



## **WHC Coalinga Mission Statement**

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**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**

Last month, faculty and administration came together for what was a first in our history: a joint professional development training day. The focus was on faculty evaluation process. Sarah Shepard, Marty Ennes, Dave Bolt, Stephanie Droker, Don Warkentin and I worked together to develop the agenda and outcomes of the day-long event. This marks an important hallmark for West Hills College; for the first time, faculty and administrators from across the district participated together as Sarah and Marty reviewed changes in the format and process we will use. The changes in Article 4 and the goals of the training were to set a new higher level of participation by all team members in the comprehensive evaluation process, improve job performance and foster a learning environment.

It is the spirit of collaboration and dedication to faculty and student achievement that defines WHC Coalinga as a high performing college. Below are just a few examples of our pursuit of student success, community engagement, and pioneering meaningful dialogue across the campus.

### **Ag News**

Everyone knows that we are experiencing California's driest year on record, and that means that the communities we serve and the students who are in our classrooms are facing a dire emergency of epic proportions. We know that West Hills College Coalinga will play a pivotal part in dealing with this crisis. Earlier this month, I had an opportunity to meet with representatives from the California Department of Public Health, California Workforce Investment Board and Fresno County Food Bank. We are working together to form a multi-agency Drought Relief Workforce Retraining Program. We are in the planning stages now, but it appears that we will be involved in workforce retraining, identifying families in need, and assisting in food distribution efforts. I will be asking many of you for your ideas and assistance as the plan develops.

While the water shortage will change the face of agriculture, we know that agriculture will remain a leading economic sector, and we need to also stay focused on the future. Faculty and administration continue to work with Roll International and CA Career Pathways Trust Partners to secure additional funding for the WHCC Agriculture Academy to be offered at Avenel High School. Meetings are held through the next 60 days to formalize our proposal to the state. Thank you Stephanie Droker, David Castillo, Clint Cowden and the entire faculty at the Farm of the Future for rolling up your sleeves and "getting it done."

Last month more than 120 students from 15 area high schools competed at the WHCC rodeo grounds. Kudos to David Castillo and Bruce Hunt for working with the high school rodeo groups to have their event at WHCC and for being on hand to meet with interested parents about our college programs!

## Technology

During his State of the District speech, Dr. Gornick spoke of using technology in new ways. We will be leading the district in this regard, in part, thanks to our U.S. Department of Education Title V grant and in greater part, due to our faculty's willingness to try new things! Earlier this month, a group of 15 faculty members joined me in visiting our colleagues at Corcoran High School to observe their use of iPads in the instructional environment. We came away with a better understanding of what level of technology integration students are experiencing in K-12 arena. In the words of Steve Wright, "These kids are going to be coming to us soon wanting to do more than watch my PowerPoint. I gotta up my game." And that is exactly what many of us will be doing over the coming months. We will be working with representatives from Apple to learn how to use the iPad to improve the learning environment.

## Coalinga Chamber of Commerce Awards

I had the honor of attending the 103rd Coalinga Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner where our own Mark Gritton was nominated (by yours truly) for Coalinga Citizen of the Year...and won! In addition to being a winning coach and a busy associate dean of students, Mark was recognized for starting a number of community traditions such as the Thanksgiving meal for athletes and community members, the 5 AM workout, Relay for Life, and Falcon Flyer halftime festivities. He was honored for his many volunteer efforts including CoalingaFest, Horned Toad Derby Parade, and MADD events. Please join me in congratulating Mark in winning this prestigious award.

## Upcoming Events:

**WHCC Rodeo Booster Fundraiser Dinner** will be held on the evening of **February 22** at the Coalinga Elks Lodge. Tickets may be available at the door, but purchasing them in advance is recommended. See any rodeo student, or call Bruce Hunt at 559-934-2702 or Terry Yanez at 559-935-6031 to purchase tickets.

For the first time in over three years, **WHCC Theatre is back in the spotlight.** Harold Wiest returns to direct George M. Cohan's "Seven Keys to Baldpate." The play focuses on the activity at the Baldpate Inn after an author bets a rich playboy he can write a novel in 24 hours. The author receives a key to the inn and is told it is the only one. Throughout the course of the play, other characters enter the inn with their own keys. Treachery, murder and comedy ensue and events unfold to a surprise ending. All selected cast and crew members must enroll in PA-21. Please support Harold and our students by attending a showing which is expected to open in early April.

**Fresno Cycling Club** and WHCC will be partnering to host a fundraiser cycling event on **April 12** (More information to follow). Thanks to Al Graves, Tracy Jaurena and Alex Villalobos for working together to make this happen.

**Coaches for Cancer**, a campaign hosted through the American Cancer Society and began as a way to raise awareness to athletes and sports fans. On **February 22** WHCC will participate for the fourth time. Last year, we raised \$1,619.56. Coach Mark Arce and his staff will be among thousands who take place in this nationwide awareness campaign. The athletics department will hand out wristbands and drink cozies to those who attend the game. Please join me in supporting our team's efforts by wearing pink to the game.

## Guest Speaker – Author Reginald Dunham

The Foster Youth Alliance Program at West Hills College Coalinga is sponsoring an author visit and book signing by Reginald L. Dunham, author of *From the Heart of a Grieving Father*. Dunham, the father of a current WHCC student, is president and CEO of Remi'D Enterprise and Publishing. He wrote ***From the Heart of a Grieving Father*** after his son was killed in a drive-by shooting in Southern California. His testimonial details his recovery from grief. Dunham will speak **in the WHCC theatre Feb. 5 at 5 p.m.** Speaking topics include the bond between father and son, becoming a writer, and tips for overcoming grief.

**Go Falcons!**

## FEATURED LEARNING AREA – Workforce Connection

The staff of the Workforce Connection Programs are pleased to be co-located on the West Hills College Coalinga Campus. The move has provided staff and participants to have the opportunity to explore other college programs and resources that may benefit them through their educational endeavors. We continue to work closely with the Health Careers, Farm of the Future, Business Administration, and other college programs in an effort to better sponsor the participants/students for vocational skills training programs within these employer sectors.

**Adult Services** - strive to meet the demands of our local and regional industry partners as required by our local funding source and California State Chancellors Office. This Fall Semester we approved 11 Psychiatric Technician students for sponsorship and we will assist them through the program until they obtain their Psychiatric Technician License. The ultimate goal of our programs is student success through intense case management and support services. The success of our students is measured by completion and employment outcomes.

### Youth Services

The All Youth One System Program is changing youth lives by providing them the opportunity to increase their academic skills, participate in a paid and un-paid work experience, and leadership activities. Our leadership goal for this semester is to take our participants to Fresno Pacific University for a tour. The tour will allow them to explore additional educational opportunities that they may not be familiar with and will allow them the opportunity to visit the university to ask questions to staff and advisors. This leadership opportunity is just another way for our youth to be exposed to higher education and emphasizes the importance of education. The youth program has also been re-located to the West Hills Community College Coalinga & Firebaugh Campuses and staff is actively engaging students to visit the campuses and learn about the educational opportunities that exist in their communities

## WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

### TRIO-Student Support Services, Upward Bound & CalWORKs Activities

The Upward Bound staff, Dr. Felix-Mata, Program Director and Juan Rubio, Advising Specialist, conducted parent orientations at Coalinga, Mendota, and Tranquillity High Schools on December 18 and 19. The participants received information on the recent program eligibility changes taken effect in the 2013-14 academic years. Other college enrichment services provided by Upward Bound include a 6-week summer college residential component, college enrollment, exam preparation, financial aid, and UC, CSU requirements.



The TRIO Student Support program and CalWORKs staff conducted their spring 2014 orientations on December 8. The orientations are designed to provide program updates to students on eligibility and program regulations. The students also sign paperwork and develop a time management strategy to navigate successfully the academic semester

### NDC

ASB conducted a "Welcome Back to WHC NDC" event. The event was well attended by students. NDC staff celebrated staff birthdays this month with several foods that represented different countries (China, Mexico, Canada and El Salvador). UC Davis has again started their Obesity Study Grant program classes this semester at NDC. Classes will be conducted on Monday and Thursday evenings. Congratulations to Dr. Hetu! He recently had his first book, "The Races of My Personal Life", published by Westbow Press.

## WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT(S) OF THE MONTH

Josh Mayberry grew up on a small ranch outside of Visalia where he attended Golden West High School. After attending Universal Technical Institute, he worked for a local body shop and then a position with a corrugating plant. Josh worked at the plant for six years while his wife completed college and they bought a house. He then decided to further his education with the agriculture program at West Hills. Last semester he completed AET 21, CRPSCI 19, CRPSCI 46, and CRPSCI 6 receiving a 4.0 GPA and this semester he is in SLSCI 21, CRPSCI 7, AET 22, and CRPSCI 36. He recently accepted a position with Helena Chemical Company as a Precision Ag Field Scout where he will use GIS to map field boundaries and features and will create EC maps using a Veris coulter-based conductivity sensor. After West Hills he hopes to become a licensed PCA and move up with Helena in a PCA sales position.



## WEST HILLS COLLEGE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

### THE "A" TEAM:



Angela Eldridge came to the college as a Senior Secretary in November of 2013 and will be working in the office of Instruction under VP of Instruction, Stephanie Droker. Her background is the legal environment, having worked her way from receptionist to legal secretary. She worked for the local law firm of Frame and Matsumoto for the last ten years and also has prior work experience in banking and property management.

Andrea Hamilton is a graduate of WHC Coalinga and is now enrolled in a Bachelor of Arts program at CSU East Bay in Business Management. Andrea comes to us from the Coalinga Huron Unified School District and brings great experience in both the private sector and educational setting. She will also be working as a Senior Secretary for the office of Instruction under Stephanie Droker.

Aronne Hauki is also a former graduate of WHC Coalinga, received her degree in Biblical Studies with emphasis in Global Missions at the School of Urban Missions and is currently enrolled in a graduate program at Grand Canyon University majoring in Industrial and Organizational Psychology. She worked for 3 years in the International Student program and brings her "former student" perspective to the office of Student Services. She will be working as a Senior Secretary for VP of Student Services, Sandy McGlothlin.

We welcome all three to our WHC Coalinga family and they will be mentored by Administrative Assistant Lorna Davis. Go Team!

## ATHLETICS

### WEST HILLS COLLEGE COALINGA FALCON BASEBALL SPRING CAMP

MARCH 1-2, 2014  
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

#### **FEATURING:**

**Head Coach - Stefan McGovern**  
**Assistant Coaches - JL Buchanan and Kolt Canaday**

#### CAMP FEES

Camp Cost for both Sat & Sun - \$100.00  
Camp Cost for one day only - \$65.00  
Late Registration (after 2/20/14) - \$125.00

**Ages: Camp is designed for all ages!**

## FALCON BASEBALL SPRING CAMP

This camp is designed specifically for players of all ages. We will provide opportunities to develop their skills with the guided assistance of current West Hills College players and coaches. Our goal is to bring as many student-athletes onto our campus to have a chance to visit the college and play baseball on our playing facility. This showcase allows our staff the opportunity to see how players, who are interested in West Hills College, handle themselves on the field and to showcase their skills. It will also give younger athletes the chance to receive instruction from college level coaches. The WHCC Baseball Camp will include a hitting portion, defensive portion, and pitching/catching portion. We encourage players to take part in all three segments of the camp, and try and learn as much as they can in all areas of the game. The camp will have the same format for both days of the camp.

FOR MORE INFORMATION Call the WHCC Baseball Office at (559) 934-2458, or email [stefanmcgovern@whccd.edu](mailto:stefanmcgovern@whccd.edu)

### 2014 Spring RODEO SCHEDULE - WEST COAST REGION updated 1/15/14

DATE	DAY	HOST	LOCATION
March 20	Thursday	Fresno State University	Clovis, CA - Contact Art Parham 559/260-1887
March 21-22	Friday-Saturday	West Hills College	Coalinga, CA - Contact Bruce Hunt 559/816-8351
April 10-12	Thursday-Saturday	Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo, CA - Contact Ben Londo 805/459-7764
April 25-26	Friday-Saturday	University of Las Vegas	Las Vegas, NV - Contact Ric Griffith 702/498-5585
June 15-21	Sunday-Saturday	<a href="#">College National Finals Rodeo</a>	Casper, WY - Contact 509/529-4402

*Remember: Rodeo Booster Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Elks Lodge on Cambridge Ave. For more information contact Bruce Hunt 559.816.8351.*

### Spring 2014 Basketball

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Feb-12	Wednesday	*Fresno City College	Fresno	7pm
<b>Feb-15</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>*College of the Sequoias</b>	<b>Coalinga</b>	<b>6pm</b>
Feb-19	Wednesday	*Merced Jr College	Merced	7pm
<b>Feb-22</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>*Porterville College (Coaches vs. Cancer)</b>	<b>Coalinga</b>	<b>6pm</b>
*Central Valley Conference Games		<b>Home Games in Bold</b>		

## **WHCCD HEP**

New 2014 GED® Assessment is here!

On January 2, 2014 GED® Testing Service introduced its new version of their high school equivalency exam. The first major change since 2002 aligns the test with the new Common Core curricula adopted by most states to increase college and career readiness.

The 2014 GED test is considered more rigorous and a better indicator of high school equivalency and college and career readiness. The new exams will serve three distinct purposes. To provide a high school credential by measuring whether a candidate has acquired the foundational academic skills and knowledge deemed necessary for high school exit. The new GED® assessment will continue to provide an alternate pathway for adults who have not earned a high school diploma. To provide evidence of readiness to enter workforce training programs or postsecondary education. The new GED® assessment will measure whether a candidate is ready to enter a workforce training program or a typical entry-level, credit bearing 2 or 4 year college course without needing remediation. To provide information about the candidate's strengths and areas of developmental need. By providing more information about the candidate's proficiency on career and college readiness standards; potential employers, postsecondary advisors, and educators can help candidates strengthen those areas of developmental need so that the candidates are ready for the next level of lifelong education and training.

GED® exams will continue to be offered in both English and Spanish; however, the content areas have been reduced to four— Reasoning through Language Arts, Mathematical Reasoning, Science, and Social Studies. Perhaps the most visible change for 2014 is that the exam will be converting to computer based testing (CBT). There will be no option for paper-based testing. Students have to be comfortable using a mouse to go back and forth between screens and selecting different options. Students need to be comfortable typing an extended response/essay. Students will also need to know how to drag and drop/cut and paste text and use sections of that text within their own writing.

All four GED® test modules will need to be taken in a Pearson VUE® testing center. The sum of the allowed test times is about 7 hours. 150 minutes for the Reasoning through Language Arts test (including a 10 minute break), 90 minutes for the Mathematical Reasoning test, 90 minutes for the Science test, and 90 minutes for the Social Studies test. All four tests do not need to be taken at once. The tests are not adaptive, meaning that the questions do not change in difficulty based on test taker responses. All parts of a question will be visible on the screen at the same time, with longer passages divided into pages marked by tabs.

Registration will be available online 24 hours a day, and can be completed from any computer with internet access via the MyGED portal on [www.GED.com](http://www.GED.com). Scores will be delivered to test takers through the individual online accounts created during registration. Generally, scores will be delivered quickly since all test items, including extended response items, are computer scored. The high school equivalency passing score will be 150 on each test, meaning a total score of at least 600 will be needed to earn a GED® credential. GED Testing Service allows individuals to take the test three times without any waiting period. After the third attempt, test-takers must wait 60-days after their last attempt before they can test again. This will result in test-takers having up to eight opportunities to test in a year, should they require that many attempts.

Those who did not successfully complete all five parts of the 2002 series GED® exam by the end of 2013 are required to start over again with the 2014 series GED®. Partial scores from the 2002 series exam cannot be carried over to the new 2014 series. Currently, a GED® credential is the only way to earn a high school equivalency certificate in the state of California. For more information regarding the new 2014 series GED® and available GED® preparation please contact Javier Cazares at 559-934-2176.

You can download the electronic version of this newsletter at:

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