Chancellor Serrano preparing District leadership

By Zak G. Crow
Editor in Chief

After years of preparation, the budget has come full circle, and Chancellor Sandra Serrano, along with the rest of the Kern Community College District leadership, is calling on Bakersfield College officials in primary that so minimal impact had upon the students... 

Serrano has called upon the colleges of the district to assess their own situation and focus on their "core mission..." They have not been given a percentage, per se, in terms of reductions, but they've been asked to really focus on priorities," Serrano said. The district is using a recent recommendation by the Legislative Analyst's Office to establish some numbers of what could be cut. Chief financial officer Tom Darke is in the position of deciding what numbers to have the district's investment in. "The LAO did analysis of the governor's proposed revenue streams, and its proposed budget, and they're determined that these were overstated by over $6.5 billion," Darke said. As we now updated our long-term projections and incorporated the effect of an overall inflation rate...Basically we would have to find the level of reductions within our operations, which is about 15 to 19 percent overall, Serrano said. Serrano categorizes all operations into three specific areas from most important to least. Currently, there are meetings taking place every two weeks to figure out what solutions go into these categories.. "The colleges are meeting with their stakeholders and developing plans for what they are dealing with core mission based on the most of their service areas," Serrano said. "The purpose of the meetings is to look at all of the information to establish some priorities in terms of our core general education, our major programs..." Essentially, our office is open for students to come in if they have not been given a percentage, per se..."

The above graph is the Legislative Analyst's Office recommendations for the 2012-13 budget plan. Kern Community College District is using this in a means of preparation.

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Senior SGA president Richard Peterson, 51, is a computer studies major in the Academic Senate. "I thought it would be cool to get out there and take the office to the students," Peterson said. "That questions and concerns that are brought to the office door is open for students to come in if they have any questions or concerns, but I think they do that enough." To remedy that, Peterson plans to take the concerns himself and find out just what is on the students' minds.

Faculty leaders ready for cuts

By Ion Nixon
Editor in Chief

Once the last few semester, Bakersfield College has seen major budget cuts and it's about to be let to the colleges of the district. The BC faculty is currently waiting to see if the college's own campus $11.8 million in funding is going to happen. If governor's tax plan passes then it will help but not solve the problem;" said BC Professional Arts department chair and Academic Senate member John Gerhold. "The Academic Senate is a group of BC faculty that oversees 11 areas where decisions are currently made in the college district, including budget issues. This means that professors at BC will have a hand in deciding where these budget cuts will be made. "We don't get to pick how many dollars go where when we do decide to double many people," Serrano said. BC gets roughly $160 million for the budget for the entire BC district. The other two colleges in the district then get around $175 million and $260 million is spent on administration. Gerhold thanks that the district should look first into making cuts in administration. "Anything we do to cut costs is going to hurt students," said Gerhold. "Anything that's not a required course has already been cut." In the past, programs that the district feels are non-essential and student services have been hit in times of financial crisis. Most recently, the board passed a budget plan. Please see SERRANO, Page 5

"We're in a good position to weather the storm. It's certainly our hope that we'll be able to achieve our goals." Please see SERRANO, Page 5

"The buffet is on the students' minds. We are their voice. And we do something about it." Please see SERRANO, Page 5

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Garden gives students a chance to volunteer

By Nicholas Speling

Three Bakersfield College students have taken it upon themselves to spruce up the campus: one garden at a time starting with the Robin and Rondi’s Garden in the Fine Arts building.

Student James German, a 20-year-old horticulture major, and Cameron Poppels, a 20-year-old forestry major and Isaac Rossa, a horticulture major, have taken it upon them­selves to beautify a corner of the campus by utilizing the skills that they have learned at BC.

They discovered the garden last December and undertook the task of prunning back the overgrowth across the entire plot. “We talked about it and kept our word,” Rossa said. “We compiled our four or five garbage cans full of overgrowth and started to turn the soil. Then we planted the bulbs. We weren’t sure how well they would do. That was three months ago, and they’re already flowering, according to Rivera.”

The students work on their breaks between classes and any free time that they have on campus. “We’re horticulture students, so we figured we might as well get our hands dirty,” said Mattels.

Most of the time the garden sits like an oasis in the middle of the Fine Arts Building.

The department assistant of fine and performing arts, Joyce Toupin, allows them access for the extra-curricular project.

“Every time we come in on our breaks, they allow us access. It’s not a door that’s open all the time,” said Rossa.

The garden is able to be enjoyed by anyone who takes the time to look and see the geometry and shapes of various plants. It’s “the staff that around here that really get to appreciate it, because their offices are around here,” said Rossa.

Students are not getting any extra credit from any of these classes to clean up the garden. It’s more of their desire to see things alive and put into practice what they’ve learned,” said Rivera. “But it’s not their job, but it’s important to see what we can do. There is no such green space on campus we might as well use it.”

Some of the things that the students have learned and are applying to their clean up of the garden is how to read the soil and tend to the plants. “We’re learning plant identification and general horticulture,” said Mattels.

One of the tasks that they have been working on is to place a part of the garden in the Fine Arts Building.

The team has a real passion for the work that they do. “Each plant and each garden that we work on, I try to put a little of myself into it,” said Cameron.

“I definitely enjoy the fitness on the campus. Plants are probably my favorite things,” said German. “It’s been so successful everywhere else that we know it will bring in a lot of people here,” said Mattels.

Location is a definite factor as to why people will be attracted to the garden.

Paul Fredrick, the owner of the Robin and Rondi’s Garden, is known to build his restaurants around college campuses and shopping centers.

“The restaurant really enticed and in a really nice shopping center,” said Fredrick.

Barbara German is going to be located in 1530 W. Bland­dale they near Chico State. A Nice from the field, I, we gett­ed that the beer issues of the best thing Elsa loves to offer.

“We have between 24/25 craft beers from local brewe­ries and we have what’s called a whiskey and beer sampler,” said Louie. “We just recently added a key sample you’ll get 16 different beers or whiskeys in short glasses to taste. But then by the time you finish all of them you’ll have already a little buzz.”

If drinking isn’t your thing Murcia suggests trying the cowboy burger.

“It’s one popular burger because of the homemade beer barbecue sauce,” said Louie. The decent opening date has still not been set, but Louie believes it will be towards the middle of April.

New burger location coming to Bakersfield

By Crystal Sanchez

A new restaurant in Bakersfield is set to open in April, Eureka Burger is a gourmet burger restaurant that opened in Redland.

From there, the chain ex­panded to Fresno, Claremont and San Luis Obispo.

Mercedes and Louis Cao have been the woodwork de­signers for the restaurant chain for the past three years. Mercedes believes that the new Eureka Burger will be a big hit in Bakersfield.

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Above: Clouds create shadows on the rolling hills.
Left: With snow-capped mountains in the background, the American Flag waves over the Bakersfield National Cemetery on March 19 near Bear Mountain Road.

Another weather front rolls in over Oildale on the evening of March 25, offering this view from the Panorama Buffs.

WET AND WHITE

Above: Clouds create shadows on the rolling hills.
Left: With snow-capped mountains in the background, the American Flag waves over the Bakersfield National Cemetery on March 19 near Bear Mountain Road.

Another weather front rolls in over Oildale on the evening of March 25, offering this view from the Panorama Buffs.
"It meant a lot to me because that's the only thing that says I'm consistent in radiation. Therapists, doctors, you don't see that all the time. The time of day you get radiation changes everyday," she said. "It's really like you're living on the edge, you can take the same shot every single day, but your experience is different. I didn't know big for a long time, I could kind of see it the same with a letter series."

Elliott also described how patients receive beads for every type of treatment they receive, but that they had to do proton radiation treatment, so she created one herself to share with others. "You're only one of those, so it's awesome. I donate them to the kids at St. Jude and they love it. But it's the proton center where I got treatment."

Elliott said she's glad to be doing a theme where her community can get involved. "I'm somewhat grateful that I know a lot of people, and now each and every one of them is going to make a difference."

She decided to create a theme that her friends could see the movie, "I used to go to the [Kesha] Concert Library and look in their research. I have access to the books, online stuff and they have medical journals on there. That's what I would look at. What I would pitch wouldn’t be 'I hope that we won’t have this trouble to happen to you or me. I guess that I’m strong enough to handle it.'

"It's my life to figure out," Elliott said. "I was able to seek treatment at the Children's Hospital Research Laboratory despite their age restrictions."

"Because the tumor I have is rare in a million, they accept it up to age 21 and it can be at any age," she said. The treatment includes using proton radiation focused directly on the tumor, which Elliott described as a feeling of butterflies in her stomach. "It would be very effective for the results of the first thing."

"I have an appointment at St. Jude every three months for now and every year for the rest of my life," she said. She explained the treatment helped her understand her future experiences. "I've moved past it, I'm not just sitting around like, 'why me?' If you can't catch up on that, you can't move forward. I just look on the bright side."

Elliott admitted it may sound strange, she's almost grateful that she had this incredible experience in her life. "I really just think I'll make a better person some day."

According to the National Institute of Medicine, a craniosynostosis is a rare tumor that develops at the base of the brain near the pituitary gland. It causes increased pressure on the brain, which can increase the risk of seizures, learning problems, vision problems, and damage to the brain. Elliott was able to seek treatment at the Children's Hospital Research Laboratory despite their age restrictions. "Because the tumor I have is rare in a million, they accept it up to age 21 and it can be at any age," she said. The treatment includes using proton radiation focused directly on the tumor, which Elliott described as a feeling of butterflies in her stomach. "It would be very effective for the results of the first thing." [Elliott now makes these blankets with the help of other people in her community to send back to the children at the treatment center."

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I feel tired, students seem to be taking the time to relax or catch up on homework while others can’t wait for the week to be over to go out. My roommates knew to avoid me when I was drinking three pots of coffee a day."

By Angie DelGado

Most Bakersfield College students don’t have a clue what they’re going to be doing this spring break. Some students are planning to travel far and wide to relax or catch up on homework while others can’t wait for the week to be over and go out. The students are not alone in their desire to spend time with friends and family. The following are students who have traveled far and wide to relax or catch up on homework while others can’t wait for the week to be over.

Karen Eso came to Bakersfield College March 15 to give a lecture in the Fireside Room called “The Health Benefits of the Female Orgasm.” Eso is a professor at CSU San Marcos, but she is used to teaching at Bakersfield College. The belief that the female orgasm is important because women are “biologically scarred to talk about sex” Eso explained that she is “unfortunately, 75 percent of women come to reach orgasm from intercourse.” This means a woman will have to be relaxed and open for her new experience. The 10-15 percent of women who have never climaxed, was one of the main points that Eso explained.

There are actually 15 types of orgasm that a woman can have, but a few are not known to others. They are: clinical, vaginal, clitoral, labial, deep spot, oral, end, skin, and mental orgasms. While some orgasms may be more popular, they may not be the right one for you, Eso said.

The most popular group of women is actually found to be somewhere uncomfortable for some women because it makes them feel like they have to urinate, but they won’t.

Another option is the use of a corona, a ring that surrounds the clitoris. Even though some women may be turned off by this, it can help to increase the sensation.

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