

# 2014–2015 ANNUAL REPORT



**45 Years** of Opportunities, Memories and Growth

# By the Numbers

A quick look at what College of the Canyons accomplished in 2014-15

**\$750,000**

Savings to students realized by faculty using free electronic educational materials instead of traditional textbooks

**21**

Associate degree-transfer (AD-T) programs that provide guaranteed transfer to the CSU system from COC

**1,779**

Departmental accomplishments contained in college's latest strategic plan

**46**

Degree and certificate programs offered in the University Center

**\$303.3 million**

Combined total of Measure M bond funds, interest, and state matching funds

**30,649**

2014-15 student enrollment

**\$9,274,112**

New revenue received from grants

**\$247,520**

Scholarship awards to students by COC Foundation

**866**

Companies served by COC's Economic Development Division

**\$15.9 million**

Capital COC's Small Business Development Center helped clients raise

# From the Chancellor



*“Because of our commitment to innovation and excellence, we are poised for future success.”*

College of the Canyons celebrated its 45th anniversary during the 2014-15 academic year. The theme of our yearlong celebration was “Opportunities, Memories and Growth,” which commemorated the many ways we serve our community and students, from being a gateway to higher education, to fostering connections and relationships, to enhancing the outstanding resources and services for which we are known.

Growth has been a hallmark of our college throughout its decades of service to the Santa Clarita Valley. At the same time, our growth has been shaped by a commitment to continuous improvement. College of the Canyons is a dynamic, thriving institution always looking for ways to build on what we offer and how we serve our students, local business and industry, and the community at large.

That focus on innovation has enabled us to build an unparalleled reputation over the past 45 years. We are recognized locally as an economic catalyst and responsive community partner, and statewide as a leader in student achievement. And, more importantly, because of our commitment to innovation and excellence, we are poised for future success.

## **Leader in Student Achievement**

By offering more than 100 degree and certificate programs that prepare students to transfer to top four-year campuses, or launch high-paying careers, College of the Canyons stands out as a leader in student achievement.

We are ranked among the top-five community colleges in California – and No. 1 in Los Angeles County – for our completion rate by college-prepared students. In fact, the Class of 2015 was the largest in the college’s history, with a 9 percent increase in graduates over the previous year.

## **Proven Performance**

This past year saw the completion of a lengthy and rigorous process of accreditation, which resulted in our college achieving the highest reaccreditation status possible for a full six-year term.

A key factor in our accreditation success is our sound fiscal management. The district’s finances, including those of the Foundation, undergo thorough annual audits by outside accountants. Their reviews of our operations resulted in the best ratings possible for the district.

At the same time, we have delivered on what we promised the community. Since 2006, we have spent \$303 million on capital improvements to our campuses in Valencia and Canyon Country. In fact, the opening of Canyons Hall on the Valencia Campus marked the completion of the current Facilities Master Plan for Valencia. But we’re not done yet!

Our next focus will be on modernizing dated facilities at Valencia, and building out the Canyon Country Campus to realize its full potential for academic excellence and career training.

Much of the recent construction on our two campuses was funded through Measure M, a \$160-million bond measure. Since local voters approved Measure M in 2006, our audits have been clean, and the Measure M Citizens Oversight Committee has verified that all expenditures were proper.

## **Economic Catalyst**

College of the Canyons plays an often unseen but decidedly significant role in the ongoing economic development of the Santa Clarita Valley. In one year, the college’s Economic

*Continued on next page*

# From the Chancellor

*Continued from previous page*

Development Division generated \$3.7 million in grants to offer cutting-edge training for 866 companies and 5,000 individual employees. As well, it participated in and contributed to 39 business startups, helped clients create 323 jobs, contributed to a \$26.3 million increase in sales for business/industry partners, and helped clients raise \$15.3 million in new capital.

## **Responsive Community Partner**

We have long recognized the power of partnerships and the added value created when two or more organizations come together to create something new. Witness the University Center, through which nearly 3,000 local residents have earned bachelor's and master's degrees from our five university partners.

Our K-12 Arts Education Outreach Program, which connects with every K-12 school district in the Santa Clarita Valley, has served more than 70,000 students, either by bringing them to campus to experience a show in the Performing Arts Center, or through artists visiting elementary, junior high, and high school campuses.

## **Positioned for Continued Success**

So what's next for College of the Canyons? Continued innovation and excellence fueled by steady growth in the number of students we serve, and matched by new programs and opportunities.

In 2014-15, we served more than 30,000 students, and we are projected to grow an additional 3 percent in 2015-16 and serve an additional 1,125 students on our campuses. To ensure our students have access to the classes they need to achieve their goals, we offered the largest-ever number of courses in fall 2015.

Likewise, our facilities will continue to expand to keep pace with the continued growth in enrollment. Capital improvements planned for the coming year total \$26 million. And a new 21,000-square-foot science building is on the horizon for the Canyon Country Campus. Initial space planning is already under way, which will guide the development of architectural drawings due to be completed in early 2016.

It is clear that College of the Canyons is positioned for continued growth in enrollment, facilities, and funding. Our spirit of innovation will compel us to capitalize on that potential, and I know the results will create dynamic opportunities, amazing memories, and strategic growth for decades to come.



Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook  
Chancellor



# Table of Contents

FROM THE CHANCELLOR.....	1
STUDENT PROFILE.....	5
INSTRUCTION.....	6
FINANCE.....	8
GRANTS.....	9
FOUNDATION.....	11
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION.....	12
CANYON COUNTRY CAMPUS.....	15
UNIVERSITY CENTER.....	17
INNOVATION & ACHIEVEMENT.....	19
PERFORMING ARTS.....	23
FACILITIES/MEASURE M.....	25
STUDENT-ATHLETE ACHIEVEMENT.....	27

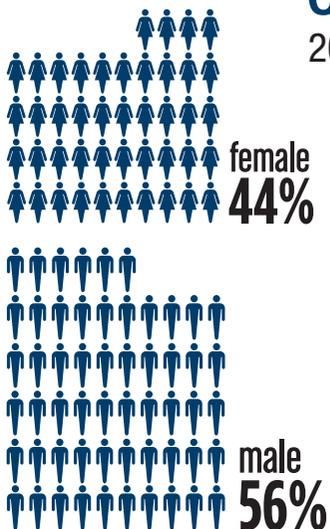




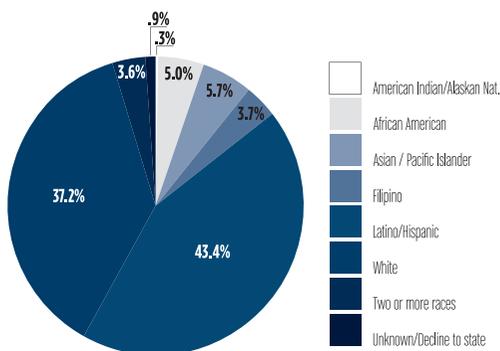
# COC Student Body at a Glance

2014–15 Enrollment: **30,649**

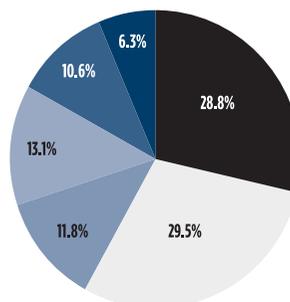
Students by Gender



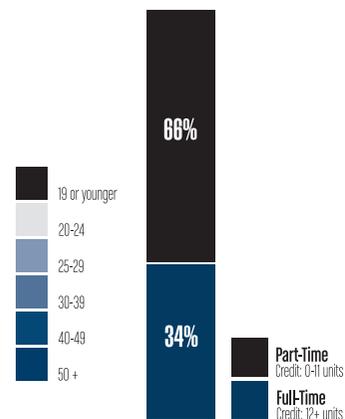
Students by Ethnicity



Students by Age



Attendance



# Achieving Excellence

## The Student Experience at College of the Canyons

College of the Canyons celebrated its 45th anniversary year with its largest-ever graduating class. With 1,462 students who petitioned for graduation, the class of 2015 was 9 percent larger than the prior year, while the number of honors graduates (those who earned a grade point average of 3.5 or better) increased 14 percent.

Success in the classroom fuels ongoing achievement by our students, whether they are moving into the workforce, or transferring

to campuses within the University of California and California State University systems, or top private universities across the country.

The thousands of individual achievements represented at commencement illustrate our college's singular commitment to fulfilling our most important mission: offering our students an accessible and engaging educational experience that enables them to achieve their goals.

## Student Success Scorecard

Our focus on excellence is evident when examining statewide data on student outcomes.

College of the Canyons ranked 4th in California for completion rates for college-prepared students and 11th among all California community colleges for completion rates for unprepared students. We had the highest completion rate for college-prepared and unprepared students of the 21 community colleges in Los Angeles County.

This data comes from the California Community Chancellor's Office

"Student Success Scorecard." It defines "college prepared students" as first-time students eligible to enroll in degree-applicable math and English courses.

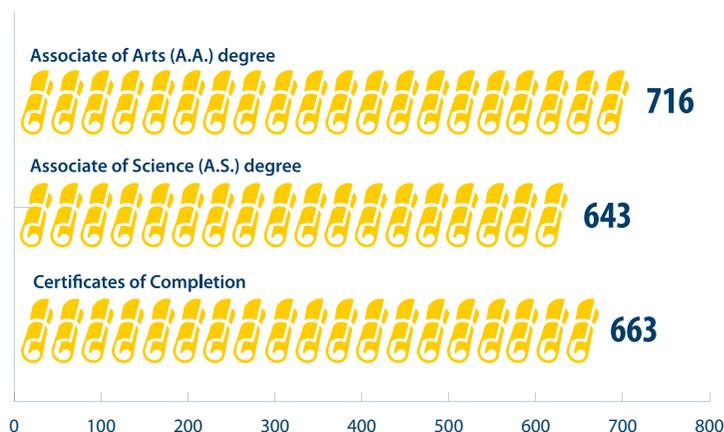
In 2013-14 (latest available data), College of the Canyons posted a 54.3 percent overall student completion rate on the scorecard – more than 7 percentage points higher than the statewide average. Meanwhile, "college prepared" students at COC achieved an 80.4 percent completion rate compared to the statewide rate of 69.7 percent.

## Taking it to the Next Level

College of the Canyons excels at sending students on to four-year universities. Our transfer rate of 48 percent exceeds the statewide average of 41 percent. Among the most popular transfer destinations:

- CSU Northridge
- Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
- UC Irvine
- Mount St. Mary's
- UC San Diego
- University of Southern California
- California Lutheran University
- CSU Channel Islands
- UC Berkeley
- UC Santa Barbara
- CSU Long Beach
- UCLA

### 2014–15 Degrees and Certificates Awarded



### The Value of Community College

Attending a community college in 2014-15 offered significant savings to California students when compared to the cost of other public higher education options.



\*Includes campus-based fees



# Enhancing the Student Learning Experience

Innovation and excellence characterize College of the Canyons, and result from a consistent focus on enhancing the student learning experience.

The college's efforts to support student access and success were validated in 2014–15 through the completion of a rigorous review process required to renew our accreditation.

Following the completion of a comprehensive institutional self-study report, and after undergoing an evaluation by a team of visiting education professionals, College of the Canyons received the highest accreditation approval possible. The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges renewed COC's accreditation for a full six-year term.

The outcome is attributable to the college's overall excellence. In particular, accreditation recognizes the high quality of the college's academic offerings, and the dedicated faculty found in every department and discipline.

With 154 degree and certificate options available, the college offers instruction in subjects ranging from animation to welding. Regardless of their chosen major, students obtain the skills needed to launch new careers, or graduate prepared to continue their education at four-year universities.

Demonstrating their commitment to innovation and excellence, the Instructional divisions at College of the Canyons realized significant achievements and reached new milestones in 2014–15.

## New Degrees Provide More Transfer Options

College of the Canyons now offers 21 degrees that provide students with guaranteed transfer to a California State University campus. The new associate in science – transfer (A.S.-T) and associate in arts – transfer (A.A.-T) degrees are:

- Administration of Justice
- Communication Studies
- Computer Science
- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Teacher Education
- English
- Geography
- Geology
- History
- Journalism
- Kinesiology
- Mathematics
- Music
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Studio Arts
- Theatre Arts

## Highlighted Accomplishments

- Faculty saved students more than \$750,000 by adopting Open Educational Resources (OER), which are free electronic educational materials that can be used in place of traditional and costly textbooks.
- The Early Assessment Program (EAP) was used to place incoming students in higher-level English classes and dramatically improve success rates.
- Three Student Learning Outcome Days of Assessment were held to help faculty develop assignments that assess the learning outcomes for a given class.
- “Guided pathways” were completed for each academic major to give students a clear sequence of courses to help them reach their educational goals in a fast, efficient manner.
- The college partnered with the California Attorney General and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department on the “Back on Track LA” partnership to help reduce recidivism through inmate education.
- An internship program was established with the Los Angeles Police Department to give our Auto Technology students an opportunity to hone their skills in a professional setting.
- The college became the first California community college to create a student exchange program with Mexico's Universidad TecMilenio.
- Welding Technology installed the only pulsed laser weld monitoring system available in an educational setting, enabling students to train on cutting-edge equipment not available to many professional welders.
- The Adult Education Initiative was implemented in partnership with the William S. Hart Union High School District, aligning curriculum and expanding offerings to adults in a not-for-credit format.
- The college piloted the use of two software platforms – Pathbrite and Digication – that enable students to upload samples of their work, create, e-portfolios, and demonstrate completion of student learning outcomes.

# College Commended for Fiscal Management

This year marked a significant turning point for the college with regard to funding. College of the Canyons saw its funding fully restored in 2015 following multiple years of budget cuts that led to a cumulative 10 percent decline in funding during the Great Recession.

Ours was one of just 12 community college districts statewide to return to pre-recession funding levels. In fact, our general fund revenue grew 13 percent between 2012 and 2015.

The increase in financial resources directly benefitted students with the addition of more class sections that allowed for increased enrollment. In 2014-15, the number of funded full-time equivalent students (FTES) we served grew by 4.2 percent, from 14,614 to 15,231, over the prior year.

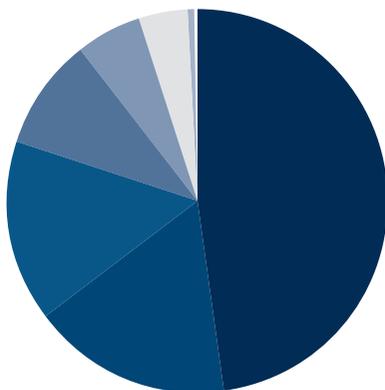
The college's sound fiscal management and resulting growth were highlighted as a significant strength during a recent accreditation evaluation. A team of visiting education

professionals representing the Accrediting Commission of Community and Junior Colleges reviewed all aspects of the college's operations this past year.

In its summary report, the team commended the college for its sound financial management. "A review of independent audit reports and statements confirmed that the College consistently demonstrates fiscal prudence and financial accountability," the team stated. "Through a review of financial documents, audits and other supporting evidence, the team verified that the College has an adequate funding base, financial resources, reserves and integrated planning sufficient to support the College's mission and programs."

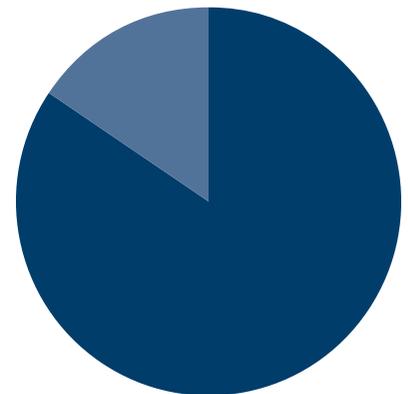
That solid foundation has positioned the college for future growth, as we expect to continue expanding access to education and increasing the number of students we can serve. In 2015-16, enrollment is projected to grow 3 percent above last year.

General Fund Sources of Revenue



- State Apportionment- 48% - \$40,756,667
- Property Taxes - 17% - \$14,354,638
- Education Protection Act (Prop 30) - 15% - \$13,143,367
- Student Enrollment Fees - 9% - \$7,880,666
- Local Revenues - 6% - \$4,908,232
- Other State Revenues - 4% - \$3,390,792
- Grant Indirect Support - 0.8% - \$582,113
- Federal Revenues - 0.2% - \$100,688

General Fund Expenditures



- Salaries & Benefits - 84% - \$72,123,31
- All Other Expenses - 16% - \$13,318,261



# Grants Fuel Innovation

Obtaining external funding beyond basic state revenue continues to be a priority for College of the Canyons. Grant awards from public and private entities fund innovation and enable the college to provide additional services to students and the community. This year the college generated more than \$9 million in grant funding, a 50 percent increase over the previous year, to fund a wide variety of initiatives. The following is an overview of some of the significant new grants awarded in 2014-15.

## Teaching Math Instructors to Teach Statistics

National Science Foundation IUSE Grant

Award: \$111,673 over 3 years

Partnership with Villanova University to create a “train the trainer” professional development program to teach community college math instructors across the country to teach statistics.

## Title V

U.S. Department of Education

Award: \$2,578,430 over 5 years

Creates an online student educational plan, expands online counseling for students unable to engage in regular on-site appointments, creates online tutoring for students unable to participate on campus, expands OER (Open Educational Resources), provides dedicated staff to the Early Notification System, increases outreach for underrepresented students, and expands cultural diversity professional development.

## Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

Award: \$296,530 over 3 years

Provides funding for the Campus Suicide Prevention Program to improve student mental health, reduce student risk factors, and eliminate suicide and attempts through training, education, information dissemination, expanded mental health services capacity and infrastructure, and data. Also increases the number of people able to identify, support, and/or refer at-risk students to the services and treatment they need.

## Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative

California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

Award: \$12.5 million over 4 years, 7 months

Provides funding for College of the Canyons, in partnership with Foothill College, Statewide Academic Senate and RP Group, to develop the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative to benefit all California community colleges. The program provides technical assistance to colleges with accreditation and/or audit issues; teams to provide hands-on assistance to colleges; professional development to help colleges with best practices; a clearinghouse website for accreditation and audit issues, resources and best practices; and committees to help with implementation and advisement.

## Nursing Enrollment Growth

California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

Award: \$123,887

Provides funding for the college's Nursing Department to fund adjunct faculty and part-time staff to support the nursing program.

## SBDC GO-Biz

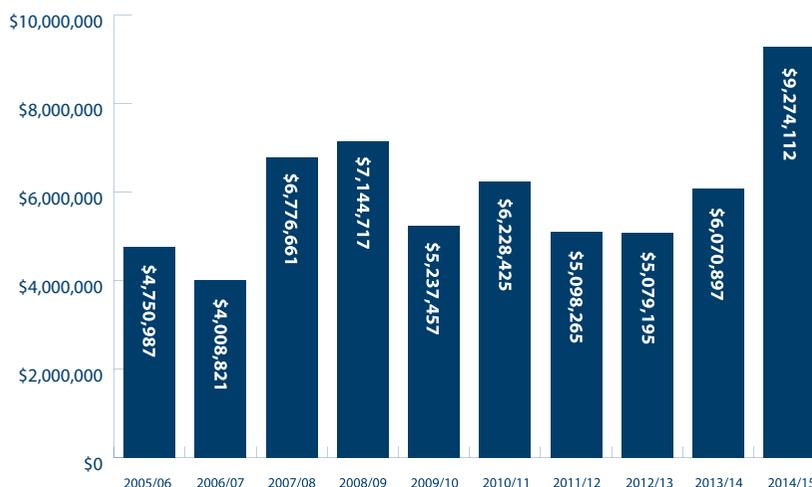
State of California

Award: \$70,000

Allows the Small Business Development Center to hire adult-hourly consultants to help small business owners identify capital to launch or expand their businesses.



Grant Revenue





# A Foundation for Innovation

Continued support from corporate and community donors enabled the College of the Canyons Foundation to devote increased resources to students' education and campus innovation, as well as fulfill its strategic goals.

The Foundation's new student sponsorship program and continuing mini-grant program for faculty ensured that funds were allocated where they were needed most: to support students and enable faculty innovation. The result is a unique and accessible educational environment that is cutting-edge, relevant and well prepared for the future.

The early 2015 opening of the College of the Canyons Institute for Culinary Education was a milestone achievement, providing nearly 400 culinary arts students with a spectacular, state-of-the-art learning facility. Foundation donors played a significant role in bringing this to fruition.

With a new strategic plan adopted this year, the Foundation plans to focus much of its efforts on building awareness of, and support for, the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons, as well as its award-winning K-12 Arts Education Outreach Program.



## Achievements of Note

- Presented the Newhall Family with the 2015 Silver Spur Award for Community Service.
- Scholarship awards set a new record, with 264 students receiving \$247,520 to help them achieve their educational goals.
- Received a clean audit, with no management recommendations or findings, for the ninth year in a row.
- Awarded \$15,000 in faculty mini-grants to support innovative teaching and learning opportunities.

COC Foundation Annual Revenue Growth





# Collaboration Drives Economic Development

The Economic Development Division at College of the Canyons oversees multiple initiatives that leverage collaboration and innovation to drive economic prosperity.

Whether it's matching job seekers with potential employers, enabling startups to launch successfully, or offering customized training that positions local manufacturers at the cutting edge of their respective industries, the division's overarching priority is to provide responsive services that enhance the growth and vitality of area firms.

## Entertainment & Arts Industry Initiative

Support services for businesses in the entertainment and arts industry, as well as advisors with industry-specific expertise.

## i3 Incubator

Advisory and mentoring services for technology-based startups, and connections to relevant organizations, companies and providers of capital.

## Young Entrepreneurs Program

Business training and free business counseling for young people 14 to 27.

## Center for International Trade Development

Provides export/import trade development insight and assistance.

## WorkSource California/America's JobCenter of California

Provides job seekers and businesses with employment and training services.

## Center for Applied Competitive Technologies

Technical consulting to help advanced-technology companies learn, compete and grow.

## Employee Training Institute

ETI's customized training helps companies drive down costs and expand talent within their workforce.

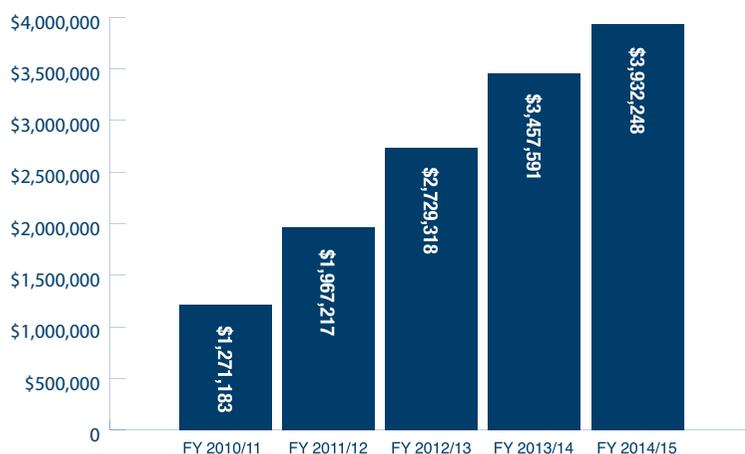
## Fast Track Institute

The fastest way to prepare for in-demand jobs in manufacturing, medical, green technology and managerial/professional fields.

The collective success of the division is evident in its outcomes for 2014-15.

- Trained 5,032 employees at 866 companies
- Awarded more than 250 nationally recognized certifications
- Counseled 791 entrepreneurs
- Assisted 2,651 job seekers who made 12,659 visits to America's JobCenter of California
- Participated in 39 businesses startups
- Helped clients create 323 jobs and retain 93 jobs
- Contributed to a \$26.3 million increase in sales at client firms
- Facilitated raising \$15.9 million in new capital for clients
- Generated \$3.9 million in revenue to fund operations

Economic Development Division Revenue





# Canyon Country Campus Continues Growth

The college’s theme for its 45th anniversary year was “Opportunities, Memories & Growth,” and all three were evident at the Canyon Country Campus (CCC) during 2014-15.

The campus provides customized and accelerated pathways for academic completion, providing courses in a wide variety of formats to serve student and community needs. It offers 12 complete associate degrees and 16 certificates that can be completed entirely on this campus, and regular instruction includes classes in more than 40 different disciplines each semester. With the fall 2014 debut of the new Weekend College – featuring classes in a condensed format that meet online and on Fridays and Saturdays – students have a new way to complete their educational goals.

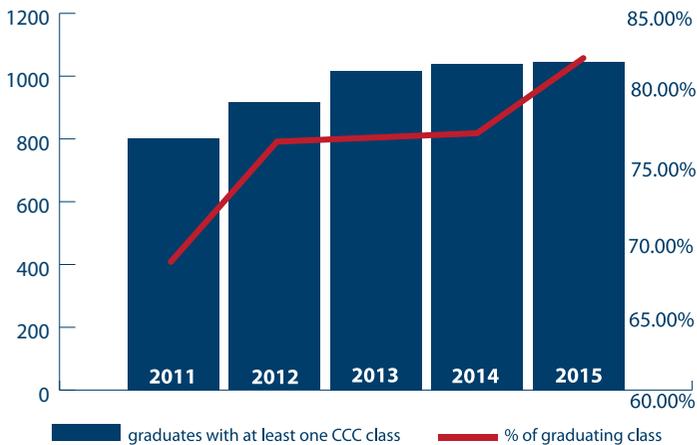
Since opening in 2007, the campus has been the site of many memorable community events. That fun tradition continued throughout the year, as faculty, staff and students welcomed local residents for Star Parties, Movie Nights, and the second installment of the popular Battle of the Bands.

Growth is a key area of focus for the Canyon Country Campus. The 2014-15 academic year was the eighth year of operation for the campus. More than 10,000 unduplicated students earned credits here for the second straight year. Of the approximately 5,000 students and 180 faculty on site, more than 2,000 students and more than 100 instructors study and work exclusively at CCC each semester. More than 50,000 students have earned course credits from a Canyon Country Campus class since 2007.

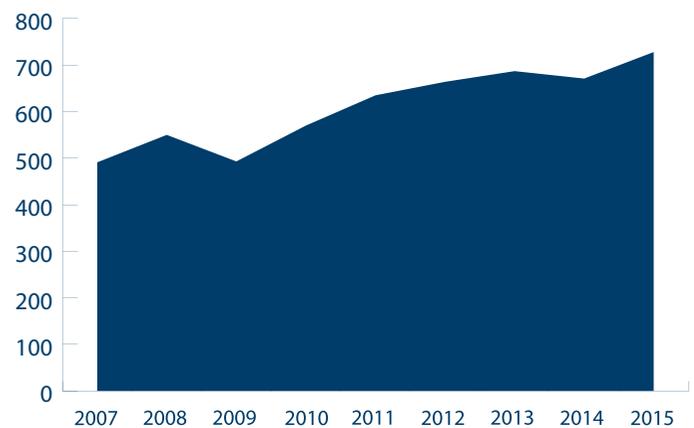
Growing enrollment creates a need for additional facilities, and the college is moving forward with construction plans for a state-of-the-art, 21,000-square-foot science building at the Sierra Highway campus. As the second permanent structure to be built here, it will allow the college to offer more high-demand science classes with lab requirements.

Already, the campus serves more students than eight other freestanding community colleges in California. That number will only grow larger, as the campus continues to expand in size and scope, and broaden access to higher education in the Santa Clarita Valley.

CCC Graduates



CCC Total Class Sections



## 18 associate degrees can be earned at the Canyon Country Campus

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Automotive Technology                                     | English   |
| Business: Accounting (Transfer)                           | History   |
| Business: Accounting Technician                           | Liberal Arts and Sciences - Humanities Emphasis     |
| Business: Human Resource Management                       | Liberal Arts and Sciences - Social Science Emphasis |
| Business: Marketing                                       | Liberal Studies                                     |
| Business: Small Business Management                       | Real Estate   |
| Computer Information Technology: Administrative Assistant | Social Science                                      |
| Computer Information Technology: Computer Applications    | Sociology   |
| Early Childhood Education                                 | Water Systems Technology                            |

## Ready. Set. Grow!

College administrators and science faculty are working with architects to design a 21,000-square-foot science lab and classroom facility at the Canyon Country Campus. With a statewide education facilities construction bond slated for the November 2016 ballot, this early planning will help the college maximize potential state funding for this much-needed project.



Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook  
**UNIVERSITY**  
**CENTER**  
COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS



# University Center Creates Options

The Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook University Center has made a significant impact on the lives, livelihood and enrichment of thousands of people who have earned advanced degrees, learned new skills and advanced their careers here.

This innovative educational center was created to address the shortage of locally available bachelor's and master's degree programs. Business leaders and citizens alike felt that upper-division degree programs were out of reach because of the prohibitively long commutes necessary to attend distant universities.

The solution? Bring the universities to the students. Today, five acclaimed public and private universities offer their degree programs here. They include Brandman University; California State University, Bakersfield; California State University, Northridge; National University, and University of La Verne.

Together, they have attracted more than 5,000 students since the

center launched in 2002, with more than 2,400 people having graduated. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, the number of enrolled students stood at 1,560, nearly 20 percent more than the previous year. Undergraduates slightly outnumbered graduate students.

The number and variety of programs are always evolving to meet new challenges, as well as reflect the needs of local citizens and employers. Several new programs – a master's degree program in teaching, and bachelor's degree programs in accounting and homeland security/emergency management, are scheduled to launch in 2015-16.

Information about upcoming open houses, as well as the degree, certificate and credential programs offered, can be found at [www.cocuniversity.com](http://www.cocuniversity.com).

## Brandman University

### CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Autism

### BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

Applied Studies  
Applied Studies, Supply Chain Systems  
Criminal Justice  
Criminal Justice, Corrections  
Criminal Justice, Homeland Security  
Criminal Justice, Leadership  
Criminal Justice, Victim Advocacy  
Criminal Justice, Forensics  
Legal Studies  
Psychology  
Social Science  
Social Work  
Computing Technology, Project Management  
Computing Technology, Information Technology  
Computing Technology, Business Systems  
Administration

### MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

Psychology, Marriage & Family Therapy (MFT)  
Psychology, MFT & Professional Clinical Counseling  
Psychology, Professional Clinical Counseling

### DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

Nursing Practice

## California State University, Bakersfield

### BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

Communications  
Sociology

## California State University, Northridge

### MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

Public Administration – MPA  
Social Work – MSW

## National University

### BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

Homeland Security & Emergency Management  
Nursing  
Paralegal Studies  
Sport Psychology

### CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Applied Behavior Analysis

### MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

Criminal Justice  
Teaching, Specialization in Applied Behavior Analysis

## University of La Verne

### BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

Accounting  
Business Administration  
Child Development  
Education Studies  
Organizational Management

### CREDENTIAL PROGRAMS

Mild/Moderate Education Specialist, Level I & II  
Multiple-Subject Teaching  
Preliminary Administrative Services  
Pupil Personnel Services  
Single-Subject Teaching

### CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

CLAD/CTEL

### MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

Business Administration – MBA  
Educational Counseling  
Educational Leadership  
Leadership Management  
Special Education





College of  
Planning Community Project  
COLLEGE CANYONS

# Innovation Sparks Year of Accomplishments

## Canyon Country Campus debuts Weekend College

The Canyon Country Campus debuted Weekend College, targeting working adults and those who enjoy learning as a cohort. The yearlong sequence of courses allows students to complete general education requirements needed to earn an associate degree, but also fulfill CSU and UC transfer requirements, at an accelerated pace through online coursework and weekend classes.

## Summer institute boosts statistics teaching skills

A grant from Chancellor Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook and the College of the Canyons Foundation brought together internationally renowned statistics educators, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo professors, 30 community college instructors, and two high school teachers for three days of intensive study designed to enhance the teaching of statistics. The Summer Training Institute for Statistics focused on student projects, understanding multivariate complexities, and a more thoughtful and visual approach to teaching variability.

## “Back on Track LA” uses education to reduce recidivism

A unique partnership between the California Office of the Attorney General, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, L.A. County Probation Department, L.A. County Child Support Services Department and College of the Canyons aims to reduce recidivism among inmates. Back on Track LA delivers education and re-entry services to 90 participants before and after they are released from jail. COC is offering a variety of courses designed to equip participants with workplace skills, including welding.

## Manufacturing Day lets students go behind the scenes

A group of 120 William S. Hart Union High School District students visited several local manufacturing businesses before returning to the Valencia campus to tour the college’s welding, computer networking and electronic systems labs as part of the nationwide Manufacturing Day initiative. The two-day event provided students and job seekers with insights into available career paths and the hundreds of skilled job opportunities in America’s growing manufacturing sector

## State’s first exchange program with Universidad TecMilenio

College of the Canyons became the first California community college to partner with Universidad TecMilenio in Mexico to establish a student exchange partnership, with a cohort of 12 high school students visiting Santa Clarita to study “English for Business” at the Valencia campus. The program was designed to enhance their English language skills and prepare them for the growing internationalization of the global workplace.

## First Upward Bound graduates begin college

All 16 graduates from the College of the Canyons and William S. Hart Union High School District’s Upward Bound program began their first semester of college after completing the college preparatory program that helps empower students to graduate from high school and pursue their education at a college or university – a 100 percent success rate. Students enrolled at UC Santa Barbara, Loyola Marymount University, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, CSU Northridge, and College of the Canyons. The success of this year’s graduating class also coincides with the 50th anniversary of the national Upward Bound program, which serves more than 80,000 students in 964 programs across the country.

## Cutting-edge equipment aids welding students

The welding department’s installation of the HDEm Pulsed Laser Weld Monitoring System at the Valencia campus means that many students at the college are training with technology unavailable to most industry veterans. Tim Baber, chair of the Welding Technology Department, said COC is the first educational institution to possess a laser weld monitor. As a result, welding students have the opportunity to push ahead in an industry already primed for rapid growth.

## Communications professor named Advisor of the Year

Victoria Leonard, professor and chair of the Communication Studies Department, was honored with the 2014 Sigma Chi Eta Lynn M. Disbrow Advisor of the Year Award during the National Communication Association’s 100th Annual Convention in Chicago. The award recognizes the chapter advisor whose dedication of time, energy and service has best manifested the goals of Sigma Chi Eta, the National Communication Association’s honor society for community colleges.



## Fast Track Institute honored for placement rate

The Fast Track Institute was honored with an Outstanding Achievement Award from the South Bay Workforce Investment Board for its success in funneling skilled, trained employees into the workforce. In 2013-14, Fast Track Institute graduates from the Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) Machining and Assembly & Test Technicians programs achieved a 77 percent placement rate in the professional realm.

## FBLA students win top awards

Eighteen students from College of the Canyons Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda (FBLA-PBL) combined to capture two first-place, five second-place, four third-place, one fourth-place and one fifth-place medals in competitions at the California State Business Leadership Conference in Ontario. More than 300 students from 18 colleges and universities competed in activities designed to demonstrate their mastery of business decision-making.

## Speech Team wins at national tournament

The College of the Canyons Speech Team walked away with multiple awards at the Phi Ro Pi National Forensics Tournament in Cleveland, Ohio. The college was recognized with an Individual Events Sweepstakes award, while six students received the competition's highest honors in dramatic interpretation, persuasive speaking, prose interpretation, and informative speaking. Phi Ro Pi is the national community college forensic association and honor society.

## Proyecta project welcomes 100 students from Mexico

College of the Canyons hosted 100 Mexican students for a month-long crash course in English through its participation in the "Proyecta 100,000" project. The initiative, a cooperative of President Obama's "100,000 Strong in the Americas" program, aims to send 100,000 Mexican students to the U.S. for English language education by 2018. In exchange, 50,000 American students will visit Latin American countries.

## Leaders gather at college's first Legislative Reception

The Santa Clarita Community College District Board of Trustees and Chancellor Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook hosted a special Legislative Reception in the University Center lobby to honor the Santa Clarita Valley's state and federal representatives. The event was attended by a variety of college administrators, educators, students and staff, as well as local educators, school board members, city officials, business representatives and community members.

## Women's Conference fosters personal growth

The 2015 College of the Canyons Women's Conference "Blossom and Bloom: Cultivating Your Personal Growth" fulfilled its promise to engage women of all ages with relevant information, inspiration and motivation. The event featured breakout sessions, a keynote address by Lisa Welker-Finney, vice president of human resources at Boston Scientific Neuromodulation, as well as breakfast and lunch. Session topics covered a range of subjects, including career planning, financial planning, social media tips, relationships, healing from loss and caring for your health.

## LAPD and COC jump-start automotive internships

The Los Angeles Police Department and College of the Canyons Automotive Technology Department launched a partnership to a select group of students to work alongside LAPD mechanics. The program will give students an in-depth look into the field by working with one of the nation's largest law enforcement automotive fleets.

## Plumbing project benefits students and cancer survivor

Two COC students worked alongside professional journeymen plumbers to complete a two-day, multifaceted community service plumbing project. With local businesses donating their time, materials, and industry expertise, the students obtained hands-on experience. And a local resident, who is battling cancer and raising three children on her own, no longer has to worry about plumbing problems in her Saugus home.

## Student awarded \$7,500 Phi Theta Kappa scholarship

Valedictorian Jessie Warme was named a recipient of the Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship. Ten community college students were selected from more than 2,200 applicants to each receive a \$7,500 scholarship. Miriam Golbert, the college's Phi Theta Kappa advisor, credited Warme's communication skills, leadership and sense of responsibility to both her fellow students and community for winning the honor.

## Student reaches for stars, lands golden opportunity

Ecuador native and College of the Canyons student Gaby Mendoza was accepted to NASA's National Community College Aerospace Scholars (NCAS) program. As part of her NCAS experience, Mendoza deployed simulated rovers to Mars. Mendoza arrived in the United States from Ecuador without family support in 2010. She found success through the Math Engineering Science Achievement (MESA) program at COC, and the college's Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) chapter, a national organization that Mendoza and MESA Director Eric Lara worked to establish at the college.



**Photo students exhibit work at Japan Foundation**

The work of three College of the Canyons photography students was featured in the “After Mikiko Hara: Floating in the Moment” Student Photography Exhibition at the Japan Foundation Los Angeles (JFLA). Coordinated in large part by COC photography instructor Lee White, and inspired by the images of Japanese photographer Mikiko Hara, images were juried by JFLA representatives and photography instructors from COC and Pierce College. COC students Fara Moravej, Lee Gomez and Taylor Sietsema were among five students selected between the two schools. The trio was responsible for 15 of the exhibition’s 24 photos.

**Board president honored for 31 years of service**

After 31 years on the college’s Board of Trustees, Michele Jenkins received the “Fulfilling the Trust” service award by the Community College League of California (CCLC), the organization representing the state’s 72 college districts. Jenkins served as president of the board when she received the recognition. “Michele is the epitome of commitment and dedication, and sets the standard for service as a community college trustee,” Chancellor Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook said. First elected in 1984, Jenkins is the longest continuously serving member of COC’s board.

**Model UN Team wins multiple awards**

The College of the Canyons Model United Nations Team hosted its second conference in partnership with California State University, Northridge, at the Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook University Center. Of the 11 awards given, COC students won five. On multiple occasions, the Model United Nations Team excelled on the big stage. At its UC Riverside conference, only two “committee” awards were given, with both going to COC students. The Model UN Team won the award for Outstanding Large Delegation at the UCLA Conference, where COC finished among the top-four programs at the conference, the others being Stanford, UC Berkeley and Claremont McKenna College — all Top-20 nationally ranked programs.

**Senator’s award honors sustainability efforts**

Jia-Yi Cheng-Levine was presented with a Sustainability Award from state Sen. Fran Pavley to recognize her efforts to promote sustainability projects and programs at the college and in the community. In addition to overseeing the Sustainability Center, Cheng-Levine serves as director of International Services and Programs.

**Literary magazine takes top prize**

College of the Canyons instructor Alene Terzian and her students assembled the college’s literary magazine, “Cul-De-Sac,” which earned first-place honors in the Pacific-Western Division of the Community College Humanities Association’s 2014 Literary Magazine Competition. The annual publication highlights the best student submissions in short story writing, poetry, photography and art.

**A decade and counting for service award**

College of the Canyons was named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the 10th consecutive year. College of the Canyons – which has been included on the honor roll every year since its inception in 2006 – is one of only 31 higher education institutions in California to appear on the Honor Roll.

**College’s water conservation work honored**

Carl Ebaugh and Jia-Yi Cheng-Levine were recognized for their water-conservation efforts with the 2014 California Community Colleges Board of Governors Excellence in Energy & Sustainability Honorable Mention Award. Ebaugh is the college’s director of Central Energy Systems & Regulatory Compliance, while Cheng-Levine oversees the Sustainability Center and heads International Services and Programs.





# A Season of Celebration

The Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center (PAC) at College of the Canyons celebrated its 10th anniversary season with 22 distinctive professional performances and 21 student and community shows. With stellar entertainment and a continued commitment to cultivating dance, music and theatre skills for students in the School of Visual and Performing Arts, the center has welcomed more than 500,000 audience members since its doors opened in 2004 and continues to establish itself as the premier venue for the performing arts in and around the Santa Clarita Valley.

Professional performers such as LeAnn Rimes, Paula Poundstone, Dave Mason, 2 Cellos, Arlo Guthrie, Bobby McFerrin and more graced our stage in the anniversary year, and artists from around the corner and around the world afforded our students and supporters the opportunity to connect with them through master classes, special residencies and meet-and-greet receptions.

The K-12 Arts Education Outreach Program continues to transform the lives of local students by providing outstanding arts instruction both on the college campus and in local K-12 classrooms. From September 2014 to June 2015, the program served more than 37,908 students from six local school districts with six bus-ins and 105 assemblies and workshops.

Through the Kennedy Center's Partners in Education Program, more than 160 teachers were trained in arts integration techniques and 14 professional development workshops were provided to local teachers in the program.

As the artistic hub of the community, the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center is committed to providing memorable experiences for all and continuing its tradition of delivering great entertainment close to home.



## Art Gallery

The College of the Canyons Art Gallery is committed to serving our students and the community at large through exhibitions and programs that enhance curriculum and engage a greater audience in the visual arts. The gallery curates a variety of exhibitions annually. Since opening its doors in 1997, a variety of exhibitions on all artistic levels, from middle school to museum-quality shows, have provided an important asset for the college to embrace, stimulate and educate all visitors.



COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS  
ART GALLERY





# A Success By Any Measure

College of the Canyons reached a significant milestone during its 45th anniversary year with the opening of two new buildings at the Valencia Campus.

Canyons Hall, the college’s main student services and administration building, officially opened in March, and was followed by an April ribbon-cutting ceremony for the College of the Canyons Institute for Culinary Education (iCuE).

The debut of these two facilities marked the completion of the Valencia Campus Facilities Master Plan, meaning the campus is officially built out 45 years after the college first opened in temporary quarters at Hart High School.

The focus of future construction now shifts to Canyon Country, where the college’s 72-acre campus on Sierra Highway will be augmented with permanent buildings.

The campus surpassed enrollment projections the day it opened in 2007, housing students in modular buildings. Enrollment exceeds 5,000 students and is still growing, creating an urgent need for new, state-of-the-art learning facilities.

Already taking shape is a 21,000-square-foot science lab and classroom facility. College facilities administrators are meeting with faculty to determine the primary uses for the space. Their input will guide the architects tasked with designing the building.

The build-out of the Valencia Campus, and the construction of the Canyon Country Campus, were made possible by Measure M, a \$160 million bond measure passed by Santa Clarita Valley voters in 2006.

Measure M expenditures are monitored by the Measure M Citizens’ Oversight Committee, a group of local residents who ensure the bond funds are spent in accordance with state law.

This year’s audit of Measure M received the highest rating possible – for the eighth consecutive year – and noted no adjustments, audit findings, questioned costs, or instances of noncompliance associated with the bond.

Our record of clean audits confirms that College of the Canyons continues to deliver on the promises made to voters when they approved Measure M. The Santa Clarita Valley expects us to create a college that is capable of delivering cutting-edge education and training that allows students to achieve their goals. We’re proud that we’re exceeding those expectations through the resources they entrusted to us through Measure M.

## Made Possible by Measure M

Measure M funded the following building projects:

### College of the Canyons Institute for Culinary Education

Location: Valencia Campus  
 Status: Completed 2015  
 Size: 12,208 square feet  
 Cost: \$10 million

### Canyons Hall

Location: Valencia Campus  
 Status: Completed 2015  
 Size: 46,370 square feet  
 Cost: \$17.1 million

### Mentry Hall Expansion

Location: Valencia Campus  
 Status: Completed 2010  
 Size: 28,000 square feet  
 Cost: \$12.3 million

### Applied Technology Education Center

Location: Canyon Country Campus  
 Status: Completed 2011  
 Size: 10,315 square feet  
 Cost: \$7.1 million

### Library/TLC Expansion

Location: Valencia Campus  
 Status: Completed 2012  
 Size: 51,435 square feet  
 Cost: \$15.8 million

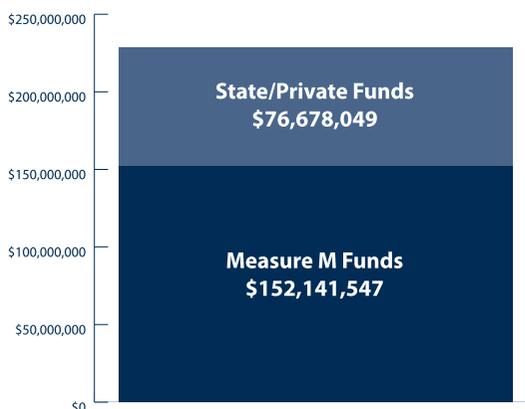
### Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook University Center

Location: Valencia Campus  
 Status: Completed 2009  
 Size: 110,00 square feet  
 Cost: \$39.8 million

### Canyon Country Campus

Location: Canyon Country  
 Size: 70 acres

## Measure M Purchasing Power



Since local voters passed Measure M in 2006, the bond measure has generated \$228.8 million in total purchasing power as the \$152 million in bonds issued to date have helped to leverage an added \$76 million in state and private funds.





# Athletic Achievement & Academic Excellence

College of the Canyons has built a reputation for achievement and excellence over its 45-year history, and that is certainly reflected in the accomplishments of its Athletics Department.

The college's 16 intercollegiate teams instill a spirit of determination, sportsmanship, teamwork and leadership that prepares student-athletes for competition at the next level, and beyond. Academic achievement is paramount, and the college provides student-athletes with guidance and support services that lead to classroom success.

During the 2014-15 academic year, the college's athletic programs combined to win six Western State Conference (WSC) championships, with women's volleyball, men's cross country, women's soccer and women's golf clinching titles in the fall, and women's track & field and men's golf bringing home titles in the spring. The WSC title captured by the women's track & field team was the team's first in college history.

In addition, the men's cross country and men's golf teams each went on to win both a California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA) Southern California Regional Championship and CCCAA State Championship.

The women's cross country and women's golf teams both finished as runner up to the state title.

COC freshman Ethan Walker also won an individual CCCAA Track & Field State Championship in the 3,000-meter steeplechase event, along with SoCal Regional Championships in the 3,000-meter steeplechase and 10,000-meter event.

As a result of this prolific success, the college earned its second consecutive WSC Supremacy Award for the Athletic Department's collective performance throughout the 2014-15 academic year.

That success was amplified by the individual accomplishments of the four COC head coaches and one assistant coach who earned WSC Coach of the Year honors: Lisa Hooper, women's volleyball; Lindie Kane, men's cross country; Carla Loomis, women's golf (assistant coach); Justin Lundin, women's soccer; and Gary Peterson, men's golf. Kane was also awarded the 2014-2015 CCCAA Men's Cross Country Coach of the Year Award.

More than 100 COC student-athletes earned all-WSC honors in 2014-15. The college also saw four of its student-athletes win WSC Player of the Year Awards: Lauren Anderson, softball; Eric Kim, men's golf; Marissa Kneisel, women's soccer; and Serena LeDuff, women's volleyball — who won her second such award.

Included in that group were five All-State Team selections: Lauren Anderson, softball; Serena LeDuff, women's volleyball; Tim White, football; Tiffany Whittaker, women's golf; and Roy Verdejo, baseball.

## Cougar Athletics Claims 2nd Straight WSC Supremacy Award

In August 2015, the College of the Canyons Athletics Department was awarded its second consecutive Western State Conference Supremacy Award for the collective performance of its programs.

During the 2014-15 academic year, the Cougars took home WSC championships in:

- Women's Volleyball (second consecutive title)
- Men's Cross Country (second consecutive title)
- Women's Soccer (fourth consecutive title)
- Women's Golf (first since 2010)
- Women's Track & Field (first in college history)
- Men's Golf (sixth consecutive title)

The WSC Supremacy Award has been awarded since the 1980-1981 academic year. COC's victory makes it just the fourth school to win the award in at least two consecutive years.

## Cougars Take Success to the Next Level

More than 65 student-athletes transferred to four-year universities across the nation, including:

- Vanderbilt University
- Arizona State University
- University of Miami
- Boise State University
- Houston Baptist University
- Miami University of Ohio
- Coastal Carolina University
- UC Irvine
- UC Santa Barbara
- UC Riverside
- San Francisco State University
- Chico State University
- San Jose State University
- Southern Arkansas University

*“You have all the reason in the world to achieve your grandest dreams. Imagination plus innovation equals realization.”*

*~ Denis Waitley*







**SANTA CLARITA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

---

Mr. Michael D. Berger • Mr. Bruce D. Fortine • Ms. Michele R. Jenkins • Ms. Joan W. MacGregor • Mr. Steven D. Zimmer