Renegade Roundup

On Promises and Pathways

March 27, 2016

Renegade Colleagues:

Happy Easter!

It’s hard to believe that Spring Break is almost over – and after seven weeks, we’ll be celebrating our students with our commencement ceremonies. We’re hard at work, and pushing toward the finish line of another wonderful year at Bakersfield College!

**Enrollment Update:**

I don’t have an updated report from IR on enrollment. So here is a repeat of the Feb 1, 2016 report that was in my Renegade Roundup in February. BC’s growth rate is once again up, boosting our Spring 2016 FTES by over 7% over Spring 2015. Even with this phenomenal growth at BC, the district-wide FTES which is 5.5% over last Spring is still under the growth target. We are planning on a more comprehensive summer school for 2016. BC’s Spring 2016 productivity is at 16.2 FTES/FTEF. Remember, our target FTES/FTEF range remains between 17.0 and 17.5.
Renegade Promise:
In Fall 2015, President Obama unveiled the College Promise initiative, prompting colleges and states around the country to reevaluate their student success agendas to prioritize timely completion. The slogan adopted was “free community college” signaling that tuition and fees should not be a barrier to getting a college education.

In response to this national conversation, College Council commissioned a group to work on the Renegade Promise. This group led by our SGA President Clayton Fowler, Nicky Damania, and Lesley Bonds has developed the implementation for phase 1 of the Renegade Promise.

At this time, we are planning to publicly announce the Renegade Promise on April 29, 2016.

Stay tuned for details!

Guided Pathways Summit:
Over 300 faculty, staff, administrators, researchers, students, and educational partners joined us here at Bakersfield College on February 18 to explore local and statewide guided pathways implementation.

During this summit, held in the indoor theatre, attendees heard from a variety of thought leaders in the field, including David Jenkins, co-author of the book, *Redesigning America’s Community Colleges*.

Researchers John Hetts, Craig Hayward, and Terrence Willet delivered a powerful presentation on the ways innovative student success strategies like multiple measures, course acceleration, and dual enrollment are contributing to student completion and closing achievement gaps in unprecedented ways. Special thanks to all of our fabulous panelists from Cerro Coso, Mt. SAC, Butte, and the Kern Community Foundation for sharing your perspectives.
**AACC Pathways Institute #1**

As one of just 30 colleges nationwide selected to participate in AACC’s Pathways Project, five BC representatives (Lesley Bonds, Nan Gomez-Heitzberg, Zav Dadabhoy, Kimberly Bligh) trekked to San Antonio, TX, to team up with 29 other colleges throughout the country to explore the College’s readiness to implement guided pathways at scale.

Over three intensive days, we worked collaboratively as a small group and with a team of colleagues in Bakersfield to develop a short-term action plan.

In April, a new team (Lesley Bonds, Cindy Collier, Paula Parks, Eileen Pierce, Marisa Marquez) will head to Washington, DC, for the second Pathways Institute. Lesley Bonds is our institutional lead for pathways and you can contact her if you would like to be involved with this work.

**Common Assessment:**

As one of the pilot schools to test the new statewide common assessment tool (CAI), Bakersfield College is gearing up to conduct pilot testing. We need the help of many people:

- Instructors of ACDV, ENGL, EMLS, and MATH classes at all basic skills levels to bring classes to take a 45 minute test.
- Incoming student volunteers to take the tests
- Help scheduling vacant computer labs in 50 minute blocks.

This is a state-wide research project that will hopefully result in a better placement instruments for all California Community College students in the future. Those students will be able to use their test results at any Community College in California.

Our students who participate in the pilot testing will have the opportunity to give feedback that will be a valuable contribution to the state.

Janet Fulks and Sue Vaughn are co-chairing this project. Please contact them for more information.

**Bond 2016:**

We continue working hard to prepare for the potential 2016 bond. This includes campus tours to show our aging facilities and educate visitors on how bond money can improve our campus – and impact student success. I asked Mayor Harvey Hall if he would chair the Bond Community Committee and he said “yes!” – yay!

Our Board of Trustees members were given tours of various campus areas at the board meeting on Thursday, March 10. Faculty and staff are conducting these fast hitting tours of Math & Science, Athletics, Agriculture, Student Services, and the Veterans Center.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact Tarina Perry at tperry@bakersfieldcollege.edu
**Summer 2016:**
Our summer program in 2016 is going to be expanded significantly from summer 2015. For example we will have 2000 student who will be going through summer bridge this year. Here are some preliminary results from the evaluation report completed by West Ed on our “onboarding” of students and the impact on their success in courses.

**Orientation**
Although about 85% of Bakersfield College students have historically participated in orientation, students may not have gained a clear understanding of the college’s many resources for setting educational goals, supporting learning, and navigating the college experience. Beginning in 2014-15, Bakersfield College sought to equip all students with this information by revamping its orientation content, offering more tailored information for various types of students (such as older students or veterans) and different kinds of majors (such as business versus science), and providing multiple formats and locations for accessing this information.

- **Face-to-face orientations:** Offered throughout the region in high schools or as one-day events on Bakersfield College’s campuses where students can complete all the steps necessary to enroll in classes, these interactive sessions provide students with tools that help them be a successful student and to build connections with their peers. In 2014-15, 4,729 students participated in face-to-face orientation.

- **Online orientations:** Given the challenges of Bakersfield College’s large geographical reach, transportation, and students’ time constraints, Bakersfield College offers an on-demand online orientation. This approach integrates multiple learning styles, opportunities for active participation, and a quiz to ensure that students have mastered key topics. In 2014-15, 7,605 students participated in online orientation.

- **Summer bridge orientation:** Providing a more immersive experience, the summer bridge program uses a week-long highly interactive structure to ensure students create a comprehensive educational plan, learn how to navigate college policies and access education resources, and build study skills. In the summer before the 2014-15 academic year, 184 students participated in summer bridge orientation.

Students who participated in face-to-face orientation and the summer bridge program had higher course completion and success rates than the college’s overall rate, with significantly higher rates for summer bridge participants.
The Skills Builder Metric is a new metric that has been added to the portfolio of metrics in the state chancellor’s office. It looks at students who come to a community college and take a course or less than a year to enhance their earning power. Below is a bar graph that Janet Fulks sent me on the BC data which is in the 2016 Student Success Scorecard. The discipline with the largest median wage gain (in terms of dollars) one year after taking CTE courses was in Manufacturing and Industrial Technology with a median wage gain of $20,061.
Mark Your Calendars

March 31: Baseball vs Antelope Valley College, 3 pm, Gerry Collis Field
March 31: Sterling Silver, 6:30 pm, Petroleum Club
April 1: Spring Choir Concert, 7:30 pm, Indoor Theatre
April 2: Swimming meet vs. College of the Sequoias, 10 am, BC Pool
April 5: Baseball vs. West LA College, 6 pm, Gerry Collis Field
April 6: Levan Lecture: Jared Diamond, 7 pm, Indoor Theatre
April 9: Baseball vs. West LA College, 6 pm, Gerry Collis Field
April 12: Softball vs. Santa Monica College, 3 & 5 pm, Dean & Adah Gay Sports Complex
April 14: Baseball vs. College of the Canyons, 3 pm, Gerry Collis Field
April 15: Softball doubleheader: Cuesta College & Mt. San Antonio College, 2 & 6 pm, Dean & Adah Gay Sports Complex
April 16: Garden Fest, 9 am-4 pm, Renegade Park
April 19: Softball vs LA Valley College, 3 & 5 pm, Dean & Adah Gay Sports Complex
April 21: Renegade Talks, 7 pm, Indoor Theatre
April 21: Baseball vs LA Valley College, 3 pm, Gerry Collis Field
April 21: Softball vs LA Valley College, 3 & 5 pm, Dean & Adah Gay Sports Complex
April 25: Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert, 7:30 pm, Indoor Theatre
April 26: Softball vs. Antelope Valley College, 1 & 3 pm, Dean & Adah Gay Sports Complex
April 26: Baseball vs Citrus College, 3 pm, Gerry Collis Field
April 27: Career Day, 8 am-4 pm, Campus Center
April 29: Track & Field WSC Finals, 12 pm, Memorial Stadium
April 29: Baseball vs Citrus College, 3 pm, Gerry Collis Field
April 29 – Public unveiling of the Renegade Promise
May 5 – Chicano/Latino commencement
May 6 – Closing Day
May 6 – Honors Reception
May 7 – Performing Arts combined concert
May 10 – Black Graduates recognition ceremony
May 13 – Commencement
May 16, 17, 18, 19 – Paid summer professional development.

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

With Renegade pride and collegiality,
sonya

See all issues of Renegade Roundup online