

President's Leadership Team Report November 2020

FeRita Carter
Vice President, Student Services

Carol Farrar
Vice President, Academic Affairs

Kristine Di Memmo
Interim Vice President, Planning & Development

Chip West
Vice President, Business Services

Gregory Anderson
President



Guests: COVID-19 protocol Renee Martin-Thornton, Director, Student Health & Psychological Services, Monica Esqueda, Interim Director, District Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Diana Torres, Director, Human Resources and Employee Relations.

With the support of these public safety and health professionals, PLT was able to assess the outcomes of measures taken to protect students and employees throughout the pandemic. Looking toward the new year, each vice president will strengthen processes within their area to continue to safeguard everyone's health and well-being.

PLT reviewed the following information item:

CCC LGBTQ+ Summit

The Faculty Development Committee in collaboration with the office of Academic Affairs is sponsoring the attendance of at least 20 faculty members to the CCC LGBTQ+ Summit. Contact faculty development coordinator, Patricia Avila (Patricia.avila@rcc.edu) via email by December 7, 2020 to reserve your spot.

A2MEND Seminar

As a sponsor of this professional development series, RCC was able to send many members of the faculty, staff, and administration to these events.

- Informal reports suggest the following benefits of this series: serious but informal approach, national stature of participants, and focus on action.
- The learnings from these seminars informed discussions on equity and Guided Pathways that occurred meetings of the PLT throughout November.

Hiring update

VP Farrar reported that the College is moving forward with filling a number of faculty replacement positions. PLT acknowledged the commitment of discipline faculty and the support of academic senate leaders for moving these positions forward. While most of these tenure-track faculty members will join RCC in Fall 2021, four of these faculty members will begin in the new year.

Additional positions critical to the work of the College are also being recruited: the associate dean of career and technical education, the associate dean of educational partnerships, the athletic director, an institutional research specialist, and a disability/workability specialist. Finally, at the executive level, recruitments are ongoing for the vice president of planning and development and for the interim vice president of academic affairs. These positions will be onboarded after the new year with the intention for completion by the end of the spring semester.

PLT considered the following policy items:

Grants

Updates:

- Submitted Veterans Excellence Proposal on 11/4
- Was supposed to submit California Workforce Development Board - "High Roads" Grant (aligned with CCERT and CARB) on 11/16

Waiting to hear:

- National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) - California Arts Council - grant for the Social Justice Center submitted on 9/1 (between \$150k-\$300k)
- NSF - SSTEM - Chemistry Scholarships (\$1M)
- DoD - Chemistry and Stargazing Planetarium Equipment
- Active Minds - Mental Health - submitted 9/30 (\$500)

Received:

- \$1million grant from Bank of America for students of color. Please see article in the November newsletter.
- RCC Guardian Scholars also received a \$40k Dual Enrollment Grant from the California College Pathways Fund.
- RCC Guardian Scholars has secured another year of funding from the Pritzker Foundation to continue providing support services to our current and former foster youth students. The grant is in the amount of \$35,000.

Budget

VP West updated PLT on the latest FTES Spreadsheet outlining costs per FTES by discipline. The college has been asked to finalize the 'unique program' definition by December 1 and also look at individual discipline cost anomalies to determine unanticipated costs (e.g. low enrolled courses or higher than expected expenditures). The college will continue to look at these costs relative to MVC and Norco to determine whether RCC is above or below the median costs within the district. For programs/courses that are unique to RCC, the college has been asked to look at similar programs within the state to begin to estimate whether RCC falls above or below those programs.

Giving Week

Giving Week launches on Monday, November 30th and extends through Friday, December 4th.

- This program serves as the college's major fundraising initiative for the year, replacing the Annual President's Dinner this year because of COVID.
- PLT reviewed sponsorships already received and set a target to raise an additional \$10K+ during the week.
- VP West provided PLT with updates on the videos, presentations and other outreach that will take place during RCC's Giving Week and encouraged them to reach out to contacts to encourage participation and donations.
- All funds raised will support the President's Fund for Excellence.

Accreditation

VP Farrar, currently serving as the college Accreditation Liaison Officer, reviewed that in June 2020 the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) acted to Reaffirm Accreditation for seven years for Riverside City College. In addition, the commission required a Follow-up Report in which the college must document compliance with accreditation Standard III.A.5. An update to the college community was sent to RIV-ALL on 11/20/20 on behalf of Dr. Farrar and Dr. Ashby. For information about the college's accreditation, visit the college website.

Safe Return of Athletics

PLT continues to discuss the feasibility of restoring athletics at RCC in 2021. Administration is committed to the resumption of limited athletic programs to the extent possible within constraints of safety, cost, capacity, public health guidelines, and other critical considerations.

- We are counting on information provided by the RCC Sub-Workgroup, the Athletics Work Group (members from RCC and NC) and Safe Return Task Force to help inform our decisions about which sports will be restored.
- The charge of the work group is to determine the conditions, criteria, process and resources that will be required to safely restore athletics.
- Both the RCC Sub-Workgroup and the Athletic Work Group has the resident expertise and acumen to assist us with the difficult decisions that lie ahead of us given the state of Riverside County and the State of California in this pandemic.

PLT took action on the following items:

Calling Bank Plan

Enrollment needs to grow in Winter and Spring terms. To encourage students to take more classes and make progress toward their academic goals, the College will be increasing targeted outreach.

- The Enrollment Services team will spearhead and coordinate a campus-wide Calling All Tigers phone bank campaign to encourage students to make sure that they register for Winter/Spring 2021 classes.
- Beginning on November 30th, the call teams will contact students that applied, but have not registered for winter term and then will transition to reaching out to students who are enrolled but not registered for spring.
- Volunteer callers will come from all areas of the College.
- Data will be collected and assessed.

The Rising Scholars Pilot Program

PLT agreed to provide one-time funding for a program proposed by faculty, staff and administrators who seek to strengthen the College's support of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals. Drafts of the proposal for this private program were reviewed over a number of PLT meetings in November.

- The program targets incoming formerly incarcerated students in a cohort environment. The program will recruit ten formerly incarcerated students to participate in the program. Recruitment will be the committee's responsibility, with the greatest recruitment coming from the monthly PACT meetings hosted by RCC.
- Students will be recruited from existing partnerships with Transitioning Minds and directly from Probation/Parole contacts. As part of the recruitment process, students will fill out a program application and interview via zoom to gauge their interest in the program.
- The program will be coordinated and implemented by RCC employees who believe in this work and are willing to volunteer[i] their time. The target program start date will be Spring 2021; this allows time to recruit students and start their matriculation process.

Gingerbread House Building Contest

The Special Events Council of the Associated Students of Riverside City Council will host a Virtual Holiday Event: December 4 from 11:45- 2 pm via Zoom. Students will build the house via zoom and will meet together to chat while building the gingerbread houses. Judging to follow. To get into the holiday spirit, please feel free to wear your cozy/ugly Christmas sweater. Top 3 winners will receive Gift Cards. The Student Activity Coordinators will be handing out the Gingerbread House Kits on Tuesday, Dec.1 @ 10am-11:50am & 1pm-2:50pm in front of the Charles A. Kane Student Services and Administration Building. The limited number of kits will go to 25 students who signed in and paid their student service fees by the deadline. For more information, please contact asrcc.specialevents@gmail.com or 951-750-2696 (SEC Director, Paola Barrera).