

# President's Update #2

August 15, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

This is the week that everything begins. I trust that you have had an opportunity to relax and be refreshed over the past two months. As I mentioned last month, I will keep our large welcome back meeting to an hour. While the individual bargaining units and other meetings will take place, it is an extremely busy day and our faculty and staff need to be focused on getting ready for the first day of classes. We will have continental breakfast and lunch provided. Lunch has been donated by the IVC Foundation and Chips and Salsa.

We have a number of challenges this Academic Year, the most pressing of which is the budget and preparations for our next Accreditation.

But as important as those issues are, they do not define IVC. IVC is about people. Our college is the sum of the work of more than 300 employees, 9,000 students and countless parents and other supporters in the community.

This campus has been a lonely place this summer: It's nice to have everyone back.

## Redistricting

As many of you are aware, our Board at its July meeting approved the launch of a redistricting process. Beginning in the November 2012 election, each Trustee will be elected only by voters who live in the Trustee's District. This will eliminate the needs for expensive Valley wide campaigns. We will also be redrawing districts so that they are equal in size. The Board has appointed a seven member advisory committee to assist in this process.

We plan to have our proposed new districts presented to the Board at its November 16, 2011 meeting. To get there, we will be having a Board/Committee workshop on the boundaries September 14 and public hearings in each of the current Board Districts in October.

A special website is being developed and all schedules as well as committee meeting agendas and minutes will be posted there.

## Farewell to Dr. Lianna Zhao

Dr. Lianna Zhao has accepted a position of Dean of Math, Science and Engineering at Irvine Valley College earlier this month.

She will be continuing to serve as a consultant for the Title V 2+2 grant, which ends October 1<sup>st</sup> and will complete the final report for the grant.

We will truly miss Lianna, but wish her the very best in the next phase of her career. Tina Aguirre, Dean of Health and Public Safety will be covering the Science Math and Engineering Division. Thank you, Tina for again stepping up to fill a very important gap!

## **Armando Mendez**

It is with a heavy heart that I must announce the sudden passing of Armando Mendez, a longtime adjunct instructor and instructional leader. Armando died August 14. As we gather more information regarding tributes, we will pass them along to the campus community. Suffice to say, Armando will be missed greatly by his students and colleagues.

## **Calexico Classrooms**

The class schedule (with room assignments) has been set for the Calexico Extended campus. All classes with the exception of two classes have been accommodated and those classes have been rescheduled for the main campus.

We have been working out logistics issues that have come up due to the changes in Calexico. For those who are tracking it, SDSU is charging us \$27,000 for use of their classrooms for the coming semester.

## **Educational Master Plan and Budget**

The Educational Master Plan was approved by the Board of Trustees at the July Board meeting. It is imperative that this document drives our fiscal planning and in that regard, John Lau will be meeting with all Deans and then Vice Presidents to make sure that the ties between the EMP and this year's budget are solid.

## **...and Speaking of the Budget**

The California Community College League has informed us to prepare for mid-year budget cuts of about 2.3%. The Legislature returned today for the last four weeks of the session. Members will certainly be talking about the bad news that came out last week: state revenues are more than \$500 below forecast. The League is anticipating mid-year cuts to the system of \$127 million. So, stay tuned...