

Dear Colleagues, we are excited to share with you some exciting updates for spring/summer 2015. Thank you for your continued support of our three San Mateo Colleges. Download the newsletter in PDF [from here](#).

IMPORTANT NEWS & UPDATES FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2015

Applications for the Fall 2015 Semester Are Open till July 1. Apply here:

<https://www.smccd.edu/international/admission.php>

Not all high performing students can be admitted to their dream top universities **directly** and some students would like to save on tuition cost, therefore, students will need high performing San Mateo Colleges to take advantage of our Bridge to America's Top University offerings.

Our applications are coming in strong at all hours of the day. It seems the sun never sets for San Mateo Colleges. We keep our 10-day turnaround promise.

Transfer Success (some with scholarships!!!)

A few highlights of our transfer success stories:



Fadi About Syriani – Syria, UCLA with multiple scholarships (Cañada College)



Sofia Lozano – Mexico, Notre Dame de Namur University with full scholarship (Cañada College)



Oladipo Toriola - Nigeria, recipient of multiple scholarships, UC Berkeley (Skyline College)



Ting Ching (Twinkle) Lok – Hong Kong, UC Berkeley (Skyline College)



Jiating Weng – China UCLA (Cañada College)



College of San Mateo students transferring this year.



From Skyline College, Tess on the left is transferring to UC Berkeley; Star on the right is going to UC Davis. Star was a Global Beca scholarship recipient.

Excitingly New: Sign Up for Classes Before Arriving in the US!

For those new students coming to San Mateo Colleges for fall 2015, they are able to register for certain classes upon receiving their F-1 visa but before they step on the American soil! This saves a significant amount of time for the students and helps them transition into the new environment. New students are still required to participate in on campus orientation before classes start in the fall. New students will receive the details of this exciting new service directly from their respective college.

How We Did It: the Largest Transfer Partnership

The foundation for San Mateo Colleges to have the largest number of universities providing guarantee transfer, compared to other community colleges, is the base of close to 90 universities that have course articulation agreements (co-recognition of classes) with our 3 colleges. Among them are Academy of Art University, The Art Institute of California, Gonzaga University, University of Southern California (USC), UC Berkley, UCLA, UCSF, University of Maryland, University of the Pacific, and many more. While not all of them offer guaranteed transfer, our students find it much easier to apply for transfer with universities that have course articulation.



Excitingly New: Our Own Intensive English Program and Summer Camps

The San Mateo Colleges are pleased to share with you two exciting new international student initiatives currently in development by our Community, Continuing and Corporate Education (CCCE) department. The first exciting initiative is the development of the **Silicon Valley Intensive English Program (SVIEP) at Cañada College**, which will provide full-time intensive English instruction to international students from around the world on our college campus, and, once complete, enable them to matriculate directly into our transfer program at any of the 3 San Mateo Colleges.

The second exciting initiative under development is an **English Language Summer Camp** (for summer 2016), which will provide exciting and enriching opportunities for international youth to improve their English, to experience Silicon Valley and tour the San Francisco Bay Area, and to learn more about the community college transfer from officials of the San Mateo Colleges, UC Berkeley, Stanford University, and more. Please email Jonathan Bissell at bissellj@smccd.edu if you would like to be kept informed about when these programs will be ready to begin accepting applications.



Jonathan Bissell

STEM at Cañada College



Supported by the Obama administration, Cañada College's STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) is widely regarded as a regional center in the US and the students from the program have received more scholarships from the National Science Foundation than any other community colleges in California. Check [these videos](#) in which STEM students praise the STEM program! Cañada College accepts nominations for its regular and summer programs here: <http://canadacollege.edu/stemcenter/>



Skyline College Professor Invited to be Judge of China's First Auto Tech Competition



The first international auto technology competition was held this May in China. After months of regional competitions, the finals were held in Beijing, China. Professor Tom Broxholm, an outstanding professor from the renowned Auto Tech program of Skyline College was the only American judge invited. Professor Broxholm was very excited to attend this event and looks forward to discharging his duties as a judge.

Skyline College's Auto Tech program is well known in America and its training model and materials are adopted by peer programs in the country.



Meet Our International Admissions Officials at our 3 San Mateo Colleges:

International Student Program Managers



Supinda Sirlhekaphong
Cañada College



Danni Redding Lapuz
College of San Mateo



Wissem Bennani
Skyline College

Program Services Coordinators



Chikako Walker
Skyline College

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To experience our campuses firsthand, please [take our virtual tour](#).