April 21, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 27

Delta College faculty and staff volunteers have turned the college’s theater costume shop into a makeshift mask factory to create masks for staff and students.

STATE AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE/EXECUTIVE ORDERS/NEWS

Gov. Gavin Newsom today gave an update on the state’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. (All daily news conferences are streamed live at noon on his Twitter page and the California Governor Facebook page.) You can find more information on California’s COVID-19 website.

The governor today announced a new website called Californians For All, where people can sign up to volunteer for things like working at a food bank, giving blood or delivering meals to those in need. The website is in partnership with nonprofits across the state, including the Red Cross, local United Ways and others. People who sign up will receive weekly emails that will offer both state and local volunteering opportunities.

You can watch the full update here. (Please note: the broadcast begins around the 3:30 mark.)

In an interview with CBS This Morning today, Gov. Newsom said he feared the worst might not be over for California, if our state’s residents do not continue to comply with social distancing and other restrictions. Newsom reiterated today he would provide an update on Wednesday on the timeline to reopen the state.

President Trump today announced he will sign an executive order “to temporarily suspend immigration into the United States” because of the coronavirus.

The Senate today voted to approve the $484 billion relief package to boost aid for hospitals and replenish a small business loan program that ran out of money. The House is expected to vote on Thursday and President Trump said he will sign it.

The U.S. Department of Education today announced more funding and guidance for colleges and universities to provide direct emergency cash grants to students. The department also issued a Q&A related to the CARES Act, which, among other things, indicates undocumented students may not receive funds provided under the Act.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration today authorized the first test for at-home coronavirus testing.

SYSTEM GUIDANCE

The California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office invites you to join our Virtual Town Hall, which will kick off the first-ever Board of Governors Virtual Advocacy Day. Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley, members of the Board and Chancellor’s Office staff will be advocating for system priorities, including additional funds and resources necessary in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis, to support the California Community Colleges and our students. The Virtual Town Hall will also feature
members of the Legislature and a moderated student panel. The Town Hall is tomorrow, Wednesday, April 22 at 9:00 a.m. Participants are required to register in advance at this link.

The Chancellor’s Office is working to keep the system informed during this uncertain time. We encourage all staff, faculty and students to regularly check the Chancellor’s Office COVID-19 resource page for ongoing guidance, announcements and updates.

ONLINE INSTRUCTION

The California Virtual Campus-Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI) offers a number of online events to continue to help faculty and staff with the transition to virtual learning. Upcoming seminars include:

Securing the Exam: How to Use the Proctorio Secure Exam Browser in Your Online Course
Wednesday, April 22 at 10:00 a.m.
Proctorio can be customized to meet an instructor’s needs. Merced College’s John Stocker will walk participants through Proctorio’s functionality, allowing both faculty and students to be comfortable with the online exam process. Register for this webinar here.

Connecting with Students: Why Regular Effective Contact Matters
Wednesday, April 22 at 3:00 p.m.
Maintaining regular effective contact with students in your online course is critical to their retention and success. This one-hour webinar will look at why regular effective contact is important, explore tools and best practices for keeping connected with students, and discuss strategies for fostering student-to-student. Register for this webinar here.

CVC-OEI also continues to host weekly drop-in hours with its instructional design team. You can find all upcoming events on the CVC-OEI Events page.

For online instruction support requests, please contact CVC-OEI.

RESOURCES

Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond is hosting a virtual town hall, TODAY, at 4:00 p.m. on his Facebook page. He will provide updates on the status of education in California and listen to questions and suggestions from educators, parents and students. Questions can be submitted here.

A Future Date accessibility conference has started on YouTube. If you were not able to attend one of the recent accessibility conferences like CSUN, SXSW or another accessibility event, check out the A Future Date conference presentations happening on YouTube. The sessions started today and will continue tomorrow, Wednesday, April 22 and Thursday, April 23 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Pacific time. You can also watch sessions that happened today.

Relevant Links:
- A Future Date website
- Welcome video
- YouTube channel with sessions
- Twitter updates

The California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office and the Center for Urban Education will provide a six-part webinar series that will provide strategies for faculty and administrators to exercise agency on behalf of the most vulnerable students. The first webinar is: The Importance of Equity-Minded Virtual Practices during COVID-19 and is scheduled for Thursday, April 23 from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. Register for the webinar here.

The California Department of Education and Wellness Together are offering a three-part webinar series that will facilitate an ongoing discussion to highlight practices, programs and policies to strengthen student supports in the midst of school closures. The third webinar in this series will be next Thursday, April 23, from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. It’s a free event, but RSVP is required for attendance and space is limited. Find more information here.

College practitioners can find COVID-19 resources, information, and community within the Vision Resource Center. Create an account or log in. Under the “Connect” menu, visit “All Communities” and look for the “CCC | COVID-19 Resources, Tools and Discussion” section. Click “Join Community” to access the content within.

STUDENT SUPPORTS

It’s okay not to be okay right now. Please encourage your students to reach out for help during this unsettling time. The California Youth Crisis line runs 24 hours a day, seven days a week: 800-843-5200. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline provides confidential assistance to anyone in crisis and their loved ones through a live chat and free 24-hour hotline at 800-273-8255. You can also text the Crisis Text Line at 741741.

For our LGBTQ students, information and support is offered through a number of other resources as well. Contact the Trevor Project by calling 1-866-488-7386 or text START to 678678 for 24/7 information and suicide prevention resources. The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender National Hotline is available from 1:00 – 9:00 p.m. at 1-800-273-8255. Or you can call or text the Victims of Crime Resource Center at 1-800-842-8467 for help or guidance.
UNEMPLOYMENT RESOURCES
California’s Employment Development Department maintains a list of resources that people can receive while going through the unemployment process. La página también está disponible en español.

HOW TO HELP
Philanthropic and corporate partners, as well as those looking to make a major gift or grant, are encouraged to contact the Foundation for California Community Colleges. Individual donations are also being accepted through the Foundation and will be deployed to individual colleges supporting students impacted by lost wages, campus closures and the transition to distance education caused by COVID-19. Check here for more details on how to give now.

The California Volunteers website has a list of nonprofit organizations and food banks that are in dire need of volunteers, supplies and financial help.

OTHER INFORMATION
If you’re interested about learning more about COVID-19, including diagnosis, treatment, how it developed and the challenges it has raised, Johns Hopkins University is hosting a free course called Understanding the COVID-19 Pandemic: Insights from Johns Hopkins University Experts. This course is set up as a series of short modules to explore the COVID-19 pandemic. Registration is not required.

Cooped up by coronavirus? Ex-astronaut and Stockton native José Hernández has NASA-approved tips to stay sane during this pandemic.

TIP OF THE DAY
If you receive Social Security, survivor or disability and are not required to file a tax return, but you do have dependent children, you must register by tomorrow, Wednesday, April 22 at 9:00 a.m. on the IRS online tool to receive the $500 stimulus payment per dependent child. Those who miss the deadline tomorrow will receive the money next year.

Did you get this from someone else? Sign up to receive the daily COVID-19 Special Update under ‘Subscribe and Connect.’