



Newsletter

May 29, 2020

Hello Mustang Faculty,

During this COVID-19 break in our traditional classroom environments, Norco College Online offers weekly newsletters designed to quickly highlight the news, resources and tips for you in this online transition.

EXCITING ONLINE NEWS!

The 2020 [Online Teaching Conference](#) is available for FREE on June 17-19, 2020! This is unprecedented. After a crazy Spring semester of transitioning your courses online, I highly recommend getting insight and inspiration from this annual nationwide convening of online professionals. If you are eager to see what can be improved for Fall 2020, if you are lost in how to continue transitioning your courses, if you want to meet other inspiring online educators and borrow some great ideas, seize the moment! Why wait for Fall 2020 FLEX training? Why not [register today](#) and see what the professional online educators recommend?

APPRECIATIVE NEWS!

Once again, I must express gratitude to our community of inspiring, creative, and ardent staff, faculty, and administrators. I am deeply humbled to work in your midst. My heart is full thanks to countless emails, phone calls and Zoom sessions which made the online transition possible.

Thank you, to the leadership team of Dr. Green, Dr. Lee, Dr. Fleming, Dr. Bemiller, Prof. Bader, Prof. Anderson, Mr. Riley, and Ms. Leal for collaborating and leading the charge to launch Norco College Online. I enjoyed our many email exchanges. Thank you for keeping us positive, motivated, and informed in the hard times of uncertainty and exhausting days relocating and establishing virtual workspaces.

Thank you, Vice Presidents, Deans, Department Chairs, Mustang Faculty, Mustang Staff, and Students for pulling together and keeping our college vibrant and viable. This was a true test of our collective will to move everything from campus to our website. We could not have done it without everyone experimenting via shared networks. Continuity of instruction and adapted workflows is a tribute to you all! You are Mustangs of the Month, too.

SUPPORTIVE NEWS!

Let us all **recognize how we have endured** an unspeakable amount of stress, change, and upheaval to our daily lives. Our working environments have been dramatically relocated and transformed. Our future goals shifted significantly in mere months. We are all facing a collective grieving process. Let us mourn our losses and steel ourselves to set new priorities in the months ahead.

Dear Mustangs, please take time to **contemplate your places** in the community and to reconsider how you may fit in the College. Realign yourselves in your virtual workspaces and utilize your many talents in the weeks ahead. Find ways to contribute wherever possible. Take risks. Use the online environment to leverage your strengths and continue to improve Norco College.

Beloved Mustangs let Summer be an opportunity to **reprioritize face-to-face conversations** in a safe and socially distant manner. Your relationships with colleagues and students make Norco College an enjoyable and caring community. Our contact with each other will be vital for Fall semester as we return to our online or hybrid realities. As a beautifully diverse, talented, and loving community of staff, faculty, and administrators, we all can be the greatest gift to our students and to each other.

Despite hardships we have faced together, this Spring has been a genuine gift. We have been given time in our home office spaces to consider what is most important. We may face openings or closings, but we have this successful Spring 2020 as a model for building relationships and strategizing collectively to rise above the fray. As Spring semester closes, take time to **appreciate one another** so we may return to campus with joy when called to service again.

Tools, tips or links to know:

- Have you upgraded to **Zoom 5.0**? Improved encryption protects hosts and users and prevents interruptions from unwelcomed participant. Zoom 5.0 will be required in the future before accessing meetings. If your students have been facing difficulty joining meetings, please advise them to update their Zoom apps. See the [TechConnect announcement](#) or the [official Zoom website](#) for details.

May your final weeks of Spring be filled with **recognition** of changes, **contemplation** of opportunities, **reprioritization** of relationships, and **appreciation** for Norco!

In Solidarity,

Norco College Online

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