

News Brief

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**Sandra Serrano, Chancellor
Kern Community College
District**

Message from the Chancellor

Whether you call it AB 1725, shared governance, or participatory governance, what does it mean? Find out by attending a technical session presented jointly by the Community College League of California and the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges.

On Friday, the 13th of April, from 9 to 11:30 a.m., a workshop on participatory governance and the budget process will be conducted live at Bakersfield College in the Library, Room 149. If you currently serve in a governance role or are thinking about it, come to learn firsthand the intent of Assembly Bill 1725 and the meaning of participatory or shared governance as set forth in Title 5.

Traveling can be difficult, so the presentation will also be available by videoconference at Cerro Coso Community College, Porterville College, and the District Office. Check your email for notification about where on your campus you can participate by interactive video.

Permission has been requested to videotape the presentation. With permission from the presenters, the workshop will be recorded and made available at each campus. Also, handouts will be made available for reading at your convenience.

In January, I attended the California Community College Trustees Workshop. It was the sixth time I have heard the presentation in my 17 years working in the community college system. Each session has been informative regardless of the presenter, which to date includes four different Academic Senate Presidents, two different League Presidents, and one Executive Director of FACCC (Faculty Association California Community Colleges).

Educational Services Update

MATRICULATION — John Collins

Matriculation has been around for at least a century or two, but for a long time only college admission officers knew what it meant. About fifteen years ago the State of California decided that if the community colleges were going to admit everyone, the State should help finance the sorting out process that would give students their best chance for academic success. For the past 15 years substantial financial assistance has been provided to the community colleges of the State for the services that are provided through matriculation. And, what are these services?

Students coming to an open door college where the major requirements for admission are age 18 and/or having a high school diploma need to enroll in courses where they have a reasonable chance to succeed. Another way to put it, would be to say that it is not a service to a student to permit enrollment in a class where the reading level of the textbook is beyond the reading skills of the student. Likewise, students enrolling in courses requiring math skills should enter the course with the needed math skills embedded in their heads. Matriculation has a component of assessment to determine whether or not the student possesses the academic skills to compete successfully in particular college courses. Other prerequisites are used as well.

Matriculation has a counseling component and also requires the student to develop an educational plan. The student sits down with a counselor, reviews with him/her the educational plan and the assessment scores; and with help from the counselor, enrolls in courses that are consistent with the plan and in which he/she has a reasonable chance to succeed. Other elements enter into the decisions such as number of hours employed, financial problems, commitment from home, and other demands being made on the student.

Matriculation is a comprehensive plan to do a better job of guiding students into making good decisions related to their academic future. Almost all colleges insist on some level of matriculation, but California Community Colleges are encouraged to do this by a very useful level of allocations to fund the matriculation programs developed by the colleges. These allocations relate to the numbers of students served, so larger colleges receive larger allocations. For example, in the Kern Community College District with three colleges, the largest college,

Bakersfield College, has an annual allocation of around \$800,000 for matriculation, while its smaller sister colleges receive in the neighborhood of \$200,000 to \$250,000. This is substantial encouragement, permitting the colleges to improve their services, and extend these services to a larger number of students. The beneficiaries are, of course, the students.

Matriculation is a process of helping students find their way through the system. The funding of matriculation by the State is a sign that the California Community College System takes seriously the need for the services encompassed in matriculation and the obligation of the State to fiscally support these services.

Business Office Update

Business Managers began focusing on the development of the 2007-08 budget. The Budget Allocation Model Taskforce has completed its work and has forwarded a final set of recommendations to the Chancellor's Cabinet. The Business Managers will begin the process of populating the data parameters for the new allocation model.

In mid-March, the Business Managers attended the SunGard Banner Summit. The managers attended training seminars and learned about program enhancements. In April, Business Services will begin gearing up for year-end processing and prepping budgets for the opening of a new fiscal year.

Information Technology Update

In October 2006, KCCCD awarded a contract to SunGard Higher Education to conduct an assessment of Information Technology (IT) services provided by college and district operations. The assessment of IT services is the first phase of the initiative to improve the ability of IT to deliver reliable and cost effective information technology based services. The primary reasons for conducting the IT Assessment were to document the current state of IT, including its ability to support KCCCD's instructional and college/district business operations and to develop strategies and action plans that will serve as a basis for improving the effectiveness of IT at KCCCD.

On March 27, 2007, SunGard Higher Education consultants presented the IT Assessment Report to Executive Council members and the college IT Managers. The report, which is 257 pages long, is broad, comprehensive, and highlights both strengths and areas of improvement for IT that should be considered. The critical gaps highlighted in the Executive Summary included IT Governance, Professional Development, and IT Staff Levels.

The full report has been posted to the KCCCD website at <https://intranet.kccd.edu/Information%20Technology/IT%20Assessment/Default.aspx>.

Because of the length of the report, you can view the report online but cannot print it. Printed copies will be sent to each college and will be made available for checkout at the college libraries. Copies will also be made available at the District Office.

On May 1, 2007, the Executive Council will further discuss the findings and recommendations and develop a course of action for proceeding.

Banner Upgrade Update

Over the weekend of March 24th, a number of Banner upgrades and patches were applied along with a couple of system-level upgrades that should stabilize and improve overall Banner performance. Initial indications are that Banner performance has improved although we are working with Porterville College IT staff to resolve individual workstation lockup issues.

Facilities Planning and Projects

The CCC/IOU Energy Efficiency Partnership program is a partnership between the California Community Colleges (CCC) and the four Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs), Southern California Edison (SCE), Pacific Gas & Electric, Southern California Gas Company and San Diego Gas & Electric. These entities will collaborate with the CCC to share energy efficiency best practices and to implement energy efficiency projects for immediate and long-term energy savings and peak demand reduction. Through the partnership our campuses will be able to improve our infrastructure as well as numerous energy retrofits that include many energy conservation measures. The Program will also focus its efforts on Training and Education, which will expand existing vocational education programs, while training faculty and staff on best practices on energy efficient technology implementation and energy management. Goals for the program are:

- Achieving immediate, cost-effective energy and demand savings
- Implementing energy efficiency components in new buildings that are currently being valued engineered out of the project due to funding constraints
- Develop a successful energy efficiency program that will build momentum and create a program that goes beyond the 2006-2008 program years
- Improved energy efficient operations and maintenance practices
- Training of CCC energy managers to identify and implement energy efficient opportunities while creating vocational education programs that expand to all community colleges.

Kern Community College District efforts:

An energy audit at Bakersfield College to identify possible projects beyond what has been submitted today has begun. The District will receive \$20,000 towards this audit from the program. If there are funds left in the audit account, those funds will be used on behalf of Porterville and Cerro Coso Colleges. An audit at Porterville and Cerro Coso Colleges will move forward when funds become available.

District Office staff met with members of the Chancellor's Office, representatives from the utilities and the Community College Foundation to discuss aggressively pursuing ECM funding. Projects that have been identified at Bakersfield College are already in the funding queue. One identified project includes the chiller removal at the Business Building.

The District volunteered to be one of the host sites for a statewide presentation of the program at the Weill Institute on March 27, 2007. Videoconference tied in other sites and there were other central valley area colleges participating in the program from our site.

College Updates

Bakersfield College

Planetarium Shows

If you didn't catch it the first time, the recently-remodeled William M. Thomas Planetarium at Bakersfield College will be holding a repeat showing of the February presentation on Black Holes at 2:30 p.m. on April 21. Detailed information on this planetarium show can be found at www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/planetarium.

Athletics Update

While Bakersfield College's men's basketball team ended the season on a disappointing note, sophomore forward, Terrance Johns, was named "Co-Player of the Year for the State Community Colleges" in mid-March. The men's basketball team finished 30-3 and were co-champions in the Western State Conference (WSC). This is the first WSC championship since 1989. Bakersfield College's softball team continues to dominate competitors, and is off to a 10-1 start in the WSC. The baseball team also leads the conference with a 6-2 record. The men's and women's track and field teams are off to a good start with two wins in conference meets.

Eminent Speakers Series

The next in an outstanding series of Eminent Speakers from the Bakersfield College Foundation is Enrique Chagoya, who will speak on April 19 at 1 p.m. in Fine Arts 30. He will be speaking primarily about print making, but also in a more general sense about Chicano Studies and Art. He is a well-known and respected artist

and currently teaches at Stanford University. The presentation is open to the public and there is no fee to attend.

Jump! Media Campaign

Bakersfield College is taking a "Jump!" into local media with a new advertising campaign. First visible elements are the outdoor billboard campaign, placing 15 English and Spanish advertisements at strategic locations around the greater Bakersfield area. These billboards will change locations monthly for a wider presence.



50 Years of Nursing

For the last 50 years, Bakersfield College has been training Registered Nurses who work in Kern County's hospitals and other health care facilities. Now, Bakersfield College will recognize those professionals for their excellence in nursing with a special event on May 2. This free event kicks off National Nurses Week with a commemorative presentation by Bakersfield College Nursing Program Director Cindy Collier, and tours of Bakersfield College's skills lab, special "brain foods" to help students prepare for exams, opportunity drawings, prizes, and scholarships. All Bakersfield College faculty, staff, and graduates are invited, as well as hospital directors, practicing professionals, and retirees.

Swing In, Spring

Bakersfield College's talented student jazz musicians will present a rousing program of classic and modern music for jazz ensemble on Saturday, April 21 at the Bakersfield College Indoor Theater. *Swing In, Spring* will feature compositions by Dizzy Gillespie, Thelonious Monk, Charles Mingus, Benny Golson, Woody Shaw, Herbie Hancock, and others. The Bakersfield Jazz Ensemble is directed by Kris Tiner. Call 395-4240 for tickets.

Art Student Receives Award

Bakersfield College digital arts student Matthew Melton received an award for his submission in the 2007 Media Arts Award Competition sponsored by the California Community Colleges Multimedia and Entertainment Initiative.

Cerro Coso Community College

Cerro Coso Community College Interim President Dr. Mary Retterer and Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWVWD) Board President Harold W. Manning celebrated an official collaboration on a large scale water conservation project on the college campus. The cheapest water is conserved water.

A few years ago, Cerro Coso Community College received grant money for and subsequently invested in a sophisticated satellite-controlled automated irrigation device. A so-called "smart timer" on a large scale, the attendant technology has been proven by independent studies to significantly cut outdoor water usage because it adjusts watering levels to account for such variables as heat, chill, rainfall, and even wind. However, California's community college system went through a prolonged period of tight budgets and the College was unable to put their smart timer into full implementation mode.

With the assistance of Water District funds specifically set aside for conservation programs coupled with an investment by Cerro Coso to purchase and install water system upgrades and a weather satellite connection, the college will soon enter into a new phase of water stewardship.

The IWVWD and Cerro Coso formally entered into an Memo of Understanding designed to clarify the goals and scope of this project. Next, the smart timer computer software will be fine tuned. Mr. John Daly, Director, Maintenance and Operations, is optimistic about the possibilities.



Valerie McLaughlin

Cerro Coso Student has National Impact

If you see Valerie McLaughlin, who is the financial manager for the Associated Students of Cerro Coso Community College (ASCC), floating 10 feet off the ground it is because she has just received word that a

resolution she wrote and spearheaded, at the Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC), has passed the House of Representatives.

Valerie was elected into office for the ASCC in the Spring of 2006 and with the new executive board attended the 2006 Spring General Assembly for Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC). At this General Assembly, Valerie was elected as a Representative to Region IX. Valerie has since been elected to the office of Vice President of SSCCC.

Working with other representatives, Valerie became involved in government and legislation that affect community colleges. One of her concerns was that the Pell Grant payout was based on how much tuition a student paid. The lower the tuition fees dropped, the lower the payout to students. This concern prompted Valerie to compose a resolution that she presented to the SSCCC which was unanimously adopted January 21, 2007.

The SSCCC presented this resolution to the Honorable Congressman George Miller who is serving as Chairman on the Committee on Education and the Workforce. Congressman Miller then presented HR-990 to the House of Representatives which passed February 27, 2007. It is now slated to be presented to the Senate. If it passes, it will go to the President of the United States for his signature and made into law.

Porterville College

Two Porterville College students have been named to the Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic team. Carlos Rivas made the first team and Catherine Lane made the second team. Traditionally, Porterville College students have been selected for this prestigious academic team.

Carlos Rivas not only has an outstanding GPA but he participated in a great number of campus and community service projects. He is most recognized as the organizer for the Senior Citizens' Prom, a very popular event. He was also active in the P.A.L. youth program; Helping Hands Food Drive; food packaging for U.S. troops in Iraq; and accounting and audit projects with the Futuro Credit Union. He was also a very busy tutor for students at both Olive Street Elementary and the College in Reading, Language Arts, and Mathematics. He spent time working with migrant students reinforcing their language skills. He is still researching which college he will attend following graduation from Porterville College.



Carlos Rivas

Catherine, a mother of four, started her academic career after raising her children. One of her sons is serving his country in the Armed Forces in Iraq. She has excelled in all phases of academia and college activities at Porterville College.



Catherine Lane

Catherine's 4.0 GPA is one reason she made the All-State Academic Team. She has spent her own time tutoring students in Math, English, and Physics. She almost gave up on the college life the first week after seeing how far ahead of her the other students were in some classes. She still carries the drop slip she received and did not use, as a reminder to not give up. Some of her community service work has been with the Rescue Mission. She hopes to go to medical school in San Francisco after graduation.

World renowned musician, Reshma Srivastava Pizanis, performed on the Porterville College campus with a rare sitar instrument well known in India. She played for three combined classes of music students at the request of music professor Rob Hodges. He teaches a class called "Exploring the World through Music." Students study various cultures and examine how music is part of the rituals and life of the culture.

Fifty-five students from local Porterville High Schools enjoyed the Fourth Annual Migrant Students Day. Students came to the PC campus to learn about health careers and they received materials on financial aid, admissions, Mini-Corps, and Liberal and Integral Studies for Transfer Opportunity (LISTO). The intent was to assist students in understanding the assistance and opportunities that are available to them if they attend the College. It is important that they know they can attend College and start a career in the health field. They were treated to snacks, drinks, and lunch.

The Lady Pirates softball team is enjoying some early season success, highlighted by the sweep of a doubleheader from Fresno City College.

Legislative Update

Bills are beginning to move in committee for a vote. One of the first bills, Senator Jack Scott's bill on the Student Senate recognition went to a vote in the Senate Education Committee on March 28. The bill, if moved on, will allow the Student Senate to replace the now defunct CALSACC in selecting representatives for committees and in advocating for community colleges.

Budget

The final state budget, and thus the community college budget, may not be as anticipated following the May revise. The Legislative Analyst's Office is predicting a \$4 billion deficit. They are recommending that the funds allocated in Prop 98 be reduced, specifically \$1 billion by reducing Prop 98 by the amount over-appropriated. If the Legislature does not act this year, the current year over-appropriation will become a part of the Prop 98 base, and the potential savings would be lost. The community colleges will be called upon to support efforts to retain the Prop 98 base.

Accountability

The Community Colleges Chancellor's Office released the system's new accountability report, *Focus on Results: Accountability Reporting for the Community Colleges (ARCC)*. The statewide study, mandated by 2004's AB 1417, reflects:

- More than 70% of all California students pursuing higher education attend a California Community College (CCC);
- In 2005-06, the system transferred more than 94,000 students; with 52,642 CCC students enrolling, CSU was the most frequent transfer destination; transfers to in-state privates accounted for 15,466 transfers, and transfers to out-of-state institutions accounted for 12,848 transfers.
- More than 45% of UC and CSU graduates transferred from a CCC;
- Median income of CCC students who complete degrees/certificates nearly tripled when compared over a five-year period before and after completion.
- CCC's awarded more than 7,000 degrees and certificates in nursing, and helped students earn 63,000 degrees and certificates in vocational/occupational areas.
- By 2013 CA is expected to have an additional 600,000 students enrolling in higher education, 80% of whom are projected to enroll in a CCC.

About the Publication — This newsletter will serve as a communication tool for the District with Board members and with the Colleges. It will be sent to all members of KCCD and printed in hard copy for the Board of Trustees. If you have an announcement or an article that has District-wide application, please email it to sdyer@kccd.edu.

The News Brief is now available on the KCCD web page. The link is:

<http://www.kccd.edu/News/Default.aspx>