

## **President's Newsletter**

April 2018 Volume 2 - Issue 3



# A Message from Dr. Bennett

Happy April! I hope you had a restful Spring Break and holiday weekend. We are approaching the end of the semester, and there's much to celebrate. We had a great accreditation site visit in March and are now waiting on the ACCJC final report. The Commission meets in early June to review all the team reports, so we should hear feedback in late June/early July. Thank you again to everyone for working so hard to showcase our great work. As you may have heard, the District purchased the Guarantee Building in downtown Fresno, and will be moving all District Office personnel to that location. This move opens up space for Fresno City College to expand, opens up space at the Herndon Center for Clovis CC to expand, and helps State Center become more connected with the economic expansion of downtown Fresno. The new building will have a larger Board room and lots of parking. On a special note, I'd like give a shout out to Ann Brandon for her continuous effort to lead and support all of our On Course work. Ann and Kelly Fowler will be presenting at the national On Course conference this summer.

#### **President's Community Involvement (Strategic Goal 4.1.3)**

Over the last few months, I met with **CUSD Superintendent Dr. Eimear O'Farrell** to discuss the Central Valley Promise. She was excited to hear that CUSD students will be eligible for the promise starting in fall 2019. Along with a college team, I have continued to meet with several of the CUSD high school principals to discuss partnership opportunities.

I hosted a meeting with California Health Sciences University President, Flo Dunn, and Fresno Pacific University President, Dr. Joseph Jones to discuss ways to expand our partnerships and build focused pathways for our students.

A group of CCC representatives and I met with **Bitwise CEO, Jake Soberal**, and took a tour of their facilities. Bitwise is creating growth and job opportunities in our community, and we look forward to working more closely with them.

I also gave a presentation on our college activities to Clovis City Mayor, Bob Whalen, and the Clovis City Councilmembers. They expressed their strong support for Clovis Community College and thanked us for our work to support our community.

### Save-the-Date: Inaugural President's Breakfast

Clovis Community College will be hosting its first annual State of the College "Impact" breakfast the morning of September 19. We will invite community leaders and educational partners for an opportunity to learn about the new and exciting things going on at CCC and how we are partnering with our communities.

#### Reg-to-Go Update

The Outreach and Counseling Teams have been busy with Reg To Go (RTG). The teams have visited nearly 45 high schools to assist seniors with their matriculation steps.

#### **Classified Professional of the Year**

Congratulations to Nina Roby and Patrick Stumpf on being nominated for the Classified Professional of the Year Award! All nominees were recognized at this year's Classified Mega Conference on March 27 for their outstanding contributions to their colleges and the community. At the event, attendees heard from Habitat for Humanity Fresno County CEO Matthew Grundy. We truly appreciated his motivational keynote address.

#### **Rodeo Update**

Stephanie Babb and I were excited to meet with Clovis Rodeo President, Gary Bower, and Sponsorship Chair, Vince Genco. The college will be participating as a sponsor at this year's 104th rodeo, which will be held April 26 through April 29. ASG President Bryndis Arnarsdottir, CCC Student Trustee Damon Rapada, Dr. James Ortez, and I will be proudly representing the college in the parade on April 28. I hope you will come cheer for us!

Visit the Clovis Rodeo website at http://www.clovisrodeo.com/ww/ to learn about all of the pre-rodeo and main rodeo events in April starting with the Ranch Rodeo on April 7. This is a fun and family-friendly event for all to enjoy. The Clovis Rodeo gives back more than \$200,000 each year to local schools, service clubs and non-profit organizations in our community. We are fortunate to have such a community-oriented rodeo in Clovis.

#### Featured Department: Humanities, Health/PE, and Athletics



**(L-R):** Daniel Gutierrez, Kirtley King, Phillip Johnson, Dawn Hart, Tiffany Sarkisian, Stephanie Briones, Max Hembd, Stephen Dent, Michael Stannard. **Missing:** Becky Allen, Chad Bogosian, Anna Martinez, Nancy Vagim, Orlando Ramirez, Janice Ledgerwood

Inclusive of art, music, languages, communication, philosophy, and athletics/PE, the Humanities division often finds itself as a driver of culture across the college. From the art work displayed in our lobby/gallery, to live student performances and sporting events, many of the activities on campus that feature our students stem from the Humanities & Athletics department. And while study of the Humanities is one of the oldest academic pursuits, the department here at Clovis Community College has made it a point to embrace modern mediums. By including technology as a part of the curriculum, the department provides students with both the academic and career technical aspects of their fields. The faculty in the department consider the heart of their roles to be developing critical thinkers who are proud of themselves

as individuals while still respectful of diverse perspectives. They instill the value of practice and help students learn from their perceived failures.

It also is important to note that the full-time faculty who participated in the interview for this article emphasized the inclusion of adjunct faculty as instrumental in the department. They are a group who work together as a team, bouncing ideas around in order to provide the best education for our students.

#### **Academic Senate Update**

The Academic Senate has been looking at the Guided Pathways and having discussions on how to best deal with AB 705. Academic Senate Plenary is next week, and we will be looking at and voting on several resolutions. One of the resolutions that should invite a rich dialogue will be on communication with the Chancellors office and how to best implement changes on our campus to support AB 705. We should have some interesting dialogue once plenary is over.

#### **Associated Student Government Update**

- Started fundraising through selling Coke soda products (will sell these at Spring Extravaganza)
- Conducted club training and will hold an advisor training for clubs as well
- Preparing for our Spring Extravaganza which has been postponed until May 3
- Helped greatly with accreditation week and providing information/input to the ACCJC team
- Preparing for our ASG elections at the end of April

#### **Classified Senate Update**

Classified Senate will be selling Tacos during the rescheduled Spring Extravaganza. A special thank you to all administrators and managers for their continued support of classified staff attending the annual Classified Professional Mega Conference during spring break. It was an opportunity for district classified senate to network with others in the district and attend informative workshops. Patrick Stumpf and Nina Roby were both nominated for classified professional of the year. The Classified Senate in the planning stages with Ann Brandon to attend On Course training in the Fall. More details to come!

#### **Event Calendar**



April 12	Social Justice Series: Tim Wise	10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.	AC1-150
April 26	Employee Service Awards	2:00 p.m.	AC1-150
May 1	Board of Trustees Meeting	4:30 p.m.	OCCC
May 2	Social Justice Series: Yosimar Reyes	11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.	AC1-150
May 4	Speech Night	6:30 p.m.	AC1-150
May 18	Commencement	6:30 p.m.	CrossCity Church

#### Social Justice series

Students, staff and faculty are looking forward to the speakers presenting at the college this spring.



Tim Wise will speak on April 12 at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. He is one of the country's leading anti-racist writers and educators.



**Yosimar Reves** will speak in May 1 at 11:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. He is a nationally acclaimed queer poet and speaker.





