



in the Media

September 25, 2015

Citrus College Inaugurates Institute for Completion

GLENDORA, Calif. –Building on its reputation as a state and national leader in community college education, this fall Citrus College will inaugurate the Citrus College Institute For Completion (IFC).

“The Institute for Completion is an innovative program unique to Citrus College that will employ research-based strategies to increase the number of students who complete their educational goals,” said Citrus College Superintendent/President Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.

The genesis for the IFC was a research project done by Citrus College’s Beta Nu Eta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society (PTK). Their project was focused on college completion—a goal that many community college students find difficult to achieve.

Based on the PTK student’s award winning research, student leaders, faculty, staff, administrators and trustees signed a pledge to make Citrus College a “College of Completion” in 2012. Over the past three years, the college has investigated best practices, launched pilot programs, and implemented creative solutions to remove barriers that impede student success. At the same time, the Citrus College Foundation has solicited donors to help fund the IFC—individuals and businesses who believe college completion is a catalyst to economic prosperity and personal success.

The IFC will feature four interdependent components that include: Innovative Strategies, Professional Development, Resource Development, and Research. These four components of the IFC will create a synergy that promotes an increase in student completion.

The Innovative Strategies component will focus on identifying and piloting promising methods inside and outside of the classroom that promote successful course, certificate or degree completion. The implementation of innovative strategies often requires specialized training, often referred to as “professional development.”

The Professional Development component of the IFC will provide faculty and staff with the in-depth training that is necessary to implement and assess completion strategies in an effective and cost-efficient manner. The college’s ability to provide professional development will rely on sustainable ongoing funding, an aspect that will be the responsibility of the Resource Development component of the IFC.

The Research component will be used to identify problems or deficiencies and validate promising strategies. The Research component will also assess the outcomes of strategies that are implemented.

Heading up this leading-edge program will be Dr. Kathryn Jameson-Meedy, who will serve as the Institute’s director. New to Citrus College this fall, Dr. Jameson-Meedy has 15 years of experience in the California Community College system. Her extensive experience in institutional planning, development and grant management, student success, intervention strategies, and student learning outcomes made her an outstanding candidate to lead the IFC.

“It is innovation and the constant pursuit of excellence that has made Citrus College a state and national leader in higher education,” said Citrus College Board of Trustees President Joanne Montgomery. “I believe the Institute for Completion will serve as a model for community colleges throughout the country.”