#### **David Viar**

From:

David Viar

Sent:

Wednesday, September 17, 2014 9:24 AM

To:

ftf; ptf; class; managers

Subject:

Across the College Newsletter

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An occasional publication of the GCC President's Office highlighting issues, activities, services and people of interest to college employees September 2014



## Positive News from Accrediting Commission

GCC has satisfactorily addressed the recommendations the Accreditation Commission required the college address. The recommendations were made by the commission in July 2013 following its review of the college's Midterm Report submitted in March 2013. The Commission determined the college needed to better link its assessment of program student learning outcomes to program review and resource allocation. It also said the college was falling short in its assessment of courses, programs, degrees, and certificates. The final recommendation was to include evidence of student learning as a component of faculty evaluations.

Now, for the first time in several years, the college is not working to address Accreditation Commission findings beyond the regular process. Instead we are focused on the cycle of continuous quality improvement, our self-evaluation report due in fall 2015, and accreditation team visit in spring 2016.

#### **Proposed Vision for GCC**

A proposed vision statement for GCC was presented during Classified Institute Day and Faculty Institute Day. The proposed statement was developed by Superintendent/President Viar following his first year at GCC and is intended to reflect what he has heard as the collective view of where faculty and staff would like to see the college in years to come. The draft statement will now be

entered into the college governance process for discussion. The draft calls for GCC to be:

"A premier learning community where all students achieve their informed educational goals through outstanding instructional and student support services, a comprehensive community college curriculum, and unique opportunities found in few other community colleges."

To view the power point presentation on the vision go to www.glendale.edu/vision

#### **Board of Governors Sets Completion Goals**

To measure the effectiveness of the California Community Colleges student success initiatives, the Board of Governors recently announced system-wide goals. The completion goals call for the system's completion rate for degree and transfer-seekers to reach 62.8% and the completion rate for students in career technical education programs to be at 70.3% for the 2023 - 24 student cohort group. GCC completion rates presently are 54.2% for degree and transfer (21st in the state and 1st in the LA region) and 58% for career technical education (30th in the state and 5th in the region).

Significant efforts are underway at the college to plan and to implement extensive student success initiatives. Recently presented at the Faculty Institute, the Student Success and Support Program and Student Equity efforts can be found at <a href="https://www.glendale.edu/studentsuccessandsupportprogram">www.glendale.edu/studentsuccessandsupportprogram</a>

## **Final Budget Adopted**

The Board of Trustees adopted the college's 2014-15 Final Budget at its September meeting. This budget was a little different from previous years as there were significant new state revenues. Unfortunately, the new revenues are restricted on their use. The college received \$2 million for Instructional Equipment/Scheduled Maintenance, approximately \$1.1 million for Student Success and \$870,000 for Student Equity. Although these are much needed funds, they do not directly help our operating budget.

The state did fund a 0.85% cost of living adjustment (COLA) which will provide about \$620,000 for the college's operating budget. There also is a potential of an additional \$2 million of new enrollment growth revenues. However the college must grow to earn these revenues and so far enrollment is down (2.3%) for our Fall 2014 semester. <a href="https://www.glendale.edu/index.aspx?page=6503">www.glendale.edu/index.aspx?page=6503</a>

#### Hourly Worker Positions Converted to Permanent Part-time

Twenty two hourly worker positions are being converted to permanent parttime classified status. Ten additional positions also will be converted when new job descriptions are approved. The cost of this change will be approximately \$480,000 but is seen by college leaders as important to assure stability and fair treatment for those who have stepped in to fill the hourly positions during the budget crisis.

#### Parking Structure Bonds Repaid

With the final payment made on the bonds for financing the parking structure, \$220,000 of parking fee revenue is now available to support maintenance of the parking areas of the college and the Glendale College Police. This will reduce the amount of money required to come from the GCC general operating budget. It is planned to employ two additional police officers and increase the use of cadets for improved safety and security. With the additional funds, there will be an increased law enforcement presence at the Garfield campus.

#### Lab/College Services Claim Accepted

The college ran into a number of unexpected conditions in preparing the site for the Lab/College Services project. These conditions included the presence of groundwater, an existing drain system, excessive bedrock and areas of unstable soil. To accommodate these conditions, additional work was required which resulted in costs that were not budgeted. The project started off with a \$2.1 million contingency reserve, but after completing only a third of the project, only \$500,000 remained. It was questionable if the project was going to be completed within budget.

The college filed a claim with the state requesting additional funding to pay for these unforeseen costs. The request was made because funds originally appropriated for the project reverted back to the State when the construction contract was awarded at an amount much lower than expected. The entire claim in the amount of \$1,385,561 was accepted. As the funding for this project is shared, the state will provide an additional \$1,192,000 in funding and the college will be responsible for \$194,000. The project budget is in a much better condition. Expected completion of the building is December 2015.

Information Technology Classroom Support Hours Although there have been some changes within the Information Technology (IT) department, the level of classroom support for instructors has not changed. The main IT office is staffed from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and can be reached at extension 4357 if services are needed. For night and weekend classes, there are lab techs on duty that can provide support for faculty. After hour classroom technology support is available Monday through Friday from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The after hour support staff can be reached at extension 4358.

During the first week of school, Information Technology specialists were busy visiting classrooms and proactively assisting faculty with classroom technology. Each IT specialist stopped by as many classrooms as possible, seeking to answer questions and provide assistance. Based on the positive responses from faculty, this practice will continue for future semesters.

#### **Record Number of International Students**

A record of 620 international students have registered at GCC this Fall Semester representing over 60 countries and nationalities. The program also reports record numbers of overall student interest in GCC with over 450 new student applications received and processed for the fall semester.

The 620 students include 210 students new to GCC, along with 410 continuing their education here. GCC's international students have achieved higher transfer rates and student success rates in recent years compared to the overall student body and many are active in student clubs, student government and other campus activities. The top represented countries of citizenship include: S. Korea, Japan, China/Hong Kong, Sweden and Saudi Arabia.

GCC is listed as a "Top-40" College nationwide among community colleges enrolling international students - ranking 'number 32' this past Academic Year, according to the annual census report from "Opens Doors" - published by the Institute of International Education.

## New Judicial Board Chair Named

Glenn Gardner has been confirmed by the Academic Senate to serve a one-year term as chairperson of the Campus Judicial Board. Gardner, an assistant professor of English as a Second Language in the credit ESL division, was nominated by Superintendent/President Viar under provisions of Administrative Regulation 5101.

http://glendale.edu/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=25486

The Campus Judicial Board consists of students, faculty, classified staff, and administrators who conduct hearings and rule on student grievances, student

grade appeals, and student disciplinary actions. During the past few years, the Judicial Board has held an average of 3 hearings each year on student conduct matters and 1 student grievance/grade appeal annually.

Gardner replaces David Glover, business division faculty member, who has served with distinction during his nine years in this important governance role.

Also see Administrative Regulations 5101 and 5500 regarding student grievances, student grade appeals, and student disciplinary actions. <a href="http://glendale.edu/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=23759">http://glendale.edu/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=23759</a> <a href="http://glendale.edu/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=25486">http://glendale.edu/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=25486</a>

# College Receives Energy and Sustainability Award

The college received an Energy and Sustainability "Honorable Mention" award from the California Community Colleges Board of Governor for its Retro-Commissioning (RCx) Chilled Water Plant No. 2 Optimization project. This award was in recognition of an outstanding commissioning project using Proposition 39 funds. This was quite an achievement as only two colleges received recognition in this category.

## Fourteen New Tenure-Track Faculty Members Hired

Fourteen new tenure-track faculty members joined GCC at the start of the Fall semester. They were honored at a reception held prior to the September 9 Board of Trustees meeting. 1,040 individuals applied for the 14 positions. GCC Board President, Dr. Vahé Peroomian, praised the hires for their impressive credentials and noted the valuable diversity they were adding to the college. Please visit <a href="https://www.glendale.edu/newfacultyfall2014">www.glendale.edu/newfacultyfall2014</a> for the list of names.

Also, recognized at the September 9 board meeting were newly tenured faculty members Arevik Mikaelian and Curtis Potter. And 35 faculty members who achieved advancement in rank (7 Professor, 18 Associate Professor, 3 Assistant Professor and 7 Adjunct Assistant Professor). Please visit <a href="https://www.glendale.edu/index.aspx?page=6508">www.glendale.edu/index.aspx?page=6508</a> for the list of faculty who achieved academic rank.

#### GCC Employees Accomplishments

Teresa Davis, Counselor - named Student Success Coordinator
Theresa Lorch, Adjunct Faculty - named Student Equity Coordinator
Barbara Jordan, Administrative Assistant, Foundation - received her
Bachelor's Degree

Ani Keshishian, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent/President, President's Office - received her Master's Degree

Alfred Ramirez, Administrative Dean Workforce Development Continuing & Community Ed. - received his Doctorate

Marie Bartholomew, Administrative Assistant, Non-credit ESL- retired in June after 21 years and 7 months of service

**Rick Bartholomew**, *IT Support Specialist*- retired in July after 19 years and 10 months of service

**Teresa Cortey**, *French Faculty* - retired in June after 38 years and 9 months of service

**Rick Guglielmino**, *Physics Faculty* - retired in June after 37 years and 9 months of service

**Kris Hanna**, *Administrative Assistant*, Visual and Performing Arts - retiring October 14 after 20 years of service

**Kathy Holmes**, *Mathematics Faculty* - retired in June after 33 years and 4 months of service

Sandy Lee, Counselor, retired in June after 37 years and 9 months of service Linda Serra, Business Faculty - retired in June after 29 years and 4 months of service

