Welcome from Dean Waller

Over many years as a professor and an administrator, I have had the valuable opportunity to assist adjunct faculty. I myself was an adjunct faculty member at two different institutions, so I have experienced the concerns and the joys of the position. This has greatly influenced the respect I have for every one of our faculty.

Although as an adjunct faculty member you are not required to do more than teach and assess your classes, as a member of the faculty, you have the freedom to be creative and thoughtful in your approaches to education. Some recent good books that may stimulate these are Learning to Listen, Learning to Teach by Jane Vella (a former adjunct faculty member at the University of North Carolina) and Student Engagement Techniques by Elizabeth Barkley (a community college music professor at Foothill College near San Jose). Continue to be creative and thoughtful, so you can help students become more engaged learners.

Even as an adjunct faculty member, you have the opportunity to influence the direction of the College. Some low-time-commitment activities that can be impactful include, attending department meetings, Guided Pathways meetings, a College committee, graduation ceremonies, opening day events or Convocation. You are an expert at something with experience to share, so maybe use that to do an open lecture or performance for the College. Other than your required teaching part-time, consider being part of the College part of the time, and you will find yourself enjoying it 100% of the time.

I wish you the best on your journey of continuous learning and helping others be successful learners. Thank you for being part of our vibrant Renegade faculty.

Spotlight on Janice Green

Starting this month, we will occasionally spotlight adjunct faculty who have made an impression on their colleagues for one reason or another. This is a chance for other adjunct faculty to see what their colleagues are doing on campus. Our first spotlight this month is on Janice Green, who was nominated by Tom Moran. Janice works in the ASL program and has been with BC since August, 2011. Here is what Tom had to say about Janice:

Janice Green has been an adjunct faculty member for nearly 10 years, working alongside her full-time colleagues with the same commitment and zeal as any of us. She is committed to every part of our department, from curriculum design to assessment.

In the past year, with assistance from full-timer Linda McLaughlin, she has created Canvas shells for our level one and two courses for all faculty members to use. These shells comprise the entirety of our detailed curriculum, videos, quizzes, and readings, making our uniform curriculum and assessment instruments more cohesive and easier to provide to students. This has automated or otherwise streamlined much of the grading for faculty members, and made certain that all our students are receiving the same high level of quality instruction. As a Deaf woman and native signer, she provides excellent instruction and serves as the best possible language model for her students. An instructor of the highest standards, Janice is as popular with her students as she is with her colleagues. It comes as no surprise that she was recently nominated for the Samuel W. McCall Outstanding Professor of the Year Award.

Congratulations, Janice for the mark you are making on BC and our students!

Tech Corner with Tracy

Canvas Tips and Tricks by Tracy Lovelace

We here at the Bakersfield College Academic Technology Department along with the makers of Canvas (Instructure) want you to be the best at using Canvas whether you are teaching online, hybrid, or in-person. Here is a nice tip and trick when using Canvas:

Many teachers like to create quiz questions in which their students are asked to match images with identifying text. The multiple dropdown quiz question type will easily accommodate this type of question.

June Tip of the Month: Matching quizzes with images

Here’s how it’s done:

1. Although you can always add your images on the fly, you’ll probably find it easier to create the quiz question if you first upload the images you plan to use in the quiz question to your files area (either individually or as a bulk upload).
2. Navigate to the Quizzes tab. You can create your new question in an existing quiz or in a question bank.
3. After selecting Add Question, select the multiple dropdown type for your new question.
4. Insert a table with two columns and however many rows you will need to accommodate the number of matching pairs you plan to have in your question.
5. Add your pictures in the left column, resizing them as necessary; in the right column of the table, add the dropdown variables. To more closely simulate matching you can have all of the possible answers in the dropdown menu the same.
6. Once you’ve inserted the images and the dropdown variables, you can select the correct matching choice for each image.

When you’ve finished designating the correct matching choices for all of the pairs, click the Save button to save the question.
What you need to know about Measure J this summer

What’s happening with Measure J construction that might affect you this summer? Here’s a list of the major projects in the works for the summer.

1. Parking: The following parking lots will be closed during the summer:
   - 5/7/18-7/6/18 P3, P4, Driveway South of PAC
   - 5/31/18-6/29/18 P5, Red & White Way, Driveway to INDT & Auto Shops
   - 6/12/18-6/21/18 Church Drive, Driveway North of PAC Building
   - 6/7/18-7/25/18 P1, P2, Main Entrance
   - 6/4/18-8/20/18 P8, P9, P11, Entrance from University

2. The Gym will be closed until June 8.
3. Upgrades to CCS building to accommodate assessment until June 27.
4. The huddle will be closed until 7/15/18.
5. The construction of Veteran’s Resource Center until 10/22/19.
6. Construction and Remodel of Campus Center/ABC building until 9/1/20.
7. Restrooms partition replacement in the MS Building, Fine Arts Building and SE building during the summer.

Spotlight on Octavio Barajas

For our second adjunct faculty spotlight, we spotlight an adjunct faculty member who was nominated by multiple colleagues and whose name has been seen around campus quite a bit lately. Octavio is relatively new to the BC campus but here is what one Professor had to say about him. “Since joining BC, he has been active in the community and BC doing things that are not usually expected from an adjunct. He has already done several presentations on campus. At this time he has planned a conference on Chicanos Studies which will be at BC next week. I know him on a personal level because he was one of my students once and the president of our MEChA organization on campus, of which I was the advisor. He is a person who has come back to BC and gives back to his community.”

Another colleague said of Octavio, “He is an adjunct historian in the social science department, a member of the NEH Energizing the Humanities cohort, and organizer of the Jess Nieto memorial conference coming up Tuesday, April 17 at the Levan Center. He is also involved in a number of community wide initiatives, particularly related to Latino/a Bakersfield. He is also a PhD Candidate at Tulane university and is probably the only person in Bakersfield fluent in Nahuatl, a native language of Mexico, or at least on staff!” Thank you, Octavio, for all you do to benefit BC students!