

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

OCTOBER 2023

Dr. Henry D. Shannon



VISION STATEMENT
Chaffey College:
Improving lives
through education.

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A Message from Superintendent/President Shannon

Dear Chaffey College and Community Members,

I hope the fall season is treating you well.

October has been an eventful month for our community and our world. Many of us, whether directly or indirectly impacted, are still reeling from the war currently underway in the Middle East. It is times like these when I believe educational institutions become a solace for those who need a safe place.

At Chaffey College, we held space for students to unite for reflection and open discussions regarding the conflict in the Middle East as well as opportunities to receive counseling. I applaud our faculty, staff and students for participating in respectful dialogue and demonstrating a collective stance against human suffering.

Our campus continues to show incredible dedication to community engagement. Last week, we proudly welcomed the Office of Assembly Majority Leader Eloise Gomez Reyes to our campus for a blood drive and resource fair. Hosted in partnership with LifeStream Blood Bank, we saw many from our community come out for the festivities and most importantly to donate much needed blood. I applaud Majority Leader Reyes for her leadership - thank you!

This month I was inspired to see more than 700 high school students come out to Manufacturing Day at Chaffey's InTech Center. National Manufacturing Day takes place every October to showcase manufacturing careers to the next generation of workers and positively shift perceptions about the industry. Students who participated in the event included those from Fontana, Rialto, Montclair, Upland, Chaffey Joint Union, Chino Valley, Jurupa, Colton, Riverside and San Bernardino City unified school districts.

The future is bright at Chaffey College and in our communities. Our Governing Board and I are looking forward to hosting our annual Report to the Community on November 9 at the Goldy S. Lewis Community Center at Central Park in Rancho Cucamonga to further showcase how Chaffey is making a positive impact in the region. [Be sure to reserve your seat!](#)

Thank you all for being an integral part of this community. Go Panthers!

Sincerely,

Henry D. Shannon, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President



Chaffey Top Ranked in Hispanic Enrollment, Awarding Degrees

Hispanic Outlook on Education has ranked Chaffey College the No. 7 California community college to grant associate's degrees to Hispanic students and the state's No. 7 college in Hispanic enrollment.

The magazine ranked 100 colleges throughout the nation based on degrees granted at community colleges in 2021-2022 and total enrollment of Hispanic students in same year. The rankings were included in the magazine's "Top Community Colleges for Hispanics" edition, released today.

"Chaffey College proudly supports its diverse student body, helping all of our students reach their academic and career goals," said Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry Shannon. "As a Hispanic Serving Institution, we are invested in improving the lives of this important population."

Chaffey College placed No. 10 nationally for the number of Hispanic students receiving associate's degrees. Of the roughly 3,100 degrees awarded in the 2021-2022 academic year, 63 percent of those awards went to students identifying as Hispanic.

Chaffey ranked No. 16 nationally out of 100 community colleges for the number of Hispanic students enrolled at Chaffey. Out of nearly 28,000 students enrolled, 61 percent are Hispanic.

Chaffey Breaks Ground on Library Learning Commons

With shovels in hand and smiles on their faces, campus and community leaders broke ground on the \$75 million Chaffey College Library Learning Commons on September 26. About 200 people – including local and state lawmakers – gathered for the event on Chaffey's Rancho Cucamonga campus.

"I want to thank the leadership team, our governing board, faculty and staff and, of course, the taxpayers for their vote of confidence to make this happen," said Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry D. Shannon.

The three-story 76,000-square-foot building, which will include a library, classrooms and study spaces, is one of six active construction projects happening at Chaffey's campuses. It is one of Chaffey's first structures to be built with funds from the \$700 million Measure P bond, passed by voters in Chaffey's seven-city district in 2018.

Chaffey College Student Government President and Trustee Tamia Newman said the project and others show students that the community cares about them and wants to see them succeed.

"This new building I'm sure will internalize the message that Chaffey College students deserve the best facilities, deserve the best opportunities and the best overall academic experience," she said.

Chaffey's original library was one of the first 12 buildings constructed on the campus starting in 1959. The two-story 39,000-square-foot structure received minor upgrades a decade later and an 11,000-square-foot addition in 1994. Like the new library, the existing structure was funded through a \$5 million bond measure approved by voters in 1957.

Chaffey College Governing Board Vice President Deana Olivares-Lambert thanked Inland Empire residents for their support through Measure P to make the library project possible.

"We appreciate and value the partnerships we have because we couldn't do this without you, and it's important for our community to bring our region forward," she said.

Chaffey's Library Learning Commons is slated for completion in summer 2025.





Superintendent Honored by Growing Inland Achievement for Equity Work

A nonprofit focused on improving Inland Empire education and the economy awarded Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry D. Shannon on October 26 for his work to promote equity. Growing Inland Achievement presented the award during the "Toward a Shared Vision Conference" at the Riverside Convention Center.

California State University San Bernardino, Assemblywoman Sabrina Cervantez and the Children Deserve Success Program through the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools.

The awards recognize people and groups who have made significant contributions to educational attainment and economic success in the Inland Empire, while embodying the values of equity, transformation, collaboration, innovation and centering students. Some of Shannon's equity-related initiatives include launching the annual Black and Brown Minds & Mattering Conference, establishing Chaffey's Center for Culture and Social Justice, as well as the Panther Care Program – both providing support for historically underserved groups. He was named a 2021 Equity Champion of Higher Education by the Campaign for College Opportunity for Chaffey's success in high transfer rates of Latino students.

Shannon's equity work captured the attention of author and philanthropist MacKenzie Scott in 2021, leading to a historic gift of \$25 million to Chaffey College. Shannon serves as one of 10 governing board members for Growing Inland Achievement.

"It is our job as educational leaders to help all students in our region succeed, and that means providing extra support to students who need it so they can earn a life-changing degree, certificate or diploma," Shannon said. "I am proud that Chaffey College is a force in making this happen." Shannon was one of seven leaders and five groups awarded at the conference, including Tomas D. Morales, president of

Chaffey College Presents Workforce Initiatives at InTech Conference

The Chaffey College Industrial Technical Learning Center hosted a conference for Inland Economic Growth and Opportunity on October 11, sharing information about Chaffey's work to train and upskill the workforce.

The conference included presentations by Chaffey, Riverside Community and San Bernardino Valley colleges. Interim Associate Superintendent of Workforce Innovations and Entrepreneurial Development Sheneui Weber stressed the importance of community partners in improving the workforce.

"To do this, we're going to need a lot of employee partners," she said. "We're going to need support from employers."

Weber spoke about the Academic Community Employability Skills (ACES) program and how it's providing Chaffey students with digital credentials in skills that employers consider valuable. She said Chaffey has awarded credentials to more than 7,000 students since July 2021.



"We're very excited and proud of that," she said.

She talked about the need for entrepreneurship support, particularly among California's undocumented and immigrant population.

The conference also included a presentation by Dee Dee Myers, senior advisor to Governor Gavin Newsom and former White House press secretary. Myers shared the Newsom Administration's business and economic development priorities for the state, as well as the work of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) work to create high-quality, accessible jobs for Californians.

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Chaffey College Governing Board



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Serving the communities of:

Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana,
Montclair, Ontario,
Rancho Cucamonga, Upland

Mission Statement

Chaffey College improves lives and our communities through education with a steadfast commitment to equity and innovation to empower our diverse students who learn and thrive through excellent career, transfer, and workforce education programs that advance economic and social mobility for all.

700 High School Students Gather for Manufacturing Day at InTech

Adrian Villaseñor has been interested in robotics and engineering since he was little, getting inspiration from television shows about Nikola Tesla and Isaac Newton. The Summit High School sophomore gained even more inspiration on Friday at the Chaffey College Industrial Technical Learning Center in Fontana, where 700 high school students gathered for Manufacturing day.

"I want to build robots, fix them and learn how they're made," he said. "I want to build something that will make people's lives easier." National Manufacturing Day takes place every October to showcase manufacturing careers to the next generation of workers and positively shift perceptions about the industry.

"We are seeing a bright outlook in the manufacturing sector despite the impact COVID-19 has had on our regional economy," said Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry D. Shannon. "The Bureau of Labor Statistics shows an 8 percent increase in job growth among manufacturing careers through 2031. That is great news for Inland Empire residents looking for rewarding good-paying jobs."

Students who participated in the event included those from Fontana, Rialto, Montclair, Upland, Chaffey Joint Union, Chino Valley, Jurupa, Colton, Riverside and San Bernardino City unified school districts. Colton-Redlands-Yucaipa Regional Occupational Program students also attended.

They toured the center's industrial electrical and robotics laboratories, participated in welding demonstrations and more. Numerous employers, including PepsiCo-Frito Lay, FedEx, Amacor and Mission Foods, shared information about job opportunities with students.

Andrea Palacios, a freshman at Bloomington High School, said that the manufacturing field overlaps her interest in computer coding.

"I know that AI is taking over the world, so I want to learn how to manage the coding of that," she said.



Save The Date

Now through November 18

"Seeing the Unseen" - Wignall Museum

Nov 1 Black and Brown Minds & Mattering Conference

Nov 2 Dialectical Behavior Therapy Library

Nov 6 Trinity Veterans - AD -125

Nov 8 Visiting Artist Hannah Chalew HS - 143

Nov 8 Coping with Generational Trauma Library and [Zoom](#)

Nov 8 Lunch and Listen Veterans Resource Center

Nov 8 Experience Art as Therapy Wignall Museum

Nov 9 Report to the Community

Nov 9 Veterans Day Resource Fair - AD - 125

Nov 13 Music + Art - Wignall Museum

Nov 16 Red Boy Productions lecture and dance - CAA - 218

Nov. 16 -

Nov. 19 The SpongeBob Musical