

2020: A Year of Pandemic-Proportion

### 2021: A Year of Solutions

Dear Foothill Colleagues,

What a year – 2020! Never has our college been tested as it has been this year.

What we witnessed at our college in 2020 is a miracle. Each of you came together to take on this monumental challenge. Your drive for excellence and innovation went into overdrive. Your compassion and student-centeredness guided you in every aspect.

Thank you! The real gift of 2020 is YOU. I am honored to be your college president and to witness firsthand why Foothill College is one of the best and worth emulating.

Although there are too many examples of racial injustices in our country, the work that each of you have done during this virtual transition to minimize such inequities at the college is also extraordinary – based on several indicators. This pandemic has exposed pervasive racial inequities nationally, and the racial reckoning following Mr. Floyd's murder challenges us to do better – personally and professionally. We have a long way to go to create a college community where student success is not predictable by race; yet what you have done during this year of 2020 has convinced me that Foothill College has the capacity for transformative change in equity.

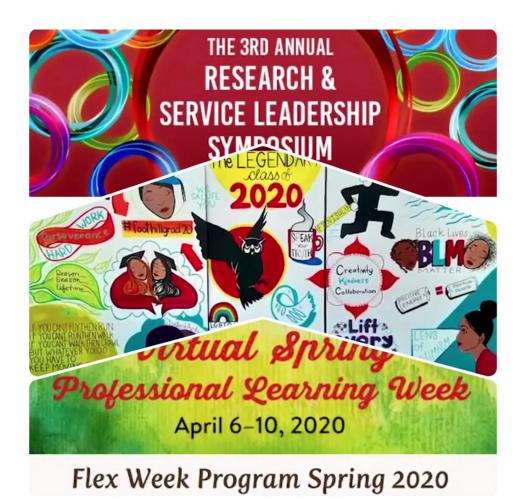
Our college is being recognized statewide, nationally, and even internationally for our success in managing this pandemic. Our college is also being recognized statewide and nationally for our equity efforts.

As the Year of 2020 – a year of pandemic proportion – comes to a near close, let's give ourselves a pat on the back for a job well done and reach out to colleagues to thank them for their herculean effort.

#### 2020 Year-in-Review

- 1. Virtual teaching / tutoring / services transition + remote work
- 2. Student activism / service leadership
- 3. Scope of equity / Equity retreat
- 4. Spring Flex Week & Summer Professional Development Virtual Teaching Extravaganza
- 5. Virtual graduation (over 670 viewers) & end-of-year celebrations
- 6. Measure G (largest bond for the district / largest education bond in the state during March election) & Facilities Master Plan

- 7. CARES lawsuit against the federal government & creation of Foothill CARES
- 8. Wildfires
- 9. College Opening Day (student takeover, breakfast, finding seats at virtual Smithwick, video, etc.)
- 10. Service Leadership, Teacher Corps to Guatemala







## LISTEN. LEARN. LEVEL UP!

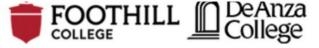
Student Takeover: Ethnicity &

Race in Academia



olleges are not waiting and are developing their own plans to ensure students have computers ernet access needed to transition to online learning. In California, Foothill College established gency fund to provide up to \$1,000 to students who need to loan laptops or purchase a wi-fi





Library / LibGuides / Anti-Racism Resources / Library Information

### **Anti-Racism Resources: Library Information**



# Student Technology Home • Virtual Campus • Student Technology Support Hub







# Tech Ambassadors Program Application

### Black Lives Matter Student Services Statement

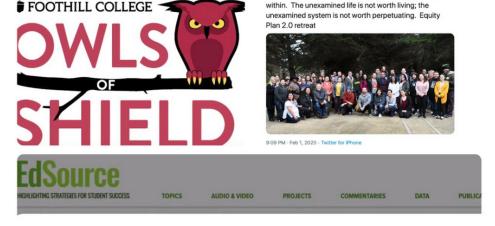
In Student Services, we acknowledge our role in not serving our Black students adequately. We have contributed towards the systemic oppression that has disproportionately affected their success. However, our acknowledgement must go beyond words.

Over the next few months, we plan to look deeply within our student service departments to actively deconstruct and dismantle the barriers, practices, and policies that restrict our



## International Student

Home ▶ International Student Programs ▶ COVID-19 Updates



### California community colleges win suit over federal emergency financial relief

Preliminary injunction would clear barrier preventing undocumented students from reemergency coronavirus aid





Am re-watching the <u>College Opening Day</u> video as I write this communiqué, and am feeling deeply grateful to each of you:

- the faculty who did not anticipate teaching online yet worked so hard to transition, along with online faculty who continued to improve their courses
- the amazing classified who kept going no matter what
- President's Cabinet and the administrative team for amazing teamwork and genius in leading during this unprecedented time, demonstrating once again that leadership matters.
- Central Services colleagues who supported our college
- Colleagues who attend the nearly 80 President's Briefing

We started 2020 with Dr. **Cornel West** and we are ending it with a final draft of Equity Plan 2.0. I look forward to February 1 (the first day of Black History Month) when we anticipate to present the final plan to our Chancellor and Board of Trustees who have singularly and bravely prioritized racial equity.

I cannot wait to bid farewell to 2020, and welcome 2021 – A Year of Solutions!. 2021 will bring us vaccinations. 2021 will bring Equity Plan 2.0 and our college's strategic thinking on solutions to student equity. 2021 will bring a little hope for undocumented students and international students. 2021 will bring some hope for addressing climate change. 2021 may even bring us to a return to campus, though not necessarily a return to the Foothill College of 2019.

There is no doubt that 2020 has worn many of us out. I'm near the point of exhaustion, and I cannot wait for the break to refuel and do some reading and writing! In the meantime, I am playing the <a href="Monog Us game">Among Us game</a> college-wide competition with students during the winter break. Employees can <a href="Sign up">Sign up</a> and play also!



We know the next few months will continue to test our resiliency. Please continue to find community in each other.

Join us <u>via Zoom at 1 pm today</u> for a last college-wide gathering! Let's just take a moment to have some much deserved fun with Jeopardy, raise some funds for students, and say good-bye (and good riddance) to 2020! In fact, if you like, donate \$20.20 to the fundraiser just to get rid of it.

- Wear your favorite holiday sweater (ugly or not)
- · Donations can be made ahead of time
- Download the party Zoom background (attached)

Please also continue to send our best to colleagues who are tested positive or have family members who are positive.

See you at 1 pm!

Of Service,

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President

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