Welcome President Gribbons!

Dear Faculty,

Change is in the Air!

New legislation, initiatives, and funding will affect the 2019-2020 academic year. State legislation designed to support student needs, coupled with the California Community College’s Vision for Success as a means to increase the number of students successfully completing degree and certificate programs, will impact Student Services: Assembly Bill (AB) 2148: Strong Workforce; AB 705: English and Math Placement; AB 302: Safe Parking for Homeless Students; AB 2160: Classified Staff status for part-time employees, Dual Enrollment; Online Education; LA College Promise, Guided Pathways; and the Student Centered Funding Formula, to name a few. Wow!

Student Services realizes that with all this change there will be challenges and opportunities, and we are ready! We are currently evaluating all procedures and policies to adjust and adapt to the changes while staying focused on helping our students be successful. Presently, the Guided Pathways workgroup is working on how to best redesign onboarding students. Our Outreach team has developed new publications and activities, for example: “Signing Days:” open houses for registration and planning for Latinx and Umoja students and Math outreach workshops. Also, this summer we once again held our GPS (Guided Pathways to Success) series which brings new students to campus for three days to learn the ropes and understand the tools necessary to be successful. Over 750 new students have participated in this program!

Additional updates include: The State funding formula and structure has also changed. Basic Skills, the Student Success and Support Program (SSSP), and Student Equity allocations are now organized into one budget. Two new counselors have joined LAVC to work with students’ groups: Elliott Coney (Black Scholars) and Javier Carbajal (Dream Resource Center). Clive Gordon was elected the new Counseling Chair. The district Call Center is now open to answer all student questions about registration and the SIS. Our special programs: TRIO, SSD, EOPS, Foster Youth, Veterans, and Guardian Scholars are ready to meet student needs. The Financial Aid department has already packaged every student who completed the FAFSA and required paperwork; therefore, these students will get their FA disbursement the first week of school! Our Student Services Center first floor conference room will be open the first week of school to help students log-in and register for classes. Admissions and Records and Financial Aid will be open the first two weeks of the semester (8/26 to 9/6) from 8am to 8pm – Monday through Thursday and on Friday from 8am – 4pm. Welcome Week starts on Monday, August 26 and activities are planned for the week.

Student Services is looking forward to working with our campus partners to provide students with a successful semester. Please know that you are always invited to visit our office and email/call us with any questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns.

Have a great semester!

Florentino