



## WHC Coalinga Mission Statement

West Hills College Coalinga is committed to achieving student learning through the provision of educational, cultural, and economic development opportunities to our current and future students and the local and global communities that we serve.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's been a busy month for WHCC faculty, students and our partners!

The Farm of the Future hosted **National Manufacturing Day**, an event highlighting manufacturing careers in the region. Presentations were given by Ryan Duty with RHC (Robert Heely Construction), Terry Elrod and Larry Crews of Phillips 66, and Bruce Bunting from Granite. Participating WHCC students also toured the Coalinga Phillips 66 site.

WHCC Lumina **DQP leadership team**, Sarah Shepard, Arkady Hanjiev, and Stephanie Droker, were asked to present at an **accreditation workshop** sponsored by ACCJC held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at College of the Sequoias. Their focus was on student Learning Outcomes Assessment.

On Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, the long-awaited **Falcon sculpture dedication** was held in the WHCC Library. Artists Chris M. Sorensen and Bernhard Heer were in attendance, as Chancellor Gornick, Vice President McGlothlin, Librarian Matt Magnuson and ASB President Ashlee Rocha all spoke of our gratitude for the gift and **in recognition of Edna Ivans' dedication** to the District. The Falcon sculpture was donated by India and John Sorensen in honor of Edna L. Ivans in recognition of her many years of service to the college and District.



Edna Ivans, Trustee Area 3, with plaque

Constitution Day was celebrated at both WHCC and NDC on September 18<sup>th</sup>. The event was organized by ASB and Mr. **Kevin Wilds, Political Science** faculty member, who prepared a quiz that, was given to members of the celebration audience. Those with the highest scores won gift cards!

The partnership with **Avenal High School** continues to advance our mutual goal of student success as the Science Lab Remodel Project is moving forward! **Stephanie Droker and Jeff Wanderer** will join a team from the high school and AP architects to complete the design for the lab. Very exciting times at Avenal High!

WHCC played host to an educational group from Vietnam. **Daniel Tamayo**, Director of International Students Program, coordinated the visit. In an email thanking Daniel, Nguyen Thi Anh Khue, Deputy CEO of Vietnam Centre Point - Education and Media Group, remarked, "We learnt a lot from the trip and to be very honest, what we saw was so different and much more impressive than what we had imagined about the College, especially the visit to the Farm.

## President's Monthly Message

The dormitory is also an advantage of West Hills so we will think about different ways to promote your College to Vietnamese students.”

I had the privilege to present with UC Chancellor, CEO of Economic Development Corporation Fresno County, Lee Ann Eager, and Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Karen Ross, at the 2014 California Partnership Summit: **Champions for Regional Change workshop**. I was asked to join this distinguished group based on the innovative work we have done to revamp education to better meet the needs of employers and students. West Hills' approach to connect students with their future employers is central to all that we do. Members of the audience were surprised when I shared that 1 out of every 5 jobs in the Central Valley is in agriculture, either directly or indirectly. After the presentation, one participant came up to me and asked, “Why aren't more colleges doing what you are doing in partnering with their local high school?”

**Arnoldo Avalos**, the newly appointed member of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Board of Governors, made a special visit to West Hills Community College District. He toured the Farm of the Future and talked with student workers. He also visited West Hills College Coalinga and talked with students in the Supplemental Instruction Lab in the library. He even went to North District Center in Firebaugh and saw our use of technology as he visited Donna Cooper's Sociology 1 class that was video-conferenced.

“The administration obviously cares about students and about connecting students with future employers,” said Avalos.



From left to right: Carole Goldsmith, WHC President; Kenny Joya, Tutor; Arnoldo Avalos, Board Member, Board of Governors, Ashlee Rocha, UpGrade Leader; Araceli Melchor, Tutor and Lydia Arrendondo, WHCC Student

## ACCREDITATION UPDATE

Preparations for our upcoming self-study have focused on a robust dialog regarding the new standards. Meetings have taken place and more are scheduled throughout the fall semester to ensure all team members have deep understanding of the new standards. Standard co-chairs have been charged with providing an overview of their respective new standard, which includes highlighting the differences between the old information and the new information.

While each standard team consists of faculty, administration, students and staff, the council realizes that continuous discussions about Accreditation must occur in an on-going effort for continuous quality improvement. The council is developing a plan by which the new standards and self-study updates will be disseminated to all college stakeholders.

A special “thank you” to the following members of the WHCC Accreditation Leadership Team:

Accreditation Liaison Officer, Stephanie Droker  
Accreditation Faculty Co-Chair, Sarah Shepard  
Classified Representative, Andrea Hamilton  
Standard 1 Co-Chair, Marcel Hetu and Jeff Wanderer  
Standard 2 Co-Chair, Sandy McGlothlin and Arkady Hanjiev  
Standard 3 Co-Chair, Bertha Felix-Mata and Matt Magnuson  
Standard 4 Co-Chair, Mark Gritton and Anita Bart

## FEATURED LEARNING AREA – STUDENT SERVICES



The latest Student Services project focusing on student success is the creation of a new interactive, online orientation which is set to launch in early November. The new California Student Success and Support Initiative goal is to have a mandatory orientation and our goal is to engage all students to learn what it takes to be a successful student. The WHCC online orientation will feature students and staff giving useful hints to future students.

Our Counselors are making visits to classrooms in September and October to remind students about REG 365 and provide assistance in registering for the spring 2015 semester, if they haven't already done so. Good news, classes are filling up because of these "in-reach" efforts.

Students will petition to graduate in October for the fall semester and will be included in the graduation list for the spring 2015 ceremony. Our focus is on "completion" and staff is making sure students have an updated education plan on file so they can follow it to the finish! **October is "Got ed Plan?" month** and staff will be wearing our black T-Shirts on Fridays beginning October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The push is to have ALL students get an updated or new ed plan on file – it really does help with success!!!

## WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

### STUDENT SUCCESS WORKSHOPS

Date	Topic	Time	Room
Thursday, October 16	Substance Abuse/ Amy long	12:00PM	H-2
Tuesday, October 21	Financial Literacy/ TRIO	12:00PM	H-2
Wednesday, October 29	Career Café: Explore your Career Pathway!	12:00PM	H-2
Tuesday, November 4	Savvy Job Applications	12:00PM	H-2
Thursday, November 13	Career Café: Get Involved, build your experience!	12:00PM	H-2
Tuesday, November 18	Financial Literacy/ TRIO	12:00PM	H-2
Thursday, November 20	Substance Abuse/ Amy Long	12:00PM	H-2
Tuesday, December 2	Final Preparation/ Mark Matteson	12:00PM	H-2

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT STUDENT SERVICES AT 559.934.2300 - WORKSHOPS ARE SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION



### NDC Student Success Workshops Fall 2014

North District Center offered a series of Student Success Workshops for its students enrolled in English, Math and Interdisciplinary Studies 1 classes. The trainings session for students are part of the college and ongoing student intervention activities sponsored by the Basic Skills Initiative Grant. Maria Ceballos, Adjunct Counselor from NDC took the lead to be the presenter for the month of September 2014. Maria stated that "The Student Success Workshops are an approach to bring the students together to support student learning as a part of the student intervention plan at WHC".

Students received hand-outs at the interactive workshops on ways to learn how to assess their study skills strengths and weaknesses and how to help students study effectively. In addition, students got factual information as it relates to the college resources opportunities available to them. Refreshments were served to the students as the workshops commenced at noon in room P2. Special thanks are extended to English, Mathematics Basic Skills faculty members, Alicia Rocha within the EOPS Program, and to the facilitator who volunteered her time to set-up and lead the training for our students. Some of the topics presented to students were as follows: Tips for College Success, Math Anxiety and How to Read College Textbooks.

## WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE MONTH

### Andrew Finster Hired before Graduation



Andrew Finster will finish the last two classes he needs for the PCA exam in the spring while working 80-hour weeks as an agronomist for S&W, a seed research and production company. He's worked with the company for two and a half years, dealing primarily with commercial alfalfa seed production in the San Joaquin and Imperial Valleys. He is involved in research and development for Stevia, quinoa and chia varieties, including overseeing Stevia test plots at Arizona State University's site in Yuma. Finster graduated from Coalinga High School in 2002 and came back to school three years ago to study in the Precision Ag program. After one year, he was hired as an intern and manager's assistant by Bolthouse. He passed the California Department of Pesticide's Regulation's Qualified Applicators License in July. We look forward to sharing his continued success after he graduates.

## WEST HILLS COLLEGE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

### New Hire Envisions Putting "Future" Back in Farm of the Future – Juan "JR" Velasquez



Farm of the Future welcomed its newest employee, Juan "JR" Velasquez, as the new farm unit technician this fall. His vision for the farm includes equipping students with the skills they need to be competitive in today's job market while also preparing them with skills they'll need in the future. Velasquez was the first recruit when the precision ag program was created in 2004. He served as the vice president of Ag Ambassadors and recruited at more than 40 high schools. He also taught a community irrigation safety and maintenance series for the college in Spanish and tutored ESL precision ag students. After he graduated, he went on to work as a precision ag technician, food safety inspector and a goat herd manager. "The Farm of the Future was like home for me while attending West Hills College," he said. "The thought of being able to come back home was just something I could not resist."

## WHCCD FOUNDATION

The foundation was excited to learn that our President's Scholars' television commercial was honored with a silver award in September at the western region conference of the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations. The commercial was shot at Keller Auto Center in Hanford and at West Hills College Lemoore and ran on area television stations during the summer. The purpose of the spot was to encourage donations to the President's Scholars Program, which now has about 110 students enrolled at all WHC locations. Thanks to Ken Sawatsky of Simon Marketing, who was producer of the spot and of course to Val and Jon Keller for their support of the President's Scholars Program.

Here's a link to the spot: <http://westhillscollge.com/district/foundation/scholarships/presidents-scholars.asp>

## ATHLETICS

Coach Robert Tucker reports that WHCC Falcon Football team is ranked #1 in the Northern California American Division. The Falcons are #1 Kick Off Return average in California with a 33.8 yard per return average.

## 18<sup>th</sup> Annual West Hills College Athletic Hall of Fame Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> Schedule of Events

### 1 pm - Football game

WHC Falcons vs. Reedley College Tigers  
Coalinga High School Memorial Bowl  
1200 Sunset Street, Coalinga, CA

### 6 pm - Social Hour

West Hills College Gymnasium  
300 Cherry Lane, Coalinga, CA

### 7 pm - Presentation of inductees

- George Yamamoto (posthumous) Football, Tennis 1962-1965
  - Chet Payne Baseball, Football 1961-1963
  - Cedric Johnson Football, Track 1986-1988

### 8 pm – Dinner

### 9 pm - Continuing presentation of inductees

- Steven Edwards Football 1998-2000
- 1999 Football Team, coached by Mark Gritton

### Fall 2014 Volleyball Schedule

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
WED	OCT 15	* COLLEGE OF SEQUOIAS	COALINGA	6:00 PM
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Oct 17</b>	<b>*at Fresno City College</b>	<b>Fresno</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>Oct 22</b>	<b>*at Columbia College</b>	<b>Sonora</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>
WED	OCT 29	* PORTERVILLE COLLEGE	COALINGA	6:00 PM
FRI	OCT 31	* MERCED COLLEGE	COALINGA	6:00 PM
<b>Wed</b>	<b>Nov 5</b>	<b>*at Reedley College</b>	<b>Reedley</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>
FRI	NOV 7	*TAFT COLLEGE	COALINGA	6:00 PM
<b>Wed</b>	<b>Nov 12</b>	<b>*at College of Sequoias</b>	<b>Visalia</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>
FRI	NOV 14	*FRESNO CITY COLLEGE	COALINGA	6:00 PM

\*Central Valley Conference Games

HOME GAMES IN

**BOLD**

### Fall 2014 Football Schedule

Date	Day	Opponent	Time	Location
<b>Oct-18</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>*Reedley</b> (Home coming & Hall of Fame)	<b>1pm</b>	<b>Coalinga</b>
Oct-25	Sat	Mendocino	2pm	Ukiah
Nov-01	Sat	*Cabrillo	7pm	Aptos
<b>Nov-08</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>*Merced</b>	<b>1pm</b>	<b>Coalinga</b>
Nov-15	Sat	*Hartnell	6pm	Salinas

\* Golden Coast League Game

Home Games in Bold

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You can download the electronic version of this newsletter at:

<http://westhillcollege.com/coalinga/about/presidents-monthly-message.asp>