

PORTERVILLE COLLEGE

Flex Days Agenda - Fall 2021

Thursday, August 19th

8-8:45 **Welcome/Announcements**

8-8:10 Robert Simpkins, Academic Senate President

8:10-8:25 Sonya Christian, KCCD Chancellor

8:25-8:35 Claudia Habib, Porterville College President

8:35-8:45 New & Tenured Faculty Introductions

8:45-10:15 **Keynote Speaker – Diego Navarro (Zoom)**

Constructs For a Culture of Dignity: Creating Conditions of Belonging for Our Students

Description:

Our classrooms and campus form a cultural environment which students may experience differently depending on their background. Our Latinx and other students of color bring a deep strength in persistence and survival from learning to address tough situations, neighborhoods, financial anxieties, and lack of resources, but their vigilance sometimes undermines them when they experience biases, subtle indignities and punitive discipline that leads to a sense of psychological threat and ultimately to a feeling of not belonging. This keynote will focus on our responsibility to help these students transition their innate strengths to our college's programs by creating conditions of belonging and psychological safety. Evidence of academic, salary, and psychological outcomes will be presented indicating that these issues can be addressed in the academic setting when programs are designed effectively.

About the Speaker:

Diego Navarro is an Emeritus Professor at Cabrillo College and founded the Academy for College Excellence (ACE) in 2002, which has now been studied and replicated by numerous colleges around the country. Diego has trained faculty in affective learning approaches and developed the Five-day Experiential Learning Institute (FELI) to teach faculty and staff how to have embodied interactions and employ non-cognitive learning activities to create psychological safety in students. Diego's research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Carnegie Corporation of New York and others. He currently serves as a Coach in the Aspen Institute and National Center for Inquiry and Improvement implementation project serving 11 community colleges, 5 Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and 5 four-year Hispanic Serving Institutions. Diego received the American Association of Community College Trustees, William H. Meardy National Faculty Award in 2009.

10:15-10:30 **Break**

10:30-10:45 **Guided Pathways & Porterville College: Where We Are and Where We're Going**
Presenters: Primavera Arvizu, Robert Simpkins

10:45-11 **Your Electronic Equity Toolkit**
Presenters: Errin Sullivan Arcos and Sarah Phinney

11-11:15 **CHAP**
Presenter: Jim Entz

11:15-12:15 **Lunch**

12:15-1:45 **Presentation & Workshop**

**Engaging Students and Making Classrooms Fair and Inclusive:
Cross-Disciplinary Tools, Insights, and Strategies to Promote Student Success**

Presenter: Dr. Kimberly Tanner, SFSU

Description:

Teaching diverse populations of students requires instructors to construct learning environments that are inclusive and equitable. Research in psychology and other disciplines suggests that how students personally experience learning environments strongly influences engagement, motivation, sense of belonging, and conceptual learning. In this interactive workshop, participants will share a common experience as the basis for discussing how students may experience classroom environments differently from one another. Individual participants will then have the opportunity to self-assess their current awareness of 21 common equitable teaching strategies and identify those that could be immediately implemented in classrooms, as well as in professional environments such as group meetings, seminars, and conferences.

About the Speaker:

Dr. Kimberly Tanner is a tenured Professor of Biology at San Francisco State University. Her laboratory – SEPAL: the Science Education Partnership and Assessment Laboratory – investigates what is challenging to learn in biology, how biologists choose to teach, and how to make equity, diversity, and inclusion central in science education efforts. As a Science Faculty with an Education Specialty (SFES), she is engaged in discipline-based education research, directs multiple K-16+ biology education reform efforts, and is deeply engaged in faculty professional development. Trained as a neurobiologist with postdoctoral studies in science education, Dr. Tanner is a proud first-generation college-going student and accustomed to she/her pronouns.

1:45-2 p.m. **Final Thoughts**

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Friday, August 20th

8-8:30 **Introduction/Welcome: Ensuring Inclusive Excellence – Year Theme and Goals**
Presenters: Robert Simpkins, Primavera Arvizu

Description:

This short presentation will explain the concept, activities, and goals of the day and the school year in relation to Guided Pathways Pillar 4: Ensure Learning Happens with Intentional Outcomes.

8:30-9:30 **Faculty Forum – Ensuring Learning at PC**
Presenters: Melissa Long, Dustin Acres, Elisa Queenan, Chris Vanni

Description:

Join our panel as they discuss how their teaching philosophies have shifted over the past year, how these changes have impacted their practices to better fit their students' needs, and how they hope to continue to grow in order to provide high-quality instruction in whatever modality is necessary. Contribute your own thoughts and experiences as well as we collectively look ahead to the future of our instruction.

9:30-9:45 **Break**

9:45-10:45 **Campus Discussion on Equity and Social Justice**
Presenter: Ethan Hartsell

Description:

In small groups, we'll be discussing issues of equity and social justice that we've seen PC students experience, as well as sharing resources and best practices for addressing these issues.

10:45-11:00 **Closing remarks**

11-11:15 **Break**

11:15-12:15 **Division Meetings (Format Decided by Each Division)**

12:15-1 **Lunch**

1-2 **Special Committee Meetings (If Needed)**