

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT/SUPERINTENDENT
PRESIDENT'S CAMPUS UPDATES



October 31, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

As we continue our efforts to combat institutionalized racism, to confront anti-blackness and systemic oppression, I wanted to provide an update on the many things we are doing as a community to move the needle and keep the conversation going.

- One hundred and fifty-two of our campus leaders are participating in the [Equity Now series](#), which is focused on increasing individual knowledge and capacity, moving from personal reckonings through institutional frameworks, racial literacy, data for equity, and concrete action steps. We will convene everyone at the conclusion of the series to discuss outcomes.
- Student Services led by Dr. Amador is hosting several student feedback sessions to gather the voices of our African American/Black students.
- Representatives from every constituent group are participating in the [Equity Leadership Alliance](#), which consists of 12 sessions over the course of the academic year. This will be followed by a campus climate survey that will occur in November.
- The “Equity in the Classroom” professional development program began the week of July 20 with 16 participants. The intended outcomes included creating more equitable syllabi, assignments, and grading procedures for faculty to incorporate into their fall classes. At the end of fall semester, participants will reconvene to talk about the challenges and successes associated with incorporating one or more equity-minded strategies into their courses.
- We kicked off this semester with several [Data Conversations](#) where we reviewed and discussed disaggregated student data and momentum points for completion. These conversations will continue throughout the semester.
- Several faculty members have come together to offer a speaker series as part of the Falcons Rising workgroup. The first event was a panel discussion held in September regarding elections, voting, and voter suppression. Earlier this week, the group hosted a panel discussion on policing and the campus community. Keep an eye out for future events in the Daily Falcon email.

As we continue to focus on diversity and inclusion, cultivating a culture of respect and empathy is an important part of the solution. Now more than ever, I hope it is clear that we have more similarities than differences—and when we learn from one another, we grow together. At Cerritos College, I am proud of the countless ways that we celebrate diversity through cultural celebrations, events, professional development, and other activities. We, individually and collectively, still have much work to do and I am proud of our efforts thus far. I encourage you to be involved in making lasting changes for the betterment of our college and community.

Our diversity makes Cerritos College a special place.

Jose

Jose L. Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent