

President's Newsletter

Janurary-February 2022 Volume 6 - Issue 1



A Message from Dr. Bennett

Welcome to the spring 2022 semester! I hope you had a restful break. It is hard to believe that two years ago we started spring semester not knowing that we would need to move all our classes online later that semester due to a new virus called Covid-19. This semester, we start our third year of working and living with this virus and it is not over yet. The safety protocols we have put in place over the last couple of years have helped minimize the spread of Covid on our campus and we will continue to make decisions that support a safe working and learning environment while we work to bring back more on-campus classes. Thank you for your continued dedication to our students and each other. We will get through this together!

Champion of Higher Education Fourth Year in a Row



Once again, Clovis Community College earned statewide and national recognition for its outstanding student equity work and transfer rates. For the fourth consecutive year, the Campaign for College Opportunity named CCC a "2021 Champion of Higher Education" for its exemplary work in implementing the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT). CCC is consistently one of the top performers in the state for the number of ADTs awarded, relative to campus enrollment (per 50 full-time equivalent students in 2019-20). In a new category this year, CCC was also named a "2021 Equity Champion of Higher Education" for its exemplary work in awarding Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT) to Latinx students.

CCC Acknowledged by the Aspen Institute

The Aspen Institute announced its list of 150 community colleges nationwide that are eligible to compete for the 2023 Aspen Prize. Clovis Community College was selected for this honor from 1,000 community colleges across the nation based on our strong student outcomes. The Aspen Institute webpage states that the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, awarded every two years, is the nation's signature recognition for America's community colleges." Clovis Community College is proud to join this prestigious group of community colleges that demonstrate improved student outcomes in key areas including retention, completion, transfer, and equity. We have submitted our application to compete and now will wait to hear the announcement regarding finalists.



5th Annual #GivingTuesday Exceeds Goal

By Stephanie Babb



Giving Tuesday was a tremendous success! Students, staff, faculty, administrators, and community members raised approximately \$28,400.00 that will go towards student scholarships and the Crush Food Pantry. CCC's goal was to raise \$25,000.00, and we quickly reached it with the generous match-donations from Foundation Board Members Gina Cuttone and Shawn Patty; Gus and Greti Bonner; and the Bonner Foundation. Thank you, everyone, for giving this year! Your contributions help our students reach their educational goals.

Crush Food Pantry Holiday Giveaway



On Tuesday, December 21, the Crush Food Pantry held its holiday meal giveaway at the Herndon Campus. Students received a preassorted meal along with a \$50.00 Save Mart gift card. Assemblyman Jim Patterson donated \$1000.00 which allowed us to serve even more students. We truly appreciate our students and wanted to spread the holiday cheer so our students can enjoy a delicious holiday meal with their families.



New Fresno DRIVE Initiative

Clovis Community College is participating in the Fresno DRIVE Initiative's Fresno-Merced Region's Future of Food (F3) Innovation Proposal to the U.S. Department of Commerce. Our region's application is one of only three to receive the state's endorsement. The U.S. Dept. of Commerce's Build Back Better Regional Challenge (BBBRC) is designed to assist communities nationwide in their efforts to accelerate economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and scale local economic to be more resilient to future economic shocks. The funding program is focused on "transformational economic development strategies that create and grow 'regional growth clusters." Regions selected will be eligible for grants up to \$100 million. The Region's F3 proposal includes project development work by 40 regional and community partners from the Central Valley, State Center, West Hills, and Merced community college districts are joining forces with industry partners to launch a workforce collaborative that advances contract training and educational opportunities for local farm and food system workers to benefit from the higher paying jobs of today and the future.



"FAX Bus Route 3 represents a part of the past, present, and future of Clovis Community College. Advocating for a bus to our college was a multi-year effort with students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators, and trustees working collectively to bring public transit to one of the most northern points in the city of Fresno. When someone rides on Route 3, they ride on a bus line that gives them access to a portal of hope, education, and freedom for themselves and future generations to come," Von Torres, English Instructor, Clovis Community College

Applied Tech Building and Easement Update

By Bonnie Boonthavongkham



At their December meeting, the Board of Trustees approved awarding the bid to Bernards Brothers construction company to build our new Applied Tech building. The project will be submitted to the California Community College Chancellor's Office for authorization to award the bid. We anticipate breaking ground later this semester.

The Board also adopted Resolution 2021.35 Conveyance of Pedestrian Easements to the City of Fresno, Clovis Community College at the November Board of Trustees Meeting. The easement will allow for a new access road and parking expansion which will help provide adequate parking and traffic flow to the campus as the new Applied

Tech building is constructed. The design is completed and awaiting final approval from the City of Fresno. Upon final approval, the project will be released for bid, recommended to the Board of Trustees, and proceed to construction.

Athletics Update

By Pamm Zierfuss-Hubbard



Clovis Athletics fared well during the Fall 2021 competition season. Women's soccer finished the season with an overall 14-5-2 record moving into regional playoffs. After winning the Round 1 game vs. West Valley, they lost to Folsom Lake College in round 2. The team continues to receive accolades with post-season awards to Karyme Hernandez (Forward of the Year) and Angie Pertrakis (Goalkeeper of the Year). Additionally, three studentathletes made first team all-conference (Maicee Espinoza, Audrey Reyna, and Amanda Avila) and three studentathletes made second team all-conference (Valeria Quintero, Jordyne Puentes, and Alexz Wheaton). Men's soccer finished the season with an overall record of 7-10-4; six student-athletes received all-conference accolades with Ryan Rosas (Defender of the Year), Tyler

Ferguson, Saul Castillo, and Ryan Rosas (first team all-conference), and Raul Garcia, Julio Moran, and Jose Rivera (second team all-conference). The men's Cross-Country program finished in 17th place at State to wrap up the season. Cross country women finished the season with their highest showing in program history finishing in fourth place overall at the CCCAA State Championships.

Accreditation Update

By Jeff Burdick

College Council, along with all the constituency groups, approved the final draft of our Accreditation Midterm report to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). The Board of Trustees will review the report in January. Once approved by the Board of Trustees, we will send the final report to the ACCJC. The report is due in early March.

On April 22, from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., ALL members of the college community are encouraged to attend a virtual training, presented by an ACCJC representative on the accreditation process and the new procedures.

The next steps include educating the college to the standards and practices required for our next ISER, conducting a gap analysis to be sure that Clovis Community College is meeting the current standards of ACCJC, and organizing the timeline and establishing methodology for completing our next accreditation cycle.

Guided Pathways Update

By Liz Romero

Guided Pathways has been busy this semester working on our four ad hocs. The ad hoc groups are Mapping, Crush Completion or Success Teams, Identify/Discover the Barriers, and Talk the Path (communicating out what's going on in the world of Guided Pathways). Nina Roby has been working on website design, which is almost finished. Jason Mendez developed brilliant graphics for the pathways that the team hopes to share with the college soon. The team is meeting with a variety of groups on campus to share the guided pathways plan and is interested in receiving feedback from everyone.

clovis community College 2020-2021 Institutional Effectiveness Report Presed by the Office of Institutional Research, Plenning, and Effectiveness

Institutional Effectiveness Report 2020-2021 is now posted on the college website!

Title V Update

By Stephanie Briones

Title V is in its second year! We've had great success thus far and are excited to share the progress in Year 2! Year 1 allowed us to finalize all our Key Leads positions. A special THANK YOU to the Title V team (Rosa Alcazar-Research Symposium Coordinator, Julie Butchert and Mee Miranda-Counseling and Financial Literacy, Shawn Fleming-STEM Faculty Coordinator, Diego Hernandez- Job Developer, and Gabby Ramirez- Student Success Coach) for a job well done.

This past summer the team hosted the first "STEM Exploration Academy (S.E.A.)" for Clovis Unified incoming 11th grade students. The group had a great time getting college ready and developing decisions about STEM majors



and careers in the future. Here is a picture of our inaugural group of "Summer at S.E.A. students. Thanks to Teresa Ishigaki, our STEM tutors, and STEM Peer Mentors for all their help this summer.

During Fall 2021, the team had many successful student developments. There are two Canvas resources for students. From Counseling there is a STEM resource page to access information about STEM majors, events, and student support resources. STEM Faculty in the Professional Learning Community are creating a STEM Study Skills course that can be accessed by all STEM faculty to best prepare students for success in STEM courses. Job Development has hosted several workshops designed to help students with resume building and interview skills. Recently, St. Agnes hosted a recruiting workshop to explain job opportunities specifically for Clovis Community College students interested in careers in the health field. Students asked insightful questions about future job and career opportunities. In total, over 100 students have attended workshop or classroom presentations.

Upcoming Title V events in Spring 2022 include a Title V Flex Day Presentation, STEM Speaker series, Job and Internship Fair, Research Symposium and STEM Day, and "Summer at SEA" Cohort 2.

Featured Department – Geology Department

By Michelle Selvans



The Geology Program serves our geoscience majors, future engineers and K-5 teachers, and students taking their physical science transfer course. We offer several sections of our Physical Geology and Introduction to Earth Science courses each term and draw on students' diverse interests and experiences to make the most of learning about the Earth together. We teach on the historical homeland of the Yokuts, and during field trips on lands long inhabited by Mono and Miwok tribes as well.

Students learn to think critically about environmental problems and natural hazards specific to the Central Valley, like soil and groundwater quality and management, earthquake and volcanic activity throughout California, and local effects of climate change. By the end of a Geology course, students can use their

own scientific analysis and research skills to share an in depth understanding of one aspect of the Earth - including how their communities are impacted by, and have an impact on, the landscape or process they choose to focus on. We are proud of every student in our classes, for the multifaceted lives they balance and manage and juggle, while still showing up to learn about and discuss whatever most fascinates them about the Earth.

The Geology Program also gets the Clovis Community College community thinking more about the Earth at events like Rocktoberfest (pictured), where we brought out California rocks and an earthquake shakeboard - which a few students and staff made buildings to withstand! We engage in outreach to the wider community as well by lending materials and expertise to Clovis Unified School District classrooms and homeschool groups. An exciting partnership with Fresno State colleagues is focused on creating shared learning activities and connecting students with geoscience career paths, in part through development of project-based learning activities around local community-based environmental research and justice work.

Academic Senate

By Cynthia Elliott

The Academic Senate of Clovis wrapped up their election of executive council officers on Friday, December 3. This election was the first to be online, with amazing participation by both full-time and adjunct electors. The Senate approved two ad hoc committees for this semester: Defining the role of Lead Faculty and Describing the New Normal. Also, the Senate approved an advisory committee for Open Educational Resource to create, collate, and communicate the availability of free textbooks, CANVAS modules, and software programs for students, faculty, and staff as a part of the college's application for OER funds. The executive council decided on the winners of the TnT Awards to be announced at a January meeting. Additionally, senators and faculty participated in Giving Tuesday and donated to the Academic Senate Scholarship. Our Academic Senate President, Cynthia Elliott, served on the recent selection committee for the Chancellor of SCCCD and wishes to congratulate Dr. Goldsmith on her advancement.

CCC Accomplishments

Jake Rosenbery, Office Specialist, completed the State Center Community College District Classified Leadership Academy. Dean Ortiz attended his graduation on December 3. For Jake, the Leadership Academy afforded him "the opportunity to meet a variety of leaders in the district, learn their background and their approach to the idea of being a leader. While the things learned and the takeaways are numerous, [his] favorite aspect of the program was simply the idea that you don't need to be a leader to lead."



New Employees & Promotions



Dr. Gregory South Interim Dean of Instruction - CTE



Ryan Feyk-Miney Director of Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness



Megan Zigler Athletic Trainer

Heather Hilscher Office Specialist

Yie Fun Tan **Budget Technician** (Part-Time)

Important Dates

January January 3

January 3	Campus re-opens after Winter Break
January 4-5	Extreme Registration 1:00 p.m 6:00 p.m.
January 6	Opening Day
January 7	Flex Day
January 7	Last day to add a full-term Spring 2022 through WebAdvisor
January 10	Start of Spring 2022 semester
January 10 - March 11	Short-term classes, first nine weeks
January 11	Board of Trustees Meeting
January 17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Holiday; Campus Closed
January 21	Last day to drop a Spring 2022 full-term class
January 25	Town Hall Meeting
January 30	Last day to drop a Spring 2022 full-term to avoid a 'W'

February

February 2	Board of Trustees Meeting
February 8	Town Hall Meeting
February 18	Lincoln Day- Holiday; Campus Closed
February 21	Washington Day – Holiday; Campus Closed
February 22	Town Hall Meeting

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.

Edited by: Bonnie Boonthavongkham Photographs & Graphics by: Jason Mendez



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