



# Staff Town Hall

8 May 2020 / 3:00PM / Zoom Meeting

## Updates

- **Announcements**

- Next Wednesday
  - The Zoom will be expanded to accommodate more people
  - Congressman Adam Schiff will be in attendance along with the Chancellor Francisco Rodriguez, and Board of Trustees President, Andra Hoffman
  - The Zoom meeting ID will remain the same
- Tomorrow is V E Day
  - This is a day to celebrate when Europeans were able to win WWII, a very special day for veterans
- There will be a Roaring 20s party on June 5th
  - There will be games and prizes, stay tuned for more information!

- **Chromebooks**

- The District is sending out another 250 devices, then there will not be any more devices provided by the district
- The Board of Trustees approved the new vendor and we put in a purchase order for additional Chromebooks
- They are being mailed to LACC and staff are working to contact 700 students on a list of students who were awarded a Chromebook, hopefully the devices will get to them by next week
- The students have to confirm their addresses, those who do not will have to pick up the devices up.
- We are also looking for the Bookstore for a begin a laptop rental program
  - We may be able to cover some rental cost for students

- **COVID-19**
  - **Stages of recovery**
    - We are currently in Phase 1 of the recovery plan. Phase 1 was going remote with all operations except essential services. This demands that we do as much remote work as possible and if you are not, you may have to suspend operations
    - We are doing some preliminary planning and figuring out the “what if’s” and gathering as much information as possible.
    - On Thursday, May 7, 2020, the LA County Department of Public Health updated the phases to the recovery
      - Originally we were looking at 4 phases to the recovery. Now there are 5 phases:
        - Phase 1 -Safer at home
        - Phase 2 - very limited operations, if businesses can do that safely with social distancing and no groups of people gathering. Businesses can continue their business if they meet certain criteria. This can only be completed through curbside pickup. This phase is helpful for the economy and small businesses.
        - Phase 3 - This phase is new. A slow and deliberate opportunity to re-engage. This phase includes colleges and universities. This is not saying that we can open campus wide, because we cannot.
        - Phase 4 - larger venues. More people can gather in groups, but this still does not include concerts or malls.
        - Phase 5 - full recovery. A vaccine or reliable treatment is available, and we are able to return to our daily activities.
      - The triggers for each phase have to do with how many cases are occurring in each specific area.
        - The numbers are not that high, but they increase daily. The curve has leveled off because it has not spiked, it just remains constant. We have to wait until we start seeing numbers going down before we talk about phase 3.
        - The area has to be able to handle a surge of infection for phase 3 to happen. To open up and close again is very disruptive so it will likely be a slow return
        - Priority 1 for returning to campus are classes that were not able to convert to online format in the Spring.

- CDC is concerned there will be a natural surge in the Fall due to flu season returning.
- There is a projection of a \$54 billion shortfall in our economy, similar to 2008/2009 fiscal year
  - For all state colleges, there is a projected \$2 billion statewide deficit.
  - \$200 million deficit for our district
  - \$20 million for LACC
- We have to try and reserve as much instruction as possible
  - We were just recovering from our enrollment drops from previous years and we are doing everything to preserve our enrollment numbers
  - We will be balancing our budget this year and by the end of this year we will be debt free
  - We are going to obtain as many grants as possible to help offer special workforce programs to help bounce the economy back
- The Governor usually has a May revise, but they do not have the tax receipts yet because they extended the tax due date to July. By August, they should be able to give us a good idea about what our economy is looking like
- **Resources**
  - CARES Act funding given by the Federal Government requires that 50% of the total funding goes directly to students
    - We have received the first 50% of the money that has to go directly to students. So, we have received 25% of the total funds
    - If students did not receive a Pell Grant, they will not be getting the funds in this first round
    - We are now going through a process to identify how to distribute the rest of the funds. We are working with the Federal Government to see what makes a student eligible to receive the funds.
- **Courses**
  - Summer Session
    - Open registration will be opening soon, so please remind students to register on their appointed day and time
    - We anticipate that our classes will fill up, and we offered more classes this summer for this reason
  - Fall Registration

- All classes will be offered off campus and will be either remote or online
  - The faculty will be doing lots of training over the summer to make them better equipped to teach online
  - The Fall schedule will be posted on Friday, May 29th
  - Registration for Fall semester begins Monday, June 8th
- **Graduation: 2020: Resilient Time for Brilliant Minds**
  - Virtual recognition ceremony will be held Tuesday, June 9th
    - Just to clarify, this is not a graduation
    - An in-person ceremony will still take place, if not in the Fall then it will be shared with next year's graduating class in June 2021
  - You all will have the opportunity to record a 30sec message to the graduating class
  - All 9 colleges will have a combined district wide ceremony in the beginning and then split off to their own respective ceremonies
  - The District wide Black Graduation will be held on May 19th at 3p.m.
  - The District wide Lavender Grad will be held on Tuesday, June 2nd at 4p.m.
- **Holds for Registration**
  - Please advise your students to go into the business office (via Cranium Cafe) and ask them to remove that hold
    - Students have to be ready to register right away because the hold will only be removed temporarily
  - The certificates will be mailed directly to the students

## Q&A

Q: If classes are remote in the Fall, does that mean faculty meetings (e.g., department, Senate, curriculum, etc.) will remain remote as well?

A: Yes, until we get to Phase 5. What can stay remote will stay remote. These are moving pieces but for now we will stay put.

Q: Is there any progress on the plans to have students with equipment be returned and checked by specific department staff members?

A: Yes, we are working on that plan now. It affects all of the colleges, so we are working on a consistent plan throughout the district.

Q: Students who did not qualify for the Education Emergency Relief Fund/CARES grant have questions. To whom/where can they direct their questions?

A: They can first direct those questions to Financial Aid. I have indicated to the students that the 1st guidance we received from the Federal Government was to be released to students who received a Pell Grant. We are waiting on further guidance from the Federal Government to be able to award money to students who were not eligible for a Pell Grant.

- Q: Can we buy laptops at a lower cost for students? That way they can pay for them at the bulk rate that the district buys them.
- A: We are working on obtaining more Chromebooks. The bookstore will be renting some laptops to students. If you have students who would like to purchase a device, please have them reach out to us via [hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu)
- Q: A lot of student workers dropped classes, now they are not eligible to work during the summer session, Will you address that please?
- A: I will look into this; perhaps we will be able to do that sometime in the future.