



Staff Town Hall

1 May 2020 / 3:00PM / Zoom Meeting

Updates

- **Announcements**

- Camille Goulet gave a presentation to the students about sexual harassment at their Town Hall meeting on Thursday, April 30, 2020.
- Will arrange a Town Hall for students and staff with Congressman Adam Schiff.
 - We will ask him to help us get additional funding being that we are a minority serving institution to be able to pay for the instruction that we will not be getting from the state.
- On Wednesday's 'What's on your Mind' forum for the students, we will have a guest speaker, Samantha Ramirez Herrera. You are invited to attend.

- **Professional Development**

- Working on putting together a success wall for students who transfer to a university and for students who landed a good job after graduation.
- We are putting something together for students and faculty to submit students so that they can be recognized.

- **Devices**

- The district has approved all applications that they are going to approve up to this point.
- The vendor/supplier ran out of devices so now we are scrambling to get supply of additional Chromebooks so that we can assist the students that still need help.
- If students have received an email that a laptop is coming, they need to email hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu . Faculty/Staff can also email hotline-faculty@lacitycollege.edu with a student's information if you have it.
- We have been keeping a list of students who still need a device, so far we are at 120.
- We need an accurate count because some students might need help for Summer and Fall semesters.

- If you have students who have not turned in an application, please email their name with a section number for your class if you have it so that we can reach out.
- **COVID-19**
 - We still have staff members who come on campus, For the staff in the Facilities area, we have put them on a rotational schedule so that we can decrease daily on campus traffic.
 - These staff members are alternating between working on campus and at home training.
- **Resources**
 - Our student newspaper (nationally award-winning) journalism students made an entire page dedicated for resources for students included in their newest issue.
 - The district is preparing to give away another 2,000 gift cards from Kroger.
 - There were lots of students who applied and did not get a card before supplies ran out. They are not taking new applications at this time, but they want to cover the remainder of the students that had already applied.
 - A partnership between the state and the farmers (who have 50% less demand) has developed where the State is matching farmers with the food banks who have a 73% increase on the demand for food. That way no food has to be wasted.
 - The state is also providing cards for parents who have children who were getting free meals, via EBT card. Parents will be given \$365 so they can get food for their children.
 - First phase of the CARES Act is having payments go directly to students. They are sending money directly to colleges, and half of it has to go directly to the students.
 - As of now, Pell Grant recipients get \$350.
 - If students owe fees, they do not have to pay them with this money.
 - Some students will not be able to receive these funds because they are not a Pell Grant recipient or not eligible for a federal program.
 - Anyone who had a Pell Grant and took an online class is not eligible either.
 - We are working hard to try and get more students eligible for the aid.
 - The Foundation has been working on the Copy Cards
 - We were not able to get free copy cards, however we were able to work with Office Depot to give a very big printing discount.
 - It usually cost \$ 0.55 a page to copy, but we were able to secure the district price per copy rate for the students - **\$0.05 a copy** for black and white copying per page.
 - In yesterday's newsletter (April 30, 2020), I have attached the document you need to show to receive the discount.
- **Courses**
 - Students will be getting their registration time today.
 - USC put in their student newspaper that students should attend LACC for their general education classes to save money, so it is important for current students to register on their given date because we are expecting a flux in enrollment.
 - Summer schedule has been posted and the Fall is being planned now.

- Fall Schedule will be posted by May 29th, and registration will start by June 8th.
- Most other colleges have posted traditional schedules for the Fall and we do not want to do that because we will likely have to change to online courses if we do. To avoid having to re-do the entire schedule again, all classes for Fall Semester will be remote or online.
- We know that all classes cannot be done this way and we are working on how to incorporate /prepare for those in person classes.

Q&A

Q: What about students with no internet/Wi-Fi?

A: I have sent a resources spreadsheet from all around the city in different categories. (housing, food, access points, hygiene, etc.) I will include the spreadsheet in the newsletter. <https://www.internetessentials.com/covid19>. Internet (low cost): <https://www.spectrum.com/browse/content/spectrum-internet-assist> General article on Free Internet from multiple providers: <https://www.highspeedinternet.com/resources/how-can-i-get-free-internet>

Q: What about surplus desktop computers just sitting around VDK has many computers.

A: That is a great idea and we can explore that.

Q: What about students who need “high end” laptops for high-end software?

A: If you have students who need that, reach out to hotline-faculty@lacitycollege.edu. Please include the class and we will see what we can do.

Q: Is there a link somewhere on the college website to read the Collegian?

A: There is a link online in the ‘Campus Life’ section of the website, but I will include it in the newsletter as well.

Q: Can you send us the link or email that the students got to prompt them to let us know 1) If they need a laptop 2) Remind them to register on their date? I can forward it to my class.

A: We will follow up and send that information out in the newsletter.

Q: Are we still providing emergency grant funds? (this may have already been mentioned).

A: No, the emergency grant funds have already been distributed by the LACC Foundation. There was an emergency grant that the LACCD Foundation was giving that also ran out a few weeks ago. Other than the money coming from the CARES Act (for Pell Grant eligible students) there are currently not any additional emergency

funds. We are waiting for additional information on when students can expect those funds.

Q: Did LACC ever do a "Con los terroristas" video?

A: I am not sure, but we will get back to you.

Q: Can the Office of the President send a copy of the Collegian to all faculty and staff?

A: We can do that; we will send something out every time an issue is released.

Q: For those hard to convert classes when can it be expected guidance will be made regarding if or if not these classes will be offered in full or in part on campus with precautions and how we should best proceed in planning the fall semester. In my situation (and I am sure there are other in this position) these classes account for a majority of course load and are stressing over classes to teach.

A: We do not have a finalized recovery plan yet but, we are beginning to put a plan together. The recovery will be done in phases, and if something can be done off campus, it will remain off campus. The only thing that could potentially come back on to campus are those hard to convert courses. We will also have strict requirements that we have to adhere if we are able to have some courses back on campus. We have a list of the classes that need an in-person component and are working on meeting the requirements in order to make that happen, however, it will be very strict and very limited. The threat will not leave us until there is a therapeutic in the form of a vaccine or reliable treatment. There is concern from the healthcare industry that there will be an additional outbreak.

Q: I have an infected student. Should the student report the illness? Do you want students to report positive Covid 19 test results to the school? If so, where/to whom?

A: Yes, the student should report their illness and can submit those reports directly to President Gallagher at gallagmp@lacitycollege.edu. You can also report to EOC@laccd.edu, I will also include this information in the newsletter.

Q: What is the plan for classified staff hours for the summer and fall?

A: We will be operating the same, we do not anticipate anything changing for the summer/fall.

Q: Is hiring for new full-time faculty happening over the summer?

A: Yes, we have positions available and are hiring via Zoom.

Q: Where can we get the link to recordings of Wednesdays Town Hall meetings if we cannot make it?

A: The link can be found on the Communications page on the web page.

Q: What is headspace and why should we have it?

A: It is a mindfulness meditation app that LA County is giving for free to all LA County residents through 2020 to help assist with the crisis. Meditation can reduce stress and anxiety, so they are offering it to help our community have more Wellness and Mental Health Tools to assist during this time of social distancing, uncertainty, fear of contagion, any other issues that crisis brings for people. Be sure to also let your students know that Wesley Health is still available to them, they have full service and only need their student card to access their benefits.

Q: For on-campus: what about wearing masks during lunch time? Drink smoothies via a straw?

A: Lunch time will have to be completed with social distancing in mind. You can remove your mask to eat but it has to be placed back on once you are finished.

Q: Are faculty required to be certified to teach online in order to teach both asynchronous and synchronous starting Winter 2021?

A: I am not sure of the requirements. The normal certification is suspended for Summer and Fall. As of now, the requirement will go back to normal as of Winter. FREE full Canvas training and online pedagogy training are ready for faculty enrollment in the Vision Resource Center (VRC). Naeemah Payne just sent out an email regarding this FREE online training. Please check Naeemah's email and log into the VRC to register. Access the VRC by logging into the SIS/PeopleSoft and clicking on the Vision Resource Center button. Once in the VRC, click on the Calendar button to see the listing of courses. More info is in Naeemah's email.

Q: What about the Believe, Achieve, Succeed LACC facemasks?

A: We are currently checking into pricing for those masks and if we can get a good enough deal then we will purchase the masks.