Haynes Named New Basketball Head Coach

Robert Haynes, a former standout player and lead assistant, has been selected as the new head men’s basketball coach at Porterville College, athletic director Eric Mendoza announced July 15.

Haynes, who currently serves as a PC adjunct instructor in the physical education division and lone basketball coach on staff, will begin his new assignment in time for the fall semester which begins August 26.

“This is a dream come true for me,” said Haynes, who becomes one of the youngest college coaches in California at age 31.

“Porterville College is a special place that means so much to my family. There are so many people on campus who are responsible for my success, so it’s an honor to be a colleague. As I continue to work with students and staff, I look forward to making Porterville proud of our basketball program.”

Mendoza said the basketball position drew a lot of interest from experienced college coaches on the

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PC/T COE Program Continues to Flourish

Porterville College celebrated alongside L.B. Hill Learning Center at the 2013 graduation ceremony in June. Three students: Jose Gutierrez, Eduardo “Eddie” Orozco, M & O staff member Joe Tanguma, and graduate Ana Laura Morales.

Above: (from left to right) Porterville College M & O staff member Alex Narvaiz, graduates: Jose Gutierrez, Eduardo “Eddie” Orozco, M & O staff member Joe Tanguma, and graduate Ana Laura Morales.

Porterville College celebrated alongside L.B. Hill Learning Center at the 2013 graduation ceremony in June. Three students: Jose Gutierrez, Eduardo Orozco and Ana Laura Morales, have spent considerable time on campus working under the supervision of Program Coordinator Tom Cemo. A joint agreement with the Tulare County Office of Education and PC, Cemo oversees the program which provides a training facility for college-age students with developmental disabilities. The program has been a successful part of PC since its formation. The PC Maintenance and Operations department plays a special role in the program by providing additional on the job training.

Fall Semester begins Aug. 24 for Saturday classes; Aug. 26 for Regular Fall Instruction
Porterville College raising money to fund Veteran parking passes

Porterville College is looking to raise money to pay for the parking passes of currently enrolled veteran students. The idea came from the April 24 email distribution of the “Today’s News – Office of Communications, California Community College State Chancellor’s Office” which included an article titled “Saving a Spot for a Veteran at Cuesta College.”

The article was about Cuesta College providing free parking passes for their veteran students in honor of a former student, Michael Mihalakis, who was killed in December 2003 while serving in Iraq. While a student at Cuesta College, Mihalakis joined the Army National Guard and was deployed to Iraq.

Mihalakis was planning to enroll back into classes at Cuesta College upon his return and emailed one of his former professors to “save a place for me” in his class because his unit would not return until soon after the start of the spring term. Within a month of sending the email, Mihalakis was killed in a Humvee accident in Baghdad. To honor the memory of his former student, especially his commitment to education, the professor began and donated to a special foundation account to purchase parking permits for Cuesta College veterans. The parking permits are known as “Mikes” in remembrance of Michael Mihalakis.

Mihalakis’ story stirred Porterville College Vice President of Student Services and fellow veteran, Steve Schultz to formulate a plan. In that same spirit of Cuesta College, Porterville College is now looking to establish a foundation account to fund the purchase of parking permits for veterans. Rather than creating a new name, the parking permits would also be called “Mikes.”

“As I read this, I thought this could be something any campus could do as an honor to all service men and women who have paid the ultimate price for their country,” said Schultz.

“As Michael asked his professor to do at Cuesta College, Porterville College would be “saving a place” in the parking lot for veterans to come and continue their education.”

Purchasing parking passes for veterans would not be funded through the campus general fund. Rather, funding will be through donations to a foundation account established for the specific purpose of providing additional support to veterans who are pursuing their educational goals at Porterville College. Therefore, when enough donations have been received, free parking passes will be provided to veterans who are enrolled at Porterville College.

“Porterville College has around 90 veterans, and at $20 for the parking passes, we will need to raise around $1,800 per term,” said Schultz. At about $3,600 a year, multiple donations will be needed to continually fund the program. From speaking engagements with local civic organizations to social media, Schultz is hoping to get the word out and raise the necessary funds. He said he also hopes the establishment of a “Mike’s program” will inspire other college campuses to create the same.

Those interested in donating to the program can make a check out to the “Porterville College Foundation” and note on the check that this is for the “Veterans Resource Center – Mikes.” Checks should be sent to the Porterville College Foundation office, 100 E. College Avenue, Porterville, CA, 93257. You can also bring your check, or cash, into the Foundation office located in the Academic Center room 102 during regular business hours. For more information call (559) 791-2208.

Campus Calendar

August
22-23 - Flex days
24 - Saturday classes begin for fall
26 - Regular Fall instruction begins

September
2 - Labor Day holiday - Campus closed
6 - 10% date-Last day to drop semester-length courses and qualify for a refund
9 - Last day to enroll in and add semester-length classes for the Fall.
Last day to drop semester length courses and not have it appear on the transcript. Deadline for changing to Pass/No pass OR letter grade options.
Census processed at Midnight of September 8th.
9-10 - Club Rush
10 - Tulare County College Night at the Visalia Convention Center

- To submit your event for the Campus Calendar email maureen.montgomery@portervillecollege.edu.
National University Unveils New Programs, Masters Degree

The National University offsite at Porterville College announced last week that it will soon offer an MBA program. The program will also feature a BBA to MBA transition program where current students can take concurrent classes that will transfer into the graduate program. Porterville College NU counselor Jonathan Schultz also said the site is looking at a Criminal Justice program to start in the spring. National currently offers degrees in Interdisciplinary Studies and Business Administration. For more information call (559) 791-2217.

PC Mini-Corps participate in summer state institute

On annual basis, the PC Mini-Corps plan a summer institute for all of the CA Mini-Corps tutors that work in the summer program from throughout the state of CA, (well over 450 college students.) These students participate in one of 23 programs: Allan Hancock College, Cabrillo College/University of CA Santa Cruz, College of the Sequoias, CSU, Bakersfield, CSU, Channel Islands, CSU, Chico, CSU Fresno, CSU Long Beach, CSU Monterey, CSU, Sacramento, CSU San Marcos, CSU Stanislaus, Hartnell College, Mendocino College, Merced College, Porterville College, San Diego State University/Imperial Valley Campus, San Joaquin Delta College, San Jose State University, Sonoma State University and Yuba College. The summer institute takes place at Sacramento State University, for three days - Friday – Sunday and the students have an opportunity to stay in the dorms and attend workshops and seminars. These Mini-Corps tutors participate in various workshops based on the number of years they’ve participated in the program ranging from how to write a resume, cover letter, professional portfolio to preparing for the teacher interview. Others might attend English Language Arts; building blocks for reading, English Language Development, classroom management, math, formative assessment strategies to support the common core standards, exploring vocabulary in Language acquisition strategies, all of these workshops prepare the tutors for their summer job working in the summer school programs with migrant children, throughout the state.

In preparing for this intense summer institute, the PC Mini-Corps have a contest, where they invite all of the tutors to submit their suggestions for a theme for the summer institute. This year the winning theme was submitted from Porterville College – “Mini-Corps… Cultivating Tomorrow’s Leaders.” The theme was created by three Porterville College students: Alejandra Farfan, Roberto Flores and Xiong Vang. Along with the theme, students are also invited to create a logo for the theme, again, the winner was a Porterville College student, Roberto Flores. Flores, has made a tremendous impact in the lives of the migrant children he serves, as well as the entire learning community of Woodville Elementary School. He goes above and beyond what is expected of him, he implements and shares effective learned strategies with his children, peers and supervising teachers.

One of his supervising teachers wrote, “Mr. Flores is an excellent candidate for the teaching profession. He always came prepared for the day, he brought with him interesting and engaging lessons for my students to experience. I found his enthusiasm for teaching refreshing. Roberto has given my students someone to emulate, they have benefited from his attention and professionalism.”

Along with the community service hours Roberto conducted in the program with Family Math Nights, translating at parent conferences, Dia Del Nino activities. He also has contributed well over 50 hours of community service assisting the school librarian. Roberto took upon himself to assist the school librarian in creating engaging and educational posters to entice reading in all children. Roberto is certainly a creative and effective CA Mini-Corps tutor.

Around Campus

Above: PC Reference Librarian Lorie Barker speaks to children from the CDC (Child Development Center) who have been making weekly visits throughout the summer to the library where they learn about different books.
Fall Porterville College Community Education Classes

Exercise for the Community: Aug. 26 – Dec. 12, $80 per person, Mondays-Thursdays 7-8am and 8-9am, Rm. FIT 751 Fitness Center

Fat Burning 101: Session 1: Aug. 26-Sept. 19, (no class Sept 2nd) Session 2: Sept. 23- Oct. 17, Session 3: Oct. 21-Nov.14, (no class Nov 11th), Session 4: Nov. 18-Dec. 12, (no class Nov 28th & 29th); $40 per person, per session; Mondays-Thursdays, 4:20pm-5:20pm, Room: FIT 744

Fun with Fingerstyle Guitar-online- Sept. 3 – Dec. 12, 2 hours per week - online; $95 per person; Instructor website: http://tedwiseguitar.com/home.html.

Zumba: August 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 and 29, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., $20 per person, Room: FIT 744

Community Ceramics: Sept. 3, 10, 17 & 24, Tuesdays, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Supplies needed: 5 lbs. of clay (not included); $30 per person, Room: FA 104

Seating is limited. Prior Registration required. Please register in the Porterville College Business Office (AC-102) or call 791-2492.

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West Coast – including former head coaches and current assistants from NCAA, NAIA, and community college levels.

“Throughout a competitive search and interview process, Robert continued to rise to the top,” Mendoza said. “Our goal was to find a quality coach who represents the mission of Porterville College and someone who can guide our men's basketball program in all areas of academics, competition, and citizenship. Robert has great character and demonstrates a passion for helping students from all walks of life. He understands campus operations and he loves the Porterville community that embraced him more than 10 years ago. We are tremendously excited about the future of PC basketball under Robert’s leadership.”

Haynes, born in Brooklyn and raised in Far Rockaway, NY, originally came to California to play basketball at City College of San Francisco in 2001. The team won the Porterville College Tournament – his first visit to the campus – but an injury sidelined him for most of the season.

He later decided to transfer to PC, where he played for coach Scott Eitelgeorge during the 2003-04 season. Being 6-foot-6, Haynes was asked to make the move from guard to help at the post position.

He led the Pirates in rebounds and blocks, and ranked second in scoring and steals – on way to being voted 2004 Central Valley Conference All-Freshmen and All-Defensive Team, as well as First Team honorable mention.

Haynes was recruited by several four-year colleges, and accepted an athletic scholarship from NCAA Division II Colorado State University-Pueblo, where he played one season before returning to Porterville.

Haynes continued his college education and received a bachelor’s degree in liberal studies from Chapman University. He also started a coaching career at Granite Hills High School with friend Bud Luther, serving as varsity assistant and junior varsity head coach.

He remained involved at PC, helping Mendoza with event management during home games for several years. After the 2008-09 season, Mendoza asked Haynes to coach the Pirates by himself, as the school spent the summer looking to fill a vacancy.

“I volunteered my time because of my loyalty to the college,” Haynes said. “The team needed some direction. I went to school here, so I felt a responsibility to help in any way I could. It was the right thing to do.”

Haynes coached the team in the 2009 JUCO Summer Showcase at USC, but did not apply for the opening. He returned to Granite Hills, as PC hired T.J. Jennings – who resigned for family reasons, after a recent four-year stint.

Last season, Haynes served as PC’s lead assistant coach and adjunct instructor. He was in charge of fundraising and community outreach projects, as well as all practice and game responsibilities.

Haynes, who earned a master’s degree in kinesiology and physical education from Fresno Pacific University, will teach a health course at PC next semester. Last spring, Haynes taught in the physical education division at El Camino College in Torrance.

Currently, Haynes is teaching during PC’s summer session, running the Junior Pirates Basketball Camp, and preparing the team for this weekend’s summer showcase tournament at Cal Poly Pomona and Azusa Pacific University.

Haynes said his immediate plans include compiling a coaching staff with local connections and former college teammates, and bringing in new recruits.

He also serves as the college’s physical education instructor at the Porterville Development Center.

“Robert has a passion for basketball and student-athletes,” said PC college president Dr. Rosa Carlson. “He is a great role model to many young students as a true PC success story. Robert has a bright future and we look forward to many rewarding years ahead.”
Porterville College becomes ATD Institution

Signifying a strong commitment to student success and completion, Porterville College is one of 13 institutions selected, this year, into the Achieving the Dream National Reform Network – the nation’s most comprehensive non-governmental reform network for student success in higher education history.

“Achieving the Dream will empower Porterville College staff to make changes individually to assure that our students are successful in completing their educational endeavors,” said PC President, Dr. Rosa Flores Carlson.

PC, along with the rest of the Kern Community College District will immediately begin the challenging work of identifying and implementing evidence-based strategies for closing achievement gaps and increasing student retention, persistence, and completion rates.

“Becoming an Achieving the Dream Institution takes courage, diligence, and an unrelenting institution-wide commitment to student success and equity,” said William Trueheart, President and CEO of Achieving the Dream. “Porterville College should be applauded for doing their part in the student success reform movement.”

Introducing the Achieving the Dream 2013 Cohort: Bevill State Community College (Jasper, AL), Diné College (Tsaile, AZ), Green River Community College (Auburn, WA), Gwinnett Technical College (Lawrenceville, GA), Kern Community College District: Bakersfield College, Cerro Coso College, and Porterville College (Kern County, CA), Indian River State College (Ft. Pierce, FL), Oakton Community College (Des Plaines, IL), Salish Kootenai College (Pablo, MT), South Georgia Technical College (Americus, GA), Southeastern Technical College (Vidalia, GA) and Walla Walla Community College (Walla Walla, WA).

To set the stage for their work, Porterville College participated in the 2013 Kickoff Institute in Orlando, Florida thru June 20. The Institute provided a forum for PC to work with their Leadership and Data Coaches and begin utilizing the Student-Centered Model of Institutional Improvement.

Achieving the Dream will release more information about the Interventions Showcase and make this tool available to the general public in September 2013 to coincide with the start of the academic year.

Achieving the Dream, Inc. is a national nonprofit leading the nation’s most comprehensive non-governmental reform network for student success in higher education history. The Achieving the Dream National Reform Network, including over 200 institutions, more than 100 coaches and advisors, and 15 state policy teams - working throughout 34 states and the District of Columbia - helps 3.8 million community college students have a better chance of realizing greater economic opportunity and achieving their dreams.