**Student Town Hall**

**March 24, 2020**

**12:00 pm**

Welcome to first online town hall for students at Reedley College

Been an incredible amount of change in this last week. We may still have additional changes that we cannot anticipate

We have a pandemic due to spread of corona virus, also known as COVID 19, impacting entire world. Businesses and schools closing

Asked to moved all classes to online, understand that students did not sign up for that and are a bit apprehensive

Have about 1500 class sections that we had to move online in less than a week. We have greater than 90% of our online classes that successfully move online

* Problems some classes are hard to move online
* Working to establish best communication we can
* Understand that everything is difficult moving forward
* Plan to give everyone opportunity to earn grade in classes currently signed up for
* Also, will be offering 100% online summer
* Not sure about fall yet
* Currently using Canvas with majority of classes
* Some faculty teaching dual enrolment at the high schools may be using a different online learning management system
* Doing best to coordinate offerings

One thing launching today is a digital information center for students to log in and use Zoom to answer students’ individuals’ questions, and if can’t answer than route questions to appropriate personnel

This morning based on CDC roughly 1733 residents of California have been infected. Practicing social distancing. Please stay off campus, please stay home and away from people

If having trouble accessing internet, you an access WIFI in parking lot B from your car.

Also, have been deploying additional technology. IT has MiFi’s to loan to students. Also trying to map out areas with K-12 that offer WIFI though their districts

At this point open up for questions. I know one question has to do with commencement. Let’s keep in mind federal and state government has restricted gatherings through June at least. We can look at delaying until December or offering in a different form online. We are no tin a position yet to tell you exactly what that will look like. Please be assured it is not completely canceled

Q: Transition to Online, summer 100% online is this flexible or already solidified, what about CTE

Not set in stone, looking at options with our limitations set by government

Will get back to students

Q: her class was offered traditional, but now on Canvas, but nothing from instructor. Email Dr. Buckley or contact switchboard with name of instructor

Also asking student employees to reach out to students

As a college, will be reaching out to everyone to make sure we stay connected. This week following up to ensure everyone has made contact

Q: What about labs for Dental

Unfortunately set back in healthcare courses statewide, clinics began restricting access for students. All dentist offices are closing, hoping to move towards simulation if allowed

Updates will be posted in newsletter online at least once a week

Q: Parking passes

Partially refunded as a credit to account

Q: Will students be refunded, can they drop

For students who can’t participate online, getting clarification on Emergency Withdrawal and how it affects students

Please keep in mind could have implications at the federal level and if you would have to pay back financial aid, waiting for info from Federal Gov’t. Please contact counselor and financial aid to get specific advice before dropping

There are student services so that you can contact a live person

Q: Veteran’s—How do they make sure they don’t lose benefits

Reach out to Veteran’s office

Government looking to change or relax legislation for this situation

Q: How do I continue to earn my Coop units?

Refer to the VP of Instruction. Dr. Buckley will get back to students in Work Study

Q: Chemistry lab classes still available

Learning how to replace face to face with simulations. Over the past few days found simulations or things we didn’t know exist. Can’t speak for faculty on exactly how they will meet this. Can get back to you on all science labs after conferring with faculty

Q: Closed Caption for next time please

Q: Financial aid appeal deadline

April 4th

Q: elaborate on technology for students

Laptops can be check3ed out

MiFi units (local internet hot spots)

Working on list of local WIFI places

Number on website to call to make appointment to pick up

If you have something not working, can possibly check out a newer one

Q: Welding lab simulation

Working on buying software currently

Statewide getting virtualized simulation software for online classes, that can be used at a distance

Q: Please consider moving commencement to later in the year instead of canceling. Application for grad is now before summer registration, can this date be moved back?

Understand importance and value of commencement. Can consider postponing until December. Would like to find out what majority of students would like to do. Perhaps will send out a survey, please complete. Committee meeting tomorrow to begin discussions. Student government will be taking part in discussions. Send Stephen Kodur any ideas

Q: All departments still working from home?

Yes

Q: Is it possible to make classes in small groups in summer?

Maybe in skills based in very small groups. Due to public health restrictions, this would not be supported in theory-based classes

Trying to create social separation of students per CDC guidelines. Virus lives for 3 days on surfaces

Q: Emergency Withdrawal, do we get partially or fully refunded

Believe it is prorated refunded depending on last date of student. Please contact financial aid s specialists for exact answer

Q: Will we have more of these town halls?

Willing to host more if needed

Could have different format to be more interactive

Q: Could classes be changed to pass or fail instead of a letter grade by instructor? Grades are needed for transfer

However, class was posted should continue through the end. Grading cannot be changed by instructor. This has not been discussed

Encourage students not to drop, committed to providing resources to help students be successful. Realize that won’t work for everyone. Please try to give it a chance.

Trying to make everything you experience at RC and move it online.

Available resources online

* Revised and updated webpage. Online help for students, start here. Posting resources for students and all contact information. Offering through zoom phone, email,
* Live chat for online counseling currently available
* Working on general live chat. Hours will be posted soon

Please let us know what is working and what isn’t. Let us know if there are things we have not thought of. We will continue to adapt

Large concerns we serve over a dozen rural communities that may not have internet.

Know there is additional stresses at home with K-12 closed down and kids at home

Will have another town hall next week

Kudos to all faculty and staff answering questions in chat

There is online mental health counseling

Q: do we know what will happen for fall

We don’t know yet. We are getting new information daily. Continue to check your emails, text messages, town halls, web site, etc.

Q: what will happen with dorms in fall if online

They are currently open. Still have 30 on campus now. The only thing that could change is if things get worse. WE are an emergency site for medical. Could be turned into a resource for hospital

Q: EOPS, Counseling, Tutoring online?

Yes, all appointments are done by zoom and phone calls. EOPS is fully functional online. Zoom link on their webpage

Bookstore will be mailing books. EOPS will set up app9ointments to pick up books from bookstore

EOPS emailing students, process set up for books for EOPS

Other comments

If you haven’t set up direct deposit, checks will be mailed

Will students be able to work in the summer? Unsure yet, Student workers may be assigned other tasks. Looking at all options currently

Q: Is there compensation for students who did not intend to take an online class due to their disruption

Same disruption for all students state and country wide. Big disruption to all faculty and staff state and country wide. This was not done by choice. Worked hard to make online environment the best it can be for our students

Q: Psych instructor at FCC giving 3 days to complete exams to accommodate students

Working with faculty to relax standards without relaxing requirements of the course

Academic rigor that determines units you earned must remain consistent

If requesting a specific change, work with your instructor

Q: Can receive other resources like calculators

Definitely something we can look into

Reminder: Digital information center will be opening. Please look for this to launch. Please utilize as much as you can. And make suggestions on how to increase our communication.

Thank you to everyone who participated. Look for another town hall next week on a different day and time

Will this be posted, is zoom chat saved? Recording and documenting as much of this as we can. Posting to COVID 19 site.