



San Diego Community College District
Office of the Chancellor

August 31, 2018

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

The new academic year 2018-19 has begun, and by all indications, we are off to a great start, albeit with some important changes in direction.

Convocations – Initiating the Year with Reconnecting and Planning

In welcoming everyone to the new year, I always like to mention a quote from my favorite book, Habits of the Heart, by the great sociologist Robert Bellah, who studied and wrote about individualism and collectivism in America. He noted that every community has its own culture, which developed through years of interactions and conversations. About these cultures, Dr. Bellah said, “Cultures are dramatic conversations about things that matter to their participants.” Those of us in higher education begin each academic year through conversations, which are organized around special convocations and which are by no means lacking in drama. Here are some images from the convocations that officially opened the new academic year for the great institutions of the San Diego Community College District: City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges, and Continuing Education.



Chancellor Constance Carroll at Mesa College Convocation



City College Convocation



President Ricky Shabazz



President Pamela Luster



Mesa College Convocation



Miramar College Convocation



President Patricia Hsieh



Each of the presidents presided at their respective convocations, Presidents Dr. Ricky Shabazz (City), Dr. Pam Luster (Mesa), Dr. Patricia Hsieh (Miramar), and Dr. Carlos Turner Cortez (Continuing Education) shared their vision for the coming year, along with the governance leaders and key administrative leaders of the campuses. As always, Board of Trustees President Dr. Maria Nieto Senour, AFT Guild President Jim Mahler, and I made presentations at each of the convocations. In the course of my remarks, I emphasized two important developments and directions that will receive great attention in the new year, as well as a few other topics:

The State Budget and Enrollment Management

The state budget for community colleges represents an enormous change for all California community colleges this year. After a difficult year of discussions, the Governor signed a new funding mechanism into law. The new formula, called the “Student Centered Funding Formula,” now includes elements of “performance-based” funding. Simply put, instead of funding the community college districts largely on the basis of enrollment, i.e., full-time-equivalent students (FTES), the funding mechanism now de-emphasizes enrollment as the exclusive factor and includes other elements related to student needs and success metrics. The new balance of funding factors is:

- 70% FTES (the State plan is to reduce this further - to 65% in 2019-10)
- 20% Supplemental/Equity Factors (such as students’ economic levels, financial need, etc.)
- 10% Student Success/Outcomes Metrics (e.g., associate degrees, certificates, transfer rates, completion rates in transfer-level English and mathematics, etc.)

In practical terms, this means that we will reduce the SDCCD enrollment targets that used to emphasize growth in favor of offering fewer classes than originally planned in the intersession, spring, and summer sessions, which will need to produce a higher average class size overall. It also means that we will have many studies and conversations about addressing the equity factors and student success outcomes metrics. The Colleges and Continuing Education are already doing a great job in these areas, but we need to address this significant change in our approach to enrollment management. As a reminder, each FTES equals 15 units completed by a student. The chart below compares our targets from the previous year to the targets we will be working toward in the current year.

	2017-2018 FTES Targets	2018-2019 FTES Targets
City	10,649 FTES	9,604 FTES
Mesa	15,444 FTES	13,490 FTES
Miramar	10,004.1 FTES	9,504 FTES
Continuing Education	8,500 FTES • CDCP: 6,686 * • Regular: 1,814	7,407 FTES • CDCP: 6,016 * • Regular: 1,391
District Total	44,597.1 FTES	40,005 FTES

Many thanks in advance to the vice presidents, deans, department chairs, and faculty for your willingness to tackle this change while ensuring that our students will continue to receive the best education we can possibly provide.

The San Diego Promise

As you know, the San Diego Community College District enthusiastically joined the national movement, initiated by former President Barack Obama, to make community college education free for students who are willing to make a full-time commitment to their education. In fall 2016, the SDCCD started with a pilot initiative of 186 students from the San Diego Unified School District, the Monarch High School for homeless students, and our own Continuing Education program, and were able to fund the pilot from District Auxiliary resources. In the next year, we expanded the Promise to 600 students, this time using funds raised philanthropically, from our own generous employees and from generous donors in the community. This fall, the initiative has already grown to over 2,100 students total, as the result of state legislation (AB 19) that funds the first year of the program and as the result of our fundraising effort that funds the second year of the program, thereby ensuring student completion.

The San Diego Promise is also now open to all high school graduates in San Diego, including charter and private schools. This program is definitely a win-win, providing opportunities for students who could not otherwise afford to attend college. Not only do they receive free tuition and enrollment fees; they are given textbook grants and important support services. As a result, their success outcomes and achievement levels are impressive, indicating higher performance levels than their counterparts in the regular student body. Our fundraising activities will increase in the current year, kicked off by a special event in September, headlined by Mesa College alumna and actor Annette Bening. Everyone's ideas and participation are encouraged and welcome in this great effort to serve our community by providing affordable, accessible education.

Several Other Plans and Projects

During the course of the year, we will also be addressing the completion of the Propositions S and N bond measure projects: the D,T, and A Building remodels at City College, as well as the Child Development Center; the Fine and Dramatic Arts Building and Business Technology Center at Mesa College; and the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course, a joint project of the City and County of San Diego in conjunction with the District and Miramar College Public Safety academies. It is extraordinary to see our \$1.555 billion in construction projects finally coming to an end, with all projects on time and within budget, and with the highest possible bond ratings (Triple A) from Moody's and Standard and Poor's. The Colleges and Continuing Education will be working in-depth on the statewide Guided Pathways Initiative, designed to better define and improve student progress toward academic goals. Our efforts to protect and support immigrant and DACA students will be continuing, in keeping with our District's philosophy and mission of inclusion and multiculturalism. And I know that everyone will welcome the completion stage of the Enterprise Resource Planning (EFP) project as it nears the implementation of Campus Solutions, which will be the final step in the integrated PeopleSoft software conversion. Although difficult, the end result of having up-to-date and fully integrated finance, human resources, and student systems will be well worth the effort. This has been a truly

massive project and the hundreds of people who are involved are owed our greatest appreciation.

In November, there will also be a national, state, and local general election, which this time will also include three seats on the San Diego Community College District Board of Trustees. I urge everyone to take an interest in all levels of this election and, above all, exercise your Constitutional right to vote.

Chancellor's Forums

There is much more information to share and many more conversations to be had. For this reason, there will be five Chancellor's Forums during the month of September. I hope that you will attend one of them.

Chancellor's Forums			
	DATE	LOCATION	TIME
City	Tuesday, September 18	MS 162	2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Mesa	Monday, September 10	MC 211 A/B	2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Miramar	Wednesday, September 12	L-105 Auditorium	2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Continuing Education	Monday, September 24	ECC – Room TBD	2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
District Office	Monday, September 17	Room 245	2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Board of Trustees and I are looking forward to a very productive year and we hope it will be an enjoyable and rewarding year both for the extraordinary faculty, classified professionals, administrators, and student leaders within the San Diego Community College District and for our many supporters in the community who make it possible for us to succeed in our goals.



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