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June 2, 2020

In one week, the 2019-2020 school year will come to an end. I am so proud of your ability to stay the course as you, our faculty, and the rest of the GCC community navigated a most extraordinary semester. While I trust that you are hard at work preparing for your final exams, I have a few items to share with you.

1. Mobile Food Pantry Event Postponed
2. Book Buyback and Book Rental Return
3. 2020 Commencement
4. Summer/Fall Registration for Credit Classes
5. Continuing Education and Noncredit ESL Registration

Mobile Food Pantry Event Postponed

We were set to host our third drive-through food pantry event on Tuesday, June 2 in the parking structure on the Verdugo Campus. Unfortunately, due to recent civil unrest, Glendale Police will not be available to assist with safety and traffic support. Therefore, we are postponing the event until further notice. If you know of students or community members who have an immediate need for food, we ask that you refer them to the LA Regional Food Bank's Pantry Locator: <http://lafoodbank.org/find-food>.

Book Buyback and Book Rental Returns

If you have textbooks that you would like to sell back or textbooks that you rented that you need to return, click this link to learn more. The GCC Bookstore is also working with Student Services to set up a safe and efficient way to return books in person. We will send out a notice once they work out the details.

2020 Commencement

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced the cancellation of our traditional commencement ceremony, which was to be held Wednesday, June 10 on Sartoris Field. Although some stay at home orders are being gradually lifted, social distancing rules remain in effect for the safety of the entire community. We have created a graduation webpage to honor the Class of 2020 that includes special messages and an opportunity for graduates to share their success stories. I will miss shaking the hands of each graduate as I do every year, but I will be thinking of them and offer an invitation to join us next year when we host a commencement ceremony that celebrates the Classes of 2020 and 2021.

Summer/Fall Registration for Credit Classes

Open enrollment remains available for those wishing to attend GCC credit courses during the summer session and Fall semester. Summer session runs June 15-August 21. Classes are already 86% filled, so do not delay in signing up for a class. We expect enrollment to increase for the fall semester (August 31-December 16) as well, so be sure to register as soon as possible by clicking here. The summer session and the fall semester will be taught remotely due to the pandemic.

Continuing Education and Noncredit ESL Registration

The GCC Garfield Campus is offering free continuing education classes for the summer. This includes our noncredit English as a Second Language (ESL) program which is offering free, open-entry classes at all levels this summer. Students can choose from integrated-skills classes, which teach listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and they can also take classes in conversation and citizenship. Noncredit classes are open to everyone and are a great way to build English skills before taking credit classes. Please share this information with anyone who you think will benefit from improving their English skills. Noncredit registration begins June 10, and summer session runs from June 15-July 24. For more information, call x5033, or visit www.glendale.edu/garfieldchat.

Striving to Do Better

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic both our Verdugo and Garfield Campuses remain in remote instruction mode. Thank you to the more than 1,600 students who took our survey to assess how well GCC has transitioned to remote learning. While we were pleased to learn that more than 63% of our students say that remote instruction is working well for them, we are committed to improving to ensure the nearly 19% who say they are not doing well get the help they need. All students are important to us so we will continue to work on being the region's premier learning community. Our campuses may appear quiet, but we have many opportunities to stay connected online. Moving forward, I want to challenge you to seek ways to stay connected. Despite all of the challenges we have faced together GCC remains **Ready and Able** (video) to serve your educational needs.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message. I look forward to the day we can all return to campus. For those who will be moving on following the completion of the spring semester, best of luck in your future endeavors.



David Viar
Superintendent/President