

Renegade Roundup



Wrapping up Fall 2019

November 26,
2019

Dear Colleagues:

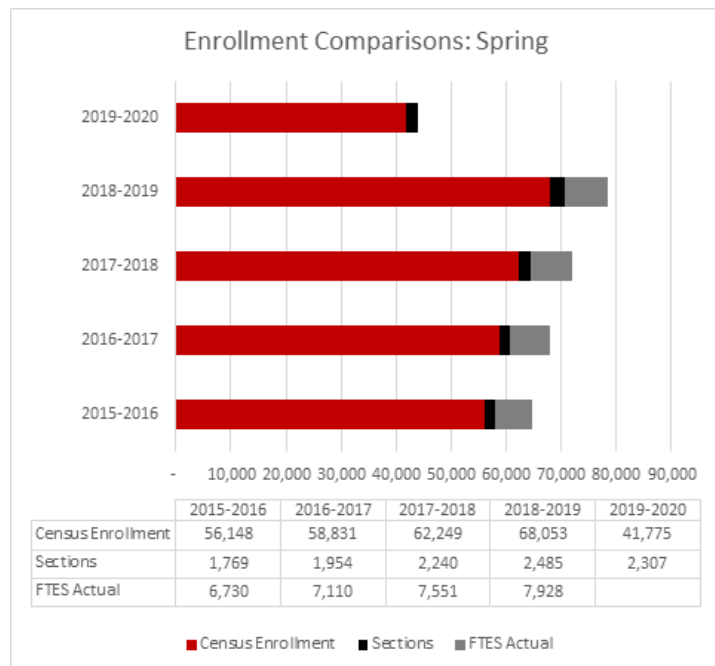
Can you believe finals begin right around the corner on December 7th? The Fall semester has flown by and there has been a flurry of activity across campus all semester long. Students have been participating in the yearlong celebration of Gandhi with various events from speakers to performances. Construction has also ramped up and we're nearing the completion of our first Measure J facility, the Vernon Valenzuela Veterans Resource Center (more on that later)! Colleagues and students have also traveled and participated in conferences across the state and nation. It's a great time to be at BC.

Spring Enrollment Update with Comparisons

Spring priority registration began on November 6th with open registration for all on November 20th. After nearly 3 weeks of priority registration and one week of open registration, we have 8 weeks left until the start of the Spring 2020 term.

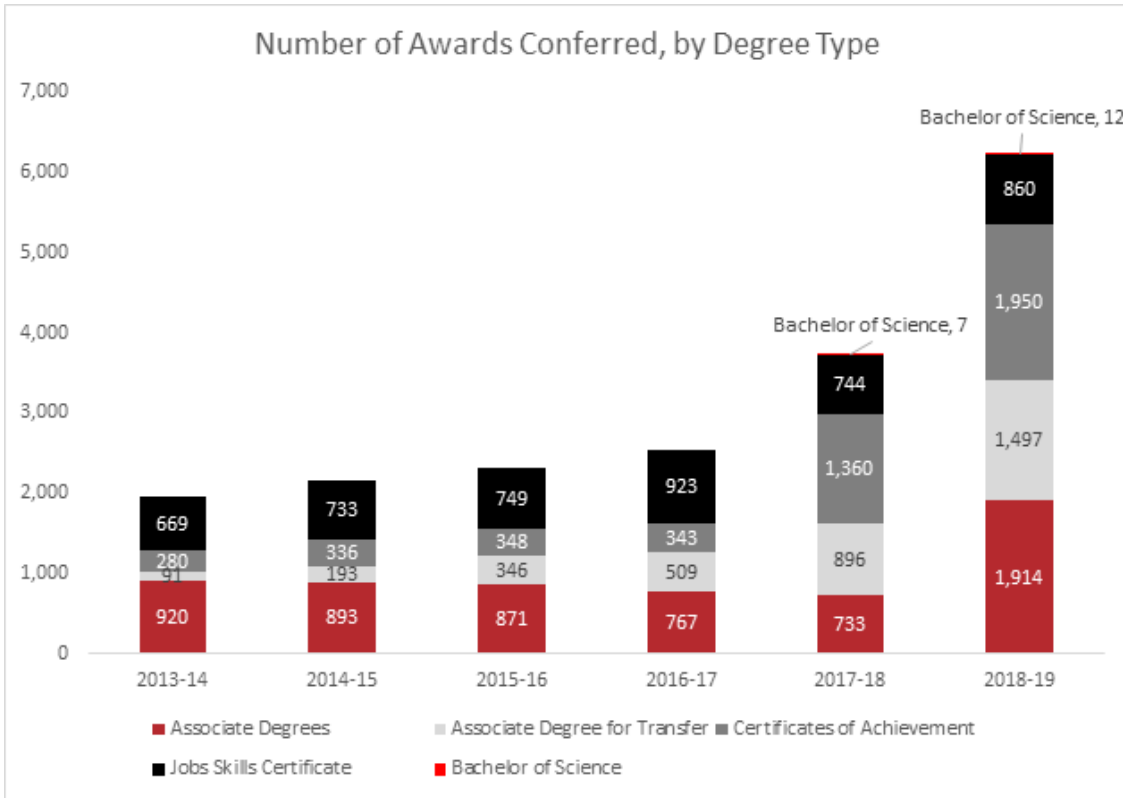
Compared to where we were last spring at census, we have 178 fewer sections and 26,278 fewer course enrollments.

Our Outreach team, guided pathways teams, and more are already looking forward to the next semester. Spring 2020 will begin on January 21, 2020.



Increasing the Awards Conferred at BC

The number of awards conferred have increased over time, for all types. The total number of all awards has more than tripled over the last 5 years, from 1,960 awards in 2014-15 to 6,233 awards in 2018-19. The number of Associate Degrees for Transfer increased by 601 from 2017-18 to 2018-19, an increase of 67%. Bachelor of Science degrees almost doubled from 7 degrees in 2017-18 to 12 degrees in 2018-19.



Bakersfield College Recognized as a 2019 Champion of Higher Education

[The Campaign for College Opportunity](#) highlighted the work of BC's faculty and staff as a Champion of Higher Education college for our high-touch, high-tech and focused strategies to both grow and streamline transfer pathways that address baccalaureate attainment. Trustee Romeo Agbalog, Chancellor Tom Burke, SGA President Samantha Pullido and I travelled to LA to receive the award.



As a college, we've approached this work in a number of innovative ways, including:

- Finish-in-4, which has increased Associate Degree for Transfer Completion by 637% in five years.
- BC Southwest, offering an increase in transfer courses available in a close and convenient location for students who live and work in Southwest Bakersfield.
- Program Pathways Mapper, our nationally recognized web tool that aligns curriculum across systems, and gives students a visual map of degree completion.
- Early College, allowing over 11,000 high school students annually with the opportunity to complete college credit, certificates, or even an Associates Degree before high school graduation.

A Month to Honor Veterans at BC

Bakersfield College is continuing our tradition of honoring Veterans throughout November.

This year, our campus is especially excited for the grand opening and ribbon cutting of the Vernon Valenzuela Veterans Resource Center on December 10, 2019.



Bakersfield College Vernon Valenzuela
Veterans Resource Center



I hope you will mark your calendars and join us for the first completed Measure J construction project. Thank you, thank you, thank you Bakersfield!

Our annual Vetfest amped up the anticipation with free food, music by DJ Danny Morrison, and booths hosted by

various veterans' services groups in Kern County in early November. Throughout the month, a number of veterans events followed such as the student veterans panel where stories were shared with fellow students about experiences serving our country.

And, flanked by a large military vehicle outside the Administration building, we opened up a care package drop zone, where community members, students and staff could donate non-perishable items to our troops overseas. It was extra great to see Chevron stop by to participate.



Thank you Paul Beckworth for your leadership!

Two Events in Two Weeks -



Educational leaders and policymakers from across the state came together in Bakersfield on November 15th to share their strategies and stories during the Intersegmental Pathways Symposium. Colleges and universities from as far north as Shasta and as far south as the Imperial Valley converged on the Bakersfield Marriott for a sold-out event to transform our state's educational landscape.

Panelists spoke on sharing data between institutions and developing partnerships that help close equity gaps in our regional baccalaureate completion. The keynote panel was moderated by none other than our Renegade advocate, Assemblymember Rudy Salas. The dynamic and powerful keynote session included Chancellor Eloy Oakley, Governor Gavin Newsom's Senior Policy Advisor Lande Ajose, and Lupita Alcala from the California Department of Education. Chancellor Tom Burke opened the symposium with welcoming comments on behalf of BC and KCCD.

The event was a huge success thanks to the planning team led by Lesley Bonds, Craig Hayward, Monika Scott, Tarina Perry, and Catherine Rangel. Manny De Los Santos is preparing the videos which will be available shortly on the event webpage and on the BC youtube!



Our second event, the Rural Poverty and Health Equity summit happened exactly one week later on the BC Delano campus. Central Valley leaders in healthcare, policy and higher ed filled the main room and an overflow room. The sold-out event served as a catalyst and kick off gathering to inspire community-engaged research, discussion, and solutions in regards to issues impacting health, social, and

economic vitality in our rural areas. Featured speakers included Congressman TJ Cox, Dr. Kathy Murphy, Dr. Nancy Burke, Russell Judd, Sharlett Briggs, Dr. David Rohac and Dr. Julianne McCall.

In fact, in her closing remarks, Dr. Julianne McCall, Science Officer from California Governor Newsom's Office of Planning and Research, shared her excitement for the HEAL community effort and the "activated infrastructure" that HEAL offers. In case you haven't heard, the Rural HEAL collaborative represents over 20 collaborative partners working to improve the lives of rural residents. Partners include UC Merced, UC San Francisco at Fresno, Central Valley Health Policy Institute, Central Valley medical professionals, and Bakersfield College Health and Workforce training programs. Special thank you to the team who pulled this event together including Norma Rojas-Mora, Cindy Collier, Michele Bresso, Charles Daramola, Tamara Baker, and Janalynn Castillo. Our next HEAL event is planned for March, 2020.

Keeping Santa Clarita in our Thoughts

The entire BC community was heartbroken to hear about another senseless tragedy at one of California's schools. A few weeks ago, a shooter opened fire at Saugus High School in Santa Clarita, leaving two people dead and three wounded in an attack that lasted just 16 seconds.

Our Renegade community takes these events very seriously, which is why it's important to be proactive and confront issues head-on before it's too late. Our motto on campus is "say something, see something, do something" - If you see something on campus that seems potentially troubling, please notify someone so that we can take the appropriate action.



Our Public Safety team, under the leadership of Dr. Nicky Damania, works diligently to ensure our complete safety on campus. Please remember that you are encouraged to contact them and report anything you may see or notice. *If you see something, say something, do something.*

Today, I am filled with pride – proud to be the tenth president of Bakersfield College where our core value of community is something we not only espouse but something we enact each and every day.



Community

We commit to the wellbeing of all members of our community; we maintain strong ties with the surrounding community, and we respond to their needs by serving as an open institution which engages all students, faculty, and staff; in our college, we have built and continue to build an environment in which all members participate as a community through democratic engagement.

We are BC! Somos BC!

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,

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