



## **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**

Welcome back to West Hills College Coalinga! As we embark on a new academic year, I want to thank every member of our WHCC family for continuing to distinguish this college as a place where individual passions fuel a collective purpose. Because of your commitment to collaboration, creativity, and innovation, our last academic year was filled with noteworthy achievements. I know the 2013/14 year will continue this trend.

We closed the 2012/13 year with many significant milestones – the official dedication of the Wellborn Wellness Center; the unveiling of our new spectacular Ag facility and rodeo arena, where we hosted our inaugural rodeo; the presentation of the largest WHCC graduation class since we have become a two-college district and our first ever graduation seen live via video-streaming on the world-wide web.

Many of our faculty continued to advance the goals of the college by teaching, working on special projects and serving on interview panels. Clint Cowden, instructor at WHCC's Farm of the Future, was the subject of an article published in California Ag Today, in which he spoke about the growing demand for Ag students with real-world knowledge. Rob Skaggs, English faculty member, and Erin Corea, Counselor, have begun the work for WHC Coalinga to become the latest chapter of Phi Theta Kappa which is a national honor society recognized by all industries. By having an active honor society on campus, we will be providing new opportunities for leadership and service for our students and faculty. WHCC also continues to build for the future as the solar project at the Farm of the Future has begun construction and the NDC Site Improvement Phase 2 is nearing completion.

We also continued our pursuit of excellence. Faculty and administration worked together to design a supplemental instruction approach, built on research, that will positively impact student retention and success. Raquel Rodriguez, Associate Dean, Matt Magnuson, Librarian, Scott Sutherland, English Faculty member, and Brian Rouska, Tutor Coordinator will be working together to coordinate the fall implementation of our Supplemental Instruction Program at WHC Coalinga and at NDC.

Arkady Hanjiev, math faculty/SLO Coordinator, Sarah Shepard, business faculty/Curriculum Chair, and Stephanie Droker, Vice President of Educational Services, are leading the essential and practical work with the Lumina Foundation's Degree Qualifications Profile project. This project incorporates new ideas and practices to advance student success across all college programs. Arkady will continue his work in tracking SLO assessments and will challenge us all to examine data in new and meaningful ways. We also recently received notification that WHCC was selected as one of seven U.S. Department of Education Title V grant recipients! This will provide us some additional funding to strengthen our technology infrastructure. More information on this will be released shortly.

## *President's Monthly Message*

We are in the midst of our Educational Master Planning process that will serve as a guide for us for the next five years. Over the summer, we continued the planning process with our consultants and I look forward to working alongside faculty, staff and students to complete our plan in the coming weeks.

Currently, we are in the process of hiring a new Vice President of Student Services, Director of the Farm of the Future, faculty to teach Agriculture and related courses, and a new Baseball Coach. We will introduce our new colleagues to you as soon as the hiring process is complete.

While the economy is picking up...that may bring mixed news. The good news is the District has stated that we may be gearing up to hire five to seven full-time tenure-track faculty throughout the district in the next hiring cycle.

Over the next several months, governance groups will examine program review documents and advance staffing recommendations to my office. Before summer break, members of CPC worked on the prioritization of several full-time and part-time classified positions. The resulting "wish list" has been sent to the district and we will use that priority list for staffing purposes once we have a final budget adopted.

The bad news about a positive economy is it can negatively impact enrollment. Currently, enrollment is down slightly. This is an important indicator as enrollment continues to be the primary source of revenue. Therefore, we must all serve as Ambassadors for WHCC. ***Student recruitment, retention, and success are everyone's responsibility.***

In closing, we have a lot to be proud of and we have a lot of work ahead of us. I believe the future is bright and I am confident that our sustained success is attainable as long as we continue our relentless pursuit of educational excellence.

I will continue to keep all of you abreast of budgetary issues and other items in my new bi-weekly bulletin and monthly message.

Thank you for your continued commitment to West Hills College Coalinga. Have a successful fall!

## **WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**

### **TRIO Upward Bound, Student Support Services, and CalWORKS**

The CalWORKs staff, Dr. Bertha Felix-Mata, Program Director and Domenica Sanchez, Career Technician conducted an educational trip to Fresno on Wednesday, June 26. The student participated in several workshops on leadership skills development and job preparedness aimed at increasing the participants' leadership skills. The workshops were held at Fresno State. The activity was followed by a cultural visit to the Underground Gardens in Fresno.

The UB staff and students hosted the summer 2003 talent show on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The program included dances, singing, and guitar playing performances. The students had lots of fun and are already looking forward to next year's event!



## STUDENT SERVICES IN ACTION

First week of August is always busy getting our student athletes through the orientation, placement testing and registration process in between their conditioning week. Erin Corea is the designated Counselor for athletics and is enrolling all new student athletes into the College Success class. Giselle Simon serves as the EOPS Counselor and spent time in between student contacts getting the orientation ready for incoming EOPS students. We have two part time counselors, Amy Long and Valerie Walker, both from the Coalinga area helping students in the weeks before the semester starts.

Fostering Youth Alliances (our new Foster Youth Grant) is now ready to accept students. Aronne Hauki from the International Student program has been helping with the eligibility forms and setting up the incentive program. We have identified 3 students so far who fit the criteria and are going to assess our incoming class when school begins August 19<sup>th</sup>. Department of Social Services needs to do a site visit on our residential living space in order for us to accept students to live on campus. We will look forward to that during the fall semester!

## INTERESTING INSIGHTS

### Foundation

GuideStar is a non-profit information source that provides important fundraising information. In a recent article on their website, there was a quote by David Lansdowne that is especially important for those of us at West Hills:

***“Before you can hope to persuade a friend or colleague to support your cause, you have to believe in it yourself. And nothing says conviction better than a generous gift.”***

As we approach potential donors, one of the best statements we can make it that our employees are supporting our students through their contributions. If you are not currently participating in Employee Philanthropy, please consider a gift today. It can be directed to a scholarship, a department or a specific activity or event. As an example, a gift of \$25 a month will support a \$300 scholarship. It can be handled through payroll deduction or if your spouse works for an employer who matches gifts, we can handle it through a separate check.

Please email Frances Squire at [francesquire@whccd.edu](mailto:francesquire@whccd.edu) if you are interested in participating.

### Cafeteria

The staff at the Cafeteria would like to welcome all students, faculty, and staff back to our beautiful campus. We hope you have enjoyed your summer, and for those who managed to get away we look forward to seeing each of you in our dining hall.

Some changes have occurred at the West Hills College Café. Take the opportunity to try a breakfast burrito, fruit cup, or our full breakfast line. We have a new “Lite Lunch” menu with turkey wraps, gourmet chicken salad, and a soup & salad bar. A full snack bar menu including chili dogs, burgers, nachos, and taco salads is available from 11 AM to 6:30 PM Monday through Friday.

Daily staff lunch specials are coming. Stuffed pasta shells, baked fish, fresh vegetables, and clam chowder bread bowls to name a few. The salad & soup bar will be a hit featuring seasonal homemade soups and Marzetti salad dressings. Again, welcome back and don't be a stranger.

## ATHLETICS

The first home football game is scheduled for September 7, at 7pm, against Fresno City. This will be the public safety appreciation game. All fans presenting military, law enforcement, or fire fighter ID will receive one free ticket.

### Fall 2013 Football

| DATE    | DAY      | OPPONENT                               | LOCATION | TIME |
|---------|----------|--|----------|------|
| Sept 9  | Saturday | Fresno City College                    | Coalinga | 7pm  |
| Sept 14 | Saturday | College of the Sequoias                | Visalia  | 7pm  |
| Sept 21 | Saturday | San Francisco City College             | Coalinga | 12pm |
| Sept 28 | Saturday | San Jose City College                  | San Jose | 3pm  |
| Oct 5   | Saturday | Gavilan College                        | Gilroy   | 5pm  |
| Oct 12  | Saturday | Bye                                    |          |      |
| Oct 18  | Friday   | *Laney College                         | Oakland  | 7pm  |
| Oct 26  | Saturday | *Siskiyous (Homecoming & Hall of Fame) | Coalinga | 1pm  |
| Nov 2   | Saturday | *Reedley College                       | Reedley  | 1pm  |
| Nov 9   | Saturday | *Chabot College                        | Coalinga | 3pm  |
| Nov 16  | Saturday | *Merced Jr. College                    | Coalinga | 1pm  |

\* Conference Games HOME GAMES IN BOLD

### Fall 2013 Volleyball

| DATE    | DAY       | OPPONENT                 | LOCATION    | TIME    |
|---------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------|---------|
| Aug 30  | Friday    | MPC Scrimmage            | Monterey    | All Day |
| Sept 6  | Friday    | Cosumnes River Tourney   | Sacramento  | All Day |
| Sept 13 | Friday    | MPC Classic Tourney      | Monterey    | All Day |
| Sept 25 | Wednesday | *Merced Jr. College      | Coalinga    | 6pm     |
| Oct 2   | Wednesday | *Taft College            | Coalinga    | 6pm     |
| Oct 4   | Friday    | *Reedley College         | Reedley     | 6pm     |
| Oct 9   | Wednesday | *College of the Sequoias | Coalinga    | 6pm     |
| Oct 11  | Friday    | *Columbia College        | Sonora      | 5pm     |
| Oct 16  | Wednesday | *Fresno City College     | Fresno      | 6pm     |
| Oct 18  | Friday    | *Porterville College     | Coalinga    | 6pm     |
| Oct 23  | Wednesday | *Merced Jr. College      | Merced      | 6pm     |
| Oct 29  | Tuesday   | *Taft College            | Taft        | 6pm     |
| Nov 1   | Friday    | *Reedley College         | Coalinga    | 6pm     |
| Nov 6   | Wednesday | *College of the Sequoias | Visalia     | 6pm     |
| Nov 8   | Friday    | *Columbia College        | Coalinga    | 5pm     |
| Nov 13  | Wednesday | *Fresno City College     | Coalinga    | 6pm     |
| Nov 15  | Friday    | *Porterville College     | Porterville | 6pm     |

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You can download the electronic version of this newsletter at:

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