**PASADENA AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

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

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

**Thursday, October 3, 2017, 10:00 AM**

**President’s Conference Room**

**Members in attendance:** C. Altamirano, J. Carbajal-Ramos, G. Caringella, A. Chavez, J. De La Cuba, J. Gil, G. Herrera, D. Leyba, K. Lopez, M. Mares-Tamayo, M. Morales, C. Olivo, Y. Parada, J. Perez, L. Romero, R. Vurdien

**Welcome and Introductions**

President Vurdien welcomed Margo Morales, Council liaison to Councilmember Margaret McAustin to the committee. President Vurdien reported enrollment this semester is slightly down but the college will meet the quota that is required. Currently, there are 23,900 students enrolled. Statewide enrollment has gone down but PCC has stayed consistent. More out of district students are coming to PCC – 65% of our students are out of district.

There are 26 high schools that are in-district with PCC. Only 149 students were qualified for the Promise Program this semester. The demographics of these students who qualified came from Arcadia, Asians, Latinos, and African Americans.

President Vurdien mentioned at the last Board of Trustees meeting in Arcadia –parents of Arcadia High School students have a different vision of a community college; therefore they don’t encourage their children to attend community colleges.

President Vurdien will be retiring June 2018. The district has already begun to look for a firm for the presidential search.

**Student Affairs Update**VP Olivo reminded the committee to inform students to submit their DACA renewal requests by October 5th. She announced this year’s Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities will be in San Diego. VP Olivo and President Vurdien will be attending and taking 30 students with them to this conference.

The planning process for a Safe Zone center has begun; it will be a room that offers services such as legal counseling, group meetings and mentorship. It will be opening sometime in December in the R Building, on the 4th floor. The Safe Zone Center will be a room advocating to help LGBTQ and undocumented students and to better serve the needs of these students. These group of individuals is a population that is in the shadows unless they identify themselves. Over 600 faculty members have been trained and educated on the needs of these students.

Bienvenido Day – It was August 25th a day to welcome students to the campus and learn about all the resources PCC has to offer before they begin the Fall semester.

Director of Student Equity M. Mares-Tamayo briefed about Congressman Holden’s event held on September 21st – which was a community forum on the status of Latinos and higher education. A panel of education leaders, education advocates, parents and students came together to discuss ways in which they can push for greater access and opportunities for Latino students in the 41st Assembly District. There is a need to build cultural competency with the community people.

The Pathways expansion will be completed by December 1. The L Building has been given $1 million to upgrade and to adopt an open and welcoming environment with an integrated welcome center.

Director of Student Equity M. Mares-Tamayo spoke about Student Equity: multiple measures processes which was launched this Fall semester. It uses assessment scores and GPA for placement into college English and Math. The equity classroom observation is a tool for teaching culturally responsiveness in the classroom. It plays a role not only in communicating and receiving information but also in shaping the thinking process of groups and individuals. It’s an observation tool to evaluate the classroom and educational experiences through the lens of justice and equity.

The college received 100 laptops for the student laptop loan program with equity funds.

Great Minds in Stem is a conference in two weeks from Oct 18-21 at the Pasadena Convention Center. PCC will be taking students to this event.

The student success committee integrated plan is a way of looking in to see how the college provides the students with guided entry. The college is looking at the integrated plan and identifying five areas to work on during the 2017-2019 cycle.

The PLAC Scholarship dinner will either be held on May 16 or 17th at 6pm in Creveling Lounge. Save the date cards will be mailed out by the end of the year.

**Future Meeting Date:**
Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 10:00AM