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You may not always have a comfortable life. And you will not always be able to solve all of the world's problems at once. But don't ever underestimate the impact you can have, because history has shown us that courage can be contagious, and hope can take on a life of its own. -
Michelle Obama

Good afternoon Monarchs,

Happy Women's History Month! In preparing a campus update, I had many inspirational quotes that seemed to be written specifically for present times. Certainly, the quote above from Michelle Obama applies. I love the acknowledgement of the power of courage and hope, and truly believe that this power is amplified in present times and not diminished in any way. Similarly to my comment about a month ago, I also would like to challenge all of us to take the opportunity in March to engage in activities to develop a new level of understanding and appreciation of the impact of women in history.

I have a few updates that I would like to share with you as well related to COVID-19 vaccine appointment access; updates on priorities from FPC, WEC, and the Budget committee; re-engagement planning; and a marketing update.

COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment Access. Over the weekend, I mentioned that all employees now are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. The state developed a system, myturn.ca.gov, for scheduling appointments. If you are not able to make an appointment through [My Turn](#), you might also try [Carbon Health](#), [Walgreens](#), [Rite Aid](#), and [CVS](#). Members of our campus community have had luck with each of these providers. Carbon Health operates several sites, including the one at Pierce College. Related to this update on vaccine access, we are working to schedule an open forum for students and employees on the vaccine and to secure an expert from UCLA to provide information and answer any questions that you might have. We expect to send out more information about the forum in the next week or two.

Priorities from FPC, WEC, and the Budget committee. Will Karrat, our new Facilities Director, and Mike Lee have been working on assessing facility requests submitted in program review and prioritized by FPC and WEC. They have developed detailed spreadsheets and a summary document for these items, including which will be able to be completed in the near term by Facilities staff, items for which they are obtaining quotes, ADA-related items, and long-term facilities planning items. Mr. Karrat will be sharing this information with FPC and WEC, and we will also send it out to the campus community. In addition to the priorities from FPC and WEC, Senior Staff have been discussing the priorities of program review requests from the Budget Committee. We are still working through these requests to see what we are able to fund and will report back to the Budget Committee and the campus community soon.

Re-engagement Planning. Re-engagement planning continues. I know that all departments are busy determining what changes, if any, that they would like to pursue in the Red, Orange, and Yellow Tiers. This is especially timely given that the County is very close to meeting the criteria for moving to the Red Tier. Currently, the County's adjusted case rate is 7.2 new cases per 100,000 people and the test positivity rate is 3.5 percent. The criteria for moving to the Red Tier is two consecutive weeks of a new case rate below 7 cases per 100,000 people and a positivity rate below 8 percent. Since we are close, we will want to be well-prepared in advance of any changes that the County makes.

After we finalize these plans, we will return our attention to plans post-pandemic. President Biden announced on Tuesday that there will be enough vaccines for every adult by the end of May. This news has important implications for our planning, and we will continue to closely monitor the roll-out of the vaccine.

Marketing. In previous updates, I mentioned that Jennifer Borucki is working hard with several members of the campus community to deploy a comprehensive marketing campaign that includes social media, direct mail, radio ads, and more. You can check out a few of these ads on [our YouTube channel](#). Click on the LAVC Vibes – Student Stories and Support Programs at LA Valley College links. I'm excited about the marketing plans and helping to get the word out about how amazing Valley College is.

I would like to end with one last quote:

Sí, se puede. - **Dolores Huerta**

As with the quote that led this update, I believe that Dolores Huerta's powerful statement is incredibly fitting in current times. Indeed, over the last year, we have clearly demonstrated that we can overcome any challenge, including a worldwide pandemic, and continue to meet our Mission and progress towards our Strategic Priorities of Equity, Access, and Completion. Keep up the amazing work!!

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