

**BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE | SW**

*Bringing college closer to home*



*The Bakersfield College Southwest Campus has been bringing college closer to home for students who both live and work in the southwest area.*

*The development of BC Southwest stems from a commitment to serve our community. As Bakersfield's community college, we take seriously our obligation to serve students, no matter where they're at by reducing barriers and offering quality education in an affordable and effective way.*

*The following letters, remarks, and press coverage demonstrate the importance and value of a Bakersfield College Southwest location, and specifically a colocation on the campus of CSUB.*

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**Oct. 11, 2018, Remarks (Liz Rozell, Vice President of Instruction) addressed to the KCCD Board of Trustees:**

President Meek, board members, thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to speak with you today. I will begin by asking for some grace with the 5 minute limit, for I suspect I will need 8 minutes. I am here, before you, as the Vice President of Instruction very concerned about the delay in approving a promising site to locate the Bakersfield College Southwest Campus. The proposal presented at the last board meeting was an unexpected opportunity for the college that has too many benefits to bypass. Recently, I was informed that the proposal is slated for evaluation by the Finance Committee on November 14<sup>th</sup>. This has alarmed me because delays in approving this proposal will cost the students in timely completion; cost the college in reputation; cost the community in educational resources; and cost the district financially.

Our sublease with Fresno Pacific University sunsets in March, 2019 and Castle & Cook is reluctantly willing to extend this to December 2019, provided we have a location secured and a building built for our students to move into starting January 2020. With a year-long construction timeline of the new building we could move into the leased space by January 2020 if the lease presented to you prior to September 13<sup>th</sup>, almost 30 days ago, is approved before the end of this month.

The result of delaying a few months is asking Bakersfield College to shut down BC Southwest for at least one semester and turn away more than 2000 students. *This is not a student centered decision.*

In 2012 when I was a faculty department chair, we were coming out of a season of many cancelled class sections due to a fear of massive state cutbacks. Not all community colleges in our state turned away students like we did. Unfortunately, the community lost faith with us because we did not provide the educational opportunities they so desperately needed. Happily, we have been able to regain community trust, by serving a growing number of students, seen in BC's significant enrollment growth over the last five years, while at the same time improving our degree completion and transfer rates. Improving access while simultaneously improving success.

BC has now established a presence in the southwest for the past 4 semesters. In Fall 2017, you approved the previous lease of 22,000 sq ft, which resulted in serving students who live in the southwest; they live in the zip code covered by Area 3 of the KCCD Trustee service region. Now we are back in 2018 to ask you to approve an expanded lease to 61,000 sq ft to serve the students in this same area. Now, having established a robust program in the Southwest and then disappearing for a semester, two semesters will be significantly worse than what we did to the community about 10 years ago. I am concerned for the reputation of Bakersfield College and the break in trust with the southwest community. There will be a perception that Bakersfield College and KCCD 'abandoned' the community after establishing the southwest campus in a big way.

In 2017-18, BCSW garnered 216 FTES. Currently, there are 322 FTES for Summer and Fall, 2018. We expect at least 200 FTES in the spring semester of 2019 giving the southwest campus a 142% increase in FTES from 17-18. Losing a semester will cost us over a million dollars in apportionment! A significant financial hit to KCCD.

According to the Institutional Research data sent out on September 4<sup>th</sup>, Bakersfield College showed a 4.7% growth in FTES compared to Fall 2017. If we were to subtract the 220 FTES connected to the southwest campus, this would reduce Bakersfield College's growth to 1.5% and KCCD's to 3.5%. Of course, you may wonder if these students would have just sought courses on the main campus. However, the general education courses we offer at BCSW are impacted with large waitlists on the main campus. Providing these sections at the southwest campus increased access that contributed to the growth at Bakersfield College. Since 2013-14, the number of students living in the southwest has grown 27%. This is the target population that has contributed to the 2010 students currently enrolled at the southwest campus this fall.

Chancellor Burke worked with Dean Mourtzanos, President Christian and me to determine conservative projections for expenditures and income revenue for the University Office Center location. Even with this conservative approach, Bakersfield College will be in the black by year 5 and overall, the sum of the costs and revenue over the 20 years positions the college with a profit of over \$11 million.

At the last board meeting, you indicated an interest in new construction in addition to potential leases. Based on timeline projections for new construction, this will delay the college for 2 years with an projected loss of 1500 FTES at a cost over \$7 million. That is a pretty expensive decision. Once we learned that the current southwest location would not be available to us in the near future, we did explore other sites, seven in all. Buildings that are for business and office spaces have lower parking ratios compared to college campuses. Therefore we are not desirable tenants in spaces that are in the middle of business and office complexes. None of these sites were viable options and none of these provided the advantages of the proposed University Office Center location.

From an instructional lens, the most appealing aspect of the University Office Center location is that it is on the CSUB campus. Bakersfield College faculty and transfer staff have devoted much time in developing a strong collaborative relationship with CSUB, resulting in the Kern Promise, Finish in 4, and increased completion. We have ramped up our course offerings at the southwest campus to facilitate a smooth transition from BC with an ADT to CSUB for four year degrees. What an amazing model we would be for the state of California with a community college located on the campus of its sister university with very visible collaborative pathways. This serves students in our community and would be a memorable *student centered decision*.

As the Vice President of Instruction, I ask that you consider our students, our community and give us the green light to proceed with this lease before the end of October.

## Oct. 23, 2018, Community Voices (Deborah Rosenthal, Professor of Chemistry):

### COMMUNITY VOICES: BC, CSUB should share a campus

By Deborah Rosenthal Oct 23, 2018



Deborah Rosenthal



It is an exciting time to be a professor at Bakersfield College.

In the classroom are fields of eyes flooded with dreams. These are the students working to exhaustion, exhibiting respect and yearning for guidance. Spread around campus is Measure J construction, imparting a feeling of inspiration and importance to all. And filling any spare space or time slot is a multitude of activities to attend. The list includes sporting events, art exhibits, roundtable discussions, speakers from universities, Pulitzer Prize authors, singing, theater shows, planetarium movies, club meetings and much more.

With all the stimulation at Bakersfield College, there should be no need for a BC employee to set foot at a CSU Bakersfield event across the city, to the west. But Dignity Health, BC and CSUB collaborated in organizing The Walk for Humankindness that was held on the CSUB campus. The intent was for people of all faiths and cultures to recognize that in the wake of societal turmoil, we can live as neighbors.

**Full Text:** It is an exciting time to be a professor at Bakersfield College.

In the classroom are fields of eyes flooded with dreams. These are the students working to exhaustion, exhibiting respect and yearning for guidance. Spread around campus is Measure J construction, imparting a feeling of inspiration and importance to all. And filling any spare space or time slot is a multitude of activities to attend. The list includes sporting events, art exhibits, roundtable discussions, speakers from universities, Pulitzer Prize authors, singing, theater shows, planetarium movies, club meetings and much more.

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Undoubtedly, it was a successful fellowship occasion that would not have been effective using technology. It was a snapshot of how relationships can be strengthened for the betterment of the entire community.

The excitement of education reaches beyond Kern County. The state of California has fostered enthusiasm to develop cooperating relationships among all educational tiers. The new initiatives are requiring an increase in cooperation between high schools, colleges and universities. The obligation is for increased focus on guiding our students during college and through each transition. The goal is to increase the success rate of graduation at the level each individual chooses to pursue. Dual enrollment, early college for high school students and pathways streamlined for transfer students to universities improve student

outcomes. Innovative approaches to curriculum design, classroom strategies and shared facilities further strengthen student outcomes.

Transfer agreements are a major component BC and CSUB have tackled. Professors from CSUB and BC participate in face-to-face meetings to develop seamless pathways for transfer.

Currently, a BC satellite campus exists in southwest Bakersfield. However, the building's lease will expire soon. Plans have been presented to utilize a building on the CSUB campus, partially to avoid interruption in the education of the southwest students.

It would be beneficial to Kern County if the momentum of CSUB and BC partnership continues to grow. Of course, fellowship and face-to-face encounters have proven to be more successful than phone calls and e-mails. An effective model that public colleges and universities already use that preserves strong relationships is sharing the same campus. The institutional finances, websites, registration, and degrees are also separate. But space such as cafeterias, libraries and parking may be shared.

The more obvious benefit is the productive conversations and meetings that transpire. In addition, students and adjunct instructors that currently straddle two campuses won't have to straddle across town.

How does the public support progressive ideas such as campus sharing?

Leaders focused on innovation and outcomes are needed at all levels. This includes faculty, staff, administrators and the Board of Trustees. When voting, the Board of Trustees choose leaders who have a thorough understanding of Bakersfield College and higher education.

Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg has spent over 30 years supporting innovation and working with the community to improve outcomes at Bakersfield College. Remember Nan when you vote and ask your neighbors to do the same.

*Deborah Rosenthal is a chemistry professor at Bakersfield College. The opinions expressed are her own.*



## Oct. 23, 2018, Letter to the Editor (Nick Strobel, Professor of Physical Science):

### Letter to the Editor: Gomez-Heitzeberg for KCCD Board

Oct 23, 2018



It looks like politics and junior-high type personality conflicts at the KCCD Board of Trustees have cost Bakersfield College its Southwest Center for Spring 2020 and Fall 2020 (and maybe longer). We have the data to show having the Southwest Center has improved our degree and certificate completion rates and will improve even more. Kern County needs the BC Southwest Center to train our citizens for the jobs of the future.

Students are the ones harmed directly by the machinations in the Board and indirectly we're all harmed because those college-educated students get good jobs, improving the lives of their families and communities. At least 2,000 students will have to be turned away because of the lack of movement by the Board of Trustees from the internal politics and money plays going on.

Students are the ones hurt by this political wrangling and business dealings — business deals not in the best interest of educating our students. One more reason why we need an educator on the Board instead of business people interested in political power and their own financial future. Someone who has put students first her entire career, so it's part of her DNA. People in central Bakersfield can vote for two people on the KCCD Board. Please make one of them Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg.

Nick Strobel, Bakersfield

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Nick Strobel, Bakersfield

**Nov. 2, 2018, Media Coverage (KBAK): Bakersfield College may have to temporarily close the southwest campus:**

**[Bakersfield College may have to temporarily close the southwest campus](#)**

Bakersfield College may have to temporarily close the southwest campus

by Lexi Wilson, Eyewitness News | Friday, November 2nd 2018



**Nov. 2, 2018, Media Coverage (Bakersfield Californian): Bakersfield College may temporarily close southwest center in 2020**

**[Bakersfield College may temporarily close southwest center in 2020](#)**

Bakersfield College may temporarily close southwest center in 2020



BY JOSEPH LUIZ juiz@bakersfield.com Nov 2, 2018 3



Bakersfield College Southwest and Fresno Pacific University are campus mates at 11000 River Run Blvd.

**Nov. 8, 2018, Letter (Liz Rozell, Vice President of Instruction) addressed to the KCCD Board of Trustees:**

President Meek and Board members:

I apologize for any offense I may have caused with my comments at the last board meeting, especially to Trustee Storch. So, I write to you today to address the concerns expressed and clarify our vision for our students. The lease proposal we submitted to the board is not just a business deal, but is driven by the work evolving from Guided Pathways to support student success; specifically students transferring with an associate's degree to complete their baccalaureate at CSUB . In the California Community Colleges Vision for Success approved by the Board of Governors, there are six very aggressive goals, centered on completion and equity, with which all colleges within KCCD are required to align. AB705 is a law also centered on transfer completion, with very aggressive goals and timelines. The new Student Centered Funding Formula (SCFF) includes an emphasis on performance based funding constructed around completion and equity, with an aggressive timeline. Guided Pathways is not an initiative or a project, but rather a framework for a transformation of higher education. It is the framework driving the Vision for Success, AB705 and the SCFF. Bakersfield College undertook the completion agenda with vigor and commitment about five years ago and adopted the Guided Pathways framework to organize the multiple redesign efforts with a single focus on student achievement and student learning. As Bakersfield College transforms into a Guided Pathway College, the principles of pathways is being infused into our mindset and subsequently, into our decision-making, planning and implementation. It is a transformation with very aggressive goals and timelines with a singular focus on student success.

Historically, Bakersfield College has offered courses in Southwest Bakersfield for over 10 years. Initially, classrooms were rented month-to-month at high school campuses, such as Stockdale High School and Bakersfield Christian, and included late afternoon and evening courses. This practice continued with Fresno Pacific University (FPU) located on Stockdale Highway in 2015. In these environments, BC was not able to provide any student support services such as financial aid advisement, counseling, supplemental instruction or tutoring due to the restricted facility use. From a Guided Pathways lens, this existing structure needed to be improved to support students on getting on their path and staying on the path to degree completion.

In summer 2017, you, the KCCD Board of Trustees approved a 20-month sublease from FPU, which would allow for shared facilities and other resources to expand course offerings to morning, afternoon, evening and weekends. It was a great opportunity which resulted in a stunning increase in enrollment within the first year. This quickly made us realize that Bakersfield College was obligated to scale up it the operations in the southwest, including the number of classrooms, in order to meet this significant community need. Having robust

offerings with student support systems in a highly visible location in the vicinity of our number one transfer institution, CSUB, is the sweet spot for a Guided Pathways college.

Thus, aware of the March, 2019 end date for the sublease, we began negotiations with Castle & Cooke during the spring semester of 2018 to lease both the first and second floor of the building, providing over 40,000 sq ft of space. Unfortunately, the negotiations broke down primarily due to lack of compatibility between parking requirements set forth by the college and parking stalls currently available within typical business parks and office space rentals. Therefore, it is not a site suitable for a daytime college schedule.

Subsequently, the college administrative team considered seven other properties through the work of ASU Commercial on behalf of DeWayne and Nick Zinkin. The most significant issue that came from these sites is the leased square footage to parking ratios. The ratio for colleges is significantly higher than that of traditional commercial space occupants and doesn't make us desirable tenants.

The potential lease on CSU property with Gregory Bynum & Associates was an unexpected opportunity that materialized in mid-August 2018. I know that you appreciate the value of this particular location, but from a Guided Pathways lens, it is an amazing and ideal location for the very transfer pathways to CSUB in which we have invested much time and effort. It is the ultimate sweet spot for a Guided Pathways college. It gives us the opportunity to develop dual and concurrent enrollment with our southwest high school partners and increased collaboration with our CSUB partner to improve transfer rates and baccalaureate degree completion.

Since August 2018, Chancellor Tom Burke collaborated with President Christian and Trustee Bill Thomas on the Bynum lease agreement. In addition, Chancellor Burke worked with the BC administrative team (President, Vice President and the Dean responsible for BC Southwest) to diligently work financial and FTES analysis.

We stand ready to work through any issues individual board members might have. What has been discouraging is that by moving the item from the full board to the 3-member finance committee has in fact, shut down the conversation, as we wait, board meeting after board meeting, without the finance committee meeting happening.

On September 7th you had this information and on September 13th, without having the discussion, the item was moved to the Finance Committee with a 5-2 vote. At that meeting it was announced that the Finance Committee would meet on October 3rd. We hoped that the administrators at the college and district could work with you to resolve issues and fine tune the lease agreement. Instead the meeting was then rescheduled to November 14th, 9 weeks after the first airing of the lease. We were informed that it took 9 weeks for the 3-member Finance Committee to find a time to meet that the three of them would be available. In the meantime, the administration at the college and district have worked with the KCCD broker, Jeff Andrew to provide expert analysis and a recommendation. We have sharpened our pencil to reduce the cost on the Bynum lease. All this information was provided to you on October 30th.

KCCD Board of Trustees, the recommendation to co-locate BC with CSUB comes from the Chancellor of KCCD, the President of BC, the administrators, faculty, staff and students of

BC. Please support our recommendation, so we can continue to be a flagship district when it comes to increasing our student completion numbers. Please support this pioneering model of co-location to advance baccalaureate completion for the south San Joaquin valley. Transformation in higher education is challenging and we too feel the pressure with the aggressive timelines we must meet. Evolving as a Guided Pathways college means we adopt a Guided Pathways mindset from the college level to the district to the Board of Trustees.

**Nov. 8, 2018, Letter (Paul Beckworth, Faculty Director, Veteran Services) addressed to President Kay Meek, KCCD Board President:**



Dear Kay,

Bakersfield College is a home of support for our students and particularly our student veterans. This week's Vetfest and groundbreaking celebration is a testament to your voice on behalf of the approximately 800 veteran men and women we serve at BC. Your support has meant that these courageous heroes now have the means to achieve their educational goals for a bright future in a welcoming and supportive environment.

However, heavy concern regarding the future of BC Southwest has created uncertainty among the veterans at BC during priority registration. This week, amidst the celebration, behind the scenes our veterans were anxious and unclear about the future of their education. Our veterans are voicing deep concern to staff and faculty about class cancellations, the reliability of future SW offerings, and a permanent location to serve Veterans living in the southwest. This is resulting in substantial apprehension and questions about burdens including:

- Scheduling conflicts
- Transportation issues
- Effects on the GI Bill
- And some have debated making the decision to transfer to Taft and are seeking counsel

These urgent reasons of concern are why I'm reaching out to you today. These honorable Renegades deserve answers and our commitment to support them fully on their path to degree completion. A permanent co-location on the CSU Bakersfield campus would ensure our veterans gain familiarity with CSUB throughout their journey to obtain an Associate's Degree for Transfer. Any other location takes away from continued consistency and stability which is so important for a veteran experiencing the return to civilian life and the transition from combat to college.



Earlier this week, I raised the student concerns to the executive team at Bakersfield College and President Christian assured me the KCCD Board would do everything it takes to provide approval in a timely manner for a CSUB co-location to be available for Spring 2020.

On behalf of the 800 student veterans at Bakersfield College, the time to act is now. I humbly request that you call a special board meeting prior to December 1 and provide approval to move forward with the project. We must continue to support our students with every means possible.

Sincerely,

Paul Beckworth

Paul Beckworth, Faculty Director, Veteran Services

### Nov. 12, 2018, Community Voices (Daniel Rinear, Student Veteran):

## COMMUNITY VOICES: Combining BC, CSUB campuses benefits student veterans



By DANIEL RINEAR Nov 12, 2018



Daniel Rinear



Upon returning home from six years of service in the Coast Guard, I settled in northwest Bakersfield and was making the 30 minute commute to Bakersfield College daily to pursue my education. When classes opened at BC southwest, I immediately jumped on the opportunity to take courses there because it's closer to my home, saved time, gas and has given me more flexibility to juggle life.

Considering recent news in The Bakersfield Californian surrounding the possible closure of BC southwest and the delayed decision by the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees to approve a new location near CSUB ("Bakersfield College may temporarily close southwest center in 2020," Nov. 2), I felt it was important that I share my voice on behalf of all students attending the southwest location and advocate for my fellow Renegades and student veterans. I believe it's important that the school continues to branch out to other locations and I hope that more classes continue to be offered in southwest Bakersfield, including my biology and science courses, which are still only offered at the Panorama location.

Furthermore, I want to voice my support for a shared location at CSUB where future BC veterans and I will have the opportunity to bond with fellow men and women who have served during our educational journeys at both BC and CSU Bakersfield. Could you imagine a location where returning veterans can receive quality and affordable education from a community college and seamlessly transition to the local four-year university while maintaining a consistent supportive environment?

**Full Text:** Upon returning home from six years of service in the Coast Guard, I settled in northwest Bakersfield and was making the 30 minute commute to Bakersfield College daily to pursue my education. When classes opened at BC southwest, I immediately jumped on the opportunity to take courses there because it's closer to my home, saved time, gas and has given me more flexibility to juggle life.

Considering recent news in The Bakersfield Californian surrounding the possible closure of BC southwest and the delayed decision by the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees to approve a new location near CSUB ("Bakersfield College may temporarily close southwest center in 2020," Nov. 2), I felt it was important that I share my voice on behalf of all students attending the southwest location and advocate for my fellow Renegades and student veterans. I believe it's important that the school continues to branch out to other locations and I hope that more classes continue to be offered in southwest Bakersfield, including my biology and science courses, which are still only offered at the Panorama location.

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In my time serving our wonderful country, I had opportunities to continue my education while underway on missions, so I truly value all that our local institutions do to support me on my path to a degree. In my time of service, I also bonded with the most wonderful men and women, so having a shared location at CSUB where BC student veterans can bond, tutor, socialize and mentor each other would be a continuation of our already strong camaraderie.

With a new, larger shared BC location at CSUB, there will be increased class availability for students, helping to eliminate long waitlists, especially for those students who do not have priority registration. BC is working hard to efficiently help students through their semesters, especially allowing them to transfer to four-year universities to continue their studies. This proposed location will advance these efforts and help students today and in the future.

In closing, I believe the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees should support BC in its goal to serve all of Bakersfield with options and flexibility. A shared campus at CSUB is a benefit to students, the college and our community. For veterans, it means extra support, consistency, a larger social support system and a sense of belonging throughout one's entire college career. Help support student veterans with this decision.

*Daniel Rinear is a student veteran at Bakersfield College having served six years in the Coast Guard.*

**Nov. 12, 2018, Letter (Paul Beckworth, Faculty Director, Veteran Services) addressed Congressman Kevin McCarthy:**



Dear Congressman McCarthy,

Bakersfield College is a home of support for our students and particularly our student veterans. BC students have fought in every conflict since World War I, which ended 100 years ago.

This week's groundbreaking celebration of the brand-new Vernon Valenzuela Veteran Resource Center is a testament to your support of the men and women we serve at BC. Your action enabled us to open the Veterans Lounge in 2011 and within a year, we will have a new center of support for our veterans to call home.

However, heavy concern regarding the future of BC Southwest has created uncertainty among the vets at BC during priority registration. They are concerned about class cancellations, the reliability of future SW offerings, and have questions about burdens including:

- Scheduling conflicts
- Transportation issues
- Effects on the GI Bill
- And some have debated making the decision to transfer to Taft and are seeking counsel

These honorable Renegades deserve answers and our commitment to support them fully on their path to degree completion. When a proposal was made for a shared location on the campus of CSUB, our BC veterans were excited. A permanent co-location would ensure our veterans gain familiarity with CSUB throughout their journey to obtain transfer degree and their student comradery is shared between both institutions. Any other location takes away from continued consistency and stability which is so important for a veteran experiencing the return to civilian life.

The Kern Community College District Board of Trustees has put off the approval for far too long. This significant opportunity has been delayed in the hands of the three-member KCCD Finance Committee chaired by Trustee Corkins, along with Trustee Meek (President of the Board) and Trustee Beebe (Area 3, the service region of BC Southwest).

Trustee Kay Meek, President of the KCCD Board, is a huge supporter of our veterans and students so it's difficult to see the lack of action for an extended time of over 65 days. I am confident that any concerns raised by the Board would have received timely responses by the college and the district and I know we are willing to do what it takes to support our students making BC at CSUB a reality.



With all due respect for the chain of command, I am reaching out to you because I know your love for our veterans and I know your heartfelt support for BC's students. **I humbly request that you support this amazing opportunity and urge the President of the KCCD Board of Trustees, Kay Meek to call a special meeting immediately to approve this project before December 1.**

The recommendation for the colocation comes with enthusiasm and in unity from faculty, students, and administration at both BC and at the district office. We must not let this phenomenal opportunity for BC, KCCD, and most importantly, our students pass by.

Sincerely,

Paul Beckworth

Paul Beckworth, Faculty Director, Veteran Services

## **Nov. 14, 2018, Media Coverage (Bakersfield Californian): Bakersfield College's southwest campus likely to get temporary home**

[Bakersfield College's southwest campus likely to get temporary home](#)

### Bakersfield College's southwest campus likely to get temporary home

BY JOSEPH LUIZ [jluz@bakersfield.com](mailto:jluz@bakersfield.com) Nov 14, 2018 0



Bakersfield College Southwest and Fresno Pacific University are campus mates at 11000 River Run Blvd.

Henry A. Barrios / The Californian

## Nov. 15, 2018, Media Coverage (Bakersfield Californian): OUR VIEW: Hits or Misses:

### OUR VIEW: Hits or Misses

**MISS** — Ensuring all students have an equal shot at pursuing their education should be a given, but Bakersfield College's southwest campus is struggling to find a permanent home.

The lease for the building where the southwest campus is currently located is ending in March 2019. The KCCD Finance and Audit Committee now is looking into temporary spaces.

A proposal with five possible properties was provided to the college and district. However, only one is in the southwest part of town, and most of the spaces are smaller than the current one.

While a temporary space likely is the next step, committee members should focus on finding a permanent solution big enough for all students.

## Nov. 12, 2018, Community Voices (Ashley Harp, SGA President):

### COMMUNITY VOICES: BC needs its southwest location



By ASHLEY HARP Nov 17, 2018



Ashley Harp



Bakersfield College is our community college that serves approximately 33,000 students throughout Kern County. The BC's main campus is located at 1801 Panorama Drive in the East Bakersfield area and is not always easily accessible for many students who live in West Bakersfield and other Kern County areas.

After speaking with one student who lives in Rosedale, they explained that it is very costly to drive from their home to the main campus and back, spending about \$40 in gas every week to make the 30-minute drive across town four times a week. This creates a burden of access to education, and one of BC's key tenets is to be a community college and ensure access to all.

BC's leadership provided a solution with a Southwest campus. It is now in jeopardy of being lost. This a serious concern for students.

The Southwest campus solution has worked well and over the past two years, Bakersfield Southwest has been co-located with Fresno Pacific University. However, the lease with Fresno Pacific is expiring, and BC is now in jeopardy of losing this Southwest campus location. BC is scrambling to find a new facility to ensure students have a location for learning in the Southwest. My fellow students need a location that is accessible to complete their education goals, thereby transforming their lives and our community. The Southwest campus, which is close to their homes, makes this educational goal possible. Over its two year

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week to make the 30-minute drive across town four times a week. This creates a burden of access to education, and one of BC's key tenets is to be a community college and ensure access to all.

BC's leadership provided a solution with a Southwest campus. It is now in jeopardy of being lost. This a serious concern for students.

The Southwest campus solution has worked well and over the past two years, Bakersfield Southwest has been co-located with Fresno Pacific University. However, the lease with Fresno Pacific is expiring, and BC is now in jeopardy of losing this Southwest campus location. BC is scrambling to find a new facility to ensure students have a location for learning in the Southwest. My fellow students need a location that is accessible to complete their education goals, thereby transforming their lives and our community. The Southwest campus, which is close to their homes, makes this educational goal possible. Over its two year tenure, BC Southwest has grown to serve over 2,000 students by offering a full general education program closer to their homes.

A viable solution to continue this lease has been presented to the Kern Community College District Board and requires action. The lease option presented was a 30-year contract, which is a very long-term solution. The location is close to CSUB, which is where a majority of BC students transfer to later on. By co-locating with CSUB, students will have a more positive transfer experience, as the habits and routines they develop now will continue as they pursue their four-year degree.

Both BC's Academic Senate and Student Government wrote resolutions in support of the CSUB collaboration. I would like to encourage the KCCD Board to provide a quick resolution to ensure continued Southwest campus access.

*Ashley Harp is the Student Government President and a second year student at Bakersfield College.*

**Nov. 18, 2018, Letter (Billie Jo Rice, Dean of Instruction) addressed to the KCCD Board of Trustees:**

Trustees:

Let me introduce myself. I am Billie Jo Rice, Dean of Instruction, who represented Vice President Liz Rozell at the Board Finance Committee meeting.

I am a Bakersfield College graduate as well as my husband, sister, brother-in-law, and my oldest daughter. My youngest daughter and her husband are current BC students. I say all that to demonstrate that BC is my family legacy and I have a vested interest in the future of Bakersfield College and our community.

First, I want to express my appreciation by saying “thank you” for looking out for the needs of our students in the Kern Community College District service area. As a taxpayer, I am pleased to see that the Finance Committee is doing due diligence to ensure that the dollars we are entrusted with are spent wisely. With that said, I feel that we must not lose sight of the primary mission of Bakersfield College and the Kern Community College District; educating our students and advancing the educational attainment of the communities we serve and developing the workforce for our region. In the deliberations at the Finance Committee it seemed to me that the discussions focused on a single lens, the costs of facilities, without due consideration to the location and its significant impact on student success as well as the future funding for BC and KCCD.

So let me speak from the educational lens and the intrinsic value component that Trustee Beebe spoke of at Wednesday’s Finance Committee meeting.

At this time, I truly believe we are on the cusp of a degree attainment paradigm shift. We have an opportunity with the co-location of CSUB to send a strong message to our community that we are a “college-going” community, and we are serious about supporting our first-generation college students in their aspirational dreams of obtaining a degree with the outcome of earning a living wage. Additionally, the support of this co-location site will allow us to model the behavior to future generations of what a “college-going” culture looks like. Research shows that to make that shift to a “college-going” culture it starts in the high schools, which we are doing with our robust dual and concurrent enrollment programs. Now, with the *Finish in 4* work we have strengthened our collaborative efforts with CSUB to guarantee that our students can obtain a degree within 4 years. The co-location site will allow us to support the community we serve by supporting a “college-going” culture from 9<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup> grade. Over time, we foresee that the co-location site with CSUB will help us to address our system wide challenge of finding qualified faculty to teach our courses due to low bachelor’s degree attainment in our service area.

Soon after the Board Finance Committee meeting, I car pooled with Jennifer Johnson, faculty chair of the nursing department to California Community College League meeting. I was going to this meeting, on behalf of President Christian, to receive the 2018 Chancellor’s Student Success award for the work BC has completed with CSUB faculty to clarify transfer pathways and significantly improve the number of students transferring to CSUB and graduating with a baccalaureate. And we are only getting started. Being co-located with CSUB will exponentially improve the baccalaureate attainment in this community while creating efficiencies that save money for both taxpayers and our students.

As we all work together to support our community’s needs and find the most advantageous options to serve our students, I hope you will consider not just the dollar costs of the facilities, but the intrinsic value of the co-location with CSUB as well. We all know when we purchase our homes the most important factor that we look at is location. We are willing to pay more for a home if it is in a desired location.

BC and CSUB being co-located will be a legacy that we will leave for future generations. Please approve this recommendation that come from the staff, faculty, students and administrators of Bakersfield College.

Thank you for your consideration.

Billie Jo Rice  
Dean of Instruction  
Bakersfield College

**Nov. 27, 2018, Community Voices (Matthew Garrett and Janet Fulks, Faculty):**

## Matthew Garrett and Janet Fulks:

COMMUNITY VOICES: No more delays, it's time for BC to act



By MATTHEW GARRETT and JANET FULKS Nov 27, 2018



Matthew Garrett and Janet Fulks



Last week Bakersfield College received the 2018 state Chancellor's Student Success Award for modeling outstanding methods and outcomes that led to increased graduation and transfer from BC to four-year institutions. This is a particularly prestigious honor because the California Community College system boasts 114 campuses serving more than 2.1 million students, making it the largest higher educational system in the United States.

**Full Text:** Last week Bakersfield College received the 2018 state Chancellor's Student Success Award for modeling outstanding methods and outcomes that led to increased graduation and transfer from BC to four-year institutions. This is a particularly prestigious honor because the California Community College system boasts 114 campuses serving

more than 2.1 million students, making it the largest higher educational system in the United States.

In 2017-18, BC set a new institutional record of transferring 566 students to Cal State Bakersfield — a 14 percent increase over last year — and with clearer pathways now in place, we are confident that completion and transfer rates will continue to grow, and at an unprecedented rate. This is important because communities with higher levels of bachelor's degree attainment are associated with more economic stability, better opportunity, greater civic participation and lower unemployment rates.

As a team, CSUB and BC set a goal to change the fact that Kern County has only half the proportion of bachelor's degrees compared to California as a whole. While this seems like a simple goal, only requiring a simple agreement, it was not.

Us two faculty members chaired the 18-month task force which facilitated the detailed work between faculty and counselors at BC and CSUB. Our group closely examined the details to analyze course sequences for the 60-credit Associate Degree for Transfer and another 60 for baccalaureate completion. We hosted difficult conversations about student freedom and breadth of coursework balanced with faculty recommendations and mandatory course sequencing and curriculum at both colleges. The BC-CSUB collaboration is unique in our state and will serve as an example of the kind of work necessary to make these systems really work for our students.

This high-touch effort was followed by a revolutionary high-tech tool developed here at BC called the Program Pathways Mapper. This 21st century technology provides a visible roadmap to students that empowers them to see the classes they need to efficiently complete their education. By scaling the collaborative process and curricular sequencing work statewide, 2.1 million lives can be changed and we are proud to say the idea and process was developed at the home of the Renegades and Roadrunners.

As the state moves to a new funding model based on completion and transfer, and as the CSU system adopts its new Graduation Initiative, it is more important than ever that BC builds bridges to CSU partners. In light of these needs, BC is forging ahead with a new effort to relocate our southwest center campus adjacent to CSUB. With increased transfer curriculum partnership, the co-location of educational spaces will foster even greater inter-institutional collaboration. In this academic and hopefully geographic partnership, BC and CSUB will once again serve as a statewide exemplar as California strives to ambitiously eliminate the anticipated 1.1 million college graduate shortage expected by 2030.

Unfortunately, this bold new plan has stalled in the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees. At the Sept. 13 board meeting, BC and the KCCD jointly recommended a viable but time-sensitive proposal for co-location to the KCCD Board of Trustees. More recently, BC's Academic Senate also endorsed the plan as the most fiscally responsible path to serve our southwest students. Unfortunately, the board tabled and relegated the proposal to a three-member finance subcommittee where it has languished without discussion for two months. The Bakersfield Californian recognized this delay in the Hits & Misses section on



Nov. 15. Only after increased pressure has the board brought the proposal back to the floor for discussion at the Dec. 13 meeting.

BC faculty, along with administrators at BC and KCCD are ready to make this extraordinary vision a reality. But we must delay no longer. We can still rescue this “miss” and make this extraordinary opportunity for our community a reality.

It’s up to the KCCD Board of Trustees to act now and allow BC to press forward as a statewide example yet again. Why wouldn’t we continue to make a seamless pathway for our students that results in tangible community benefits?

*Matthew Garrett is a professor of history, and Janet Fulks is a professor of biology at Bakersfield College. They recently chaired the college's four-year degree attainment committee.*

### **Dec. 2018, Letter from Dick Taylor to Bakersfield College and KCCD:**

#### **From the desk of Dick Taylor:**

My name is Dick Taylor, recently retired Director of the Veterans Service Office here in Bakersfield. I have spent a large portion of my adult years working with, and for, the veterans of Kern County. In the Marine Corps we learned to improvise, adapt, and overcome.

In the same fashion, Bakersfield College is doing the same things, especially adapting. As the college’s student population has exploded, so too has its’ veteran population. A large percentage of our veterans come home to stay home. The synergy between Bakersfield College and CSUB cannot be underestimated as most of our veterans who transfer to a four-year school go to CSUB.

This makes a permanent BC southwest location imperative for consistency and stability for our veterans. I applaud the work BC and the district have done over the past several years on behalf of our veterans.

Semper Fi.

Dick Taylor

**Dec. 2018, Letter from Wendy Porter to Bakersfield College and KCCD:**



**WOUNDED HEROES  
FUND**

**Executive Director**  
Wendy Porter

**Board of Directors:**

**President**  
Brian Burt  
*Construction Superintendent*  
*Chevron – San Joaquin Valley*  
*Business Unit*

**Vice President**  
Matt Peery  
*US Army Veteran*  
*Sgt. Bakersfield Police*  
*Department*

**Treasurer**  
Ryan Nielsen  
*CPA*  
*Brown Armstrong*

**Secretary**  
Shari George

**Zack Scrivner**  
*Board of Supervisors*  
*Bakersfield West Rotary*

**Major Robin A. Matuk, M.D.**  
*Army National Guard*  
*Kern Gastroenterology Medical*  
*Group*

**Glenn Porter**  
*U.S.M.C.-VET*  
*RE/MAX*  
*Golden Empire Realty*

**Terri Bender**  
*Realtor, Luxury Home*  
*Specialist*  
*Re/Max Golden Empire*

**Armando Trujillo**  
*Sergeant, USMC*  
*Veterans Educational Advisor*  
*Bakersfield College*

**Mike George**  
*Agape Mortgage*

**Tim Hardt**  
*Hardt Construction Services*

**Brian Krause**  
*Corporate Sales*  
*San Joaquin Bit Service Inc.*

December 6, 2018

Dear Bakersfield College & the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees,

My name is Wendy Porter and I am the Founder and Executive Director of the Wounded Heroes Fund (WHF). We are a local non-profit organization that helps wounded Veterans here in Kern County. The money raised here stays here. In November WHF celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. WHF is proud of the effort we have made, the positive impact we have had on our local Veteran families, and our continued work to help returning Veterans become productive members of Kern County.

For many years WHF has worked closely with Bakersfield College in numerous ways. WHF has helped to support the Bakersfield College Veteran Club, service many of your students through our programs and outreach, and have also hired many of your students for our Work Study program. Our collaboration has reaped dividends for our Veterans, and by extension, to our community.

Maximum efficiency is important in any organization that is trying to aid Veterans. For Bakersfield College, this efficiency can be achieved by opening a location in the southwest, ideally at the CSUB campus. We also hire numerous CSUB student Veterans and we have heard a lot of concerns from them, as well as, the BC Veterans about efficiency of services and continued education.

If there is anyway WHF can help with this matter, please let us know. You can reach me at 661-328-8600 or [wendy@thewoundedheroesfund.org](mailto:wendy@thewoundedheroesfund.org).


Thank you for your time and consideration,

Wendy Porter  
Executive Director  
Local Heroes. Local Help.

*Dedicated To Assisting Our Injured Service Members*  
661-328-8600  
[TheWoundedHeroesFund.org](http://TheWoundedHeroesFund.org)  
[erica@thewoundedheroesfund.org](mailto:erica@thewoundedheroesfund.org)



# 2018, Resolution (BC Student Government Association) Legislation 94th Session: Support for the Establishment of a Permanent BC Southwest Site



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## Student Government Legislation

### BCSGA Legislations

All legislation (bills or resolutions) that affect a change in BCSGA within the powers of its Branches will be presented here for the public to review. Legislations are created and moved upon by one of the BCSGA entities. All legislations do not become enacted until the piece of legislation is passed by the BCSGA Senate or, in most cases, approved by one of the Executive Branch entities. Once a bill has been approved, it replaces the existing or adds to the current governing documents.

A **BCSGA Bill** A BCSGA Bill is any piece of legislation that creates or affects a change in law within the legislative powers of the Senate.

A **BCSGA Resolution** is any piece of legislation pertaining to the voice of the student body, including but is not limited to, making suggestions, recommendations, or commendations.

A **BCSGA Appropriation Bill** is a piece of legislation that authorizes BCSGA to allow an entity to expend Association funds.

BCSGA Session	Title of Legislation	Date Passed	Entity	Sponsor	Type
94th Session	Support for the Establishment of a Permanent BC Southwest Site	Oct. 31, 2019	Senate	Senator Lopez	Resolution

## 2018, Resolution (BC Academic Senate) #5

*Resolution in full begins on following page.*

**ACADEMIC SENATE, BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE:  
RESOLUTION NO.5**

Re: Bakersfield University Office Center Lease – BC Southwest Educational Center

Whereas, The Kern Community College District (KCCD) Board Policy 1B Vision states, “The Kern Community College District will be recognized as an exemplary educational leader, partnering with our communities to develop potential and create **opportunities**”;

Whereas, The Kern Community College District Board Policy 1B3 Mission states, “The mission of the Kern Community College District is to provide outstanding educational programs and services that are **responsive to our diverse students and communities**”;

Whereas, Kern Community College District Board of Trustee Goals and Chancellors objectives/work plan 2017 through 2019 states, Improve Student Access by “ensure systems work effectively to support Colleges in expanding their access to students”;

Whereas, A Bakersfield College Core Value is Community: “We commit to the wellbeing of all members of our community; we maintain strong ties with the surrounding community, and we respond to their needs by serving as an open institution which engages all students ....”;

Whereas, A Bakersfield College Strategic Direction goal is Student Progression and Completion: “A commitment to eliminate barriers that cause students difficulties in completing their educational goals”;

Whereas, Community college districts will be required to develop concrete plans for meeting the very ambitious goals of the California Community Colleges “Vision for Success” as part of the new funding formula legislation;

Whereas, In Bakersfield College’s commitment to eliminate barriers that cause students difficulties and promote opportunities throughout our communities, in Fall 2017 the district acquired 22,000 square feet of instructional space in southwest Bakersfield through a sublease with Fresno Pacific University and Castle & Cook;

Whereas, The southwest site has seen unprecedented enrollment in serving over 2,000 students and reaching capacity with a projected 142% increase in FTES by Spring 2019;

Whereas, The sublease with Fresno Pacific University and Castle & Cook expires in March 2019 but both parties have discussed extending the lease to December 2019 only if Bakersfield College has secured a new location for instruction beginning January 2020;

Whereas, Bakersfield College began work in late spring 2018 on finding a new location for the Southwest Center, investigated eight sites, found seven of them unviable because of factors that include: parking needs for the number of students, construction timelines required for new buildings funded by Measure J or state funds would mean classes couldn’t begin until Spring 2022, visibility and access to services, and availability for purchase; and found that only the proposed Bakersfield University Center L.P. on the CSUB campus met all of our requirements;

Whereas, The Bakersfield University Center L.P. promises to improve our collaboration with CSUB, leading to increased transfer rates, greater degree completion rates, and enhance the college experience for BC students;

Whereas, In an attempt to ensure access and opportunities to students in southwest Bakersfield beyond March 2019, and meet the Vision, Mission, Goals, Values, and Strategic Directions of the Kern Community College District and Bakersfield College, at the

**ACADEMIC SENATE, BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE:  
RESOLUTION NO.5**

September 13, 2018 Board of Trustee's meeting, KCCD Chancellor, Tom Burke, on behalf of Bakersfield College, presented Agenda item 8a: "Authorization for the Chief Financial Officer to approve a lease agreement between the Kern Community College District, on behalf of Bakersfield College, and Bakersfield University Office Center, L.P. The term is January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2039 ...";

**Be It Resolved,** The Academic Senate of Bakersfield College supports the approval of the lease agreement between the Kern Community College District, on behalf of Bakersfield College, and Bakersfield University Office Center, L.P.;

Further Be It Resolved, The Academic Senate of Bakersfield College believes the Board of Trustees has failed to "ensure systems work effectively to support Colleges in expanding their **access to students**" by allowing their Finance Committee to take no action until November 14, 2018, a 62-day period of time, which will challenge the proposal's construction timeline and potentially Bakersfield College's ability to serve over 2,000 students in Spring 2020 at a southwest site;

Further Be It Resolved, The Academic Senate of Bakersfield College requests the Kern Community College Board of Trustees to call, without delay, a special session with regards to the lease between the Kern Community College District and Bakersfield University Center L.P., conduct a work study at the session, and vote affirmative on the proposal to ensure a continued commitment and responsiveness to our diverse students and communities.