

# PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2023

**Dr. Henry D. Shannon**



VISION STATEMENT  
Chaffey College:  
Improving lives  
through education.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Chaffey Signs Dual Enrollment Agreement with CJUHSD .....2
- Representative Norma Torres Reintroduces Basic Needs Bill at Chaffey .....2
- More Than 1,000 Gather for Club Rush .....3
- Criminal Justice Introduces Simulation Training .....3
- Save the Date .....4

## A Message from Superintendent/President Shannon

Dear Chaffey College and Community Members,

We are coming off the heels of an action-packed month here at Chaffey College.

Just a few days ago, we officially broke ground on the new Library Learning Commons on our Rancho Cucamonga campus. Thanks to taxpayers in support of Measure P, this new 76,000-square-foot building will consist of a library, classrooms, study spaces and faculty support. The project is expected to be completed in summer 2025.

Earlier this month, Chaffey College and Chaffey Joint Union High School signed a new agreement that enables high school students to earn high school English and college English credits simultaneously in a single class. This is just one more example of how we are pushing the envelope through our Dual Enrollment program to help more students realize their college potential at an early age.

It was an honor to welcome Congresswoman Norma Torres back to campus on September 6, for a townhall geared toward the importance of providing basic needs assistance to students. More on her Basic Assistance for Students In College (BASIC) Act later inside this newsletter.

Registration has opened for the [2nd annual Black and Brown Minds & Mattering Conference](#). Last year's inaugural event was a huge success and we look forward to another landmark event this year on November 1. We are excited to welcome Dr. Daisy Gonzales, deputy chancellor of California Community Colleges and Dr. Tina King, president of San Diego College of Continuing Education. We also have an array of exciting workshops for administrators and students, [learn more here](#).

As always, I remain inspired, energized and excited for the immeasurable achievements of this community. The support of our governing board, faculty and staff make it possible for our students to have more opportunities to reach their goals than ever before.

Go Panthers!

Sincerely,



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



## Representative Norma Torres Reintroduces Basic Needs Bill at Chaffey

When Congresswoman Norma Torres found her son making five sandwiches for his school lunch one morning, she was surprised to discover he was actually making them for classmates who went hungry.

The lawmaker visited Chaffey College on September 6, reintroducing her Basic Assistance for Students In College (BASIC) Act.

"It is the stories of real students like you that gives me the power and energy I need to continue to fight for you," Torres said. The bill – originally authored by Torres, and Senators Alex Padilla and Elizabeth Warren in 2021 – would have provided \$1 billion in funding for colleges to help support the basic needs of college students. But the bill did not receive the support it needed to pass.

Torres who serves on the House Appropriations Committee, said she hasn't given up on the BASIC Act and wants to help colleges connect students with housing, food and other assistance so they can succeed.

*continued on page 4*

# Chaffey Signs Dual Enrollment Agreement with CJUHSD



CHAFFEY JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Chaffey Joint Union High School students will soon be able to take college-level English courses during their regular bell schedule thanks to a new agreement with Chaffey College.

The two districts signed a memorandum of understanding on September 12.

Chaffey Joint Union students currently have access to tuition-free courses through Chaffey College, but need to take the courses outside of their school day. Chaffey College's pilot program – the first of its kind in the district – will allow high school seniors to earn high school English and college English credits simultaneously in a single class.

"Our goal is for every high school student to have college credit, because we believe that every student in the cities we serve is college material," said Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry D. Shannon. "When they complete this class, we hope these students will continue on the path toward obtaining a certificate or degree."

The courses – co-taught by both Chaffey College and Chaffey Joint Union faculty – will cover both high school and college English curriculum, including reading and writing.

"We are excited to embark on this partnership with Chaffey College," said Chaffey Joint Union High School District Superintendent Mathew Holton. "Introducing a team-teaching model to our nine high school campuses is innovative, and will provide our students the support and confidence they need to succeed and envision a future on a college campus."

Chaffey plans to launch the pilot this fall with team teachers working together and joining forces in the classroom in spring 2024. It aligns with the vision of California Community Colleges Chancellor Sonya Christian, who has encouraged the expansion of dual enrollment – particularly among underrepresented communities.

## More Than 1,000 Gather for Club Rush

Nursing major Aaron Noor shared information about the Quran – the religious text of Islam – and offered samples of the Middle Eastern dessert Knafeh during a packed Club Rush on August 30.

Noor, media manager for the Chaffey Muslim Students Association, said the club had 40 active members right before the pandemic, but had to disband due to COVID. The event marked

*continued on page 3*





*continued from page 2*

a return for Noor's club, along with many others, since 2020.

"We want to bring the Muslim community together, but also introduce our religion and culture to non-Muslims," he said.

Club Rush drew 36 clubs, including 12 that are officially chartered. Members of the Chaffey Game Development Club displayed their creations on laptops, including the space shooter game "SpaceCat KnifeParty" and "Seed of Life."

Jessica Setiadhi, club treasurer, said the group has about 20 active members who work in five different teams to create games. Students develop everything from the art, programming and audio to the game and story design.

Their games are played throughout the world through the organization Global Game Jam.

Graphic design major Andrea Pedroza signed up for the Lavender Coalition, wanting to get the full student experience at Chaffey.

"It's a good way to meet with a lot of different people that you may not otherwise meet because they have different majors," she said.

## Criminal Justice Introduces Simulation Training

Tanner Grieco has wanted to be a law enforcement officer since he was 3-years-old.

But the scenario he encountered in his criminal justice class in September is one that he hopes will never happen on the job.

Grieco – looking at a video screen – watched as a mentally-disturbed man on the screen reached for a knife and pointed it at him. Grieco aimed his simulation gun at the screen and raised his voice.

"Put down the knife, turn around and walk toward me," he commanded.

The man eventually complied without any shots being fired.

Chaffey College unveiled simulation training technology for fall, giving students a glimpse of the split-second decisions they'll need to make as police officers.

The simulations teach students how to de-escalate potentially violent situations, but also how to protect themselves if they face an attack from an armed suspect. A trainer runs the program from a laptop and changes the actions of the person on screen based on the actions of the student. In some scenarios, students are forced to



aim and fire at the scenario subjects, but they can also be "killed" in the scenarios if they miss their target or fire too late.

Ana Rosales, associate professor of criminal justice, said the scenarios will prepare and set all students up for success in any criminal justice profession they pursue.

"The simulation shooting screen adds a real-life perspective and it exposes our students to the realities of unpredictable and real-life situations they may face," she said.

# Connect with Us on Social Media



continued from page 2

She met with the campus community in the Center for Culture and Social Justice, where several students shared stories of navigating homelessness, mental health issues and food insecurity.

She said supporting such legislation will help to ease the stigma associated with housing and food insecurity.

"I applaud you for wanting to push for something like this," she said.

Chaffey College Student Government President/Trustee Tamia Newman described coming to school without lunch on occasion.

## Chaffey College Governing Board



**Kathleen Brugger**  
President



**Deana Olivares-Lambert**  
Vice President



**Gloria Negrete-McLeod**  
Clerk



**Gary C. Ovitt**  
Member



**Lee C. McDougal**  
Immediate Past President



**Tamia Newman**  
Student Trustee/  
CCSG President



## 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.



## Save The Date

### Now through November 18

"Seeing the Unseen" - Wignall Museum

- Oct 2** Evolutionary Ecology Lecture  
WH-142
- Oct 3** Historia del cacao y sus beneficios  
MACC-208
- Oct 4** Performance: "The Burlesque Astronomy Play"  
Planetarium
- Oct 5** Embracing Opportunities:  
I am Chaffey with Professor  
Luis Fernandez  
AD-109 and [Zoom](#)
- Oct 10** Panel Discussion:  
Unveiling the Illusion of  
Individuality  
CAA-218

- Oct 11** Calling All Artists, Calaveras  
Workshops  
Chino quad and CAA-210
- Oct 12** Experience Art as Therapy  
Wignall Museum
- Oct 12** Calling All Artists, Calaveras  
Workshops  
Fontana FNAC Lobby
- Oct 18** Workshop: Creating Photograms  
with Patrick Miller  
CAA-210
- Oct 25** Workshop: What is SI and  
How do I Apply?  
Wignall Museum
- Oct 30** Wall of Calavera Exhibit  
CAA Art Gallery
- Nov 1** [Black and Brown Minds &  
Mattering Conference](#)
- Nov 9** [Report to the Community](#)