



Bakersfield College President's Report

to the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees
Sonya Christian - March 9, 2017

The Transfer Promise: Timely Completion to Transfer & Beyond

Education, along with industry and community leaders are making a commitment to work collaboratively regarding educating our future students. Our goal and aim is to move students through higher education in a more efficient and impactful way. Can we get a baccalaureate degree completed in 4 years? An associate degree for transfer in 2 years? The answer is yes – through the shared responsibility model of The Transfer Promise. This model, where students, the colleges, the university, high schools, and the community work together, clarifies the educational pipeline, removes financial and access barriers, and offer intentional structure support along the educational path.

First generation students at Bakersfield College require structured coaching tailored to their unique experience. With just 22% of Kern County residents 25 years of age and older holding an Associate's Degree or higher, compared with California's average of 39%, there is pivotal work ahead. BC has adopted a guided pathways framework and by partnering with high schools to increase the number of dual enrolled students, we are intervening to clarify pathways before a student gets lost, decreasing time to completion, and closing attainment gaps.



By increasing technical and educational accomplishments and reducing achievement gaps for students from underrepresented groups in our community, the Kern Promise has shown a tremendous drawing of support from various private and public organizations in Kern County. Letters of support can be found on the BC website at:
www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/sse/bakersfieldpromise.

BC and CCCC of the Kern Community College District was one of the 14 districts to receive approval for \$1.5M.

BC Celebrates National Engineering Week

The Bakersfield College Engineering and Industrial Technology Department partnered with the local chapter of the American Society of Petroleum Engineers to host an Engineering Day for approximately 500 high school students from across Kern County. These students had the opportunity to get a glimpse into college life, find out about various STEM majors, learn about career possibilities for each major, and query BC faculty. BC Baccalaureate Industrial Automation students provided demonstrations of two interactive class projects. Additionally, community organizations such as Chevron, Summit ESP, AERA, California Resources Corporation, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Society of Safety Engineers, Taft College, and the Society of Petroleum Engineers provided high school students with information about careers in engineering throughout Kern County.

Upcoming Events

Friday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.
BC Spring Choral Concert - "Freedom"
Indoor Theatre

Saturday, April 1, 2 p.m.
MESA STEM & Pre-Health Conference
Growing Strong Communities for the Future
Indoor Theatre

Friday, April 28, 2017, 9 a.m.
BC Law Day Conference
Indoor Theatre

Friday, April 28, 2017, 10 a.m.
Kern Transfer Promise Day
Levan Center

Recycling Pilot Program Makes Debut in BC Cafeteria

On Wednesday, February 22nd, the Sustainability Coalition Team representing the 2016-2017 Leadership Academy partnered with Bakersfield ARC (BARC) and the City of Bakersfield-Public Works Department Solid Waste Division to host a pilot week of recycling in the BC Cafeteria. Informative signage was posted and brochures were handed out during the kick-off event. The following week, an online survey asked BC staff and faculty for thoughts and feedback. 71% of the online results said that the BC campus could use improvement with the quality of recycling.

79.12% of responses said that the biggest obstacle keeping them from recycling is that no bins are available. We will continue to explore these efforts as one of the many ways we focus on continually improving our campus, our health, community, and upholding our core value of sustainability.



Upcoming Public Health Sciences at BC

New programs at Bakersfield College are added to meet the needs of our community and region. The Public Health Sciences is a fast growing area with various job opportunities. Kern County struggles with public health issues that impact us both individually and as a community. Harold Piece at The Bakersfield Californian highlighted the great work of this upcoming program.

Course curriculum includes an introductory class, and also courses in personal health and wellness, substance abuse and dependency issues, and health and social justice, which provides an overview of how education, socioeconomics, status and racism shape health epidemics and policy development.



Summer Bridge to BC 2017 Preparation Underway

Summer Bridge to BC is an intensive day-long orientation program required of all incoming Freshmen. Similar programs in most colleges and universities are conducted by Student Affairs with some level of engagement from instructional faculty in various departments.

At Bakersfield College, our program is unique because faculty in various disciplines are core to the architecture of the program beginning with the design of each student seminar to execution of each orientation.

Trainings and orientations for the newest generation of involved faculty are underway as we look forward to welcoming our newest Renegades in Fall 2017.

Orientations will be held for individual students and high school groups registered by their high school counselors.



BC's Summer Bridge Team for 2017