

**FALL
2024**

Opening Day Newsletter

**Reedley
College**



*Scan for a digital copy
of this newsletter*

Table of Contents

Administrative Services Updates.....	1-3
Office of Instruction Updates.....	4-7
Student Services Updates	8-11
100th Anniversary Update.....	12
Campus Kudos.....	13
New Faculty and Staff	14-22
Spring 2024 Semester in Review.....	23-25



Administrative Services Updates

Vice President – Melanie Highfill

Welcome back. We in Administrative Services hope everyone had a good summer and was able to go on some fun adventures. There are some things we would like to update you on as we start the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Fiscal Update:

As we begin the 2024-2025 fiscal year, there are a few updates Administrative Services would like to provide. When you left at that end of the Spring 2024 semester the California State budget was still in negotiations and by the end of June a budget was approved by the House and Senate and then signed by the Governor. The 2024-2025 budget did provide for a 1.07% COLA. The 2024-2025 enacted budget includes about \$143 million in ongoing adjustments to the Student Centered Funding Formula (SCFF), of which \$100 million is for COLA. Another \$13 million for COLA for specific Categorical programs, such as EOPS, DSPP, CalWORKs, CARE, Adult Ed and a few others, it does not provide COLA for Student Equity and Achievement (SEA) and Strong Workforce. Finally, \$28 million for enrollment growth. There is some one-time funding in this budget year specifically \$10 million for year two funding for LGBTQ+ and \$20 million enhancement to financial aid to help support students due to FAFSA delays.

In order to “balance” the State budget, some programs had to sustain cuts or be eliminated completely. The one that affects Reedley College is the Learning-Aligned Employment Program (LEAP) that was cut, and the state is pulling back all unspent funds, which for Reedley College was about \$1.5 million. The State did not fund Instructional Equipment or Deferred Maintenance, which hurts our programs in being able to update much needed equipment for our student and to maintain our current facilities. Another program that was reduced to reallocate funds to other programs was the Strong Workforce General Allocation, which

was reduced by \$65 million. The \$65 million is being reallocated to Strong Workforce Rebuilding Nursing Infrastructure Grant Program (\$60 million) and Strong Workforce Pathways for Low-Income Workers Demonstration Project (\$5 million). This reduction in SW general Allocation could result in approximately a \$500,000 reduction to Reedley College Strong Workforce funding. At this time, we will be working with programs to see how this will impact programs who use this funding for much needed equipment and professional development.

So, what does this all mean for Reedley? It means that Reedley’s General Fund budget is not decreasing, but the only increase we will see is for COLA, step/column pay increases, and additional costs related to PERS and Health and welfare. Reedley also received funding to convert three one-year temporary positions to tenure track positions. All COVID related one-time grants have been fully expended, which means, we now must live within our budgets and be careful of how we spend the allocations we do have.

Currently SCCC Hold Harmless provision related to the SCFF provides our district a minimum guaranteed funding of our 2017-18 total computational revenue (TCR) plus applicable cumulative annual COLA’s. In fiscal year 2025-2026 all Hold Harmless protections related to the SCFF will no longer be in effect. As a result, two things will happen in fiscal year 2025-2026, SCCC’s new “funding floor” or the minimum guaranteed amount the district will receive will be based on our TCR from the SCFF for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Second, COLA’s will no longer be added to the “funding floor” otherwise known as our calculated TCR for 2024-2025. It is imperative for Reedley College and SCCC to maximize our funding for 2024-2025.



Facilities Update:

Center for Fine and Performing Arts – Building is getting closer to completion. Due to some delays in getting power to the building we are estimating a mid-October opening, but we will keep the campus community updated.

Softball – Construction is underway for the improvements to our Softball facility. Currently contractors are estimating a January 2025 completion date.

Emergency Phone (Blue Phone) replacements – Our current Analog Emergency Phones are going to be replaced with VOIP phones. The new phone is expected to be shipped on August 20, 2024, and installation should begin about the same time. The project should take about 45 days to complete.

Auto Lifts - Currently the auto lift project is out to bid with bids due back to District Purchasing on August 6, 2024. The plan is to award the project on August 12, 2024 and project release to the contractor in mid-September 2024 and construction to take place over winter break in December 2024.

Painting Upstairs Student Services – We are currently working with Construction Services to paint the upstairs of the Student Service Building the last week of August. This is the last part of move from Fall 2023.

Bookstore Remodel – Currently this program is in design as the scope of work has been complicated due to asbestos in the glue holding down the floor tiles and carpet. Hoping to get status update later in August will update the campus community when project begins.

Other Pending Projects – Fencing in the Forestry Yard should be complete by the end of August. Greenhouse automated water is about 99% done and should be operational by the start of the semester. Old Dental Building demo should be happening sometime in September. Automatic Door on gender neutral restroom is in process and hope to be completed by mid-September.

Completed Summer Projects – Conversion of CLT-1 to the MESA Center was completed on August 6, 2024. Conversion of FNR 3, 4, and 7 to Wildland/Natural Resource classrooms was completed on August 6, 2024. Adding a computer lab to CC1-201 and additional white boards to CC1-200, 201 and 202 was completed on August 7, 2024.



Tiger Café:

The Reedley College Tiger Café has been busy this summer with Upward Bound, STEM, and many other catering events. For the upcoming semester be on the lookout for weekly lunch specials and rotating menus. In an effort to help students, the Tiger Café is keeping prices the same for this semester. The RC Tiger Café is always looking for menu options so please let us know what you would like to see offered.

Custodial/Grounds Services Update:

At one of the last College Council's meetings for Spring 2024, it was approved to change the name of Building Services to Custodial Services. The change was requested to help eliminate the confusion between Custodial Services and Maintenance. Custodial Services will be focusing on providing welcoming and clean environments for our staff and students. In the upcoming months Custodial Services will be placing QR codes throughout the campus. Once scanned these QR codes will take you to a quick survey that will identify areas that may need some additional attention. Custodial/Grounds Services appreciates your assistance in helping keep our campus welcoming and clean.

Business Office Update:

Business Office would like to update the campus community on a few things. First are parking permits. Please make sure that you have purchased your parking permit for either the semester or the year. Parking will be enforced beginning August 26, 2024. Please make sure you have the correct license plate number for your vehicle's assignment in PMB (the parking management system). New for this year you will be allowed to have two vehicles assigned to one permit, again, make sure you have the correct license plates listed. If you do not receive your permit within two weeks of when you ordered, please follow up with PMB and not the Business Office. The Business Office no longer handles the issuance or tracking of parking permits, that is handled by District Police and PMB.

Second is the TouchNet 360U mobile application. This easy-to-use phone app will allow students to have a digital ID card, campus maps, calender, access to Self-Service, Canvas, and other applications. Students can add funds to their Tiger One Card, opt in to receive financial alerts, and receive campus communications. Faculty are encouraged to download the app; however, at this time faculty will still need an actual ID card to disarm buildings and access doors on campus. Additional information can be found at: <https://www.reedleycollege.edu/campus-life/student-activities/tiger%20one%20card.html>

Reedley College

**GET YOUR FREE DIGITAL
TIGER ONE
STUDENT ID CARD
TODAY!**

**DOWNLOAD THE
TOUCHNET 360U APP**

ANDROID APP ON **Google play**

Download on the **App Store**

For step-by-step instructions, scan or search:
<http://tiny.cc/wenfvr> or call
559-494-3000 ext. 3678 or 3105. You can visit the Student Activities office or
Welcome Center if you prefer a physical card.

Finally, as Reedley College approaches our 100-year anniversary, our Business Office in conjunction with the Reedley College Foundation, has shirts, mini Clyde's for sale and donation opportunities on the RC Foundation website at <https://reedley-college-foundation.square.site/>

For more information about the 100th Anniversary, see page 12.

Office of Instruction Updates

Vice President – Dale van Dam

Newly-Tenured Faculty

Congratulations to these dedicated faculty who have been fully vetted by their peer-review teams over the last four years and certified as tenure-worthy:

- Deb Borofka, English/Reading and Writing Center Director
- Kirstina Collins, Music, Vocal
- Christopher Emerling, Biology
- Naun Garcia, Information Systems
- Simon Sultana, Computer Science

New Faces

Welcome to all new faculty. Some of them have been with us on a temporary or non-tenure-track basis; some of them are brand new to Reedley College. Read more about them on pages 14-22.

Faculty

- Rayan Kabeer, filling a new position in AMT
- John Card, replacing a recently-retired faculty member in AMT
- Teresita Ramos, replacing a recently-retired faculty member in Spanish
- Abiodun E. Abioye, Engineering
- Amrita Sharma, replacing a recently-transferred faculty member in Biology
- Zachary Kawagoe, a 1-year temporary replacement for a faculty member in chemistry who is on sabbatical
- Allen Vizcarra, filling a new, grant-funded position in AgTEC
- Jose Paz Villegas, filling a new, grant-funded position in AgTEC
- Stacey Mendoza, filling a new position as Athletic Trainer
- Jacquelyn Rubalcaba-Muniz, filling a new position as Mesa Director
- Stephen Hawkins, replacing a recently-resigned faculty member in Mech Ag
- Trevor Autry, replacing a recently-retired faculty member in Animal Science

FT Staff

- Daisy Pelayo Figueroa, replacing a recently-retired staff member as IAA in Division A
- Cynthia Medina, Provisional IAA Division C, replacing a staff member on medical leave as the IAA in Division A
- Angela Bustos, Provisional Curriculum Analyst, replacing a recently-retired staff member in the Instruction Office

New Ag Field Instructors

- Goldy
- Hank



Goldy

Hank

New MESA Center

MESA Director Jacquelyn Rubalcaba Muniz has been busy since March organizing and furnishing RC's new MESA Center. The room was renovated with new paint and new carpet over the summer and custom furniture is due to arrive the week of August 5. Jackie will be working with Building Services to install and arrange the furniture to create a welcoming environment that has the dual purpose of providing tutoring and supplemental help in STEM fields and allowing STEM majors a place to congregate, compare notes and provide the emotional support that can keep them on track in their challenging pathways.

Jackie is contacting incoming and continuing STEM students to promote their becoming an official MESA student and using the MESA Center. If you are a STEM instructor and have ideas about how best to connect your students with Jackie, please reach out to her at phone extension: 3486 or via email: jacquelyn.rubalcaba@reedleycollege.edu or stop by her office in Annex 6.

New Messages Regarding IT

Don't Crash the System this Fall

District IT has these reminders to help us avoid crashing the system during week 1 of the semester:

- Your course rosters can be viewed in the portal (you do not need to access Self-Service)
- Please activate your Canvas course prior to the first day of school

Multi-Factor Identification for Students (!)

As of the end of Spring 2024, the District has introduced new security measures requiring students to update their passwords to comply with stricter guidelines. It is likely that many students have not logged into their MyPortal accounts since the end of the spring semester, which may result in difficulties accessing their accounts during the first week of school. In recent days, District IT reports that they are experiencing a high volume of password reset requests, which could lead to delays of up to 1-2 business days.

Given these circumstances, please exercise patience and understanding regarding student attendance. Some students may be unaware of their class schedules or locations because they cannot access their MyPortal accounts or student email.

If students contact you for help with logging into MyPortal, please direct them to our district IT office at 559-499-6072 or 559-499-6070 for assistance.

Accreditation Update

Since March 2022, the Planning Committee, lead author Onesta Francis and many, many others on campus have been working to author, revise, get approval for and submit our Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (or ISER) to our accrediting entity, known as the ACCJC. After a protracted campus

approval process in spring, RC's ISER was approved by the SCCC Board of Trustees at their July 2, 2024 meeting and submitted digitally to ACCJC on July 30, ahead of the due date of August 1.



Between now and Christmas break, the ACCJC Peer Review Team will review what we've submitted, contact us to provide additional written information or clear up any confusion in the language and then review our response. Sometime in the spring 2025 semester, a few members of the Peer Review Team will schedule a campus visit to spot check any lingering questions the team may have. For those of you that are accreditation veterans, you recognize that this is a vastly different (and friendlier) process than the accreditation of 10 years ago. There is now a focus on documenting how the institution complies with the required standards and less of an attempt to find minor issues (or "gotcha" examples) of noncompliance. There is now an approach that emphasizes working with institutions to improve the quality of our instruction and our operations.

Enrollment and Efficiency

For several semesters now, we've all been hyper aware of the need to recover enrollment after the COVID downturn. Thanks to the efforts of everyone on campus (faculty, deans, outreach staff, counselors, categorical programs, A&R staff, librarians, building and grounds staff, cafeteria staff . . . literally everyone) we've reached and surpassed our pre-COVID levels of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) students and total enrollment. We've accomplished this recovery more quickly than I think anyone thought we could. Thanks again to everyone.

As that enrollment goal has been reached and we contemplate the challenge of securing additional resources to allow us to expand and revitalize RC's physical infrastructure, we can see an evolving emphasis on "efficiency" at both the State and District level. The needed resources include funds to help with conditions we are now experiencing (the need to refresh or repair aging buildings, playing fields, student spaces and other infrastructure) and those included in Project 2035 which anticipates a fairly radical demolition, reconstruction and overhaul of many parts of the campus.

From an instructional standpoint, efficiency has a numerical derivation, but we'll skip that for now and focus on a more descriptive definition. Any course section we offer (excepting dual enrollment courses for the purposes of this discussion) has a set of costs or outlays. Costs include funds to pay for lights, power, custodial services, the depreciated value of equipment, supplies and materials, and, most significantly, labor costs (including benefits) that go to pay tenured, tenure-track and adjunct faculty. All these can be considered outflows, or debits, to our balance sheet. If you think about it, for most cost factors we spend the same or almost the same amount on a course section whether we have 5 students in a class or 45 students in the same class.

The only source of reliable inflow, or credit, to our balance sheet is the apportionment we get from the State, which is based on how many students are on the roll for each class. (Since the advent of the Student-Centered Funding Formula, or SCFF, the calculations are more complicated, but ultimately, we don't earn apportionment unless we have students enrolled in our courses.)

For a variety of reasons, many of our classes have a physical capacity. That could be due to a limit on the number of available lab stations, the number of welding stations, the number of computer stations, the number of demonstration units in the classroom or just the limit on how many seats a given room can accommodate. Often, physical capacities have to do with safety concerns for both students and staff.

The enrollment limit can also be pedagogical. English 1A classes, for example, are limited to 25 or 30 students due to the number of words each student must write (and each instructor must read and grade) to maintain articulation with our four-year partners. Also, some programs have third party accreditation which requires a specified student to teacher ratio that cannot be exceeded if we are to maintain that accreditation.

We also recognize that not every section we offer will be an efficiency star. Some sections will need to be offered with lower enrollments because we have made a commitment to students that they'll be able to finish their program in a reasonable time frame, or because we are establishing or trying to grow a program, or because the section in question is a "capstone" class for a program. Accordingly, we cannot establish a simple efficiency threshold and blindly apply it to all sections. This is where deans and department chairs have a difficult job and must apply their years of experience to decide, in conjunction with teaching faculty, which low-enrolled sections will be eliminated from the schedule and which will continue even though the numbers are low.

While we are not a for-profit entity, our ability to be self-sufficient and our ability to support non-revenue-generating services and activities improve if we can fill as many sections as possible to their physical, pedagogical or accreditation limit. Said another way, offering many course sections with set resource outflows and minimal resource inflows (i.e., low numbers of enrolled students) is not efficient and is not sustainable over the long term.

The net result is that Reedley will need to scrutinize more closely low-enrolled course sections. Classes that may have been allowed to continue with fewer than 10 students in recent semesters may need to be cancelled this fall and for the foreseeable future.

What can you do? In my view, the faculty role in increasing efficiency is to . . .

- Provide the highest quality instruction possible to their students;
- Create a thoroughly welcoming and engaging environment for the wide range of diverse students that attend Reedley College;
- Verify that courses offered are part of the pathways they've created;
- Ensure students know the sequence of courses in their program;
- Do what they can to promote section enrollments directly to students within their pathways, within other courses, and across campus, and
- Work with their deans, counselors and the Public Information Office to get the word out about available courses.

If you have any questions pertaining to what I've written above specifically or efficiency in general, please contact the Office of Instruction.



Student Services Updates

Vice President – Dr. Jesús Vega

Before we begin with the highlights for Student Services, I want to extend my gratitude to the entire campus for an incredible first year, but especially Diana Rodriguez for accepting me into the office and allowing me to be me. This past year I had the opportunity to understand the campus culture and experience the passion of the staff, faculty, and administration in supporting **OUR** students on their educational path. We made progress in recognizing our identity as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI). As a part of this journey, we have developed and have two approved logos (let me know if you want them). As the new year begins, let's focus on how to best serve our students. At same time we need to take the time to self-reflect and grow as educators and leaders because we all lead from our role on campus. As Pablo Freire stated, "The educator has the duty of not being neutral." (Pablo Freire). Now on to the updates:

Mental Health Services:

We hired our Mental Health Therapist last spring, Jennifer Tagilieri. She has been busy working with students and developing programming for our students.

Financial Aid Office:

It has had a busy year. We relocated to CSS2 in February, just in time to tackle FAFSA Simplification (or as it should be called, complication). Our new office space includes a lab area, allowing us to expand the services we provide to students daily. To ensure families had the opportunity to complete the FAFSA, we extended our hours in April, staying open until 7 p.m. on weekdays and even opening on a Saturday. In April alone, the Financial Aid Office assisted over 300 students.

The first two Pell Grant payments of the Fall semester have been processed, with a total of \$2,396,112 disbursed to 1,652 students. This represents a 35.07% increase from the previous year. FAFSA simplification continues to present challenges, and we still have a lot of work ahead to ensure students have

access to financial aid. Please encourage all students to complete a FAFSA and visit our office for help in completing their files.



Save the date: September 13 is the annual scholarship ceremony. This year will be the largest to date, with over 180 student recipients.

Tiger Pantry:

We are pleased to share that the Tiger Pantry served a total of 2,645 students during the 2023-2024 school year. Stay tuned for the Tiger Pantry remodel that is set to take place at the beginning of September. To better serve our students, we are extending our hours on Wednesdays and Thursdays to 7 p.m. in order to accommodate those who are taking evening classes. Thank you for your continued support in making the Tiger Pantry a vital resource for our students! Go Tigers!

Office of HSI Initiatives Updates:

- Presentation at the National Conference on Race & Ethnicity in Higher Education, by Reedley College Equity Office and Title V (2019 & 2022) May 2024
- Partnership with STEM Title V and MESA and hosted the annual STEM Summer Camp
- Collaboration with Fresno State Enseñamos Grant to complete carry-over year, grant expires September 30, 2024

- o Hosted the Fresno State team for “Testimonios” of Reedley College students who transferred to Fresno State
- o Coordination of Fresno State tour for ECE students, September 6.
- o Coordination of upcoming professional development focusing on culturally-relevant career counseling
- Preparation of HSI Week 2024: September 9-13, 2024, collaboration with RC Student Activities, MESA, and Psychological Services
- Preparation of HSI Workgroup meetings, calendar invites are forthcoming
- Coordination/collaboration for IS students attending Reedley College fall 2024
- Coordination of HACU Internship Workshop, November 2024
- Title V 2019 has had an administrative change, Dr. Jesus Vega will serve as the administrator overseeing the carry-over year.
- Title V 2020 is preparing for the fifth academic year, and will focus on institutionalization and sustainability of the projects implemented during years 1-4.

Title V (2019) Mentoring Program:

We piloted the Reedley College Mentoring Program in Spring 2024 with the Social Science Pathway. For the fall semester we have grown the program significantly, opening it up to all Pathways. We currently have approximately 30 student mentees and 20 staff/faculty mentors signed up for the program.

Mentees were paired with mentors based on their area of study/career goals, and some of our mentors graciously agreed to have two (or more) mentees, which shows the commitment of our staff/faculty to helping our students reach their full potential!

Be on the lookout later this semester for more information about the program for Spring 2025.

Student Worker Training:

The idea of student worker training was brought up previously as a solution to concerns that student workers are not being adequately or equally trained across campus. This would serve as a pro-

fessional development opportunity that will better equip our students to serve their peers at Reedley College.

This student worker training would be a “base line”, universal training for all new student workers on campus. Students would enroll in the training (via Canvas) and complete the modules/trainings during their scheduled work time. This would be self-paced, but we expect the training to take no more than five total hours.

Once this training is complete, students will have the option to complete up to three or four NC courses (ETHNST, OT, potentially COUN) on their own time and at their own pace. The plan is to work with managers to offer a step increase in their Student Worker level, along with the pay raise associated. Students could also potentially complete requirements for a certificate by taking some of these courses (the certificate is still a work in progress as the only course that is fully functional at this time is the ETHNST course).

This training would cover topics that we feel every student worker should understand, encompassing topics from each of the NC courses listed above. For example, the ETHNST course is an Equity course, and the training would cover things like “Understanding Microaggressions and How to Address Them” and gender pronouns. The NC courses would then elaborate and further explore their specific topics.

Other topics we anticipate including are phone etiquette, basic customer service, (very general) Pathway information, and information on student services.

Jobspeaker

In the spring semester, Tahler began working with faculty teaching Work Experiences courses across campus to create course sections on Jobspeaker. For the fall semester, it is our goal to create and maintain active sections on Jobspeaker for each of our Work Experience classes. These sections not only allows students to log their internship hours more efficiently, but also alleviate the need for paper documents (contracts, objectives, site information, and evaluations) and allows us to keep this data all in one place.

Office of Dual Enrollment

- Total enrollment – 23-24 AY 4,099 students
- 2024 Graduates – 231 students (degrees/certificates)
 - a. 76 Degrees
 - b. 208 Certificates
- Establish infrastructure of Dual Enrollment Team
 - a. Dean of Early College
 - b. Director of Dual Enrollment
 - c. RMCHS Counselor/Coordinator (hired – official start 08/14/2024)
 - d. Counseling Instructor (pending hire)
- New Pirate Pathway at Reedley HS (CalGETC focused, target pop: rural)
- Rollout of Student Success Centers
 - a. Spring 2024: Sanger HS, RMCHS, Reedley HS
 - b. Summer 2024: Sanger HS, RMCHS, Parlier HS
 - c. Fall 2024: Sanger HS, Sanger West HS, RMCHS, Fowler HS, Parlier HS, Reedley HS, Dinuba HS
- Monthly partnership meetings
 - a. Spring 2024: Sanger HS, RMCHS, Reedley HS, Dinuba HS
- Relocation of DuE Office – Student Services Building, 2nd Floor
- New High School Enrichment and one-time Parent Consent Form
 - a. New forms on DuE/HSE website
 - b. Implemented Summer 2024
- CCAP agreements with partnering high schools renewed for 5 year term
- Student/Parent orientations provided to Parlier HS and RMCHS (incoming Freshman)
 - a. Goal for Fall 2024: provide to all high school partners with established pathways
- DuE handbook updated and ready for distribution
- DuE overview presentation provided at RAFTS
- Early College/DuE Training provided to all early college staff

College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)

- Spring 24, CAMP collaborated with SSS to take 50 students to Disney Imagination Training. Students participated in Teamwork and Leadership workshops
- Ana Zavala was 1 of 20 students selected to participate in Summer Paid Internship in North Carolina. She is currently working with farm-working families in a health clinic setting.
- This summer, CAMP hosted Family Day on Sunday, July 28th. Students and families came together to learn about CAMP and how to help students have a successful first year.
- The 2024-2025 CAMP cohort spent two days in CAMP Oakhurst for the new student orientation. They got to bond, participate in various teamwork activities, and create new friendships before the start of the semester.



Student Support Services (SSS) Program

We had approximately 100 SSS students who completed a certificate, associate degree, or associate degree for transfer in the past academic year.

- In April, we took 25 SSS and CAMP students on a campus tour visit to CSUF. While touring the campus, students were also able to attend Fresno State's Vintage Day.
 - One of our SSS students was awarded the WESTOP Founder's Scholarship and received \$1,000
 - SSS & CAMP collaborated to take 50 students on a 4 day trip during spring break to Disney's Imagination Campus. Students learned valuable leadership skills and participated in teamwork training.

EOPS/CARE/NextUp

1. The EOPS/CARE program served 938 students in academic year 2023 – 24. This number reflects an increase of 67% from a low of 562 students served in 2021 - 22 during the pandemic.
 - EOPS/CARE and NextUp students were provided approximately \$750,000 in direct grant aid and student support resources. This included; textbooks, cafeteria meal cards, Save Mart grocery cards, and gas cards.
2. Two EOPS “CARE students were selected for the “Live Your Dreams” Soroptimist 2024 Scholarship Award. The scholarship supports women and girls who are overcoming challenges and demonstrate a commitment to pursuing their educational goals. Each student received \$1000 to offset any cost while attending college, such as textbooks, childcare and/or transportation. Soroptimist Club members believe that “Education is the pathway to economically empowering women and girls”. The Reedley College CARE recipients are:
 - Gwendolyn DeAlba, major:
AS Biological Sciences
 - Jan Hernandez, major:
AS Medical Administration
3. The NextUp Program served 61 foster youth students in academic year 2023-24. The number of foster youth students served at Reedley College has doubled over the last five years. Three (3) NextUp students have transferred to Fresno State for Fall 2024. Their major(s) include:
 - Michelle Noriega - Criminology
 - Roy Munoz - Criminology
 - Cha Yang - Kinesiology
4. There were 160 EOPS/CARE/NextUp students who earned an AA/AS/AS-T for academic year 2023 -24 (unduplicated). There was a total of 237 students who earned certificates and degrees combined (duplicated). These numbers are slightly below the average of degrees & certificates earned by students “pre-Covid-19” (2019).

Career Center

In Spring- we hosted another successful Spring Tiger Job Fair in March, in which 80 organizations participated to share opportunities in various pathways, from Aviation to Medical, to students, alumni, and the community. Approximately 400 attendees came through the 4-hour event.

Over the summer- The Career Center hosted a successful Starbucks Hiring Event on 6/26/24 in collaboration with 6 area Starbuck managers hiring for these locations: Reedley, Kingsburg, and Dinuba. Approximately 200 applicants attended and were interviewed on-site for the full-day event. The store managers were hiring to fill 30-40 spots for the new locations. It was a great event for our students, the campus, and community!

Transfer Center

Transfer Center hosted the second annual Tiger Transfer Tribute to celebrate our transfer students. We recognized 36 student transfers and had numerous faculty, staff and administrators in attendance. Students were able to mingle with fellow transfer students, connect with university representatives present, enjoy refreshments, a photo booth, gratitude station and more! We intend to continue the event in spring 2025 with some slight adjustments in hopes of drawing greater student attendance.

DSP&S

During the Spring 2024 semester, DSP&S hosted several successful workshops:

- On March 12, DSP&S hosted Princess Soma Norodom as part of Disability Awareness Day. Princess Soma, a Cambodian Royal Family member, authored “Royal Love,” where she addresses a tragic accident, highlighting mental health and PTSD awareness.
- Inspirational speaker Doc Lewis also spoke on Disability Awareness on March 20. Doc was born brain dead at 5 months old and weighed only 8 ounces. Doc has Cerebral Palsy and Polio. Despite his hardships, he began a successful career at the age of 8.
- Lewis was also the guest speaker at an Adult Transition Resource Fair hosted by DSP&S and Kings Canyon ATP held at Reedley College.

100th Anniversary Update



Reedley College Ribbon Cutting Ceremony January 6, 1956.

Time is ticking closer to our centennial celebration, and preparations are kicking into high gear. With the refurbishment of our Clyde statue now complete, the focus this summer shifted to creating a webpage for the 100th anniversary, which is now on the main page of our website. On the page are links to joining our new alumni association, nominations for our Top 100 alumni, and our volunteer

association. We also have a link to our Reedley College Alumni page on Facebook, that now has over 350 members. You can purchase commemorative RC 100th anniversary gear through the webpage as well, with replica Clyde statuettes and t-shirts available for \$25 apiece. Our first major fundraising event is the Fall Harvest Festival October 19 on the marquee lawn along Reed and Manning Avenues, complete with food vendors, games, music, and much more! Discussions for a documentary, book, and our 100th Anniversary Gala at the McClarty Center for Fine and Performing Arts will continue as well.



Scan the QR code or use this link:
<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/about/reedley-college-centennial.html>

Campus Kudos



Hey MR. DJ

Tigers Quarterback DJ Stevenson is on the move to Division 1-AA university Arkansas-Pine Bluff to continue his collegiate football career. DJ had a 3.4 GPA at RC, earning his degree in communication in December. He intends to major in physics at UAPB. On the field in 2023, Stevenson threw for 1,729 yards and 12 touchdowns, while running for 261 yards and five scores. DJ is the most recent RC signal caller to sign a national letter of intent to play elsewhere, joining Josh Magana (Texas A&M Commerce), Armon Hickson (Fort Lewis College), Drew Zaubi (Western Kentucky), (Randall Johnson (Weber State), and Josh Allen (Wyoming/Bufalo Bills).

Back to Back Champions!

Our Mule Packing Team has done it again, winning the Intercollegiate Pack Teams Division Championship for the second year in a row at Bishop Mule Days May 24-26. The team also took home first place honors in the parade.



Making Reedley College History

Sophomore Brenna Orchard earned a 10th place finish at the recent Intercollegiate Horse Shows Association (I.H.S.A.) National Show, held at the Tryon Equestrian Center in Mill Falls, North Carolina in May. This accomplishment is particularly noteworthy as it represents Reedley College's first appearance at nationals for an individual event. Competing in the individual Open Horsemanship category, Brenna Orchard faced elite riders from top universities across the nation, including Ohio State, West Texas A&M, and Middle Tennessee State University.



From Reedley To MLB Draft

In July, Tigers starting pitcher Will Gagnon was selected in the 14th round of the Major League Baseball (MLB) Draft by the Los Angeles Dodgers. Gagnon was the only California community college player drafted to a MLB team this year. He attended Reedley High School before playing two years for the Tigers. He also played in the Appalachian League.

New Faculty and Staff

Dr. Abiodun Emmanuel Abioye **Engineering Instructor**

Abiodun Emmanuel Abioye (Ph.D.) is a researcher and academic who recently concluded his postdoctoral fellowship in Digital Viticulture and Agriculture at Fresno State and University of California Davis. Dr. Abioye concluded his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, focusing on Sensors, Control Systems, and Precision Agriculture. He also holds a Master of Engineering degree in Electronics and Communications Engineering at Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, Abia State, Nigeria. His academic journey began with a Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering at the University of Ilorin, after which he lectured electronics and telecommunication courses for many years at a Federal Polytechnic in Nigeria. He is an active contributor to the science and engineering community, serving as a reviewer for several reputable journals and publishing numerous papers. His work has been presented at various conferences, and he has received multiple accolades, including a gold award for the development of the myUTMagritech web framework, a research grant under the Nigeria Artificial Intelligence Research Scheme, OKP Scholarship, and Doctoral fellowships.



LuAnn Aldape **Administrative Assistant, Disabled Students Programs & Services**

LuAnn has been with SCCC for the past 17 years. She started as an interim Office Assistant III in the Reedley College Office of Instruction and then moved on to Fresno City College as a Department Secretary for a short time. In 2007, she returned to Reedley College as a full-time Office Specialist for DSP&S. In December of 2023 her position changed to Administrative Assistant. LuAnn is a proud graduate of Reedley College. As a Tiger, she earned an AS degree in Business. She



is also a graduate of the Classified Professionals Leadership Class. In her personal time, LuAnn enjoys shopping, traveling, spending time with family and friends and “glamping.” LuAnn enjoys a challenge and loves the students we serve. She feels Reedley College is where home is.

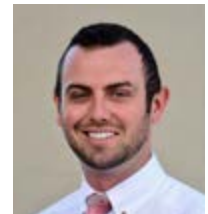
Sheila Apodaca **Food Service Worker (part-time)**

Sheila Apodaca is a part-time Food Service Worker at Reedley College. She filled a temporary position last fall and was hired permanently in June of this year. Sheila enjoys shopping at Lowe’s and working on home improvement projects. She also works on her family’s cars and likes to attend concerts with her daughter.



Trevor Autry **Animal Science Instructor**

Trevor Autry is originally from Nipomo, California, where he developed a deep passion for raising and showing livestock from a very young age. His journey brought him to the valley to attend Fresno State, where he honed his skills through managing the beef unit, competing on the livestock evaluation team, and collaborating with peers through the Cattlemen’s Association and California Farm Bureau Association. In recent years, Trevor has been dedicated to teaching high school agriculture courses and preparing students for their future endeavors with hands-on experiences and rigorous coursework. Trevor and his wife reside in the foothills of Clovis, where they run a small herd of cattle. He is thrilled to bring his energy and passion for the livestock industry to Reedley College. He looks forward to contributing to our students’ growth and success in this dynamic field.



Charles Brown

Food Service Worker (part-time)

Charles Brown is a part-time Food Service Worker in the café at Reedley College, having started in February. He is known for his great attitude and friendly demeanor toward customers at the serving line. A family man, Charles enjoys spending his free time with his loved ones.



Angela Bustos

Curriculum Analyst (provisional)

Angela Bustos started working at Reedley College in 2016 as a Student Tutor and as a Student Assistant in the President's Office. With the encouragement of everyone in the Administration building and her supervisor at the time, she began applying for full-time work within the district. She was able to secure a job in the DSPS office right before Christmas of 2017. She has been at DSPS ever since but just recently took on the role of Provisional Curriculum Analyst back in the Administration Building where she started my journey. When she is not at work, her two sons keep her busy with their sports. She recently took her 15-year-old to compete in San Diego to help his wrestling career at Reedley High School. When they don't have wrestling tournaments, she also likes going to the coast and enjoys some much need R&R.



John Card

Aviation Maintenance Technology Instructor

John is originally from Redondo Beach, California, and is now living in Visalia. He is coming to Reedley College after a 40-year career in automotive and aviation technology. He is also an avid semi-professional photographer, private pilot, and former auto racing crew chief.



LaQuisha Chatman

Administrative Assistant for the Dean of Students (limited term)

LaQuisha Chatman has over 10 years of experience in the administrative support field. All those years of experience have allowed her to develop a strong set of interpersonal skills that has helped build and maintain relationships, solve problems, and make good decisions in both her personal and professional life. She has excellent attention to detail and has effectively represented the face of small businesses in the Central Valley. When she's not working, you can find her spending quality time with her family. She is a proud mother of three children and a grandmother of a four-month-old little baby boy who she is completely obsessed with. Also, she enjoys taking long walks in nature, painting, and reading various genres of books. She is so excited to be a part of the Reedley College family!



Jose Duron Solano

Maintenance Worker

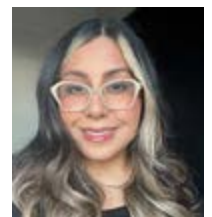
Jose Duron Solano has enjoyed working in various roles and locations across the district. He's excited to be back at Reedley College (the best campus), as a maintenance worker. A gym enthusiast, Jose loves staying active by playing soccer and running.



Daniela Estrada

Admissions & Records Assistant I

Daniela Estrada joined Reedley College in March 2024 as an Admissions and Records Assistant. She is a Fresno State graduate with a bachelor's degree in Psychology. She loves being outdoors (when it's not too hot), enjoys mountain biking, and spending time with her dachshund.



Amber Fowler
Counselor/Coordinator
Veterans Services

Amber began her role as Counselor/Coordinator, Veterans Services in January 2024. With 27 years of experience in higher education, she has expertise in both academic advising and financial aid. She holds a master's degree in Educational Counseling and Student Services from Fresno Pacific University, a bachelor's degree in Social Work from Fresno State and an associate degree in General Studies from Reedley College. Outside of work, she enjoys strength training, trying new restaurants, spending time at the beach and traveling with her three amazing children and loving husband.



Dr. Sandra Fuentes
Dean of Early College

Dr. Sandra Fuentes's journey at State Center Community College District (SCCCD) began 30 years ago when she enrolled at Fresno City College. She has dedicated her entire professional life to higher education, holding positions that reflect her passion for supporting students. In 2011, she transitioned from California State University, Fresno (CSUF) to Reedley College, where she has had the opportunity to support, encourage, and impact students. Her passion lies in providing essential program services to first-generation students, guiding them through enrollment, graduation, and fulfilling careers. As the Dean of Early College, Dr. Fuentes is committed to the mission of our TRiO programs and community colleges. She remains dedicated to advocating for our Early College Programs and Students. Her educational journey reflects her commitment to learning. She obtained her A.A. in Liberal Arts from Fresno City College (FCC), followed by a B.A. in Psychology and a M.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling from CSUF. She completed a Doctorate of Education in Educational & Organizational Leadership from the University of the Pacific. As an empowering Latina, Dr. Fuentes wants to continue serving students



at Reedley College, advocate for their higher education success, and mentor others on their educational journeys. Her focus on student success and commitment to their success define her as a leader and advocate within the academic community.

Sierra Garza
College Relations and
Outreach Office Specialist
(limited term)

Sierra Garza was born and raised in Reedley. She pursued her passion for plant science by earning an AS-T from Reedley College and a B.S. from Fresno State. Sierra spent five years as a student worker at Reedley College before transitioning to a full-time role. Reedley College holds a special place in her heart. Go Tigers!



Dilia Gutierrez
Social Sciences/ English as a
Second Language (ESL)
Pathway Lead Counselor

Dilia Gutierrez has been with Reedley College for more than 12 years. She has over 11 years of experience working with our student population at Reedley College. She is also proud to share that she is a Reedley College graduate. She has both an undergrad and graduate degree in Social Work from Fresno State. Moreover, she started as the English as a Second Language academic counselor at Reedley College in January 2012. She then successfully transitioned as an academic counselor to the Career Technical Education area (for a few years), where it allowed for her to assist students who were pursuing a technical career program; most recently, she has been given the opportunity to fulfill a full-time position as the Social Sciences/ESL Pathway Lead Counselor. She absolutely loves helping students to the best of my ability to help them succeed in their academic goals; whether it is to achieve their Certificate of Achievement (CA), two year degree, or transfer. In her free time, she enjoys exercising, traveling, and spending quality time with her children and family.



Stephen Hawkins
Mechanized Agriculture
Instructor

Stephen was born in South Carolina and moved to California in 1995 after high school. He attended Reedley College from 1996-1998, graduating with a degree in Mechanized Agriculture. He has worked in the farm, heavy equipment and material handling industries as a technician, manager, and business owner since graduation. He has been a Reedley resident since 1996. He says it is an honor for him to be back at Reedley College as an instructor in the same program that he started in. Stephen is excited and looking forward to this new career at Reedley College.



Zak Kawagoe
Chemistry Instructor

Zak grew up in Reedley and took his first chemistry class at Reedley College during high school. He earned his B.S. in Chemistry from UC Santa Cruz (go Slugs!) where he played on the club ultimate frisbee team for a year. He continued his education at UC Davis, where he earned an M.S. in Ag. and Env. Chemistry. Later, Zak returned to the chemistry class at Reedley College as an adjunct chemistry instructor and has been teaching nights and summers part-time since. In his free time, Zak enjoys walking his dog, playing video games, golfing, and backpacking and traveling with his wife, Jaclyn.



Mohammed “Rayan” Kabeer
Aviation Maintenance Technology
Instructor

“Rayan” Kabeer brings more than 15 years in leadership roles, specializing in maintenance, repair engineering, and manufacturing of aerospace components to his new position at Reedley College. He is a Certified Lead Auditor for ISO/AS9100D, AS9110, and AS9120 Quality Management Systems and a holder of six Sigma White Belt Certification, underscoring a commitment to his continuous improvement. He earned a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and is a FAA Certified Aviation Maintenance Technician.



Mason Lamb
Music Instructor (part-time)

Mason Lamb is also a multifaceted composer, orchestrator, guitarist, vocalist, conductor, and instructor with an M.A. and B.A. from Fresno State. His compositions, known for their rhythmic originality and memorable melodies, draw from his extensive performance experience across genres and countries, including England, Australia, and Brazil. Recognized for his technical proficiency and expressive playing, he has established himself as a virtuosic guitarist. Mason has taught music composition, arranging, orchestration, and guitar at Fresno State since Spring 2023 and guitar at Madera South High School during the 2019-20 school year. This semester, he will be teaching Guitar, Music Appreciation, and directing the Community Orchestra at Reedley College. His notable projects include serving as the Score and Technical Director for the world premiere of For Love or Country: The Arturo Sandoval Story at the Arsht Center in Miami, Florida, and having his compositions performed at prestigious venues like The Walt Disney Concert Hall. In addition to his teaching and performing, Mason’s recent roles include Music Director for the musical Once at CenterStage Productions, Technical Director for the 100th anniversary of Safety Last! at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, and contributing to projects with the Orquesta Sinfónica de Puerto Rico. In his spare time, Mason enjoys road cycling and tinkering with electronics. He resides in Clovis with his family.



Dora Lizaola
Food Service Worker

Dora Lizaola is a full-time Food Service Worker in the café bakery at Reedley College. She transitioned to this role from a part-time position last September. As a former student of the college, Dora enjoys staying active and spending time outdoors. She is a single mother who loves spending quality time with her teenage children.



Gloria Lopez
Food Pantry Coordinator
(limited term)

Gloria Lopez has worked at Reedley College since 2019, starting as a student ambassador in the outreach department for three years. She then served as a temporary assistant in the President's Office for a year and completed an internship with the Marketing and Communications department. During this time, she earned her bachelor's degree in Media, Communications, and Journalism with an emphasis in Advertising and Public Relations. A first-generation college graduate and Reedley College alumna, Gloria completed her master's degree in Strategic Communication at 22. Currently, she is the limited term food pantry coordinator at the Tiger Pantry, where she provides students with free food and hygiene products to support their academic goals.



University. She also held additional certifications as an EMT and as a Certified Strength Coach. She is passionate about patient care, patient advocacy, education, mental health, and the student athletes. What's kept her at Reedley College all these years are the genuine passion so many staff have to support and see students succeed. Go Tigers!

Bryana Montemayor
Counselor/Coordinator RMCHS

Bryana Montemayor will be joining our team as the new dual enrollment counselor for Reedley Middle College High School. She is a former Reedley College student who is excited to return and serve the community. Bryana attended Sacramento State, where she majored in sociology for her bachelor's degree. She then earned her master's degree in Student Affairs & College Counseling, along with her PPS credential in School Counseling, from Fresno State. Her professional career has been spent as a middle and high school counselor at the Clovis North Educational Center, Adjunct Counselor at Clovis Community College and graduate instructor for Fresno Pacific University's School Counseling program.



Cynthia Medina
Instructional Administrative
Assistant (provisional)

Born and raised in the Central Valley, Cynthia Medina is a big believer in self love and self care. She has worked in administration for over 10 years. When she is not at work, she enjoys our sunny state visiting amusement parks, beaches, museums, and mountains with her friends and family, making as many fun memories as she can.



Omar Moreno
Mathematics Instructor

Omar Moreno was hired as one-year temp Mathematics Instructor at Reedley College this past January. In that time, he has enjoyed working at Reedley College and nearby Dual Enrollment High Schools. He has also spent some time playing Racquetball with coworkers at the college. He has also improved his expertise by getting his online certification and working with the department to navigate upcoming changes with AB 1705.



Stacey Mendoza
Athletic Trainer

Stacey Mendoza started as a temporary Athletic Trainer in 2019, became the fall Seasonal Athletic Trainer at Reedley College in 2021, and was recently hired as the first-ever second full-time Athletic Trainer for Reedley College. This will be her fifth year with Reedley College serving as an Athletic Trainer. She got her bachelor's degree in Applied Exercise Science from Azusa Pacific University, and then went on to receive her master's degree in Athletic Training from California Baptist



Sarina Navarro
Residence Hall Manager
(Limited Term)

Sarina has worked at RC for almost 20 years. She started in Admissions and Records for what she thought would be a “good job while she finished paralegal school.” Almost immediately she fell in love with working at Reedley College, so she quit the paralegal program at FCC. Her supervisor at that time encouraged her to go back to school to get her bachelor’s degree to move up at RC. She did not right away, but after a year in A&R and a year filling in as the OAIII in Counseling she moved to the VPIs office where she worked for 13 years under seven different VPIs. At this time she did finally go back to obtain her bachelor’s degree. For the last almost five years she has served as the Executive Assistant to the President where she has overseen many college wide events and projects. During her time in the President’s Office she also went back to school again to obtain her MBA. Sarina is a mom of three kids, ages 24, 22, and 12 and stays quite busy supporting them in all that they do. She loves crime shows (real crime and dramas), reading, going to the beach, volunteering at her church and her Dodgers!



Ramon Nunez
Program Assistant to the
Counseling Office

Ramon Nunez is originally from Orange Cove and went to Reedley High School, class of '03. He went to Reedley College in 2008 and graduated in 2012. During his time at Reedley College, he worked as a student ambassador, tutor for Upward Bound, and RA. When he graduated from Fresno State in 2016, he worked as an Assistant Director for the PRO Program. Since then he has worked in nonprofits, schools, retail and restaurants! He says it has been a wild few years! But he is glad to go back to where it all began for him at Reedley College. He is looking forward to working with everyone on campus and helping as many students as possible!



José M Paz Villegas
Agricultural Technology Instructor

José was born in La Huacana, Michoacán, México, where he spent most of his time working on the family farm. In 2014, he moved to California at the age of 14 to pursue new goals. Due to his involvement in agriculture at early age, he became passionate about agriculture and decided to pursue a degree in Agriculture. In May of 2020, he completed an associate degree in plant science at Reedley College and transferred to Fresno State where he completed a BA in Plant Science in December 2022. When he completed his high school diploma, he was member of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) and received the American FFA Degree in 2017. He began his career at UC Cooperative Extension in 2022 where he worked as an agricultural technician and staff research associate where he provided technical assistance to farmers, and translation in Spanish, as well as assistance on research projects, collecting data and setting up demonstrations and maintaining research plots. His interests include ag technology, integrated pest management, soil health, and irrigation.



Daisy Pelayo-Figueroa
Instructional Administrative
Assistant Division A

Daisy Pelayo-Figueroa says she loves the Central Valley. She is a first-generation Fresno born and raised. She attended UC Merced for her undergrad where she majored in cognitive science with a minor in public health. She decided to pursue higher education and obtained her master’s degree in educational leadership and administration from Fresno State. She worked at the Fresno County Superior Court for about two years, then she entered the State Center Community College District, and spent almost three years at Fresno City College. She is a plant person. She has a dog and a cat. She loves being involved in the community. And now she is very happy to be a part of the Reedley Tiger community.



Carlos Puente
Utility Worker

Carlos Puente has been in the custodial department for 30 years, formerly at FCC. He is married with one daughter who works at the Environmental Science lab in Parlier.



Teresita Ramos
Spanish Instructor

Teresita was born and raised in Jalisco, Mexico. She graduated from Reedley College and then transferred to California State University, Fresno, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in Spanish and Chicano Studies, a master of arts degree in Spanish, and a Spanish Single Subject Credential. She has 15 years of teaching experience at Selma High School and some teaching experience at college-level classes as an adjunct professor. Additionally, she has extensive volunteer experience working with parents and has served as a mentor to different student teachers. She has also been the department chair for three terms. This year, her main goals are to provide high-quality education to students, establish strong relationships, and promote the Spanish Program.



Dr. Jacquelyn Rubalcaba-Muniz
Director, Math Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA)

Jacquelyn has been with SCCC for the past 13 years. Her previous roles include District Sign Language Interpreter, DSP&S Counselor, and DSP&S Director. She has had the opportunity to work at each campus in our district. She is excited to join the instructional side of the Reedley College house after serving the past 13 years in student services. This summer she worked on establishing the MESA program here at RC and looks forward to the 24-25 academic year being the inaugural year for MESA. Jacquelyn and Alexandra (MESA Counselor), are excited to host the very first cohort of MESA students this academic year.



Dr. Amrita Sharma
Biology Instructor

Dr. Amrita Sharma holds a Ph.D. in Cellular Biology from the University of Georgia, along with a master's in Zoology, and bachelor's degrees in Science and Education. With extensive research experience in immunology, epidemiology, parasitology, and drug discovery, she brings a wealth of knowledge to her teaching. Dr. Sharma enjoys reading, listening to podcasts, and journaling. Recently relocated from Georgia to California, she is beginning her new role as a biology instructor at Reedley College.



Lupe Soto
Groundskeeper

Lupe Soto, Reedley College's new Groundskeeper has years of yard work experience. He values hard work and integrity and is excited to keep the campus looking great!



Jennifer Taglieri, MA, LMFT
Licensed Mental Health Therapist

Jennifer Taglieri is a licensed marriage and family therapist focused on supporting students through the challenges and transitions they encounter during their community college journey. Her clinical experience includes working with individuals, couples, families, and groups through academic settings, private practice, and government contracts. She provides comprehensive support, from crisis counseling to challenges related to adjusting to college life, stress, anxiety, depression, self-esteem, relationships, grief, academic pressure, focus, and motivation. Understanding the challenges students face in juggling academics, personal growth, and life transitions, Jennifer fosters a safe and open therapeutic environment. She employs a trauma-informed, collaborative, relational, and strength-based approach, tailoring therapy to each student's needs. Her passion for mental wellness drives her to support, guide, and advocate for students as they pursue their educational and career goals.



Salome Tripple

ESL Instructor

(Linguistics, M.A., TESOL)

Salome Tripple is the daughter of South Korean immigrants and a Central Valley native from the small rural community of Earlimart in Tulare County. She comes to Reedley College after teaching ESL at Madera Community College (2020-2024), Fresno State's American English Institute (2008-2010), internationally at the Chung Dahm Learning Institute (2011-2013) and at the Berkeley Language School (2013-2014). Additionally, Salome graduated from UCLA with a B.S. in Mathematics/Economics and a minor in East Asian Languages and Cultures. She has a background as a Career Trainer and has worked with UCLA's Career Center, Tulare County's CSET, and Fresno State's Career Development Center. She speaks multiple languages and advocates continually for students seeking an education at the community college. She recently developed no-cost open educational resources (OER) for her ESL students and is looking forward to working on similar projects at Reedley College.



Kia Tan

Director of Outreach, Onboarding, and Student Engagement)

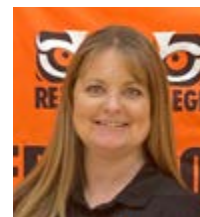
Kia Tan was approved by the board in March 2024 as the permanent Director of Outreach. Her prior experience includes serving as the Interim Director for 16 months, and over 14 years of experience in higher education focused in outreach, college access, and serving historically minoritized communities. Local to the region, Kia grew up helping her family in the fields picking seasonal crops and navigating school as a migrant student. Her lived experiences have greatly influenced her career and passion for education. During her off time, Kia enjoys planning family vacations with her two boys, Darien and Derek, and husband.



Jennifer Uresti

Head Women's Volleyball Coach (part-time)

Former Tiger Jennifer Craw-Uresti played under Tiger Hall of Fame Coach Shirley Gustafson in the 1990 and 1991 seasons, and now she takes the reigns of the volleyball program. Coach Craw-Uresti is also a member of the RC Tiger Hall of Fame class of 2009. She earned the honor of becoming the first Tiger volleyball player to be named a First Team AVCA All-American. She says it's an honor to be back in the Reedley College Gym and have the opportunity to lead the team that made such a positive impact on her own life. After RC, she went on to play for the Fresno State Bulldogs during the 1992 and 1993 seasons and earned All-WAC 2nd team honors her senior year and went on to earn her Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education. Jennifer Craw-Uresti is returning to her roots after being a Bay Area resident for 25 years. Jennifer has coached all levels of high school and club volleyball for the better part of 30 years. Jennifer and her husband, Xavier, have two children, both of whom she has had the pleasure of coaching and seen moving on to play at the collegiate level.



Allen Vizcarra

Agricultural Technology Instructor

Allen Vizcarra has 15+ years of agricultural industry experience both in the private and public sectors and farms here in the Central Valley. He has a BS and MS in Plant Science from Fresno State with a strong background in working in the chemical, research, and consulting agricultural sectors. Allen helps coordinate the AgTech AFRI workforce grant and also helps with the AgTEC Innovation F3 grant implementation.



Joseph Warnick-DiQuirico

Custodian

Joseph Warnick-DiQuirico is a new Building Services Custodian. He moved to California from Maryland about six years ago. Throughout his life, he has been very involved with jiu-jitsu, technology, and video games. He comes from a large family. He has 17 (last he counted) nieces and nephews!



Billy Wilson

Electrician, Maintenance Worker

Billy Wilson is happily married with a daughter. He has spent most of his life in Fresno and is a proud Navy veteran. He's a motorcycle enthusiast and is the current owner of nine bikes. Billy enjoys water sports and has worked as an electrician for over 30 years.



And introducing our new Tiger logo!



Spring 2024

Semester in Review

Tiny Tigers



Dr. Darlene Murray and her son Kenzo on the first day of school.

At long last, our tiny tiger cubs are able to enjoy our brand new Center for Early Childhood Education, as they enjoyed "1st Day of School" festivities January 29. Clyde took photos with the kids and their parents, as families appreciated the warm

welcome into the new center for their little ones. We have three programs in the facility (infant, toddler & preschool), with enrollment numbers increasing very soon. Special thanks to our ECE Department, lab and student staff, lab students, Building Services, Grounds and Maintenance, and Student Activities for making it a fun first day for the families.

MLK Walk

Always inspired by the legacy and bravery of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., RC held its annual MLK Day Celebration and Solidarity Walk January 25. Over 100 students, faculty and staff took part in the event, which led to the program portion in the cafeteria. Our guest speaker was Rev. DJ Criner, Pastor of St. Rest Baptist Church in Fresno. Special remarks were made by President Buckley and VP of Student Services, Dr. Jesus Vega. Special thanks to our Black Faculty & Staff Association for organizing our celebration.



L-R: President Buckley, Dr. Samuel Morgan, Aaron Eubanks, Dr. Jesus Vega, & Clyde.

Parents as Partners

Over 100 guests attended our annual Parents as Partners Conference on campus February 3. This year's theme was "Sowing Seeds of Change." We had guest speakers, workshops to help parents learn more about support services, how to help their student with transfer applications, and a resource fair. Thank you to everyone who supported this important event.

Dual Celebrations

We celebrated Black History Month and National Trio Day with Carlanda Miller (The Magical Teacher) and our students and staff February 22. Carlanda delivered a very motivating presentation and shared her book with students who shared their thoughts with the group. She also leads professional development sessions on engagement strategies at teacher conferences across the nation. National Trio Day celebrates increased access to higher education, and federal Trio programs help income-eligible and first-generation students enter college and earn a degree. Photo opportunities, information tables and refreshments were part of the big day.



Lunar New Year

Our Asian and Pacific Islander Faculty & Staff Association hosted our Lunar New Year event February 13. Students and staff made fortune cookies and red envelopes. At Lunar New Year, it's tradition to give the gift of a red envelope to friends and family. They are usually filled with money and symbolize good wishes and luck for the new year ahead. There were also books from the Library on display to educate students on the significance of the holiday.



ASG members with Clyde at his birthday celebration.

Happy Birthday, Clyde!

Our iconic Clyde statue is now in its 65th year standing guard over our campus. To celebrate the milestone occasion, we threw him a birthday party February 22. Students and staff enjoyed refreshments and took pictures with the big guy, who was first unveiled to the campus February 19, 1959. We look forward to restoring Clyde to his original glory very soon, as progress has been made with that process. Cheers to 65 more years!

RC in DC

Dean of Student Success and Achievement Dr. Natalie Culver-Dockins and Student Services Senior Program Specialist Channie Phantharath attended the 43rd COE (Council for Opportunity and Education) Policy Seminar in Washington DC March 17-20. TRIO is turning 60 and the continuing advocacy helps secure the funding for many more years. Natalie and Channie met with four members of Congress representing the students we serve. They also provided materials describing TRIO and shared the “ask” for FY 2025.



Natalie Culver-Dockins (far left) and Channie Phantharath (4th from right) met with Congressman John Duarte (CA District 13) in DC.

RC in Sacramento

ASG President Dejalía White and other members of the Associated Student Government traveled to Sacramento for the annual Advocacy Day hosted by Student Senate for California Community Colleges. They met with legislative staffers to advocate for the Affordable Student Housing, Cal Grant Reform, AB 1855 (Arambula) - Brown Act Changes and AB 2033 (Reyes) EBT Access on California Community Colleges.



Rainbow Brunch

RC hosted its 3rd Annual Rainbow Brunch March 19. Special thanks to Chancellor Goldsmith and Fresno City College Outreach Director Nickolas Valencia-Lucio for sharing their inspirational stories with our students and staff. Our choir students performed as well, and brunch was served.



Makeover Complete!

At long last, the refurbishing project of our Clyde statue is finished. The three phase makeover started with removing the paint from our 65 year old friend, followed by a sealing process that included walnut shell sandblasting, and more than five gallons of boiled linseed oil for his coat. The oil has absorbed completely into the statue, and he is now “photo ready.” Special thanks to Ira Baldwin of Baldwin Painting and his team for taking on this project that means so much to our campus and the community.

RC in Steel City

Reedley College recently attended the Rural Guided Pathways conference in Pittsburgh, PA. The group of attendees included members of our Classified, Faculty and Administrative Teams. We also had the honor of having Board President Magdalena Gomez attend the conference. Rural Guided Pathways focuses on the needs of rural campuses. The group presented to other rural community colleges from across the nation on the work currently being done on campus to address our needs and to share our successes.

Black Student Success Week

RC hosted a variety of events for Black Student Success Week April 22-26. The African Drumming Ensemble, Feather the Comedian, DJ Marques Anthony and DJ Straws, and Jim Mulligan all performed and presented during the week, and a special video with students Leyocha Marigney, Tianna Sutherland, Gabriel Harris, and Josiyah Jordan participating in a video talking about the challenges they faced growing up and their experiences at Reedley College.



Interviewer Dr. Samuel Morgan with Leyocha Marigney (left) and Tianna Sutherland.

Vaisakhi Celebration

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Vaisakhi Celebration April 16. Staff and students took part in turban tying and watched a martial arts demonstration. Vaisakhi is a spring harvest festival that marks the beginning of the Sikh New Year. The event was presented by our Asian and Pacific Islander Faculty and Staff Association and Student Activities.



Librarian Tony Tran getting a new look in the turban tying demonstration.

Tiger Pageant

Our 5th Annual Tiger Pageant was a hit once again with students and staff. Congratulations to our winners! WINNER: Ryan Hancock, playing an original piano composition, "Evergreen." 1st Runner up: Daniel Fabela, performing "After the Rain" on the marimba. 2nd Runner up: Hannah Kleinkramer, performing and singing "Sway" on the ukulele. 3rd Runner Up: Jacob Rogers, singing and performing "Scott pilgrim v my GPA" on the guitar.



Ryan Hancock and his winning performance.

Class of 2024

Reedley College held its 96th Commencement Ceremony Friday, May 17 in front of one of the largest graduation crowds in campus history. A total of 591 members of the Class of 2024 participated in the ceremony under warm and clear skies. Special thanks and congratulations go out to our Distinguished Alumnus Speaker Harold McClarty, Student Speaker Alexa Duran, Student of Note Ixchel Martinez De Santos, and every student who earned a degree or certificate from Reedley College. Please go to our Facebook page to see some of the many magical moments from commencement. Livestream Link: <https://www.reedleycollege.edu/landing/graduation-commencement/2024-commencement.html>





President – Dr. Jerry L. Buckley

Vice President of Instruction – Dale van Dam

Vice President of Student Services – Dr. Jesús Vega

Vice President of Administrative Services – Melanie Highfill

Dean of Instruction – David Clark

Dean of Instruction – Dr. G. Todd Davis

Dean of Instruction – Juan Bedolla

Dean of Student Services – Shannon Solis

Dean of Student Success & Achievement – Dr. Natalie Culver-Dockins

Dean of Early College - Dr. Sandra Fuentes

Director, Athletics & Student Athlete Success – Dr. David Santesteban

Director, DSPS – Dr. Samuel Morgan

Director, EOPS/CARE/NextUp - Mario Gonzales

Director, Institutional Research, Planning & Effectiveness – Janice Offenbach

Director, Marketing & Communications – George Takata

Director, College Technology Services – Dan Demmers

Director, Title V – Adelfa Lorenzano

Director, Outreach, Onboarding & Student Engagement - Kia Tan