California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Podcast Episode 59

Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month and the Importance of Mental Health Awareness at California Community Colleges

Dr. Daisy Gonzales

Welcome back, everyone! This is Dr. Daisy Gonzales, Interim Chancellor for California's Community Colleges and you're listening to another episode of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office podcast. Thank you for joining me today. If you're returning to our podcasts and you already know that the 2022-23 series has featured California community college alumni reflecting on their educational journey and their impact on our state. By dedicating this podcast series to alumni in our system, my hope is that we can create a space to uplift alumni, their lived experiences, and the impact of California's community colleges through the hard work and dedication of extraordinary human beings. May is both national, Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month and Mental Health Awareness Month. California is the most populous and culturally diverse state in the country. It is home to more than six million Californians from AAPI descent.

An estimated 16.4% of the state's total population. This community includes a wide range of ethnicities, cultures, customs and languages. And, according to Mental Health America, AAPI adults are the racial group least likely to seek mental health services; three times less likely than their white counterparts. So as we celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, an annual celebration that pays tribute to the generations of AAPIs who have enriched America's history, it is also important to focus on the mental health of AAPIs.

This podcast episode will feature Dr. Nellie Tran, a California community college alum, a community psychologist, someone who will share her educational journey, but more importantly, will also help us address student mental health as a part of our collective goal to achieve equity in access and equity and success for our students. Welcome, Dr. Tran. How are you feeling today?

Dr. Nellie Tran

I'm good. Thank you so much for having me. I'm excited to be here to talk about community colleges.

Dr. Gonzales

Well, I am so honored to have you here as our guest. And before we get started, I want to make sure that our listeners know a little bit about you. You have an extensive expertise in this topic, in this community and your legacy. The one that you are building today is impacting millions of Californians. So I want to share a little bit about that.

Dr. Nellie Tran is a published Vietnamese-American, San Diego State University professor, research scientist and higher education advocate who is passionate about empowering students, specifically underserved student populations, students of color, to pursue their higher education. Dr. Tran attended Mesa College and Miramar College before transferring to UCLA to complete her B.A. in psychology. From there, she attended the University of Illinois Chicago, where she earned her Ph.D. in psychology. Dr. Tran is a past president of the Asian American Psychological Association. As an educator in the classroom, she facilitates students' critical awareness of social injustice, inequity and privilege to teach her students to be critical consumers of research and information. Her students

learn to bridge critical thinking to their lived experiences in order to build critical awareness of themselves and the world that they live in and work in, which enables her students to expand their perspective and context and in return become multi culturally competent counselors and psychologists.

Thank you for your work, Dr. Tran, and for spending time with me today.

Dr. Tran

Thank you for having me.

Dr. Gonzales

So as you heard me say, and as you know very well, May is the time of year where we celebrate and illuminate the contributions of AAPI individuals and leaders. And I want to start off by asking you about your heritage. What makes you especially proud of your heritage and who do you look up to for inspiration within your community?

Dr. Tran

I love this question, especially for this month. So I am the daughter of Vietnamese refugee boat people. So my heritage is from Vietnam, where my family's ancestral lands are. And we came to the U.S. in search of a better life. My dad, my mom came here when my mom was still pregnant with me. And so I feel like I'm most proud of the fact that we are a people who have survived war, migration, colonization, and that there is strength in our history and our legacy. And we have a very strong desire to stay in community and in family. And so I think that I take great pride in the fact that despite all the disruption to our culture and to our people and communities, we have a strong sense of family still, and that my family has, over the generations, been able to maintain our bloodlines and to be able to maintain our cultural heritage no matter which lands we currently live in.

So I am most proud of that strength of my Vietnamese people to have survived and maintained our culture through generations of war and colonization and now migration to the U.S. as well. I was thinking a lot about who I feel inspired by, and the person who came to mind for me was Thich Nhat Hanh, and he's known as a Buddhist monk who brought the idea of mindfulness to our world.

But I actually feel inspired by him because as a Vietnamese Buddhist monk during the Vietnam War, he was the person who was actually hated by both the North and the South and by the U.S. because he was preaching for peace and he was advocate for people who were most disenfranchised. People with the least amount of power. He saw that war did nothing more than hurt disenfranchised people, and so he advocated for peace and for nonviolence around the world.

And his ideas around mindfulness was to help people see humanity in one another so that they would not hurt each other. And he has pushed for the unification of the Vietnamese people globally. And I think we forget that. And I'm really reminded when I think about him, I'm very reminded that it's not about power, it's about people. And so if we think deeply, if we are mindful, if we really are thinking about humanity, then we will think about what it's like to be unified, to be in unity, to be together, to fight against structures of power that disenfranchise people.

And I really take that to heart in my work today and bringing people together to see that we have more in common than we have different from one another, and we are more powerful together than we are apart.

Dr. Gonzales

Thank you for sharing that. I'm so honored to share this space and I can already see where that inspiration comes from, but also how you inspire others in that way. Thank you.

Dr. Tran

You're welcome.

Dr. Gonzales

So I've read your bio, and I've got to say, I'm very impressed with everything that you have done with the legacy that you are creating and the way that you are empowering your students and other Californians here. And I know that the last few years have been difficult. So this next question is inspired by that, inspired by our students.

You know, every time I head out into the field, I hear students say, "But I could never get there" or "How do you grow up in foster care and end up state chancellor?" And I think as people are listening to these stories, but particularly you, Dr. Tran, I want to ask you this question and really hoping that they are able to hear your journey. Tell us a little bit about the start of this journey. What was your experience like at a California community college?

Dr. Tran

Oh, thank you for asking this. I feel myself blushing when you talk about my achievements in this way. I don't see myself that way. And I feel like when I was reflecting on where I began, I felt like it was, I feel as though it's really important for people to know that I was very unimpressive. I think I was not. I think I've wanted to do great things. I felt a sense of urgency and need to do something good in the world, but I don't feel as though I was very impressive on paper. You know, I failed second grade.

I tried to do the smart things, but I think I was feeling as though I was always pretending to be smart. Rather than feeling really smart. My parents used to say that between my little brother and I, I was the one that worked hard. I wasn't the smart one. He's the smart one. I'm the one that works hard. So I didn't get into the colleges of my choice.

I thought I had done well in high school. It turns out I didn't do well enough, you know, and I was really disappointed. And so, I decided to go to community college because I thought that rather than settling and just going to any college, I thought I would take time to figure out who I was by going to community college and staying home and saving some money.

And so I, I just went to school. I feel like I was just going to school and letting community college be a stepping stone for me. And so it turns out, upon reflection, that it was the perfect choice for me because the classroom structure is smaller. It was a smaller community. It felt a little bit more like high school.

Once I transferred, I realized that it's a lot harder to be a student in a class of, you know, 1 to 300 students. But the community colleges gave me a smaller classroom. It was an easier way for me to figure out how to do independent work and maintain my own schedule and figure out how to enroll in classes and figure out who I was going to be.

It also allowed me to fail a lot. Like I said, I wasn't a great, perfect student. I wanted at the time to be a pre-med major like many other Asian Americans, and I couldn't pass my, you know, my hard science classes. I couldn't pass my calculus classes. And I'm fairly certain I took calculus at least five times, maybe more, in order to pass the class.

But it allowed me that freedom to do that over and over again while I figured out how to learn in this new way, how to, you know, whether or not I wanted to pursue the majors that I was interested in. And so when I transferred to UCLA, all of those mistakes were wiped away. And so I got to start fresh.

And I found psychology at the community colleges. I took my first psych classes. I took two psychology classes, and they were also my only two Asian American female professors that I ever have had. And they came to me as my first psych teachers at Mesa College. And so, they showed me the love of psychology and I fell for it, you know?

And then I knew I had to go to UCLA. And I it set me on a path that I would not have otherwise been on had I gone straight to a four year institution. So, I think it was a great place for where I was in my life. I didn't know that I needed that kind of soft place to land when I was rejected so much, you know, in high school.

So that was me. I think I was unimpressive. I think I tried new things. I think I also had some really bad professors at community college, and I kind of figured out what I needed from a teacher and what worked for me, what didn't, and you know, where I needed to suck it up and do what I needed to do.

So I learned all these things. I grew into college nice and slow, and I saved a lot of money. I was able to work part time and my family was able to kind of come into what it would cost to go to college. And so when I went to UCLA, we had the money for me to be able to live in the dorms while I was there in my first year.

Dr. Gonzales

Wow, I'm in awe, because I'm having that "aha" moment. Podcast after podcast. Over the last year of hearing major themes of community colleges as the space where people find what they love. Right? So you fell in love with psychology. I also heard from many of the other guests that we've had that they found that faculty member that they identified with largely because we have a very diverse student population and they found belonging, right? And were in spaces where maybe they couldn't quite find it in and class size was very important to them. I'm happy to share with you, too, that we've been making a lot of improvements. California's community colleges now offer baccalaureate degrees so you don't have to transfer. And you mentioned that you were taking the class over and over again. We've done a lot of changes in that area as we think about better supports, corequisites, tutoring for students, additional supports as our students are going through their courses. But thank you for sharing that journey I heard a little bit about then what inspired you to go into teaching? And I know

that you're a faculty member, so this next question is about how your community college experience at California's community colleges impacted your career choices.

Dr. Tran

Well, I discovered psychology. I discovered that Asian American women can be professors in psychology. So those were really important. I think first that I had, but I also I had both good and bad teachers while I was at community college. I remember writing essays and having teachers pull me aside and talk to me about my thinking about different topics of the time, you know? And I had never had a teacher care.

And I remember going, "Oh, I just picked the side of this issue because I thought it would be easier to write." And they were they would tell me, "Well, no, but what do you think?" You know? And I thought, "Oh, what do you mean, what do I think I, I think you pick a side of an issue and you write about it you know?" I think it was like the start of people having enough time to guide me just enough.

But I also had teachers, I think, who underestimated me. And I remember one teacher I had would tell us that we were no good and that we were not going to make anything of ourselves and that we may never transfer, that there would be a very small percentage of us who would ever go on to do anything with our life. And I remember thinking like, you don't know me, you don't know why I am here? And I was I just felt so offended. And I remember going to the dean's office and wanting to report him and, you know, kind of coming into my power a little bit and realizing that like, whoa, he went too far. And it was interesting because I saw the range, right, at community college. And so I saw that I could have some power. This was a small enough kind of college campus that my voice could make a difference.

I also learned that professors have a lot of power, you know, power to create change, power to, you know, allow students to chase a dream, but also power to hold them back. And I really saw, I remember thinking this one, professor, that he must have led a life where, you know, he's got some things holding him back and he's now taking it out on us. And I think a lot about that when I work with my counseling students now that they too have probably been injured and traumatized in their own upbringing, and that if we don't work through that, if we don't heal from that, then we will only endanger other people. So I think a lot about that, and I feel like I have, I want to be a part of helping people to see that so that they can go on to be in service of others. And I think I, all of that kind of early thinking came from community college. It was a slow enough environment for me that I could actually think for myself. That wasn't the case once I got to UCLA. I felt like it was so fast paced, I was just on a track. I wasn't able to really think and cultivate my thinking in important ways.

Dr. Gonzales

So you became a leader and a scholar, and that's really powerful for a first generation college student. And I'm glad that you were able to make the connections. I know that doesn't happen for some students, and mental health is a really big part of that. But also your support networks, right?

Dr. Tran

Yeah.

Dr. Gonzales

I'm wondering, you know, your background is in working with students, not just in the classroom, but also in making sure that mental health is a top priority for Californians. So I want to segue into that direction because mental health is a crisis. It is one of the biggest growing needs for California's community colleges and not just for our students. But I think coming out of this pandemic. Right? I know when we did a statewide survey of formally enrolled students, we asked what would it take for you to come back to our colleges? And mental health was one of those needs, along with childcare, which I think there's a connection there.

Dr. Tran

Yes.

Dr. Gonzales

That we can explore. But as we emerge from this pandemic, you are an expert. I'm wondering, what do you see are those critical mental health issues that are impacting our students and what can we do about it?

Dr. Tran

There were so many issues before COVID. Mental health was not an important feature. Many colleges had already been working to, you know, to increase the amount of mental health services on campus and increasing visibility and outreach to students. So I think it's important for us to remember that the crisis we're in now began long before COVID. COVID was just a catalyst that made things unbearable.

And I think we are at a breaking point now. I know that these last couple of years has been really hard for everyone, and I think students are at a disadvantage right now because they are in a developmental stage. Right? They're supposed to be learning and transitioning. There's a lot of transition already kind of baked into the process, right?

They're going from high school to college. They're young adults who are learning to be independent for the first time in their life. And they've got all of these hardships that are happening, these transitions. But on top of that, I think as a collective, we have not created enough space for us as a country to transition, right? Not just as a country, but as a world to transition from a world where COVID was a killer to one where we are going to have to live with it. And, you know, if you think about in our country, we lost over 1.1 million people due to COVID.

Dr. Gonzales

Yeah

Dr. Tran

We know that these are typically underreported, right? And that across the globe, that confirmed, we have almost seven million people who died. That's a lot of grief that has gone unprocessed. And, you know, we talk a lot about the employment sector and how we don't have a strong enough workforce.

And I keep wondering, well, these people who have passed must have held some of these positions. It's not just because people don't want to go back to work. It's also because we've literally lost such a sizable number of our population and many of our students, I think especially underserved students, come from families where they have lost many people. That their extended networks are larger and

many of their family members worked in very vulnerable positions during COVID. And some of the people I know have lost six, seven people during COVID. And you can't just get over that. There's these transitions, there's a lot of grief and there's a mourning of the loss of people, the loss of, I think, human developmental stages that a lot of our students should have been going through. I think they didn't get a chance to go through those stages of development.

And now we need time to recover. How can we help people to come back into their social support networks and have tolerance for difficult things in life? Mourn the loss of what has but continue to move forward and grow, ask for help, learn how to do things again, and not just kind of ask to get by. And I think that's a hard reality to start to accept that we might be ready for that.

Dr. Gonzales

Hmm. Thank you for sharing that with us. I know in the last two fiscal years, the state has heavily invested in mental health, unlike, you know, prior decades. But now, even more important than ever, the nurturing, the healing, I think the resetting, as you mentioned, of what it will take to continue to thrive when everything changed, right? We think of all of the sectors that completely shut down that will never return to be the same, right? I'm talking about our day to day, right?

Dr. Tran

Yeah.

Dr. Gonzales

Thank you for sharing that. You know, as you were talking, I was reflecting on all the people that I've lost in my life. So also just thinking about those that are listening and saying, you know, I think we all have a lot more in common, as Dr. Tran shared earlier, than we think. And I think this pandemic teaches us that, as I think about the future, I know that is what our students need to hear as well.

Dr. Tran

Yeah. And I think, you know, it's also worth remembering that it wasn't just a COVID pandemic that happened. We also had a large racial reckoning that happened in this country simultaneously. So there was a lot of stress. There was a lot of emotional turmoil that was happening across our country. And now when you add in war and large crisis migrations, there's just a lot going on still, you know, and that takes a toll on people emotionally. And we need to start learning how to be together in some of that pain, I think.

Dr. Gonzales

Hmm, I love that. You know, that's a great transition. I was actually going to ask you about that because our colleges have been developing spaces where students feel like they are safe, that they belong. There is a lot more work there to be done, especially as we all come back into brick and mortar education, begin to see each other more in person.

But we saw during the pandemic an increase in hate and violence against AAPI communities. We also know that this was not new as well and that there are really harmful stereotypes that impact our AAPI students. I wondered if you could talk a little bit more about that. How does that impact our AAPI student mental health and then when they come into our classrooms, right, when we seek to empower them with education?

Dr. Tran

Yeah, I think one thing that's important to remember is that there was a rise in visibility of anti-Asian hate. It wasn't that it didn't exist prior to kind of the COVID beginnings when we started to see it. So, there's this new thing that happened where we saw it in the media and there was more conversation about it. There's more conversation about it now than there has been in my lifetime. But many of us who have been on the forefront of talking about it have been kind of begging for the visibility for a long time. And I think that really reinforces these images, these stereotypes that we have about Asian Americans. So, you know, within kind of Asian American studies, we often talk about the model minority stereotype, right? That Asian Americans are seen as an ethnic or racial group that does so well despite the fact that they are experiencing racism in the U.S.

And that kind of came about during the civil rights movement as a way of saying that racism doesn't impact all of people so long as you work hard. But the problem is that stereotypes started in the sixties as a way of pitting Asian Americans against African-Americans in the U.S. to say that the civil rights movement was not appropriate. And what we know now, is that those images were created with East Asians in mind, and the Asian American diaspora is actually very diverse.

You know, there are over 20 different ethnic groups that are represented in sizable numbers in the U.S., all of whom have their own language, culture and heritage. And so in the U.S., when we talk about Asian Americans, we're talking about, you know, the largest continents on earth and a lot of groups that have their own kind of intergroup dynamics as well.

And that when Asians are seen as high achieving or that they are doing so well, then they don't get included in the conversation about resources or needs. Right? People then forget that there are Asian Americans who aren't doing well, that there are Asian American ethnic groups that have the lowest income levels across any ethnic group in the U.S. That the diaspora, the Asian American category, is one of the most diverse racial groups in the country.

And so we can't just think about those who are doing well. We have to think about why aren't all Asians doing well? And it's so convenient, I think, for people to not think about Asian Americans because they're doing well. But then in their next breath, also think about Asians as perpetual foreigners, right? So that at the start of COVID, the anti-Asian hate that we saw was very much linked to seeing Asians as foreigners, as people who are never going to be American.

And that really goes together with the model minority stereotype that no matter how well you do in America and how many generations you've been here, you still will never be seen as American enough. And that model then going into the classroom, means that a lot of Asian Americans have spent their whole lives trying to be as American as they possibly can be and not being able to think about who they are, what they want to be when they grow up and how they want to contribute to this country, but rather are just trying to belong.

Right? And I think that that can be really dangerous because we need people to know who they are. We need them to interrogate how they've gotten to where they are and who they want to be in the future, and how they want to kind of be their most authentic self, because that will be what keeps you most healthy and happy and contributing members of society.

It's also the case that, you know, if Asian Americans remain invisible and unknown, then they stay very easy targets for xenophobia and someone to be feared whenever things don't go well in the U.S. And I think we see a lot of that happening as well.

Dr. Gonzales

Hmm. Thank you for sharing that. You know, I think we saw a little bit of that generalization as we looked at our statewide data pre-pandemic. Our AAPI students as a cohort, right? When you combine all the different ethnic groups, you know, all of the diversity really around our AAPI students, we saw that our students are doing well as a cohort. And then during the pandemic, we saw that number go down. And when you further disaggregate, you're right! There were a lot of Filipino students that left their system. And then you start looking at the interconnection between poverty and then regions of the state, right? What happens to San Francisco is very different from what happens in like the Central Coast, right?

Dr. Tran

Yes.

Dr. Gonzales

And the access that there is to resources in those communities. So thank you for highlighting that. I'm wondering then if you could say a little bit more about if we know that this is the case and it impacts our students, what is then our message to those educators in the classroom? What would you share? You are an educator yourself. What would you share about what is important to better serve our AAPI students?

Dr. Tran

Well, I think it's important to remember that access to information is such an important starting point, and if our students don't have access to information or our potential students don't have access to information, then they can't come into our classrooms. So are we out there? Do you have materials that are in language for people to learn about programs? Are your classes accessible? You know, if we really want to be inclusive, are we speaking in plain enough English that every student has access to the knowledge that we are trying to impart? So many of us speak in metaphors and colloquialisms that we forget that those are learned, you know, kind of slang, from the English language. And that is very difficult for people who come from different cultures, right? I've had so many professors who are really sarcastic, and sarcasm, again, is very difficult to understand if you are new to the English language, right? So I think it's about making sure that we as people, as educators are accessible, that we are representing as much of our students as we can in the way that we teach.

You know, I think I learned about community college because my dad went to community college, so he made it easier for me to be able to accept that, you know, community college was a good steppingstone for me. And I think the more that we see ourselves in the student body and see what community college can do for us, then the more people will be willing to learn about it and give it a chance. I also think kind of culturally, it's important for educators to remember that, you know, many of the Asian cultures and other cultures as well, but for sure, Asian cultures teach respect for elders. And teachers and education often are revered as very wise people. And so they have a lot of power, they have a lot of power over students. Whether they want it or not is not even a question, they have it. And so they have the power to both do good for students and empower students to inspire

students. But they also have a lot of power to harm students, right? And so I hope that educators know that when they speak to students, that their words will linger with students. And to do good with that and that students have competing demands, right? Because family is very family and community are really important to students that sometimes school ends up being a back burner and that family is something that is most important. I think that it's not because they don't care, it's just because there's a lot going on. And so to care for our students as humans, right, that have a lot going on and not to hold it against them as humans just because they can't complete a class, you know?

Dr. Gonzales

I love that. So flexibility is not a choice, but a necessity, really.

Dr. Tran

Yeah.

Dr. Gonzales

Thank you for sharing that. And please thank your dad for showing you the way to community colleges. I also want to make sure that I acknowledge your comment about information. You know, that was a big inspiration during this pandemic for us to redo our website and really think through with new state resources on how we better engage students to create one single stop where Californians can get all information that they need, whether it's career exploration, as you mentioned, where, you know, you're just trying to figure out what it is that you want to do, to how you transfer to a UC or CSU or four year institution, to what kind of financial aid is out there. And I know I'm really happy to share that not only do we have a single website, but you can also find all information about new resources. Our colleges now have food pantries and you can go there and bring your entire family. And then with new state investments, our colleges also offer mental health resources. And so that website is called ICanGoToCollege.com and honoring this month we launched a new language version so we already had it in English, in Spanish and Chinese and Vietnamese. This May we are opening it up in Korean and none of these language options existed before, and I think that's something beautiful that came out of the pandemic innovation.

Dr. Tran

That's so wonderful to hear.

Dr. Gonzales

Dr. Tran, I know I heard you talk a lot about faculty. You're a faculty member, but I love asking this question as we head towards the end of our podcast. Can you name one person from your California community college experience that you want to think publicly and tell us why?

Dr. Tran

I'm going to name two because I can't.

Dr. Gonzales

That's very common, by the way.

Dr. Tran

But I would love to thank Dr. Dina Miyoshi and Dr. Jay Van Kirk. They are the two Asian women psychology professors that I took classes with, and I think about them all the time. I know they still teach there. They are the people who showed me that psychology was cool and they showed me that I could be a professor of psychology, and they made it possible. They really showed me that that path existed and I am so grateful that I landed in their class and that they were the women who inspired me. And I owe a great deal to having been in their classes 20 plus years ago.

Dr. Gonzales

Thank you for sharing that. We honor them today and every day. And I'm. Thank you. I can't wait to send them this podcast with a special note.

Dr. Tran

Oh, yes.

Dr. Gonzales

Thank you. You know, the other question that I added to finish up our podcast was a request of students. After a few episodes, they wanted to know from our alums, so this is for you Dr. Tran. Every student journey is unique, so we know that. But what are your words of advice or encouragement to that community college student but maybe in particular API students who may be listening to you right now?

Dr. Tran

I thought a lot about this. I feel like if you're coming up through the system, I hope that you'll take a moment and find a goal that makes sense for you and chase it and then ask how every teacher and school that you land in, how can they help you to get that goal and ask them specifically, what do you need to do to make that happen? Right? Knowing that you may not have the skills that you need to have right now to pass the classes you need. But what are the skills and what are the classes? What are the things that you need to know? Right? Make them hold high expectations of you and know that you can meet them, but make them help you get there, right? Like make them be a part of your journey, right? The timing might not be right. There may be a lot going on in your life, and that's okay.

It doesn't need to be right now. But where there's a will there, there has to be a way and you have to stay committed to the process. Right? And know that if you just keep sticking to the process and that you will be real about what you're capable of and that you will bring people onto the journey with you, that you will get there. It'll just take time, right? But one step at a time. And don't let people lowball you when it comes to skills and knowledge. You deserve all skills and all the knowledge. You don't need them to lower the bar for you. You are deserving of knowing the knowledge that they have and the skills that they are teaching other people. And don't lowball yourself, you're capable of this. It just might take a different timeline or a different period of your life, but you're capable of doing it. So find the people who want to support you in that process and you'll get there.

Dr. Gonzales

That's very powerful. Dr. Tran. Well, this is the end of our podcast. I want to thank you Dr. Tran. What a meaningful way to honor Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and thank you for sharing your expertise in the area of mental health.

Dr. Tran

Thank you so much for having me.

Dr. Gonzales

I hope that you enjoyed learning about Dr. Tran and her journey. Thank you so much for joining us for another episode of the California Community College's Chancellors Office podcast.

Announcer

Be sure to join us for the next California Community College's podcast. This has been a California Community College's presentation.