

NORCO COLLEGE REGULAR UPDATE

December 14, 2017

Hello, Mustangs!

Below is the newest Norco College Regular Update, aligned to the college's seven Strategic Planning Goals. In case you've missed an issue, all Regular Updates are archived on the President's webpage: <http://www.norcollege.edu/about/president/Pages/Regular-Update.aspx>.

Happy reading!

- Strategic Goal 1: Increase Student Achievement and Success
 - Completion Initiative and Guided Pathways
 - The Completion Initiative team attended a statewide Guided Pathways Conference November 30 to December 2. The big focus is equity, with efforts directed at eliminating equity gaps and ensuring all students complete their program of study that leads to transfer or career.
 - The Completion Initiative/Guided Pathways team completed a self-assessment tool, which is designed to set the baseline for each college; this has been approved by ISPC and COTW. A detailed description is linked to the December 7 COTW agenda (scroll down to find the Guided Pathways Self-Assessment Tool information): <http://www.norcollege.edu/about/president/strategic-planning/Documents/cotw/2017-18/2017-12-07-COTW-Agenda.pdf>.
 - All are encouraged to attend the upcoming Completion Initiative 2.0 Summit on Friday, February 2, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., location TBA.
 - The pathways for all 18 Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) are complete and available on the Schools webpages. Please explore the Schools webpages at <http://www.norcollege.edu/schools/pages/index.aspx>.
 - **Hey, Look!** The ISPC, at its December 7 retreat, agreed to explore reorganization of the college around the four schools, and to explore student success, counseling, and advising teams for the four schools, using a caseload approach. This will be a big conversation, and everyone's best thinking is needed. Please talk about the idea with others in the hallways, near your office, and around campus. Norco College will be among the first, if not *the* first, California community college to reorganize around meta-majors.
 - Summer Advantage
 - **WOW!** The 2017 Summer Advantage Report that will be released soon indicates that the Summer Advantage students in our 2013 cohort completed degrees at a rate nearly double that of their other first-time college counterparts. Within a four-year period, Summer Advantage students completed degrees at a rate of 18.5% versus all other first-time students at a rate of 9.9%.
 - Congratulations to Daniela McCarron, whose new title is Dean of Special Funded Programs (approved by the Board of Trustees on December 12). In addition to

programs such as CalWorks, Trio, and Upward Bound, the “special funded programs” in Dean McCarson’s title includes oversight of the Summer Advantage program—we’re very excited about that!

- Strategic Goal 2: Improve the Quality of Student Life
 - Creating Student, Classroom, and Faculty Spaces
 - Portables may be used to create a student “village” space (providing a home for groups such as LGBTQ, Puente, Umoja, PTK, Honors, Dreamers) in proximity to portables that will be added for classrooms and faculty offices. Dr. Ocegueda and Dr. Muto are in early discussions with others, prior to the college’s researching designs and cost estimates. The concept involves an equity focus.
 - Smoking Cessation Plan
 - On January 1, 2018, Norco College becomes a smoke-free campus.
- Strategic Goal 3: Increase Student Access
 - Early Registration
 - To support greater student access, effective winter 2018, the application deadline has been moved forward to the first Friday after the beginning of the fall and spring semesters, and the first day of winter and summer sessions. This was approved by ISPC on December 7.
 - Enrollment Management
 - Winter enrollment is strong, trending above target. This is what is needed for the college to be on target for the year.
 - Dr. Parks, working with department chairs, added six class sections to meet student waitlist demand. The college is offering 25 more sections than last winter, 172 total sections. For the schedule of winter session classes, click here: <http://www.norcollege.edu/academics/Documents/18WIN/18WIN-Class-Schedule-NC.pdf>.
 - High School Partnership Program
 - Batch enrollment of Corona-Norco Unified School District (CNUSD) high school seniors is being explored. The goal is to increase the college-going rate in the region by making the transition from high school to college as seamless as the transition between middle school and high school, saying to incoming students, “We’re ready for you.”
 - CNUSD is eager to expand dual enrollment to most or all of its high schools. This is also a strategy for increasing the college-going rate in our region.
 - Next Phase Program
 - Albert Jimenez is exploring GED and tutoring solutions for the Next Phase program.
 - A hiring team is being put together for the Next Phase director position. The position is made possible with one-time funding (18 months), with the goal to generate growth and funding to sustain the position and increase FTES for the college as a whole.
 - We are exploring a partnership with the Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) on a construction-training project. ARC already partners with institutions and organizations on construction-related training in LA prisons and has a good model.
 - Debra Mustain is exploring a CTE pathway for construction.
 - We are exploring a partnership with Pitzer College for a GED-to-bachelor’s degree pathway.
 - Veterans Education/Promise Program

- **WOW! Look!** Norco College again appears on the *Military Times* list of Best Colleges for Veterans. Among two-year colleges, for 2018 Norco is ranked second in California, 16th in the country. For more information, click here: <http://www.norcollege.edu/news/Pages/Military-Times-Best-Colleges-2018--Military-Friendly-Award.aspx>.
 - **WOW! Look!** Norco College has been named a bronze-level Military Friendly® School Award recipient for 2018. For more information, click here: <http://www.norcollege.edu/news/Pages/Military-Times-Best-Colleges-2018--Military-Friendly-Award.aspx>.
 - The college received proposals for design services for Phase 1, the first Veterans Resource structure, which will be funded by \$2 million from the state made possible by the advocacy of Assemblywoman Cervantes. There was a meeting on December 11 to discuss design firm candidates. Next week, five architecture firms will be interviewed, from which one will be selected to negotiate a contract.
 - A Veterans Outreach and Recruitment Specialist, Zachary Emorey, has been hired and begun work. The position is made possible with one-time funding (18 months), with the goal to generate growth and funding to sustain the position and increase FTES for the college as a whole.
 - A hiring team is being put together for the Veterans director position. The position is made possible with one-time funding (18 months), with the goal to generate growth and funding to sustain the position and increase FTES for the college as a whole.
- Strategic Goal 4: Create Effective Community Partnerships
 - National Photonics Research Center
 - Dr. Reece and Congressman Calvert’s staff meet monthly and are working on a federal funding strategy.
- Strategic Goal 5: Strengthen Student Learning
 - Developing Academic Programs
 - Early Childhood Education: The college, along with the Riverside County of Education, is exploring the development of a clinical site for early childhood education.
 - Social Justice: A conversation has started around the idea of a social justice program of studies at Norco College.
- Strategic Goal 6: Demonstrate Effective Planning Processes
 - Evaluations of planning and resource allocation processes
 - Dr. Aycock provided an overview of the 2016-17 Report on the Annual Evaluation Cycle, <http://norcollege.edu/about/academic-affairs/Documents/SS-Research/Annual-Evaluation-Report-2016-17.pdf>, at the December 7 ISPC retreat. This is the fifth year in a row we have completed the evaluation cycle, as noted on the Strategic Planning Timeline on the Evaluation Procedures webpage: <http://norcollege.edu/about/president/strategic-planning/Pages/Evaluation-Procedures.aspx>.
 - Prioritization (Supplies and Equipment, Staff, Technology, Facilities)
 - ISPC has made recommendations on prioritization and reported at COTW on December 7.
 - Strategic Planning

- The timeline for revision of the college’s strategic plan has been changed to provide for a revision of the Educational Master Plan (EMP) first. The EMP will drive all other strategic plans.
 - Technology
 - A “Quick Fix” trial program for technical support of college-provided laptops, tablets, Surface Pros, and iPads will begin January 4. Technical support service personnel will be in the College Resource Center (CRC) during college hour, 12:50-1:50, the first Thursday of each month through the spring semester.
 - Traffic
 - A parking lot assessment for signage and traffic flow has been received from a traffic engineer and will support traffic mitigation efforts for the spring semester.
- Strategic Goal 7: Strengthen our Commitment to our Employees
 - Hiring and Personnel
 - We’re excited by new hires approved through the prioritization process. Dr. Reece distributed at the most recent COTW meeting a list of personnel to be hired, based on prioritization lists recommended by ISPC; the full list was emailed to nor-all on the afternoon of December 7. The college has been striving to be earlier with hiring this year and has achieved that goal.
 - Professional Development
 - A team from Norco College is participating in the 2018 Leading from the Middle Academy, organized by the statewide RP Group and consisting of three three-day sessions focused on Guided Pathways. The team of Quinton Bemiller, Colleen Molko, Dan Reade, Tim Russell, and Kara Zamiska will develop a two-year plan focusing on teaching/learning and professional development.
 - Faculty FLEX day is February 9. Faculty, watch your inbox for more information.
 - Spring Staff Professional Development Day is coming in January or February. This event is coordinated by staff from a staff perspective; it is a great opportunity to get together with other staff to learn about the institution and one’s role in the institution. Staff, watch your inbox for more information.