

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

AUGUST 2021

Dr. Henry D. Shannon



VISION STATEMENT

*Chaffey College:
Improving lives
through education.*

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A Message from Superintendent/ President Shannon

Fall semester has begun with more than 18,000 students starting online and face-to-face classes. And our staff have begun making the transition back to working in our classrooms and offices. It is exciting to see our campuses come back to life after we have been apart for so long.

I am grateful to all of our employees who have helped prepare our three campuses for our slow, safe and sustainable return. To all of our staff and faculty supporting our students in their academic journeys, I thank you as well.

While we are hopeful that the journey back toward normalcy will continue, we need to remain vigilant to keep ourselves and everyone around us safe. You have no doubt read the headlines and seen news reports about rising COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations due to the Delta variant. But we trust that by following the protocols outlined by Cal/OSHA and the CDC, as well as the vaccine mandate recently passed by our Governing Board, we are doing our part to keep everyone safe.

I appreciate all of you for your patience and support in helping to keep our doors open so that all of our students can have the option to learn face-to-face and virtually.

Let's have a great fall semester!

Sincerely,

Henry D. Shannon
Henry D. Shannon, Ph.D.

18,000 Students Start Fall Semester

More than 18,000 Chaffey College students began face-to-face and online classes on August 16 for the start of fall term, with new programs rolling out in nursing and hospitality management.

Chaffey's fall offerings include about 300 classes that are entirely in person or a combination of in person and online – a more than 130 percent increase in classes with a face-to-face component over last fall.



"We are excited to be offering more classes with face-to-face instruction on our three campuses in compliance with public health mandates," said Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry Shannon. "We will also continue to offer an abundance of online courses to give our students more options to meet their academic goals."

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Chaffey to Build \$2.9-Million Welding Facility at InTech



The days of Chaffey College welding students learning their trade outside in a parking lot at the Industrial Technical Learning Center (InTech) in Fontana will soon be over.

Assemblyman Freddie Rodriguez – with the help of Assembly Majority Leader Eloise Gómez Reyes, Senator Connie Leyva and San Bernardino County Supervisor Janice Rutherford – has secured \$2.9 million in state funding to build a new welding center at InTech.

Dignitaries, educators and students gathered at the InTech Center on August 11 for a check presentation. The state will award the funds to the Chaffey College Foundation.

“It’s essential that we invest in good jobs and trades right here in the Inland Empire,” Rodriguez said.

Lisa Bailey, associate superintendent of business and economic development, said the state-of-the-art facility will serve students for years to come.

“The new welding lab will have 16 bays for students, a learning classroom area, extensive safety measures for indoor welding, as well as the ability to teach during inclement weather – a real big difference for our students,” Bailey said.

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Fall enrollment numbers remain on par with fall 2020, but students have enrolled in 5 percent more classes and are taking nearly 7,000 more units than the previous year.

Sixteen new faculty members have joined Chaffey’s roster of more than 1,100 full-time and adjunct teaching staff, providing instruction in criminal justice, aviation maintenance technology, communication studies and more.

New programs being introduced for fall include a certificate in hospitality facilities management, a non-credit nursing assistant certificate and a nursing assistant/home health aid certificate.

Chaffey College is one of the first community colleges in the state to offer a hospitality



facilities management program, said Daniel Bentum, professor of hospitality management.

It has attracted interest by both students and employers.

“San Manuel (Band of Mission Indians) is already talking to us, and they own huge buildings that are in need of people,” he said.

Fall Convocation Embraces Hope, New Beginnings



Hundreds of Chaffey College faculty and staff kicked off the 2021-2022 academic year with fall Convocation and FLEX, hearing messages of hope for the future and ways to better serve Chaffey College students.

Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry Shannon said that with the state resuming in-person instruction at K-12 districts, on-site dining at restaurants and amusement parks reopening, Chaffey also needs to adapt to the changes.

“We must do this because our students are waiting for us to open our doors,” Shannon said. “I cannot tell you how many times I have found students on campus wandering, looking for someone – anyone to help them,” he said.

Professor and Academic Senate President Neil Watkins told faculty that many students consider Chaffey a haven, and they need everyone’s support.

“As you’ve done in the past, open doors for them, be on the same team as them, learn their names, how to pronounce them, learn their pronouns and learn their stories,” he said.

Keynote speaker Dr. Gina Ann Garcia, a researcher in equity and justice in higher education, spoke about how Chaffey can better serve its students in her presentation “Transforming Hispanic-Serving Institutions for Equity, Justice and Liberation.”

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It's a much-needed project because welding is considered one of the fastest-growing occupations in the region. The Centers of Excellence estimated more than 20,000 job openings would be created between 2017 and 2022, but there currently is a shortage of certified workers in the Inland Empire.

Rodriguez considers it essential to invest in good jobs and trades in the region.

"Jobs for graduates will provide for their families and deliver the quality of life that all of these residents deserve," he said.



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"We as institutions have to shift, not the students," she said. "So how do we shift so that our students feel like they do belong, rather than forcing students to belong in a place that wasn't designed for them?"

She encouraged Chaffey to create a mission with the college's Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) status in mind, and take an "identity model" approach by determining what kind of HSI Chaffey would like to be.

"If you are accessing federal dollars to do HSI work and a majority of your population is Hispanic and are students of color, then why not put it into the mission?" Garcia said.

The traditional "Puck Award" and the new "Panther Pride Award" were also announced during Convocation.

Puck Awards winners are:

- Classified: Olympia Olaluwoye
- Faculty: Melissa Sakoonphong
- Team: Adult education pathways

Panther Pride Award winners are:

- Classified: Lindy Mercante
- Faculty: Sherm Taylor
- Administration: Troy Ament and Matt Morin

Chaffey to Launch New Training Program with National CORE



Low-income Inland Empire residents will soon have access to housing management training programs through a partnership between Chaffey College and National CORE, thanks to \$1 million in state funding secured by California Assemblyman James C. Ramos.

The funding will help launch CORE Academy – a workforce development initiative that will be managed by National CORE and Chaffey College.

"Our state is facing historic challenges resulting from the economic devastation caused by the pandemic," Ramos said. "Especially during times like these, we must create opportunities for everyone in our society to work well-paying jobs without subjecting themselves to a lifetime of debt.

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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.

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Workforce development programs like the CORE Academy are key to creating true economic mobility, and I'm proud to be part of this partnership."

Property management and maintenance services are growing industries that currently employ millions of Americans, with hundreds of thousands of new, well-paying jobs constantly being added as new developments are built.

National CORE strives to transform lives and communities through the development of beautiful, affordable and sustainable housing. With an increase in much-needed housing being built to respond to California's urgent affordable housing crisis - which creates new jobs in property management and maintenance - CORE Academy ensures that employees from all economic backgrounds are prepared to fill these positions.

"Chaffey College seeks to improve lives through education, and that is exactly what CORE Academy will do," said Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry Shannon. "I am so excited for the countless individuals who will unlock new careers and opportunities by enrolling in this program."



Save The Date

September 2 - Student Identity Socials
[Asian Pacific Islander American](#)

September 2 - Student Identity Socials
[Middle Eastern American](#)

September 3 - Student Identity Socials
[Veterans](#)

September 7 and 9
[Auditions for "A Virtual Whodunnit"](#)

September 8
[Racial Trauma 101](#)

September 10
[Asian-American Portrayal in Media](#)

September 13
[Collective Care Uncovering Poverty](#)

September 22
[Latino Male Empowerment](#)

September 23
[Honoring Our Stories in the Job Search](#)

Welcome BACK WE MISSED YOU!