



WHC Coalinga Vision Statement

West Hills College Coalinga is committed to the relentless pursuit of student success.

Institutional Effectiveness, Integrated Planning & the "Best Test"

As we collectively exhale after expending a great deal of energy, effort, and emotion preparing for and facilitating our ACCJC Comprehensive External Evaluation Visit let's take a moment to pause, reflect, and refocus on a few key principles that will guide our work as we move forward. Over the past few weeks three foundational questions have repeatedly emerged for me:

- How would I define Institutional Effectiveness?
- How would I define Integrated Planning?
- How will I know if they are working successfully at WHCC?

Institutional Effectiveness:

A set of ongoing and systematic, institutional processes and practices that integrate and align existing institutional planning and the use of performance data to assess and evaluate the extent to which the College has achieved and/or is making progress toward the achievement of its mission and strategic objectives.

Institutional effectiveness aligns the work of strategic enrollment management, strategic planning, and accreditation. This involves the identification and measurement of outcomes across all institutional units (administrative, instructional, and student services). Institutional effectiveness requires the development of systems, structures, processes, and practices that use data and assessment results to inform decision-making. Institutional effectiveness requires that information is available and easily accessible at all levels of the institution. Institutional effectiveness fosters and promotes a culture of evidence, transparency, capacity building, communication, and information sharing to accomplish the purpose of improving programs and services, increasing student success and refining institutional quality.

Integrated Planning:

Integrated planning is the linking of vision, priorities, people, and the physical institution in a flexible system of evaluation, decision-making and action. It shapes and guides the entire organization as it evolves over time and within its community (SCUP).

Integrated planning creates an effective framework that facilitates sustainability in the planning processes of the college. Integrated planning equips institutions to be responsive, make decisions, align resources, and focus on priorities amid complex, fluid situations and circumstances. Integrated planning builds relationships; aligns organizational functions and operations; and embeds the preparedness for change into the organizational fabric of the college. Integrated planning develops and supports the academic, administrative, and change management practices, processes and activities that support the iterative cycle of continuous quality improvement required for high quality student experiences, effective student learning, and achievement across a diverse spectrum of outcomes.



WEST HILLS COLLEGE
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President's Monthly Message

The Best Test:

"Do those served grow as persons? Do they, while being served, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous? And, what is the effect on the least privileged in society? Will they benefit or at least not be further deprived?" (Robert Greenleaf)

For me, the "Best Test" represents how an organization treats its people and those served by the organization.

When woven together the elements of the "Best Test", Institutional Effectiveness, and Integrated Planning create a distinctive tapestry for the institution. They are realities cultivated by people and together they become the infrastructure for sustainability, accountability, trust, interdependence, and growth for the College.

As we begin our work on the QFE Action Projects I look forward to robust conversations and hearing your thoughts about Institutional Effectiveness and Integrated Planning as well as how we will know when they are operating at optimal levels within our College.

Go Falcons!

WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

National TRiO Day of Services: A Day of Giving Back to the Community



According to the 1986 U.S. Congressional resolution, National TRiO Day is meant to focus the nation's "attention on the needs of disadvantaged young people and adults aspiring to improve their lives, to the necessary investment if they are to become contributing citizens of the country, and to the talent which will be wasted if that investment is not made."

Every year, TRiO Day is the last Saturday in February and has been proclaimed a National Day of Service. This year TRiO Day was on February 25, 2017. Therefore, TRiO programs across the country schedule a variety of community service events during the month of February in observance of the day. The TRiO Program

UB/Student Support Services at West Hills College Coalinga planned to give back to the community on February 24-25 2017 through service projects at the following places:

City of Coalinga - Coalinga District Library

TRiO Students spent the day engaging in a variety of activities at the Coalinga District Library conducting many activities such as: painting over graffiti, cleaning the windows, and preparing the seeds for the Community Garden. Citizens will be able to check out an envelope of seeds of their liking, plant them, let one of their plants go to seed and then just return some of their seeds to the library. This will help the library keep its seed library stocked.



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North District Center - City of Firebaugh



TRiO Students at NDC decided to help the City of Firebaugh fill up sand bags for community residents to pick up and use in their homes. The Sand Bags Project was needed due to the large amount of rain overflowing the San Joaquin River which runs along the City of Firebaugh. It was a very successful event where TRiO students and staff members were in action to help the community.

Huron - Huron Police Department and Huron Animal Control



TRiO students from the community of Huron partnered with the Huron Police Department and the Huron Animal Control to clean and disinfect kennels, walked and fed dogs and cats. The TRiO students also helped to organize the rescue animal storage room and their nest. Students had a great time giving back their volunteer time to the Huron community.

FARM OF THE FUTURE

The National Association of Publically Funded Truck Driving Schools held its 27th annual National Convention in St. Pete Beach Florida. During the conference we met with several large employers who are looking to hire several hundred professional drivers immediately. In addition to the employers I met instructors from numerous schools across the nation who all offered curriculum and help as we get our program up and running. Also while attending the show I had the opportunity to speak with and try out four of the five major truck driving simulators on the market and hear from schools that use them. We also heard presentations from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Association concerning the upcoming changes for 2020 in regards to the requirements for individuals to obtain a commercial license.

– Chris Chaney





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The World Ag Expo was a fantastic event for showcasing our agriculture program, meeting students, educators, and representatives from a wide array of agricultural industries. For example, I visited with Victoria Porter, the principal at Visalia Technical Early College (VTEC). She has great respect for our agriculture program and said she wants to work with West Hills College to encourage her students to enroll in the WHCC Ag Program. I followed up in an email to her that outlined scholarships that we have available and offered to visit her campus with several of our students to showcase what we have to offer. She has responded to my email and is following up with her learning director and assistant principal to organize the next steps for coordinating our programs. I also visited Dr. Costanza Zavalloni, Plant Science Professor at CSU Stanislaus. In particular, I told her of our struggles to find a CSU partner that would accept our WHCC Plant Science AS-T. She was very open to working with WHCC and approving our AS-T. These are examples of some of the contacts I made during the event. I also had two of my classes participate in recruiting at our booth. In addition to participation at the booth, students were required to complete an assignment related to the World Ag Expo, which included interviewing several businesses.

– Tim Ellsworth

This was my first World Ag Expo (WAE) and I was very excited to attend this year's event. The West Hills booth included our standard 20' display with 2 side tables for brochures and marketing materials. A tripod was setup on which we mounted a UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) to attract visitors to the booth. This created a high level of interest and brought many people into the booth to discuss technology, how it is used in agriculture and the classes that West Hills offers. I presented "Drones in Agriculture" Tuesday afternoon at the World Ag Women pavilion. While in attendance I visited 15 companies with specific educational goals; approximately 20 other companies for general interest; and met with eight different people to discuss projects or possible cooperation.

– Terry Brase





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Social Media out at the Farm of the Future

Do you want to know what is going on out at the Farm? Check out our social media sites to stay up-to-date with the latest news from the Farm of the Future. Keep your eye out for weekly videos, pictures and updates.



facebook.com/farmofthefuture



[@farmofthefuture](https://snapchat.com/@farmofthefuture)



[@WHCCFarm](https://twitter.com/WHCCFarm)



farmofthefuture.tumblr.com



[@farmofthefuture](https://instagram.com/@farmofthefuture)



bit.do/FOFyoutube

WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE MONTH



Teonia Gonzales

"Tee" was selected as the 2017 Student Athlete Achievement Award Winner from the California Community College Counselors/Advisors Academic Association for Athletics (3C4A). She will accept her award at the California Community College Athletic Association 20th Convention in Concord on March 29. Tee was nominated by WHCC counselor Erin Corea and associate dean of athletics Eric Mendoza. The award is presented to the top male and female students who have overcome great personal, academic and/or emotional odds to achieve success while participating in intercollegiate athletics. As a two-year member of the Falcons volleyball

team, Tee was voted captain and All-Central Valley Conference honorable mention as a sophomore. "Tee is the embodiment of why we do our work in California community colleges," said her head coach Jeff Wanderer. "Tee's journey is truly amazing, but what makes her story special is rooted in her character."

Tee was born and raised in Barstow. While her two older brothers were able to find stable homes with family and friends, Tee and her mother struggled – living in motels and for three years in rehabilitation home for single moms coping with drug and alcohol addiction. As a young child, Tee survived walking alone in dangerous neighborhoods and managed to focus on education. "My mom always wanted a better life for me and she knew education was the key," Tee explained in her essay to the awards committee. In high school, Tee was active in the AVID program and found her outlet in playing volleyball. One of her teachers told her about West Hills College, and Tee contacted coach Wanderer and took a chance on moving away from home to pursue her dreams.



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During her two years at WHCC, Tee has seemingly done it all. She's a member of the Dean's List (twice), a residence hall assistant, student worker, ASB commissioner, student-athlete advisory council commissioner, Osher scholarship winner, community volunteer, and on pace to complete 79 units as a double major in liberal arts (social and behavioral science) and psychology. Tee is currently preparing to transfer to Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, Connecticut, where she will play volleyball and major in psychology and communications. She hopes to one day become a psychiatrist or an athletic counselor.

"West Hills College Coalinga is a very small campus, but the staff members are very helpful," said Tee. "It truly is a family environment, where everyone is pulling for each other to succeed. I had the time of my life playing two years of college volleyball ... I learned how to be a leader, how to communicate with different personalities, and how to compete at a high level. A lot of people here believed in me, and that's all a child could ask for."

WHCCD FOUNDATION

It's scholarship time in the foundation. We have a wonderful new scholarship video featuring WHCC ASB President Miranda that was produced by Bruce Rudolph in Media Services. They both did a great job. You can view the video at: <http://westhillscollge.com/district/foundation/scholarships/index.asp>

While reviewing scholarships with the foundation board, we noted that last year WHCC Foundation general scholarships were awarded to 69 WHCC/NDC students; 24 to NDC students and 16 to students at any WHCCD location. Lemoore students received 81 general scholarships. On top of this, 130 students enrolled fall semester district-wide as President's Scholars and there were a number of Engineering Scholars and National Science Foundation S-STEM Scholars at WHCL.

It's also time to accept nominations for two very special awards:

The Cathy Barabe Community Service Award (\$250) goes to a student who exemplifies spirit of service and dedication to assisting our communities.

The Bob Clement Athletic Achievement Award of \$250 goes to a student athlete who exemplifies the sportsmanship, teamwork, citizenship, and courage to go beyond athletic talent and contribute to the well-being of their college and community.

Anyone can nominate a student for these awards by sending a simple letter of nomination outlining why the student should be considered for the award. The letters should be sent to francesquire@whccd.edu by April 1.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

WHCC Athletics

Want to watch your Falcons and cheer for them? Visit our WHCC Falcon Athletics webpage for schedules:

<http://www.westhillsfalcons.com/landing/index>