

The Weekly News: Week 13



Reflections from this past week

I enjoyed meeting many of you this past week and learning more about the great things faculty are doing in your programs as I stopped in at the STEM, BEECH, and WPTE Unit Meetings and the Economics Department Brown Bag. Tuesday evening I welcomed Ridgefield community leaders and donors to the Foundation's "Conversations: Boschma Farms" at Windy Hills Winery. Thanks to Kevin Witte, Sachi Horback, Armetta Burney and Lisa Gibert for sharing the exciting vision for Advanced Manufacturing in North Clark County. I also met with the Foundation staff at their regular monthly meeting and heard about the success of the Alumni Phone-athon and the Promising Pathways Campaign.

Kudos to Lora Jenkins of Workforce Education Services (WES) for coordinating a very successful Foster Care Partnership Event. In my opening remarks, I shared my excitement for the

changes in our Passport to College program that expands eligibility to include more types of foster care. This summer, the state Legislature improved access for unaccompanied homeless youth. Since 2007, Clark has assisted 120 foster youth. Fifteen of them have graduated with degrees and/or certificates.

The former Clark College Community Advisory Committee has been expanded and convened this week as the Equity Advisory Council at Bridgeview Resource Center. Twenty-one leaders in the community have accepted my invitation to meet monthly to build and maintain community connection; inform about what Clark College is doing around diversity efforts; and provide counsel as the college engages in purposeful, institutional-level change that fosters social equity and eliminates systemic disparities among students, faculty and staff.

I appreciate everyone who took time out of your busy schedule to meet with Dr. Preston Pulliums this past week to share your thoughts and ideas about the college and next president. You can follow the Presidential Search process on the Clark Presidential Search website.

Looking for your voice

We've sent out the 2019 Climate Survey this past week. I encourage everyone to participate. Here is the link: **Clark College 2019 Climate Survey**

This is so important to our work at Clark College. The Board of Trustees has identified improving the college climate and employee morale as one of its priorities. Your input is critical to the process. This year we have added incentive: Everyone who submits a survey has the option sign up to win one of three \$50 gift certificates to Amazon. Please note that your responses on the Clark College Climate Survey will NOT be connected to your name if you wish to enter the drawing.

Shanda Haluapo is happy to answer any questions you may have about the survey or the process. Thank you for your help!

ctcLink – countdown 17 days!

I'm interested as to how your trainings are going for ctcLink. We all get to take the employee self-service course to make sure we can submit our time and get paid. As a reminder, SBCTC Canvas sent all of us an email September 30. I clicked "get started" and it took me to the list of courses I need to complete prior to October 28, which is our GoLive date. If you have not received the email, please contact Jennifer Ward.

It's vital that we know our part of using the new system so that we can turn our focus to the students to help them make the transition. Many of us have some contact with students and we can be that helpful resource for them.

What do students need to know? On October 31, they need to go to myclark.edu. Once they sign in, they will be given a **new ctcLink ID. They need to write it down.** It will be needed to log in to access their information. Here's the great news for students: The **new and improved MyClark** will offer a simple easy pathway for students to register for classes, apply for financial aid, request unofficial transcripts, and use the schedule planner at Clark College.

The October 31 date is important for students to sign in and get their **new ctcLink ID**. If they have questions, you can give them the email ctcLink@clark.edu. We'll also have teams set up at Gaiser to walk them through the changes.

Faculty are a tremendous resource in getting the message to students. We appreciate everyone using all our communications tools to help our students navigate the change.

Exciting Alumni News

The *New York Times* published a story Thursday about ways that states and institutions are expanding access to college. They highlighted one of our own: Vita Blanco, who graduated from Clark College this spring. Here's the link to the story: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/10/education/learning/bulletin-board.html>. I recently had the honor of joining Vita at the same table at the WSUV Scholarship Reception. She is attending classes now at WSU Vancouver and continuing to be engaged as a student leader.

Enrollment News

For fall 2019, almost half of our students (48%) are enrolled in at least one eLearning class – which includes online and hybrid classes. And eLearning classes have a 7 percentage point higher fill rate (91%) compared to face-to-face and web-enhanced classes (84%). Here's a question to consider: "Do our students prefer to take eLearning courses or is a function of convenience in fitting their busy schedules?" It's part of the conversation in the Guided Pathways framework, creating program pathways that schedule courses to meet student needs.

Meet the candidates

This week you have a chance to meet the Director of Athletics finalists on campus. The forums have been set. Resumes and links to provide feedback will be provided on ClarkNet before each forum. Feedback will be gathered for a 48-hour period for each finalist.

Anthony Stone

Tuesday, October 15, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in SHL 214

Laura LeMasters

Thursday, October 17, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. in GHL 213

Our Great Clark College Staff

If you have three minutes, there is a great new video circulating out in the community that highlights one of our own: **Jennifer Purinton** in the Transitional Studies Department at Clark College. Clark County produced the video to encourage equitable hiring practices under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Jennifer is a great spokesperson for inclusion at Clark – both for what we are doing well *and* what we can do to improve our practices. Thank you, Jennifer!

Honors for our Alumni Program

Clark College Foundation's Alumni relations program was acknowledged last week as one of the seven best in the country for the last five years. This is a new nationwide initiative by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). The metrics consider fundraising, boards, alumni awards programs; quality and types of communications like the foundation's magazine, electronic newsletter, podcasts; affinity programs like the athletics hall of fame and graduation, as well as student-alumni interactions such as career services involvement and mentoring. The foundation hit it out of the park for alumni fundraising—16%—that's the average annual amount raised over the past five years. Compare that to the national average of about 4%. Congratulations!

Next Week

We have several events next week that I want to make sure you know about. You are all invited.

Ten year celebration at Columbia Tech

You're invited to join us for a Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting at our Columbia Tech Campus **today 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** The Chamber is helping us celebrate our 10-year anniversary at Columbia Tech Center. The ribbon cutting will be outside (weather permitting) at 3:30 p.m. We'll have light refreshments and we hope to see you there!

Ready for an emergency?

In the event of a major emergency, it is very possible that we will be our own first responders. On **Thursday, October 17, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.** in PUB 258C, the Emergency Management Planning Committee will hold an Emergency Preparedness Training.

Certified emergency workers will provide this training. We'll learn the top five priorities for our families in case of an emergency, we'll have a chance to make our own emergency kits. Thank you, Jeff Kaliner, for bringing this training to Clark College.

And, Clark College is hosting the Indigenous Peoples' Day Celebration **today** on the main campus, **starting at 1:00 p.m.** in Gaiser Student Center – with a panel discussing Missing and Murdered Indigenous People.

I'm also looking forward to seeing the Archer Gallery's new exhibit of the Art Faculty Biennial Exhibition this week and celebrating **October birthdays** with you on Tuesday, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. in the President's Conference Room. I will be traveling to San Francisco to attend the American Community College Trustees Leadership Convention Congress with Trustee Rupley and Chair Jacobsen on Wednesday. We plan to promote the search for the next president and learn more about national issues

facing community colleges.

Keep walking, Penguin Nation! I got in 54,301 steps so far in October. Happy Walktober!