



Bakersfield College President's Report

to the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees

November 3, 2015

ACCJC Commissioners Visit BC as Part of Statewide Listening Tour

Members of the accreditation commission (ACCJC) were at Bakersfield College's Panorama Campus on Friday, October 30, as part of "listening tours" taking place across the state on various campuses. This includes listening to the field and getting their feedback on the newly released accreditation taskforce report commissioned by the state chancellor's office. The actual report is only nine pages in length, but with appendices it runs to 274 pages. The full report can be found at: californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/Portals/0/reports/2015-Accreditation-Report-ADA.pdf

There were more than 30 trustees, presidents, faculty, administrators, classified staff, and students who attended. Of those who attended, 13 individuals addressed the commissioners. Of the 13, 11 were faculty, one a trustee, and one a student.

Bakersfield College's Accreditation and Institutional Quality (AIQ) Committee studied the taskforce report and provided their response

to College Council. Here is an excerpt of the October 16 AIQ report to College Council:

"The Task Force Report does not reflect Bakersfield College's experience with the accreditation process and the ACCJC. BC is one of 37 institutions that have not received a sanction in the last ten years. BC has had the opportunity to respond to ACCJC proposed policy changes and proposed standards changes directly to the Commission and through the Academic Senate. In contrast, BC did not have the opportunity to give feedback or weigh in on the Task Force Report.

The Report makes several statements without providing evidence and with which AIQ disagrees:

- *The structure of accreditation in this region no longer meets the current and anticipated needs of the California Community Colleges.*
- *On several occasions the ACCJC has promised changes and has offered reports detailing their efforts to address concerns, but these promises and reports have led to few significant improvements.*
- *The California Community College system and its member institutions have lost confidence in the ACCJC.*

While the task force was a representative body, there is no indication that the representatives requested input from the people or groups they represented as they developed the report. BC had no opportunity to give feedback or even to respond at any stage of the process."

College Council completed their first reading of AIQ's recommendation. At their October 28 meeting, BC's Academic Senate unanimously voted to support AIQ's recommendation.

Dr. Chuck Wall Speaks at Disability Awareness Day



Dr. Chuck Wall, former Bakersfield College professor and founder of the Kindness International movement, spoke at Bakersfield College's Disability Awareness Day. Several community organizations also had information booths at the event, which raised awareness of disabilities and services available for persons with disabilities. Among the messages Dr. Wall shared with his audience was his own message of perseverance against great odds.

Coming Events

Thursday, November 5, 1 p.m./6 p.m.
Baccalaureate Information Session
Science & Engineering, room 53

Thursday, November 12, 8 a.m.
Hispanic/Latino Community Leaders Breakfast
Fireside Room

Friday, November 13, 11:15 a.m.
Redesigning America's Community Colleges - Chapter 4
Business 8

Bakersfield College Partners with Local Agencies to Vaccinate Public

On Saturday, October 24, Bakersfield College partnered with the County of Kern Department of Public Health and Kaiser Permanente to provide free influenza vaccinations to residents of Bakersfield. The event took place in the college's stadium parking lots, and over the course of approximately seven hours, nearly 1,400 members of the public were immunized against the seasonal flu.

For the vaccination event, not only were the main partners in place, but the team worked in conjunction with the Bakersfield Police Department for traffic control, and GET Bus for transportation alterations. Second, the event was practice for similar catastrophic events where large numbers of people would need to be immunized against a pandemic illness or airborne pathogen. Third, the vaccination event was an opportunity for 105 of Bakersfield College's Registered Nursing students to practice their skills before completing their education this December.

Vaccinating 1,400 community members takes a team to make everything run smoothly, and Bakersfield College was well-represented. Special thanks go to Carla Gard for her leadership and coordination of the Bakersfield College team, which included Amber Chiang, Chris Counts, Ramon Puga, Shelby Clarke, Mary Jo Pasek, Cindy Collier, Don Birdwell, Stella Raymond, Marcos Sifuentes, Jason Mattheus, Debbie Strong, Jennifer Johnson, Todd

Coston, and many more willing volunteers. For more photos check out bakersfieldcollege.smugmug.com/2015-Influenza-Vaccination.

Bakersfield College Selected for AACC Pathways Project

Bakersfield College has been selected by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) to participate in the Pathways Project, which will help Bakersfield College, and 29 other colleges across the United States, to implement a pathways approach to education that leads to student success and college completion. Colleges were selected following a highly competitive national process, and represent urban, rural, and suburban regions in 17 states, with fall headcounts ranging from 3,000 to 60,000 students.

Over 200 applications were received of which 50 colleges were invited to interview and 30 were selected. Partners in the project include Achieving the Dream, the Aspen Institute, the Center for Community College Student Engagement, the Community College Research Center, Jobs for the Future, the National Center for Inquiry and Improvement, and Public Agenda. The Pathways Project is funded by a \$5.2 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Campus Discussions Highlight Community College Redesign

This semester, Bakersfield College has been engaged in a series of panel discussions centered on the Community College Research Center's *Redesigning America's Community Colleges: A Clearer Path to Student Success*. Each panel has been a chapter-specific discussion

by cross-functional teams with a singular goal of refining and redefining student success. These discussions have had strong in-person attendance, and were broadcast via web stream to any interested employee who could not attend.

The chapter 1 panelists, Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg, Lesley Bonds, Billie Jo Rice, and Cindy Collier, discussed redesigning college programs with academic and career pathways in mind, while chapter 2's panelists, Paul Beckworth, Zav Dadabhoy, Marisa Marquez, and Keri Kennedy, explored guiding students in a pathways model. The panelists for chapter 3, Janet Fulks, Bill Moseley, Rebecca Monks, and Jessica Wojtysiak, discussed



rethinking instruction to maximize student learning and student success in the class, while chapter 5's panelists, Kate Pluta, Manny Mourtzanos, Edie Nelson, and Mark Staller, explored what leadership and engagement looked like if the entire campus was focused

on guiding students toward their educational goals. Yesterday afternoon, the chapter 6 panel, Anthony Culpepper, Steven Holmes, Nick Strobel, and Meg Stidham, brought economics to bear and discussed the finances for implementing redesign.

Our discussions conclude next Friday with chapter 4's panel, Kimberly Bligh, Eileen Pierce, Reggie Bolton, and Corny Rodriguez, discussing helping underprepared students. We will start a series of student panels next week. Please mark your calendars and attend BC's conference on guided pathways on February 18, 2016.