



MERCED
COLLEGE

EST. 1962

CONVOCATION 2017
GROWING OUR COMMUNITY

MERCED
COLLEGE



Grow here.
Go anywhere.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Merced College Colleagues,

Welcome back for the 2017-18 academic year. We are prepared to have one of the best years in Merced College's history, but it will take the collaborative efforts, energy, and leadership of each of you. We are launching a new brand and logo, new innovative practices and services, and begin the academic year with a renewed commitment and focus on student success. As we have for more than 50 years, we are a College with a sustained mission to "growing our community" through education.

In June, Merced College's accreditation was fully reaffirmed by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). This is tremendous news for our institution, our students, and the community we serve. Based on the Commission's comprehensive evaluation, Merced College's accreditation was reaffirmed for 18 months with a follow-up report that will address six recommendations for further improvement.

In its evaluation, ACCJC gave Merced College numerous commendations, recognizing our outstanding work and innovative practices. Of course, with commendations also come recommendations, which are welcomed as a part of the continuous quality improvement model of the Commission. The good news is the recommendations are not insurmountable, but rather opportunities to crystalize policies and practices to improve our programs and services.

As part of a branding study, we conducted numerous campus and community forums. We asked staff, students, and community members what they thought of when they heard "Merced College." The study revealed that when people think of Merced College, they think of the following three words: community, opportunity, and quality. I want to assure you that the health and well-being of our College is very strong through the lens of these three words. This year, it will be our responsibility to live out our new brand and mission and bring it to life in everything we do.

During this morning's Convocation, we will recognize and welcome our newest team members, honor outstanding employees, and learn more about what's in store for 2017-18. Additionally, we'll mix fun, inspiration, and vision to officially kick off the year.

I'm thankful for your commitment and dedication to Merced College and I'm proud to be a part of an outstanding team of professionals to help make this an even better place to serve students. These are exciting times. Thank you for all you do and enjoy the program!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Vitelli". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chris Vitelli
President

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Prelude

8:30 – 9:00 AM Slide Video – Guess Who? High School Graduation Pictures and Morning Selfies

Program

9:00 AM **Video – Growing our Community**

9:10 AM **Welcome and Introductions**

- Chris Vitelli, Superintendent/President

9:15 AM **Introduction of Leadership groups**

- Board members
- Cody Camacho, President, ASMC
- Andrea Hall-Cuccia, Acting President, Classified Senate
- Teresa Gudgel, President, CSEA
- Julie Clark, President, Academic Senate
- Patrick Mitchell, President, MCFA
- Dr. Shelly Conner, Chair, Management Team Council

9:25 AM **President's Report and Update**

- Chris Vitelli, Superintendent/President

9:40 AM **Awards Presentation**

- Manager of the Year Award, Presented by Management Association President
- Classified Professional of the Year Award, Presented by CSEA President
- Faculty of the Year, Presented by MCFA President
- President's Blue and Gold Award, Presented by Superintendent/President

9:50 AM **Introduction of New Merced College Staff**

- New Administrators/Managers, Dr. Joanne Schultz
- New Faculty, Dr. Brian Ellison
- New Classified Professionals, Dr. Mike McCandless

10:00 AM **Keynote Address**

- Kathy Buckley, Comedian and Motivational Speaker



10:50 AM

Announcements and Closing Remarks

- Thanks to the Staff Development Committee members
- Tonight's Convocation Carnival from 5:00 – 8:00 PM
- Keys, parking permits, and FLEX sign-in will all be available during lunch

11:00 AM

Conclude

FLEX 2017

11:15 AM – 12:00 PM

Division Meetings

- Instruction, Merced College Theater
- Student Services, Lesher 111

NOTE: Administrative Services, Lesher 111 @ 1:30 PM

Topics for Division Meetings:

- Division Updates
- ARC Report
 - Program Review
 - SLOs/SAOs
- Accreditation Update
- eLumen Update
- Tobacco Free Policy and Procedures
- 911 Shield (new emergency system)

12:00 – 1:00 PM

Lunch in the Cafeteria

1:00 PM

All-Student Services and Lesher Building Re-open

1:00 – 4:00 PM

Area/ Cohort Meetings*

Topics for Area Meetings:

- Flex
- Spring 2018 Course Schedules
- ADA/504 Compliance
- 15 to Finish Initiative
- Enrollment Management
- Program Review and SLO Work

* Meeting content and format may vary

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Kathy Buckley

Kathy Buckley is a five-time American Comedy Awards Nominee as Best Stand-Up Female Comedienne and the winner of countless other awards for her work. She is also an actress, writer and producer, author, humanitarian, and one of the country's leading motivational speakers.

Her television appearances include The Tonight Show, Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, The Today Show, Entertainment Tonight, Extra, Inside Edition, CNN, HBO, VH1's Stand-Up Spotlight, Comic Strip Live, Evening at the Improv, and Caroline's Comedy Hour. E! Entertainment even named her one of the "World's Most Intriguing Women" in their original special.

In addition to comedy, Kathy is an actress who is also known for her co-starring roles in TV series such as Touched by an Angel, and starred in her own original, award-winning PBS special, No Labels, No Limits. Additionally, Kathy is an active volunteer for causes close to her heart. She cherishes the time she spends helping numerous children's charities such as No Limits, a non-profit organization for children who are hard of hearing or deaf.

A sought after motivational speaker, she has inspired people around the nation, speaking at corporate events, conferences, universities, and more. She is the author of the heartfelt and hilarious book "If You Could Hear What I See." She has also been recognized by the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army for outstanding efforts toward disability employment awareness and is a key speaker for Anthony Robbins' Life Mastery Classes.

Whether performing in a comedy club, appearing on television, speaking publicly, teaching at camps for children, or appearing in any number of other settings, Kathy Buckley shares her message that anything can be achieved when the heart and the mind work together. Her extraordinary story is truly amazing to all who experience it.

INTERDISCIPLINARY LITERACY CENTER (ILC)



Merced College was awarded a \$1.5 million BSSOT Grant, making a new literacy center possible. The ILC is a community space of peers and mentors working together to help students become better readers, writers, and thinkers across all disciplines. We help students grow into confident, capable communicators. Services include small group and individual assistance from faculty and Embedded Peer Mentors, laptop computers to do classwork, Internet access, and printing services. All are welcome! Come visit us!



Location: Communication
Building Room #2

Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

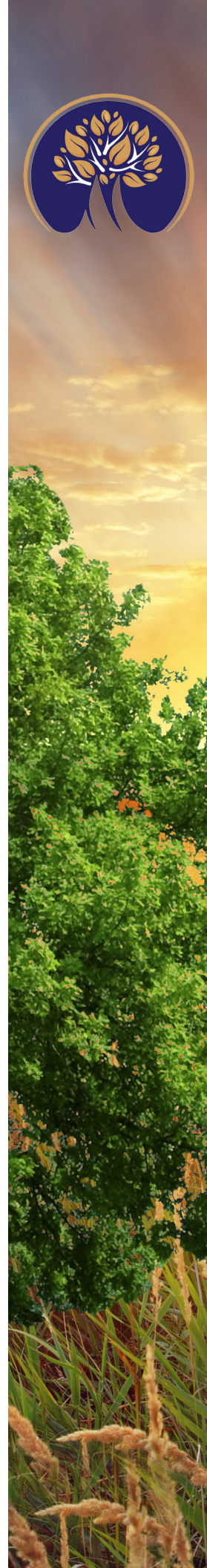
“Good writing is clear thinking made visible.” – Bill Wheeler

HABITS OF MIND (HoM)



Please join us this evening at the Convocation Carnival to learn more about Habits of Mind. HoM centers on helping students, faculty, staff, and administrators to produce knowledge and develop critical perspectives on their own thoughts, attitudes, beliefs, and work product. For more information, please contact Pam Huntington at pamela.huntington@mccd.edu.

“The value of a college education is not learning all of the facts, but the training of the mind to think.” – Albert Einstein.





2017 ASSESSMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC) REPORT

1. Merced College received two out of the five Commendations from the ACCJC Visit-Team on March 6-9, 2017 on our robust Program Review processes

Commendation #1:

The team commends the college on its comprehensive program review process that identifies the strengths and weaknesses of programs in order to inform resource allocation.

Commendation #4:

The team commends the college for its Shared Governance Handbook, Integrated Planning Handbook, and Program Review Handbook which are thoughtful and comprehensive guiding documents.

2. Merced College has made significant progress on our Student Learning Outcomes Assessment [SLOA] and Program Review processes
 - a. Thank You to Prof. Valarie Albano, the Cohort Assessment Trainers [CATs] and all our Faculty members! For the first time, the SLOA for our active courses hit 100% or now we have assessed every one of our active courses at least once in the last 5 years.

Total Number of Courses	782
Total Number of [Non-Active] Courses	141
Total Number of [Active] Courses	641
Total # Courses Assessed 2X	320
Total # Courses Assessed 1X	321
Total # Courses Assessed 0X	0
% of Courses that have been Assessed at least 1X in the last 5 years	100.00%

As required by the accreditation agency now we will transition into the Continuous Improvement cycle.

- a. Thanks to Prof. Edward Modafferi and the Assessment Review Committee [ARC]. We are now at about 99% of Program Review completions:
 - i. Administrative Services has completed: 10/10 or 100% of their Program Reviews
 - ii. Instruction has completed: 87/88 or 99% of their Program Reviews
 - iii. Student Services has completed: 16/16 or 100% of their Program Reviews

3. Goals for 2017-2018

- a. Meeting Recommendations from ACCJC
 - i. College to implement robust data analysis and disaggregate the data to identify what impedes student success or how is the data being used to improve student learning
 - ii. College engage in processes that ensure the quality, integrity and effectiveness of its distance education programs
 - iii. College assess all areas including Program and Institutional level outcomes to improve student learning

- b. eLumen update – the College is transitioning to an institution-wide software for our Student Learning Outcomes / Service Area Outcomes Assessments and the Program Review processes:
 - i. Planning to Plan and Technical meetings; Authentication and Test web-site has now been completed
 - ii. All MCCCD Courses data and Division Area structures were up-loaded over the Summer 2017
 - iii. Configuration to include – SLO, PLO, Action Plans and Templates are in progress will be completed in Fall 2017
 - iv. Training of Coordinators, Data Steward and Faculty/Staff will be done during the Fall 2017
 - v. Go live later this year by December 2017

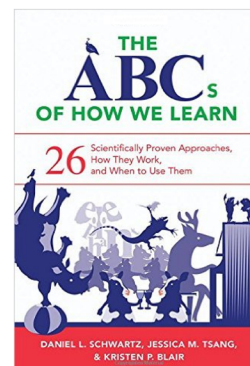


PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

ALC2018
Active Learning Conference
Jan 12, 2018 | Merced College

Presenter Proposal Deadline: 9/29/17
Registration Deadline: 11/3/2017

Registration & Conference Information:
www.mccd.edu/faculty-staff/alc



Keynote Speaker
Dr. Kristen P. Blair
Stanford Graduate School of Education





ACCREDITATION

Merced College's *accreditation status has been reaffirmed*. Based on a comprehensive evaluation by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), the College has been reaffirmed for 18 months. The College is required to submit a follow-up report to address the team's findings and recommendations by October 1, 2018.

This academic year, we will continue to work to address the following recommendations for compliance:

1. Engage in robust data analysis, including data disaggregation, to identify the underlying causes that impedes student success, develop interventions to improve student performance, assess the effectiveness of interventions upon implementation and communicate results to the campus community.
2. Engage in processes that ensure the quality, integrity, and effectiveness of its distance education program, including:
 - a. A framework that identifies the rationale for which courses are delivered in the DE format;
 - b. Mechanisms for determining selection of faculty for teaching in distance education and the training of those faculty;
 - c. The development and evaluation of DE courses to ensure faculty initiated regular and substantive contact;
 - d. The disaggregation and review of SLO data by mode of delivery and an evaluation of the implications for the DE program;
 - e. The development of equitable and accessible student support services and processes for evaluating for quality, demand and sufficiency.
3. Assess all courses, including program, and institutional level outcomes and use the results to improve student learning.
4. Plan and manage its financial resources in a manner that ensures sustainable financial stability.
5. Board follow its policy on performing and conducting bi-annual self-evaluations.
6. Board follow its policies regarding delegation of authority related to the Superintendent/President and ensure the Superintendent/President is able to implement and administer board policies without Board interference in college operations.

In the coming weeks, the Merced College Accreditation website will host a detailed action plan. This document will track and report progress made on each of the action steps. We look forward to a collaborative effort to fully address the Commission's recommendations. Thank you in advance for your help and contributions.

If you have any questions, then please direct them to the Accreditation Liaison Officer for Merced College, Dr. Brian Ellison, Vice President of Instruction.

CONVOCATION CARNIVAL

FRIDAY. AUGUST 11TH

5PM-8PM



Merced College

Convocation Carnival



*Food, Drinks, & a **Dunk Tank***

*Water Slide for the kids and a
* balloon artist (no ticket required)*

**Free for staff & their immediate household
family members**

5 tickets will be given to each person (1 for tri-tip or pulled pork
sandwich and 4 for drink, other food items, or dunk tank turn)

Food items (sandwiches excluded), drink, & dunk tank are 1
ticket each

(additional tickets will be available for purchase)



**Event will be held in the IAC
Amphitheater**



Vision

Merced College will provide transformative and empowering educational experiences to meet student and community needs.

Mission

Growing our community through education and workforce training:

Lifelong learning
Basic skills
Career technical education
Transfer
Degree/Certificate programs

Ensuring student success through equitable access, continuous quality improvement, institutional effectiveness, and student achievement.

Core Values

STUDENT SUCCESS

We focus on student access and success.

SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

We support an atmosphere of trust where communication and teamwork cultivate a rich environment for teaching and learning.

PROACTIVE

We utilize agility, innovation, and responsible risk-taking to create our preferred future.

PARTNERSHIP

We actively engage with the community and community partners to respond to cultural, educational, economic, and technological needs.

DIVERSITY

We embrace diversity and equity as community strengths and celebrate these qualities in our institution.

SELF-REFLECTION

We strive for continuous improvement based on data-driven self-reflection, objective assessment, and dialogue.

Motto

“Students are our focus
and we are known by their success”