



BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

to the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees
OCTOBER 9, 2014

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities Conference

Bakersfield College sent a team to the annual Hispanic Association of College and Universities (HACU) conference in Denver last week. The team used this conference as an opportunity to develop the Latino Access and Success Plan tied to the state-wide SSSP and Equity Plans. The outline of the plan includes:

- Outreach to our rural communities (Delano, McFarland, Wasco, Shafter, Arvin and Lamont) under the Rural Initiative outlined in the Educational Master Plan. The Outreach will include (i) students who are transitioning from 8th grade to high school, helping them develop a college-going mindset right from the 9th grade. (ii) parents of these students, encouraging them to participate in workshops on what it takes to go to college (iii) high school students, completing some of the necessary matriculation steps including their admissions, assessment, and orientation.



- Support for students during their time at college through (i) classroom intervention with tutoring and supplemental instruction for students who are identified as not doing well by the second week of the term (ii) co-curricular activities to build a sense of belonging (iii) assigned student mentors or faculty/staff mentors or community mentors. The team branded this effort as the “Padrinos” program.

The team also learned about partnership opportunities with countries in South America and Spain. Chancellor Serrano is on the HACU Board is the past chair, and played a significant role in shaping the dialog. Next year the HACU conference will have a preconference symposium to include Hispanic Serving School Districts). BC has invited Dan Arvizu, Chair of the National Science Board and Director of the Natural Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to be one of the key note speakers at our second annual “Equity and Inclusion” conference in April 23, 2015

PLEASE JOIN US!

October 14 @ 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Kern Agriculture Summit
Bakersfield College

October 17 @ 9 a.m.-noon
Title IX & Clery Act Symposium
Levan Center

November 17
Learning Outcomes Conference
Indoor Theater

December 13
BC Triathlon

January 14 @ 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Spring Opening Day
Delano Campus

April 23
Student Equity Conference
Indoor Theater

Enrollment Update - Post Census

The most recent report, from October 1, shows that in all enrollment sectors, Bakersfield College is doing well. One of the most important, the waitlists, seems to have been positively impacted by the addition of more late-start courses in core areas like mathematics, English, science, and communication, among others. Waitlists are down 33 percent from the same time last fall supporting the college’s work to improve student success and persistence.

Kern Agriculture Summit Next Week at Bakersfield College

Farming worries permeate the southern San Joaquin Valley as more and more local growers are challenged by the lack of water and other pressing issues such as pests, lack of available land, and environmental requirements. The first ever Kern Agriculture Summit will tackle the hard issues facing our local agricultural economy on Tuesday, October 14 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Gil Bishop Sports Center at Bakersfield College. The 2014 Kern Agriculture Summit highlights the strength of agriculture in California, the challenges that impact agriculture, and future trends of sustainability and growth. Congressman McCarthy will preside as the Honorable Chair of the event. Speakers include: (i) Karen Ross, California Secretary of Agriculture (ii) Paul Wenger, California Farm Bureau President (iii) Senator Jean Fuller, and (iv) Congressman David Valadao.



Panel discussions on farm challenges in Kern County including crop and water trends across California will bring together 10 local professionals and experts for enlightening discussion. KCCD and BC will have a table and invite Board members to attend all or part of this, the first ever Kern Agriculture Summit.

General admission tickets are \$75 per person and can be purchased online at www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/agsummit or through Vallitix. The Kern Agriculture Summit is possible through the generous support of area sponsors: Bolthouse Farms, Paramount Farming, Grimmway Farms, Farm Credit West, CSU Bakersfield School of Business and Public Administration, Kern Agricultural Foundation, Calcot, Bakersfield College, United States Department of Agriculture, Tejon Ranch Company, and Rabobank.

LEARN@BC Events

October 14 @ 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Kern Agriculture Summit
Bakersfield College

October 17 @ 9 a.m.-noon
Title IX & Clery Act
Levan Center

November 17
ILO Conference
Indoor Theater

April 23
Student Equity Conference
Indoor Theater

Leading the Conversation on Scorecards

This week, the Research and Planning Group for California Community Colleges is having its annual Strengthening Student Success Conference. Janet Fulks and I presented our locally developed institutional score card called the Renegade Score card. Check out our website at <https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/scorecard>. We emphasized the importance of making the scorecard a meaningful tool for faculty and staff that goes beyond simply seeking accreditation compliance to a collegiate effort that advances student success in accordance with the college mission.

New standards from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges are necessitating changes in how colleges support and evaluate student achievement and student learning, and requiring the establishment of institution set standards. A scorecard is the perfect approach to illustrate how a college is meeting those standards and creating positive outcomes for its students.

A key point of our presentation is helping college colleagues understand the difference between a “report” and a “scorecard” --- a “scorecard” being a standard tool that the entire college engages with to ask if the mission is being fulfilled, and what can be improved.

Reading Groups Encourage Discussion

As you are aware we have focused on professional development for employees over the last two years and this focused effort will continue for the next two years as well. We have branded our professional development in two categories (i) BC Learns, which focuses internally and (ii) Learn@BC! which opens up internal conferences to sister colleges in the district as well as other community colleges in the state. As part of the BC Learns initiatives, our administrative team has started reading groups. Not your typical coffee klatch, these four groups meet each month to discuss important pieces of current and historic literature. Each piece of literature is carefully selected for its educational impact, storytelling, or relevant information.

The administrative team started with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Letter from a Birmingham Jail, and this month read David Foster Wallace's commencement speech to Kenyon College from 2005. Those unable to attend the group session that meets on Monday could make it up by attending the Wednesday reading group, led by



Maintenance and Operations Director Craig Rouse discussing the finer points of the reading, and the irony of Wallace's tragic and inspirational, yet challenged life. Here is a sample quote from Wallace, where he explains that: "the really significant education in thinking that we're supposed to get in a place like this isn't really about the capacity to think, but rather about the choice of what to think about."

"Breaking" News - Construction Crews Hit Hidden Water Pipe

This week, construction on the outdoor restroom facilities for the Simonsen Performing Arts Center hit a snag, when crews discovered the hard way a long-buried water pipe that was not noted on any plans. The pipe was live, and the damage required the College to shut off water and ultimately close the campus as repairs extended for more than six hours.

Our team did a phenomenal job of safely closing the Panorama campus for the thousands of students and hundreds of employees who were on campus when the accident happened. There were a number of lessons learned and future opportunities identified, and the team has requested a "hot wash" meeting to work through those ideas.

Although the college has had a number of water and gas line accidents during the course of the water and gas line replacement project, none were as devastating to instruction as the one on October 8. Just as with the line located under the outdoor restroom facilities, crews working on the water and gas line replacement project have had to alter their construction protocol in order to avoid hitting other "hidden" lines that are not on any plans.

While an unfortunate reality in construction, the incident reinforced the need for Bakersfield College to update its infrastructure and make correct blueprints of college buildings so that these accidents don't happen in the future.



Common Assessment Initiative

Last week the state-wide steering committee for the Common Assessment Initiative (CAI) met in Irvine. Here is an update: The pilot colleges for the CAI have been selected. They are: (1) Bakersfield College (2) Butte College (3) Chaffey College (4) DeAnza College (5) Delta College (6) Diablo Valley College (7) Fresno City College (8) Rio Hondo College (9) Sacramento City College (10) Saddleback College (11) Santa Monica College (12) West Los Angeles College. In general terms, the pilot colleges will be asked to give feedback on what is ultimately designed by the workgroups for the content and rolled out to the vendors.

The specific roles and expectations that pilot colleges will be asked to commit to are:

- Working with coalition partners to implement the common assessment pilot test.
- Identifying key leadership who will work with those partners on implementation and feedback.
- Committing to pilot the use of an assessment system that utilizes multiple measures of placement for incoming students.
- Assisting in the selection or development of processes, tools, and applications required to support the CAI.
- Attending professional development activities for faculty related to the CAI.

- Identifying roadblocks and solutions to issues that could prevent a seamless user experience for faculty, staff, and students as they navigate the common assessment.
- Committing to providing faculty and staff to participate on workgroups, along with the participation in meetings that go along with those workgroups.

The Multiple Measures work continues to gain momentum. Here are the guiding principles drafted by the workgroup:

- “Assessment” refers to a holistic, multiple measures process of understanding student capacity, in which standardized test data is one possible contributor among several types of information.
- Assessment should be predicated on validated data; validation should be required for any contributing measure including both tests and other information, and ongoing validation should be conducted at the state level.
- When deciding what to include in assessment, it is helpful to identify the full range of prerequisite knowledge, skills, and abilities that students will need to attain their goals.
- Given that many students drop out after the first term, multiple measures assessment should gather information that will help to strengthen success in this critical window, including items that will inform placement and items that can target other interventions.

College Council Update - committees.kccd.edu/bc/committee/collegecouncil

At the September 19 meeting, College Council discussed a number of large initiatives on campus:

Educational Master Plan - was received by College Council on October 3 and will be posted online once final review is completed.

Special Funding - a discussion of new and continued funding from Basic Skills, Equity, and Student Success programs, as well as Bakersfield College’s required match commitment.

Hiring - along with the funding was a discussion of new positions to be added to the organizational structure to support the development and expansion of student success programs.

Strategic Planning - updating of the college’s 2011-2014 Strategic Plan is next on the college’s agenda, and a team structure was announced.