

Renegade Roundup



Eleven weeks done....five weeks to go

November 9, 2020

Dear colleagues:

For more information on happenings at BC, check out my blog post <https://sonyachristianblog.com/>.

A Better BC: Topping Ceremony for Science and Engineering



On Friday, Nov 6th, the construction crew on the new Science and Engineering building held their topping ceremony to symbolize that the steel beams that will form the skeleton of the building are near completion. The practice of “topping out” originated as a Scandinavian tradition of placing a tree to appease the spirits of the trees that had been displaced by construction. The practice spread across Europe and eventually the United States, where steel workers place a Christmas tree and an American flag on one of the last beams used in creating the structure of the building.



BC Director of Facilities **Bill Potter** and AECOM Project Manager **John Smith** were on hand to witness the Science and Engineering topping ceremony. This is our second topping ceremony of 2020 after the Campus Center in February, which is nearing completion of the main building by the end of this year.

Thank you to everyone who helped build A Better BC, [and check out the photos from the Topping Ceremony taken by Earl Parsons.](#)

Free Student Wifi on Haley and University



Starting today, Nov 9th, free wifi will be available for students in parking lot P16 south of the baseball fields on the corner of University and Haley, southwest of the Panorama Campus. The parking lot will be between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday for students who need internet access from their vehicles to complete their coursework. Thank you to Todd Coston and the Technology Support Services team for helping narrow the digital divide for our students.

Kern Shakespeare Festival: "The Tempest" with LEGOs



Our Performing Arts students continue to let their creativity shine while learning from a distance. To conclude this year's Kern Shakespeare Festival, Brian Sivesind directed a fully-animated feature of "The Tempest" with LEGOs, featuring the acting and video talent of our own Renegades. Thank you to everyone who took the time to put together "The Tempest", which capped off the festival's theme of "O Brave New World".



Future of Equity Seminar Series



ACCJC presents an online seminar series

**The Future of Learning:
An Equity-Minded Approach**

Save the Dates
December 2, 3, 7, & 8, 2020
2 PM - 4 PM (PST)
<https://accjc.org/learning-seminar-series/>

In partnership with:



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for California Community Colleges
LEADERSHIP. ENGAGEMENT. VOICE.



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

ACCJC is hosting a four-part seminar series in December titled “The Future of Learning: An Equity-Minded Approach”. We have a lot of exciting guests planned to speak at the event, including Chancellor Eloy Oakley, Michael Crow, and more. To find out more information, [visit the seminar series website](#).

COVID-19 Update

Student Surveys on Virtual Learning



81%

My college has shown they care about me when making decisions



85%

My instructors have shown care and concern for me as they transition their courses online



78%

My college has supported me in the transition to taking my classes online



78%

My college has supported me in the transition to taking my classes online

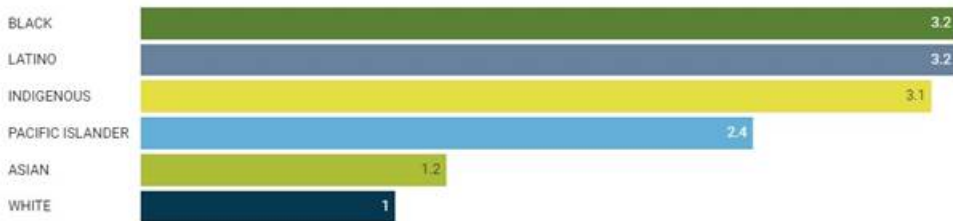
The Office of Institutional Effectiveness has released the results of two separate surveys tracking BC students and their response to learning in a virtual environment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the survey, 36 percent of BC students had no prior experience with online learning before the pandemic, and 22 percent didn't have access to wifi at home. Several challenges students face include technological challenges, obstacles in accessing student support services online, and economic insecurity as a result of job losses or other financial impacts from the pandemic. Despite these challenges, 85 percent of students surveyed felt that their instructors showed care and concern for their success, and 78 percent said that the college supported them in the move to online.

APM Research Lab Statistics on COVID-19 deaths by race

Adjusted for age, other racial groups are this many times more likely to have died of COVID-19 than White Americans

Reflects mortality rates calculated through Oct. 13.



Indirect age-adjustment has been used.

Source: APM Research Lab • Get the data • Created with Datawrapper

The APM Research Lab is conducting a series of studies on the pandemic and race as part of its Color of Coronavirus Project, which measures the impact of the pandemic on disadvantaged groups to help guide policy. In a study on COVID-19 deaths by race, APM Research Lab found that 1 in 920 and African-Americans and 1 in 1,360 Latinx-Americans have died from coronavirus, compared to 1 in every 1,840 white Americans. Adjusting for the differences in age groups, the study concluded that the mortality rate for black and Latinos Americans is 3.2 times higher than the rate for white Americans, respectively.

Blueprint For a Safer Economy Dashboard

[The State of California's Blueprint For a Safer Economy dashboard](#) has been modified to fit the new guidelines announced in August. In November, we started including the health equity quartile in our report, which measures positivity rates in each county's most disadvantaged census tracts. A table with the comparison of test positivity rates from several counties on the monitoring list is below.

	November 1, 2020*			November 8, 2020*		
	New cases per 100k	Test positivity rate	Health Equity Quartile	New cases per 100k	Test positivity rate	Health Equity Quartile
California	7.2	3.2%	N/A	7.7	3.3	N/A
Kern County	5.8	4.2%	6.3%	6.0**	4.2%**	5.4%**
Kings County	5.0	2.7%	5.5%	6.6	2.4%	2.4%
Fresno County	6.6	5.0%	6.8%	6.3	5.1%	7.4%
San Bernardino	12.2	6.6%	9.1%	14.9	7.4%	8.5%
LA County	11.0	3.7%	6.2%	12.5	4.0%	6.8%

*Dashboard updated every Tuesday. Data reported on Nov. 4

**Kern County is currently in the red or “substantial” tier

Johns Hopkins Dashboard:

As of 3:00 p.m. on November 8, the [Johns Hopkins University Dashboard](#) shows 9.9 million total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States. Here is the table that captures the difference in the numbers since Nov. 1.

	Nov. 1, 2020	Nov. 8, 2020	Difference	Percentage
World	46,419,939	50,282,709	3,862,770	8.3%
U.S.	9,198,700	9,949,530	750,830	8.2%
California	922,005	951,054	29,049	3.2%
Kern	34,457	35,394	937	2.7%

Stay safe, stay healthy, wear a mask, keep the 6ft apart distance, wash your hands regularly, let’s slow down the spread.

That’s all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,
sonya

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