

Renegade Roundup



...on Emergency Preparedness, Centennial, Legislation, & HSI!

October 14, 2013

Colleagues:

We are entering an incredibly busy time here at Bakersfield College, and I'm counting on each and every one of you to say involved with the major events and activities on campus through the end of the month. 100 years comes once in a lifetime and I feel so fortunate that I am here at BC now.

So, what's ahead?

Are You Ready for the Great California ShakeOut?

This Thursday, October 17, at 10:17 a.m., Bakersfield College will test our emergency readiness by participating in The Great California ShakeOut. This event will begin at 10:17 a.m. as every student and employee at Bakersfield College, along with 9.4 million other Californians, goes into the *Drop! Cover! Hold On!* earthquake safety position. We will send text messages and emails to let you know the drill is starting, so faculty, please have your phone on so you can receive the text and alert your students that the drill is beginning.

Full details on this emergency exercise are in your email, so please read up on what is happening and the timeline for the event. Remember, the sooner you evacuate once you hear the alarms, the sooner we can call an end to the exercise. As in previous years, we are taking the opportunity to activate our Incident Command System, which mobilizes key personnel for a major emergency. As buildings are searched and called in as cleared, we will check them off our map. Once all are cleared, we will end the exercise.

This is an important training for not only earthquakes, but fires and other emergencies requiring the evacuation of a building. It is essential you take it seriously and proceed through the drill expeditiously to make sure we are successful!

10 more days to the Gala. Have you bought your tickets?

The Bakersfield College Centennial Gala is quickly approaching, and the planning team, led



by Communication adjunct faculty member Neeley Hatridge, is in a full push for final ticket sales. If you haven't yet purchased your tickets and are intending to, please do so. We must get the final headcount to Chef Coyle this Friday, October 18th, at 12:00 noon. It will only happen once in the life of the College, and we are blessed that it is happening now when we are here. We need everyone who can bring the community together to help create this event together. Please take time to call the Foundation office at 395-4800 to arrange for individual tickets or a table. The success of this evening is too important to leave to chance.

A final request on the Centennial Gala. If there is someone you think would want to attend the Gala, and you would like a personal phone call from me to that person, please email me and we will work it out. I want this evening to be amazing, and I need your help. I'm more than willing to reach out to the community personally to make sure everyone in Bakersfield knows they are invited to celebrate along with Bakersfield College!

SB 440 – CSU Transfer

Late last week, Governor Brown signed SB 440 (Padilla) into law, and helped to turn more university dreams into reality for California's community college students. This new law makes transfer from community colleges, like Bakersfield College, to universities in the California State University system more efficient, cost effective, and achievable. While SB 1440 had the goal of simplifying transfer, the new law requires community colleges to offer the maximum number of associate degrees for transfer (you've heard of the AA-T and AS-T degrees Bakersfield College has been working on – three more were approved by the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees just last week).

SB 440 is essential to clearing the path for students seeking transfer to CSUs and to helping our own Bakersfield College students achieve their educational dreams. There will be more in coming months on transfer degrees, so watch for information in your inboxes!

Los Padrinos at Bakersfield College

In the last Renegade Roundup, I talked about Bakersfield College's role as an official Hispanic-Serving Institution. Today I would like to highlight the work of a group on campus *Los Padrinos* that replaced the Chicano Cultural Center here at Bakersfield College. *Los Padrinos* translates as "godparents" and reinforces the cultural need for community effort to foster success among Latino students. Activities are designed to help smooth Chicano/Latino students' college experience through access, retention, and goal attainment. All activities foster a sense of belonging and collegiality. Corny Rodriguez has been instrumental in bringing this group together to advance student success among our majority population, our Hispanic students.

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

With Renegade pride and collegiality,
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