



News Brief

March 2007 — Issue 9



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District**

The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) National Legislative Summit convened in Washington, D.C., February 11-14, 2007, and was attended by more than 1600 delegates, including Trustee Rodgers; Rachel Winston, faculty member at Cerro Coso Community College (representing FACCC); and myself. The California delegation's primary charge was to garner support to amend the "tuition sensitivity" clause applied to the Pell Grant award that disadvantages California Community College students. Despite the rain, ice, and snow, we descended on Capitol Hill to meet with our members of Congress and their staff.

Last month I reported how the "tuition sensitivity" clause disadvantages our students. This spring semester nearly 400 students attending BC, PC, and CCC had their Pell Grant award reduced by \$56, due to tuition sensitivity created by the reduction in California Community College enrollment fees. Furthermore, unless the tuition sensitivity clause was amended, next year, more than 4005 students attending KCCD colleges would lose \$112 of Pell Grant assistance.

I am delighted to report that the advocacy of the California delegation was well received. Each one of our Congressmen vowed to support the House Resolution to amend the Pell Grant "tuition sensitivity" clause in current federal law. This Tuesday we learned that H.R. 990, coauthored by Congressmen George Miller and Buck McKeon, both representing California, passed without objection. Please take time to send a note of thanks to George Miller and Buck McKeon (Mono, Inyo), as well as to Jim Costa (Fresno, Kern), Kevin McCarthy (Kern), and Devin Nunes (Tulare).

I remain hopeful that increased financial aid support will translate into higher student enrollment (headcount) or at least higher unit loads (FTES) for those already attending college. Our attendance accounting report as of the spring semester census date indicates KCCD is projected to restore at least half of the 6.48% enrollment decline

experienced last year. It is important that we encourage and support a strong summer session enrollment in order to achieve our goal to fully restore our FTES base funding.

Update on Educational Initiatives

Child Development Center Services

Did you know the Kern Community College District offers child development center services for its students and communities? The District receives approximately \$3.9 million from the Department of Education to provide the child development center program services. In addition, the District receives approximately \$287,000 from the Department of Education for meals served to the children participating in the child care food program.

The District administers self-funded child development programs serving approximately 600 children, ages three months to five years, at eight sites. Bakersfield College provides services for children at three sites: on campus, the Loma Linda State Preschool located off-site, and at the Delano Center; Cerro Coso College provides services for children at three sites: on campus, off-site at Heather Street and Robert P. Ulrich Elementary School State Preschool in California City; and Porterville College provides services for children at two sites: on campus and off-site at Date Street. If you are interested in enrolling your child at any of the child development centers, please contact the campus child development center for more information.

Business Office Update

February saw the unveiling of the proposed new unrestricted fund allocation model. The Budget Allocation Model (BAM) Task Force made presentations to the Chancellor's Cabinet and all of the Colleges, receiving comments and feedback from the Senates and other stakeholders. A final proposal was presented to the Chancellor's Cabinet on February 27th. The proposed model is tailored after the State's new SB 361 model. The BAM has also made other recommendations to enhance the District's budget and enrollment management processes.

The Department also recently conducted finance training for managers and staff with more to follow in March.

Facilities Planning and Construction Projects

Bakersfield College

The Chiller Loop Project, which is removing the Chiller from the Business Services/Bookstore and tying the existing chilled water source to the Language Arts Building to the Library and to the Business Services/Bookstore is moving forward. The chiller for the Library was over-sized to accommodate the Business Services/Bookstore but was never implemented. This will remove redundant equipment, reduce energy usage and reduce energy costs overall, not to mention not having to replace 30-plus year old equipment in the Business Services/Bookstore Building. This project is scheduled to start later this year after approvals are obtained.

Porterville College

The Library Resource Center is progressing slowly with the majority of the construction effort on the underground infrastructure such as electrical, data communications, domestic water service, storm drainage, natural gas and sewer. The photo below indicates the extent of trenching and excavations for the utility infrastructure. In the next few months, more work above ground should be visible.



Cerro Coso College

The Fine Arts Modernization and Addition is still at the Division of the State Architect (DSA), although the Architect, Harley Ellis and Deveraux, expects approval by March 7, 2007. The project has been at DSA for over nine months awaiting completion of the approval process. Upon approval by DSA, the project will be bid and construction will start after the contract is awarded, contingent upon the project being on budget.

The temporary measures for the Fine Arts Modernization are in progress and we have been assured by Cerro Coso staff the work will be done prior to starting construction of the Fine Arts Modernization.

The Security system for the Main Building was bid in February and work is expected to start shortly. This system will be expanded in the upcoming Main Building Modernization project. This work will set the stage for the following work and give the campus increased security in the interim. The work includes the following: Card access, major entry doors to exterior, intrusion alarm for main building as well as tie the Science Lab area into the same system for integration; and surveillance cameras at building corners, parking areas and public areas. This system is expandable as modernization of the building proceeds.

College Updates

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

Men's Basketball

Bakersfield College's Men's Basketball team finished the regular season as Co-Champions of the Western State Conference, earning their first title since 1998. Coach Rich Hughes was named Co-Coach of the year leading the team to a 30 and 2 record and the number one seed in Southern California. Sophomore Terrence Johns was named Player of the Year in the Conference. The team lost a second-round heartbreaker to end the playoff season.

A Celebration of Life with Chorale and Chamber Singers

Bakersfield College's Department of Music presents *A Celebration of Life*, featuring music from international traditions as performed by the Bakersfield College Chorale and Chamber Singers on March 18 at 4 p.m. at the First Congregational Church on Real Road at Stockdale Highway. Cost is \$10 for general admission, \$5 for students and staff. A special Mexican dinner will be served at 6 p.m. for an additional charge.

Bakersfield College Welcomes New Staff

Bakersfield College is pleased to welcome new staff to the team. Dr. Bonnie Suderman will be adding to her existing duties to fill the role of Interim Dean of Student Learning during Patti Ross' absence. Dr. Sharon Adams has accepted the position of Dean of Learning Support Services and started work on February 20. Former faculty member and Department Chair Bob Tuttle has agreed to serve the Interim Dean of Economic and Workforce Development.

BC Partners with KHSD for Gallery Event

The Wylie and May Louise Jones Gallery at Bakersfield College is pleased to present *The Panorama Invitational: An exhibit of exceptional artwork by Kern County High School Seniors*. This newest exhibit runs March 15 through April 12, 2007. An opening reception for the artists will be held on Thursday, March 15, from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Bakersfield College Launches Image Campaign

The first elements of Bakersfield College's Jump! Campaign will be out for the world to see beginning in early March. The campaign launches with outdoor billboards around the greater Bakersfield area, online advertising, radio spots and specific event sponsorships.

Student Accepted to National Honor Choir

Matthew Davis, a Bakersfield College music major, was accepted into the National Community College Honor Choir in Miami, Florida, during the National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association. The Honor Choir will perform from March 7-10, 2007. This incredible honor is compounded by the fact that Matt was selected from students nationwide.

PORTERVILLE COLLEGE

Porterville College has continued a record of having students named to the prestigious Phi Theta Kappa All-California Academic Team for 2007. Catherine Lane and Carlos Rivas were selected and will receive their awards at a banquet in Sacramento. They will also receive Senate and Assembly floor recognition.

Catherine's story is an amazing one. She is a 37 year old mother of four, one of whom is a son serving his third term of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. She has sandwiched being a stay-at-home mom and a part-time student into a six semester quest for her A.A. degree, and managed to maintain a 4.0 GPA. She hopes to pursue a pre-med degree.

Carlos was the valedictorian of his graduating class at Porterville High School and came onto the PC campus determined to become active in both college and community projects. He maintained that high degree of scholastic excellence while majoring in the Social Science field. He plans to major in finance and economics at a four-year college. He has a long list of involvements in community service, headed by work with the Senior Citizens' Prom, sponsored by Rotary.

President Dr. Rosa Flores Carlson has announced the appointment of an Interim Dean to fill the vacancy created with the retirement of Dr. Kathleen Bennett. Bill Henry, Associate Professor, Administration of Justice, has assumed the duties as of the 15th of February. He has served as the Faculty Senate President on campus and has been very active in many campus activities.

A PC alum has landed a job at the Vatican in Rome, Italy. Leisa Santos, after gaining her A.A. degree from PC, attended Fresno State, where she got a B.A. degree in History and Art History. She went to Italy to study and ended up with a job as a tour guide in the world-famous Vatican Museum of Art with over 4000 years of priceless religious art on exhibit. She credits her PC experience for influencing her to pursue her desire to work in a museum.

Several faculty and staff members from the College volunteered to help the Freeze Aid fund-raising campaign. They braved a cold night while holding signs asking for donations during the telethon put on by KSEE-TV and KTIP radio. They netted almost \$50,000 to help the families who lost jobs due to the freeze.

Legislative News

The California Community Colleges Consultation Council was presented with a general overview of the \$52 million Career and Technical Education (CTE) expenditure plan that will be presented to the Board of Governors in March. There are four thrusts for the proposed expenditures:

1. Curriculum
2. Business Partnerships
3. Capacity Building
4. Increase in number of enrollment opportunities.

February 23 was the last day for our legislators to submit legislative bills. You can use the following web site to track specific bills, to learn about what bills are sponsored by a specific individual or to look up a bill by topic.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/index.html>

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>