



## A Message from Dr. Bennett

It feels good to have the campus open again, even with a smaller number of on-ground classes. It's nice to see students attending classes, walking across campus, studying in the open labs, and participating in athletics. However, as you know, we are still monitoring COVID-19 in our region and following our protocols to minimize the number of positive Covid cases on our campus. This semester continues to be challenging on many levels, so I want to thank everyone for continuing to support students and for being flexible with the ever-changing rules and regulations. We will continue to keep you updated through our regular Town Hall meetings and Friday updates.

### Board of Trustees Approved Vaccine Mandate for State Center Community College District

On August 23, 2021, the Board of Trustees voted to mandate vaccines for students, employees, contractors, and visitors effective October 15, 2021. On September 24, 2021, the Board of Trustees also passed resolution 2021.36 which extended the vaccine mandate effective date for students to November 15, 2021. The resolution also allows specific exemptions for athletic competitions and student performance events. The colleges and district services groups are working together to implement the details of this policy.

Save the  
Date!

**Giving Tuesday this year will be on  
Tuesday, November 30th!**

### All Are Welcome Here Sign



You may have noticed our beautiful "All Are Welcome Here" sign displayed at the entryways of the buildings. There is one that is overhanging at the top of the AC1 entrance building, so make sure to look up the next time you walk through the double doors! I am excited for our students to also see these signs because it affirms our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and that all are truly welcome at Clovis Community College!

## CCC New Strategic Plan 2021-2025 Approved

At the July Board of Trustees meeting, the Board adopted Clovis Community College Strategic Plan 2021-2025. The CCC Strategic Plan 2021-2025 is the result of college-wide collaboration to create a plan that focuses on achieving the Institutional Goals outlined in our CCC Educational Master Plan and aligns with the District Mission and Overarching Goals outlined in the District Strategic Plan 2020-2024.

The Strategic Plan translates the board goals developed in the Clovis Community College Educational Master Plan 2017-2027 into specific actions that will advance the college and support student success over the next four years. It also supports current statewide community college initiatives including Vision for Success, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Guided Pathways, and the important connection between instruction and student services to increase student completion.



**Clovis hosted a mobile vaccine event on September 9th and September 30th for employees and students. On both days, close to 40 people received a vaccine shot.**

## Clovis Community Welcomes New Students on Campus

By Emilee Slater



Clovis invited new and returning students to campus for two exciting in-person events at the end of July.

Crush Days is Clovis' new student welcome event where incoming students are invited to learn about helpful topics that will prepare them for the fall semester such as textbooks, Canvas, WebAdvisor, technology checkout, parking, financial aid, and more. Staff, students, and faculty greeted over 300 students and parents throughout the four sessions on July 27 and 29. After a warm welcome from President Bennett and VP Chahal, students took part in an information session

designed to cover the details that would ensure a smooth transition to the college. Student Ambassadors then led attendees on a campus tour, pointing out classrooms and service areas. Crush Day concluded with a resource fair where students had an opportunity to learn more about programs at CCC, ask additional questions, receive technology help, and get their Crush Cards. As a final farewell, students were given their first Clovis Crush shirt to officially welcome them to our community! Crush Days continued throughout the week of August 2-6 with virtual workshops and information sessions for students who wish to participate online.



Students were also invited to attend an in-person Extreme Registration where new, current, and returning students could complete all of their matriculation steps in one event. Over 185 students were served on July 30 and 31 by representatives from Outreach, Student Activities, Financial Aid, Counseling, and Admissions and Records. These events were a continuation of the virtual Extreme Registration Wednesdays held throughout June and July. Many students came with their parents and other supporters to enroll in in-person, online, and hybrid classes. Clovis staff were excited to help brand-new students from application to registration in the Open Computer Lab, a new location that allowed all services to be housed in one area – a true one-stop-shop!



## Opening Day

By Bonnie Boonthavongkham



At our Opening Day on August 5th, over 200 employees attended via Zoom and in person! Chancellor Houston started the morning with an inspiring and encouraging presentation for the college to keep persevering even in times of distress because at the end of darkness is light and beauty. The day's highlights included speeches from the new Associated Student Government officers, President Bennett's college goals presentation, and three interactive breakout sessions. President Bennett also honored the Custodian Department with this year's Crush Award for their hard work and dedication in keeping the college safe and sanitized during the pandemic.

**Lunches  
with Lori**

**October 13th at 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.;**  
**November 10th at 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

## Applied Tech Building Updates

By Lorrie Hopper

The Applied Technology Phase 1 project was released for bid on September 20, 2021. Bids are due back in mid-November. We anticipate taking the recommendation to award the project to the Board of Trustees in December 2021 or January 2022. After board approval to award, we resubmit the information to the California Community College Chancellor's Office for authorization to award the bid. This can take 30-60 days. If all stays on schedule, we anticipate groundbreaking on the new building to occur in March or April of 2022. Completion of the project is expected in fall of 2023.

## Equity Leadership Alliance Update

By Stephanie Babb

Clovis was excited to participate in the California Community College Equity Leadership Alliance hosted by the University of Southern California (USC) Race and Equity Center. Over the last year, the Alliance held 12 training sessions and a variety of CCC employees attended the sessions including managers, faculty, and classified professionals. The sessions provided timely information, best practices and discussion related to our diversity, equity, and inclusion goals. We will continue to incorporate these ideas into our professional development plans.

## CRUSH Athletics Update

By Stephanie Babb

Crush athletics returns for the 2021-2022 academic year. The fall semester opens with men's soccer, women's soccer, and cross-country programs. Swim and dive and outdoor track will begin in January. Competition schedules for all sports can be found on the Go Clovis Crush website. Go Crush!!



**Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated in September and October! Our campus hosted a variety of events to honor the contributions of the Hispanic and Latin American communities including a presentation Examining Latinidad at the Crossroads of Race, Culture, and COVID-19 from Dr. Michael Benitez Jr. on September 28th.**

## **Featured – Deans of the College**

By Jake Alanjian-Rosenbery



The Dean's Office serves as the executive arm of all academic and student services aspects of the college. The college has three Deans of Instruction: Dr. John Forbes, Dr. James Ortez, and (Interim Dean) Pamm Zierfuss-Hubbard, and two Deans of Student Services: Gurdeep Hébert and Kira Tippins. The deans oversee the administration and organization of faculty and staff across campus and provide support for student success and achievement. They play a key role in managing the daily operations of the college. The deans are proud of the role they play to help the college offer students the best services and programs available.

## **Inspiring the next generation of scientists through Genomics Data Science research projects and “Science Talks” at Clovis Community College**

By Dr. Rosa Alcazar

Dr. Rosa Alcazar, in collaboration with Dr. Stephanie Coffman, Dr. Malachi Whitford, and partners at Johns Hopkins University, Carnegie Science and Stanford School of Medicine, has developed a Research in Genomics Biol-12 course for our students at Clovis Community College (<https://www.cloviscollege.edu/datascience>). This multi-institutional group of scientists and educators hope their efforts enhance a STEM identity and broaden participation from populations underrepresented in data science.

Biol-12 is a taste of what it's like to be a genomics data scientist, providing students access to tools found at research institutions and primarily to upper-level students: instruction in genomics, current datasets, cloud computing tools, high quality R tutorials, interactions with scientists, and an opportunity to pursue authentic research questions and share findings.

Dr. Alcazar has opened “Science Talks”, guest speakers within the Biol-12 course, to all interested students regardless of their academic path. On Sept 16th, neuroscientist from Johns Hopkins University Dr. Lindsay Hayes gave her science talk on “Prenatal immune stress induces a diminished immune activation in the brain that impacts neural circuit connectivity” and on Sept 23rd Dr. Matt McCoy from Stanford School of Medicine presented on “The role of gene complexity in the evolution and function of nervous systems”. Both scientists were available for an “Ask Me Anything” session and this was followed by a genomics data science activity in RStudio, tailored specifically for Biol-12 students. Two more talks are currently being scheduled for this semester and an announcement will soon be released.



**The annual college-wide planning retreat is postponed until spring.  
Watch for details next semester.**

## **Academic Senate New Officers**

President – Cynthia Elliott

Vice President – Galin Dent

Past President – Liz Romero

Secretary – Melanie Sanwo

Curriculum Chair – Jennifer Hanson

Academic Senate Senators: OTE Senators – Erin Dolin & Broke Ramos, Science Senator – Nader Inan & Rosa Alcazar, Humanities Senator – Max Hembd & Janice Ledgerwood, Student Services Senator – Laura Gonzales & Naomi Forey, English Senator – Jaclyn Rowlyn & Cody Hoover, Social Science Senator – Diane Schoenburg & Laurie Taylor, Math Senator – Jason Gardner & Vi Trang, Adjunct Senator – Christopher Greenwood & Anthony Ratkus

## **Classified Senate New Executive Committee**

President – Caryss Johnson

Vice President – Emily Wilson

Treasurer – Alyssa Talbot

Secretary – Debbie Jensen

Classified Senate Senators: A&R/Counseling/Special Programs – Nanci Sumaya, Facilities – Cathy Ostos, Instruction Services – Houa Xiong, Financial Aid/Library/Veterans – Cindy Quintanilla, Business/Administrative Services & HC Facilities – Shannon Brownell, President's Office/Tech/PIO/IR – Jason Mendez, Student Services & Activities – Teira Wilson, At-Large – Leslie King

## **Associated Student Government New Executive Committee**

President – Samantha Jimenez

Vice President – Yeneth Perez-Rodriguez

Vice President of Finance – Diego Hernandez

Vice President of External Affairs – Sara Amin

Secretary – Jacob Esquivel

Inter Club Council President – Andrew Arboleda

Senator – Bradley Kennedy



**CHIPOTLE**  
MEXICAN GRILL

Classified Senate hosted a successful Chipotle fundraiser on September 14th raising nearly \$200 in student scholarships!!

## **CCC Accomplishments**

At the June board meeting, the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges (CEOCCC) Board reelected President Bennett as Vice President for the Northern Region.

Congratulations to Teira Wilson and Jake Alanjian-Rosenbery for receiving their master's degree.

Clovis Community College has been awarded the NSF Improving Undergraduate STEM Education grant!

Congratulations to Dr. Michelle Selvans, who worked alongside Fresno State colleagues to obtain the grant. Their project title is "GP-UP: Building Opportunities through Networks of Discovery in the Geosciences (GEOBOND)."

Congratulations Dr. Michelle Selvans for being a co-author of a published article titled "Mercury's Crystal Thickness and Contractual Strain," and Kara Allen for publishing her first children's book called *Forever Home: A Dog's Tail*.

Susan Yates was honored by the California Community College Athletic Directors Association (CCCADA) at its annual convention in Lake Tahoe on July 1. Susan worked for over 40 years in the athletic arena and retired last year from CCC in her role as Athletic Director. Susan played a significant role in developing the athletics program at CCC.

## Scholarship Award Ceremony Recap



The Scholarship Award Ceremony video premiered on Friday, September 10, 2021. The video highlighted all our hard-working scholarship recipients and how they are so appreciative to receive the award that will help them in their educational pursuit. A big Thank You to our Graphic Designer, Jason Mendez for working so hard on the video. Also, thank you to Patrick Stumpf, Liz Flores and Stephanie Babb for lending their voices to read each recipient.

## Congratulations to our Newly Tenured Faculty



**Rosa Alcazar**  
Biology Instructor



**Jordan Anderson**  
Chemistry Instructor



**Stacy McArron**  
Articulation Officer



**Robyn Nearn**  
Biology Instructor

## Welcome New Employees

Nellene Benhardus – English Instructor  
Sandy Brown - Business Instructor  
Amy Danowitz – Chemistry Instructor  
Gerald Eisman – Psychology Instructor  
Michelle Fabros – Psychology Instructor (1 Year Temp)  
Tasha Johnson – Counselor, TRiO  
Brianda Lauro - Communications (1 Year Temp)  
Ryan Shirey – Chemistry (1 Year Temp)  
Rebekah Villalta – Biology Instructor (1 Year Temp)  
Karen Walters – Biology Instructor (1 Year Temp)  
Nathan Wensko – Communication Instructor  
Malachi Whitford – Biology Instructor (1 Year Temp)  
Manizheh Zand – Engineering Instructor

Justina Alvarado – Administrative Assistant, Dean of Students  
Kimberly Duong – Business Manager  
Elizabeth Flores – Program Assistant, Student Activities  
Heather Golden – Program Assistant, CalWORKs  
Diego Hernandez – Job Developer  
Andrew Ho – Network Administrator (Promotion)  
Moises Jauregui – Custodian  
Angel Magdaleno – Custodian  
Anna-Marie Miller – Office Specialist, TRiO  
Jeanette Quiroz – Financial Aid Specialist  
Robert Salinas – Alternate Media Specialist  
Emilee Slater – Director of Outreach  
Riely Wasson – Custodian  
Amy Yocupicio – Outreach Specialist



**October is National Breast  
Cancer Awareness Month and  
Health Awareness Month!**



# Important Dates

## October

October 5	Board of Trustees Meeting
October 8	Last Day to drop a full-term class
October 8	Men's Soccer – Home
October 11 – Dec 10	Short-Term classes, second nine weeks
October 12	Town Hall
October 12	Women's Soccer – Home
October 13	Lunch with Lori
October 13	Rocktoberfest
October 15	Men's Soccer – Home
October 18 - 22	Undocumented Week of Action
October 19	Men's Soccer – Home
October 25 - 29	Día de los Muertos Ofrendas
October 26	Town Hall
October 26	Men's Soccer – Home
October 27	Harvest Fest Club Rush
October 29	Men's Soccer - Home

## November

November 2	Board of Trustees Meeting
November 4	Museum of Tolerance Virtual Event
November 9	Town Hall
November 10	Lunch with Lori
November 10	Veteran's Event
November 9	Men's Soccer - Home
November 11	Veterans Day observed (no classes held, campus closed)
November 12	Women's Soccer – Home
November 23	Thanksgiving Pantry Food Giveaway at Herndon Campus
November 25-26	Thanksgiving holiday (no classes held, campus closed)
November 30	Giving Tuesday



## College-wide Town Hall Meetings and Weekly Update Letter:

During the Spring semester, Town Halls will be held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. via Zoom. Zoom information will be provided through the college email. President's Weekly Updates will be sent on alternating Fridays.

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