

# Bakersfield College President's Report

to the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees

Sonya Christian, October 10, 2019

#### BC Brings Gandhi to Delano

Bakersfield College had the privilege of inviting Dr. Arun Gandhi to speak in Delano at one of our rural area high schools. The event was a success with a nearly full auditorium, a livestream, and overflow rooms at both BC's main campus and BC SouthWest.

Gandhi's talk focused on the pervasiveness of violence in our everyday lives and how by reducing the passive violence without ourselves, we can reduce acts of physical violence and conflict in our larger society.

A couple especially memorable moments includes when Dr. Gandhi shared that his grandfather taught him to, "live simply so others can simply live." The other was the insightful questions asked by young audience members such as the one inquiring about how to overcome one's ego.

Many community members including those on the Gandhi Celebration Committee attended the event alongside Trustees Romeo Agbalog, Jack Connell and Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg. This opportunity was one of a-yearlong series at BC to recognize and celebrate the 150th birth year of Mahatma Gandhi. This event also brought college closer to home for students and our community in the rural areas.



Romeo Agbalog w/Dr. Gandhi



Jack Connell w/ Dr. Gandhi



Nan Gomez-Heizteberg with Dr. Gandhi

#### BCSW is on the Move

Starting October 21, 2019, courses held at BCSW will take place in the modular classrooms at the colocation behind the campus of CSUB. This developing collaborative partnership will be instrumental as we implement strategies and plans to close the education gap in Kern County and raise the baccalaureate attainment rate throughout California.

#### Early College Football

Early College students from McFarland High School had a special on-campus experience earlier this month. The evening began with a resource fair with BC clubs and services and included tacos from the 'Gades Grub Food Truck. This is the second year in a row that McFarland students have attended a BC Football game.

## Join Us at These Renegade Events

**35th Annual Kern Shakespeare Festival** Oct. 10, 11, 12, 2019 at 7:30PM

**Indoor Theater** 

Homecoming Week Begins
October 14, 2019
Campus Wide

The Great Shakeout
Earthquake Drill
October 17, 2019 at 10:00AM

Campus Wide
Renegade Football vs.

Ventura College
October 19, 2019 at 6:00PM
Memorial Stadium

BCSW Classes begin at Colocation October 21, 2019

**BCSW Temporary Site at CSUB** 

Intersegmental Pathways
Symposium

November 15, 2019 at 9:00AM

Bakersfield Marriott

# SAVE THE DATE Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening

December 10, 2019 at 10:00AM

The Bakersfield College

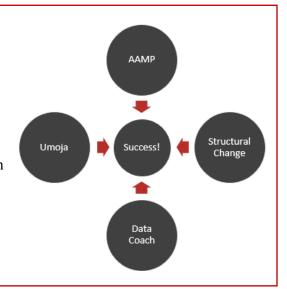
The Bakersfield College Vernon Valenzuela Veterans Resource Center

These events and more can be found online at bakersfieldcollege.edu and GoGades.com



#### Support Systems Improve Academic Outcomes

BC's affinity group support network components, such as the African American Mentorship Project (AAMP), Umoja ASTEP, data coaching, and structural changes such as multiple measures placement and curricular redesign in concert with community partnerships, HBCUs, faith-based organizations and Project BEST have provided the environment and support that allows student success to take off. From Fall 2014 to Fall 2018, we have closed the gap between the transfer-level English composition completion rate of African American and White students from 18 percentage points to 8 percentage points. BC anticipates that this upward trajectory in success will continue to grow and are eagerly looking forward to the results for our students.



## BC's Launchpad Grand Opening

The Bakersfield College Launchpad opened for current and future entrepreneurs in our community last month with a ribbon cutting outside of the Weill Institute. This new shared space includes resources and support tools to help small business owners start their venture on the right foot.

The idea for the BC Launchpad took flight because of BC's partnership with the passionate people at the Kern Initiative for Talent and Entrepreneurship (KITE).

The festive event featured community speakers Morgan Clayton and JP Lake, who partnered with BC and supported this initiative, David Teasdale, KCCD's Director of Economic and Workforce Development, and student Renegade and entrepreneur, Timothy Salvador. Representatives from various organizations and community chambers were also in attendance at the grand opening. Thank you to Trustee Romeo Agbalog for also supporting BC at this event.

The BC Launchpad is conveniently located in downtown Bakersfield in a space which is convenient and close to many transportation options. What makes this center unique is BC's ecosystem of education, resources, and partnerships to help all entrepreneurs succeed.



#### Bakersfield College to host Intersegmental Pathways Symposium

**Featuring Educational Leaders** 







**Eloy Oakley** 

**Lande Ajose** 

**Tony Thurmond** 

#### November 15, 2019

Leaders from across educational sectors will converge in one space to discuss practices to advance baccalaureate completion in CA.

### Panorama Creative Music Summit Returns for 3rd Year

BC's Jazz Studies and Commercial Music Programs hosted the 3rd annual showcase of acclaimed visiting artists, local performers, and BC faculty, students, and alumni.

This year, performances were expanded to Monday through Thursday to allow more students and community members the opportunity to attend.

This event held in September was made possible with support from the Lydia Jennings Finlinson and Burns L. Finlinson Endowment of the Bakersfield College Foundation as well as contributions from other generous sponsors.