Colleagues:

We are now six weeks into the fall term, and life at Bakersfield College is the usual buzz of activities, problems, celebrations, discussions, debates, and more. In short, we are living life to the fullest and working with passion and determination to ensure each student has a transformative experience in the classroom, in the cafeteria, on the athletic fields, and in the laboratories.

So, what’s ahead?

**Accreditation Follow-Up Visit**

On October 28, Bakersfield College will be visited by four members of the evaluation team for the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. As one of just three colleges in California to achieve full reaffirmation of the accreditation status (our sister colleges were the other two – go KCCD!), we have myriad reasons to be proud.

The preliminary schedule is posted on the College Council website at [https://committees.kccd.edu/bc/committee/collegecouncil](https://committees.kccd.edu/bc/committee/collegecouncil).

Please note that there will be an open meeting from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Levan Center. This is an opportunity for the evaluation team to hear directly from you. If you have any questions regarding the visit or the open meeting, feel free to email me or the following individuals: Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg—BC’s Accreditation Liaison Officer, Bonnie Suderman—Lead for the Follow-Up Report, Kate Pluta—Accreditation Steering Committee Co-Chair.

This follow-up visit allows the site visit team to evaluate our progress on the eight college and four district recommendations, which were made by the team during their visit last October. Bakersfield College has been diligently working to make progress on or meet these recommendations, and the description of our efforts is contained in the [2013 Bakersfield College Follow-Up Report](https://committees.kccd.edu/bc/committee/collegecouncil).
If you’d like the abbreviated version of the accreditation team’s recommendations and Bakersfield College’s efforts to meet those recommendations, check out our handy-dandy “Bluffs Notes” for the simplified version. Hard copies will be distributed to governance committee members and posted online for you to review. The 8-page “Bluffs Notes” distills the follow-up recommendations and the college’s efforts with easy-to-read formatting and key words/concepts to remember.

Accreditation is an ongoing campus-wide effort, and not a process we follow every six years. Bakersfield College has integrated accreditation standards into our everyday work – the report is just the documentation process of what we do at the college.

**Professional Development Opportunity: Learning about our student veterans**

On Friday, November 1, Bakersfield College will host Welcome Home: Veterans on Campus, a training through the California Community Colleges Student Mental Health Program. This training provides faculty and staff with the opportunity to learn about our dynamic student veteran population. The training is free, and will provide attendees with increased awareness about Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury, and depression. The training is from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the Fireside Room, and is free to staff, and lunch is included. I plan on attending part of this workshop. Please click on the following link to register [http://tinyurl.com/WelcomeHomeBakersfield](http://tinyurl.com/WelcomeHomeBakersfield). Thank you Paul Beckworth for your tireless work on behalf of our student veterans.

**Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI)**

Did you know that Bakersfield College is officially a Hispanic-Serving Institution (or “HSI”)? Defined by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) as educational institutions where 25% or more of the student population are Hispanic, HSI’s are instrumental in advocacy for Hispanic student success initiatives. The table below shows Bakersfield College’s student population by ethnicity since 2005, and provides a clear picture of the college’s demographics.

<table>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Filipino/Pac. Islander</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>43.1%</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
<td>44.9%</td>
<td>47.9%</td>
<td>49.1%</td>
<td>51.6%</td>
<td>54.1%</td>
<td>55.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
<td>38.2%</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
<td>33.7%</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
<td>27.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More Races</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student Success Stewardship Team
The first session of the Student Success Stewardship Team is this Friday, October 11th, from 10:30 to 12:00 in Lev 40. All of you are invited to attend. Remember this team meets for only 14 hours (7 study sessions) during the whole year.

Participatory Governance Work Session
On October 22, there will be a participatory governance work session to help members of the college community understand the roles and responsibilities of faculty, staff, and students in the governance of the college and the district. This work session is sponsored by the district-wide consultation council with a live video stream to the Levan Center. The session is from 1:00 to 3:30 with the presenters (Beth Smith—ASCCC President and Scott Lay—CCLC President) at the Forums Meeting Rooms in the district office. Corny Rodriguez, Academic Senate President, and I, as members of the consultation council will be at the district office. Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg and Michael Korcok, Academic Senate VP, will be at the Levan Center here on campus.

BC’s First Data Conference
Bakersfield College and our Data team are hosting the first regional data conference on October 31st from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Faculty and staff from Cerro Coso Community College, Porterville College, and Taft College will be participating as well. Our keynote speakers are Patrick Perry and Ron Johnstone. Please plan your workday so that you can attend all or part of the day-long conference.

Patrick Perry is the Vice Chancellor of Technology, Research, and Information Systems at the State Chancellor’s Office. He has worked to support many initiatives, including: 1) ongoing technology projects, such as CCCApply, CCC Confer, and eTranscript California; 2) leveraging the uses of the MIS data collection by developing the Chancellor’s Office referential files, federal IPEDS and Student Right-to-Know reporting systems; 3) securing data matching relationships with external data sources that captures student demography, progress, transfer movement, and wage outcomes; 4) most recently, leading the system to the completion of its Accountability Reporting for the Community Colleges (ARCC) report.

Rob Johnstone leads the RP Group’s national programs and provides technical assistance to California community colleges. Through his work on projects such as the RP Group’s Bridging Research, Information and Culture (BRIC) Initiative and the Gates Foundation Completion by Design program, he has accelerated the use of research and evidence at the practitioner level on community college campuses. Dr. Johnstone served as a strategic consultant in industry prior to his work in higher education, where he specialized in how to
utilize information and analytics to more purposefully manage customer relationships.

**BC is Now a ASE Testing Site**

After more than a year of work, Bakersfield College is now offering the Automotive Service Excellence test through our Assessment Center. You might be familiar with the “ASE” signs at local auto repair shops. Bakersfield College now provides a key link to certifying auto repair specialists in the area. Previously, students who went through Bakersfield College’s program, or service professionals with training from outside the area, had to travel to Los Angeles to take their ASE exams. With the offering at Bakersfield College, we are getting more qualified auto repair specialists into the community. Great work by the team from Automotive Technology and Student Services to make this important community service happen!

That’s all for now..... until next time.

With Renegade pride and collegiality,
sonya