESTAY REFERRAL PROGRAM

The Homestay Referral Program has successfully matched 86 international students with local host families for Fall 2018. Our newly implemented Pre-Departure Online Orientation has been effective in assisting students with their transition to life in the US. Students were more informed of the house rules and expectations even before arriving to the In-Person Orientation, which saw a significant increase in the number of attendees this year.

The Homestay Program staff members have also created a more detailed contract between international students and host families to eliminate any confusion about money-related issues, and it's also available with simplified Chinese translations. With these two newly implemented procedures in place and 191 participating host families, the program hopes to continue delivering outstanding services to the students.

For more information, visit our website at www.smccd.edu/international/housing.php or contact the coordinators at housingcoordinator@smccd.edu.

Transfer Update

UC Berkeley and UCLA continue to be our most popular destinations. Below is a small sample from 224 international students who transferred to our partner universities.



Licheng Yu, China
Cañada College
UC Berkeley



Wai Hon Lee, Hong Kong
College of San Mateo
UCLA



Tram Lu, Vietnam
Skyline College
UC Berkeley



Anthony Petraki
Skyline & Cañada
UC Berkeley



Hongli Zhao, China
Cañada College
UC Berkeley



Karan Soni, Nepal
College of San Mateo
UC Berkeley



Xinyi Wang, China
Skyline College
UCLA



Qi Yun Yeoh, Malaysia
College of San Mateo
UCLA



Sufang Tan, China
Skyline College
UC Berkeley



HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR RESIDENCY UPDATES

Our 10-day High School Counselor Residency Program was a huge success. The Residency Program provided the high school counselors and EducationUSA advisors with valuable information on transfer process, admissions, student support services, homestay, and many more. Counselors had the opportunity to meet the international program staff at each college, get a detailed presentation on a different topic each day, and speak with our current international students about their experiences. Stanford University and UC Berkeley also provided customized tours and meetings for the counselors.

According to Demirjian Nanor from Spain, "I feel that this Residency was very thoughtfully planned and had a dynamic itinerary."

Diego Lopez-Calleja, from Costa Rica, explained that "I enjoyed how welcoming each staff member was with our group. They were extremely open to questions and went above and beyond to get us the information we needed. I enjoyed each one of the campus visits and really did get the 'feel' for them. It will help me tremendously when describing them to my students."

Pictured above is the group from our farewell dinner. We plan to send out the invitation for the 2019 Summer Residency earlier this time around so please keep an eye out for our next Newsletter.

Visit this website: smccd.edu/international/tours.php



Vimeo (for China): <https://vimeo.com/182585859>

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/kPSPDybuqcl>

COLLEGE PENNANTS

We have a new pennant designed by professionals, based on our tradition and purpose. You will be receiving them in the next few months:



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Our Global Beca International Student Scholarship continues to provide financial assistance to students who wish to study in America. This year alone, we have awarded merit-based scholarships, ranging from \$250 to the full tuition cost, to 56 deserving international students from 24 different countries.



One notable student is Anna Te from Cambodia, who received a full tuition waiver for her excellent grades in four Advanced Placement (AP) classes while participating in extracurricular activities and serving as President of Student Council. Her goal is to attend Harvard Law School and we hope with this scholarship we can help her achieve her dreams.



Yin Ue Chan, Hong Kong
Cañada College



Lisa Pfeiffer, Germany
College of San Mateo



Luisa Chinchilla,
Colombia
Skyline College



The Ngoc Phung,
Vietnam
Cañada College



Tangsang
Tumbahangphe, Nepal
College of San Mateo



Walter Toriola, Nigeria
Skyline College



Enrique Marenco
Jarquín, Nicaragua
Cañada College



Marco Quann,
Indonesia
College of San Mateo



Nyein Nyein Su,
Myanmar
Skyline College



IN-COUNTRY PRE-DEPARTURE ORIENTATIONS

Our “5 countries, 9 cities in 16 days Pre-departure Orientation” was successfully completed on July 3. As our signature piece, we received personalized support from US embassies and consulates normally reserved for multi-institution delegations. We impressed and convinced parents that sending their children to us is a great investment.

- Met with over a 100 admitted students and their parents and hundreds more prospective students.
- Recruited over 10 Silicon Valley Intensive English Program (SVIEP) students.
- Opened BELTEI, Cambodia’s first annual international conference, as featured guests
- Gave TV interviews and speeches
- Developed 20 more partnerships
- Further established our brand, reputation, and much more...

MEET KEY COLLEGE ADMINISTRATORS

KATHY KOHUT

Manager
International Student Program
(Cañada College)

CANinternational@smccd.edu



CHRIS WOO

Interim Manager
International Student Program
(College of San Mateo)

CSMinternational@smccd.edu



WISSEM BENNANI

Manager
International Student Program
(Skyline College)

SKYinternational@smccd.edu

