

## **President's Report**

**April 21, 2020**

### **College Happenings**

*Faculty Senate.* At our April 7 meeting, we passed three resolutions (Chancellor's communication policy and practices; collaboration; student refunds). They were sent to the chancellor and Board of Trustees with a request that the chancellor respond by April 14. We received no response, not even an acknowledgement of receipt.

*College Council.* At the April 15 meeting, President Gilkerson provided the College Council with COVID-related updates (as she did the day before at an installment of Tuesdays with Tammeil):

- 1,000 of the Chromebooks ordered by the district were delivered the preceding week with 400 allocated to Laney. The library will be assisting in the delivery to students. No word on when the other 8,00 Chromebooks ordered by the district will be delivered.
- President Gilkerson applied for a \$150,000 grant to provide laptops and internet access to 700+ students.
- Student Equity and Achievement funds are being utilized to provide students with small grants.
- As part of the third federal stimulus package, the district will be receiving \$8M, with approximately \$3M for Laney (at least half of which must be used as direct aid to students).
- 60 faculty are currently enrolled in two online Canvas training classes.

Unrelated to the pandemic, a Yammer group was launched for Laney. Only share your positive thoughts there. To do some true yammering, check out the district's "All Company" Yammer group. (If you don't know what Yammer is, then someone who's getting a two-year contract at Tuesday's Board of Trustees' meeting isn't doing his job very well... Email him at [markjohnson@peralta.edu](mailto:markjohnson@peralta.edu).) Also at the College Council meeting, the 2020-21 prioritized lists from BAC, IELMC, FPC and TPC were approved. An update on the college's ISER was presented as well.

*Institutional Effectiveness Committee.* The IEC met on April 16 at which the ISER update was given and President Gilkerson led a discussion about resource prioritization and program review in general.

### **Meanwhile, at the District Service Center...**

*District Academic Senate.* DAS met on April 7 and reviewed Laney's three resolutions. The first two were sent to the other colleges' Academic Senates (with BCC representatives offering strong opposition); the third (student refunds) was adopted.

*Planning & Budgeting Council.* Having missed its March meeting, PBC reconvened on April 17 with a new co-chair, Dr. Carla Walter (VC of Finance & Administration). Much of the time was spent talking about the BAM Task Force, which reboots every time a new VC walks in (so, basically, rebooting is all we've ever done), and about refunds for students. VC Brown said that the district was collecting information about EW grades as requested by the State Chancellor's Office. Resident students will

be given credit (rather than refunds) for enrollment fees if they get an EW grade; parking will be refunded at 50%. VC Brown warned that this would not be a quick process.

*Yammer Presentation.* District PIO Mark Johnson gave another half-hour presentation on April 17, this one on Yammer. In what is fast becoming his trademark, he talked through the basics of Yammer which everyone could have learned on their own. A short time was allotted for questions; true to form, Interim Director Johnson squashed any hint of perceived dissent by “fundamentally” disagreeing with one attendee and quickly moving on to the next question. (If you feel that I am engaging in public shaming here, you are absolutely correct! Although I think of it more as “Do your job decently well, or go work somewhere else, please.”)