



April 3, 2026

Dear Colleagues,

As we close Women's History Month, I want to take a moment to recognize how our campus showed up: with purpose, with pride, and with intention. Across the past month, we didn't just host events, we created space to honor the impact of women in our history, in our community, and in our daily work.

Thank you to the many organizers, presenters, and participants who made this month meaningful, and a special thank you to Kimberly Rosenfeld and Lisa Boutin-Vitela for their leadership. This is what we do at Cerritos College. We celebrate who we are, we honor where we've been, and we stay focused on where we are going.

### **Cerritos College Bills Going to Committee**

This year, our advocacy is grounded in a clear purpose: **expanding access**.

We are preparing for two key committee hearings that reflect the strength of our work and the needs of our community. **AB 1636**, our Seamless Access Pilot, will go before the Higher Education Committee as we advocate to build an infrastructure with our K-12 partners to ensure students can transition from high school to Cerritos College without barriers.

Alongside this, **AB 2466**, our Strong Workforce co-bill, will go before the Higher Education Committee this month. This bill is designed to strengthening our ability to connect paid work experience with academic pathways in ways that matter for our students and regional economy.

We also continue advancing **AB 2136**, which would authorize three new bachelor's degree programs at Cerritos College, expanding opportunity and meeting critical workforce demand right here in our service area.

These efforts don't happen overnight. They are built on the daily work happening across this college. Thank you for the role each of you plays in making Cerritos College a model for what access can and should look like.

### **EC Connect Update: Countdown to the Finale**

EC Connect continues to bring our campus together in new and meaningful ways. Our Reverse Job Shadows are underway, with our Executive Council members stepping into your spaces to experience firsthand the work that drives this college forward. I had a fantastic time in Professor Bradbury's chemistry lab, working alongside our students and attempting to explain acids and bases. It has been a long time since I have had to use that part of my brain.

Thank you, Jeff, for the invitation.

Next up is Culinary Arts. I am hoping they will teach me how to bake their amazing cakes or prepare one of their famous five-course meals. Opportunities like these remind us that every role on this campus is essential to student success.

The Highland Games are heading into their final stretch. One last challenge remains on May 8th before we close out the season with our Pickleball Finale. I encourage you to come out, support your colleagues, and be part of the energy as we crown this year's champions.

We're also looking ahead to the New Employees Breakfast and the Manager's Retreat in late April and early May. These are important moments where we invest in our people and continue strengthening our campus community.

Finally, I encourage you to take advantage of the informal ways we stay connected and support our well-being. Join us for **Pickleball Nights on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.**, or our **Friday Run/Walk at the flagpole at 5:00 p.m.** These activities matter: they build community, and they remind us to take care of ourselves and each other.

Thank you for all that you do in service of our students and our community. Together, we continue to move Access into Action.

Jose

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