# BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

## Bakersfield College President's Report

to the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees

Sonya Christian, October 8, 2020

#### \$4.3 Million to Expand Education & Health Pathways

WeOver a two week period, BC received \$4.3 million in funding to support nursing and teaching students in Kern County. In recognition of Bakersfield College's significant work to advance student completion and workforce readiness, <u>the college has been awarded \$3 million in Title V funding</u> to catalyze efforts addressing disparities in quality health care access throughout the county. BC will leverage grant dollars to bolster existing efforts designed to address shortages in the healthcare workforce, which has been made more visible due to the COVID-19 pandemic. By expanding the college's footprint of health sciences pathways through Early College, transfer pathway agreements, and strong partnerships with health care providers and community organizations, BC will systematically strengthen Kern's education -to-workforce pipeline while improving health outcomes for local residents.



In a separate initiative, <u>the US Department of Education provided a \$1.3 million grant</u> that will support aspiring educators in our Teacher Preparation Pathway. The TRIO grant will support 700 first-generation college students in their goal of becoming teachers, which will improve diversity in the field. They'll receive academic support, networking opportunities and help preparing for their CBEST and CSET credentialing tests.

#### Data Snippet: Increasing On-Path Percentage

Bakersfield College's recent research shows that as students use program maps their course-taking becomes more focused. This increased focus is measured by the increasing on-path percentage shown below. The on-path percentage statistic is calculated by comparing the specific coursework described in the Pathway Program Mapper student experience to actual student course-taking of a series of firsttime student cohorts.



Excerpted from "Program Pathways Mapper Opportunity Validation Response" by Sonya Christian and Craig Hayward.

#### Renegade Alumni Council #BakwithRAC

Former BCSGA President **Alex Dominguez**, who recently finished law school and is now preparing for Bar exams in October, contacted previous SGA presidents to launch the creation of a Renegade Alumni Council to keep recently-graduated students engaged with the campus. <u>Alex discusses RAC in more detail in a video that released</u> <u>during BC's Opening Week series</u>. You can also <u>visit the RAC website</u> to find out more.



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#### ASPIRE Faculty Diversification Program

**Beenne Anglin** is from a French and Haitian background. Ms. Anglin was born in Haiti and moved to the United States with her family when she was five years old. She is entering her second year as an adjunct faculty at Bakersfield College in the Psychology department, and she is being mentored by professor **David Rohac**.

One of her recent accomplishments include the completion of her PhD in Industrial-Organizational Psychology from Grand Canyon University. Currently, she is in the process of editing and publishing her dissertation.



#### Peace Garden Project

Thanks to the support of Dr. Naina Patel, BC students will have beautiful new spaces to reflect and study once we return to campus.



The first phase of the Peace Garden project starts east of the library and will continue to grow throughout the campus as a series of walking spaces over the next few years. This project is faculty and student-driven, and will inspire wellness, curiosity and critical thinking for generations to come.

## Beautiful Bakersfield Awards

Bakersfield College has been nominated for several awards for the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Beautiful Bakersfield awards. Please mark your calendars and plan to tune into the pre-recorded event airing on KGET-TV-17 and streaming online Saturday, October 24 from 8-9:30 p.m. The winners will be announced during the program. Congratulations to the nominees:

Category	Nominee
Corporation of the Year	Bakersfield College
Architecture	BC Vernon Valenzuela Veteran's Resource Center
Arts & Culture	BC Performing Arts Department
Education	BC Umoja & MESA Programs
Health	BC's Rural Health Equity & Learning (HEAL) Collaborative
Renovation	BC Memorial Stadium
Young Professional	Lesley Bonds, Director of Student Success & Equity

#### Learning Together Project #BCLearns

On Tuesday, September 22, Time Magazine journalist **Justin Worland** participated in a Q&A session with BC history professor **Oliver Rosales** to talk about his article "The Overdue Awakening." It was the kick-off event for the #BCLearns Library Learning Together Project, a collaboration between the BC Library and the President's All-Campus Virtual Seminar Series, which encourages education and dialogue on current events and social issues. Every two weeks, we'll have a discussion based on an article, video, documentary or podcast from the BC Library's Libguide on Race and Cultural Competence.



#BCLearns Library Learn Together Project



Kirk Russell Department Chair, BC Library



**Mindy Wilmot** Reference Libriarian, BC Library

September 22, 2020, 4:00 p.m.



Sonya Christian



Oliver Rosales BC Professor of History

Todd Coston



Justin Worland Writer, Time Magazine BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

## Rural HEAL Webinar

BC hosted a regional webinar on September 22nd titled <u>Public Health Strategies: COVID-19 and the</u> <u>Central Valley</u>. Speakers included:

- *Dr. Nancy Burke*, Public Health Professor at UC Merced
- **Dr. Sidra J. Goldman-Mellor**, Public Health Assistant Professor at UC Merced
- **Dr. Dvera I. Saxton**, Anthropology Associate Professor at CSU Fresno
- **Dr. Edward Flores**, Sociology Associate Professor at UC Merced
- **Dr. Charles Daramola**, Public Health Professor at Bakersfield College
- **Dr. Tania Pacheco-Werner**, Co-Assistant Director at CSU Fresno Central Valley Health Policy Institute
- Mayor Rey Leon, Mayor of Huron, CA
- *Dr. Kathleen M. Murphy*, Pediatric ICU Physician, Valley Children's Healthcare & Hospital

#### Drive-Thru COVID-19 Testing

On Tuesday, Sept. 22, <u>Bakersfield College partnered</u> with the Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to host drive-thru COVID-19 testing on the Panorama Campus.



#### Energy Technology Transfer & Workforce Development

Bakersfield College has been working closely with Chancellor Burke and Vice Chancellor Means and in collaboration with Cerro Coso Community College to launch the Energy Technology Transfer & Work-force Development (TT & WD) project. This project will focus on the intersection of technology transfer, research, workforce development, and policy to secure the economic stability of our region while creating opportunities for Kern's workers, employers, unions, community organizations, and more to work in unity toward our collective future.

To secure resources for this project, we are moving forward with two grant applications: 1) the California Workforce Development Board High Road Training Partnership (HRTP) grant, and 2) a U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Innovation Stronger Economy (RISE) grant. If successful, the HRTP and RISE grants will support the expansion of energy sector workforce development strategies and strengthen our workforce training partnerships in Kern County.

#### Partnership with the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL)

As a part of our Energy TT&WD project, Bakersfield College has launched a partnership with NREL and the Kern County Planning & Natural Resources Department to host a webinar series. The series will focus on how we can create the future of Kern County with an expanded energy portfolio, while advancing technology and artificial intelligence with other industries. The first webinar was on October 7 at 10am.

#### NREL Virtual Zoom Webinar

THE FUTURE OF KERN COUNTY: Energy Opportunities to Secure the Economic Vitality of our Region



Dr. Sonya Christian President Bakersfield College



Featured Speakers

Dr. David Mooney Executive Director, Institutional Planning, Integration and Development, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

Save the Date Wednesday, October 7, 2020 | 10 am - 11 am (PST)



Lorelei Oviatt Director, Kern County Planning and Natural Resources

# Registration Link: https://bit.ly/3cCSSV6



#### BC Presents at the Chancellor's Office Statewide Webinar

At a webinar that live streamed for all of California's 115 community colleges on September 2, I had the opportunity to share how BC's Guided Pathways framework provided a blueprint to support our students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

