

President's Newsletter

April/May 2020 Volume 4 - Issue 3



A Message from Dr. Bennett

We are living through a moment in time that will be remembered forever. We will look back at the COVID-19 era and remember how many people and families were affected – in so many different and difficult ways. We'll remember the healthcare providers and other dedicated people around the world who made a difference in people's lives.

Here at Clovis Community College, we've had our own personal struggles. Moving an entire college online in about a week – unprecedented. Learning to teach online in two days – grueling. Figuring out how to manage or complete our daily tasks while working at home – frustrating and lonely. We will remember this, but I hope we will also remember our entertaining zoom town halls with all the funny virtual backgrounds! We will remember the kind words and caring text messages or email notes to make sure the people around us are feeling ok and letting them know "we got you!" We will remember our students saying thank you for our attention during online classes and office hours and our patient answers to all their student support questions.

Our students will remember this semester forever. This is the semester that they had to shelter in place and finish their classes online. Some lost jobs, some are caring for siblings, some had to move home, some are worried about losing their home, some are hungry, some don't have internet, some had their anxiety under control only to have it come crashing back, some had their future planned only to have those plans fall apart. But our students are amazing. They have grit and determination, and they have us to provide support and guidance to help them succeed. How will they remember this semester? When they remember Clovis Community College, I hope they remember that even though the time was difficult, they felt caring, kindness, and support from their Clovis Crush Family.

Stay positive and please reach out to someone if you need support. We will get through this together. Go Crush!

Guided Pathways

By: Monica Chahal

We are excited to announce that Clovis Community College has been selected to participate in Cohort Two of CAGP (California Guided Pathways) 2020-23. Participation will allow us to further optimize the student experience and advance our student completion and success efforts with the assistance of the CAGP Leadership Team headed by Rob Johnstone. We will participate in six, two-day institutes and receive an annual site visit for each of the three years as well as virtual support beginning in Fall 2020. The focus of all efforts will be on catalyzing and engaging a broad range of campus constituents. Thanks to the leadership of the GP co-chairs Cynthia Elliott and Kirtley King and Dean James Ortez!



New Technology Director

It is my pleasure to announce Teng Her as our new Director of Technology. Teng will serve 60% at Clovis Community College and 40% at Madera Community College Center. We are excited to have him in this new role. A big thank you to John Forbes. In addition to his duties as Dean of Instruction for STEM, John also led the technology department for four years. We are grateful for his dedication and guidance. His leadership helped build our Technology Department into an amazing support system for the college.

Technology Update

By Bonnie Boonthavongkham

The tech team did a phenomenal job migrating and transitioning faculty, staff, and students to work and learn from home. They had a short window, but by the end of March, we were all set up remotely. Thank you to the tech team for all of their hard work to make this possible.

Pro Development Update

By Ann Brandon

There is now a Pandemic Professional Development and Learning page on Canvas. Since the remaining face-to-face/in person professional development (Active Learning Saturday Sessions, Friday Sips and Strategies, and the D.E. Series) are now cancelled, here are some opportunities to get your FLEX credit hours if you need them, connect with your colleagues, and learn some new ideas, including:

- Collaboration
- Brown Bag invitations and Discussion Board
- Professional Development Book Club invitation, zoom schedule, and discussion board (Flex credit)
- Articles and Resources for teaching (online and face-to-face).

If you have any questions, please contact Ann Brandon.

Athletics Update

By Pamm Zierfuss-Hubbard

The first two weeks of March were unprecedented in all levels of sport when practices and competitions were suspended due to concerns with COVID-19. While in early March, championships were canceled for some early finishing sports throughout the state (specifically basketball), on March 19th the California Community College Athletic Association, CCCAA, (Crush Athletics' governing body) made the difficult decision to cancel all spring sports. For Clovis, that cut short the spring season for our swim/dive and track teams. This also affected both men's and women's soccer along with cross country who use the spring semester as a conditioning period for student-athletes participating in those fall sports. With practices and competitions both cancelled, the coaching staff has had to work creatively to ensure that not only do our student-athletes remain engaged but also productive. Luckily their training as professors kicked in and they are meeting remotely with their teams to ensure everyone stays on track. Whether a student-athlete returns to CCC or transfers to a 4-year, we want to make sure they are successful this semester.



McKay Duran, CCC grad and student ambassador, speaker at Students of Promise banquet

I was delighted to attend the annual "Students of Promise" banquet on March 11 hosted by the Foundation for Clovis Schools and Clovis Unified School District. This annual event recognizes high school juniors who are attending school on a regular basis, showing responsibility, and succeeding in school in spite of very challenging situations in their personal lives. He is a true leader and we are all very proud of him. He earned a scholarship four years ago and was invited back to talk about his educational journey and all the wonderful role models at CUSD and CCC who helped him succeed along the way. Congratulations McKay!

Commencement

As you know, due to COVID-19, our commencement scheduled for May 22 has been postponed.

Giving our students and their families an opportunity to celebrate the incredible accomplishment of earning a degree is extremely important to everyone at Clovis Community College. I know we all look forward to celebrating our students' achievements at a later date when it is safe to do so.

The Outreach team is planning a virtual end-of-the-semester celebration with a special video that will premiere on May 22. This is not taking the place of commencement. The video will highlight pictures of our dedicated students who persevered throughout this challenging semester. Contact Patrick Stumpf for details.

Featured Department - Child Development Center

By Nour Abueleich, Student







Faculty in the Child Development department at Clovis Community College mentor students who plan to be working with or around children. They offer practical experience which helps prepare students for their careers. Child development instructors teach students how to be playful with children and communicate better. Instructors advise students to leave the world outside the door and be fully present with the children to engage with them. The instructors pass on their knowledge and experience about how to work with children and how to build a nurturing environment. CCC students make lesson plans for the children and experience the teaching part of the job. For the little ones, the instructors try to keep interactions fun and encourage the children to collaborate with each other and to be inventive when it comes to composing song lyrics, melodies or dance moves.

Child Development instructors also offer tutoring support services to students and them receive any support they might need, such as counseling or psych services. Instructors make time to see their students if they need extra help with a classroom or an exam. The CDC instructors prepare their students to be advocates for the children and understand the importance of quality education so they can improve practices for the children. With the transition to online instruction, our students are learning and having group time via Zoom and so far have done an excellent job adjusting to the change.

Academic Senate Update

By Liz Romero

The faculty of Clovis Community College was given a herculean challenge a few weeks ago. Put all of their courses online, even if they had never taught online before, or taught those particular courses online. I am so proud to say, we got it done. There may have been some tears, there were definitely some frayed nerves, but we got it done. We never could have without the heroic and tireless dedication and work done by our Instructional Designer, Tracy Stuntz and our Distance Education coordinator Teresa Ishigaki. Thank you, thank you. Our next Academic Senate will be on Tuesday, April 14th at 4:00-5:30 P.M. through zoom. A link will be sent out with the agenda. Take some time to rest over spring break, you all deserve it.

Check out the Clovis Community College Hub for meeting agendas & minutes (you may need to log in).

Classified Senate Update

By: Caryss Johnson

Clovis' Classified Senate had a very strong turnout at the first meeting since the COVID-19 closure. We voted to hold an additional General Meeting to ensure that our level of communication and collegiality are maintained. This meeting will temporarily replace the Events Sub-Committee meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 3:00pm. Classified Senate will continue planning a variety of professional development activities and plans to partner with the PD committee in this effort. I'd like to express my gratitude to our amazing classified professionals for your hard work in transitioning classes and services online. I want to extend an extra special thank you to our Tech and Facilities Teams for your dedication to our college! We couldn't have done this without you!

Associated Student Government Update

By Elijah Banda

The ASG has been working on addressing all student questions and concerns during this unique time. We will also be working with Dr. Bennett and her office to create a student-centered Town Hall, to help address those questions in an open environment. Our hope is to make sure all students feel comfortable reaching out when they feel it is right. Comradery during this time is extremely important and we will continue to serve the students the best way we can.

New Employees in March and April



Lee Vang Evaluator



Teng HerDirector of Technology

Calendar of Events

April

April 15 Student Town Hall Meeting with Dr. Bennett (virtual)

May

May 8 Pass/No Pass Deadline Extension
May 15 Extenuating Withdrawal Deadline
May 18-22 Spring 2020 final exam weeks

May 25 Memorial Day holiday (virtual campus closed)

Lunches with Lori

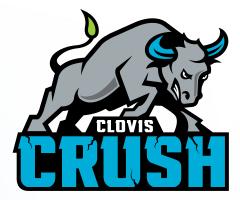
April 15 via Zoom See campus email for meeting URL or phone number.

CCC Town Hall Meetings

Every Tuesday from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. via Zoom (subject to change). See campus email for meeting URL or phone number

CCC Weekly Update

Every Thursday-sent via college email



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Clovis Community College

