

# President's Newsletter

## A Message from Dr. Armstrong

Hello Clovis Fam,

Welcome! I hope everyone is having a great Spring 2024 semester. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for your role in helping me get to know you and develop ways to best serve you. People ask me about this thing called my "honeymoon." Is the honeymoon



My goals for CCC continue to be:

- 1 Creating a welcoming environment for lifelong learning for everyone
- 2 DEIA
- 3 Continued process improvement

over yet and they laugh. I proudly tell them that yes, the honeymoon is over, and a year one we have begun to lay a strong foundation based on hearing and valuing every voice. I recognize the intellectual capital that I am blessed to have access to college wide. A true commitment to the participatory process – as an action and not merely a theoretical concept. And this wonderful culture of where this thing called the Clovis Spirit is strong, real, and is evidence of a special commitment to "creating opportunities one student at a time."

Thank you for helping me to experience it with my own eyes.

What makes you special is what drives me to get up every morning and proudly serve you. **I continue to want us to try to identify what this Clovis Spirit is that embodies who we are and how we treat our students.**

### CONTINUED PROCESS IMPROVEMENT



As we review and assess our practices it is imperative that we take an open and honest look at our current practices and give ourselves permission to improve those that may need to be updated to address our current post-COVID climate. It is due to the incredible intellectual capital that I see every day that I am thankful for your willingness to identify current business practices that may need to be reviewed and possibly updated. I am

mostly excited about the collaborative discussion and solutions brought forth.

Recognizing that this is not a practice in perfection but a continual process improvement strategy that will keep us moving as an institution and keep us nimble in changing economic climates. It is the cornerstone of institutional innovation.

- ▶ Classified professional/manager prioritized process
- ▶ Interim position selection process
- ▶ Integrated 2035 Data Review for Equitable Student Access
  - Equitable Student Achievement
  - Workforce + Social Mobility
  - Enrollment Growth
  - Trust and Collaboration

## COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT DEIA CULTURE

As an institute, at the core of who we are is a deep-rooted commitment to providing a culture where everyone feels safe and welcome. Coming from an HBCU (Historically Black College or University) it is important to me that we establish and reimagine ourselves as not just a HSI (Hispanic Serving Institutions) due to numbers and percentages, but due to the culture of embracing and celebrating the people and culture.

As an institute dedicated to “creating opportunities one student at a time,” in a post-COVID era, I look forward to us (collectively) continuing and intentionally being proactive so that all our students, faculty, and classified professionals for affinity groups feel valued, appreciated, and welcome. That we do not turn a blind eye (use the voice) to call out issues of inequities and discrimination with the understanding that action will take place.

- Established affinity group bylaws and guidelines
- Safe Zone Training for employees
- Join statewide Affinity Caucus
  - LGBTQIA+
  - Women
  - Asian American
  - Hispanic/Latinx
  - African American

- HBCU College visits
- Demolition began for Gender Neutral Restroom in AC1
- Student Focus Group to assess “Sense of Belonging”
- Sent letters to CUSD regarding removal HMONG language classes
- Sent message to CUSD schools board regarding our position on LGBTQ+ usage
- Become an Achieving the Dream Institute due to funding from the Kresge Foundation.

**Achieving  
the Dream**



## CELEBRATING OUR COLLEAGUES BIRTHDAYS

### October

Alicia Diaz Wrest  
Alisha Rabara  
Bonita Gomez  
Cindy Stafford  
Derek Dormedy  
Heather Golden  
Janet Daniels  
Kham Boutthavong  
Malachi Whitford  
Margee Loya  
Ralph Munoz  
Ryan Feyk-Miney  
Shannon Brownell  
Shawn Jones  
Tasha Hutchings

### November

Angelita Zaragoza  
Brian Shamp  
Brooke Ramos  
Cameron Ferraro  
Carla Stoner-Brito  
Erasmus Lopez

Janice Ledgerwood  
Kim Armstrong  
Krystal Sanchez  
Moises Jauregui  
Nico Escobar  
Patrick Fontes  
Phil Johnson  
Ruben Diaz  
Shawon Jackson-Ybarra  
Silas Cha  
Stacy Ross  
Vanessa Fernandez

### December

Ana Castillo  
Bee Vang  
Billy Pryor  
Caryss Johnson  
Daniel Gutierrez  
Eunji Seo  
Leslie Hernandez  
Matthew Graff  
Michelle Tindall  
Paul Johnson

Riley Wasson  
Roseanne Susoeff  
Ryen Hirata  
Touathengka Herr  
William Kerney

### January

Amy Peterson  
Amy Yocupicio  
Andrew Ho  
David Cao  
Dulce Guerrero  
Edgar Parrilla  
Jacob Witt  
Jennifer Sanchez  
Joshua Hernandez  
Karen Anderson  
Lorrie Hopper  
Melinda Schwamb  
Michael Gomez  
Michelle Johnson  
Omar Ruiz  
Scott Phillips  
Teresa Mendes

Tony Abbott  
Tony Romero  
Von Torres

### February

Akiya Rai  
Anna-Marie Miller  
Diana Salas  
Diane Schoenburg  
Emily Kemble  
Galin Dent  
Gerald Eisman  
Grace Freymiller  
Howard Wu  
Kevin Medeiros  
Kira Tippins  
Rachel Moring-Garcia  
Reynani Chappel  
Robin Huigen  
Ryan Shirey  
Stephen Dent  
Tony Gennaro  
Tracy Ekizian  
Tracy Stuntz





## CREATING A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

I walk around the college (both campuses) and go about the District, and I am encouraged by the growing comfort in you using your voices. We don't have to agree or even like what is being said, but we have an opportunity to be heard and the responsibility to explain our thoughts, views, and positions. Although these conversations can be intense. It is in having the difficult conversation in a safe space that will help to break the silo and enhance our sense of belonging and community. This is a process that takes time and will not be easy initially, but I will always respect, support, and stand proudly for you to speak your mind and hear your voice.

My responsibility is to create a collegial culture in the college that values diverse thoughts and talents by including diverse voices that will help us to continue to grow, together. I especially appreciate your willingness to give feedback as we create and refine our own processes and workflows. I intentionally surround myself with people who bring forth diverse views and broaden my capacity to serve.

Also, please know that I am most interested in not leading with the transactional or procedural check off the box but most importantly leading with the relational and climate and culture. What and how will this decision impact not only our students but each of you. This process is not a quick fix but a lasting one.

- **Transparency**
  - Elephants in the Room
  - VPs giving monthly reports
  - My weekly reflection and activities
  - Constant communication regarding
    - Interim Selection Process Update
    - State Budget



- 2023 Champion of Higher Education 6th year in a row
- Implemented process of submitting anonymous concerns and suggestions
- Recognized Financial Aid for the Clovis Celebrates

**#GIVING  
TUESDAY™**

- Giving Tuesday raised \$35,186.00 for Clovis Clothing Closet, Pantry, and Scholarships
- Gave \$120,000.00 in scholarships to 198 students

- Held Pizza with the Presidents
- Placed microwave and healthy food vending machines in AC2 to help provide food for every student (primarily)



- Speech and Debate Club having a WINNING season
- \$20K gift from Comcast for scholarships
- 2023 Community Partner of the Year from Diamond Learning Center
- Ribbon cutting for the Clothing Closet
- National Science Foundation "Proposed Vision" recipient
- Leon S. Peters Honors Program partners with UCLA's Transfer Alliance Program
- Outreach and Counselors received Crush Spirit Awards
- TnT Awards – Library and Art Department
- Institutional Learning Outcomes
- New signs placed – classrooms and all around the college

- **Athletics**
  - Women Soccer – Central Valley Conference Champions
  - Womens Cross Country – Central Valley Conference Champion
  - Men's Cross Country – Central Valley Conference Champion
  - Coach Orlando Ramirez – Coach of the Year
  - Coach CJ Albertson – 5 CTCA Coach of the Year

