

## NEWS

May 2016

### Commencement 2016

The College hosted its largest-ever commencement ceremony on May 13 in Hourglass Fieldhouse. A school record 291 students participated in graduation exercises.

This academic year, Miramar College conferred 870 associate degrees to 784 students, an increase of 15% from a year ago. Another 484 Certificates of Achievement were earned this year, an increase of 13% over last academic year.

San Diego Fire and Rescue Chief Brian Fennessy delivered



the keynote address to the graduates. Fennessy, who was recently named the College's 2016 Distinguished Alumni, attended the Miramar College Fire Academy and graduated in October 1990. He has been employed by San Diego Fire and Rescue since 1990 and was recently sworn in as the City's 17th Fire Chief on November 12, 2015.

Phi Theta Kappa President Randy Dexter spoke on behalf of the students. His speech was covered by CBS News 8. Click [here](#) to view the feature on Randy Dexter and his service dog Captain.



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CITY COLLEGE • MESA COLLEGE • MIRAMAR COLLEGE • CONTINUING EDUCATION



## Randy Dexter and Captain Appear in Touching Video

Commencement speaker and U.S. Army Veteran Randy Dexter and his service dog Captain were featured in a recent K9s to Warriors promotional video. Click [here](#) to watch Randy read an emotional letter he wrote to Captain thanking him for his service.



## Le Wins Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship

Thaimae Le has become the latest Miramar College student to win a Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. She was told of the news in a surprise ceremony on May 20. Le is one of only 75 community college students, from a nationwide pool of 2,400 applicants, selected for this honor. The scholarship is for up to \$40,000.00 per year and is intended to cover a significant share of the student's educational expenses—including tuition, living expenses, books and required fees—for the final two to three years necessary to achieve a bachelor's degree at a 4-year college or university.



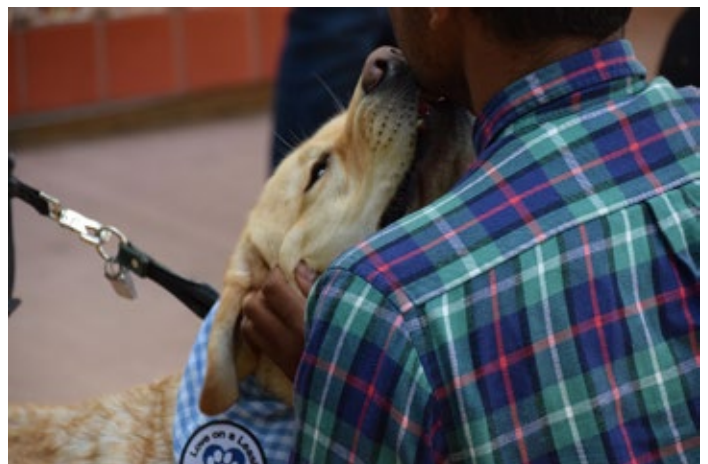
"This has been a grueling process since the application opened last October," said Le at a surprise ceremony held in her honor. "I have had a lot of self-doubts, but I said to myself 'I can do this, I can show people that I not the same person I was 10 years ago' and now I will be the first person in my immediate and extended family to attend a university."

Le, 28, graduated on May 13, 2016 with an Associate Degree for Transfer after majoring in English while at Miramar College. She will enroll at UCSD this upcoming fall to study English Literature. Her goal is to become a college professor.

While at Miramar College, Le was a member of the Phi Theta Kappa (Beta Iota Lambda Chapter) Honor Society serving as vice president and public relations director. She also served as a supplemental instruction coach at The PLACe, Miramar College's on campus tutoring center. Le was named to the 2016 All-California Academic Team, was named a 2015 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar, is the co-founder of Miramar College's Pay It Forward Experience, and is the editor of PTK Press.

## Love on a Leash

In an effort to help students cope with the stresses brought upon by finals, therapy dogs were once again on campus the week of May 16. The San Diego Humane society and its volunteers brought the lovable





creatures to campus for 4 straight days. Volunteers and our counselors roamed campus with the dogs. Click [here](#) to read an editorial on the event for am760 KFMB.

### Invest in Success

Miramar College's annual fundraiser "Invest in Success" was held on May 7 at a private residence in Coronado. The event was attended by nearly 100 guests and raised thousands of dollars which will go to endow the College's Freshman Scholarships.





**Athletic Honors**

The following Miramar College student athletes were honored for their performances this season by the Pacific Coast Athletic Association as All-Conference selections:

**WOMEN'S WATER POLO**

- Kelsie Teslon • First Team
- Ana Walker • First Team
- Giuliana Squeo • Second Team
- Megan Kolp • Second Team

**MEN'S WATER POLO**

- Taylor Holas • First Team
- Josh Collett • Second Team
- Jeff Burr • Second Team
- Marc Habel Jr. • Honorable Mention

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

- Stefan Zivkovic • First Team
- Marc Williams • Second Team
- Deejay Brown • Honorable Mention

**WOMEN'S SOCCER**

- Bianca Scodellaro • First Team
- Stephanie Martinez • First Team

- Analisa Murillo • First Team
- Adrianna Olmedo • First Team
- Katie Maddox • First Team
- Rachael Camara • First Team
- Katie Maddox • PCAC Offensive Player of the Year

**MEN'S VOLLEYBALL**

- Caleb Deibel • Third Team

**Classified Staff Awards**

The Classified Staff Awards were held May 3 to honor those who have been with the District or the College for 5 years or more. A list of those earning service awards is below. Classified Employee of the Year honors went to Joe Kruse in the business office. Joe took home the award after only ten months working for the College. The annual Classified Luncheon was also held on May 19.

**YEARS OF SERVICE**

- Sara Agonafer • 10
- Anthony K. Novak • 15
- Reylyn B. Cabrera • 10
- Elizabeth A. Thomas • 15
- Juan M. Ceja • 10
- Daniel B. Tilley • 15
- Denise M. Kapitzke • 10
- Carletta L. Middleton • 20
- Marc J. Aquino • 10
- Anne C. Parent • 20





Philip A. Balilo • 10      Steven Volin • 20  
 Lezlie Allen, RN • 10      Margaret (Peggy) Hunt • 25  
 William N. Stamos • 10      Lonnie Pham • 25  
 Minh (Stephen) Um • 10      Lita C. Pineda • 25  
 Joyce L. Allen • 15      Chris Emery • 30  
 Gloria Carranza • 15      Tito Idano • 30  
 Calvin Le • 15

### Business club recognizes students, elects officers

The Miramar Business Club held its last meeting of the year and recognized the accomplishments of the past year by its members. The meeting was attended by Ms. Nancy Gannon Hornberger, president/CEO and Ms. Suzie Colby, director of resource development with SAY San Diego who thanked the students for their assistance in helping them create awareness for the programs offered in the local community with a purpose to create positive change in youth, adults and families throughout San Diego. “Your knowledge, skill and talent helped us better serve the needs of citizens in our community and we look forward to building upon our partnership in the years ahead,” said Hornberger. “You helped us better communicate with those we serve through more effective use of social media and created an excellent resource to guide the efforts of our employees,” said Colby. The students then elected new officers for the 2016-17 year. “We look forward to building



upon the successful foundation established this year by our business students into next year,” said assistant professor David Wilhelm.

The Miramar Business Club also appointed the following to its Executive Board for the 2016-2017 academic year: Josh Nunn, president; Michelle Malham, vice president; Steven Taylor, treasurer; Brian Huh, secretary; Chris Fox, public relations; Isiah Turner, public relations; and Shelly Lofy, Associated Students representative.

### PARKit App Students Present

The team of Brian Huh, Gio Ricacho, and Josh Nunn presented their PARKit app business plan presentation at the May 9 managers meeting. The trio placed second with their PARKit app at the April 8 “Idea2Innovate” regional competition hosted by Mesa College. PARKit is a fictional app that provides multiple features to help quickly resolve any parking scenario.



### Student Piano Recital

The Arts & Humanities Department hosted the College’s very first Student Piano Recital on May 11 in H210. The performers were students from the Piano II class of



professor Ruth Weber. Our students performed pieces by Brahms, Villa-Lobos, Burgmuller, Schumann, Bartók, Gershwin, Debussy, and a sonata for violin and piano by Monti. Each performance was made on the Music Department's recently purchased brand new Grand Piano.

### Allen Performs at Carnegie Hall

Our very own Joyce Allen had the unique opportunity to perform at New York's Carnegie Hall on Mother's Day. Joyce is part of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Choir of San Diego and they performed with other choirs from around the country.



## QUICK HITS

### Child Development Conference

The Child Development Center held its annual professionals conference on April 30. The theme was STEAM ahead with CDP. A presentation by the Mad Scientist Company and a NASA sponsored PowerPoint for educators was presented.

### community stARTS

This inclusion event took place May 6 and was open to all Miramar College students, staff, faculty and community members. Laura Rendon was the guest speaker. The event featured collaborative arts projects, a draw-a-thon, student panel, and several other workshops.



### Faculty as an Expert

CBS8 used Biology faculty member Andrea Lukowiak as an expert for a "germs" story which aired on May 20 during the station's 5pm newscast. Andrea just ended her first semester teaching General Microbiology 205. Click [here](#) for a link to the story.

### Scripps Ranch High School Visit

The outreach team hosted 65 juniors and seniors from Scripps Ranch High School on May 17. The students not only received an in depth tour of our facilities, but also took part in informative presentations delivered by Ana Lopez



from our Financial Aid Office and Professor David Wilhelm and Dr. Duane Short who put together a wonderful presentation on our business program here at Miramar: The Math Lab, The PLACe, the Science department, as well as EMT/Fire Technology showcased their areas as well.

**CBS8.com Website Takeover**

In hopes of driving up summer enrollment for our business programs, the College sponsored a homepage takeover of CBS8.com on May 23 and May 29. Our ads for the business program were the only sponsorship on the page for two very busy news days. This helped to produce 500,000 digital impressions for the College. An email blast campaign also launched that day along with sponsorship of the traffic segments on CBS8, KGTV Channel 10, CW6 and KBNT (Spanish).

**Academic Senate BBQ**

Thanks to the Academic Senate for bringing back a Miramar College tradition-the Academic Senate BBQ for all. This



successful event was held on May 12.

**Substantive Change**

The Committee on Substantive Change of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges met May



3-4, 2016 to review the Substantive Change Proposal from San Diego Miramar College to offer an additional 32 degrees and 10 certificate programs via a mode of distance education or electronic delivery. The committee acted to approve the substantive change.

# PEOPLE

**Allena Vargas** has joined the Physical Science Department family as Instructional Laboratory Technician (ILT) for Chemistry. She will support introduction chemistry and biochemistry labs for Miramar College in the old S5-Science Building. Vargas graduated from Cal State University at San Bernardino in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry and recently received a Master's degree in Education with an emphasis in Mathematics and Science also at Cal State San Bernardino in 2015.

**Erica Zhang** has joined the talented pool of Instructional Laboratory Technicians (ILT) supporting our general biology labs. Erica graduated from the University of California at San Diego with a Bachelor of Science in Ecology, Behavior, and Evolutionary Biology with a minor in Psychology and Music. Erica continued her graduate studies at UCSD and in 2014 received a Master of Science in Biology.

**Ann Nicholson** joins Miramar College as Instructional Laboratory Technician (ILT)-MLTT/Biology.

Ann graduated from the Stephen F. Austin State University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. Ann received a Master of Science in Biology from the University of Iowa.

Professor **Becky Stephens** has accepted the professional development opportunity to serve as the acting PLACe Coordinator at the College beginning in the fall 2016 semester.

Professor **Julia McMenamin** has accepted the professional development opportunity to serve as the Online Tutoring Coordinator for Miramar College beginning in the fall 2016 semester.

**Dane Lindsay** has won the 2016 Safety Conscious Award.

Dr. **Laura Murphy** has been selected to take advantage of the 2016-2017 faculty professional development opportunity to assist the College with College – Wide Outcomes and Assessment.

The Administration of Justice Department has increased their contract faculty membership by one with the hiring of Associate Professor **David Mehlhoff**. David has been a long-time ADJU adjunct who has been very involved with the program for several years. David will begin his assignment with the Fall semester.

**Tina Barlolong** is moving on to pursue a counseling career at MiraCosta College. Her last day on campus will be May 31.

# EVENTS

## Want to know what's going on?

Check "all" or search by category in the Master Calendar: Athletics, Civic Center Activities (campus rentals), Community Events, Hourglass Complex, Internal College Activities, Student Activities, Student Services at [www.sdmiramar.edu/calendar](http://www.sdmiramar.edu/calendar).

## Stay informed...

Committee agendas, minutes and reports can be found at [www.sdmiramar.edu/faculty/governance](http://www.sdmiramar.edu/faculty/governance). College Executive Committee (CEC) meetings are open to all interested parties.

## Summer Term Begins

June 6

## Classified Senate Meeting

June 9 • 10:00am • U4-100

## Second Summer Term Begins

June 13