OUR COMMUNITY IN ACTION

When Southwestern College Restorative Justice Program Director Patrice Milkovich popped the trunk of her Subaru in the parking lot of the Pilot Truck Stop near the Mexican border, the cargo inside was more precious than any illicit cargo that passes through.

Milkovich was there to hand over 414 individual student packets of printed materials for the college’s students at the Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility. For the 22 classes offered inside the prison, student packets contained up to 200 pieces of paper depending on the student’s course schedule. Read more about how Southwestern College faculty are serving college students behind bars.

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 marked the beginning of “Phase 2,” allowing lower-risk retailers across the state to reopen with modifications. Newsom also announced that in light of public health concerns surrounding COVID-19, he has signed an executive order to mail every registered voter a ballot ahead of the November general election. In-person voting opportunities will still be available to those who need them. The governor also signed an executive order that extends some critical deadlines that have been impacted by the pandemic. You can watch the full update here. (Please note: the broadcast begins around the 10:15 mark.)

An analysis by the Los Angeles Times shows most big California counties are not close to meeting Gov. Newsom’s guidelines that would lead to a wider reopening.

The Legislative Analyst’s Office today provided an outlook on the state’s 2020-21 budget. In short, the LAO says the COVID-19 pandemic has led to “sudden and severely negative economic consequences for California.” The unemployment rate jumped to 14.7% in April, the highest level since the Great Depression.

SYSTEM GUIDANCE/NEWS

To support your local CARES Act implementation efforts, the Chancellor’s Office has created a page with resources specific to community colleges. This resource page includes FAQs, accounting guidance and links to information released by the U.S. Department of Education. For more specific local questions and scenarios, we encourage you to check with your local legal counsel. The page will be updated regularly as new information is made available or guidance is released of the U.S. Department of Education.

We encourage administrators, faculty and staff to regularly check the Chancellor’s Office COVID-19 resource page for ongoing announcements.
ONLINE INSTRUCTION

The California Community Colleges Accessibility Center will host an Accessibility Office Hours webinar via Zoom on Thursday, May 14 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. This webinar will offer the opportunity to ask questions and share best practices regarding institutional web and IT accessibility issues. Find more information here.

Join the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office and the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges for part one of a three-part webinar series to discuss competency-based education for our system.

Webinar 1: Competency-based Education 101: What is it and how is it different from our current offerings?

Panelists:
Marty Alvarado – California Community Colleges Executive Vice Chancellor, Educational Services and Supports
Aisha Lowe – California Community Colleges Vice Chancellor, Educational Services and Supports
Cheryl Aschenbach – Academic Senate Secretary, SC Co-Chair
Karen Daar – Los Angeles Valley College Vice President of Academic Affairs, SC Co-Chair

The webinar is Thursday, May 14 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Join the webinar at this link or via the information below:

Or iPhone one-tap:
US: +16699006833,,92278874849# or +13462487799,,92278874849#
Or Telephone:
Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592
Webinar ID: 922 7887 4849
International numbers available here.

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. You can find all upcoming events on the CVC-OEI Events page. For online instruction support requests, please contact CVC-OEI.

RESOURCES

The California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office and the Center for Urban Education are offering a six-part webinar series to provide strategies for faculty and administrators to exercise agency on behalf of the most vulnerable students. Webinars will be recorded and posted on the Vision Resource Center. The fourth webinar is:

Online Support as an Anti-Racist Practice

Thursday, May 14, 2020 from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

The immediate and unforeseen transition to exclusively online courses and administrative services in the wake of COVID-19 can make it difficult for administrative and students. In this webinar, panelists will: 1) discuss how administrators can proactively engage students with the goal of building and sustaining authentic relationships with minoritized students and 2) share strategies for doing so in online teaching and virtual support. Register at this link.

Recordings and transcripts for previous webinars are available. The links for Webinar II - “Equity-Minded Online Teaching: Using Canvas as a Model” presented by Jennifer Ortiz and moderated by Dr. Marissiko M. Wheaton are below:
•            Webinar recording.
•            Webinar transcript.
•            Participants comments and resources are available 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

Please encourage your students to visit StayEnrolled.com to get the latest information and updates related to financial aid, transfer and career education. Current and prospective students can also get connected with their local college to find out specific resources and support services available as well as enroll in their local community college.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and help is available to anyone in need. 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. Our LGBTQ students can also contact the Trevor Project by calling 1-866-488-7386 or text START to 678678 for 24/7 information. The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender National Hotline is available from 1:00 – 9:00 p.m. at 1-800-273-8255. Or call or text the Victims of Crime Resource Center at 1-800-842-8467 for help.

HOW TO HELP

The Foundation for California Community Colleges, in partnership with the California Community Colleges, has launched an effort to provide emergency aid, technology, connectivity and other essential supports to students. Click here for more on ways to support students through this campaign.
OTHER INFORMATION
Opportunity Insights has launched an “Economic Tracker” to aid in the coronavirus recovery. It uses real-time data to show how the pandemic impacts different communities.

Not sure what day of the week it is? You’re not alone. UC researchers explain why the coronavirus pandemic is messing with our sense of time.

TIP OF THE DAY
US Scout is an online learning platform providing college prep courses to California public students and teachers. They offer free valuable resources for high school students and teachers who have made the transition to remote learning.

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