PCC Logo**PASADENA AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

**President’s Latino Advisory Committee (PLAC)**

**Mission:** *To enhance the success of Latino students at PCC*

**Committee Minutes**

**Wednesday, May 20, 2020**

***Members Present:*** C. Altamirano, M. Alvarez, J. Aragon, A. Boekelheide, A. Chavez, E. Endrijonas, D. Hernandez, M. Mares-Tamayo, R. Martinez, S. Murga, I. Ocedueda, C. Olivo, Y. Parada, I. Ramirez, J. Robledo

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Meeting called to order at 10:05AM.

1. **Approval of Minutes- April 15, 2020 (**Approved)
2. **President’s Report** (Erika Endrijonas)
   1. Pasadena City College (“PCC”) is expected to take a large financial hit due to the outcomes of the current pandemic. PCC is required to pass a budget at the June Board of Trustees meeting and the final budget in September. There will be an August revise based on income and sales tax, which is anticipated to get worse as people are not spending. PCC is taking a multi-year outlook with its budget planning.
   2. With the CARES Act, PCC will be receiving $15.2 million, out of which, $7.6 million will be specifically for student aid and the remainder is to help the college. Originally, 7,500 students were identified as qualifying for financial aid, but due to the new limitations set by the US Secretary of Education, Betsy Devos, the number of qualifying students went down to 5,500.
   3. PCC closed its campus on March 18th and all instruction became remote. After about a week, custodians and M&O employees were back working on the campus. Classified Staff managers are working on scheduling staff to start rotating back into the office at a minimum of 8 hours per week. This will allow PCC to plan ahead and be prepared to have social distancing in place once the campus opens its doors to students and the public.
   4. The plan is to build the fall schedule with largely online classes, but also with some face-to-face classes with social distancing in place.
   5. There has only been one confirmed case of an employee with COVID-19. The area where that person works has been completely sanitized and the individual as well as the people who might have been in contact are in quarantine.
3. **Reports** 
   1. Olivo reported on the following:
      1. PCC was one of the first institutions to get the CARES Act funding straight to its students. The Foundation, in collaboration with Student Services, has been working on establishing Instacart orders for students ineligible to receive any aid.
      2. In partnership with LA County Supervisor Barger, PCC has compiled a list of food pantries in the Los Angeles area; over 60% of PCC students live outside the Pasadena area.
      3. Staff members are helping struggling students apply to Cal Fresh online. These applications really reveal the depth and gravity of this situation.
      4. There have been over 7,000 virtual counseling appointments since PCC started offering remote services.
      5. Over 700 students are planning to transfer in fall and over 5,500 qualify for an Associate’s degree.
      6. The Pathways FYE Open House has been scheduled for May 21st at 5:00PM via Facebook and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AaNxmQVnfLY&feature=youtu.be) live.
   2. Altamirano provided the following Pathways and ALE updates:
      1. Pathways is supporting transferring students, as well as helping high school students with their transition to PCC.
      2. Any first-time incoming college students with less than 20 units will be connected with the Pathways program. The goal is to provide a welcoming environment, help students feel connected, and make sure they have a path and resources needed to succeed.
      3. The Noche de Excelencia event originally scheduled for May 19th was cancelled, but applications were still being accepted up until the May 15th deadline. The committee is reviewing the applications this week and will award a minimum of seven PLAC scholarships.
      4. A survey was sent out to students and based on the results, the LatinX graduation will be held virtually on June 5th at 6:00PM. LatinX graduates will be receiving a package in the mail, which will include a certificate, sash, and a congratulatory letter. Students are being encouraged to take pictures with their sash and provide a quote, which will be live on the PCC website.
   3. Mares-Tamayo shared her gratitude for having the privilege of working with a great group of PCC employees. A personal thank you to Altamirano for spearheading the PLAC scholarships this year.
   4. Mares-Tamayo shared the status of the emergency aid applications that are being reviewed and the steps being taken to address the most immediate needs first. Students are being encouraged to continue applying to FAFSA applications.
   5. Hernandez provided updates on the PCC Quest Center:
      1. There will be a spirit day every day of June for LGBT Pride Month.
      2. The Quest Center is constantly providing updates and resources on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/PCCQUEST) and other [social media](https://pasadena.edu/campus-life/quest-center.php) avenues.
      3. Free immigration legal services are being provided in collaboration with CARECEN, an immigrants rights non-profit organization.
      4. A DACA Decision Town Hall will be scheduled to answer any questions once the Supreme Court makes a decision on DACA.
   6. Murga reported that both Adelante Youth Alliance conferences have been cancelled for 2020, but they will be launching an [Adelante Academy](https://www.adelanteya.org/academy), which will be providing the same workshops online starting in July 2020. More information to be provided upon finalization. In the meantime, Adelante is still providing academic assistance and enrichment activities to interested students.
   7. Alvarez provided the following MESA updates:
      1. MESA continues to host virtual workshops.
      2. MESA is hosting the [LA Bioscience Hub’s Bio-Entrepreneurship seminars](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=XjZBwqeoIkWuE_Nmeh07VvgOlN3ibIhNqYsuDTH0e49URVgxUEpWS1NJUFVCRTFJWUlQMzBQOExCNC4u).



* + 1. Coordinating the NASA JPL Internships with the Freemen Center. The number of internships being accepted have scaled down to eight from the 30 spots being offered in previous years.
    2. Due to the pandemic, several internships have been cancelled.
    3. There are 60 MESA students on the transfer list and 50 have already received an acceptance letter. Out of the total, 30% are Latino/a/X and 80% are first generation students.

1. **Announcements**
   1. Olivo announced the first annual APIDA Graduation Celebration in honor of Esther Takei Nishio. A total of 996 API students have been invited to participate and register by June 1st at [PCC APIDA Grad PCC Link](http://www.tinyurl.com/PCCAPIDAGradPCC).
   2. Parada made an announcement about the Disaster Relief Assistance for Immigrants (DRAI) funding available to undocumented immigrants, which Olivo confirmed that information has been shared with both employees and students.
   3. Martinez congratulated Endrijonas on the successful Coronavirus Forum with Congressman Adam Schiff.
   4. Boekelheide highlighted the second session on food insecurity on May 19th with Congressman Schiff. PCC is glad to have this partnership with his office.
   5. Aragon announced that the Latino Equality Alliance will be making a decision on its scholarships winners.
2. **Adjourn** at 10:59AM