

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

Thank you for all of your efforts as we move into the ninth month of the pandemic, finish a semester offered completely remote during the pandemic, and close out 2020. While many of us may not be sad to see 2020 in the rearview mirror, we do need to celebrate your amazing work. In previous updates, I've expressed my appreciation for all of your incredible, innovative work moving all classes and services online. You have overcome a long list of challenges, with many juggling complex environments at home. I can't express my appreciation enough for all that you have done. I also want to recognize Custodial, Trades, Grounds, Receiving, the Mailroom/Reprographics/Switchboard, the Business Office, the College Store, Community Services, HR/Payroll, and many other essential workers who have been coming to campus for the past nine months in the midst of uncertain and worrisome conditions in order to take care of the campus and enable us to continue with our operations. Thank you! Great work, Monarchs! You're amazing!

I have a few updates to share with you related to campus security, construction, Athletics, the Fall 2021 Plan, and the Above and Beyond Awards. Sorry for the length. For those who make it to the end, there is a reward in the form of a special, fun video!

Campus Security. On Saturday, the Board of Trustees took action to extend the agreement with the Sheriff's Department for another six months with an option for six additional months. During this time, the District will be contracting with an outside organization to conduct a comprehensive assessment of security needs, including gathering input from campus communities. This assessment will inform a Request For Proposal (RFP) for ongoing security needs. This is an important, complex issue. I'm glad that there will be a thorough planning process and I think that the contact extension in the interim time period will provide useful continuity of services.

Construction. Progress continues with the VACC, Academic Complex 1 (AC1), Academic Building 2 (AB2), and Campus Roads North and South.

While I expect to receive additional timelines soon, the pace of construction for the VACC has been accelerating. Also, the building is now water-tight, making the project less vulnerable to weather delays.

Planning for AC1 and AB2 continues to proceed nicely. AC1 will include the following departments:

- ✓ Sociology/Ethnic Studies; Computer Science and Information Systems; Business Administration; Psychology; Mathematics; Emergency Services.

AB2 will include:

- ✓ Communication Studies; English, English as a Second Language (credit); Foreign Language; Technology (requesting to be changed to Applied Technology).

These projects will have a tremendous impact on the appearance of the campus from both Burbank and Fulton. Thanks go to the Building User Groups, BuildLACCD, NAC Architecture, BWG, and everyone working on these important projects.

We have a couple of improvements along Fulton. Most immediately, the sidewalk is being repaired in several locations that were significantly raised by tree roots. In one spot, it appeared to be uplifted by a foot or more. Sidewalk repair and tree replacement for these areas is well underway. In addition to this short-term project, planning for improvements on Campus Roads North and South is progressing nicely as well. This project will add some sustainability measures, including the ability to capture storm water, and recognizes tree replacement plans indicated in our Urban Forest Master Plan.

The following are some links to draft plans, including maps and draft images and the buildings:

- [College Road Urban Forest plan](#)
- [LAVC Facility Master Plan Update](#)
- [Academic Building #2 \(AB2\) at Los Angeles Valley College](#)
- [AC1 Preliminary Design Concept](#)

Lastly, door lock replacement is underway, installing locks that allow doors to be easily locked from inside. These locks are being rekeyed to the original keys after being installed. Any impacts related to using old keys should be limited only to a couple of days.

Athletics. Plans for competition were worked on for several months. There were efforts to move competition for Fall sports to the Spring when it was hoped that the incidences of COVID-19 would subside. However, we currently are seeing an exponential increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in the County. Given this increase, all nine LACCD colleges decided that we needed to cancel competition for the Fall sports. No decision has yet been made for Spring sports. I expect that a decision will be made in February when we have more information. The safety of our campus community will be paramount in making decisions about competition. We also are working on plans for bringing student athletes back for conditioning. While we cannot do so at this time, the plans hopefully will help us to safely bring back student athletes for in-person conditioning when it's safe to do so.

Fall 2021 Plans. While CSU and some others have announced that they will be offering classes in person in Fall 2021, we are waiting to make decisions when we have more information about the LACDPH expected recovery stage, vaccinations, and herd immunity. While I remain optimistic about our status in Fall 2021, it is too early to accurately predict. Many people are beginning to develop two sets of plans, one for a recovery phase similar to the current one, and another plan that is more similar to pre-pandemic conditions. This is even more complex as we incorporate innovations from the last nine months in our planning that will have positive enduring effects. I have to say how much I'm looking forward to celebrating your return to the campus with our students. Hopefully it will be before I name a volleyball "Wilson." 😊

Above and Beyond Awards. Last Friday, we celebrated many of our dedicated faculty and staff celebrating milestone service award years. We also recognized our faculty members earning tenure and our faculty and staff that will be retiring in just a few short days. We also announced the Above and Beyond Award winners. More than one person nominated every Monarch this year, honoring the incredible work that was done. Keeping with tradition, we the following amazing faculty and staff were selected for the respective categories:

Community Involvement & Monarch Pride
Creativity & Innovation for Student Success
Fulfilling the College's Mission Towards Student Success
Just Do It!
Just Do It!
Outstanding Service to Students
Outstanding Service to the College Community

Jenene Nagy
Magda Walsh
Joyce Romero
Samantha Jo Jaffray-Evans
Preetha Puthiakunnel
Jack Condon
Michelle Fowles

Video. It's my pleasure to share the latest LAVC Philharmonic Choir video with you. This is your reward for making it all the way through the Campus Update. Here you go: [12 Days of Christmas Confusion](#).

Have an amazing, restful holiday break, Monarchs!

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