This year has zoomed by, and here we are, one week from Bakersfield College's 101st commencement. This time of the year is full of activities celebrating accomplishments like the Chicano/Latino celebration, the Black recognition ceremony, the Honors reception etc. This is the time of year when it seems like Bakersfield College is on a speeding train. Here are some of the great things happening, so buckle up, because this train is headed out of the station!

**Enrollment Update:**
Here is a status update on enrollments for Summer 2015 and Fall 2015 as of May 6th. BC’s FTES has grown 11.6% from last summer contributing to the districtwide growth at 6%. For Fall 2015, BC at this time has a 9.5% growth with the districtwide growth at 2.8%. Our institution set standard for productivity is a range from 17.0-17.5. The table shows, at this time, our productivity is 14.2% for the summer and 12.5% for the Fall. However, the productivity usually increases while we get closer to the start of the term.

### Summer and Fall Enrollment and Current FTES Update
Prepared May 6, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bakersfield College</th>
<th>Point-in-Time Comparison¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer - First Day Open BC - CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Headcount</td>
<td>6,629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplicated Enrollments</td>
<td>9,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waitlisted Enrollments²</td>
<td>963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current FTES³</td>
<td>1,129.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workload (FTEF)</td>
<td>82.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>FTES/FTEF¹</td>
<td>13.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active Sections</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I am very pleased with BC’s enrollment management strategy with the three areas of the college (Instruction, Student Affairs and Finance) working closely together. This work is at the strategic level of using an enrollment management financial model, to responding to workforce and student demands to ensuring that courses are schedule to meet the needs identified during the matriculation process in the Student Education Plan (SEP). At the Operational Level, the Counseling and Advising department closely monitors the student enrollment patterns based on SEPs and the actual enrollment and alerts Instruction almost on a daily basis on the status of student needs. Deans and faculty respond to this information by scheduling the appropriate classes. Instruction partners with HR to hire adjunct faculty in addition to the slate of 35 full time faculty recruitments that are currently underway. I want to recognize the Enrollment Management Committee, the three Vice Presidents, the counselors and advisors, the deans, and the faculty who have done an effective job in enrollment management. Team... You Rock!

**Outreach to High Schools:**

Speaking of outreach efforts, Bakersfield College’s work to make student success a reality for all students starts before students even apply to become a student. Our work starts with a number of local programs, including our Outreach and School Relations department, which goes out into the high schools to meet with students and high school counselors in an effort to start the matriculation process earlier—assessment, orientation, development of the abbreviated student educational plan.

Under the leadership of Steve Watkin, and with a small army of partners from Counseling and Advising, Assessment and the Making it Happen team, the Outreach and School Relations department goes out into area high schools, brings important information, and works with other departments on campus to make sure students have all the information they need to make important decisions regarding their education and career future.
In spring 2015, the Outreach and School Relations department has booked more than 30 scheduled visits with high schools in Bakersfield, Delano, McFarland, Lamont, Shafter, and Arvin. You can see the full schedule of outreach days on the Outreach and School Relations website.

**Inmate Education by Bakersfield College**

With the signing of SB 1391 last fall, community colleges in California have the opportunity to hold coursework at correctional institutions. Bakersfield College has been working to establish a relationship with the three prisons in the college’s service area, and is piloting a course at Kern Valley State Prison under the guidance and leadership of communication faculty member Bryan Hirayama. Bryan’s class – COMM B1 – has 27 students enrolled. Bryan has been blogging about his experiences. Please check it out at http://reflectionsonprisoneducation.blogspot.com

There is a team, chaired by Rich McCrow and Pat Smith, which has started to meet to work through the issues of this project. You can follow their work at https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/president/inmate-education

**You Can Ring Our Bell**

Commencement is almost here, and the Counseling and Advising Department has launched the Graduation Gong. Students who have completed all requirements for their course of study and who are ready to graduate get to ring Bakersfield College’s Graduation Gong. These students’ photos are then posted on the Student Success website for all to see!

Who has rung the gong? How about Maribel Perez, who finished her degree while juggling life as a working mom? Or, Belinda Hess, who is an honor student planning to transfer to CSU Monterey Bay with two Associate of Arts degrees!

You can celebrate these, and the more than 1,000 other Bakersfield College students who are eligible to graduate at commencement on Friday, May 15 at 7 p.m. in Memorial Stadium. This year’s commencement will be the best of the old and more of the new, with a redesigned format, a huge video wall to show the commencement to the crowd, and
fireworks at the end!

**Grand Reopening of the SPArC**

Bakersfield College celebrated the grand reopening of the Edward Simonsen Performing Arts Center – the building which we now adoringly call SPArC. Last Saturday, as about 300 friends gathered for *A Noteworthy Event* to commemorate the completion of the renovation to the Speech Arts Music building, original when Bakersfield College moved to the hill in 1956 and reborn as a magnificent performing arts space.

Under the expert leadership of Mary Jo Pasek and with the creative experience of John Gerhold, Ron Kean, and Jennifer Garrett, the college and community gathered to enjoy a truly noteworthy event, made even more special by the presence of many members of the Simonsen family.

Dr. Ron Kean conducted the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra through a variety of musical favorites, including excerpts from *Carmen*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Rodeo* (and the familiar background strains of “Beef. It’s what’s for dinner.” commercials) before launching into *Raiders March*, which is posted on BC's Facebook for your video enjoyment. Thank you Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra and Brian Burrows for partnering with Bakersfield College.

The musical highlight of the evening was a commissioned piece by Dr. John Gerhold. *Joyful Noises* celebrated the opening of the SPArC in dramatic fashion, with sweetly singling strings, rolling drums, crashing symbols, and areas of cacophony that were reminiscent of a student’s journey from beginning music classes to advanced compositional efforts. Video of a portion of the performance is also posted on BC's Facebook.

If you didn’t make it to the grand reopening event, the SPArC will be hosting several other amazing events in the next few weeks. Make sure to mark your calendars of June 11, as the Bakersfield College Chamber Singers hold their Rome Tour Preview Concert at 7:30 p.m. This event is a performance stateside before heading to Italy to perform at the Vatican!

**Manny Mourtzanos Named to Cal LAW Board**

Manny Mourtzanos, Dean of Instruction, was selected by California Leadership Access Workforce, Inc (Cal LAW) to serve a one-year term as Treasurer, followed by a three-year term as a member of the board. Cal LAW is a 501(c)(3) organization focusing on building an educational pipeline into the legal profession from 9th grade through law school. Bakersfield College is an active partner in this
process, and Manny has been leading the charge to develop a Pre-Law pathway for our students.

**Mark Your Calendars**
- May 10 – Music majors solo recital at 4:00 p.m. in the Indoor Theater.
- May 12 – Red and White Knight at 5:00 p.m. Pyrnees to share stories of Renegade Coach Gerry Collis
- May 12 – Black recognition ceremony at 6:30 in the Fireside Room
- May 13 – Rad Tech completion ceremony at SPArC
- May 14 – RN completion ceremony at Valley Bible on Brundage
- May 15 – Commencement at 7:00 p.m. at Memorial Stadium
- May 20 – Fire Fighter Academy 1 Completion at 6:00 p.m. at SPArC

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

With Renegade pride and collegiality,
sonya

[See all issues of Renegade Roundup online](#)