



# GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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DR. DAVID VIAR

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December 16, 2020

Dear Faculty and Staff Colleagues,

As we reach the end of another semester at Glendale Community College, let us pause to think about our history, traditions, and values, as well as the challenges we have been addressing.

COVID-19, in some manner or another, has touched the lives of every member of our GCC family – students, faculty, staff, and board – from small inconveniences to tragic loss. Since March 23, 2020, when we were forced to move primarily to remote learning and work, we have completed 37 weeks of instruction over the spring 2020 semester, summer session, and fall 2020 semester. We have served approximately 15,000 headcount students over that period – students served because of the focused, student-centered, creative, can-do attitude of GCC employees.

Ready and able, remote and thriving. While you may see these as marketing phrases, they are more than that. They are true statements of who and what we are – ready and able to take on our challenges together; capable of swiftly adapting to a remote learning environment and then thriving.

While it is unclear when we will return to a mix of on-campus, remote, and distance education instruction, I am certain we will continue to thrive. I say that with confidence knowing the strong governance decision-making structure we have in place and the thoughtful leaders of the board, administration, CSEA, Academic Senate, Guild, and the ASGCC. I say that because our high-quality faculty and staff are meeting the needs of our students regardless of the circumstances. Despite the remote learning and work environments, we have advanced our efforts to implement Guided Pathways, address the elimination of systemic racism and bias, reduce expenditures to match projected revenues, upgrade and expand facilities, expand our professional development support, meet students' basic needs, and so much more.

As you face challenges, remember we have resources available at GCC to assist and support you. We care is not a platitude, it is fact.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and GCC Executive Leadership, here is to a healthy, safe, and relaxed holiday season.

With deepest respect and appreciation,



David Viar  
Superintendent/President