

Renegade Roundup



COVID-19 Advisory – March 15th Update

March 15, 2020

Dear colleague:

As of this afternoon at 9:00 pm, the [Johns Hopkins University Dashboard](#) shows 169,387 confirmed COVID-19 cases worldwide, 3,774 in the United States, and 431 in California.

BC is responding to the need for *social distancing* to slow down the spread of the covid-19 epidemic by continuing in our mission to provide high quality instruction and student support services – but we are doing so from a distance. We are working swiftly and deliberately to provide *continuity in instruction, continuity in student services, and continuity of operations* by transitioning from a face-to-face format to a virtual format. We started the social distancing approach last week with the cancellation of non-essential travel and non-essential large gatherings and events. This gave us the time to prepare to transition the core functions of the college – instruction and student services.

Harry Stevens [wrote yesterday \(3/14\) in the Washington Post](#) about the importance of social distancing in flattening the curve, stopping the rapid spread of COVID-19 and giving our healthcare system a chance to respond effectively to existing cases. Social distancing usually outperforms forced quarantine when it comes to stopping the spread of a virus. When we engage in social distancing it is not so much about protecting ourselves from getting the disease; it is more about removing ourselves from the circulation path of the virus and this helps the community at large. It protects our most vulnerable populations. Be sure to take a look at the article linked above to see the simulations on **how different strategies can slow the spread of a virus with extensive social distancing being the most effective.**



Since I convened the Incident Command Team on February 27 to assess the developing COVID-19 threat and initiate the development of a [Pandemic Response Plan](#), we have been diligent in keeping our faculty, staff, students, and community apprised of our evolving response. Below is a snapshot of our timeline

March 2 Monday	Coronavirus Update Video with me, Cindy Collier, Steven Holmes, and Samantha Pullido was developed to update the campus on the COVID-19 virus, including symptoms, promising precautions to prevent the spread of infectious disease, and introduce the community to BC's Incident Command Center team
March 3 Tuesday	Released a Renegade Roundup to disseminate the first wave of recommendations to the community

March 5 Thursday	Released a Renegade Roundup to update the community on the status of COVID-19 and to invite faculty and staff to attend my second all-campus seminar briefing
March 6 Friday	Hosted the second all-campus briefing regarding BC's response to COVID-19
March 8 Sunday	Released a Renegade Roundup with a new directive to cancel all non-essential travel.
March 9 Monday	<p>The COVID-19 Advisory Team, led by Dr. Nicky Damania, Cindy Collier, and Shelley Castaneda, held their first campus-wide Zoom Update meeting from the BC Panorama campus</p> <p>Released a Renegade Roundup with a new directive to move all in-person meetings to a virtual format starting immediately and cancel all non-essential large gatherings</p>
March 10 Tuesday	<p>The COVID-19 Advisory Team, led by Dr. Nicky Damania, Cindy Collier, and Shelley Castaneda held their second campus-wide Zoom Update meeting from the BC Delano Campus with Executive Director Abel Guzman</p> <p>Released a Renegade Roundup to update the community on the status of COVID-19</p>
March 11 Wednesday	<p>The COVID-19 Advisory Team, led by Dr. Nicky Damania, Cindy Collier, and Shelley Castaneda, held their their campus-wide Zoom Update meeting from the BC SouthWest campus with Dean Jessica Wojtysiak</p> <p>Released a Renegade Roundup with a call to flatten the epidemic curve, notifying the community of the college's first wave of courses moving to an online environment effective March 12, 2020</p>
March 12 Thursday	<p>Launched the first wave of nearly 800 courses moving from face-to-face to a fully-online or virtual environment</p> <p>Released a Renegade Roundup inviting faculty and staff to attend the next all-campus briefing</p> <p>Hosted a third all-campus briefing to update the campus on the institution's response and answered questions for 472 attendees. Speakers included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Holmes, Academic Senate President • Samantha Pulido, BCSGA President • Billie Jo Rice, VP of Instruction • Zav Dadabhoy, VP of Student Affairs • Mike Giacomini, VP of Finance & Administrative Services
March 13 Friday	Released a Renegade Roundup inviting faculty and staff to attend the next all-campus briefing and detailing what a transition to a virtual environment will look like for faculty, staff, and students

Hosted a [fourth all-campus seminar](#) focusing on instructional strategies with a panel of 5 faculty sharing best practices in transitioning to teaching at a distance, and [answered questions](#) for 162 attendees. Panelists included:

- Michael Korcok, Communication
- Chris Cruz Boone, Communication
- Jennifer Jett, English
- Michelle Hart, Education
- Michael Muhme, Communication

March 14
Saturday

Released a Renegade Roundup inviting faculty and staff to attend the next all-campus briefing and updating the community on recent COVID-19 developments

Hosted a [fifth all-campus seminar](#) with a panel of 4 faculty sharing best practices in transitioning to teaching at a distance, and answered questions for 102 attendees. Panelists included:

- Kathleen Rush, Mathematics
- Olivia Garcia, History
- LeAnn Riley, Agriculture
- Jennifer Grohol, History

Academic Technology held an [Open House](#) from 8am-2pm. Over 100 attended for 1:1 support in transitioning their courses to an online/virtual environment



March 15
Sunday

Hosted a sixth all-campus seminar with a panel of student affairs and academic support staff sharing updates and best practices in transitioning to supporting students at a distance, and answered questions for 201 attendees. Panelists included:

- Marisa Marquez, Director of Counseling
- Victor Diaz, Counseling Department Chair
- Imelda Valdez, Director of EOP&S
- Kim Arbolante, Writing Center Lead

Academic Technology held day 2 of their [Open House](#) from 11am-5pm. Over 100 attended the second day for 1:1 support in transitioning their courses to an online/virtual environment



Moving forward, we will continue to be vigilant to ensure the health and safety of our community. Many new courses will be moving online in the coming days, with few exceptions for those that have in-person lab, performance, or other requirements that make moving to an online format particularly challenging.

I will host my daily all-campus forums tomorrow, March 16 at 4:00 p.m. You will hear from:

- Sondra Keckley – Library
- Nick Strobel – Astronomy
- Jason Stratton – History

Jennifer will send the zoom information tomorrow.

In addition, Academic Technology will also hold office hours tomorrow, March 16, to support those in transition:

BC Lead	Time	Location
Matt Jones (For help with Zoom)	9-10am; 10:30-11:30am	L160
Pam Rivers (For help on any topic)	7:30am-9am	Zoom: https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/8051197683
	2-4:30pm	L160
Tracy Lovelace (For help with Canvas)	11-3pm; 6:30-8pm	L160
Alex Rockey (For help on any topic)	4-7pm	Zoom: https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/8051197683

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,
sonya

[See all issues of Renegade Roundup online](#)

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March 14, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

As of this afternoon at 4:33p.m., the [Johns Hopkins University Dashboard](#) shows 156,396 confirmed COVID-19 cases worldwide, 2,951 in the United States, and 368 in California.

Many throughout California and the U.S. are making bold moves to *flatten the epidemic curve*. And I am proud to say that we at BC are doing our part.

Following the NBA's suspension of all activity, the California Community College Athletic Association announced on March 12 the indefinite suspension of all sports.

Yesterday, March 13, Los Angeles Unified School District closed their doors for at least two weeks. Over 730,000 students who attend school in LAUSD will be displaced during the day, affecting their families and friends. Following their announcement, many other K12 districts announced they, too, will suspend activity.

Late last night, the House passed the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, which would provide free testing for COVID-19, paid sick leave, unemployment insurance, and other measures to combat the pandemic. President Trump supports this bipartisan act, and the Senate is expected to review and pass the bill next.

The Home of the Renegades was hopping with activity today, as the Academic Technology department held an Open House to support faculty who are working rapidly to move their courses to be taught at a distance. We had over 100 faculty participate today and I am hoping that we will have many more tomorrow, Sunday, between 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Check out this fun video from earlier today:

<https://www.facebook.com/BakersfieldCollege/videos/2602662370023166/>

In addition to all the activity in the library with the Open House, this morning, I hosted our fifth virtual seminar, this one focused on instructional strategies. The panel of four faculty members shared their ideas on how best to make the transition from face-to-face teaching to teaching at a distance. We had 102 attendees this session. Thank you!

COVID-19 ALL-CAMPUS INSTRUCTIONAL BRIEFING #2



Sonya Christian



Todd Coston



Kathleen Rush



Olivia Garcia



LeAnn Riley



Jennifer Grohol

March 14, 2020

**BAKERSFIELD
COLLEGE**

On tomorrow's virtual seminar #6, we will hear from a panel of four individuals in student support services on how they have planned to support students from a distance. Please join us via zoom at 3pm.

Link: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/331677845>

Or iPhone one-tap: +16468769923,331677845#

Telephone: 646 876 9923

Meeting ID: 331 677 845

A tip: Joining audio by phone in addition to joining the video by web will give you the most clear audio and ensure poor internet connections do not interrupt the content

COVID-19 ALL-CAMPUS STUDENT AFFAIRS BRIEFING



Sonya Christian



Todd Coston



Marisa Marquez



Victor Diaz



Imelda Valdez



Kim Arbolante

March 15, 2020

**BAKERSFIELD
COLLEGE**

I want to thank the Academic Technology team under the leadership of Bill Moseley for their swift action and leadership as we all transition to teaching and supporting our students at a distance. You can view the materials they've developed on our website: <https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/covid19/instructional-resources>

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,
sonya

[See all issues of Renegade Roundup online](#)

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March 13, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Johns Hopkins University Dashboard shows the **total confirmed cases in the world is above 142,000.**

President Trump declared a National Emergency today, 3/13, at a press conference
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nxixa1QVzoo>,

BC started our preparations on February 27th and we are well on our way to providing our students "instructional continuity" as we rapidly transition our classes to be taught at a distance. This weekend will be an active weekend at the **Home of the Renegades**. Let's see why.....

March 14th, Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Academic Technology Open House
March 15th, Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Library (L160) Come through the doors across the parking lot that says "Community Technology"

I will be hosting my daily all-campus COVID-19 response virtual forums.

<p>March 14th, Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon</p> <p>Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/663157547</p> <p>Or iPhone one-tap (US Toll): +16699006833,663157547# or +16468769923,663157547#</p> <p>Or Telephone: Dial: +1 669 900 6833 (US Toll) +1 646 876 9923 (US Toll) Meeting ID: 663 157 547</p>	<p>COVID-19 response virtual seminar series hosted by me. Title: Instructional Strategies.</p> <p>Dr. Nick Strobel -- Astronomy Olivia Garcia -- History Kathleen Rush -- Math LeAnn Riley -- Agriculture</p> <p><i>A tip: Joining audio by phone in addition to joining the video by web will give you the most clear audio and ensure poor internet connections do not interrupt the content</i></p>
<p>March 15, Sunday, 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/331677845</p> <p>Or iPhone one-tap (US Toll): +16699006833,331677845# or +16468769923,331677845#</p> <p>Or Telephone: Dial: +1 669 900 6833 (US Toll) +1 646 876 9923 (US Toll) Meeting ID: 331 677 845</p>	<p>COVID-19 response virtual seminar series hosted by me. Title: Student Support Services.</p> <p>Marisa Marquez -- Counseling Victor Diaz -- Counseling Imelda Valdez -- EOPS Kim Arbolante -- Writing Center</p>

We are continuing to move our courses from face-to-face to alternative formats. The first wave of these courses shifted on Thursday, and we will have many more that will happen on Monday 3/16. Faculty and students should keep in close contact with one another to share any developments or changes to their courses.

We held a virtual all-campus briefing yesterday to discuss strategies as we make this transition together, and to answer questions that may arise during this time of change. We had 470 attendees. Thank you!

COVID-19 ALL-CAMPUS BRIEFING



Sonya Christian



Cindy Collier



Samantha Pulido



Steven Holmes



Billie Jo Rice



Zav Dadabhoy



Mike Giacomini



Todd Coston



Bill Moseley



Shelley Castaneda



Bill Potter

March 12, 2020

**BAKERSFIELD
COLLEGE**

This morning, we held our first instructional seminar with a panel of 5 faculty members sharing ideas. We had 162 attend this session.

COVID-19 ALL-CAMPUS INSTRUCTIONAL SEMINAR



Sonya Christian



Todd Coston



Michael Korcock



Chris Cruz Boone



Jennifer Jett



Michelle Hart



Michael Muhme

March 13, 2020

**BAKERSFIELD
COLLEGE**

For the time being, resources on our campus will still be available for students who may not have access at home. The computer commons will be available; however, this situation is rapidly evolving and there could be a time when we are no longer able to provide that resource.

As an update to other campus operations, at this time Bakersfield College remains open. Most events and non-mission critical gatherings have been canceled, postponed, or moved to an online or virtual format.

The Renegade Room will be closed until April. The California Community College Athletics Association has suspended the remainder of all spring sports competitions, including Bakersfield College Athletics, effective immediately and until further notice.

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,

sonya

[See all issues of Renegade Roundup online](#)

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March 13, 2020 at 9:33 a.m.

Dear Colleagues:

I invite you to join me in a 60-min virtual forum at 11:00 a.m. today where you will hear from faculty about the strategies they are using to move their courses from face-to-face to teaching at a distance.

Here is the call in information:

Please plan on attending this briefing session.

Web Link: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/892513095>

Or iPhone one-tap : +16468769923,892513095#

Or Telephone:

Dial: 646 876 9923

Meeting ID: 892 513 095

A tip: Joining audio by phone in addition to joining the video by web will give you the most clear audio and ensure poor internet connections do not interrupt the content.

At 4:30 p.m. yesterday, we held an all-campus virtual briefing to update faculty, staff, and students on how BC continues to prepare for the covid-19 epidemic. I am deeply grateful for the level of engagement; we had 479 participants join the call.

At this forum many faculty had questions about what it means to teach at a distance. Take note of the language "teach at a distance." I want to emphasize that we are not asking faculty to only consider a

transition into a traditional, *asynchronous* online format through which faculty build out a course in Canvas and students self-pace, access material, and complete assignments on their own time. Instead, we embrace alternate methods to deliver content at a distance. Using what we call “real-time Zoom” classroom lecture will allow faculty to meet with students *synchronously*, but in different places.

What this looks like is if you have M-W 11:10-12:35, you will continue to hold your class at that same time, but students may join the real-time Zoom from any location. Several faculty are moving to this real-time Zoom format and have strategies to share to support others as they move this way, as well.

Academic Technology will be available through the weekend with the support of many volunteers committed to ensuring continuity of instruction. If you are available to volunteer, please contact your dean. The shifts are:

- 3/14 Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 3/15 Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

That’s all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,
sonya

[See all issues of Renegade Roundup online](#)

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March 12, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

At 4:30 p.m. today we will be holding an all-campus virtual briefing to update faculty, staff and students on how BC continues to prepare for the covid-19 epidemic.

This is our second all-campus forum. The first one was held last Friday, March 6th, at 9:30 a.m. Since then, I have sent daily advisories through the Renegade Roundup. In addition, Cindy Collier, Nicky Damania, and Shelly Castaneda have been doing daily virtual zoom meetings at 12:00 noon (Monday 3/9, Tuesday 3/10 and Wednesday 3/11). All this information can be found on the BC website <https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/covid19>.

Today, you will hear from several speakers who will be available with their teams to answer questions.

Please plan on attending this all-campus briefing session.

Time: Mar 12, 2020 04:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/260706500>

Or iPhone one-tap (US Toll): +16699006833,260706500# or +16468769923,260706500#

Or Telephone:

Dial:

+1 669 900 6833 (US Toll)

+1 646 876 9923 (US Toll)

Meeting ID: 260 706 500

That's all for now.

Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,

sonya

[See all issues of Renegade Roundup online](#)

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March 12, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

Let's flatten the epidemic curve.

As of today, the state of [California accounts for 179 cases](#) out of more than 127,000 world wide and over 1,300 in the United States. A [Los Angeles Times article](#) mentions the state is now in a turning point. Gov. Newsom says, "This is not a small, isolated state. The state of California is 40 million strong, 58 counties. So, what we're doing is a bottom-up process, not a top-down process." Across California, we are shifting from aggressively tracking the cases to aggressive preventative measures.

At this time, there are no confirmed cases in Kern County, and there is no immediate threat to the general public or campus community.

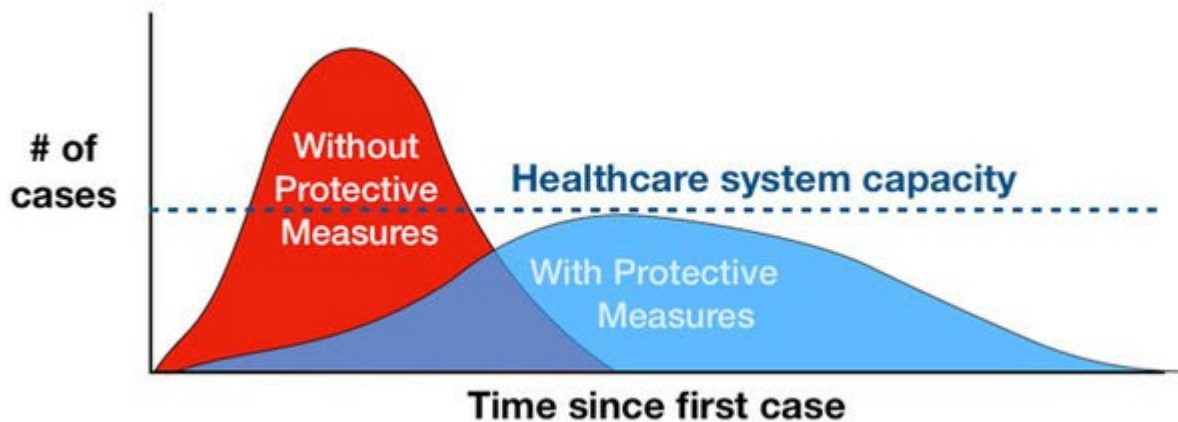
Bakersfield College classes will continue with a first wave of classes moving to fully online today, March 12th, as a mitigating measure.

Here is the list of "must do" items for Bakersfield College faculty, staff, and students remain the same as yesterday:

- Stay home if you are sick. Practice respiratory hygiene by covering your mouth and nose with a bent elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing. Dispose of used tissues immediately.
- Frequently and correctly wash your hands with water and soap. Do not touch your face, eyes, mouth or nose. Use a 60% or higher alcohol based sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available
- Travel: Cancel non-essential travel. If there is a travel obligation that is mission critical, please inform your vice president.
- Social distancing: Move meetings to a virtual format starting immediately. Only mission critical events and gatherings should be conducted in person. Let's practice social distancing even when we greet each other. Let's set aside shaking hands and giving each other hugs.

The World Health Organization [in a press conference](#) on March 11, has, for the first time, characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic.

In The New York Times Coronavirus Briefing from this afternoon: “The W.H.O. resisted using that term until now, for fear that people would take it to mean the virus was unstoppable and would give up trying to contain it. But the head of the W.H.O. said in Geneva that ‘all countries can still change the course of this pandemic,’ so it’s vital to keep fighting its spread.” The graph below shows clearly how an active mitigation strategy (blue area of the graph) can lessen the impact on the healthcare system capacity (the “peak” of the epidemic) and spread it over a longer period of time.



Adapted from CDC / The Economist

The status continues to evolve and grow. In fact, here is a YouTube video on the mathematics of [Exponential growth and epidemics](#) which Nick Strobel posted on Facebook

Preserving Continuity of Learning and Instruction:

Statewide, we are seeing efforts at colleges and universities moving toward non-face-to-face remote learning opportunities. The first wave of classes moving fully to online at Bakersfield College will begin today Thursday, March 12, 2020. Please work with your Dean, faculty chair, and the Academic Technology department for support.

As we work to mitigate and begin transitioning instruction, [BC's Academic Technology](#) is available to walk faculty step by step through the best practices to ensure students success. [Resources and guides are also available online.](#)

Blood Drive:

In alignment with these preventative measures, we are working with the health, safety, and best interests of our community in mind. Today and tomorrow, Houchin Community Blood Bank is holding [a donation drive at Memorial Stadium](#). **If you are healthy and able, please consider giving.** Brad Bryan, CEO of Houchin Community Blood Bank has shared with us that [Kern County is currently in dire need of blood](#). He says our local patients who depend on blood donations will most certainly be impacted as a result of less donations during this time. **If you missed today, the blood donation bus will be set up on Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 9:00AM to 2:30PM at Memorial Stadium.** Precautionary measures to ensure the safety of donors and Houchin employees have been put in place.

Food Services:

Vice President Mike Giacomini has worked with BC's Food Services to develop a comprehensive list of food handling precautions including:

- All napkins have moved to a central location to minimize the spread of germs and dispensers sanitized every 20 minutes
- All staff wear gloves after washing their hands when prepping/handling food or money
- Duties have been separated so that cash handling and food handling are not potentially cross-contaminating
- All self-service beverage refrigerator doors, microwaves and credit card machines will be sanitized every 20 minutes
- Management is doing hourly audits to ensure these precautions are being adhered to

At BC, we are fortunate to work with such talented, caring, and smart people. Thank you to my Advisory Team, the larger ICC group which has been meeting multiple times per day, BC's web team, Academic Technology team, and the Daily Update Zoom team including Dr. Nicky Damania, Cindy Collier, and Shelly Castaneda.



As we embark on this new journey of transitioning instruction to mitigate any transmission and keep the safety, wellness, and health of our community as a focus, I am thankful for each of you.

Thank you for preserving instruction, continuity of learning, services and support for BC's students. It really does take all of us doing our part.

We are BC!

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,

sonya

[See all issues of Renegade Roundup online](#)

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,

sonya

[See all issues of Renegade Roundup online](#)

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March 10, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

Since my update yesterday, we continue to track changes on the case-monitoring dashboard by [Johns Hopkins University](#). Today, the numbers jumped, reflecting more than 118,000 cases of confirmed COVID-19 worldwide. Of those cases, 972 are in the United States, including 144 in California. **At this time, there are no confirmed cases in Kern County, and there is no immediate threat to our general public or campus community.**

The list of “must do” items for Bakersfield College faculty, staff, and students remains the same as yesterday:

- Stay home if you are sick. Practice respiratory hygiene by covering your mouth and nose with a bent elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing. Dispose of used tissues immediately.
- Frequently and correctly wash your hands with water and soap. Do not touch your face, eyes, mouth or nose. Use a 60% or higher alcohol based sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available
- Travel: Cancel non-essential travel starting right away (March 9th)
- Gatherings: Move meetings to a virtual format starting immediately (March 10th). Cancel non-essential large gatherings.

On March 9, [the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention held a media teleconference](#) on COVID-19 and announced that the highest risk for the disease is in people older than 60 with long-term health conditions, especially respiratory conditions, according to [Dr. Nancy Messonnier](#), Director of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. And in a [recent communication](#), CDPH shared the severity and range of reported symptoms by saying, “The complete clinical picture with regard to COVID-19 is not fully understood. Reported illnesses have ranged from mild to severe, including illness resulting in death. Older people and people with certain underlying health conditions like heart disease, lung disease and diabetes, for example, seem to be at greater risk of serious illness.”

At Bakersfield College, we are following the guidance set forth by public health professionals and organizations as we shift from “containment” to “mitigation.”

Website Updates

Our web team has been facilitating updates non-stop to keep the [COVID-update page](#) as accurate and up-to-date as possible. Updates since yesterday include the Zoom recordings from the daily updates, along with a list of newly canceled or postponed events.

Providing Continuity in Instruction:

Faculty across our campus are creatively developing solutions to uphold *continuity of learning* in the event of a physical closure. Please take a moment to view these videos:

- [Culinary Arts, Suzanne Tangeman](#)
- [Education Faculty, Teresa McAllister](#)
- [Library Chair, Kirk Russell](#)
- [English Faculty, Shane Jett](#)
- [English Faculty, Jennifer Jett](#)
- [Academic Technology, Matt Jones](#)
- [Communication, Neeley Hatridge](#)
- [Communication, Angela Bono](#)
- [History, Oliver Rosales](#)

The Academic Technology department has created guides and resources to ensure faculty and students are successful. The [list of resources](#) continues to be updated so check back frequently.

Thank you for staying tuned in to these special and important advisory notices.

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,

sonya

[See all issues of Renegade Roundup online](#)

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March 9, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

We are continuing to monitor the emerging situation in regards to the spread of Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Our Incident Command Team has been meeting to make sure we are able to quickly respond to any changes. **At this time, there are no confirmed cases in Kern County, and there is no immediate threat to the general public or campus community.**

As the country moves from a containment to a mitigation strategy, using social distancing as a method to slow down the spread, I am expanding on the list of "must do" items for Bakersfield College.

- Staying at home if you are sick
- Frequently and correctly washing your hands with water and soap. Don't touch your face – eyes, mouth, and nose
- Travel: Cancel non-essential travel starting right away (March 9th)
- Gatherings: Move meetings to a virtual format starting immediately (March 10th).
Cancel non-essential large gatherings.

Daily Update:

Cindy Collier, Nicky Damania, and Shelly Castaneda are providing daily updates on COVID-19 to the campus community at these times and locations and on zoom online:

- Tues. March 10, 2020 at Noon - at DST Delano
- Wed. March 11, 2020 at Noon at BCSW Lounge

If you're not at these locations, join the using Zoom online:

- Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/851817136>
- Or iPhone one-tap (US Toll): +16699006833,851817136# or +16468769923,851817136#
- Or Telephone Dial:+1 669 900 6833 (US Toll) with meeting ID: 851 817 136

Events Update:

While there are currently no plans or recommendations to cancel classes, we are taking a proactive approach and making plans, should events dictate modification of campus operations. Out of an abundance of caution, Bakersfield College is analyzing upcoming events on a case-by-case basis and making recommendations to continue monitoring, or to postpone the event for a future date.

As of this afternoon, we have postponed two major events:

(1) March 19, 2020 HEAL Summit and

(2) April 8, 2020 Active Shooter Response Emergency Drill Exercise.

We have created a resource on our website to share what events have been affected and what events continue to be on our watch list. You can access it at <https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/covid19/event-status>. The website calendar will also be reflected to show these changes.

Instructional Update:

Vice President Billie Jo Rice met with the deans early this morning and with the faculty chairs later in the day to discuss how we can ensure *continuity of education* to our students faced with possible campus closures. Options include transitioning courses to an online environment or utilizing Zoom to provide video instruction in real time.

Across campus, we have many different types of instructional activities that could be impacted by a potential physical campus closure. Deans and chairs are exploring options for creative alternative modes of instruction. Steve Waller has been working on solutions for science labs, Manny Mourtzanos and Bryan Hirayama are closely monitoring the status of our Inmate Scholars students, and Abel Guzman and Steve Watkin are in close communication with all our dual enrollment and early college high schools.

Let's see what faculty member Chef Suzanne Tangeman is planning on doing for her culinary classes:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=206Ch3OVBbM>

I ask that faculty engage with their students so they're prepared for how they may access courses and information in the event of a campus shutdown. It would be pertinent for faculty to have students start to think about their options for accessing computers and internet off-campus - for example, with the support of friends or family.

Faculty - as you think through issues that may temporarily impact operations of the physical campus, please share your ideas with colleagues, chairs and deans so we can gather best practices.

In closing, our website (<https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/covid19>) is a hub of information, including past communications, resources, and a form for asking questions. A FAQ section is under development and should be available shortly. These resources will be the best way you can stay informed and tuned in with BC's administrative directions.

At Bakersfield College, we realize the importance of our students' ability to complete their educational journey. That's why we are working proactively and diligently to minimize any interruptions and ensure solutions are in place to provide continuity of education.

We are BC!

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,

sonya

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March 8, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

I have been keenly following news on the coronavirus. As of right now there are over 110,000 confirmed cases globally; over 500 cases here in the US, with 2 cases in the Fresno area, and no reported cases yet in Kern County. The language being used by experts is shifting from "containment" of an outbreak to "mitigation" acknowledging that public health measures of isolating the sick and quarantining their contacts are not enough. We must all paly our part to slow down the spread of the virus.

Given this emerging news, let's start taking measure to slow the spread. I am adding one more item to our list of *must dos* -- cancel non-essential travel. So at this time our protocol includes:

- Staying at home if you are sick
- Frequently and correctly washing your hands with water and soap. Don't touch your face – eyes, mouth, and nose
- Cancel non-essential travel

We continue to be in level 1 alert at this time, but with the potential for the situation to evolve quickly I have asked our Incident Command Center to go deeper in its planning.

Faculty – The Academic Technology department is available to assist with both the mechanics and tools that can be used for this emergency online instruction, as well as instructional strategies for subjects that are more difficult to provide online. I ask that you start going through the following checklist provided by Bill

Moseley and his Academic Tech Team, with your students starting right away. Doing so will prepare both you and your students to maintain communication lines, and to continue with our teaching and learning activities.

1. Share the basic student instructions for using Canvas created by Academic Technology, if you don't regularly use Canvas for your class.
2. Have your students install the Canvas app on their phones.
3. Have your students use personal devices or classroom computers to check their contact information in Banweb through InsideBC.
4. Think through how you will want to contact students in the case of a closure, and share this with them so they are prepared.
5. Think about how you will do office hours (zoom, email, phone) and share this with students.
6. Do a technology check at home to make sure you can use the software and services you will need. Advise students to do the same.
7. Some students won't have access to the technology they need. Help them think through creative solutions to this (relative, friend, etc).
8. Please keep in mind any students who have requested accommodations for your class. We will need to ensure that their needs are met.
9. Finally, adopt a "make do" attitude since we will not be able to find solutions for all courses. I know that Ximena da Silva in Chemistry will be working with Stephen Waller and other faculty to think through our science labs sessions.

In general at BC, since my initial calling of the Incident Command and emergency response team on February 27, we are staying tuned in, researching, enhancing our response plan, communicating and educating our community surrounding the situation. On Friday, we held an [All-Campus Meeting](#) to give the latest update. BC continues to work in partnership with Kern County Public Health and the CA Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. In fact, Chancellor Eloy Oakley shared in his recent update yesterday evening that CA Community Colleges are to be in the [first level of scenarios](#); one which is described as "Measures already underway to prevent the spread of COVID-19."

Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and White House Coronavirus Task Force Member, recently [explained that](#) "social distancing" is one of the best preventative practices we can adopt at this time. He explained that social distancing is our best means to "take care of the most vulnerable" and to be socially responsible members of our communities, we should consider reducing our physical interactions with those who may have elderly or vulnerable in their close network.

Also, [check out this message](#) (1:40-11:27) from the Executive Director General of the World Health Organization, [Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus](#). He speaks on the vital importance of sharing research so

various groups around the world complement each other so we can collaboratively make better decisions that save lives. He ends his comments by saying, "We are all in this together and we all have a role to play. Facts, not fear. Reasons, not rumors. Solidarity, not stigma."

I am proud of the work being done at BC so far. Countless posters have been put up around the campus, our website is continually updated, and surfaces, door handles, and high traffic areas are being sanitized on a routine schedule. Vice President Dadabhoy has been working with Samantha Pulido and Student Life to ensure students are well informed and know to stay home if sick. And Vice President Rice has been working with Academic Senate President Steven Holmes, the Academic Technology department and BC's Deans to do creative in-depth planning to minimize instructional disruption in the event of a physical closure.

On a personal note, in addition to the daily updates from Cindy Collier, my special advisor on this matter, I've been watching the growth and evolution of the [global cases dashboard](#) created by Johns Hopkins University, tracking the increasing numbers in California and throughout the country. I was scheduled to be in Boston this week but canceled my travel, less from an immediate concern of getting sick, and more in an effort to act as a good ambassador for public health in our community.

In closing, stay safe, and as we continue to follow guidance of public health professionals for any situations that may arise within our community, stay connected to the campus updates and communicate frequently with your students as well as your deans and directors.

We are BC!

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,

sonya

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March 5, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in California yesterday to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 novel coronavirus. California Community Colleges Chancellor, Eloy Oakley has also [joined in the conversation](#), urging colleges to follow the guidance set forth by the California Department of Public Health and to work closely with local public health agencies.

My personal advisory team on this matter including Cindy Collier and Nicky Damania have been briefing me daily on the status and development of the situation. [Kern County Public Health Services also continues to provide public and local updates.](#)

An All-Campus-Meeting on COVID-19 will be held tomorrow, March 6th, at 9:30AM in the Levan Center. Please plan to attend in person or tune in on the livestream. I will provide an overview of BC's actions thus far and outline BC's COVID-19 response plans.

The All-Campus-Meeting will also include:

- Comments from my advisory team and our emergency preparedness team
- A panel providing guidance to faculty.

If you choose not to join us in person, tune in via the livestream at www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/livestream.

Next week, on March 9th, 10th, and 11th daily updates will be provided at noon in the faculty and staff lunch room - Lev 40. These updates will be livestreamed so you can participate and interact with questions and comments.

Check out our COVID-19 briefing webpage which is a hub of information, resources, and an archive of our campus communication efforts www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/covid-19-update.

And don't forget to wash your hands frequently and correctly! It is one of the greatest preventative measures we can take to keep ourselves safe and healthy.

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,

sonya

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March 3, 2020 Update

Dear Colleagues:

An update to my last message on the preparation the BC team is doing in the event of a community instance of the coronavirus.

#1. Our main message at this time continues to be the same. Please stay at home if you are sick and wash your hands frequently and correctly.

Here is a 4:41-minute video message from Steven Holmes, Samantha Pulido, Cindy Collier and me. Thank you Manny de Los Santos, Monica Scott, and Nicky Damania for helping us pull this together.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EM2y-oom4G8&feature=youtu.be>

#2. Our Incident Command Team has been activated and they are in the process of refining our emergency protocol. Key members are in daily communication with the county emergency personnel.

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Feb 27, 2020 Update

Dear Colleagues:

Let me start by informing you that BC's Emergency Preparedness team is on high alert tracking the developments of the Coronavirus COVID-19. Check out the dashboard from Johns Hopkins:
<https://tinyurl.com/uwns6z5>

While we monitor the spread of this new virus, let's remember that Kern County is heavily impacted by the regular flu which has similar symptoms to COVID-19. I am asking that we adopt the following measures as a Renegade community to take care of ourselves as well as our students and fellow faculty and staff:

- (1) If you are sick, please stay at home. Remain at home until your fever has been gone for more than 24 hours without the use of any fever reducing medications and
- (2) please wash your hands frequently and correctly. Watch Diana Chen demonstrating the 5-step process.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4E7UkDlnvZA>

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That's all for now.
Until next time.

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