

Dr. Jose Fierro
President's Message
August 21, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

I wanted to take an opportunity to welcome you all back to campus! I hope you had a very relaxing and fun summer break. With the beginning of the new fall semester, we are already off to a full start. As we officially welcomed students back to school last week, I could feel the excitement from students who were eager to be here on campus, including both returning and new students. I had the chance to meet several students, and I was even able to be the campus Uber driver, transporting a few lost students to their classes. Like many of you who were out and about on campus last week with your "Ask Me" buttons, I heard from many students about the good experiences they had with staff and faculty. I want to acknowledge everyone who took time to help our students get to class. Thank you!

Lot on 166th and Studebaker Road

I know many of you may have heard about the changes underway with the College's lot on 166th Street and Studebaker Road. I want to clarify that the College is working very closely with the City of Cerritos to finalize our plans to convert the former strawberry field into a multi-use lot, including a five-year lease with Norm Reeves Honda. As I mentioned in my August 6 Campus Update, converting the vacant lot has been part of the College's ongoing strategy to help reduce our budget shortfall and provide more money for student scholarships. The prior use of the lot did not allow the District to support our students with scholarship dollars. Fortunately, this new partnership with Norm Reeves Honda gives the District more flexibility and revenue to help meet the current needs of the institution. Additionally, Norm Reeves Honda has agreed to make an annual contribution to the Cerritos College Foundation to support student scholarships.

This Wednesday, August 23 at 6:30 p.m., the College will host a community forum to clarify any miscommunication about the College's lot on 166th Street and Studebaker Road. The forum will be held in the Teleconference Center (LC 155). Please join me for an open discussion regarding this endeavor.

Convocation

Convocation for fall 2017 is scheduled for August 31 at 11:00 a.m. in the Burnight Theatre. As with tradition, Convocation will serve as our official kick-off to the fall semester. I am looking forward to the opportunity to share our accomplishments and talk about the new initiatives we are pursuing to increase student engagement and success. Please plan to attend.

I hope that you have a great week, and I look forward to a great semester!

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