

# **President's Newsletter**



# A Message from Dr. Bennett

Welcome to the Spring 2021 semester! I hope you enjoyed the break. As we discussed on Opening Day, this semester we will continue providing an excellent, engaging, inclusive online environment for our students and employees. We will continue our focus on student equity and anti-racism through professional development, campus discussions, and college-wide planning. We will monitor the changing state and local requirements related to Covid-19 and begin planning for our return to campus (timing TBD). Finally, we are working together on college plans, program plans, grant-funded projects, and several new initiatives. It is already a busy semester, but I know it will be a great one! Take care of yourselves and enjoy your students.

# Dr. Joseph I. Castro assumed new role as eighth CSU Chancellor on Monday, January 4

#### By Stephanie Babb

Congratulations to Dr. Castro! We will miss him in his role as president of Fresno State, but we are very proud of him and excited to continue to work with him in his new role. He is the first-ever California native and Mexican American appointed to lead the California State University. Dr. Castro is an amazing educational partner and always supported our transfer programs. We truly appreciate his hard work and dedication in helping students reach their educational goals. What a #BOLD way to start the new year!

### **Opening Day**

By Bonnie Boonthavongkham



Over 150 faculty, staff, and administrators attended Opening Day on January 7, 2021. Dr. Bennett started off the morning session with a warm welcome and the goals for the spring semester. There were three breakout sessions dedicated to Guided Pathways and USC Equity Leadership Alliance topics. After lunch, Marco De La Garza, Vice President of Student Services, welcomed us back to the afternoon session filled with updates from various groups and programs. Thank you everyone for attending, engaging, and participating to make it a great Opening Day!



February is Black History Month!! Please check the Clovis Community College website for campus activities.

# **CCC EXCEEDS 4TH ANNUAL #GIVINGTUESDAY GOAL ON DECEMBER 1**

#### By Stephanie Babb

The online #GivingTuesday campaign was a huge success. Students, staff, faculty, administrators, and community members stepped up to the plate and, together, raised approximately \$36,600 that will go towards student scholarships, the Crush Food Pantry, and the Crush Athletic Facility. The college quickly reached its \$25,000 goal with the assistance of match-donations from Foundation Board President Gina Cuttone and Shawn Patty, and Gus and Greti Bonner. We are grateful for all who donated and know our students will greatly benefit from the donations. A virtual celebration was held via Zoom on December 8, and employees personally thanked Gus and Greti Bonner and Trustee Debbie Ikeda for their generous gifts. A total of 131 donors gave to the campaign, including five monthly donors and ten new scholarships were established.

Following are the funds raised for the six programs:

- Crush Food Pantry = \$1,030.00
- Crush Student Scholarship Fund = \$9,460.00
- Athletic Field = \$280.00
- Classified Senate Student Scholarship = \$245.00
- Academic Senate Student Scholarships = \$395.00
- Personal Scholarships = \$25,216.00



SCCCF received a generous gift of \$15,000 from the James B. McClatchy Foundation (JBMF) to go towards the Emergency Aid for Students fund. The contribution was made possible by JBMF Board Member Lucy Ruiz, the Executive Director of Public and Legislative Relations for SCCCD. Thank you to James B. McClatchy Foundation and Lucy Ruiz!

# **Clovis Programs Update**

By Margee Loya Great News! The Associate of Science in Geology for Transfer Degree has been approved! The new program will be effective this fall.

The chart shows the total number of Clovis Community College Programs:

Program	Quantity
AA-T/AS-T/UCTP Degrees	25
AA/AS Degree	35
Certificate of Achievement	30
Certificate of Completion (noncredit)	3
Certificate In (not transcripted)	5
Total	98

# **Dual Enrollment Program Update**

#### By Marco De La Garza

Clovis Community College continues to thrive with its Dual Enrollment Program even in this online environment. Counselor Brandon Huebert does an amazing job leading and coordinating our Dual Enrollment Program by developing lasting relationships with our high school partners, including pathways at all CUSD high schools, and Sierra and Minarets high schools. This program not only creates opportunities for students to achieve college credit but also gives students the ability to experience college-level courses while in high school. The CCC Dual Enrollment Program is currently offering 58 courses in 14 disciplines.

Our CCC Dual Enrollment Advisory Workgroup has been busy creating ad hoc workgroups to update each section of the Dual Enrollment Handbook and is in the beginning stages of developing a comprehensive high school webpage for the CCC website with easy, accessible links to the Dual Enrollment Program. The group is also utilizing our Institutional Research Department to take a deeper dive into the data surrounding the students in our Dual Enrollment Program. Lastly, the group is staying abreast of current state legislation, namely SB 586 and AB 30, and how these new laws will affect the program in the future.

# **Save the Date!!** Strategic Plan Retreat #4 on Friday, February 19th from 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

# **CTE Update**

#### By Pamm Zierfuss-Hubbard

The long-awaited Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program admitted its first cohort of twelve (12) students. The 16-month OTA program is the first cohort-based program for Clovis Community College where students advance through a designated sequence of program coursework combined with supervised clinical fieldwork experiences to complement learning. For the spring 2021 semester, students admitted into the inaugural OTA cohort are taking classes in foundations and theory of occupational therapy, biomechanics, theory and process in developmental disabilities and introduction to clinical practice. The OTA program is one of two programs this spring who will meet on campus to perform hands-on lab work to enhance learning.

The CTE Advisory Committee continues to meet to review processes associated with allotment of categorical funds. This process includes reviewing labor market information, advisory committee feedback and workforce development agencies recommendations. It is anticipated that this spring, committee members will meet to review the information and provide comments to campus leadership.

Other initiatives within CTE include recruiting for an additional Business instructor and fulltime OTA instructor/ coordinator and collaborative work with regional consortium members.

# **Small Business Development Center Update**



2020 was an unprecedented year of challenges and successes. While overwhelmed helping record numbers of client requests, we were able to work continuously growing and changing programs to help small businesses struggling to survive. The good news is that VCSBDC was instrumental in providing the much-needed assistance that many small businesses needed to get the information and financial support to stay afloat during the Pandemic.

Here's a quick recap of some of milestones reached in 2020 (while working remotely):

- Approximately 3,500 hours of one-on-one counseling was provided to 975 small businesses.
- 31 new businesses were created.
- Over 6,200 jobs were supported.
- Total capital infusion in 2020 for this period is over \$31 million.
- 64 training events were conducted for a total of 843 attendees.
- 185 jobs were created.

As we enter 2021 with continuing challenges, we look forward to providing small businesses and entrepreneurs the information, assistance and support they need to start, grow, expand and survive. Ultimately, they are the foundation for rebuilding our local economy.

# Save the Date Lunches with Lori!!

Thursday, February 18th 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 16th 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m., and Tuesday, April 20th 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

# Featured Department –Bookstore

By Bonnie Boonthavongkham



Clovis Community College Bookstore is a one-stop shop with knowledgeable staff to supports students with course materials and supplies. The campus bookstore offers students new, used, rental and digital course materials to keep prices low. The staff are proactive in finding solutions and working with students to get what they need whether they are local or a country away.

They not only provide textbook, supplies, snacks and Clovis apparel, but they also work closely with other departments. The campus bookstore works with Student Services' departments like EOPs, Equity, VA, CalWorks, Dual Enrollment, and other programs to get students the course materials they need to be successful. In addition, they are in constant communication with the instructional deans, department chairs, faculty and staff to prepare course

materials for students each semester. During the pandemic, the Bookstore has donated over \$2,000 in drinks and snacks to the Clovis Crush Pantry.

# Monthly Committee Updates:

#### Accreditation Steering Committee

By Jennifer Simonson & Monica Chahal

- The Committee is continuing to monitor progress on the Midterm Report (due March 15, 2022). At the last meeting, the Committee provided feedback on a partial draft of the Midterm Report.
- One recommendation resulted from conversations about the Midterm Report: The Committee recommends that College Council initiate an evaluation of the Six-Year Planning and Assessment Calendar at the end of the planning cycle in 2021.

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

By Lorrie Hopper & Michelle Selvans

- Approved "All are Welcome Here" posters. These posters will be framed and posted inside building entrances.
- The project to move phones to teaching stations has been completed at Clovis Community College. Work will begin soon at Herndon Campus.
- Darden Architects presented a timeline and information on the Chestnut entrance and 566 new parking spaces. Project design will begin February 2021 and completion of the project is anticipated in March 2022.



#### **Guided Pathway Committee**

By Alicia Diaz Wrest & Monica Chahal

- Thanks to the counseling faculty and our Mapping ad hoc committee, we have CRUSHED our interim goal of mapping one program per pathway! We look forward to continuing our goal to map every program and certificate by the end of this academic year.
- Guided Pathways was honored to present on opening day. We want to extend a huge THANK YOU to our staff and faculty for all the invaluable input you gave us at that event.
- We are working with the District Guided Pathways Committee to prepare an hour-long presentation for the February 2nd Board of Trustees meeting.
- While we continue to make progress on all our goals, we anticipate shifting our focus on moving forward with defining student success teams for our Clovis Community College culture.
- Guided Pathways is on the move, but we will need help from the entire college: administration, faculty, classified staff, and students. In this spring semester we plan on regularizing Guided Pathways related events. Please expect to be invited to opportunities to learn more about how you can support the Guided Pathways initiatives on our campus and help us to CRUSH the barriers that stand between our students and their goals.

#### **Outcome and Assessment Committee**

By Tracy Stuntz & Alex Adams

- The committee has been identifying ways to expand the conversation around outcomes to include the whole college committee. Members of the committee have presented at Flex Day and are planning on visiting department and division meetings soon.
- The overview of using Qualtrics that was presented on Flex Day is in the Clovis Teacher's Toolbox on Canvas. You can also find resources on the Outcomes and Assessment Committee Sharepoint page. Lastly, the committee will be downloading the 2019-2020 SLO data from eLumen soon.
- Counseling has started to review and discuss the impact of online services for students and what it might look like as we move back to face-to-face.

#### **Technology Advisory Committee**

By Teng Her & Brooke Ramos

• The 2020-2023 Technology Plan has been approved by the ASG and Academic Senate. The plan will be voted on by the Classified Senate in their next meeting

### **Academic Senate**

#### By Cynthia Elliott

Our plans for the semester are to study how to include diversity and inclusion in our practices, combat plagiarism and cheating, and protect our academic freedom. We will also be working closely with our sister colleges and the Vice President of Instruction to update and improve our district's BPs and ARs to accommodate evolving practices such as Dual Enrollment, Credit for Prior Learning, and Ethnic Studies classes and general education changes. Our next meeting is January 26, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. on Zoom. All meetings are open to the public.

### **Classified Senate**

#### By Caryss Johnson

The CCC Classified Senate hosted Classified Professional Development week over winter break with sessions on Accessibility, Adobe Apps, Pivot Tables and Guided Pathways. Special thanks to our very own classified professionals Teira Wilson, Jason Mendez, Michelle Johnson, Leslie King as well as Guided Pathways Co-Chairs Kirtley King and Liz Romero for facilitating these sessions. The survey feedback was very positive, and we appreciate the facilitators taking time to sharing their skills and tips.

In December, CCC's Classified Senate also had a successful fundraiser through Chipotle and raised \$400 for student scholarships! Due to the pandemic, we've had to be creative with our fundraising methods this academic year. Classified Senate is very grateful for the campus community's flexibility with helping us reach our student scholarship goals.

# **Associated Student Government**

#### By Amrita Dhami & Patrick Stumpf

This semester, the Associated Student Government welcomes new ASG members, including our new President, Amrita Dhami. The ASG is preparing for a busy semester! We held two virtual Club Rush events on Tuesday, Jan. 26th and Thursday, Jan. 28th. We are working on holding Robert's Rules of Order Trainings for clubs and new members. We are also working on the preliminary planning for our ASG elections for the 2021-2022 academic year (elections to take place in April). We plan to continue to hold our weekly meetings every Wednesday from 3:15pm-5:15pm.

#### **CCC Accomplishments** CONGRATULATIONS TO ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR VON TORRES

Von is the new director for LitHop for 2021. LitHop, founded by Lee Herrick in 2016, is an all-day literary festival held in Fresno during the fall that brings together several elements: a walkable event with multiple venues, writers of all ages from middle-school to old school, writers from Fresno's rich diversity and acclaimed award-winning authors, with one Fresno-based headliner in the evening. This year's festival is planning to be an in-person event if possible, or online. Von is a successful poet who attended Fresno City College and received his BA and MA in Creative Writing from San Francisco State University. He previously taught in the San Francisco Bay Area for Pin@y Educational Partnerships and currently serves on the Advisory Board for Philippine American Writers and Artists (PAWA), Inc. His poetry has been published in TAYO Literary Magazine and Verses Typhoon Yolanda: A Storm of Filipino Poets.

#### **New Employee**

Anna-Marie Miller, Office Specialist

# **Important Dates**

#### February

February 2	Board Meeting
February 12	Lincoln Day observance [Campus closed]
February 15	Washington Day observance [Campus closed]
February 18	Lunch with Lori
February 19	Strategic Planning Retreat #4

#### March

March 2	Board Meeting
March 12	Last Day to drop a full-term class
March 16	Lunch with Lori
March 29 – April 2	Spring Recess [classes reconvene April 5]

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

During Spring 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 alternating Fridays.



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