Yesterday was International Women’s Day and this year’s theme is *Make It Happen*. March is Women’s History month. On March 5, Andrea Thorson and team launched the first event, a film that highlights the need for us to consider the way we treat our planet’s oceans. Saturday evening Shohreh Raman and team hosted the Kern County Women’s International Day celebration with dinner at the Petroleum Club. The event was emceed by Supervisor Leticia Perez and BC was present in full force.

We are about to start the eighth week of the spring term and the campus is buzzing with activities. Every time I start to plan the next *Renegade Roundup*, I’m struck by the number of things happening on campus to write about. Of course, as I start to put the information together, I realize there is far too much to put into an email *you’ll actually read* and have to pick and choose what to focus on. Let me start with the usual enrollment report.

**Enrollment Update:**
The February 25, 2015 report from Lisa Fitzgerald shows that annual projections for the year exceeds our college target by 283 FTES. This achievement plus FTES from last year that is now “in the bank” will help ensure meeting the district-wide target. When I look at these enrollment numbers, my first thought is to thank each and every one of you for your tireless efforts.

The two tables below shows the enrollments for BC and KCCD for spring term only. As you can see BC is at 102% of our enrollment target. Great work all! Our FTES/FTEF ratio is holding strong at 16.9 although our target is 17.5.
Inmate Education:

BC has responded to SB 1351 by partnering with Kern Valley State Prison (KVSP) to offer courses for inmates. Our pioneer in this effort is Bryan Hiroyama who is offering a communication course at KVSP. Please note that faculty teach prison assignments at their discretion and have the right to decline to teach within a prison facility without fear that this decision will negatively impact their teaching careers at BC. The administrative lead for this program is Rich McCrow and the faculty lead Pat Smith. Stay tuned for more details as we continue to develop the details for this program.

Bakersfield College EquityTV:

EquityTV is aired live on the internet each Monday at 11 a.m. This program, like the Renegade Report, is available due to a partnership with The Bakersfield Californian.

Mondays at 11 a.m.
can be a tough time to tune in, but the team has been posting video clips of each episode to the Bakersfield College website; like our own Venessa Reyes talking Financial Aid opportunities for students. These same videos will have multiple applications, including use by our Outreach and Equity teams during their visits to high schools and at education events around Kern County.

This concept, initiated last fall, was made possible due to the leadership of numerous individuals on campus. Amber Chiang, Odella Johnson, Corny Rodriguez, Lisa Kent, Paul Beckworth, Tina Mendoza, Primavera Arvizu, ....just to name a few.

EquityTV is an innovative approach toward bringing important information straight to the community that we hope will positively affect the college-going rate and success of students in Bakersfield College’s service area. Please read the blog post about EquityTV – and of course, make sure to sign up to follow the blog to keep up on other news and information.

**Making it Happen:**
A few weeks ago, Bakersfield College had a team head to Baltimore, MD to present on Bakersfield College’s *Making it Happen* program implementation and results. Janet Fulkis and Manny Mourtzanos, presented along with two students, Letisia Cruz and Abagail Miller. Remember, *Making it Happen* addresses the educational barriers experienced by students who are historically underserved and academically underprepared for college.

The graphic above shows data for the 7,300 students that Bakersfield College tested and placed in English courses in 2012-2013. As part of the Making it Happen effort, Bakersfield...
College has overhauled our testing processes, and begun evaluating students on Multiple Measures, rather than relying only on static assessment scores. Multiple Measures allows Bakersfield College to review a student’s educational history, writing, and other metrics in placing a student in the appropriate course.

**Sustainability and a “Greener” Bakersfield College**

Quick! What are Bakersfield College’s Core Values?

Ok...I’ll remind you. They are: Learning, Integrity, Wellness, Diversity, Community and... Sustainability.

In January, we hosted a Sustainability Symposium to provide information regarding the sustainability efforts on campus. The full presentation from the Sustainability Symposium is posted on our Conferences website.

Here are some examples of projects Bakersfield College has engaged in.

**Fossil Fuel Reliance Changes**

The new M&O vehicles are replacing each of the gas M&O vehicles, and have been purchased through a grant program to eliminate fossil-fuel vehicles. We will have all vehicles replaced by 2016.

Along that line is the implementation of the chiller loop replacement project, which replaces our old gas-operated air conditioners with electric ones, in coordination with the thermal energy tank. The tank stores water and chills it overnight when energy rates are lower, then the water is pumped through the air conditioning system during the day.

**Water Use Updates**

The massive water and gas line replacement project is nearly complete, replacing every pipe on campus to prevent leaks and breaks into the future. I think we all can agree that the end result will be worth the challenges the project has presented. The good news is that we are nearly done!
Another large part of the water use project is the installation of new low-flush toilets on campus. This project, paid for by rebate incentives, saves millions of gallons of water for the college and reduces our water bills. Along the same line is the replacement of sprinklers on campus with low flow units, resulting in a 28% water savings during these difficult drought years. To support the new sprinkler program, we will also be systematically “browning” campus by reducing the amount of water we use to irrigate, but still maintaining proper watering for our mature landscape and trees.

Mark Your Calendars
April 23 – Learn@BC! Second Annual Equity and Inclusion Conference
May 6 – Chicano/Latino Commencement
May 8 – Spring 2015 Closing Day
May 7 – Honors Reception
May 15 – Commencement

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

With Renegade pride and collegiality,
sonya

See all issues of Renegade Roundup online