OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

TO: LACCD Board of Trustees

FROM: Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez

DATE: March 3, 2021

SUBJECT: Chancellor's Monthly Report March 2021

The LACCD Chancellor's Monthly Report for March 2021 includes brief updates on the following:

- I. District Status on COVID-19 Public Health Emergency & Recovery
- II. Update on the LACCD Enrollment and Marketing
- III. Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges
- IV. Special Notes & Updates
- V. Communications

I. District Status on COVID-19 Public Health Emergency & Recovery

All Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) faculty and staff became eligible to receive vaccinations against the COVID-19 coronavirus on March 1, almost one year to the date when the Board of Trustees <u>declared</u> a state of emergency existed for the District and its Emergency Operations Center was activated March 19, 2020.

The District is working with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) to help make sure that any faculty or staff age 65 or old who still needs a vaccine appointment can receive one as soon as possible. The District met with LACDPH on March 1 regarding ways to accelerate the vaccination process for all others under the Education category as part of the County's Phase 1B, Tier 1, plan for vaccinations. We expect to have an update on this within two weeks.

Currently, the main issue is that demand for vaccinations greatly exceeds the available supplies and appointments are difficult to obtain, according to LACDPH. The situation is expected to improve by the end of March when additional doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine begin to arrive in addition to allocations of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

Los Angeles County continues to see a downward trend in numbers of positive cases, deaths, and testing percentages, however, we currently remain in the Purple Tier, the most restrictive for activities. LACDPH announced Tuesday, March 2, that if the numbers continue to decline, the County could move into the less restrictive Red Tier in about two weeks.

In order to move into the less restrictive Red Tier that allows for additional re-openings, the daily case rate must be at or below 7 new cases per 100,000 people and the test positivity rate must be at or below 8% for two consecutive weeks. Currently, L.A. County's adjusted case rate is 7.2 new cases per 100,000 people and the test positivity rate is 3.5%.

In the County, more than 5.84 million people have been tested for the coronavirus. There have been more than 1.19 million confirmed cases of the disease and more than 21,500 deaths recorded that are attributable to the virus, according to LACDPH information.

As of February 25, 2021 (most <u>current statistics available</u>), 1.95 million doses of vaccine have been given to people within the county. Of those, about 600,000 people have now received their second dose. LACDPH continues to report receiving about 200,000 doses per week, but, again have emphasized that the supply situation should see significant improvements later this month and beyond.

Several of the colleges are preparing to or are actively serving as vaccination sites and/or as testing sites, including East L.A. College, Pierce, L.A. Southwest and L.A. Harbor. All nine colleges are ready and able to serve. Photos here show operations at Pierce College operated by the Los Angeles City Fire Department.





As the situation has improved, LACDPH modified its overall <u>Health Orders</u> again, effective February 18, as well as its <u>Reopening Protocols</u> for Institutes of Higher Education, effective March 2. The changes allow LACCD and other colleges or universities to resume with some small, but limited, on-campus activities when ready. For

example, the changes will allow three or less students, plus an instructor, to access art or music studios to complete existing academic requirements. These allowable changes are now being incorporated into updates for the District's Re-engagement Grid issued in January for use by the colleges.

All indications are that one year after the pandemic was declared, there are positive signs that the beginning of the end is near. LACDPH continues to remind everyone that the basics of prevention and protection remain, including: staying home if sick, wearing facial coverings/masks outdoors, social distancing, frequent hand washing and continue to avoidany large crowds or gatherings.





II. Updates on LACCD Enrollment & Marketing

Spring 2021 Enrollment

Comparing Spring 2021 (2/28/21) to Spring 2020 (3/1/20) as of Day 20 of the semester, for the District as a whole:

- Headcount is at 88%,
- Duplicated Enrollment is at 83%,
- Credit Section Count is at 89%, and
- Enrollment per Section is at 93%

A number of factors may have contributed to the lower enrollment rate in Spring 2021 compared to Fall 2020 including: the winter spike of the COVID-19 pandemic; uncertainty about the extension of unemployment benefits; possible employment opportunities created as a result of the end of the LA County stay-at-home order; and possible online learning fatigue. Class offerings have also declined at a rate that is comparable to that of Fall 2020.

Los Angeles College Promise Program Marketing

The direct mail outreach to all high school seniors within the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) was completed last week by LACCD's Office of Educational Programs and Institutional Effectiveness and the Office of Communications and External Relations.

The District worked with LAUSD to mail out the "L.A. College Promise Digital Welcome Kit" to all seniors with an emphasis to apply now for priority registration by May 1, 2021 to join the L.A. College Promise Program for the Fall 2021 Semester. The kit was printed and mailed in English and Spanish.





The District will now be working with other neighboring school districts for additional distributions.

The kits are also posted on the District's website on the <u>About LACCD</u> page also in <u>English</u> and <u>Spanish</u>. On the same page, three other marketing brochures are also posted:

The Colleges of Los Angeles

Career Education

Power of the Promise

III. Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges

Michael Fuller, LACCD Director for Institutional Advancement, shared the following update for the Foundation:

The Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges filed its final report for Food for Families program with the California Community Foundation. In addition to the food support to students, 5,420 children received support.

For its tax returns, The Foundation is required to provide the number of recipients of scholarships for each calendar year. In calendar year 2020, the Foundation awarded 24,115 scholarships.

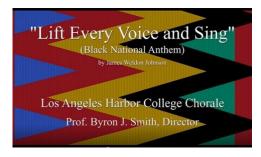
The Foundation asks you to join us in welcoming <u>Ferial Govashiri</u> to its Board of Directors. Ms. Govashiri served as the Personal Secretary to President Barack Obama from May 2014 through January 20, 2017. She is currently Chief of Staff to the Chief Content Officer at Netflix.

IV. Special Notes and Updates

Black History Month



Our thanks to the Black Faculty and Staff Association (BFSA) and to all others for organizing and participating in a very successful Black History Month. Each February, the LACCD BFSA celebrates the national theme of the <u>Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)</u>, which was established on September 9, 1915 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the founder of Black History Week (turned Month). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the events were organized in online formats for the first-ever Black History Month Virtual Festival. We all look forward to 2022 when the BFSA may be able to host its annual marquee event, the African American Heritage Bus Tour.



In case you missed it, this year, the Los Angeles Harbor College Chorale led by Professor Byron Smith sings a beautiful rendition of the Black National Anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing" that can be viewed at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CN1yfEhkFgU

Women's History Month



March is <u>Women's History Month</u> and many events are planned nationally and locally at the LACCD colleges. Selected highlights include:

L.A. City College is planning its third annual Women's History Month Breakfast set for March 24. More information will be posted online.

Film screenings and discussions highlighting prominent women from all walks of life are being

organized at East L.A., L.A. Harbor and West L.A. colleges.

WLAC is also recording short videos of women that will be posted on its website.

Chromebook Distribution at L.A. Harbor



All of the colleges continue to support their students with regular food distributions, and other assistance, including with Chromebooks and other classroom learning supplies. Recently, the team at L.A. Harbor helped get Chromebooks to its students. Harbor is also planning another cooking supply distribution to its Culinary Arts students.

Districtwide Security Update



The District's Sheriff Oversight Committee held its meeting February 19 with featured speaker Dr. Rashawn Ray. Dr. Ray's presentation provided a foundation for the committee to prepare for the upcoming districtwide campus security and safety assessment.

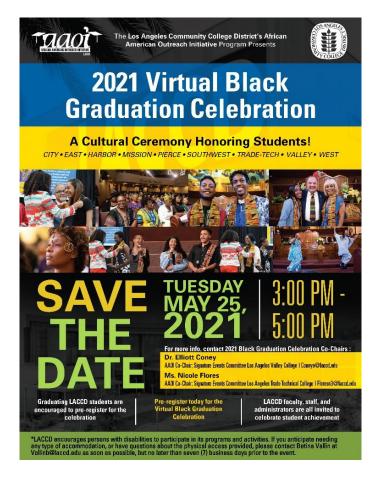
A kick-off meeting was held March 2 with the consulting firm of Hillard Heintze to begin the comprehensive districtwide needs assessment for campus security and safety at the nine colleges and other District sites.

The assessment is to be completed during the next four to five months prior to a new request for proposals that will lead to having a new campus security and safety services provider no later than January 1, 2022.

Commencement & Graduation Announcements

Commencement ceremonies for each of the nine colleges will be hosted online via the colleges' social media platforms on June 8, 2021. The colleges are busy with organizing special videos and other recognitions for students. More details will be announced soon.

Be sure to mark your calendars for Black Graduation, May 25 and Lavender Graduation for May 17. Both events will also be hosted online.





Student Trustee Election Information



All LACCD students wishing to run for the District Board Student Trustee position are reminded that applications are due March 15, 2020. Information about the District Student Trustee position and elections for all student government positions at the nine colleges is posted online.

Student Trustee elections will be held the week of April 26.

Students interested in running for the districtwide student trustee position apply through their home college for verification before names can appear on the ballot.

V. Communications

News Releases

LACCD Supports Citizenship For Essential Workers Act

http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/LACCD%20Supports%20Citizenship%2 0For%20Essential%20Workers%20Act.pdf

ELAC Men's Basketball Team Featured in "Last Chance U" Series on Netflix

http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/ELAC%20Mens%20Basketball%20Featured%20In%20Netflix%20Series%20Last%20Chance%20U.pdf

Pierce College Distributes Meals to Students

http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/Pierce%20College%20Partners%20with%20Everytable%20to%20Give%20Students%20Meals.pdf

WLAC Food Distributions to Students Highlighted

http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/2021-GroceryGiveaways-WLAC.pdf

Board Approves Three-Year Contract for Chancellor Rodriguez

http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/LACCD%20Board%20Approves%20Three%20Year%20Contract%20Extension%20for%20Chancellor%20Rodriguez%20020921%20final.pdf

Media Coverage Selected Highlights

Former LACCD Board Member Wins State Senate Seat

https://mynewsla.com/government/2021/03/03/assemblywoman-wins-state-senate-special-election/

L.A. Southwest College Theater Group Featured on NBC

https://www.nbclosangeles.com/on-air/la-southwest-college-presents-virtual-play-george-floyd/2537451/?amp&__twitter_impression=true