COM Educational Support Programs Help Students Achieve Goals

Supplemental English Workshops are for all students! We offer 5-7 workshops a week in LC 120. These one-hour workshops taught by COM faculty help students expand their skills in reading, writing, and grammar. Please look for our English Workshop Calendar each month and refer students to get the support they need.

The Embedded Peer Tutoring Program is another way we are supporting students. With AB 705 going into effect Fall 2019, several math and English courses are using embedded peer tutors to provide additional support through peer tutors who work both in and out of the class. Peer tutors are particularly effective because they can offer helpful strategies for the classes in which they have succeeded and students feel more comfortable working with their peers, so they are more inclined to ask for help when they are struggling.

A new academic year is upon us and we have yet another opportunity to meaningfully impact the lives of our students. The items featured in this newsletter offer a glimpse of the thoughtful, important ways we are succeeding in that endeavor and striving to do better.

Thank you for all you do to ensure we live our mission of providing equitable opportunities and foster success for all members of our diverse community.

- Jonathan Eldridge
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Student Learning & Success

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COM Celebrates Another Successful Round of Summer Career Academies

This summer COM, in partnership with Marin County Office of Education, hosted the 4th Annual Summer Career Academies for high school students. Ten different classes were offered, six of them for college credit. Nearly 200 local high school students attended. Our newest academies were Criminal Justice & Society and the Culinary World: Farm-to-Table (below). Additionally, we were proud to work with the Bay Area Community College Consortium to offer a cybersecurity academy (above) and solar power academy. Plans are already underway for Summer Career Academies 2020!
College of Marin’s 5th Annual Barbeque and Softball Game, which took place on May 29th, brought together over 100 faculty and staff to enjoy each other’s company at the new baseball field. Everyone successfully adhered to the game’s two rules: Everyone has fun and nobody gets hurt! A special thank you to Kinesiology/Athletics, Police, and HR for their support with food and shirts, and to everyone who cheered, played, and enjoyed this time together.
High Goals for Student-Athletes

The Athletic Department posted a 3.11 department GPA for all student-athletes in 2018/2019. As part of our efforts to improve for 2019-2020, the Athletic Department is implementing a new approach to progress reports. This year student-athletes will be expected to meet with their professors in office hours, discuss how they are doing in each class, and report that information back to the Athletic Department.

Summer Bridge Preparing High School Grads for COM

There were a total of 126 students in Summer Bridge 2019, with sessions taking place in June and July. These students participated for three weeks, earning a unit in a Counseling class and receiving additional support in English and Math. At the end of the program, students felt more prepared to start classes at COM and felt less intimidated by the subject matter. They also created relationships with staff, faculty, and each other while learning about the different resources available to them on campus. As an added bonus, students get to choose a book grant or a new computer as a reward for participating in the program!
September 4th EOPS will celebrate our 50th anniversary with a campus wide celebration and BBQ during COMMunity Hour.

Take photos in the photo booth, enjoy a free BBQ lunch and play games for a chance to win prizes! See you there!

California State Assembly member Marc Levine and Senator Mike McGuire recently put forth a Resolution to the Legislature in celebration of the EOPS 50th anniversary and to honor the College of Marin EOPS program.

Join the Fun at Welcome Week, August 25th – 29th

The excitement kicks off with the ASCOM BBQ on Monday! Visit the Road to Success on Tuesday (IVC) or Wednesday (KTD), with campus and community resources, services, and academic programs. Ask Me Table and sports teams will be available at KTD bridge and LRC Quad Monday – Thursday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. Stop by! Welcome Week will wrap up with an open-mic to showcase COM’s talented community. Come join in!
KTD Campus Library Going Back to its Roots

The KTD campus library will be moving into Fusselman Hall in 2020, as the college prepares for construction of a new LRC building as part of Bond Measure B. Interestingly, at one time, Fusselman Hall served as the library’s prior home! In preparation for the move, library staff worked over summer to remove items from the physical collection. Library faculty at KTD have overseen this work – weeding is always hard, knowing what’s useful and what isn’t is tricky, and there is often debate about what should be kept. The KTD collection hasn’t been sufficiently weeded in over twenty years, and given the move, now is the perfect time to weed items that no longer serve our students and faculty; 83% of the library’s collection was published before 2000 and over half the collection has not circulated since records have been computerized.

The library’s collection included 95,000 items – roughly 10% has been culled from the collection over the summer (10,000 items in 375 boxes). The goal is to remove another 25% over the next year, allowing the collection to fit into shelf space in Fusselman Hall.

Having said this, the goal of this project is to strengthen the library’s collection, not to save space or money. Items being discarded are out-of-date, and have not circulated; we will keep books from every time period considered essential to a well-rounded collection, regardless of how many times they have circulated. The college is also a part of MARINet, providing access to books county-wide; and we are a part of LINK+, providing access to books throughout California and Nevada. Books removed from the collection are sent to Better World Books, an organization that collects and sells books online to donate books and to fund literacy initiatives worldwide.

Library staff working on the “weeding” of the library.
Did You Know?

Did you know COM has welcomed students from over 100 countries around the world?

Whether students find us through family or friends in the area, know one of our many international student graduates, or come to us through COM’s local or international outreach efforts, international students contribute greatly to the COM community. A few recent outstanding students include Randy Fernandez from the Dominican Republic and Dionathan Cornet Santos from Aruba, who were named Co-Mariners of the month in March and April for their outstanding baseball seasons. And then there is Martina De Robertis from Argentina, who was recently published in the Columbia Journal of Literary Criticism following an assignment from David King’s World Literature class.

International students at COM are on academic paths that may begin with our Intensive English Program where they gain cultural insights and academic English skills that they take with them to the College’s degree programs. International students are supported through the International Education Office, dedicated International Enrollment Specialists, Academic Counselors, and so many others in student services and student learning.

Many COM international students find us through local Marin contacts. We welcome staff and faculty to refer friends and family abroad who may be interested in studying in the US to the International Education Office (international@marin.edu). We’ll be happy to provide them with information about studying at COM -- and we look forward to meeting them!

STEM Center Provides Place for New Learning Community

COM’s new STEM center, which is comprised of the remodeled Math Lab and a STEM Learning Community space, has been created for the new STEM Learning Community coming this Fall! Learning communities that support underrepresented students are essential and provide us with the unique opportunity to become change agents in our community. COM has a strong commitment to providing equitable opportunities for all members of its diverse community. The STEM learning community is a part of this commitment to ensure our students have adequate support to reach their intended goals. For more information please contact Paul Daubenmire, Learning Community Coordinator at Pdaubenmire@marin.edu.

The newly remodeled STEM Center in the SMN Building.
COM Health Sciences Preparing Students for Ever-Changing and Challenging Careers

Health Sciences is excited to welcome new and returning students! They count 44 Fire Technology Students, coordinated by Scott Wood; Cesar Pomajulca is coordinating 87 Medical Assisting students; there will be 22 Registered Dental Assisting students under the coordination of Jana Pierce; and Nursing Chair Jeannie Langinger is welcoming the 84 Registered Nursing students in the program. These incoming students are determined, compassionate, and caring individuals who are entering a rapidly changing health landscape.

Some of these changes are miraculous advancements: new medications like immunotherapy for cancer treatment, patient-specific products created with 3-D printing, robotics and RNA-based therapies. But there is another side to the health field, one that is daunting: According to Johns Hopkins, medical errors constitute the third leading cause of death in this country, killing over 250,000 American each year.

Consequently, the Health Sciences community at COM will engage in pedagogy and curriculum that prepare our students with the most current, evidence-based health sciences available. Our students will be up-to-date as the best caregivers but they will also be knowledgeable in techniques that reduce errors. We are eager to get to work!

Open Educational Resources (OERs) Movement Going Strong at COM

The Open COM Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Taskforce, established in 2016, has been doing a great deal to advance equity on campus by working to provide students with quality, free of charge course materials in place of high cost textbooks. Fall 2019 will be no different! We are raising awareness of the equity initiative by offering a faculty flex and providing support for faculty wishing to make the shift from cost bearing materials to Open Educational Resources (OERs).

Our website [http://initiatives.marin.edu/ztc](http://initiatives.marin.edu/ztc) is a great way for faculty to familiarize themselves with the OER movement and search available resources. Our task force is a great resource for faculty to ask any questions regarding offering classes using Zero Cost/OER's. It is open to anyone wishing to join or just drop in to a meeting. We meet the third Wednesday of every month from 12:30-1:30pm in AC 229. We have seen great growth in faculty adoptions of OERs and at this writing we have over 100 courses at COM available to students free of book/material costs. This ZTC designation is noted on the class schedule, easily searchable by students. With the help of the Office of Instructional Management (OIM), we are now including an inquiry to faculty when they plan their upcoming semester schedules, if their class is offered at Zero Cost (ZTC) to students. Join us!
In early August, COM’s Troy Stevenson and Kristin Perrone (Counseling), Maria Coulson (Math), Steve Newton (Life Sciences), Jessica Park (Social Sciences), and Stormy Miller (Student Accessibility Services) attended a 2-Day Equity-Minded Teaching Institute facilitated by the USC Rossier School of Education Center for Urban Education. Thank you for representing College of Marin in this important work! Stay tuned for future professional learning opportunities facilitated by your colleagues that will build on equity-minded teaching practices!
New Strong Workforce
Round 3 Projects Underway

Each year California allocates funding to create or enhance Career and Technical Education programs within community colleges and for regional education projects. The Strong Workforce Program focuses on data-driven outcomes, along with an emphasis on innovation and risk-taking. In this way, colleges can be more responsive to labor market conditions and student outcomes. COM began the third round of funding, and our local projects include:

- Automobile Damage Estimating Curriculum Development
- Machine and Metals Technology Program Upgrades
- Early Childhood Education Community Workforce
- Extended Reality Equipment, Supplies and Curriculum Development
- High Technical Vehicle Program Development
- Theatrical Technician Equipment & Instructional Supplies

TRANSITIONS

Welcome:
Dorian Carlisle (Math/Science Admin.)
Antonio (Nino) Cucchiara (Physics Instructor)
Nequeshe Dyer (Student Activities Admin.)
Sharon Goldfarb (Dean of Health Sciences)
Nigel Haikins (COMPASS Coord.)
Grace Yaun (moving from Health Sciences to OIM Analyst)
Sophia Yunanda (Chemistry Lab Tech)

Contact Us
Please contact us with any questions or comments.

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