



Bakersfield College President's Report

to the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees

April 9, 2015

Strategic Directions and Mission Statement Top College Council Work

Mission Statement

The recent awarding of a baccalaureate degree pilot program, as well as accreditation requirements in Standard I.A., necessitated the review of Bakersfield College's mission statement.

Bakersfield College's mission statement, approved by the Board on June 12, 2014, reads: *Bakersfield College provides opportunities for students from diverse economic, cultural, and educational backgrounds to attain degrees and certificates, workplace skills, and preparation for transfer. Our rigorous and supportive learning environment fosters students' abilities to think critically, communicate effectively, and demonstrate competencies and skills in order to engage productively in their communities and the world.*

The mission statement team, chaired by Kate Pluta, reviewed the mission statement, and made a minor modification (in red) to reflect Bakersfield College's new role in providing higher education opportunity to the community. The new mission statement, in the box above, was approved by College Council on March 18, will be presented to the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees for approval at the May 7, 2015 Board meeting.

Strategic Directions

As part of our three-year cycle for institutional goals and strategic planning, a review of the college's 2012 strategic directions began in Fall 2014, and was overseen by a team commissioned by College Council.

An exhaustive process, including review of national and state issues in higher education, internal and external surveys and scans, presentations and focus groups in participatory governance committees, the college's strategic directions have been modified.

The strategic directions adopted in 2012 are: Student Success; Professional Development; Communication; Facilities, Infrastructure, and Technology; Oversight and Accountability, and; Integration. The revised goals are reminiscent of the previous goals, with more information based on changes over the last three years, and vision for Bakersfield College's efforts in the next three years. The strategic goals was approved by College Council on March 26, 2015.

Proposed Mission Statement

*Bakersfield College provides opportunities for students from diverse economic, cultural, and educational backgrounds to attain **Associate and Baccalaureate** degrees and certificates, workplace skills, and preparation for transfer. Our rigorous and supportive learning environment fosters students' abilities to think critically, communicate effectively, and demonstrate competencies and skills in order to engage productively in their communities and the world.*

Proposed Strategic Directions

Student Learning - A commitment to provide a holistic education that develops curiosity, inquiry, and empowered learners.

Student Progression and Completion - A commitment to reduce the time for students to complete educational goals.

Facilities - A commitment to improve the maintenance of and secure funding for college facilities, technology, and infrastructure for the next thirty years.

Oversight and Accountability - A commitment to improve oversight, accountability, sustainability, and transparency in all college processes.

Leadership and Engagement - A commitment to build leadership within the college and engagement with the community.

Enrollment Steady in Spring 2015 - Looking Ahead to Summer/Fall

Maintaining balance between efficient course scheduling and meeting student demand for courses continues to be a primary focus for Bakersfield College. Bakersfield College continues to look at different ways to address the student need for courses.

Bakersfield College	Point-in-Time Comparison ¹				Spring 2014 FTES as a % of the Eventual Term-End ⁵	Spring 2015 FTES as a % of Spring Target ⁶
	Spring - Ninth Week					
	Spring 2014	Spring 2015	Diff	% Chg		
Current Headcount	16,832	16,951	119	0.7%		
Duplicated Enrollments	50,219	51,143	924	1.8%		
Waitlisted Enrollments ²	127	79	-48	-37.8%		
Current FTES³	5,970.0	6,127.4	157.5	2.6%	99.2%	102.8%
Workload (FTEF)	346.8	360.4	13.6	3.9%		5,959.7
FTES/FTEF ⁴	17.2	17.0	-0.2	-1.2%		Spring 2015 Target
Active Sections	1,626	1,663	37	2.3%		

In recent semesters, we have sought to place additional courses at our community locations, and have carefully evaluated scheduling at the Panorama and Delano campuses to determine possible additional opportunities to add courses in key areas. Each of these measures was taken with the student in mind; the focus was on waitlists in core course areas and student course progression requirements was reviewed to make sure the courses selected for addition were relevant, essential, and helpful. Our productivity number, FTES/FTEF has stayed strong at 17.0.

Moving toward Summer and Fall enrollment, Bakersfield College's team has geared up visits to high schools to prep students with early placement testing and evaluation of skills through our recently-instituted multiple measures efforts. Staff is engaging with a large cohort of Making it Happen students - 1,500 total this coming year - to provide early study skills, enrollment assistance, and supplementary efforts to improve student success. As the next semesters near, our team will once again work to make sure the course offerings are of importance and relevance to students, and continue to make adjustments as necessary to ensure Bakersfield College's offerings are appropriate for student needs.

BC in the Community - Annual NAACP Dinner

Connecting with the community is an important part of BC's focus. A team from Bakersfield College (pictured, right), including Paul Beckworth, Sonya Christian, Odella Johnson, Michele Bresso, Valerie Robinson, Somaly Boles, Vikki Coffee, and Tamika Navarez attended the dinner and networked with community leaders. For more information on connecting with the community, check out the website at <https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/president/projects/community-leaders-at-bc>



Freshman Class Honored with President's Scholars Program

Students entering Bakersfield College from area high schools have the opportunity to receive an honorarium and priority registration for their hard work and dedication in high school. By earning a 3.5 GPA and enrolling in 12 units at Bakersfield College for the fall semester after they graduate high school, these accomplished students become a President's Scholar.

The entering class of President's Scholars was welcomed to Bakersfield College at an event in late March, where they heard from educational program and student services staff, student leaders, and had the opportunity to network as a cohort. At the event, students were able to better understand what it means to be a student at Bakersfield College, and find their own place among the thousands of other students who walk the halls each semester.

75 students attended the President's Scholars event, and for many of the students, Bakersfield College is their first choice college. Most will transfer in two years to a four-year university. Many of the students left wanting to attend BC this fall based on the information presented during the event. Outreach and placement



staff are working through each student's matriculation, and once done, the students will receive priority registration to sign up for their classes for fall.

Levan Gift Provides Annual St. John's Lecture at Bakersfield College



Each year, as part of Dr. Norman Levan's legacy of philanthropy to Bakersfield College, a scholar from St. John's College in New Mexico comes to Bakersfield to deliver a presentation on recent research material. This year, Bakersfield College was able to have Dr. Greg Schneider discuss two disparate views of Fyodor Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*. Schneider reviewed the novel from two contrasting world views - one godless and one Christian - and found how at crucial points of the story, profound, embodied gestures take the place of intellectual argument.

Schneider has taught across the liberal arts and science curriculum at St. John's. His background is in medicine, and includes six years of teaching clinical medicine, literature and medicine, and medical ethics.

While the spiritual and intellectual themes of Dostoevsky's classic have been debated endlessly for the past 135 years, Schneider's presentation zeroed in on a decidedly refreshing take - how the physical movements of the characters actually take the place of the philosophical debates at the novel's center. As

Schneider explained, gestures in Dostoevsky's world embody how "faith and doubt have far-reaching implications for human individuals, body and soul."

In dissecting key distinct motions carried out by the characters, Schneider expertly interprets how a bow between brothers foreshadows one's intellectual unmooring and spiritual undoing; how an anguished character hurling himself to the soil represents connections between Earth and the heavens and an embracing of universal love; and how a kiss for a condemned man offers a message of acceptance and forgiveness of sin at the heart of the Russian master's work.

Schneider's presentation is posted on the Levan Center website at www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/levancenter/publications.

Diversity at Bakersfield College - Special Events

Bakersfield College's ongoing efforts to provide programming that emphasize the college's diversity initiatives have become a regular part of our major events that are open to college and community. This semester, a number of events have been planned that will show our students, staff, and community that Bakersfield College is committed to providing learning opportunities that help them to better understand and appreciate the world we live in, and provide the educational experience they need to become the change they want to see in the world.

Captain Luis Montalván and Tuesday



Captain Luis Montalván is a 17-year veteran of the U.S. Army, and served multiple tours abroad for which he received two Bronze Stars, the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal for Valor, and the Combat Action Badge. He also received a life sentence for his service: post-traumatic stress disorder. Since leaving the service, Montalván has become a strong critic of the war and a promoter of better care of those who served. His book "Until Tuesday: A Wounded Warrior and the Golden Retriever Who Saved Him" talks about the injuries he sustained in a 2003 attack and how Tuesday, his service dog, helped him to

cope. Montalván made two appearances at Bakersfield College earlier this week to talk about how Tuesday offers therapy for Montalván's soul on a daily basis.

Self Made Man: The Frederick Douglass Story

Born a slave, Frederick Douglass found his true freedom in forgiveness, says Phil Darius Wallace, who performed Douglass in a one-man show at Bakersfield College earlier this week. In *Self Made Man: The Frederick Douglass Story*, Wallace portrayed 14 characters who influenced Douglass' life, and reconstructed the time in which Douglass became a leader who inspired U.S. President Abraham Lincoln to make major change in the United States.

Renegade Talks

Based on the popular TEDTalks concept of "Ideas Worth Sharing," Renegade Talks brings together several thought leaders at Bakersfield College to deliver short, innovative, subject-based discussions. Renegade Talks launched last fall, and seeks to provide information and thought-provoking commentary that helps those who hear the presentations change the way they look at the world. Each presentation is made by a member of the Bakersfield College faculty, staff, or administration, and focuses on the intellectual capacity here at Bakersfield College among our employees.



Tonight, April 9, Renegade Talks will feature six presentations starting at 7 p.m. Topics include Dr. Joe Saldivar speaking on obesity, Talita Pruett speaking on culture and resiliency, Todd Coston speaking on laughter, Lisa Harding speaking on what it really means to be a renegade, Dr. Oliver Rosales speaking on civil rights and historical studies, and Andrea Thorson speaking on the power of hurtful words.

PLEASE JOIN US!

April 9 at 5 p.m.
*Red and White Knight
Foundation Fundraiser*
Imbibe

April 9 at 7 p.m.
Renegade Talks
SPARC Indoor Theater

April 18 at 9 a.m.
Bakersfield College Garden Fest
Horticulture Lab

April 22 at 6 p.m.
*Beyond Diversity and Inclusion: An
Evening with Dr. J. Goosby Smith*
SPARC Indoor Theater

April 23
Learn@BC!
Student Equity Conference
SPARC Indoor Theater

April 25 at 6:45 p.m.
A Noteworthy Event
Grand Reopening of the SPARC
SPARC Outdoor Theater

April 28-May 2 at 8 p.m.
Mother Courage and Her Children
BC Performing Arts
SPARC Indoor Theater

May 6 at 9 a.m.
Health and Wellness Fair
Student Services Lawn

May 8 at 6 p.m.
Honor Reception
*Recognizing scholarship recipients
and department award winners*
SPARC Outdoor Theater

May 15 at 6 p.m.
Commencement
Memorial Stadium

call 395-4211 for information