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May 11, 2020: Grants for Students, SMC's 2020 Valedictorian, Giving Tuesday Results

Saint Mary's College of California

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Saint Mary's College has received funding for federal emergency grants through the CARES Act and will be distributing grants to students beginning this week. The purpose of the federal emergency grants is to help students cover some of the costs of transitioning from in-person to online learning, as required by Contra Costa County and the State of California in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

All eligible students who have completed a 2019–2020 FAFSA application and provided the required documentation will receive an emergency grant award between $200 and $750 based upon need. Students do not have to apply for the grants, and the funding for the grants will be available beginning this week.
take any action. For all eligible students, both undergraduate and graduate, we will post a credit to their account and within the week will generate a payment in the same amount. Read More

Casey Weider Named 2020 Class Valedictorian

Casey Weider ’20 has been named the 2020 Class valedictorian. Weider was drawn to the College for its great academics, but he was also looking for a special community of faculty and students. Read More

Seniors: Submit your info to the Class of 2020 today! Learn more about Commencement plans here.

Prof. Costanza Dopfel Wins NEH Grant

Although Department of Modern Languages Prof. Costanza Gislon Dopfel, PhD, studies topics related to the 1300s through 1500s in Florence, Italy, in some ways her work could not be more relevant, which may account for her recently being awarded the competitive National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Stipend for her research. Read More

SEBA Students Pitch Plans to Help Antioch

Saint Mary’s School of Economics and Business Administration (SEBA) is once again taking to task important research and study to provide recommended solutions to a business challenge faced by a neighboring municipality. The City of Antioch—the second largest city in Contra Costa County—and the Antioch Chamber of Commerce joined forces with the Saint Mary’s
Center for the Regional Economy to seek ways to improve an economically depressed commercial corridor in the city. [Read More]

SMC Community Gives Back in Time of Need

On May 5, our Saint Mary's community joined people around the world for #GivingTuesdayNow, a global day of giving created as an emergency response to the hardships caused by COVID-19. Our Gael family supported our students by making 138 gifts to the President's Emergency Fund, raising $17,525. Since launching in late March, the fund has raised $121,356. Donors also supported our student-athletes through gifts to the Galloping Gaels Fund totaling more than $38,900.

Please consider becoming an advocate and sharing our President's Emergency Fund campaign to continue increasing our efforts to help every Gael in need!

Students: If you are currently enrolled in an academic degree program at Saint Mary's College, you are eligible to apply for emergency assistance from the President's Emergency Fund. [Apply Now]

Join the Choir Spring Concert Online Thursday

Enjoy Saint Mary's Glee Club and Chamber Singers as they preview classical and pop choral songs on Thurs., May 14 at 8 p.m. Help them fundraise for the World Choir Games Competition Tour in Belgium in 2021. [Read More]
**Library Helps At-Home Students Succeed, Plus Pre-Finals Help**

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented distance-learning challenges to many students, but the Saint Mary's Library has been going above and beyond to ensure students have access to resources to help them succeed. “We are still here, just as much as we have always been here,” said Dean of the Library and Academic Resources Lauren MacDonald. [Read More]

**Interfaith Service for Faith on Wed. May 13**

Please gather as a community of faith for a virtual **Interfaith Service for Hope** on **Wednesday, May 13, at 1 p.m. (#gaels4hope)** on Instagram Live@smcmmc. Leading up to this Interfaith Service, the Mission and Ministry team has been sharing glimpses of how members of our SMC community are finding and cultivating hope in the places they are sheltering in place. Check out these inspiring videos and photos on Instagram (smcmmc), Facebook (Saint Mary's College Mission and Ministry Center), and Twitter (@smcmmc)! [Read More]

**MFA Professors Suggest Summer Reading**

During the stay-at-home order, we asked the MFA in the Creative Writing Program to share book recommendations for the SMC community. With subjects ranging from eating to astrophysics, there's something to interest everyone. [Read More]

**CAPS Presents Stress Management Fair**

CAPS is hosting a virtual stress management fair on Wed., May 13, from 1 to 2 p.m. to help with finals and more. Enjoy pet therapy, trivia, a conversation about stress reduction, and a gratitude practice. [Read More]

**View - Where's Gideon?**
Gideon has been safely getting a little exercise while sheltering in place. Check him out playing volleyball! Watch Now

This Week on Virtual Campus
(Please check Events for changes.)

- 5/12 - BA in Leadership & Organizational Studies Information Session (On...)
- 5/12 - Staff Council General Meeting
- 5/12 - Information Session: MS in Management & Technology (ONLINE)
- 5/13 - SDS Virtual Open Office Hours
- 5/13 - Stress Management Fair--VIA ZOOM!!!
- 5/13 - Student Involvement & Leadership Virtual Office Hours
- 5/13 - Interfaith Service for Hope - #Gaels4Hope
- 5/13 - Dinner & Discipleship - Together Online!
- 5/13 - Saint Mary’s Project | Bringing Jobs to Antioch: Project Presenta...
- 5/13 - Information Session: Executive Doctorate in Business Administration...
- 5/14 - QUOTABLE CONFUCIUS
- 5/14 - Administrative Services Credential Online Session
- 5/14 - Information Session: Executive MBA (ONLINE)
- 5/14 - Information Session: Global Executive MBA (ONLINE)
- 5/14 - VIRTUAL Video: Choir Spring Concert
- 5/16 - VIRTUAL Video: Choir Spring Concert
- 5/18 - Financial Aid Webinar "How to Pay for Grad School: Before, During...

Events | Student Organizations Activities

Religious Services
8 p.m. Sunday Mass Live Online With Fr. Hai Ho, OFM Cap '03, Facebook Live
De La Salle Reflection

- For the week of May 11

Go Gaels - Senior Spotlight

Softball | Seniors Chew, McCoy to Return Next Season
Saint Mary's softball head coach Sonja Garnett and her staff are pleased to announce the return of two seniors to next year's team, Hannah Chew and Eryn McCoy. The two students-athletes are among 14 SMC seniors who will be welcomed back and have their scholarship renewed for a fifth season in light of the COVID-19 situation. Read More

Did You Know?
Gael Pantry Introduces #FoodPantryFridays

During this uncertain time, we want to ignite our community with something fun, interactive, and creative to look forward to each week. We are announcing Gael Pantry's #FoodPantryFriday. Every Friday, you can look forward to a video and/or a recipe from a member of our SMC community. Or make your own video! Read More and Watch New Videos!