



CSU Bakersfield

Office of the President

Mail Stop: 33 BDC
9001 Stockdale Highway
Bakersfield, California 93311-1022

(661) 654-2241
(661) 654-3188 FAX
www.csub.edu

CSU BAKERSFIELD MONTHLY UPDATE

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CSU Bakersfield Distinguished Speaker Series



Our inaugural Distinguished Speaker Series event with entrepreneur **Elon Musk** was a resounding success. Within hours of announcing the speaker, we were at capacity with a growing wait list. In a free-flowing address, **Mr. Musk** recounted repeated attempts and failures on his journey to successful ventures, including: writing code with his brother, hoping to make enough money to pay the rent; being turned down for a job at Netscape; living in office space because it was cheaper than renting an apartment; showering at the YMCA; fearing failure of the Tesla and SpaceX ventures but trying them anyway; and three failed SpaceX launches prior to an 11th hour call from NASA offering a billion dollar contract. He spent considerable time fielding audience questions. Please join me in thanking alumnus **Congressman Kevin McCarthy** for spearheading the speaker series, alumnus **Greg Bynum**, CEO of Bynum & Associates, for his assistance and support, and **Susan Hopkins**, Director of University Events, for a job well done. We will announce our next speaker during the winter quarter.

California's Healthcare Workforce Needs

The Central Valley faces an increasing need for doctors, nurses, and allied healthcare professionals. Kern County's 1:1200 physician-to-patient ratio is almost double the national average. **State Assemblymember Rudy Salas**, chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Workforce Needs and Resources, held an informational hearing at CSUB to promote access to, and advancement in, the healthcare professions. In a well-attended and well-received morning session and afternoon panel, industry experts discussed jobs in healthcare. The panel included **Assemblymember Salas**, **Debbie Boschini**, Chair of our Nursing Department, and **David Anaya**, a veteran and CSUB alum. It was moderated by **Dr. Stanley Clark**, Professor and Chair of Political Science. **Assemblymember Salas** has authored two education-related bills that have been signed by the Governor: AB 547 incorporates career exploration into high school afterschool programs, and AB 565 seeks to attract doctors to underserved and rural areas.



Iota Chapter of Alpha Chi Honor Society Named Star Chapter for 2013

Congratulations to our Iota Chapter of Alpha Chi for being named a Star Chapter of the Alpha Chi National College Honor Scholarship Society for 2012-13. Less than 15% of member chapters across the nation achieve that elite designation. The achievement is the result of the dedicated work of the late **Dr. Michael Flachmann**, Director of the University Honors program and the founding advisor for the Iota Chapter of Alpha Chi. I am pleased that excellent leadership of our honors program will continue with interim director **Dr. Jacquelyn Kegley**, Professor of Philosophy, chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, and Chair of the Academic Senate. Her longstanding commitment to students is exemplified in the establishment of the Kegley Center for Student Success.

Athletics Pays Tribute to Veterans



Veterans were honored at the Men’s Basketball home opener on Monday, November 11th. The players and spirit squad wore specially designed Veterans Day game t-shirts and the first 250 fans received a free t-shirt compliments of *Coca-Cola*. The colors were presented by members of Bakersfield High School’s ROTC and Sons of the American Revolution. Lieutenant Colonel **Joseph Drew**, a CSU Bakersfield alumnus and Alumni Hall of Fame inductee, was recognized during half-time along with all veterans in attendance.

CSU Bakersfield and the Pat Brown Institute Host Prison Realignment Forum

CSU Bakersfield and the Edmund G. “Pat” Brown Institute of Public Affairs (PBI) at CSU Los Angeles hosted a forum on November 13th entitled “Prison Realignment Comes to Kern County: What’s our Plan?” Panel members included **Carl Beckett**, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration; **Lisa Green**, Kern County District Attorney; **T.R. Merickel**, Kern County Probation; **James Waterman**, Kern County Mental Health Department; **Greg Williamson**, Bakersfield Police Chief, and **Donny Youngblood**, Kern County Sheriff. The forum was moderated by **Dr. Anthony Flores**, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at CSUB. The panel discussed the impact prison realignment has on Kern County, specifically the fiscal and staffing impact on various agencies and the impact on public safety.



The event was part of the PBI’s California Agenda Public Policy & Health Forum Series which is funded with a grant from the California Endowment. A \$290,864 grant from the California Endowment supports PBI’s Public Policy Education Program for civic engagement and dialogue on health issues that impact Kern and Fresno County communities. **Raphael J. Sonenshein** is the Executive Director of the PBI. Special thanks to **Ms. Taffany Lim**, Associate Director of the PBI, for her assistance in developing the program and her attendance at the forum.

Grimmway Academy and the Edible Schoolyard

Last week the President's Cabinet spent a morning at Grimmway Academy and the Edible Schoolyard in Arvin. The charter school is an endeavor of the Grimm Family Education Foundation. Opened in 2011 with grades K-3, the school has grown to 500 students in grades K-5, and intends to reach K-6 serving 560 students in another year. We were guided in a campus tour and discussion by founder **Barbara Grimm-Marshall** and principal **Jose Salas**. Credentialed teachers



use a blended curriculum in an engaging and innovative teaching and learning process that has resulted in the achievement of an 840 API score, one of the highest in the county. The outdoor garden classroom and kitchen classroom incorporate practical lessons into the core academic curriculum. For example, as students in the kitchen classroom prepared to cook various leafy greens, they studied the leaves, using math to compare the numbers of veins in the different types of leaves, and science to discuss how the veins carry water and minerals through the leaf and the plant. We will have additional discussions with Grimmway Academy to explore potential partnerships in our mutual effort to increase the level of academic achievement and close achievement gaps in our region. To learn more about this extraordinary educational program, please visit their website at <http://grimmwayacademy.com/>.

Athletics Holds Staff Appreciation Night



I was pleased to welcome faculty and staff for Staff Appreciation Night at the Men's Basketball game on November 18th. Faculty and staff were given free tickets to the event. At half-time, a special tribute was presented in memory of **Dr. Charles McCall** and **Dr. Michael Flachmann**, distinguished faculty members and long-time supporters of CSUB Athletics. Each year, **Dr. Flachmann** presented the *Flachmann Award* to recognize the top Roadrunner male and female student-athletes. **Dr. McCall** teamed with **Dr. Jacquelyn Kegley** to present the *Kegley-McCall Award*, a team award that recognized the team with the highest overall cumulative grade-point average. **Dr. Kim Flachmann** and **Dr. Jacquelyn Kegley**, both of whom also are distinguished faculty members, were presented flowers center court in honor of **Dr. Flachmann** and **Dr. McCall**.

Wynonna Judd Concert to Benefit Roadrunner Scholarship Fund

Bakersfield Roadrunner Athletics is proud to present Wynonna Judd and The Big Noise, 'A Simpler Holiday Show,' Tuesday, December 3rd at The Majestic Fox Theater benefiting the Roadrunner Scholarship Fund. The concert's presenting sponsor is Motor City Auto Center.

This is a great opportunity for CSUB fans to hear some great country music, get in the holiday spirit, and support student-athlete scholarships all at the same time. During this holiday season if you are looking to say thanks to someone (employees, family, friends, etc.) this is a perfect way to do so.

Ticket prices start at just \$65 and are available now at all Vallitix locations (Emporium Western Store, Russo's Books, and the Fox Theater Box Office) and online at <http://www.vallitix.com>.

Happy Thanksgiving and Seasons Greetings

As we break for Thanksgiving and enter the holiday season, we have much for which we are thankful—the joy of family, the gift of friends, and the educational and public-private partnerships that help us achieve our mission.

First Lady Barbara Mitchell and I will host two holiday receptions:

- The President's Campus Holiday Reception will be held on Tuesday, December 3rd from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in the Dezember Reading Room of the Walter Stiern Library.
- The President's Community Holiday Reception is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4th from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. in the Dezember Reading Room of the Walter Stiern Library.

We hope you will be able to join us as we celebrate the season and our important work together on behalf of our students and community.

University Council

University Council is an open forum for members of the campus community to voice concerns or make suggestions for continued improvement. All faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend. The next meeting of the University Council is scheduled for Friday, January 17, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in the Albertson Room.

I look forward to seeing you at a holiday reception or at an upcoming University or community event. Take care.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Horace Mitchell".

Horace Mitchell
President