

# **President's Newsletter**

October 2020 Volume 4 - Issue 6



# A Message from Dr. Bennett

Welcome to October – typically one of the busiest months of the academic year. Classes are in full swing, support services are assisting students with a variety of needs, and student activities are ramping up after a successful club rush. We may be online, but we are developing many new activities to keep employees and students connected. See the list below for several online events scheduled this month and read the weekly <u>Crush Alert</u> for more activities.

I'm proud of the support our college has offered to the employees and students who were affected by the <u>Creek Fire</u>. Our thoughts are with those who lost their homes or continue to be evacuated during the fire. I also appreciate everyone's effort to stay home and stay safe during this on-going time of COVID-19. We will continue to work with the County of Fresno Health Department to monitor changes in rules and regulations regarding a safe return to campus.

# **New! Daily Health Breaks!**

Starting October 12, we will offer 10-12 minute daily Health Breaks between 2:45-3:00pm Monday-Thursday for students and employees. Sue Hammond and Naomi Forey will organize a variety of short exercises, including stretching, movement, mindfulness, and relaxation. We may also invite a few health and wellness trainers to join us for weekly sessions. Watch for more information. Please join us!





Giving Tuesday is December 1st. More details coming soon

# **Strategic Planning Update**

This Fall will be being our process to update our four-year Strategic Plan. At our first strategic planning retreat, we will spend the time 1) reviewing our vision for success goals, 2) reviewing our current strategic plan and outcomes and developing a gap analysis, and 3) confirming our college values as a base for setting our new strategic goals. At the second retreat, we will continue our work by digging deeper into both qualitative and quantitative equity data. We will also discuss innovative ideas learned from research and a variety of equity training sessions. The retreats are scheduled October 23 and November 20 from 1:30-3:30pm and will include interactive breakout sessions. Watch email for more details.

# **IEPI** Update

The College hosted our third and final Peer Review Team (PRT) visit in September to support our Institutional Innovation and Effectiveness Plan (IEPI Plan). The PRT team included faculty and administrators from several other community colleges who visited us twice last year and via a zoom meeting this Fall. Our plan included four areas of focus: Enrollment and Schedule Management, Data Analysis and Technical Applications, Professional Development, and Communication. Below are the conclusions from their final report (which will be shared at College Council):

Clovis Community College is commended for their work in each area of focus. Despite the unusual circumstance of the pandemic and virtual third visit, the PRT noted significant progress toward completion of their Institutional Innovation and Effectiveness Plan. PRT comments included the following:

- Kudos for professional development planning and transition to virtual opportunities.
- Kudos for the college's recognition of the need to better include part-time faculty in college processes.
- Impressive improvements in campus communication and esprit de corps.
- Clovis Community College is creating the organizational framework that will support continued growth in the future.

Clovis Community College should be recognized for their development of accessible data to inform decision-making and increase understanding of the student experience. Their alignment of funding and professional development with college priorities is commendable.

# **Clovis Community College Responded to the Wildfires**

#### By Gurdeep Hébert

Approximately 30 CCC students have been impacted by the fires. The Associated Student Government held a fund-raising drive and they collected 75 gift cards, hand sanitizers, facial masks, and encouraging notes. The College also set up an online giving option to raise funds for the Crush Emergency Fund. If you are interested in contributing, please click here.

# **Emergency Response Team Update**

#### By Bonnie Boonthavongkham

Last month, the Emergency Response Team (ERT) met twice to train with the West Coast Consultant Group via Zoom. The first training was held on September 4th and each team shared out their roles and responsibilities. At the September 18th training, the ERT was given a disaster drill to practice their roles in the case a real-life crisis does occur. The trainings could not have come at a better time, especially with the current wildfire disaster. The remaining training sessions will be held during the spring semester.

# **Scholarship Awards Ceremony Video Premiered on September 10**

By Stephanie Babb



Due to COVID-19, this year's event was virtual with a video highlighting our hard-working scholarship recipients. The number of scholarships continues to rise each year, thanks to the generous donors of the "Clovis Crush Giving Day" fundraising event. A big CRUSH congratulations to all the students who earned scholarships. Thank you to our generous donors making a difference and helping our students reach their educational goes. Another BIG thank you to Jason Mendez, CCC's Digital Media & Graphic Designer, for creating this heartfelt video. This year, 132 scholarships were awarded totaling \$82,708.00. Watch the Scholarship Video.

The scholarship application is now OPEN and deadline for students to apply is March 2, 2021. Awards range from \$250 to \$1,500 per year. Encourage your students to <u>learn more about CCC scholarships and how to apply</u>.

# Featured Department - CalWORKs

By Laura Gonzales and Bonnie Boonthavongkham



CalWORKs is a program for students who are on public assistance with children. Our goal is to help the students get the education they need to be ready for employment. All our students in CalWORKs are parents, so it is a challenge for them to balance school and family life. Many of our students do participate in Work-Study so this presents another challenge in their lives, but it is also a great way to build skills and a resume.

The Next Up program is for foster youth. This is a newer program, which began in 2016. This program is a part of EOPS and is still not offered at all 116 community colleges. Since starting the program,

we have had seven students graduate and four transfer to CSUF.

CalWORKs counselors go above and beyond for their students. They do their best to academically support students on campus and outside of school. For both programs, students are provided with a great amount of support through several means: counseling, book vouchers and books, gift cards, cash grants, equipment loans, and school supplies. Additional support is also provided from the EOPS and CARE program, Crush Food Pantry, and Tutorial Center.

Despite their challenges, students in each program strive to excel academically. In the Spring 2020, 64% of CalWORKs students had a 3.0 GPA or higher. Each year students are recognized for their dedication at the CalWORKs recognition ceremony. The ceremony is a proud moment for students, their families, and the CalWORKs team.

# **Monthly Committee Updates:**

#### **Accreditation Steering Committee:**

- The Committee is continuing to monitor progress on the Midterm Report (due March 15, 2022). At the last meeting, the Committee provided input on a chart detailing the Plans Arising out of the Self-Evaluation Process.
- At the September meeting, the Committee reviewed Standard III.C: Technology Resources and forwarded recommendations for improvements to College Council.
- At the October meeting, the Committee will review the status of several Actionable Improvement Plans from the 2018 Institutional Self-Evaluation Report and will review the College's compliance with Standard III.D: Financial Resources.

#### **Environmental Health & Safety and Facilities Committee:**

- The District Office Construction Manager gave an update on our new CTE building. The plans are at the Division of the State Architect and we hope to have approval by the end of the calendar year. Then would come bidding and awarding the contract in spring 2021. As long as we stay on this schedule and the weather is good, the building should be completed by spring 2023.
- We received an extension on our Smoke Free Campus grant. Our grant monitor has asked us to hold some virtual
  events this semester and have our "big" Smoke Free Campus event when students are able to return to campus.

#### **Guided Pathway Committee:**

- The GP committee met in August and September and formed ad hoc groups focused on integrating the aims of Guided Pathways into all areas of our institution.
- The new ad hoc groups are Mapping, Equity, Onboarding, Website, and Student Success Teams. These groups are soliciting members from all parts of our campus constituencies to ensure diversity of perspective and that those with the necessary knowledge are involved in developing the pathways and processes.
- The Student Success and Equity Committee agreed to support the GP committee Equity ad hoc.
- The GP committee has also fully implemented using Teams as the formal communication channel for the committee and the ad hoc groups.

#### **Outcome & Assessment Committee:**

- The College is working to add SUOs to eLumen.
- O&A committee members are researching best practices for surveying digitally and writing guidance/training materials for faculty/classified.
- O&A committee members are reviewing materials provided by the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment
  on equity in assessments and reviewing how it can be connected to our institutional outcomes.

#### **Professional Development Committee:**

- PD committee members representing academic senate are working more closely to support the FLEX committee. We
  are looking into developing a more appropriate FLEX form given the current context and how FLEX opportunities now
  materialize all semester long in this new era of webinars.
- PD committee members representing classified senate are refocusing their professional development goals on equity and technology. At the district level, there will be a Guided Pathways leadership training opportunity for classified professionals who want to be involved in leading Guided Pathways.
- We are hoping to make headway on PD website best practices at the next meeting.

#### **Technology Advisory Committee:**

- The Technology Advisory Committee is putting the finishing touches on the 2020-2023 Technology Plan. We'll be taking it to College Council and our constituencies in October.
- The committee discussed the results of the Online Readiness Survey, an online learning readiness assessment tool that assesses student needs for online learning and discussed revisions to the survey for the Spring semester.
- The committee discussed the DECT grant, which allows instructors to send material to Al Media Services for captioning, which the grant will pay for. This is an alternative to services such as Zoom and 3C Media, which are seeing currently increased turnaround times.
- The Canvas Support Model will be changing in January. People will no longer be able to call for 24/7/365 support, but chat support will still be available.

## **Academic Senate**

#### By Cynthia Elliott

The Academic Senate has been carefully reviewing the AR on Recruitment and Selection Committees, and preparing for the passage and procedures to satisfy the new Credit for Prior Learning Initiative in which students can apply for credit for internships, military training, volunteer work, and government training. The Senate has created two ad hocs: one to study dual enrollment and another to begin an awards cycle to reward outstanding faculty collaboration. The Senate continues to support college and district committees by swiftly filling vacancies and asking for updates. The Academic Senate salutes the tremendous efforts and challenges of its members and our students as they battle both the fires and COVID-19.

## **Classified Senate**

#### By Caryss Johnson

The Clovis Classified Senate set several goals for this academic year. Our overall goal is to maintain campus-wide communication amongst classified to increase engagement and foster connections. The professional development activities will focus on technology and equity. We are also planning two fundraisers this semester to support our annual student scholarships and holiday meal cards. More details on these fundraisers are coming very soon!

# **Associated Student Government**

#### By Alexis Bissell

We've been making care packages for students who have been affected by the fires and we're currently delivering them and planning for students to come pick them up if they can. We also inducted our VP of Finance.

# **CCC** Accomplishments

#### Dean of Student Services Gurdeep Hébert will be honored on October 20th

By Stephanie Babb



Gurdeep is a 2020 honoree for the Marjaree Mason Center's 37th Annual Top Ten Professional Women and Leading Business Awards. A virtual celebration will take place on October 20 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Gurdeep is a true servant leader dedicated to student success. Gurdeep is always willing to help and goes above and beyond to be sure all students have the resources to reach their educational goals. Register for this year's event.

There is no charge to register, however, a donation to support comprehensive domestic violence services for adults and children in Fresno County, including 24/7 crisis response and emergency housing, is encouraged.

# Vice President Monica Chahal selected to represent Central Valley for the statewide Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Steering Committee.

Monica Chahal is one of seven CIOs chosen from across the state to help lead the implementation of diversity and equity strategies identified by the California Community College Chancellor's Office taskforce. She will work with educational leaders from across the state on efforts to improve faculty and staff diversity in the CCC system.

#### Congratulations Monica and Gurdeep!

## **October Celebrations & Awareness Month**

This month, we celebrate several national events. Please consider showing your support through a variety of zoom backgrounds!

- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
  - o Wear pink on Friday, October 23rd
- Cyber Security Awareness Month
- Disability Awareness Month
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month
  - o Wear purple on Thursday, October 22
  - Local Statistics
    - ▶ 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men experience domestic violence
    - ▶ 1 in 3 teens experience dating violence
    - ► Fresno PD receives over 7,000 domestic violence calls per year, making Fresno the city with the highest rate of DV calls in the STATE.
- LGBTQ History Month
- National Hispanic Heritage Month
- Transfer Awareness Month

# **New Employees & Promotions**



**David Cao**Chemistry Instructor



**Helena Reed**OTA Instructor



Isabelle Saber
Interim Dean of
Instruction, STEM Division

# **Important Dates**

October		November	
Oct. 15	Virtual Voter Registration Drive (Ballot Bowl)	Nov. 10	Board of Trustees Meeting
Oct. 19-23	Undocumented Student Action Week (webinars)	Nov. 10	Virtual Veteran's Fair
Oct. 20	Lunch with Lori (virtual)	Nov.11	Veteran's Day [campus closed]
Oct. 23	District-wide Strategic Planning Retreat #1	Nov. 13	Lunch with Lori (virtual)
Oct. 23	HACU Internship Presentation	Nov. 18	Virtual Museum of Tolerance Tour
Oct. 27	Ability Awareness Day (D.O.R. Presentation)	Nov. 19	Lakota Harden Presentation
Oct. 29	Día de los Muertos Presentation	Nov. 20	District-wide Strategic Planning Retreat #2
Oct. 30	College-wide Halloween Lunch	Nov. 26-27	Thanksgiving [campus closed]

#### College-wide Town Hall Meetings and Weekly Update Letter: (pic of Town Hall zoom)

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.



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











