

Renegade Roundup



.....Happy New Year

January 12, 2014

Happy New Year!

A new year always has a certain level of energy to propel us to do our very best. Resolutions get made with an earnest commitment to make life better; life better for the self and life better for families and communities. I have the same excitement, year after year, as the day dawns every day after Christmas in attempting to narrow down my list of resolutions for the next year. I have brainwashed myself that at the stroke of midnight on December 31st, when Auld Lang Syne is crooned that I have my resolution list memorized and recited soon after wishing loved ones who are around me and texting those who are not. This year, my resolution #1, the leader of the list of four, was on wellness. I must confess that this has been my #1 resolution for many years now. Wellness in the largest sense—eating right and exercising of course, but also taking it beyond nutrition and physical activities

to social and emotional wellness of self and the communities I reside within. So with that as my New Year message to all of you Renegades, let me quote our Wellness Core Value:

Wellness



We believe health and wellness to be integral and foundational elements, and we understand that a holistic education improves all aspects of the individual and the society including the mind, body, and spirit; through education, we will positively impact the health of the natural environment and the global community.

Opening Day, January 17th:

I look forward to seeing all of you pack the Forum for our morning session from 8:00 to 10:30 a.m., with breakfast at 8 a.m. catered by our incredibly talented Food Services team. As is our tradition, you will hear from the presidents of SGA, the Academic Senate, CCA, and CSEA. I will give you an update on the state of the college with a special spotlight on the development of our institutional scorecard and the student success work.

Though we won't be closing campus like we did in the fall, I strongly encourage you to attend, to connect with colleagues across the campus. Faculty colleagues, I know these are

optional flex days for you; however, I would like you to be present at these all-campus gatherings as we build community. Let's pack the Forum!

Staff Development Workshops from Jan 14th thru the 16th

I was reviewing the selected list of workshops posted under Staff Development in our portal. Please take time to review the list and fill out your day by registering for the different sessions. I have done so myself. I have also asked our co-chairs of staff development (Todd Coston, John Giertz, and Judy Ahl) to do an analysis on the attendance and send a report to the campus. The sessions range from curriculum presentations like the acceleration conference on Jan 14th to the TMCs, CIDs, ADTs on the 15th, to fitness activities like making the treadmill fun by *Walking and Working, to Yosemite and Beyond*, to skill building work sessions like the one on Excel, *Excel-Beyond the Basics*, which I think is a fundamental tool that we should all have a certain level of familiarity in using.

Enrollment for Spring Semester

Earlier this week we received an update on our enrollment numbers for the spring term. Bakersfield College's enrollment is up (2.5% FTES) over last year. This is a good sign that students are getting the classes they need as well as will help us generate the additional FTES that the district needs us to generate in order to reach the target for all three colleges.

Bakersfield College	Point-in-Time Comparison ¹			
	Spring - 2nd Week Before First Day			
	Spring 2013	Spring 2014	Diff	% Chg
Current Headcount	15,005	15,279	274	1.8%
Duplicated Enrollments	43,013	43,548	535	1.2%
Waitlisted Enrollments ²	7,593	5,610	-1,983	-26.1%
Current FTES³	5,305.9	5,437.7	131.8	2.5%
Workload (FTEF)	307.4	353.2	45.8	14.9%
FTES/FTEF ⁴	17.3	15.4	-1.9	-10.8%
Active Sections	1,520	1,570	50	3.3%

Given that the district as a whole needs to meet the target to ensure state-wide appropriation (aka, BC's primary revenue stream), this is a high priority for me. I have asked President's Cabinet under the leadership of Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg to focus on enrollment management, specifically on enrollment growth for spring 2014 and summer 2014. That does not mean our attention to "student success and completion" will be diminished. On the other hand with the new student success legislation, we are even more laser focused on our student success strategies. In other words Renegades, we will focus on both access and success.

You will see Amber Chiang gearing up with strategies to enhance the visibility of BC with the goal of recruiting new students. She will be working with key staff members, as well as direct emails and social media posts to remind students who might be on waitlists to check to see if they've rolled into classes. Our efforts will continue to remind the community that Bakersfield College is an important, viable opportunity (and according to me, the best option) for higher education. Plans are also in the works for reinforcing Summer semester enrollment, and encouraging local students at universities to come to Bakersfield College for affordable general education.

Emergency Exercise on January 2nd

The emergency exercise, which brought first responders from all over the Bakersfield area to Bakersfield College, was a great success. The *active shooter and multiple casualty* scenario provided emergency services the opportunity to work together, test their systems and protocols, and provided an important look at the Bakersfield College campus. The photo shows a member of the Kern County Sheriff's Department rappelling from a helicopter onto the roof of our Language Arts building!



These types of events are essential to the college's ongoing emergency preparedness efforts and to our ongoing partnerships with the Bakersfield Police Department, Bakersfield Fire Department, and more. The scenario allowed those who may respond to an emergency at Bakersfield College the opportunity to review their current practices in threat evaluation, practice their efforts to stop the threatening action, and test their ability to rapidly deploy resources. The event also tested the interdepartmental communication and partnership which is necessary in a large event. Bakersfield College is fortunate to have hosted the exercise and we look forward to additional exercises in the future. Thank you Chief Counts and members of Public Safety.

Mark Your Calendars!

January 17th – Spring Opening Day 8:00 to 10:30 in the Forum

January 18th – First day of Saturday classes

January 20th – Martin Luther King Holiday

January 21st – First day of weekday classes

January 24th – Student Success Stewardship Team: A Focus on the Student Success legislation

February 21st – Student Success Stewardship Team: A Focus on First generation Students

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

With Renegade pride and collegiality,
Sonya

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

