



## WHC Coalinga Vision Statement

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February was a short month packed with activities and events that were a result of weeks of planning. On February 6<sup>th</sup> WHCC hosted Classified Staff Development Day, where Dr. Droker and I, along with President Warkentin engaged staff and administrators in a fun round of Accreditation Jeopardy! Staff reviewed the new standards and their role in the process and won prizes! The following week classified staff, faculty and administrators joined together for an Accreditation Kickoff.

Enhancing the College's relations with our educational partners has been a priority during my first two years in office. In our Educational Master Plan we pledged to, "Develop and strengthen existing external collaborative relationships and partnerships." On Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> faculty and admin participated in two events that were months in the making.

Our K-12 partners joined us to learn from our colleagues from Santa Barbara City College about their high school dual credit initiative, *Get Focused, Stay Focused*. This initiative was developed to provide every high school student with the necessary information and experiences to develop college and career readiness skill and to facilitate the development of a 10-year Career & Education Plan, starting in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. We all left the workshop pledging to continue to work together to ensure that all students stay focused on their goals.

The second event was held on Friday evening and all day Saturday at Fresno State. Faculty members Tim Ellsworth, Kevin Wilds, Staci Mosher and Joy Cowden joined colleagues from WHCL, and CSUF to focus on creating a streamlined K-16 pipeline that propels students along pathways that will improve student learning and success and save students, institutions and the state significant sums of money. This project was made possible by a grant from the Association of Public and Land grant University's, in coordination with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The project's primary goal is to bring regional public school and community college districts together to plan ways to improve pathways from kindergarten to college with tablet technology. This work complements our Apple tablet initiative.

It is my goal that our continued collaboration with Fresno State will lead to new and expanded opportunities for faculty and staff development which support excellence in academics and technology integration.

One last high note for the month, the WHCC Coaches vs Cancer rose over \$2,000 for the American Cancer Society. The Falcons beat the Merced Blue Devils 75-73. Way to go Falcons and Coach Arce for a great night of fundraising and basketball!

Go Falcons!

## FEATURED LEARNING AREA – TRiO/SSS

TRiO is a federally funded college access program. TRiO stands for “Turning Roadblocks Into Opportunities.” TRiO began with Upward Bound, which emerged out of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 in response to the administration's War on Poverty. In 1965, Talent Search, the second outreach program, was created as part of the Higher Education Act. In 1968, Student Support Services (SSS), which was originally known as Special Services for Disadvantaged Students, was authorized by the Higher Education Amendments and became the third in a series of educational opportunity programs.

Student Support Services at West Hills College Coalinga and NDC provides a wide array of services: advising, academic assistance, counseling, career information, peer mentoring, tutoring, and remedial instruction to low-income, first-generation college students and students with disabilities. Both individual and group intervention approaches are used by Student Support Services staff that empowers students to successful. We help them begin their college experience, persist in their studies, and ultimately earn their degree.

On February 2, 2015 WHCC submitted the Student Support Services grant that once funded will continue these services through 2020. The new phase of funding would allow the college to continue and promote a more focused approach to a student success initiative model, such as the *Leadership & Academic College Excellence (LACE) Initiative*. This initiative personalized services including academic, vocational, and personal advising; career assessment and planning; financial aid application assistance and financial literacy education; priority registration; comprehensive study program-individual and group tutoring, progress reports, bi-weekly contacts, and academic peer-mentoring/tutoring. Research shows that Student Support Services participants are more likely to: 1) remain enrolled in higher education; 2) accrue more college credits; and 3) earn a higher grade point average while continuing to tie all that it does to the West Hills College Coalinga Vision: WHCC is committed to the relentless pursuit of student success. The Student Support Services program serves a total of 250 students a year between WHC and NDC.

## WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

On January 25, the International Student Program hosted a Welcome Back dinner for all International Students. The ISP staff decided to go with a new meal choice for their International Students ... Mexican food!! The students absolutely loved it and the dinner was a huge success.

The Fresno County Office of Education in partnership with Univision presented another successful Annual FAFSA Event on Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 8 locations throughout the Central Valley: California State University, Fresno; West Hills College-Coalinga; West Hills College-North District Center Firebaugh; West Hills College-Lemoore; Reedley College; UC Merced; College of the Sequoias-Visalia; and Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office, Bakersfield. This year, close to 1,200 families participated in the FAFSA event and more than 440 students were able to apply for financial aid!



## WEST HILLS COLLEGE COALINGA – TRANSFER CENTER

Learn more about transfer by attending a transfer workshop or meeting with university representatives on campus! You will find important announcements and activities related to transfer for January through March below. Sign up in advance for workshops and to meet with university representatives in Student Services, Building K, or call 559.934.2300 - walk-ins welcome, appointments preferred! Lunch provided at most workshops – first come, first served. Visit our website at:

[http://westhillscollege.com/coalinga/students/student\\_services/counseling/transfer\\_center.asp](http://westhillscollege.com/coalinga/students/student_services/counseling/transfer_center.asp)

University representatives scheduled for March: 3/12 Columbia College, 8:30am – 12pm; 3/17 National University, 10am – 1pm; 3/23 Brandman University, 10am – 2pm and 3/26. Columbia College, 8:30am – 12pm

**TRANSFER WORKSHOPS 2015**

Date	Topic	Time	Room
Thursday, March 5	Transfer Student Feedback – Giselle Simon	12:00PM	H3
Monday, March 23	Top 10 Transfer Questions – Brandman University	12:00PM	R7

**STUDENT SUCCESS WORKSHOPS 2015**

Date	Topic	Time	Room
Tuesday, March 17	Café in the Quad	12:00PM	QUAD
Thursday, March 26	Substance Abuse	12:00PM	TBA
Tuesday, April 7	Resume 101	12:00PM	TBA
Wednesday, April 8	Interview & Dress for Success	12:00PM	TBA
Tuesday, April 14	Financial Literacy	12:00PM	TBA

Student Services staff is busy doing FAFSA and BOG fee waiver outreach to the high schools. We finished our Cash for College events and are now wrapping up high school visits. The schedule is LIVE so outreach staff will be going to the high schools to work with seniors on their educational plans and putting classes in their preferred list. **College Day in Coalinga will be Friday April 24<sup>th</sup> and we have some great activities planned for these seniors from Avenal, Coalinga, Faith Christian and Tranquillity High Schools.** It's their priority REG 365 day to ensure their class schedules and the weather will be great to have a BBQ outside, shoot hoops and play volleyball in the gym and enjoy our student panel on their experiences at WHC Coalinga. The North District Center will have their own College Day on the same day with Mendota and Firebaugh high schools. It's a busy time of year enrolling our new fall 2015 freshman class – GO FUTURE FALCONS!



The theme of this year's UB Saturday Leadership Academy was College Careers and Team Building - Leadership Skills and held on January 31. There was a great turnout; 46 students from Coalinga, Mendota and Tranquillity High School, came to West Hills College Coalinga to participate.

Mr. Juan Rubio presented the Team Building - Leadership Skills workshop and it covered strategies to help Upward Bound participants deal with distractions, procrastination at their school, at home and in the community.

Sylvia Leyva presented a workshop on Career Choices (Career Café). She began the session with a history of her education and an ice breaker where students had to come up with an ideal career. She then had the students complete an online self-assessment survey at [community.coin3.com](http://community.coin3.com). These ice breaker activities equipped Upward Bound participants with knowledge and skills to complete more tasks in less time and be more productive.

On February 5, 2015, TRiO/SSS took students from WHC Coalinga and NDC Firebaugh to Fresno State's Career Fair. Students found out about internships for the summer, the degree needed for the jobs presented, and made connections with several businesses. Leia Glasker said she was so excited to attend this fieldtrip. "I gained so much information about my major!"





NDC students posing during the CSU-Fresno Career Fair with Juan M. Alvarez who is the Regional Director for the United States Department of Agriculture within the Hispanic-Serving Institutions in the Central & Northern California / Washington State.

The TRiO Club held a Valentine's Day Event on February 13, at the campus. All campus clubs were invited to attend, which made this event an even bigger success. "It's good to see the campus come to life with games on campus and students having a good time," says TRiO Club Advisor Reyna Moreno. TRiO Club had a Marriage Chapel and Cupid's Dart Game, ASB did the Speed Dating Game, and Glee Club performed Music-Grams.



## WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE MONTH



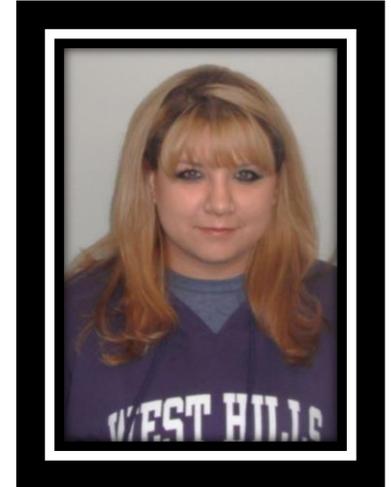
### Fernando Escandon

Hello Falcons, My name is Fernando Escandon. This is my second semester at West Hills College Coalinga. It's a great opportunity to be part of this campus. I am majoring in psychology and plan transfer to UC Santa Cruz. One of my hobbies is running and keeping my day busy with beneficial activities like being involved with the TRiO Club on campus, PTK, TRiO Program, and any other extra-curricular activities and involvement. I believe that with the great support system I have within this college, I can accomplish my goals, so I want to thank West Hills College for that. Go Falcons!!

## WEST HILLS COLLEGE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

### Airy Macias

Airy Macias is working as the SSS/TRIO/UB Student Services Technician and she can be found her at Student Services Department. She is originally from Coalinga but lives in Lemoore with her husband and her two little girls. She joined WHC Staff Team last year but she has been with WHC for a long time since she is a former WHC graduate and she worked as a student worker in our campus plus the district office. Ever since she was students attending WHC, Airy love the positive educational environment and its people. One of Airy's career goals has been to work in the Student Services Department because she likes the fact that she can be interacting with students. Now that she is employed by the WHC she feels blessed to be working with a wonderful WHC team and appreciate what she does. She enjoys working with our TRIO/SSS/UB students to provide that extra support and help them succeed in their educational goals. Her educational goal is to transfer to four- Year College and continuing her employment at WHC.



## WHCCD FOUNDATION



Students from 17 teams gathered at West Hills College Coalinga on January 31, 2015, as part of the VEX robotics competitions that lead to a world championship. Special thanks go to WHCC Foundation donors Chevron and PG&E for their support of robotics in after school programs in WHCCD and for covering expenses for this completion and a similar one held at WHCL earlier in January. Robotics is one way of interesting young students in STEM careers. Special thanks go to Robert Pimentel, Raquel Rodriquez, Angela Eldridge and Oscar Villarreal for their work in making these competitions possible.

## ATHLETICS

### March/April Scheduled Games

**WHCC Rodeo on March 20-21, including the calf dressing on March 20.**

#### Men's Falcon Baseball Schedule 2015

TUE	3/10/2015	Merced College	AWAY	6:00pm
THU	3/12/2015	<b>Merced College</b>	<b>HOME</b>	2:00pm
SAT	3/14/2015	Merced College	AWAY	1:00pm
TUE	3/17/2015	<b>Porterville College</b>	<b>HOME</b>	2:00pm
THU	3/19/2015	Porterville College	AWAY	2:00pm
SAT	3/21/2015	<b>Porterville College</b>	<b>HOME</b>	1:00pm
TUE	3/24/2015	<b>Reedley College</b>	<b>HOME</b>	2:00pm
THU	3/26/2015	Reedley College	AWAY	6:00pm
SAT	3/28/2015	<b>Reedley College</b>	<b>HOME</b>	1:00pm
<b>3/30-4/5/2015</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>			

Go Falcons!

TUE	4/7/2015	College Of Sequoias	AWAY	2:00pm
THU	4/9/2015	<b>College Of Sequoias</b>	<b>HOME</b>	2:00pm
SAT	4/11/2015	College Of Sequoias	AWAY	1:00pm
TUE	4/14/2015	Allan Hancock College	AWAY	2:00pm
THU	4/16/2015	<b>College Of Sequoias</b>	<b>HOME</b>	2:00pm
SAT	4/18/2015	Taft College	AWAY	1:00pm
SUN	4/19/2015	Reedley College	AWAY	1:00pm
TUE	4/21/2015	<b>Merced College</b>	<b>HOME</b>	2:00pm

**Women's Falcon Softball Schedule 2015**

Mar 10	TUE	Merced*	2 PM	Merced
<b>Mar 12</b>	<b>THU</b>	<b>FCC (DH)*</b>	<b>1 &amp; 3 PM</b>	<b>Coalinga</b>
Mar 17	TUE	COS*	2 PM	Visalia
<b>Mar 19</b>	<b>THU</b>	<b>Taft (DH)*</b>	<b>1 &amp; 3 PM</b>	<b>Coalinga</b>
Mar 24	TUE	Porterville*	2 PM	Porterville
Mar 26	THU	Reedley (DH)*	1 & 3 PM	Reedley
Mar 31	TUE	BYE		
<b>Apr 7</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>Merced (DH)*</b>	<b>1 &amp; 3 PM</b>	<b>Coalinga</b>
Apr 9	THU	FCC*	2 PM	Fresno
<b>Apr 14</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>COS (DH)*</b>	<b>1 &amp; 3 PM</b>	<b>Coalinga</b>
Apr 16	THU	Taft*	2 PM	Taft
<b>Apr 21</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>Porterville (DH)*</b>	<b>1 &amp; 3 PM</b>	<b>Coalinga</b>