



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

AUGUST
2024

REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS



Since the last Board meeting in June, the summer session was successful and there were many opportunities to attend and support our programs and students. I had the pleasure to attend a few events including the Pinoleville Big Time, Big Valley Tule Boat Festival, Shakespeare at the Lake,

HEP graduation, and the Native American Summer Enrichment Program.

SUMMER 2024 ENROLLMENTS

Summer enrollment across the district was higher with a 45% FTES increase and student headcount is 38% increase year-over-year. Significantly, summer enrollment was 20% above 2019 levels. This achievement could not be possible without faculty, classified staff, and managers working together to construct a student-focused schedule of classes and work with partners to increase educational opportunities.

SEMESTER	ACTIVE STUDENTS	FULL-TIME	PART-TIME	TOTAL FTES
SUMMER 2024	2320	17	2303	372.00
SUMMER 2023	1675	6	1669	254.89
SUMMER 2020	1765	16	1749	320.97
SUMMER 2019	1911	32	1879	309.91
SUMMER 2018	1952	8	1944	295.53

SUMMER CAMPUS TOURS

Over the summer Rebecca Montes and Janet Daugherty coordinated a series of Tuesday Tours to offer staff a way to go 'behind-the-scenes' to get to know instruction departments better. The tours started with Athletics, with a peak at the inner workings of our Athletics department with AD Matt Gordon, including the fitness trainer space, the fitness lab, newly revamped gym, as well as the PTA and dance classrooms. The second in the series took us behind the stage of the Theatre with our Theatre technician, Dave Wolf, and the Music, Clothing, and Art departments. The final tour of the series allowed us to explore the Grove, including the fascinating inner workings of the nursing lab with Nayely Garcia, and an in-depth tour of the Agricultural gardens with Agriculture Coordinator Jake Kyle. The tours were a big hit and we are grateful to everyone that participated, and led us in a behind the scenes look at their department.



REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

NATURE CONSERVANCY PARTNERSHIP

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced the awards that are recommended for funding under the Transformational Habitat Restoration & Coastal Resilience grant program. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) California has been recommended to receive \$18 million over three years to launch the Pacific Coast Ocean Restoration Initiative (PCOR), a comprehensive, collaborative statewide effort aimed at restoring and recovering degraded marine ecosystems across California. [https://www.nature.org/en-us/newsroom/ca-noaa-ocean-restoration/#:~:text=The%20Nature%20Conservancy%20\(TNC\)%20California,degraded%20marine%20ecosystems%20across%20California.](https://www.nature.org/en-us/newsroom/ca-noaa-ocean-restoration/#:~:text=The%20Nature%20Conservancy%20(TNC)%20California,degraded%20marine%20ecosystems%20across%20California.)

Mendocino College is a partner agency in the grant. The college will receive funding over 3 years to enable the development of curriculum and workforce pathways supporting environmental conservation, specifically, the creation of a marine ecosystem restoration program, aimed at building a diverse and climate-resilient workforce. This project will help us develop the necessary infrastructure and curriculum to equip our students with the skills needed for ocean restoration, significantly impacting workforce development and marine restoration efforts in our region.

Other grant coalition partners include the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Ocean Protection Council, Greater Farallones Association, The Bay Foundation, Aquarium of the Pacific, the California Academy of Sciences, Sunflower Star Laboratory, Paua Marine Research Group, and University of California Santa Barbara.

NEW STUDENT WELCOME

On Monday, August 5th, Mendocino College hosted over 100 students for the annual New Student Welcome. This orientation to college provided students with valuable information about how to navigate the college going experience. Multiple departments worked together to provide students with information sessions, tours and an information fair.

**MTA AND LTA PARTNERSHIP**

Mendocino College will once again be partnering with Mendocino Transit Authority and Lake Transit Authority to continue the Students Ride Free program this Fall semester. Additionally, the College worked with MTA to restore the evening bus service, which had been dormant for a couple of years. With our continued partnership, students taking evening classes at the Ukiah campus will once again be able to ride the MTA bus free of charge to and from classes.



REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS



WEEK OF WELCOME!
TWO WEEKS OF FOOD, FUN, AND STUDENT SUPPORT



Ask A Question,
Save A Life.

QUESTION. PERSUADE. REFER.

Week One
August 19-22

Info Tables

MON - THURS

Main & Science Building Entrances

Support

MON - THURS

Welcome Center • Library • Learning Center

Week Two
August 26-29

Passport to Learning

TUES/WED

Student Support Services

Tables • Lunch • Games • Prizes

**Group photo with President Karas
Wed. 8/28 @ 12:15 pm

PARTY IN POMO PLAZA!!
11:30 am - 1:30 pm • Aug. 27-28

For more information, visit www.mendocino.edu/wow



WEEK OF WELCOME

Calling all volunteers! We need volunteers to support this student event in a variety of ways. If you're able to help, please sign up via the links below.

WOW Week 1 Volunteer Sign-Up:

<https://signup.com/go/VcNyiKW>

WOW Week 2 Volunteer Sign-Up:

<https://signup.com/go/xAWJGqc>

For more information, visit www.mendocino.edu/wow.

QUESTION - PERSUADE - REFER (QPR) TRAINING FOR STAFF & STUDENTS

QPR is a simple, yet powerful, three-step method anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. This one-hour training will equip you with the skills to recognize a crisis and identify the warning signs that someone may be contemplating suicide. Open to both employees and students, this hybrid training is brought to you by Health & Wellness at the following times:

- Tuesday, Sept. 10th, 5-6pm - Room LR4210
- Wednesday, Sept. 11th, 1-2pm - Room LR4210

Please register to attend in person or to receive a Zoom link for virtual attendance:

<https://forms.office.com/r/DCuJFVeL6s>

Additionally, these training sessions will be recorded & made available on the Health & Wellness shared drive.

WALKING MOAI

A Walking Moai, pronounced "Mo-Eye," is a small group of people that meets at least once a week for 10 weeks. It's about moving naturally, exploring new things where you live, work and making new connections. Join us every Monday at the Pomo Plaza at 1 PM.

For more information, contact Lisa Larimer Burtis at llarimerburtis@mendocino.edu or (707) 468-3222.



REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

STUDENT HOUSING SB169

Since passage SB 169 Affordable Student Housing, there have been significant changes to the program implementation in delivery. Originally (FY2021/2022), the program was under the State Department of Finance (DOF). The DOF had oversight of projects in the community college system, CSU's and UC's. In FY 2022/23, the program was separated by segment and the community college portion moved to the California Community College State Chancellor's Office. In June 2023 Mendocino College submitted an application for a project to be located in Ukiah. The official notification of funding status was to be sent to districts in July 2024.

In the FY2023/24 fiscal year, the State adopted significant changes in the funding mechanism for this program. The 2023 Budget Act eliminated the 2022-23 General Fund appropriation for the Affordable Student Housing grants and instead called for those projects to be funded by locally issued lease revenue bonds. This change retroactively applied to the twelve community college projects originally funded in the 2022 Budget Act, and the seven community college housing projects authorized in the 2023 Budget Act. Grant funds already distributed to districts were required to be returned to the State. Community college housing projects were to be funded through local revenue bonds to be issued by community college districts or as part of a state pool.

The funding mechanism has again changed. The 2024 enacted budget establishes a plan for a statewide lease revenue bond program as an alternative to local lease revenue bonds. It authorizes the State Public Works Board (SPWB) to issue revenue bonds in the amount of \$804.7 million to finance approved student housing projects, and to enter into agreements with the Board of Governors and the participating colleges to borrow funds for project costs. The bond program will cover 13 approved projects. No new projects are approved in 2024-25.

As of August 2024, we have not been informed of the status of our application from the State Chancellor's Office, however, with no new funds for projected included in the State adopted budget it appears likely that our application will not move forward at least this fiscal year.

This information will change our trajectory and planning, but not our commitment towards student housing. In collaboration with the Mendocino College Foundation, we will move towards purchasing a land parcel in Ukiah. Furthermore, mid-year (January 2025) we plan to bring other possible options to fund a student housing project forward.

EVENTS**Walking Moai**

Mondays, Start at 1pm
Pomo Plaza, Ukiah Campus

Week of Welcome

Aug. 19 - 23, 2024 | 8:00am - 6:00pm
Pomo Plaza, Ukiah Campus

Auditions for the Book of Will

August 20, 2024 | 6:00pm - 6:00pm
Center Theatre, Ukiah Campus

Eagles Men's Soccer vs. Gavilan

August 23, 2024 | 3:00pm | Ukiah Campus

Eagles Men's Soccer vs. Redwoods

August 26, 2024 | 3:00pm | Ukiah Campus

Eagles Women's Soccer vs. Skyline

August 27, 2024 | 3:00pm | Ukiah Campus

Eagles Women's Soccer vs. Siskiyou

August 31, 2024 | 1:30pm | Ukiah Campus

Eagles Men's Soccer vs. Siskiyou

August 31, 2024 | 4:00pm | Ukiah Campus