



Porterville College Named 2016 Achieving the Dream Leader College

Achieving the Dream (ATD) designated five community colleges as “Leader Colleges,” a national honor awarded to institutions in the ATD National Network that have shown three years of steady improvement in two outcomes that measure student success.

“Leader College status represents a sustained, successful effort to build a student-centered culture,” said Dr. Karen A. Stout, president and CEO of Achieving the Dream. “Colleges that stay focused on the hard work of transformation deserve to be recognized when they make measurable progress.”

In a letter to Dr. Carlson Dr. Stout outlined Porterville College’s accomplishments stating, “As we reflect on all of your work over the past year and your plans going forward, we are most impressed by these accomplishments:

- Clearly, the college has developed and implemented successful curricular and pedagogical reforms. The college’s curricular reforms in English are successful, scaled, and sustained, and the work in ESL and math is progressing well, as evidenced by steady increases in successful completion and persistence rates for students enrolled in gatekeeper English and math courses. Also noteworthy is the decreased number of terms in which students enroll in developmental English and math.
- Implementation of the Education Advisory Board (EAB) “Navigator”

platform should enhance the college’s capacity to accurately and comprehensively serve students. Scaling and sustaining social support services via the WSSN (Working Students Success Network) should also contribute significantly to student success.

- The Student Success and Equity Committee and the Data Team are excellent examples of institutional organization focused on student Success. The institutionalization of data-driven decision-making, grounded by the Data Team, is exemplary.”

Projects the college has worked on the past three years and will continue to develop include redesigning the ESL program to meet community needs, create accelerated pathways through the basic skills and into transfer level courses, increase social support services to assist students with outside barriers that might impede their success in college and making changes to policies and procedures that impede student success.

Leader Colleges receive priority when opportunities for competitive grants arise within the ATD National Reform Network. Leader Colleges are also provided exclusive professional development and peer-learning opportunities.



About Associated Students of Porterville College

The student body is represented by the Associate Students of Porterville College (ASPC), a Student Senate organization that promotes activities which contribute to the development of skill and facility in human relations, leadership abilities and meeting the recreational and social needs of students.

This organization operates under the governmental procedures in the ASPC Constitution and Handbooks which the Student Senate updated and revamped extensively. Its membership is open to any PC student who wants to make a difference on campus. ASPC offers participating students an opportunity to improve their leadership skills by interacting with other students, and collaborating with faculty and staff.

The Benefits of Joining Student Government:

- Represent and advocate for students
- Learn how to problem-solve and face tough decisions
- Promote teamwork
- Get event programming experience
- Sell your ideas and overcome resistance
- Recognize the importance of attitude and responsibility
- Teach and coach others
- Connect to your region www.studentsenateccc.org

OTHER STUDENT SENATE OFFICERS

Athletic Senator.....	JACKSON CASCIO
DSPS Senator.....	DEVAN GALVAN
Community-at-Large Senator.....	LETY LOPEZ
Community-at-Large Senator.....	LUIS GALVAN
Equity & Inclusion Senator.....	YALIMAR GARCIA
JEC Senator.....	JACOB SANDAVOL
Justice Senator.....	MACK BURDGE
Justice Senator.....	OMAR GOMEZ
Veteran Senator.....	ADRIAN GALVAN



Faculty Advisor
CARRIN BLYTH



Student Program
Director
JOSEPH CASCIO



President
SAMUEL PEREZ



Secretary
SABRINA VAZQUEZ



Vice President
CELIA BUCHANAN



Parliamentarian
ALEX LOPEZ



Humanities Senator
MIA PALLARES



Dir. Of Student
Organizations
DAVID MARTINEZ



Fall Enrollment Up!

Bill Henry, Vice President Academic Affairs reported as of August 30, 2016, the unduplicated headcount (enrollments) at Porterville College has increased 2.8% in comparison to the same date last fall (2015). Porterville College has increased the FTES count by 5.4% for the same time period and is currently 107% of the fall FTES target. The increase in both areas is a direct result of increased outreach efforts in the community, the local high schools, an increase in participants in the dual enrollment program, and the combined efforts of faculty and administration in enrollment management efforts. Working together, the college has provided students a schedule that increases their opportunity for success and completing programs in a timelier manner.



KCCD Student Government Retreat 2016

On Friday, August 19 through Saturday, August 20, Porterville College hosted the Kern Community College District (KCCD) Student Government Retreat. This great event started in spring 2016, right before the start of the semester. It was such a hit among students that it evolved into a standing event, rotating host campuses between the three KCCD colleges. The Advisors: Pam Cambell of Cerro Coso, Carrin Blyth of Porterville College, and Nicky Damania of Bakersfield College founded the retreat when collaborating on strategies to educate incoming student government members. They decided to pool resources and educational materials, while at the same time sharing ideas across campuses. This type of collaboration fosters a district-wide approach to student concerns and affords the students an opportunity to learn from one another. This year's event started with a workshop on ethics, followed by a superb Italian-style dinner prepared by Chef Pierce in the Pirate's Café. The night was capped off by a Brown Act and diversity lesson taught using ice cream and various toppings. This was quite a hit among the students! Bright and early, the students arrived back on campus to a group activity involving a "lost at sea" motif. This taught them the value of working together as a team for survival, even when it seems the individualist approach is easier. In the long run, working together as a group accomplishes more. Next, Tom Burke, the KCCD Chief Financial Officer, arrived on the scene to provide student government members with the dos and don'ts of fund expenditures. Following Mr. Burke's insightful presentation, Chef Pierce fed everyone again. This time he prepared a fabulous salad bar with amazing chicken and other fresh ingredients. Everyone was very well fed while discussing student concerns with the Student Trustee, Porterville College's student, Jose Herrera. After bellies were full and strategies laid out for Mr. Herrera communicating with all the colleges, Dr. Rosa Carlson, the President of Porterville College, and Dr. Sonia Christian, the President of Bakersfield College, came to support the students. Mr. Burke provided information on the upcoming Measure J Bond initiative. Dr. Carlson and Dr. Christian were there to field questions and concerns pertaining to each respective college. After the question and answer session ended, an equity roundtable ensued. The students did an amazing job presenting solutions to aid the student body with varying needs to help them be successful in their classes and degree goals. The bonding and educational experience for the students will surely last a lifetime. And the three campuses are sure to reap the benefit of intercampus teamwork. Next semester's retreat will be hosted by Bakersfield College on January 11th and 12th.



COMMUNITY TEAMWORK IN ACTION - With the PC gym being re-roofed with a new metal roof and a new air conditioning system added to replace evaporative coolers, our fall season sports teams (Women's Volleyball and Men's & Women's Basketball) have had to reach out to the community for assistance to keep the season on schedule. Joe Cascio, Director Student Programs and



www.portervillepirates.com

PC Pirate Athletics

Athletics, reports that the women's volleyball games will be played at Porterville High School gym and men's and women's basketball teams are practicing at Port Naz Sports Complex. Their first home games start early January 2017 and the gym refurbishing project is slated to be completed by end of December just in time for the basketball season to kick off. Many thanks to Porterville Unified School District (PUSD) and Port Naz for allowing the use of their facilities.





*Val Garcia,
Vice President Student Services*

PORTERVILLE COLLEGE

Student Services

Four years ago, during the Porterville College Flex Day, I stood before that faculty and staff at Porterville College and told the attendees that the conditions were right for the college to embark on a new redesign effort prompted by

the Achieving the Dream (ATD) Initiative. I empathized with their struggle to accept what they perceived was a district driven initiative. But, I stated that from my limited view I could see a college that was student-centered and community focused; therefore, I could only see success in the colleges future. I am not a prognosticator or a fortuneteller, but I know a good thing when I see it; and from what I had seen from the faculty and staff at Porterville College, I believed there was nothing the college could not do if they put their minds to it.

I suppose that is why I was not surprised when the Achieving the Dream Network awarded the college the status of "Leader College." I was not surprised because it is in the DNA of the people - the community of Porterville - to serve and help one another. Others use the cliché of "family" to advance political positions or an agenda. The people of Porterville truly walk the walk and desire a community that is inclusive and takes care of their own. The community of Porterville not only desires to provide great opportunities for its citizens; it supports and creates the conditions for its citizens to be great. The college mirrors the people it serves in that the community live to serve, and provide opportunities to students so that they can dream big.

The Achieving the Dream Network selected Porterville College as a "Leader College" because: 1) the college integrated the Data Team into the Governance Structure of the college; 2) the college integrated the 4 Pillars of success into all of the college's planning documents; and 3) the college increased access and completion for students in Gateway English and Math.

Although I could take several hours on why the college received the designation of "Leader College," I would like to focus on the importance of the "Pillars."

Specifically, the "Pillars" are:

1. To implement policy and programmatic changes to promote student success;
2. To create accelerated pathways through the basic

skills and into transfer level courses;

3. To expand the ESL program to meet community needs;
4. To increase social support service to assist students with life

These "Pillars" have been integrated into all of the college's plans and have become the bedrock for the college's redesign effort. They are also a road map as the college begins to navigate the pathways and bi-ways that is the California economy. But, more importantly, the "Pillars" are a beacon of light to illuminate a pathway and help the college stay focused amidst a sea of political rhetoric and uncertainty that could distract the college from what is most important – the community and students of Porterville.

With students as our focus, Porterville College has made many end roads in the college's desire to better serve its community. Specifically, the student services division has worked to create an environment that is reflective of the Porterville community – student centered and community focused.

During the 2015-2016 academic year Porterville College had many highlights; however, I would like to share with you a few that the college is proud of:

- PC increased the number of EOPS Students from 250 in 2014-2015 to 750 in 2015-2016.
- PC expanded our Veterans Staff to include a Program Tech.
- PC expanded our service to students with disabilities by dedicating an Educational Advisor to the DRC and a new half-time Counselor .
- PC redesigned the ESL Sequence to mirror the English Sequence.
- PC redesigned the "On Boarding Process" (EAB, Online Orientation).
- PC accepted the Early Assessment Program (EAP) for Placement.
- PC partnered with Multiple Measures Assessment Program (MMAP) to increase placement into transfer courses.
- PC made changes to Early Alert and Probation.
- PC decreased Student Financial Aid waiting period.
- PC placed Educational Advisors at each

partner local high school.

- PC developed a Food Pantry and a One-Stop Community Service Center in Fine Arts building to connect students with vital community services.
- PC partnered with local high schools to offer more college credit courses than ever before.

Yes, Porterville College is doing its part to serve the students and families of Eastern Tulare County. But, the college does so because it values those whom the college shares this endeavor with – that is you. Those of you reading this are not only partners in the college’s effort, but you are an active participant in the development of the “whole student.” Without you and your efforts, the college would be incomplete - “for it takes a village to raise a child.” And in today’s world of iPads, iPhones, iTV’s, and iWatches – I think our students go iCrazy trying to wade through everything that is thrown their way. So, in a world focused on “i” they need to know that the world is shared by a “we” and in this “United States”, they are not alone. More than ever you are key to the development of the children of today so that their tomorrow can become a place where their dreams are not just a place to go to when they close their eyes but a place that opens their eyes to what is possible so they can make the improbable - tangible.

In short, Porterville College is proud of what we have achieved; Porterville College is excited to have received the distinction of “Leader College” from the Achieving the Dream Network; Porterville College is humbled by the belief the community and families of Porterville have in the college; but most of all, Porterville College is blessed to be a member of a community that cherishes the most precious of values and that is the success of the children, students and



COMMUNITY PULLS TOGETHER -

Porterville College has always been on record as the first evacuation site during “major disasters” such as earthquakes, fires, etc. However with the college gym in the middle of being refurbished, mountain communities evacuated due to the “Cedars Fire” had to be redirected to Granite Hills High School gym which became the Red Cross evacuation center. PC staff took immediate action working with the Red Cross to redirect evacuees showing up at the college for assistance. Signs were quickly made and Googlemaps distributed to assist them to where aid was being provided. Through all this, Porterville again came through strong as a community that works towards a common goal of maximizing our resources.

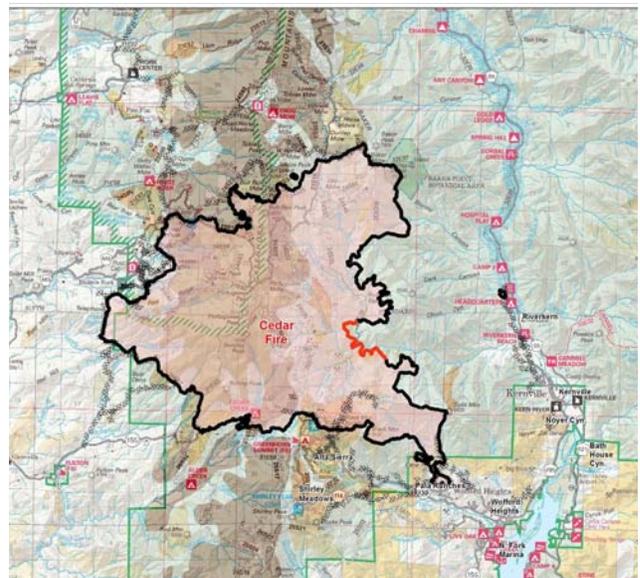
As of today’s date (Sept. 1, 2016) the Cedars Fire has been 85% contained. The air quality conditions continue to improve each day. Officials have downgraded the mandatory evacuation order to voluntary for many of the communities and many residents are now permitted to enter previously evacuated areas. However Portuguese Meadow has remained under mandatory evacuation. More than 2,000 personnel remain committed to the fire.

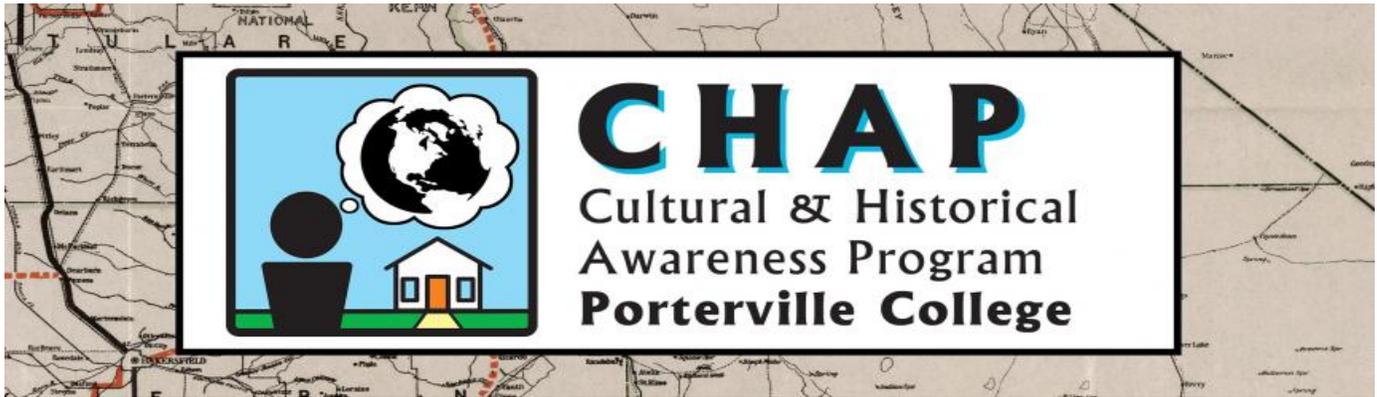
For further information and to keep updated on all fires in California you can go to the website “InciWeb” inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4964/.



WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL HOME GAMES SCHEDULE

Oct 14 – PC vs. Sequoias.....	6pm, PHS gym
Oct 19 - PC vs. West Hills Coalinga,	6pm, PHS gym
Oct 21 - PC vs. Merced	6pm, PHS gym
Oct 26 - PC vs. Columbia	6pm, PHS gym
Oct 28 - PC vs. Taft.....	6pm, PHS gym
Nov 2 - PC vs. Fresno.....	6pm, PHS gym
Nov 9 - PC vs. Cerro Coso	6pm, PHS gym
Nov 11 - PC vs. Reedley.....	6pm, PHS gym





2016-17 CHAP Theme -
The Power of Place: Geographies of our World,
Memories and Imagination

This year, CHAP looks at the role of places in our lives with examples drawn from different fields and notions of the power of place in our thinking about our world, including real and imagined places, historical and modern places, natural and cultural places, and distant and local places. Join us on this journey through the atlas of the mind and the geography of ideas.

All events will be held in the PC Theatre, and are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Doors will be closed when capacity is reached.

Would you like to receive notices and updates about the CHAP program events via email?
 Send a message to chap@portervillecollege.edu and you will be added to our list.

Preliminary schedule of events follows with more events to be announced. Schedule is subject to change.

September 2016

- **Friday, September 16, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. *Rethinking Equal Protection in the Era of Colorblindness (Constitution Day Event)* - Presented by Stan D. Blyth, Attorney and Political Science Instructor, Porterville College**
- **Thursday, September 22, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. *Tulare County Treasures* presentation, featuring: John Greening, Paul Hurley, Louise Jackson, Shirley Kirkpatrick, Greg Schwaller, Laurie Schwaller [Tulare County Treasures Website](#)**

Presented by Alan Hess, Architect. Book signing to follow in student center. [About Alan Hess.](#)

February 2017

- **Thursday, February 9, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. *Marking Me Home: 35 Years of Poems from California*'! Presented by Christopher Buckley, Poet.** Book signing to follow in student center. [About Christopher Buckley.](#)

March 2017

- **Friday, March 10, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. *Harriet Chalmers Adams: Remembering an American Geographer*'! Presented by Kathryn Davis, Chair of Geography and Global Studies, San Jose State University.** [About Kathryn Davis.](#)
- **Friday, March 31: First Show 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. / Second Show 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. *Annual Concert Event* details to follow**

October 2016

- **Friday, October 7, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. *Coming Home: Finding My Filipino-American Roots*'! Presented by Patty Enrado, Author** Book signing to follow in student center. [Author's Website](#)
- **Friday, October 21, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. *Abandoned America: Dismantling the Dream*'! Presented by Matthew Christopher, Photographer** Book signing to follow in student center. [Abandoned America Website](#)

April 2017

- **Friday, April 21, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. *Imperial San Francisco: Urban Power, Earthly Ruin (Earth Day Event)*'! Presented by Gray Brechin, Ph.D., Historical Geographer and Author.** Book signing to follow in student center. [About Gray Brechin.](#)

November 2016

- **Friday, November 4, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. *Sugar Cane Capitalism and Environmental Transformation: An Archaeology Colonial Nevis, West Indies*'! Presented by Marco Meniketti, Associate Professor of Anthropology, San Jose State University** [About Marco Meniketti](#) and [Caribbean Historical Archaeology.](#)
- **Friday, November 17, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. *California as Muse: Modern Architecture in the Golden State*'!**

