

# **President's Newsletter**

August 2020 Volume 4 - Issue 4



# A Message from Dr. Bennett

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! As you know, this semester most of our classes and student services will be online. In addition, Crush Days for new students, opening day activities, committee meetings, senate meetings, club activities, and faculty office hours will also be online. As we welcome students this semester, please remember that this is their college experience. They will remember attending Clovis Community College online for the rest of their lives. How we greet, mentor, and support our students over the next several weeks will impact their life choices. So, please join your colleagues in creating the same warm, caring, and inclusive culture online that we are so proud to provide on-ground. Let's make it a great year!

#### Focus on Student Equity and Success

Over the summer, many members of our college community participated in a variety of discussions, readings, and webinars related to Black Lives Matter and antiracism. Some people have stepped into leadership roles, some have shared difficult life stories and frustrations, and others, including me, have spent time soul-searching and learning how to better support our African American colleagues and students. This year, we will continue our college-wide focus on student equity and success, but we will add a heightened focus on reviewing the policies and practices that we have created over the years which built in or reinforce systemic barriers to student completion. We've looked at the data before and we've made some adjustments, but the completion numbers haven't improved for our African American students. If we truly value the equity and diversity that we included in our updated mission statement, then we need to look deeper and with a different mindset to search for these unintentional barriers. We must acknowledge these barriers, and then we need to change them.

I am asking you to read, participate, discuss, question, challenge. Together, we can make the changes that will make a difference in our student's lives. We will provide a better educational experience for all our students and more students of color will complete degrees and certificates and transfer to the universities of their choice. We pride ourselves for having the highest transfer rate in the valley, but we need the same strong transfer rates for all our students. We need to ensure equity as we "Create Opportunities...One Student at a Time."

## **New Mission, Vision, and Values Statements**

Last year we worked together to update our new mission, vision, and values statements. I am so proud of our new mission and values statement. I want to thank you for the important conversations and the attention to details. Our mission statement expresses our commitment to our students, to each other, and to our community. Our Board of Trustees approved our new statements at their July 2020 meeting. Our updated mission, vision, and values statements are now official. We will begin updating our documents and website to reflect the new, approved statements.

Date!!

Save the College-wide Strategic Planning Retreat (Tentative Dates: Oct. 9 and 23, 1-4pm) Details Soon!

#### **Participatory Governance Handbook**

Each year for the past three years, College Council has updated the Participatory Governance Handbook. During spring 2020, College Council reviewed the most recent recommended changes and it was unanimously approved in May 2020. The new version of our document can be found on our College Planning webpage. You can also find the 2020-2021 schedule of committee meetings and committee assignments on the College Committees webpage.



# Title IX Update

#### By Kira Tippins

In May 2020, the Department of Education released the final regulations for Title IX compliance. The regulations require compliance by August 14, 2020. A team from around the district has been working on implementation of the new requirements over the summer. Some of the major changes include:

- Official Notice of Allegation
- Jurisdictional changes, especially concerning study abroad programs
- 10-day comment period
- Must appoint an advisor to the complainant and respondent if they cannot provide their own
- Requirements for live hearings and cross examination
- No informal resolution option when the allegation is against an employee

Additional information and more details will be provided at Opening Day.

#### **Construction & New Building Update**

#### By Lorrie Hopper

Meetings were held over the summer with Darden Architects and District Operations staff to finalize plans for a new entrance to the college off of Chestnut Avenue. This entrance is part of the 2019-2030 Districtwide Facilities Master Plan and is bond funded. In addition to this entrance, there will be approximately 500 parking spaces added in the area.

Meetings were also held regarding plans for the Sound Engineering Suite in the new Applied Technology building. This suite will include a control room, sound stage, vocal, percussion, piano and mixing rooms. The architects did a wonderful job of optimizing space and arranging areas for optimal functionality and acoustics.

## **Welcoming New Students**

The college hosted our first Virtual Crush Days! Throughout the week of July 27th – July 31st, incoming students and their guests enjoyed virtual events, workshops, and sessions to prepare them for their educational journey. A big thank you to our Student Activities and Outreach team for making this event possible.

We also held our Extreme Registration virtually this year, every Wednesday from 1 p.m. – 6 p.m. from June 24th – August 5th. This event is a one-stop shop that allows our students to meet with counselors, register, and complete their Financial Aid applications



all in one spot. A huge thank you to our teams from Outreach, Counseling, Admissions & Records, Financial Aid, and our student ambassadors for making these events possible.

#### **Accreditation Update**

#### By Jennifer Simonson

In 2020-21, the College's accreditation efforts will focus on drafting and compiling evidence for our first Midterm Report, which is due to the ACCJC by March 15, 2022. The following sections are required for the Midterm Report:

- Plans Arising out of the Self-Evaluation Process (i.e., Actionable Improvement Plans from our 2018 Institutional Self-Evaluation Report)
- Response to Team Recommendations for Improvement (for both the College and the District)
- Reflection on Improving Institutional Performance: Student Learning Outcomes and Institution-Set Standards
- Report on the Outcomes of the Quality Focus Essay Projects
- Fiscal Reporting

The Accreditation Steering Committee has been tracking the progress on the activities for each of these sections, and if you are involved in any of the related projects, you may hear from the committee members as they ask for updates on activities and as they collect the relevant evidence. Updates on the Midterm Report's progress will be included in the committee's regular reports to College Council. The Accreditation Coordinator, Accreditation Liaison Officer, and committee seek to have the majority of the Report completed by the end of Spring 2021.

#### **Clovis Community College Reopening Plan**

A huge thank you to the team of people who worked through all the details to take the college online last spring and then to reopen the college this Fall. Dozens of faculty, staff, and administrators spent many hours over the summer attending COVID-19 webinars, developing department specific reopening plans, and college-wide requirements and activities designed to meet the needs of students while providing a safe environment for everyone involved. One thing we learned this summer: the guidelines are constantly changing. As we monitor the county and state-level trends and issues related to COVID-19, we are using this information to make the best possible decisions for our college. We are finishing the Reopening Plan and will send everyone an electronic copy soon.

#### **CCC Accomplishments**

Congratulations to our colleagues **Dr. Alex Adams, Dr. Teresa Ishigaki, Dr. Tiffany Sarkisian, Dr. Tracy Stuntz, Dr. Victoria Williams, and Dr. Pa Nhia Xiong**, in earning their doctoral degrees and **Isaac Reyna** in receiving his master's degree.

**Dr. Teresa Ishigaki** and **Jaclyn Rowley** were honored to present their English Curriculum Alignment Project at the Central Valley/Mother Lode Region Presentation. Their work was a finalist for the prestigious Bellwether award for outstanding student success results. **Karie Hannigan** was honored by the CCCAA. **Sergio Salinas** was CCC's first inductee into the SCCCD Muro De Honor.

**Dr. Jacquelyn Rubalcaba** was selected Region C Representative. **Dr. Lori Bennett** was elected Northern Vice President of CEO Board.

Congratulations to **Rich Mostert** and his team. Due to their outstanding work supporting our community during the COVID-19 crisis, our Small Business Development Center, known as Valley Community SBDC, was selected to receive an additional \$350K in CARES funding to support local small businesses. Over the past few months, our SBDC consulting team:

- Provided 1,662 hours of one-on-one counseling to 589 small businesses
- Supported 5,400 jobs across the region
- Helped create 8 new businesses
- Provided Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL's) totaling over \$3.7 million
- Provided 87 Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans totaling over \$17.6 million
- Created \$27.6 million capital infusion



## Congratulations!!!!

Leslie King and Kaye Reynolds celebrated 25 years of service and Tony Romero celebrated 30 years of service. Nancy Vagim retired after being with CCC for 19 years. A huge thank you for their service and dedication to our college and district.

# Academic Senate Officers:

President - Cynthia Elliott

Vice President - Galin Dent

Past President - Liz Romero

Secretary - Melanie Sanwo

Curriculum Chair - Jennifer Hanson

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

# Associated Student Government Executive Committee:

President: Alexis Bissell

Vice President: Amrita Dhami

VP of External Affairs: Carolina Munce

VP of Finance: Vacant

Student Trustee: Diana Flores

Secretary: Ricardo Quintor

Inter Club Council President: Samantha Jimenez; Activities Commissioner: Yaneth Perez-Rodriguez; Public Relations Coordinator: Zainab Rana;

ASG Senators: Sara Amin

# Classified Senate Executive Committee:

President: Caryss Johnson Vice President: Nina Roby Secretary: Debbie Jensen

Treasurer: Vacate

Classified Senate Senators: A&R/ Counseling/Special Programs-Nanci Sumaya; Facilities-Dan Hoffman; Instruction-Emily Wilson; Financial Aid/ Library/Veterans-Rebecca Kinlow; Admin Services/HC Facilities-Cathy Ostos; President's Office/PIO/IR/Tech-Michelle Johnson; Student Services/ Outreach/Activities-Teira Wilson; At-

Large-Jason Mendez

#### Introducing New Interim Dean of Instruction - Pamm Zierfuss-Hubbard



If you have not had a chance to do so already, please take time to congratulate Pamm Zierfuss-Hubbard on her new appointed role as Interim Dean of Instruction for CTE, Library, Child Development, and Athletics.

Pamm comes to us with a breadth of experience and knowledge. She has over 15 years of experience in higher education in athletic administration, contract management and negotiation, student services and programming.

She graduated from CSU Sacramento with a degree in Sociology and went on to obtain a Masters in Sport Management from University of San Francisco. After graduation, Pamm moved to Fairbanks, Alaska as the Associate Athletic Director for Compliance/Senior Woman Administrator overseeing the NCAA compliance program and multiple sports. During her time at UAF, Pamm also worked in the Business Office as the

Associate Director where she worked to streamline operations to enhance the student payment experience. She was promoted to Director of Dining Services and Contract Operations where she negotiated and managed multiple auxiliary contracts (dining, bookstore, vending machines, food trucks) along with campus dining services while earning her MBA.

In 2017, Pamm and her husband returned to California when he accepted a position at CSU Stanislaus. She accepted a temporary position with CSU Stanislaus serving as a financial assistant within a dean's office while searching for permanent employment. In this role she worked with multiple department chairs and administrative staff on budget and contracts. Prior to becoming the Athletic Director at CCC, Pamm served in the same role at FCC overseeing 21 athletic programs and 24 budgets. In addition to her added responsibilities as Interim Dean, Pamm will continue her role as Athletic Director. Our sincere thanks to Pamm for stepping up to support the college by taking on these extra duties. She is a great addition to our administrative team!

## **New Employees**



Sheng Herr
Senior Accounting
Technician



Brandy White
Science Laboratory
Coordinator

## **Important Academic Dates**

#### August

August 6 Opening Day

August 10 First Day of Semester

August 21 Last Day to Drop Full-Term Class for Refund

August 30 Last Day to Drop Full-Term Class to Avoid "W" (online)

#### September

September 7 Labor Day Holiday

September 11 Last Day to Change Class to Pass/No-Pass

#### October

October 9 Last Day to Drop Full-Term class with "W" October 12 Short-Term classes, second nine weeks



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



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

During Fall semester, the 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 the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month.

#### **Clovis Community College**

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