

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT/SUPERINTENDENT PRESIDENT'S CAMPUS UPDATES



April 9, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

It is hard to believe how fast the spring semester is moving. Here is a quick recap of a few activities from the month of March.

WPMD's *Un Poquito Latino* is America's Best Foreign Language College Radio Program

WPMD did it again! Please join me in congratulating students, faculty, and staff from WPMD's Spanish-language program *Un Poquito Latino*. The show was named America's Best Foreign Language College Radio Program by the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System (IBS) at the 79th Annual International Conference in New York in early March. Students **Gabriella Holguin** and **Octavio Valenzuela** began *Un Poquito Latino* in 2018 as part of the College's Latinx Awareness Month to promote cultural events on campus. The show features a mix of contemporary Latin music from the 70's, current artists, commentary about the music of Mexico's youth culture, and issues impacting Central and South America. The show is on hiatus this semester, but it will return in the fall. Congratulations to Gabi, Octavio, and their mentor **Casey Piotrowski** for this outstanding accomplishment. Congratulations, WPMD!



New Performing Arts Center

On March 6, the College officially broke ground on a new Performing Arts Center. The project is funded by Measure G Bond dollars, and will be located in the center of the campus immediately south of Falcon Square. The 70,000-gross-square-foot facility will replace the College's aging Burnight Theatre with a new, high-quality learning facility equipped with instructional labs and areas for social learning. The Performing Arts Center will provide unique instructional spaces for future student artists and entertainment professionals who will be able to produce a broad spectrum of creative and artistic works for the campus community. The Performing Arts Center will feature a 450-seat state-of-the-art theatre, a smaller black box performance area, and support spaces. The building will also house the Music Department's instructional labs, lecture halls, band rooms, practice rooms, and faculty offices. Not only will the new Performing Arts Center serve as a cultural hub for the campus, the Center will provide students with a quality education that meets the demands of the workforce. It will also provide a creative learning environment for students in the theatre arts and music programs. The project is expected to be completed by September 2021.



President's Speaker Series – Personal Finance Management and Stress Management

I am happy to see that the Speaker Series continues to have good participation from faculty, staff, and managers. The high level of interest in self-improvement and personal growth from our campus community is very refreshing. Last week, guest speakers **Vince Vizcarra**, Instructional Lab Assistant and **Nazih Yehya**, financial advisor, Falcon alumnus, and Cerritos College Foundation board member, led a session focusing on personal finance management. While budgets and money are often difficult subjects to tackle, having a basic understanding of the way cash and credit work can go a long way. That said, I hope you will join our 21-day challenge to start a new cost-cutting or savings routine. It's never too late to start working on a personal financial goal.



I also want to thank **Dr. Humberto Hernandez** for leading the Coping Strategies for Stress Management workshop on Friday, March 15. Stress has a powerful impact on every aspect of our lives. It affects work performance, mood, energy level, personal and professional relationships, and worsens existing health conditions. However, when we actively take steps to reduce stress, we can experience a better quality of life.

Please join me at the last Speaker Series on **Friday, April 26, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.** where we will focus on fitness. Visit the website [for more information](#) and [RSVP online](#) to save your spot. If you take pictures of your wellness journey, don't forget to tag me on Twitter [@drjfierro_](#) and on Instagram [@cerritoscollegepres](#) using the hashtags **#cerritosfalconfit** **#bebetter** **#cerritoscollege**.



Celebrating Women

Cerritos College celebrated its 32nd annual Women's History Month during the month of March. For more than three decades, the College has celebrated and honored the many contributions that women have made past and present. While women continue to shatter glass ceilings across every industry and sector, there is still more progress toward gender diversity and equality that we must continue to make. According to data from the [U.S. Census Bureau](#), on average, a woman who works full time earns 80.7 cents for every dollar a man working full time earns. Also, women's median yearly salaries are nearly \$10,000 less than men's.



During our Women's History Month celebrations, there were several engaging activities, including lectures, guest speakers, and workshops that highlighted the many ways women have shaped the world and society. I had the honor of participating in the 20th annual Breast Cancer Awareness Walk that generated \$680 for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure. The highlight of the event was learning that 100 children from the Child Development Center raised \$578 for breast cancer research. I am so proud that our kids are getting an early lesson in charity and helping others. Thank you to everyone who participated in organizing all of the Women's History Month events.

I am looking forward to another great month. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thanks,
Jose

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