

Staff Town Hall

7 April 2020 / 12:30PM / Zoom Meeting

Updates

- **The President would like to propose some new dates/times for Town Hall meetings.**
 - Wednesdays 12:00 - 1:00 ?
 - Fridays 12:00 - 1:00 ?
 - Fridays 3:00 as a weekend recap/play some games
- **Resources**
 - Adobe is finally available for students and we will send out instructions soon on how to access.
 - Additional tutoring will be available through an application called Pieces. The District is working on doing somethings District wide
 - If for some reason you have students who require specialized software that do not run on Chromebooks, reach out to the Department Chair or Dean so we can provide the resources the student needs to complete their classes.
 - We're having challenges with resetting passwords for the students. There is a group at the district who are working through the challenges about passwords.
 - One major challenge is that there isn't a person who speaks Spanish to help. We reached out to the students to let them know we're working on getting help so that we can get those students situated.
- **Grants**
 - The update from yesterday (Monday, April 6th) listed 2 different stipends that students can apply for two separate grants:
 - The first is through the State Chancellor's office.
 - The second is through our LACC Foundation.
 - *The State Grant is maxed out, so there's only the LACC Foundation available.*

- The first disbursement will be made this week and disbursements will continue to be distributed until they run out of money
- We still have the \$50 gift cards available through The District foundation, students can apply online through their student portal.
- **Students**
 - Google is making 100 Access Points available for students. If you have students who need an Access Point, that can be applied through the District Foundation online.
 - The distribution of Chromebooks is all going through the District. They're getting 3000 Chromebooks this week and 3000 Chromebooks next week. The students will begin receiving those this week.
 - The District will be sending a list of names they already have so that we can compare it to the student list that we already have.
 - The District will ship the devices to the students' home instead of distributing them through the bookstore like we've been doing.
 - There are no new updates on the Pass / No Pass options for students, but we will keep you posted.
- **Parking permits.**
 - Students have been asking about a refund for their Spring parking permits.,
 - Any student who has a valid parking permit for this term(Spring 2020), the permit will be applicable for Fall 2020.
 - If a student is set to graduate this semester, then we will give them a parking refund for **half** of the semester. The students who are eligible will get a refund after the semester is complete.
- **Nursing program**
 - The Healthcorps is enlisting the services of students who are serving in the nursing program to be able to do some work at the hospitals right now.
 - Students that want to volunteer can. It may be possible to get clinical hours, but students should check with their specific programs. It is also possible that some of these opportunities are paid opportunities.
- **Elections**
 - The District is working with the AFT Union on Chair Elections for this year.
 - They are working to get software for chair elections to be done electronically .
 - They are still working to choose which software they will choose but have narrowed the options to two.

- **Health Fee's**
 - The Board of Trustees have a rule stating that If students are enrolled in all online classes, they do not need to pay a health fee.
 - The Health Center is still available through The Wesley Clinic, students just need to show ID.
 - The Board will be reviewing this rule so that we can make sure they can use the Health Center in the Summer/Fall. For this to be possible, the students will likely pay a health fee. The Board has to pass a ruling that they will charge a health fee although classes will continue online until further notice.
- **Athletics**
 - Athletics have become a work in progress throughout our District. All 9 Colleges are meeting on how to move forward with the athletics department.
- **Good news**
 - The IT Employee is still in the hospital but is recovering. They have gained over 90% of their lung capacity
 - Professional development will be starting next week
 - VP Lancaster will be reaching out to Faculty as there are limits to the class size
 - The State Chancellor Office has given the option to extend our Spring Semester out to June 30th, if needed. We do not think this is necessary at this point.
- **EON Reality**
 - We have had an agreement with The District for a while, there was some work happening on it about 5 weeks ago, but everything got super busy, so it got placed on hold.
 - Hopefully our Office of General Counsel will be able to now focus a little more EON Reality.
 - Be on the lookout in the next couple of weeks for updates.
- **Cranium cafe**
 - Cranium Cafe is up and operational
 - It can be accessed through Canvas
 - All student services are available here
 - Only about one- fifth of the students have been utilizing Cranium Cafe, however we want to see more students using these resources
- **Funding**
 - The Federal Government passed several Stimulus Bills; however, no money has

been distributed yet

- The Federal Government is working on its 4th stimulus package oriented towards the workforce and workforce development.
 - We expect to receive additional resources for this year; however, we will need more resources later due to the May Revise.
 - The May Revise usually happens after the collection of taxes on April 15, but since the taxes have been extended to July 15, the State cannot properly review the taxes.
 - Considering what the state of the economy will be in the future, we may be faced with budget cuts.
 - This isn't something new because we've been through this before, but we need a specific strategy going forward to make sure we can serve the students
 - We will likely experience a workload reduction because the State will fund us at a lower level, which basically means decreased enrollment.
 - How can we preserve enrollment with a lower budget? The Budget Committee meets next week to start brainstorming on this issue.
 - President believes that enrollment will likely go up due to high unemployment and some families not being able to afford a four-year university after the crisis has ended.
 - Outreach is already working on reconnecting with high school students and their counselors
 - We've been thinking about what kind of noncredit classes we can offer to people who are unemployed and need training for employment opportunities
 - We want to be an important part of the economic recovery that our country will need
- **COVID-19**
 - A warning for this week was put out for citizens to stay put for the next week or so-even for the grocery store
 - If you need something, have it delivered and make sure to clean the items before coming back home.
 - Face masks are now required in public.
 - These next few weeks are critical for our health and future.

Q&A

Q: Please update us. Has the Board of Registered Nursing approved the clinical hours to be done by simulation?

- A:** The BRN has approved 50% of the hours to be done by simulation. This was approved last week
- Q:** Is the Adobe offer only for students with an LACityCollege.edu email? Extension program students don't have these email addresses, so will this work for them?
- A:** No, the Adobe is available district wide. I don't believe it will work for extension, but I'll check with Dr. Lancaster and get back to you.
- Q:** How soon can students start seeing a refund if they have done an Emergency Withdrawal?
- A:** What happens is, the refund is calculated and then the student can retrieve it through their portal and request a check.
- Q:** Our staff member went to campus today to try to pick something up from the office but were told by the sheriff that there is zero access to the buildings. Did this change?
- A:** That was inaccurate on the Sheriff's part. I confirmed with VP Reeves because I've heard that same information. The campus is not closed, it is open to staff and faculty who need to access the campus. Please contact the sheriff before coming to campus. I apologize if someone has had that happen to them. I appreciate that the sheriff is working hard to keep campus safe and secure, but we still need staff and faculty to be able to access the campus. So, the miscommunication has been fixed
- Q:** Does the Wesley Health Center offer COVID-19 testing?
- A:** I do not know if they're offering COVID -19 testing but I think testing is limited and you need an appointment to test. The City has asked LACC if we could be a testing site for COVID-19 in Lot 1 starting in a few weeks. The area will be secured.
- Q:** Are the only laptops available Chromebooks?
- A:** Yes. if students have specific software they need that won't run on Chromebooks, we need to know to get them the proper technology.
- Q:** Has anyone been Zoom Bombed yet?
- A:** I have not heard of it happening to anyone in the district. I think that one of the dual enrollment classes had one, but when the instructor set up the class with the security measures they didn't have that problem again. The counselors met with our IT security person who indicated that Zoom is one of the more secure pieces of software that we can use. I've asked the district to send me information on that security so that I can send it to all of you.

- Q:** When can we expect a decision regarding going 100% online for the fall? I know it is encouraged that colleges submit an addendum by July 1st, but will we know sooner than that? Also, will this decision be made district wide, or will the different colleges make their own decisions? And finally, will faculty get to participate in the decision-making process?
- A:** We're not fully preparing our fall schedule right now; we have some time before we have to publish that schedule and we want to see how things progress here before we actually put a schedule together and finalize it. There will be some tendencies district wide but i don't know that everything will have to be the same throughout the entire district. There will be consultation with faculty, departments ,deans and their chairs. We will definitely have discussion and dialogue about this.
- Q:** Is EW date 4/22 or May 10th? If a student is dropped, does the student get an EW automatically?
- A:** Right now, the EW for students is automatic if they withdraw by April 22nd. The May 10th date is the 12th week of the term. Whether or not that would be considered an EW, I haven't heard any specific guidance on that yet. As soon as I hear something specific I will report to you.
- Q:** Has it been officially decided that there will be no classes on campus this summer, including Noncredit and Extension?
- A:** Right now, our schedule of classes for the summer are all online classes. The schedule will post Monday the 20th and students can start registering on Monday, May 4th.
- Q:** If a student has not heard back regarding getting a laptop, what should that student do?
- A:** If they don't hear by Thursday, contact via hotline/outreach email. We are working to match the district list with our list so we want to make sure we can assist all students. But for now, the district is distributing the Chromebooks.