



WHC Coalinga Vision Statement

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

September has been a fulfilling month of engagement on campus. I've been captivated by the engagement of our students. It has been very gratifying to witness the commitment of faculty, staff and administration to student learning achievement. This is a very student-centric college that emphasizes its commitment to student learning and success and prides itself on ensuring student-centric benchmarks are met. The goals of the college strategic plan, which supplement the core goals adopted by our Board within the district 2016-2020 strategic plan ensures we advance a learning culture that promotes a passion for learning, builds leadership (a critically important focus) and civic engagement across all stakeholder groups.

Engagement has immersed us in other ways, specifically the continuing efforts of faculty to refine and finalize our Quality Focused Essay (QFE), a required element in our preparation for the Accreditation visit in March 2017. The QFE is our academic quality plan for improvement, built on a set of assumptions created by the college as key to creating a culture of innovation and improvement. The QFE is premised on principles of continuous quality improvement because the plan calls for prioritization of a reasonable and manageable number of goals to guide the college as it improves student learning and achievement. Engagement was one of three broad objectives that will be contained in the QFE and also includes educational pathways and institutional effectiveness. The objectives came from a series of focused luncheon meetings and is the natural result of thoughtful planning that implements a series of necessary action steps.

Our North District Center is humming this fall with an increased student population and increased services to our students. NDC is running point on a variety of grant initiatives, including Workforce Connection, HEP, Fresno County Library partnership, BitWise recruitment and CAMP grants. I've been quite impressed with the staff acknowledgment of our core value that students need support, access and opportunity. Educational centers like NDC are the cultural, social, economic, and educational anchor of the northern portion of our college's service area.

Engagement has extended to our external publics. The rural nature of our service area requires leveraging opportunity through collaboration, bringing partnerships to scale for increased regional competitiveness. A shining example of leveraging existing relationships is the college's partnership with Roll Global (Paramount), a privately-held, \$3 billion international company. The Paramount Agriculture Career Academy (PACA) collaborative is fundamentally changing the educational experience for high school students in our service area, immersing them in a rigorous, integrated academic program of study in agriculture-themed pathways. Other examples include a new innovative software developer job readiness program with Fresno-based BitWise Industries, increased dual enrollment pacts with public high schools, community volunteerism and support of our intercollegiate athletic programs, and for-credit prison education programs that will debut in spring 2017 at Mendota federal prison. Conversations with various municipalities, civic leaders and service-area high school districts in Huron, Firebaugh, Mendota, Avenal, and Coalinga are additional testimonials to ongoing partnership efforts.

Often, engagement is personal. Our college prides itself on high quality relationships built upon mutual respect and mutual support. This is essential to continue this collaborative vision in our relentless support of student success.

Go Falcons!



WEST HILLS COLLEGE
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President's Monthly
Message

WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Congratulations to the following students! They will be ASB officers for the 2016-2017 school year:

ASB President – Miranda Ferrell
ASB Vice President – Hannah Martell
ASB Treasurer – Alex Lovett
ASB Public Relations Officer – Teonia Gonzales
ASB Commissioner of Events – Clarissa Caposino

Interim Vice President of Educational Services Larry Buckley reports the Fall semester has gotten off to a booming start with students clamoring for seats in classes already at their enrollment maximum. As the second week of instruction drew to a close, the college was at 96.3% of our semester FTES goal. Our enrollment is some 2,816 students as compared to last Fall when we had 2,477 enrollees. Much of the increase is due to 12% growth at the North District Center which now has some 448 enrollees and an estimated Fall FTES of 135. We've also seen growth in our dual enrollment programs and online. Presently, we are projecting 362.6 FTES online with some 1,079 students enrolled in those courses. Fully 37% of our FTES is being generated online.

Second week enrollments remained steady. While we were forced to cancel some 15 courses due to low enrollment in those sections in the first week of the semester, we did not cancel any sections in the second week. However, we did have to raise enrollment caps on an additional nine courses this week to meet student demand, adding to the 22 sections we increased the first week. This means that 8.5% of our sections have enrollments beyond their scheduled maximum.

We have added eleven additional sections in the last two weeks meant to accommodate demand in important transfer and Basic Skills courses. These include sections in English 51A, English 1A, and English 100 that are being offered "stand-alone" from our cohort learning pilot program. These sections were added at the request of faculty to better serve international students, others who have already completed a course in the cohort pilot and did not want to repeat that course, as well as those whom have been identified as not being strong candidates for success in the cohort project.

We have also left open more than 20 low enrolled sections because these courses were essential to students pursuing degrees or certificates and their cancelation would have threatened their progress and matriculation. Several courses in Administration of Justice, Agriculture, Child Development, Crop Science, DSPS, and Business were among those badly needed by students to maintain continuity in their programs of study.

The college will host some forty-four late start courses in fourteen disciplines. Some of these are "late start" courses beginning August 29, while others are "second nine week" courses beginning in October. This means that 12% of our Fall course schedule hasn't even begun!

We are currently at 75.5% of our annual target in achieving a *Registration 365* goal of 2,048.3 FTES for 2016-2017. As of the close of the second week of the semester, we have 1,546.6 projected FTES (including Summer, Fall, and Spring).



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The International Students Program enrolled 23 new students from Asia, Europe, North America and South America. Students arrived from Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Canada, Brazil, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong and China. The new international students participated in mandatory orientation, from August 10-12, 2016. During these three days, students take a placement exam, select classes, open bank accounts, and are given an overview of expectations while studying in the US.



On Tuesday, August 16 Daniel Tamayo was asked to give a presentation at the 2nd Annual Federal Export Resource Conference. The presentation highlighted the various methods that West Hills College has utilized the US Commercial Services in promoting West Hills College overseas. Congressman David Valadao was present at the Conference. West Hills College was given the Export Achievement Award, for the work that is done overseas by West Hills College in promoting international education.

STUDENT SUCCESS WORKSHOPS FALL 2016 At 12:00noon

DATE	TOPIC	ROOM
Wednesday, September 28	Financial Literacy/ TRIO	R10 A/B
Wednesday, October 5	The Do's & Don'ts of a Job Application/ WHCD HR	R10 A/B
Tuesday, October 25	Financial Literacy/ TRIO	R10 A/B
Tuesday, November 8	Must have People Skills in the Workforce/ Workforce Connection	R10 A/B
Wednesday, November 16	Financial Literacy/ TRIO	R10 A/B

**Lunch provided on a first come, first served basis.
For more information contact student services at
559.934.2174**

Dr. Ellsworth's Irrigation Evaluation and Design class (AET-22) got off to a great start. This course covers farm irrigation system evaluation and management. Students have already participated in 2 lab exercises. The soil texture by feel lab demonstrated how to estimate a soil's textural class and how it relates to soil management and land use. Students were able to identify several different types of soil by mixing a sample of the soil with water and using their hands to try and form a ball. Another lab the students participated in involved gluing pipe and fittings together the way they would in an irrigation system.



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Dr. Ellsworth's Fertilizers and Soil Amendment class (CRPSCI-36) has also begun. This fast paced course teaches application practices currently being used in California. These students had the chance to map a portion of our pistachio orchard using GPS units, and take multiple soil samples. Soil samples will also be taken from the pumpkin patch to be sent off to the lab and analyzed. Both of these classes are targeted to students interested in becoming Pest Control Advisors.



Preparations for our Annual Harvest Festival are underway. Both the corn for our corn maze and the pumpkins have been planted by our student workers Jose Villalobos, Adrian Jenkins, Peter Rincon, and Jorge Gutierrez. These students have the opportunity to see this project through from start to finish; planting the seeds, managing the irrigation, and harvest. Follow us on social media for more updates!





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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://www.snapchat.com/add/farmofthefuture)



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



farmofthefuture.tumblr.com



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



bit.do/FOFyoutube

Student Support Services Orientation was held on Tuesday, August 9th, 2016 at WHC and NDC. Student received information on the tutorial resources from Brian Rouska, DSPS services from Jennifer Twist, Financial Aid update from Marry Mello, Workforce services from Cecilio Mora and Bookstore update from Linda Lewin. Mark Matteson, TRiO Counselor, along with Reyna Gonzalez and Sylvia Leyva, TRiO Academic Advisors, gave students updates on the TRiO Program services as well.





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CalWORKs Family Educational Event was held on August 4 and 5, 2016, at two locations WHC Coalinga and NDC. The topics presented to students were creating life balance, family fun team building activities, and a Carmen Meza representative presented on their services during the last topic. CalWORKs Students and their family enjoyed this event and were very engaged on all topics. Students also had great ideas for next year's event.



CalWORKs Student Orientation was held on August 18, 2016. This orientation was video-conferenced with NDC. Student received information on the tutorial resources from Brian Rouska, DSPS services from Jennifer Twist, and our partners from Fresno and Kings County Department of Social Services were able to provide students updates on the Welfare to Work program.

WHCCD FOUNDATION

Frances Squire noted "As I work with our marketing department to complete the foundation's annual report, I'm looking through our list of donors for 2015-2016 and I'm reminded of the generosity of our community members and of our faculty and staff. Thank you to all who share their time, talent and treasures with our students. If your name does not appear on the list, please consider Employee Philanthropy as a way of getting involved:

<http://www.westhillscollge.com/district/foundation/donations.asp>

That link will also take you to online donation options and of course, you can always send a check to the foundation office".

Speaking of donations, the second largest gift to a California community college was received in August by LA City College from musician Herb Alpert's foundation. Music students will benefit from the \$10.1 million gift. In press coverage, it was noted that just two percent of higher education giving goes to community colleges, which educate about half of the collegiate population in the United States (according to the American Association of Community Colleges).

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>