

Student Services Newsletter

April 2023

Student Services Spotlight

Let's Take a Tour!

One of the highlights for the Enrollment Services Welcome Center team is taking visitors on campus tours. On any given Monday in the spring semester, you can find student workers in their SBCC red polo shirts guiding prospective students and their families around the east and west campuses for the one hour tour.

Student workers Cole Gerstle and Abri Renteria said many of the questions visitors ask have to do with housing, programs such as STEM, Nursing, and Athletics, and transferring to universities, particularly UCSB. Another popular question asked by both students and parents alike is, "What is college life like in Isla Vista?"



Although the tour guides have a script, they insert their own personal touch to adapt to the group they're leading. And it's not just college-age students and their families that go on tours. Elementary, middle, and senior high schools can arrange tours on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The tours are adapted to fit the age and attention span of the guests.

After a two year hiatus due to the pandemic, campus tours started back in Fall 2022, but were met with low attendance. This spring, however, they're in full force again, averaging 20 people per tour. Being the first point of contact for many prospective students and families is both humbling and inspiring to the tour guides, who do not take the responsibility lightly.

Announcements

SEA Committee Accepting Proposals for 2023-24



The Student Equity and Achievement (SEA) Committee is now accepting proposals for SEA-funded equity projects for the 2023-2024 academic year.

The intent is to fund projects that will specifically improve outcomes for the most disproportionately impacted student populations at SBCC as identified in the [2022-2025 Student Equity Plan](#).

The committee welcomes all credit and non-credit faculty, staff, administrators, programs, and departments to apply for SEA funding using [guidelines](#) set by the Chancellor's Office and the SEA Committee.

Proposals are for 1 year, one-time funding of projects (fiscal year 2023-2024 with projects needing to be completed by June 30, 2024). The funding range for proposals is \$0 to \$10,000 and is dependent on the California Community College Chancellor's Office SEA allocation for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Click [here](#) to complete the SEA Funded Proposal Application.

The deadline to submit proposals is Sunday, April 17th at 11:59 p.m. Additional information (e.g. drop-in help sessions etc.) can be found at www.sbcc.edu/sea.

Emergency Grant Application

Students currently enrolled in at least 6 units, or in a noncredit program that leads to a certificate or diploma (e.g. AHS, ESL certificate...) may be eligible for up to \$3,000 in emergency grant funds. Emergencies as defined by the Chancellor's Office are "singular, one-time, unexpected, unforeseen circumstances or things that happen in the student's life that will impact their ability to be successful in their academic pursuits and in life." When telling a student about the application, encourage them to provide documentation and give as much detailed information as possible when they're filling out the application. You can find the Basic Needs Aid application on the Basic Needs webpage. <https://www.sbcc.edu/equity/basic-needs-programs.php>

Updating Online Orientation



NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

A workgroup has been meeting to update the online orientation for new students. The reason is twofold: one, we do not have a Spanish online orientation platform available to students, and two, to update the current content.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20th from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Zoom Meeting

<https://sbcc.zoom.us/j/85221140934?pwd=MTdtYkx6Wm9JL1FVV1pMd3NHZ3hiQT09>



Student Services Lounge Refresh

Ana Garcia, Christina Hobson, Chelsea Lancaster, Michele Obritz, Josie Tapia, and Eli Villanueva, have formed the Student Services Lounge Refresh Team in an effort to provide “a space that is more comfortable, accessible, and conducive to engaging together and building community.” Student Services staff and faculty were asked to complete a poll to get their input on what they would like to see removed from and added to the lounge. We’ll keep you posted on how things are progressing!

Upcoming Events

Science Discovery Day - Saturday, April 29th

Come one, come all, to Science Discovery Day! Students, staff, faculty, family, and community members are invited to this event, which will have demonstrations and displays to delight everyone from young and old!

Location: in front of the Campus Center and Humanities Building

Date: Saturday, April 29th

Time: 1 to 4 pm

Questions? Contact Virginia Estrella (estrella@sbcc.edu)



Kudos

California Community Colleges Classified Employee of the Year Nominee, Akil Hill

The President's Cabinet nominated SBCC Senior Admissions & Records Technician, Akil Hill, for the 2023 California Community Colleges Classified Employee of the Year Award. A special Board of Trustees meeting was held on March 30th endorsing and certifying Mr. Hill's nomination. Among other things, Mr. Hill "is known as a strong ally and advocate for black students and is an integral member of the SBCC Umoja community providing ongoing support to the program, staff and students." We wish Mr. Hill the best of luck as one of the statewide nominees for this prestigious award. Winners of the award will be invited to attend a ceremony in their honor in Sacramento in May.



The Rousingly Successful Vaquero Roundups!



Cold, sometimes rainy weather, did not deter people from attending the two Vaquero Roundups on March 8th (for primarily high school students) and March 22nd (for primarily junior high school and out-of-area students).

The March 8th event had 128 students complete their application or steps to enrollment, accompanied by 150 family members. The March 22nd event

assisted 171 students, accompanied by 286 family members!

Both events were held in the Campus Center, and in an effort to financially sustain the event and provide primary services for the district, assistance was provided for completing the application, steps to enrollment, and academic counseling.



Welcome, New Staff!



Brittany Herrera, Interim Student Finance Manager, first joined the Cashiers Office as an SBCC student worker. She was hired full time as a Student Finance and Accounts Receivable Technician III, in 2017. During her full time work, she earned Associates degrees in Economics (A.A.) and in Business Administration (A.S.). Brittany has been instrumental in transforming the back-end accounts receivable work, and collaborating and streamlining services with our partners across Student Services.

Rayshaun Grimes, Student Finance & Accounts Receivable Technician II: Rayshaun first joined the Cashiers Office as an SBCC student worker in June 2022. Rayshaun earned his B.A. in History from UCSB and returned to college, here at SBCC, to pursue an A.S. in Computer Applications, one with an emphasis in Business Software and the other with an emphasis in Office Management. Rayshaun brings a wealth of student-serving experience from his work with UCSB Associated Students.



Admissions and Records is extremely happy to introduce their newest team member, Daniela Jimenez. If you have stopped by Admissions and Records within the past year, you have more than likely been welcomed and assisted by Daniela. She has been working as their front desk Technician Assistant and will now serve as one of their amazing Admissions and Records Technicians.

Before working with Admissions & Records, Daniela was a student at SBCC and earned her AA degree in Psychology this past Spring 2022 semester. During her free time, when she's not assisting students with a smile at the front desk, Daniela enjoys the outdoors

(especially hiking), working out, and spending time with her family. Daniela is also fluent in Spanish and looks forward to helping students achieve their academic goals/dreams.

Please stop by the Cashiers Office and Admissions & Records to introduce yourself to these fantastic new employees!

Feedback Wanted

Special Programs Application

Many colleges are trying to simplify the process of students getting into special programs. Students fill out an application in one department, and behind the scenes it is routed to other departments that the student is interested in. Typically, the most restrictive application is the EOPS application, so most templates start from there. Mission College is one of the institutions that uses a special programs application. As we consider possibly having a single programs application at SBCC, please look over Mission College's application as a team, and offer any feedback (e.g. questions, suggestions, comments...) to VP Paloma Arnold and Dean Christina Llerena: https://missioncollege.formstack.com/forms/mission_support_app.

Phone Hours for Fall 2023

As we anticipate increased enrollment for fall, look at your department's current staffing around the phones. Do a mini needs assessment so Dean Llerena and VP Arnold will know where people are at, and how they can support getting more coverage, as this is an accessibility issue around students getting services.

News Briefs

Admissions & Records/Dual Enrollment, has completed their reorg proposal. They will be doing an in-depth presentation with the cost analysis of their proposal at the CPC meeting on Tuesday, April 4th.

The Satisfactory Academic Progress training has been completed, and appeals are turning around sometimes within days, rather than the three to five weeks it took before.

The workgroup for the academic calendar is in the process of reviewing the 2024-25 academic calendar. It went to the Academic Senate on March 8th, and from there, Senators should be distributing it to their departments.

Photos

Page 1: Welcome Center student workers Cole Gerstle and Abri Renteria;
Welcome Center student workers team (SBCC photos, courtesy of Kristy Renteria)

Page 3: Student Services Staff Lounge

Page 4: Akil Hill (photo courtesy of Roxane Byrne)

Page 4: Vaquero Roundup (SBCC photos; photographer Jim Zahn)

Page 5: Brittany Herrera, Rayshaun Grimes, and Daniela Jimenez