



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MAY
2024

REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS



Over the last month there have been numerous campus and community events that district employees supported, volunteered time, or attended. The level of activity is both invigorating and exhausting. There are too many programs and events for me to list, but each is important, advances our mission, and demonstrates the kaleidoscope of diversity in the district. Two signature events, the Native American Motivation Day and Latino Student Retreat, brought over 600 middle and high school students to campus. It was uplifting to see students fill the theater and receive exemplary service and information from district employees. Culture and Art shined with the Queer Prom, Annual Student Art Show, and Spring Dance Festival. The Spring Plant Sale was huge. I went home with many plants for my garden.

I was able to attend the Northern Circle Big Time at the Sherwood Valley Rancheria. It was an evening of singing, dancing, and food. Spending time in community with others nurtures the soul.

Lastly, congratulations to transfer counselor Mark Osea being elected Area B representative to the State Academic Senate executive committee.

51ST ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT

The 51st Annual Commencement Ceremony will be held on Friday, May 24th at 6:00pm on the Stadium Field. We encourage all faculty and staff to attend this important event to honor student success and achievement.

Full-time faculty, part-time faculty, and educational administrators are invited to participate in the processional. Processional participants should wear a black gown. Caps and hoods are optional. There are a limited number of gowns available for faculty/educational administrators should you need to borrow one. Please email graduation@mendocino.edu and we can hold a gown aside for pick up or coordinate delivery to you.

Please see email from Anastasia on 05.09.24 for the order of events and complete details.

NATIVE AMERICAN MOTIVATION DAY

A staple at Mendocino college, the 38th annual Native American Motivation Day was held on April 12th with great success. The event provides a connection to local area students in both Lake and Mendocino counties, allowing all to enjoy a day of cultural and educational resiliency. The day was full of amazing blessings, cultural singing and dancing, as well as, the always popular Indian tacos. K-12 partners from through our District brought students to campus for great programming that began with a standing-room only session in the Theater.



LATINO STUDENT RETREAT

On April 26th, Mendocino College hosted students from area high schools to participate in the 36th Annual Latino Student Retreat. With the theme of “Be the Voice”, the event served as an opportunity for local students to be better informed about college offerings, success strategies and cultural activities. The keynote speaker was Erika Cruz, who is a Coach, Speaker, and Founder of Courage Driven Latina. Erika left a six-figure tech job and created her own six-figure paying business. Erika’s work focuses on helping others become the best version of themselves.

EVENTS

Krenov Exhibit at Grace Hudson Museum

March 30 - August 18, 2024

Spring Dance Festival

May 2nd-5th

1st Annual Missing & Murdered Indigenous Peoples Awareness Walk

May 4th

Health & Wellness Fair

May 8th

Lake Center Registration Fiesta

May 9th

EOPS Awards

May 10th

Graduation & Transfer Fair

May 14th

CAMP Ceremony

May 16th

Fire Academy Ceremony

May 19th

Nursing Pinning Ceremony

May 23rd

Commencement Ceremony

May 24th

Walking Moai - ongoing

Mondays 12:30-1:30pm - meet at Pomo Plaza

Above is a sample of the events on campus in the upcoming month. Additional details can be viewed on the [Events page](https://www.mendocino.edu/events), <https://www.mendocino.edu/events>, or the [Athletics page](https://www.mendocino.edu/athletics), <https://www.mendocino.edu/athletics>.

The monthly student newsletter

<https://www.mendocino.edu/newsletters>,

The Eagle, provides a listing of upcoming events and campus news too.

UKIAH HIGH STUDENTS



Instructor Rodney Grisanti hosted Ukiah High School students at the recording studio. Four separate Norteño ensembles recorded their music. Several students expressed interest in attending Mendocino College in the fall.

QUEER PROM



On April 20th 2024, Mendocino College hosted Queer Prom Rocky Horror Show 2024! There was live music by The Weevilism Band. Drag Queen Performance from Tarracotta Clay, who sang and danced. The RAT Club presented the Rocky Horror Picture Show with prop bags and treats! To finalize the amazing Prom Night everyone was welcome to perform at the Prom Talent Show!

NARCAN DISTRIBUTION EVENTS

At the beginning of March, the college held a Narcan distribution event in the Lowery Student Center. Over 45 student contacts were made which included a brief training about what to look for in a person who may be experiencing an overdose, how to administer the medication, and what to do afterwards. A hybrid training was conducted for staff and students as part of the kick off activities. Twenty-two people were trained and Narcan was distributed to the attendees. Since the kick off, Mendocino County Substance Use Disorder Treatment Prevention Team was on site to distribute Narcan (in April), and HMA travelled to all of our Centers to provide distribution events (also in April). HMA will be on site for the Health & Wellness Fair in May as will Mendocino County Aids and Viral Hepatitis Network (MCAVHN). Counselor/Coordinator Lisa Larimer Burtis has been working with Health Management Associates/COPE Program to craft our distribution strategy.

HEALTH & WELLNESS WORKSHOPS

The Health and Wellness Spring Workshop Series, which was accomplished in an intentional collaboration between multiple departments. The workshops this semester have been focused on the following topics: financial literacy, "Creating Study Spaces," "Difficult Conversations," and "Busy Lives". These trainings were available both in person in Ukiah and online via zoom. In addition to our student offerings this semester was the student-driven Sharing Circle. This effort was a collaboration with Joan McDowell, seasoned facilitator, and Asst. Professor Dean Watson-Krasts.

MARKETING RECOGNITION

The Mendocino College marketing team, Rose Bell and Tony Novelli, were honored for their marketing efforts at the recent 2024 CCPRO conference. Their creativity and strategic approach garnered the Gold Award in print advertising for the Fall and Spring marketing campaigns, as well as the Silver Award for the Fall 2024 schedule cover. This recognition by industry peers underscores the team's talents and collaborative effectiveness.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Several counselors attended the Career Compass Summit in Sacramento the week of May 1st. This conference is known for providing the latest trends in career growth, supporting counselors to better understand the opportunities that await new graduates and improve our ability to inform our students about the everchanging world and needs of our employers.

GRADUATION & TRANSFER FAIR

Our Transfer Center is planning to host a Graduation Transfer Fair with the support of our Admissions & Records department. Students will be invited to pick up their grad swag and have last minute check-in appointments to ensure they are on-track to graduate and transfer to a four-year institution. Multiple dates have been chosen in the beginning of May to ensure students have options to participate.

ENERGY MASTER PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL RESILIENCY PROGRAM

Following the January 2024 Facilities & Sustainability report to the Board of Trustees, over two dozen engineering firms were invited to participate in the District-wide Energy Master Planning and Infrastructure Renewal Requests for Proposals (RFP) process. The District received (3) qualified responses and after a thorough review by staff, Climatec LLC was selected.

Key objectives of this program:

- Develop an energy master plan
- Modernize aging infrastructure and systems throughout our sites including but not limited to: HVAC, building automation, interior & exterior lighting, building envelope, electrical switchgear and systems, etc.
- Implement additional, reliable on-site power generation & microgrid technologies
- Retro-commission the existing solar PV system
- Minimize financial risks through fixed project costs

Next Steps:

At a future Board meeting, the Board will be provided with a proposed master agreement for approval that defines all aspects of the agreement with Climatec.

CALFRESH OUTREACH

CalFresh staff have been promoting healthy living on our campus by throwing our first event which included sand volleyball and CalFresh application assistance! Our CalFresh team tabled with our canopy at the sand volleyball court and had laptops available for students to apply for CalFresh. This was a very fun event with healthy snacks, music and some volleyball players playing with students who may have never played sand volleyball before!

REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS



Please join us for the biggest show of the year featuring 200 works of art from Mendocino College students working in Photography, Ceramics, Painting, Printmaking and beyond. Student work from the Coast Center, Lake Center, North County Center and the Ukiah Campus is represented, as well as Dual Enrollment students.

Annual Student Show

April 19 – May 19, 2024

**ARTIST RECEPTION & DRAW-A-THON:
APRIL 25TH, 4-6PM**

The opening reception will include an interactive 'Draw-a-thon'. Dancers from the Mendocino College Repertory Dance Company will model in costume for anyone who would like to try their hand at drawing from life, materials provided.

Light refreshments will be served.

Mendocino College Gallery

1000 Hensley Creek Rd., Ukiah - CVPA Theatre Lobby
Gallery Hours: Tues/Thurs 3-6PM, Wed 12-3pm,
and by appointment

www.mendocino.edu/gallery