



Nov. 20, 2018

Colleagues:

As we come together this week with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving, I'm reminded of the most important things I'm thankful for on a daily basis. I am truly blessed to have a wonderful family both at home and at work.

Since returning to Palo Alto College, I've been fortunate to work with so many of you as we've come together to celebrate some incredible achievements, including our site visit as a finalist for the 2019 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and our record-breaking \$1,000,000 in committed scholarships for students, faculty, and staff at this year's *¡Una Nueva Celebración!*

Additionally, last week's announcement of the Alamo Colleges District family being named one of five recipients for the 2018 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award is a testament to the collaborative work we all have done across our system to achieve excellence in leadership, process improvement, and innovation.

It's important to acknowledge these achievements because it reinforces the work every single one of you do each day, and that work is proved in our students' success. With a record high of 1,713 degrees and certificates awarded in the 2017-2018 academic year, we can see the impact we're making to change lives in south San Antonio.

We offer more than just a degree or certificate. What we're doing is providing hope, opportunity, and the ability for our students to build a long-lasting foundation for a prosperous career.

Thank you for all you do. Palo Alto College wouldn't be the incredible place it is without each of your talents, and I'm honored to once again be a part of the Palo Alto College family.

In service and PAC proud,

Robert Garza, Ph.D.
President of Palo Alto College



ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT
Palo Alto College

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