

From: Gribbons, Barry C
Subject: Campus Update
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Dear Monarchs,

I want to express my appreciation for all of your hard work in service for our students. Our response to the pandemic is clearly not a sprint, but a marathon and you are doing a great job!

As you will see from the following updates, we continue to progress forward despite the challenging times.

CARES Act Funding for Students. Yesterday approximately 5,400 LAVC students were awarded \$300 in CARES funding, which will be applied to their Bank Mobile accounts. Due to Federal limitations, these funds are being disbursed to Pell eligible students. In addition, approximately 300 undocumented LAVC students will receive \$300 each in Student Equity funding since the CARES Act funding is not available to them. A campus work group is determining how to disburse the remaining approximately \$1.5 million in CARES funding and additional Student Equity grants.

Recovery Plans. The Incident Command team workgroup is continuing to develop a recovery plan, including when and how we will return to face-to-face instruction and services. WEC also is providing input into the plan. We expect a draft framework from the District early next week. Once we receive it, we will be able to begin applying the thoughts of the Incident Command team workgroup and WEC, fleshing out the details for Valley.

Virtual Recognition of 2020 Graduates. On Wednesday night, the Board approved the agreements for the virtual graduation. We will be getting more details out about it. In brief, the ceremony will begin with a district component, including short speeches and a great keynote speaker. Following the district-wide portion, Valley's virtual recognition will begin. I'm also happy to announce that between the district and college portions three colleges have been selected to provide entertainment, including Glenn Carlos' students. It's going to be fun!

Outreach. Next week, we will be hosting two outreach events using a You Tube Town Hall format for local high school seniors. The first will be on Monday and the second on Friday. My thanks to Joel and the Outreach and Recruitment team for working on it and remaining committed to making college accessible to our local high school graduates.

Nursing. I have three nursing updates. First, Wednesday started National Nurses Week. Our thanks to all of the nurses helping to restore our health, especially during this pandemic. The second update is that our Nursing department let me know that our nursing students will be able to volunteer at COVID-19 testing locations and in so doing, satisfying clinical hours. While I understand that there is still work to be done to secure necessary clinical sites, this is an important step. Lastly, Raul was notified that the LAVC Foundation was awarded \$4,500 from the Foundation for California Community Colleges in partnership with the CCC Chancellor's Office from the First Response Healthcare Student Support Fund. This will provide ten nursing students with \$450 each. Raul acknowledged and thanked the LAVC Nursing Department, particularly Preetha Puthiakunnel and Erik Reyes. I want to join Raul in our thanks and to also add my thanks to the LAVC Foundation!

Gene Haas Foundation. On Tuesday, we found out that the Gene Haas Foundation awarded seven of our graduates from the LAVC Manufacturing Academy \$500 stipends. Our thanks to the Gene Haas Foundation!

EWs. There has been some mixed messages related to the due date for applying for EWs. The drop deadline for most classes is tomorrow. All drops will be automatically converted to Excused Withdrawals (EWs). However, students will be able to petition for an EW even after tomorrow throughout the semester and even past it. We are working with the District to clarify the information on various websites and to send out an updated clarifying message to students. I'll also provide the update during Monday's You Tube Town Hall for students.

National Speech Tournament. One of our students, Jessica Patterson, was named national champion in Dramatic Interpretation. Jessica also brought home finalist awards in both impromptu and poetry interpretation and ended the tournament in 5th place nationally. Congratulations, Jessica and thank you to Kevin Briancesco for your leadership with Forensics!

I know that my updates, while highlighting some amazing work, only barely scratches the surface with the wonderful work being done by you all. Know that I continue to be deeply appreciative of your efforts and share your commitment to our students. Thank you!

Have a great weekend and Be Safe and Be Well!

Barry Gribbons
President
Los Angeles Valley College
5800 Fulton Avenue
Valley Glen, CA 91401
818-947-2321
Email: gribbobc@lavc.edu

Sent to LAVC-All Users