

BUSINESS DIVISION NEWSLETTER

Fall 2021



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DEANS' WELCOME

Welcome Back! It has been a crazy year and a half, but we are pleased to be back on campus. We cannot express how proud we are of the Business Division staff and faculty for their resilience.

The Business Division programs were able to make it through the pandemic and teaching remote. Many of our programs grew and others discovered that distance learning could be achieved and may even be a viable option for their programs.

While we are still seeing the effects of the pandemic, and hearing the concerns shared by faculty we want you to know that the college is following public health COVID guidelines to ensure the safety of employees as well as our students.

We are happy that we have the ability to come to campus and serve the students who prefer face-to-face classes rather than the online environment. It is amazing the way faculty were able to meet the needs of their DL students and offer courses never taught in a DL environment before. Additionally, the staff have had to learn new ways of getting things done. Some of these new ways will hopefully stay in place so we can eliminate the paper shuffle. However, we are also having to remember how use processes that we have not used for over a year.

As you return to campus, we ask that you be patient and understanding with our current environment. As you can see, there is a lot of construction on campus and getting around is not the easiest, so please give some time until students learn how to navigate getting from parking or other buildings to your class. Also, please try to keep up to date on the COVID requirements that we are following from the LACDH. These unfortunately are ever changing. If we have learned one thing this past period it is hopefully the ability to be flexible, compassionate, and have empathy for our students and colleagues. After hearing many concerns, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution on Friday, August 13 that mandates that all employees and students will be required to be vaccinated or submit for weekly testing. The District is working on all the specifics for this currently. Please be patient as information will be forthcoming.

The Business Division has new members who did not have the ability to start on campus when they were first hired but started with remote work. We are pleased to welcome Director of the Center of Excellence Luke Meyer, and Child Development faculty member Dr. Shireetha Gethers. It will be very nice to see them in person instead of in a 1-inch box on the zoom screen.

Please continue to be diligent in your safety and let us know if there is anything, we can do to help in the transition back to campus. We know it is not easy. Most managers and staff have been back since mid-June and are happy to have the rest join us. Stop by the Division Office even if it is just for a quick hello, as we look forward to seeing you all in person again. This semester is once again going to be a learning experience for us as we determine the new normal for education at Mt. SAC. We are eager and excited to get started on this new journey!

Sincerely,

Your Dean and Associate Dean
Jennifer Galbraith & Fawaz Al-Malood

NEW FACES IN THE BUSINESS DIVISION

Luke Meyer is the director of the Los Angeles region Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (LA\OC COE), hosted at Mt. San Antonio College. Luke began his career working in social services with children and families, primarily in treatment homes as a youth counselor. After working five years in such a stressful field, Luke decided it was time to hone his social science research methodology and statistics skills in graduate school. Luke holds a Master's degree in psychology and evaluation from Claremont Graduate University as well as an MA in education from the University of La Verne. During these years, Luke taught psychology courses at Cypress College as an adjunct professor. After completing his graduate studies, Luke began working as a researcher for the Riverside County Department of Public Social Services where he designed and implemented a countywide evaluation of the newly implemented treatment approach, Safety Organized Practice, which the county utilizes to this day. Building on that experience, Luke began his tenure with the Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research in the Inland Empire/Desert region as a research manager in early 2017 and coordinated research activities including CTEOS reporting and program endorsements for 12 regional colleges. As the director for the LA\OC COE, Luke provides labor market supply and demand data to the 19 community colleges in LA County at a critical time as the recovery process from COVID-19 continues to unfold. Luke's ultimate goal is to help our students earn living wage jobs in growing fields, especially in middle-skill jobs as these roles help support the fabric of the labor market.

Luke Meyer
Director, Center of Excellence



“ I am proud to be a Mountie and look forward to many more successful years in the business division! ”

NEW FACES IN THE BUSINESS DIVISION (CONT.)

Dr. Shireetha Gethers Professor of Child Development



“ Joining the Child Development & Education Department is an exciting new path in my professional journey. It feels wonderful to teach our future teachers.

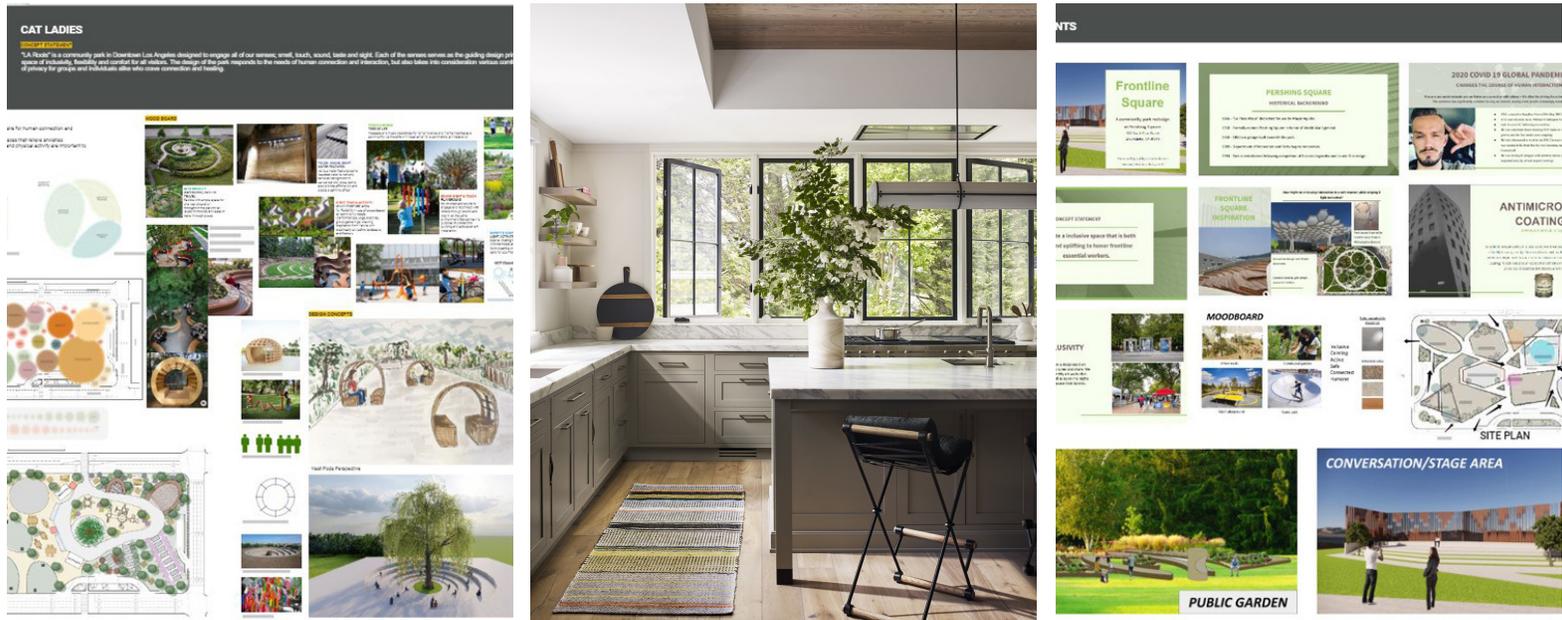
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Dr. Shireetha Gethers has worked in the field of Early Education for more than 15 years. She has held various positions such as Preschool Teacher, Assistant Director, Director and Child Development Faculty. She has also worked as a Parent Educator and Curriculum Coach. In addition to her administrative duties, Dr. Gethers has served as an adjunct faculty member of various California Community Colleges teaching child development courses in areas such as Program Administration, Adult Supervision and Developmentally Appropriate Practice. She is a Member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and sits on the Board of Directors for the National Coalition of Campus Children’s Centers (NCCCC).

She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Child Development and Family Studies, as well as a Masters in Early Childhood Education from California State University, Long Beach. More recently, she earned her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California.

Dr. Gethers enjoys hiking and spending time with her Partner and two sons age 10 and 14. She is very excited to join the Mt. Sac full-time this year. She looks forward to contributing to the field of Child Development and advocating for our students and community.

INTERIOR DESIGN STUDENTS SWEEP COMPETITIONS



Interior Design Student Fatimah Satya won first place for the **National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA)** Student Bath Competition and ID Student **Rania Bouza** won 1st place in the Kitchen portion. It was a clean sweep for Mt. SAC ID students! Each student received a cash prize of \$2500. In addition, the students will be flown out to Orlando in February for the NKBA event and also attend a ceremony to receive their prizes. Their work will be published in the NKBA Magazine.

Additionally, Mt. SAC ID student **Jenice Domingo** along with 4 other students from other colleges (Team Project) won first place at the **IIDA Southern California Chapter Virtual Charette Competition**. **Christion Ojeda** along with 3 other students from other colleges placed second. First place prize money was \$10,000 split among the students. We are so proud of the great work our ID students produce. This would not be possible without the great instruction they receive from our awesome Interior Design faculty!



CIS CONTINUES TO DEVELOP NEW INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

NEW AWARDS

Artificial
Intelligence (AI)
Certificate

Cloud Computing
Certificate

During the pandemic the CIS Department was able to offer a brand-new program in Cloud Computing. The certificate is the CIS Professional Certificate in **Cloud Computing for Amazon Web Services** and prepares students for careers in Cloud Architect, Cloud Support Associate, Cloud Engineer or Cloud Technicians. This certificate can be accomplished in 2 semesters and consists of 5 classes.

Additionally, this fall the CIS Department will offer the first classes in their brand-new **Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Business Certificate**. This three-course certificate is intended to prepare students for the fast-growing field of AI. The new AI program complements the department's highly successful Big Data Analytics program.

AM SPEAKER SERIES

During the pandemic the **Accounting and Management Department (AM)** held a very successful Speaker Series with both Accounting focused and Business Management focused webinars. Speaker topics included: Business Communications, Marketing, Supply Chain Management, and more. They had a total of 7 guest speakers with each webinar having between 40 to 60 students attending via zoom for around 580 total attendees. In fact, it was so successful they have decided to continue on with the series.



FALL SPEAKER SCHEDULE

Sep. 21 | Business Communications

Sep. 28 | Business Communications

Oct. 06 | Women Leaders in Supply Chain Management

Oct. 12 | Marketing

Oct. 25 | Cyber Security

For specific details and the zoom links please visit the Accounting and Management website at:

www.mtsac.edu/am/speakers

CHILD DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT GETS CREATIVE REMOTELY



The **Child Development & Education Department** faculty and team members had an industrious 2021-22 year working from their homes. They efficiently adapted to on-line instruction so students could continue completing courses to achieve their certificates, degree and transfer goals. Since many of Child Development course assignments require live, in-person observations of children, this was an obstacle since the campus CDC and local preschools were closed. Faculty members worked diligently to find and adapt a variety of quality video clips that were properly captioned to illustrate the principles of working with children. To sustain meaningful, quality instruction, observation and practicum classes were conducted synchronously. Faculty members created a Curriculum Resource Library and the Department provided "Video Learning Kits" to support student learning and engagement. Since the Child Observation Lab was unable to physically open, the Lab offered online tutoring services (via Zoom) for students enrolled in any CHLD courses.

Keeping up with the support, The CDE Department applied for and received CARES Act Institutional funds for students to pay for the \$100 Child Development Permit Application Fee and the \$76 Live Scan fee for CA Child Development Permits. This funding allowed students experiencing financial hardship to apply for and attain a CA Child Development Permit. The Permit is necessary for these "essential worker" educators to attain and/or maintain employment in the early education field.