Friends of Bakersfield College,  

May 4, 2016  

Over the past three years, I’ve had the honor to serve as the 10th President of Bakersfield College – a place of incredible opportunity, vitality, and achievement for all who come to our campus.

I hope that we’ve had the chance to personally meet one another, either directly or via one of the many programs offered at BC. During the last three years of engaging with the community, two common threads have emerged.

First, you’ve told me how much you love BC, usually followed by a story describing the connection to this college. And second, you asked to be better informed about what is happening at the college.

So, here is the first correspondence in a series titled Letters from BC to get you connected or reconnected to your college so that together, we can create A Better BC. You’ve been selected because of your place and the impressions you’ve created in our community. I invite you to share your opinions, stories, and ideas with the college. It is my goal to make sure that we work together, with our minds and hearts to create A Better BC for future generations.

In closing, I’d like to share some exciting current events and leave you with a couple BC trivia questions.

Over the next two weeks, our students will be celebrating quite a few joyous and momentous occasions including:

- May 5, Chicano Commencement Celebration at 6:00 PM
- May 10, Black Graduates Recognition Ceremony at 6:00 PM
- May 6, Annual Honors Celebration at 6:00 PM
- And May 13, Campus-wide Commencement at 7:00 PM
These special events recognize our students for their dedicated commitment, discipline, and perseverance to obtain educational and professional goals. Recently, Bakersfield College honored Mary Trichell and Chevron as Philanthropists of the Year for their long standing, significant, and wide-spread support of the College. Theirs and generosity like it, is exactly what keeps BC strong and relevant to our community. In a special way, I’d like to say thank you and show my gratitude to the many people and organizations who have offered support, assistance, and ultimately the gift of opportunity to Bakersfield College.

And now for a little game of ‘Did You Know?’ and BC trivia. Did you know in 1913, the closest colleges were Stanford University and UC Berkeley? It’s hard to imagine where we would be today without Bakersfield College. Let’s test your BC knowledge!

- How many students were enrolled during our inaugural year in 1913?
- Classes were first held on the Panorama Drive campus in what year?
- In 2015, Bakersfield College was selected as one of 15 community colleges to pilot a four-year degree program. What is the baccalaureate degree offered at BC?

It’s always inspirational to consider our unique history, how much we’ve grown, the number of students impacted, and what the future has in store for Bakersfield College. I’m eager to hear from you as we partner together to improve the opportunities for our students and community. Let’s create A Better BC.

That’s all for now.

Until next time…..

With Renegade pride and collegiality,

Sonya

http://bcpresidentblog.com