

President's Newsletter

August 2018 Volume 2 - Issue 4



A Message from Dr. Bennett

Welcome Back! It's great to have everyone back on campus. Summers are nice, but hallways full of students, faculty rushing off to classes, and student services folks busy providing support really make the college feel vibrant and full of energy. We ended last year with our largest commencement ceremony yet! 170 students participated and the venue was packed with friends and family members. Kudos to Gurdeep Hébert and her team* for the many planning hours and behind the scenes work that it took to organize this important event.

This fall, Extreme Registration rocked! 234 students attended the two-day event, registering for classes and filling out financial aid forms! Crush Days were also a success. Thank you to the entire student services team for coming together to help all these students navigate the system and get ready for the first week of school.

I would also like to acknowledge the Guided Pathways team**. They attended several workshops and met over the summer to develop our college Guided Pathways Plan. We will provide more details and an opportunity for college-wide input on Opening Day.

Lastly, we are changing up the agenda for Opening Day. Based on feedback, we are working to make it more interactive and relevant. We hope you like the new format and we look forward to seeing all you there.

- * Emalee Aguilar, Stephanie Babb, Ann Brandon, Shannon Brownell, Sasha Fisher, Emilie Gerety, Reynani Hawkins, Ashlee Hickey, Debbie Jensen, Caryss Johnson, Michelle Johnson, Natalie Minas, Rica McGinnis, Jason Mendez, David Navarro, Gayle Oki, Isaac Reyna, Nina Roby, Sergio Salinas, Patrick Stumpf, Nate Saari, Nanci Sumaya, Karen Willis, and Brittany Zenz
- **James Ortez, Jordan Anderson, Ann Brandon, Jeff Burdick, Penny Cristan, John Forbes, Gurdeep Hébert, Tasha Hutchings, Teresa Ishigaki, Michelle Johnson, Kirtley King, Liz Romero, Tiffany Sarkisian, and Damon Rapada (ASG President)

Accreditation Reaffirmed for SEVEN years

At its June meeting, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) reaffirmed Clovis Community College's accreditation status for seven years. We do have some follow-up we will have to complete. More details on the report and next steps will be provided in future issues of the newsletter.



New State Legislation

This fall, the legislature passed two new laws that will affect our students. We have several groups of faculty, staff, and administrators working to determine how to implement the requirements and ensure that we maintain our strong student support efforts.

In July, the state Chancellor's Office sent a memo on AB 705. Below is an excerpt from that memo.

INTRODUCTION OF ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 705

Assembly Member Irwin introduced AB 705, which was unanimously passed by the legislature and signed into law by Governor Brown in October of 2017. This bill is designed to accomplish several important outcomes that are paramount to the Chancellor's Vision for Success:

- Increase the numbers of students who enter and complete transfer-level English and mathematics/quantitative reasoning in one year
- 2. Minimize the disproportionate impact on students created through inaccurate placement processes
- 3. Increase the number of students completing transfer-level English within three years

SUMMARY OF ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 19

This bill will establish the California College Promise, to be administered by the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges. The majority of this funding will be used waive fees for one academic year for first-time students who are enrolled in 12 or more semester units or the equivalent at the college.

The district is currently working to determine how to integrate this California College Promise with our Central Valley Promise. Our goal is to continue fundraising to ensure that our district has enough money endowed to provide a full semester/or year of free tuition for all our local high school students who meet the required criteria. We will keep you posted as we learn more from the state about the implementation of the new bill.

Food Pantry Opening August 20

Open 11 am - 2 pm at Herndon Campus with some food also available in AC2-274 (Health Services) at the main campus from 8 am - 4 pm

Welcome to our new Vice Presidents, Dean of Student Services, and Director of Institutional Research, Evaluation, and Planning



Marco De La Garza Vice President of Student Services



Sylvia Dorsey-Robinson
Interim Vice President of
Instruction



Gurdeep Hébert Dean of Student Services

Please join me in welcoming Marco De La Garza, our new Vice President of Student Services. He comes to Clovis with a comprehensive student services background and will "strive to provide service to our diverse, dynamic, and passionate staff of professionals that represent varied points of view but stand together as one for the success of our students."

Sylvia Dorsey-Robinson, will be our Interim Vice President of Instruction for the fall semester. She has many years of community college experience, most recently as Vice President of Student Services at West Hills College Lemoore. She will be working with the

Deans of Instruction and district managers to oversee enrollment management, curriculum development, and a variety of college initiatives.

Gurdeep Hébert has continued to work hard this summer, transitioning into her new role as Dean of Student Services responsible for Outreach, Student Success, and Student Activities. Stop by the first floor of AC-1 to see all the changes as we expand our student outreach and activities area to include a welcome center and success center.

Alex Adams joins us later this month as the Director of Institutional Research, Evaluation, and Planning. Alex is currently finishing his PhD in Political Science at the University of New Mexico. He has several years of quantitative and qualitative research experience. Alex is currently the Research Coordinator at Fresno City College, designing research and working with faculty and staff.

Please join me in welcoming our new administrators.



Where Are They?

VP Student Services, Marco De La Garza: AC1-260 Interim VP Instruction, Sylvia Dorsey-Robinson: AC1-178 Outreach Department, David Navarro & Isaac Reyna: AC1-170 Student Success Coaches, Sasha Fisher & Nate Saari: AC1-149A

President's Breakfast - State of the College community event

I am excited to host our college's first President's Breakfast. This community event will provide an opportunity to showcase our college to the community and to share our message... Clovis Community College is the school of choice for academic excellence, innovation, and student achievement! The event will be held on September 19 at the Veteran's Memorial Center District. For more details, see the flyer or contact Emilie Gerety at x5205.

On Course Fall Workshops

Over the past several years, we have truly embraced the "On Course" principles as a means of supporting student success. Over 100 faculty, staff, students, and administrators have participated. This fall, we will have even more opportunities to learn how to best engage our students. I hope you will be able to attend one of the many workshops available. I would like to thank Ann Brandon for her tireless work on this project.

September 20: Staying On Course in a Diverse World **September 20-21:** On Course for the Online Instructor

September 27-29: On Course I

October (Tentative): On Course for the STEM Instructor

November 1 & 2: On Course for Frontline Staff (2 1-day sessions)

December 12-15: On Course II (Advanced Workshop)

Committee Information

At their final meeting of the 2017-2018, College Council approved the updated Governance Handbook, which can be found on our website under About Us, College Planning, <u>Participatory Governance Handbook</u>.

The Governance Handbook clearly defines how decisions are made at Clovis Community College. Committees play an integral part in this process. Also on our website, is a list of our college committees and the dates, times, and rooms in which they meet. With a few exceptions, these committees are open to the college community. If you are unable to attend a meeting, agendas and minutes are posted to Blackboard in a timely fashion. Most committees include representation from each constituent group so if you would like more information or have feedback to provide, please contact your committee representative. A current list of representatives can be found under About Us, College Committees.

Unit/Program Planning

The updated Unit/Program Planning process was approved by College Council at their May 11 meeting. The new process utilizes a three page template that focuses on the goals and outcomes of the units/programs. The new plan is on a two-year cycle with half of the college completing their UPPs on alternating years. To review the new template in detail, you can find it on the <u>Faculty/Staff</u> webpage.



June and July New Hires



Scott Gerety Student Services Specialist



Jose Platas Permanent Part-Time Custodian



Jose Vasquez
Custodian

Event Calendar



	August 13	First Day of Fall 2018 Semester
	Mid August	Mini Grant application sent out district wide
	August 31	Last day to drop full term class in person
	September 3	Labor Day – Campus Closed
	September 3	Last day to drop full term class online
	September 4	Board of Trustees Meeting, District Office
	September 6	Budget Town Hall, AC2 276
	September 7	Mini Grant applications due to President's Office
	September 7	Scholarship Awards Ceremony, AC1 150
	September 19	President's Breakfast, CVMD Building



1st Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 a.m., (Starting October 3rd) 3rd Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m. (Starting August 15)

Lunch with Lori

We will continue with our monthly "Lunch with Lori" brown-bag events to ensure we have some opportunities for casual but important conversations. If you would like to join me, please bring your brown bag lunch (or stop by the Café and pick something up) and we can get together to share news and ideas during the lunch break.









