

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

DECEMBER 2020

Dr. Henry D. Shannon



VISION STATEMENT
*Chaffey College:
Improving lives
through education.*

A Message from Superintendent/ President Shannon

Fall semester has come to a close, and I suspect most of you are probably thinking "Thank goodness 2020 is over!" It has been, without a doubt, a challenging year.

Across our campus community, we have felt the pain and loss associated with COVID-19 – a loss of face-to-face interaction, a loss of jobs, and for some of us, a loss of loved ones.

Despite this crisis, I believe Chaffey College has remained a place of hope. We have gained the insight that this campus community can tough it out for the good of our students no matter what. We have also gained a greater understanding of how to better serve our students in virtual environments.

If you are a student, you may wonder what you have gained from the pandemic. In a word...strength. You are a Panther, so you were tough before. But you have experienced something that college students who came before you and likely those who follow will not – a global pandemic that has turned higher education and every other sector of society upside down. And yet, you have still come to class, turned in your assignments and taken your tests despite every challenge that has been thrown your way. We are so proud of you.

As we head into winter break, and you have had a chance to step away from your computers and exhale, please take a moment to acknowledge the amazing feats you have accomplished this year. I wish you and your families a safe and restful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Henry D. Shannon, Ph.D.

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220 Holiday Presents Distributed to In-Need Students

Alexandria Fukumori lost her full-time job at an Ontario Mills beauty store when the pandemic hit earlier this year. That's made it nearly impossible for her to take care of her three young children and pursue a degree in behavioral science.

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Speaker Discusses LGBTQ Holiday Survival



The campus community learned how LGBTQ and other populations can handle stress and other challenges associated with the holidays during a visit by speaker Dr. Jonathan Higgins on Dec. 9.

Higgins, who speaks around the country at colleges and universities about how to better serve marginalized students, was named Business Equality Magazine's "Top 40 LGBTQ Under 40" for 2020. Higgins has written for publications including Essence, Out Magazine and MTV News.

Higgins, whose talk was called "Home for the Holidays - And Surviving Them Too!" said mental health issues can be a major struggle for LGBTQ people when it comes to family gatherings.

"Not being able to be your true authentic self in a space with your family can be what tends to shake the table," Higgins said.

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And that meant a visit from Santa this month was going to be difficult. But Chaffey College's Panther Care Program made sure her children would have something to open on Christmas morning thanks to toy drives held at all three campuses.

"I wasn't able to give them the nice things they wanted this year, so this will make them happy," she said.

It was the first time Panther Care has organized such an event. Thanks to toy and cash donations from the campus community and the Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce, the college was able to distribute more than 200 gifts to children, along with bags of food, in drive-thru format.

Albert Rodriguez, Panther Care Program manager, considered the event particularly important this year considering that many cities had canceled their toy drive events due to COVID-19.

"I think it's a shimmer of some hope, light and joy during what's been a difficult year, and it's an example of how Chaffey holistically supports its students," he said. "The fact that our entire campus was willing to lean forward and help was great."



New Governing Board Member Appointed

The Chaffey College Governing Board has appointed Upland resident Deana Olivares-Lambert

to fill its open seat representing the northwest end of the college district.

Olivares-Lambert, a partner in The 20/20 Network strategic communications firm, brings to the board vast experience in public relations, management, workforce development leadership and community outreach on a local and regional level.

"We are honored to have Deana Olivares-Lambert as our newest member of the Governing Board," said Chaffey College

Superintendent/President Dr. Henry Shannon. "She shares Chaffey College's passion for giving all students access to a quality college education and believes in the power of community engagement. Her wisdom and experience will be a tremendous asset to all of us."

Olivares-Lambert will fill the "Area Two" seat, left vacant following the Oct. 1 retirement of Katherine Roberts. The seat encompasses areas including Montclair, Upland and a portion of Rancho Cucamonga in the Chaffey Community College District. Her appointment will continue through March 8, 2022, the date of the next scheduled election.

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Chaffey College Governing Board



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Deana Olivares-Lambert
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Serving the communities of:

Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana,
Montclair, Ontario,
Rancho Cucamonga, Upland

Mission Statement

Chaffey College inspires hope and success by improving lives and our community in a dynamic, supportive, and engaging environment of educational excellence where our diverse students learn and benefit from foundation, career, and transfer programs.

New Governing Board Member Appointed - continued from page 2

"The tremendous challenges that lie ahead for Chaffey College will require fresh ideas and the help of the community," said Chaffey College Governing Board President Gary C. Ovitt. "With Deana Olivares-Lambert's experience and connections, we'll have both."

A Southern California native, Olivares-Lambert graduated from the University of La Verne in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in psychology and from the University of Redlands in 2012 with a master's degree in management. She applied for the board as a way to give back to her community. Olivares-Lambert also said she was driven to serve following the killing of George Floyd and the

civil rights movement that followed.

"I felt like I had to do more," she said. "I couldn't just expect things to change without being part of the change. Community colleges are a critical part of that change because they are vital to our economy and our democracy. Part of our role in the recovery will be to ensure access to all students and transparency to our communities."

Olivares-Lambert serves as a member of organizations such as the Children's Fund, the Small Business Administration and the National Latina Business Women Association.

Speaker Discusses LGBTQ Holiday Survival - continued from page 2

Higgins suggested creating a phone support group and keep those contacts programmed into your phone so you can reach out for help in a time of crisis and check in on the well-being of others. When relatives bring up subjects you are not comfortable discussing, set boundaries and state you'd prefer to talk about other things. Higgins said it is important for people to advocate for themselves.

He also asked participants what they do to self-preserve during the holidays.

Program Assistant Hector Solorzano said holiday gatherings are such a challenge that he no longer attends them, and used to experience guilt because of that.

"The whole thing with pronouns is not even a conversation with them," Solorzano said.

Solorzano still sends gifts to relatives, despite not being able to gather with them.



Save The Date

Jan. 22

#RealTalk: Imposter Syndrome

Jan. 25

Veterans Speaker Series

Jan. 27

I am Chaffey with
Prof. Adam Martinez

Jan. 14

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Panel Presentation

Jan. 21

Lavender Coalition and LGBTQ+
Advocates Committee Welcome