



## WHC Coalinga Vision Statement

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

In this period of transition, I was reminded of the sage counsel of Harvard business school professor Rosabeth Moss Kanter, who likened change to long-term stability when she said, “successful companies develop a culture that just keeps moving all the time.” To be sure, this presents all of us with an unfamiliar challenge, but one that has dotted the history of the college since its founding in 1932. To succeed in the brief moment in time, I will focus on, among other key initiatives, honing an intimate understanding of the human side of change management — attempting to ensure the alignment of the college culture, values, people, and behaviors — to encourage the desired results.

My arrival at the college was preceded by the appointment of Dr. Lawrence ‘Larry’ Buckley as interim Vice President, Educational Services. Larry comes to Coalinga with significant experience as a CEO and Vice President, Instruction at multiple California community colleges. He brings Accreditation acumen, understands public higher education, and has quickly acculturated into his role on campus. Former interim President and search consultant Tom Harris has been engaged to conduct a national search for the next President of the college. The search will culminate with a recommendation by the Chancellor to the Board of Trustees prior to the close of the fall semester. Also, the search for a permanent VP of Educational Services has been initiated by the district’s Human Resources division.

As we embark on the semester, our top priority as an institution is preparing the final version of our Accreditation Self-Study for the ACCJC site team visit on March 6-9, 2017. The stakes are high. Immediate priorities include building upon the invaluable work of our faculty to refine the existing Accreditation Self-Study in preparation for the team site visit in March 2017. Vice President Sandy McGlothlin will continue to service as Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO) and work with faculty co-chair Sarah Shepherd, Larry, and a number of other individuals, including me. We have a game plan, a work products timeline, and I expect we will present our final version to the district Board of Trustees for review in November 2016.

Additional priorities include finalization of the 2016-17 College Catalog (our social contract with our past and current students), 2017-18 schedule of classes, enrollment management, and the acculturation of a variety of technology-driven initiatives, headlined by the implementation of Civitas, eLumen, and Canvas learning management system.

For me, the importance of teachers is personal. As the first son of two educators, my parents and my own teachers saved my life providing me with the love, support, safety, and skills that laid the foundation for the many opportunities I’ve been fortunate to have throughout my career in education. But much of the work they do also is about the intangible — it’s about fostering that almost indescribable, and yet unmistakable, spark between them and their students. It’s there when you see the potential in every student who walks through the door, even when they may not yet recognize their own gifts.

With change, comes new beginnings. With every step forward, every homecoming, we will remember who we are. We are West Hills College Coalinga. We produce intellectual capital that is *Made in Coalinga*.

**Go Falcons!**



**WEST HILLS COLLEGE  
COALINGA**

**President's Monthly  
Message**

## WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

The West Hills College experience involves so much more than just going to class. The Student Services department is here to provide you with the support you need to be successful. We believe students who get involved on campus succeed and each campus activities planned to provide you with an opportunity for self-discovery, personal growth and enhance academic success!

Student Success and Support Program (SSSP) and Student Equity will be rolling out supplemental services for students who may experience difficulties early on in the semester. Program Coordinator of Special Grants, Zach Soto has been working this summer to develop early alert intervention plans for our basic skills students. One of the plans is to assign a supplemental instructor (student) to monitor the classroom and work in collaboration with those faculty to intervene and provide support at various stages of the semester to help the student feel confident completing the class successfully and retaining to the next semester.

Student Services is fully staffed with 6 full-time Counselors and 6 full-time Advising Specialists. For the first two weeks of the semester, you can make a same day appointment for help scheduling your classes. After the second week of the semester, all counseling/advising staff are by appointment only. This is to ensure that they have the time dedicated to your needs whether it's career counseling, academic planning or checking in to see if you're on track.

Paid like a paycheck begins fall 2016. WHCCD will begin issuing financial aid to students every other week to help them better manage their finances. The district is participating in a national study with a research group called MDRC.

17-18 FAFSA begins October 1<sup>st</sup>. The federal government has released a plan of making the FAFSA available earlier to allow students more time to complete and to assist in better outreach for perspective students and parents. This will also allow students and parents to use 2015 tax returns for the current fiscal year 2016-2017 and for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.



On July 22-23, 2016 our WHC UB students participated in their End of the Summer Field Trip to USC University of Southern CA in Los Angeles. The students conducted college campus to learn about career and transfer requirements. The second stop was to the historical and dynamic City of Santa Monica. The UB students were able to learn about the social diversity, art, and community culture within the City of Santa Monica. In addition the UB students enjoyed performers and entertainers such as: acrobats, dancers, and different cartoonist just to mention a few.



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Thirty one UB students completed the West Hills College Coalinga UB Residential Summer 2016 Program from June 12 - July 24, 2016. The selection of the students was based on their interest, grade point average, leadership skills and application credentials. Participants were living on the College Residence Hall during the residential component of the summer program for a total of 6 weeks.

The UB model of the summer program at WHC includes: a rigorous 6-11 credit college courses, service learning, leadership development, career exploration, cultural events, college visits, intensive tutoring and skills development. Each day the Upward Bound students were busy having fun, making new friends, and improving their academic skills before next school year. Students completed the entire 6 week intense summer program. Students participating in the UB Program were from Huron, Coalinga, Mendota, San Joaquin, Tranquillity and Three Rocks.



The WHC UB Residential Summer program once again showed off artistically gifted during their Annual Talent Show on Wednesday, July 13, 2016. The audience was treated with many amazing performance creating an ever entertaining event ranging from singing, dancing, and comical skit. Prizes were for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. A special thanks go to the UB staff and judges: Jim Grant, Alex Villalobos, Veronica Rosales, and Reyna González.



July has proved to be yet again, another busy month out at the Farm of the Future. This week we wrapped up both of our Wonderful Agriculture Summer Camps. Students from Avenal got to experience the Plant Science pathway which included labs on entomology, integrated pest management, soils, and tractor operation. Students from Mendota got to experience the Ag Mechanic pathway which included labs in surveying, auto CAD, and woodwork. Both camps also focused on a ten year plan for graduating high school and going on to college. The kids also got to enjoy fun activities such as the launch of a weather balloon, time to swim at the pool, and a series of games that resulted in a prize for the winning team. Big thank you to Lupe Espinoza and Laura Haney for all of their hard work on this camp throughout the year, and thank you to the amazing staff of residential advisors and vocational aides- none of this would have been possible without you!





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With summer camp over, we are hard at work again out in the fields. This week our 30 acres of garlic is being harvested. It's "all hands on deck" here with many laborers working hard to make sure the job gets done. Our Sudan grass is also being cut and baled. We produced 684 bales, close to 30 tons of Sudan. Finally, we also planted the corn that will be used for our corn maze during the Annual Harvest Festival in October. Soon we will be planting the pumpkins that will also be part of the Harvest Festival. Be sure to keep updated with the Farm of the Future on social media!  
<https://www.facebook.com/farmofthefuture>.



### 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](https://www.facebook.com/farmofthefuture)



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



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



[farmofthefuture.tumblr.com](https://farmofthefuture.tumblr.com)



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## **President's Monthly Message**

### **WHCCD FOUNDATION**

Frances Squire, WHCC Foundation Executive Director, shared the following “as I reflect back on my 15 years at West Hills College, I see tremendous progress. We’ve grown in so many ways...our full time equivalent head count, our facilities, our reputation in the community to name a few. We’ve also grown in our relationship with donors. I frequently hear how pleased Chevron is with the work we’re doing with the Chevron Science Camp—now in its third year, or in robotics programs that are going on throughout the south end of the district. Sanitation Districts of LA County, which funds our Engineering Scholars Program at WHCL, has hired two of our students as interns and are delighted with the work they are doing. Pepsi continues to be a strong partner with us and each year during the last few years, Keller Motors has stepped up its contribution and has become a major sponsor of the President’s Scholars Program. And of course, I would be remiss if I didn’t mention our long-term relationship with AP Architects. They have been with us since the beginning of President’s Scholars and their support, in great part, made the program possible from the beginning.

As you are out in the community, please make sure to thank our donors for their support. Please let them know how much you appreciate all that they do for our students and our communities. For a complete list of our donors, please visit: <http://westhillscollege.com/district/foundation>. And if there’s a name you don’t see there, please let me know and we will reach out to them.”

### **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>