



News Brief

December 2006 — Issue 7



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

Message from the Chancellor

It is hard to believe that the fall semester will end soon, as it seems as though I was recently attending opening day meetings at Porterville and Bakersfield Colleges. Undoubtedly students are cramming for finals as faculty prepare final lectures and get ready to read papers and grade exams. At the same time, classified staff are preparing for the end of term processes, as well as student and operational support activities repeated each year at this time. I sincerely thank each of you for another semester in which you inspired learning and supported success.

District wide, work is in progress on major initiatives that include: development of a new budget allocation model; implementation of the KCCD Strategic Plan and the California Community College Strategic Plan; receipt of the accreditation report and status for each college; implementation of the compensation philosophy for the confidential and management staff; completion of the 2005-2006 annual financial audit; completion of the Human Resources Assessment and Reorganization; implementation of the Business Services Reorganization; completion of the Information Technology Assessment; continuation of facility planning and construction; negotiations with CCA and CSEA; and on-going management training.

At the December 7, 2006 meeting of the Board of Trustees, four members will take their oath of office. Trustee Stu Witt was unopposed and thereby retained his seat for a second term. Trustee Pauline Larwood was elected to her third term and Trustee John Rodgers was elected to his fourth term. Trustee Herb Bonds lost a close race to Mr. John Corkins, a resident of Porterville, businessman, and Porterville College alumnus. Dr. Bonds served two four-year terms. He could be counted

on to ask tough questions. We are grateful for Dr. Bonds' dedicated service.

Also at the December Board meeting, faculty and classified staff who are retiring mid-year will be recognized for their distinguished service at Bakersfield College and Porterville College. The retirees are extended our best wishes as they begin a new phase of life.

As we approach the holiday season and the end of another calendar year, on behalf of the members of the Board of Trustees and myself, warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful holiday and a very happy new year.

Business Office Update

At the end of November, the District's external auditors, Nystrom & Company LLP, were conducting their site visits in preparation for issuing the 2005-06 District and Foundations Financial audits. The audit report will be received in January. The District's Business Officers have also been working with the Chancellor's Cabinet Budget Taskforce in developing a new District allocation model. College Business Officers have been working on completing the modifications to categorical budgets now that most allocations have been received. The goal is to have all restricted program budgets finalized in the system by December 15.

Information Technology Update

Over the past 24 months, we have developed and implemented an improved District Wide telephone dialing plan to help reduce long-distance costs and to simplify campus-to-campus calling. It is now possible to dial any campus from any other campus, throughout the District, by merely dialing the four-digit extension number. (No more tie lines or dialing codes.) There is one exception: South Kern Center at Edwards Air Force Base, whose numbers have not changed and cannot be reached dialing only four-digits.

As a part of this overall improvement, KCCD IT has incorporated a cost saving method of routing long distance calls out through the closest campus. The called party will not see the caller ID, but will see the number of the local campus processing the call. All other regular long distance calls are processed through the local telephone company.

Educational Services Updates

Congratulations to all Staff Development and Collaboration Grant award recipients for 2006-07! The Kern District recognizes the value of improving communications and nurturing collaboration between work groups and academic departments from across the District. The purpose of the mini-grants is to provide funding in order to overcome the geographical challenges that exist in the District and to facilitate faculty and staff coming together and collaborating on shared projects. Eleven applications were submitted and reviewed by a subcommittee of the Chancellor's Cabinet. Five proposals were awarded for a total of \$4,500. The mini grants funded for 2006-07 are listed in the chart.

Purpose	Lead Person	Budget Award
Develop and implement a District-wide Nursing Faculty Retreat to focus on teaching strategies/ collaboration among District Nursing Programs.	Cindy Collier	\$1,000
Hold a working dinner meeting with District-wide criminal justice faculty to conceptualize, develop, and publish a Criminal Justice Newsletter celebrating the successes of our students, accomplishments of faculty, and the innovations of the programs.	Peggy DeStefano	\$1,000
Establish regular meetings District-wide with Basic Skills faculty.	Phil Feldman	\$1,000
Discuss and train staff in using both Banner and ODS to improve and facilitate scheduling of classes to maximize FTE's and establish a uniform method.	Shelley Crabtree	\$ 500
Facilitate a forum to discuss common issues and concerns and clarify the important roles each child development program plays in serving children and college students.	Nan Gomez-Heitzberg	\$1,000

College Updates

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

Bakersfield College recently approved a comprehensive marketing campaign, geared at branding the college with the community, potential students, and other influencers. The campaign concept, Jump!, focuses on taking a leap into a new future with an energized style, high-intensity music and colorful graphics.

The KCCD Board of Trustees recently approved former Dean Ed Knudson as the new Vice President, Student Learning, for Bakersfield College. Knudson stepped into his new role on November 6, taking over for Interim Vice President Jack Hernandez, who has taken on the role of the inaugural director of the Norman Levan Center for Humanities in Medicine at the request of Dr. Levan.

Sports are strong and winning big at Bakersfield College. The Renegade Football team played a second round playoff game at home on November 25 against Citrus College and won to advance to the Southern California Championship against El Camino College. Women's Volleyball was invited to the playoffs for the Western State Conference South Division. Cross Country is in third place in the state, with upstart runner Clarissa Rivera leading the pack. Women's Basketball is undefeated this season, most recently with a 74-44 win over East Los Angeles College. Sara Ansolabehere continues to play strong rounds of golf for Bakersfield College and is currently ranked third in the state.

The Staff Development Coordinating Council presented the annual Holiday Gala on December 1 in the Bakersfield College Huddle.

Bakersfield College recently dedicated the remodeled Planetarium in the name of local political legend Congressman Bill Thomas. More than 200 family, friends, and supporters, were present when Thomas was recognized with the naming of the Planetarium and a planetarium show in his honor.

PORTERVILLE COLLEGE

Two members of the Porterville College business office have received their MBA degrees after 22 months of working full time and commuting to classes.

Donna Berry, Director of Business Services, and Sonia Huckabay, Accounting Supervisor, are proud to attain their Masters Degrees. They said they could not have done it without the total support of their families. They are both graduates of PC and earned B.S. degrees from Fresno State and their Masters from the University of Phoenix.

Both men's and women's Pirate basketball teams gave their time on a recent weekend to conduct a clinic for the youth of the Tule Indian Reservation. They worked with around 50 youngsters who live on the Reservation. The athletic department is featuring outreach to the community this year.

PC Physics Professor, Jon Satco, will be conducting a unique teaching demonstration for his classes, as well as anyone on campus who wishes to watch. He will show how the ancient Japanese martial arts uses

principles of physics to overcome assailants who are larger than the defender.

The ASPC-sponsored costume contest for the Halloween activities produced some very creative and colorful outfits. The outright winner was **Professor Richard Osborne** who put together a most authentic "Biker's" black leather suit, complete with nose and earring accessories, metal collar, tattoos, metal bracelets, and boots.



The Disability Resource Center set up a Disability awareness program. Members of faculty and staff participated by going through challenges faced daily by the disabled. An obstacle course was laid out to simulate some of those challenges. The object of the activities was to develop awareness about assistive services provided to students with disabilities.

Porterville College started the process of applying for the AB 1280 (Maze) Baccalaureate Partnership Grant with CSU Bakersfield. Dr. Carlson chairs a group which is gathering letters of support from various agencies in Tulare County and the City of Porterville.

The PC student body constructed an impressive float for the annual Veterans' Day parade. The float won the prestigious Mayor's Trophy for best float from over 100 entries. The float replicated two famous photos, the raising of the flag on Iwo Jima and the raising of the flag by firemen at ground zero of the 9-11 disaster. Students posed in the identical positions shown in the photographs.

Mary Jo Jordan, Division Chair, Education and Career Development, Child Development, was named by the California Community College System Office as Co-Catalyst for the Child Development State Advisory Committee.

Herb Bonds, KCCD Board of Trustee member, recently presented a program about the Dust Bowl Exodus from Oklahoma. His presentation was complimented by many slides of scenes from those days and stories of his personal knowledge of that historical era.

Legislative Update

The passage of Prop 1D was good news for KCCD. Cerro Coso College will receive matching capital project funds to begin construction of their science center. Porterville College will now be able complete their health center.

The CCC System Office is currently developing temporary emergency guidelines for implementing SB 361. The new regulations were presented to the Board of Governor's meeting on November 12.

The Board of Governors did not act on the emergency career development and college preparation regulations because the Department of Finance (DOF) indicated they are not willing to sign off on the regulations as drafted. Without DOF approval, the BOG is prohibited from adopting regulations. The DOF has provided the Chancellor's Office with "suggestions" for fairly significant changes. Staff indicated that DOF appears to be very concerned about the concept of enhanced funding for noncredit, and that they want to be clear that new and improved outcomes are required to justify enhanced funding.

The emergency regulations apply only to funding for 2006-07. The regulations will be used to distribute the period one (P-1) funding allocations.

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?EnableClick=True>