Bakersfield College Delano Campus Unveils New HVAC Program

Event: BC Delano Campus Groundbreaking  
Date: Monday, October 15, 2018  
Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Where: Bakersfield College, Delano Campus, 1450 Timmons Ave., Delano

Bakersfield College's Delano Campus is unveiling its first HVAC Certificate and Associate of Science Degree program, the only one of its kind within the Kern Community College District. This program is a part of Bakersfield College’s Rural Initiatives, which target BC’s surrounding communities to equip more residents with workforce skills through college education. The funding for this program comes from the monies secured by Assemblyman Rudy Salas in the 2018-2019 state budget.

“Since receiving notification of the $1 million dollars secured by Assemblyman Rudy Salas in July, Bakersfield College has been working diligently to implement the work force programs funded by this award. The College is proud to announce the launch of the very first of these programs in Delano, the HVAC Certificate and Associate of Science Degree Program,” said President of Bakersfield College Sonya Christian, adding "This would never have been possible without the support of Assemblyman Salas, a champion of education as a driver for economic improvement of communities, particularly those in the rural parts of our region.”

“Bakersfield College is investing in our students and our communities to provide unique and innovative educational opportunities will jumpstart careers," said Assemblymember Rudy Salas. “The HVAC program in Delano will prepare students to get into good, high-paying jobs and to start their own businesses. I applaud President Christian and BC for their continued commitment to our rural communities and empowering students to lead successful careers.”

In July, California Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed the 2018-2019 state budget, which included $1 million for career technical education programs at Bakersfield College and its Rural Initiatives programs.

Continued on Page 2

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Day: For Immediate Release:
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Bakersfield College’s student headcount has grown significantly in local rural communities. Between 2013 and 2017, the North Kern region saw a student growth of 79%.

"This event marks the beginning of the creation of a jobs pipeline from BC directly into the workforce," said Kern Community College District (KCCD) Trustee Romeo Agbalog. "Once the HVAC program is up and running, local area students will have the opportunity to earn an education and skills in a field of work that is in high demand with competitive wages. BC, KCCD, and I remain committed to improving the quality of life in our communities through education and gainful employment, one student at a time," he added.

The following individuals will be available after the event to talk to the media:
- President Sonya Christian, Bakersfield College
- Trustee Romeo Agbalog, Board of Trustees, Kern Community College District
- Norma Rojas-Mora, Director of Communications & Community Relations, Bakersfield College
- Bakersfield College HVAC Program Student

Bakersfield College offers a rigorous and supportive learning environment that fosters students’ abilities to think critically, communicate effectively, and demonstrate competencies and skills in order to engage productively in their communities and the world, while simultaneously contributing to the intellectual, cultural, and economic vitality of the communities it serves.

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