Enrollment up as Renegade Fest, Convocation celebrate new students

Bakersfield College’s enrollment numbers from August 10, 2016, show an increase of 2.7% in FTES for Fall 2016 over Fall 2015. Overall, KCCD has an increase of 2.0%. FTES/FTEF is steady from Fall 2015 to Fall 2016, at 16.0, compared with 14.9 for KCCD.

On Wednesday, August 10, Bakersfield College hosted Renegade Fest, a one-day event to help students apply, complete their matriculation steps, and register for classes. Students were also able to attend a Resource Fair to get acquainted with the organizations, activities, and services available at Bakersfield College.

Bakersfield College will usher in the new academic year with our incoming students. As part of that tradition, BC hosts the annual New Student Convocation. This year’s event will be held on Thursday, August 18, at the Outdoor Theatre. The program begins at 6 p.m. You are invited to attend.

During the event, students and their families will be welcomed by our BCSGA President, Academic Senate President, and Student Life Director. Entertainment will include special performances by BC Drumline, Renegade Cheerleaders, and BC Chamber Singers.

This spirited tradition marks the beginning of a journey for each of our new students – the journey of transformation through higher education. A sense of belonging by being welcomed to the Home of the Renegades will instill college pride, and aid them to be integrated into BC’s culture and support system.

Maintenance & Operations team busy with summer projects

Over the past few weeks and months, Bill Potter and the M&O staff have been exceptionally busy and we can see the outcome of their work simply by walking or looking around campus.

Sidewalks and walkways have been repaired and poured; new, useful signage has been added so that students and visitors can better find their way; roofs have been refurbished and necessary safety updates have been completed, such as fire alarm maintenance, etc.

These repairs and updates have been long overdue and we must commend the hardworking men and women who got this work done over the hot and sweltering Bakersfield summer months.
National Night Out brings police, community to BC campus

The BC campus welcomed hundreds of visitors on campus during National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2. This annual event “promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, better places to live.”

Hundreds of residents came out to meet and support our heroic emergency first responders and public service men and women.

BPD’s specific and unique branches were on-site, including the K9 Unit, Special Enforcement Unit, Bomb Squad, S.W.A.T. Team, and Rangers. Children of all ages eagerly interacted in a hands-on manner by taking a tour of the vehicles, trying on special equipment, and asking questions about daily duties and activities.

Summer communications students share stories at RENx Talks

Communications Faculty member Helen Acosta hosted a spin off of Bakersfield College’s annual Renegade Talks - themselves a take on TED Talks - featuring her summer COMM B4 students.

It was appropriately titled RENx – just as TEDx is a smaller scale of TED talks.

It’s hard to not listen intently to such passionate and charismatic students. One mentioned how far he has come in the past 4 weeks and delivered the message that life’s difficult moments can be a gift if one focuses on doing the right thing, and another student spoke of finding her passion through Taco Bell, leaving us with the message to “Live Más.”

Topics ranged from self-identity, faith, life, and passions… but, the very best part was witnessing our BC Renegades being honest and genuine about relevant issues, speaking on them with poise, elegance, and confidence.

Flex Week offers full slate of professional development opportunities

The Bakersfield College Professional Development department has put together a full week off Flex activities for staff development.

Opportunities for employees to attend informative activities and workshops will include a variety of subjects and topics including hands-on fire extinguisher trainings to extended Canvas workshops.

There are over 50 sessions available for faculty, staff, and administration, including Security Awareness Training, Excel Workshops, Methods to Maximize Student Success and Engagement, Educational Planning, Prison Education Orientation, Digital Humanities and Social Justice Pedagogy, Financial Aid Updates, and more.