

Office of the President

Date: May 1, 2020

Good Afternoon LACC Students:

Wow! It is the beginning of May. Time flies. Thank you for coming to the Town Halls that I do. I love to see all of you. In our new virtual environment that we have all had to adapt to, it is so wonderful that we can connect a couple of times a week.

When you have a moment and you want to look at something uplifting, one of your fellow students at Foothill Community College in Northern California put together this video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q6QxzS_la1E

I have a lot of information to share with you today. I will start with two very important messages. In Tuesday's Town Hall meeting I told you that there would be another distribution of Chromebooks probably early next week. I am so sorry, but I misspoke. The Chromebooks going to students right now are going to those students who had already been awarded the device. It is not for those of you still waiting to get your email telling you that one is on the way. Once this distribution is finished, there are no more Chromebooks available. We are working right now on getting other laptops to get it out to you, we hope, sometime next week. It is really important that if you still have not been notified and you do not have a laptop to do your classes that you email us at: hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu so that we can put you on our list. We have a list now, but there are not very many names on it. Another student asked a very important question about financial aid funding if you dropped classes. Unfortunately, if you dropped classes and you fell below ½ time units (typically 6 units), you are no longer eligible for financial aid.

One of the students in the Town Hall asked if students workers had to maintain a full-time class load in order to remain a student worker. The answer is yes. Student workers are required to take at least 12 units each semester.

I was also asked at the Town Hall yesterday about the Deans Honors ceremony. We are planning a virtual Deans Honors ceremony for late May. You do not need to apply. We check our records and those who meet the requirements for the honors recognition will automatically be on the list. We will send you your certificate in the mail.

I want you to know that our awesome, award-winning Journalism students continue to do amazing work with the Collegian. They just put out another edition and they have a page of resources that is fabulous for you to have as a resource. It also has interesting articles I think you would enjoy. One such article was about the meeting our journalism students had with State Chancellor Oakly.

And, speaking of resources, I have attached a comprehensive list of resources to this message for you that includes housing, food, hygiene, medical, access points, and other services. The City has child care opportunities available now, too. Please share this link: <https://covid19.ca.gov/childcare/>.

The Governor announced yesterday that he is working on connecting farmers who have an overabundance of food, they have been experiencing a 50% reduction in demand so food is spoiling, with Food Banks throughout the state who have had a 73% increase in demand due to the number of people who have lost their jobs as a result of the coronavirus. Distribution

of food has become critical for our communities. More relief is on the way. A \$365 debit card credit will be available for families with children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals. The card can also be used to buy food online from Amazon or Walmart. I will send information as soon as it is available from the state.

The LACCD got additional funding for \$50 gift cards for Ralphs/Food for Less. They are using the list of applicants from before who did not get awarded a card last month. Office Depot is providing a discount to LACC for copying. If you take the attached document to an Office Depot or Office Max, you can make copies at 5 cents per copy, compared to 50 cents without this discount. This is good for students, staff and faculty. I thought we would be able to get cards that were purchased by the Foundation, but this was not possible for us to do.

The Summer Schedule of Classes is out and students will begin registering for classes on Monday, May 4th. Be sure to register on your day and time designated on your registration appointment email that you should receive today. We want to make sure you get your classes.

The number of people completing the 2020 census is way down from 10 years ago. It is likely due to what is happening in our country and around the world now. However, there are major implications for us and it is critical that we get accurate counts of our residents. Please remind take a few minutes to complete the census. It is very easy. Complete the census for 2020 at: <https://2020census.gov/>.

This weekend is supposed to be another nice weekend. Try to get out and get some sun. But remember to stay away from crowds of people and exercise social distancing to keep you and your family safe and healthy.

BELIEVE ACHIEVE SUCCEED! Another week “in the can”...well done! (The phrase “in the can” came from the film industry. Once a movie was complete and ready to show it was said to be in the “can” short for “canister.” In earlier days of the movies metal canisters were used to put the films reels in between showings.)

Be well and be safe,

Mary