

“In many ways, it is hard for modern people living in First World countries to conceive of a pandemic sweeping around the world and killing millions of people.”

- Charles River editors

R I V E R S I D E C I T Y C O L L E G E

VIEWPOINTS

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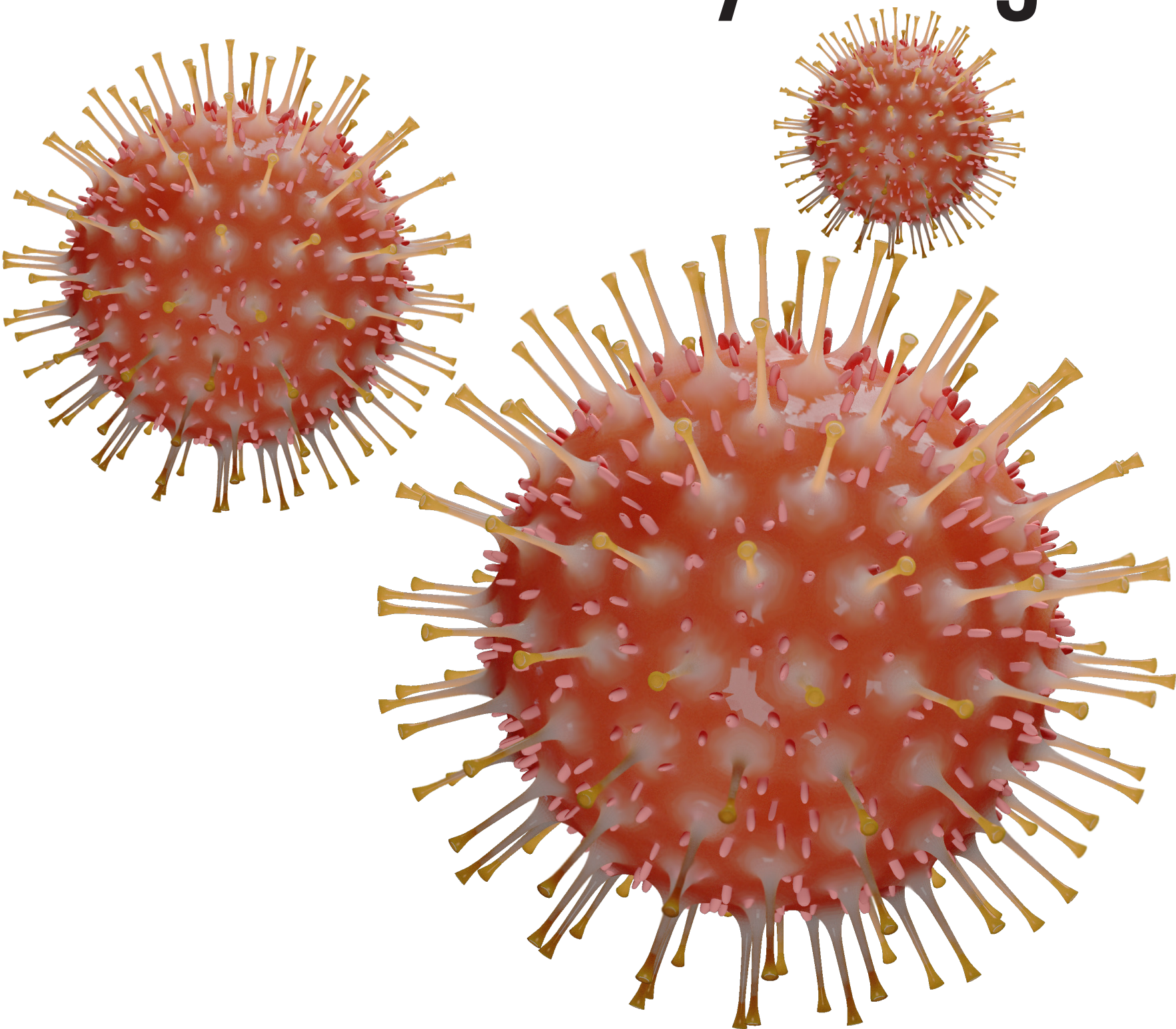
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Coronavirus pandemic affects Riverside City College



We are living through a viral outbreak the likes of which the world has not seen in modern times. These are times of uncertainty for our college, our district and our community. The Viewpoints staff has been working around the clock with limited resources to keep you informed, and we hope to continue to do so.

For coronavirus coverage visit page 2



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Board meetings discuss virus plan

Trustees call special meeting to detail transition to online instruction



LEO CABRAL | VIEWPOINTS

Chancellor Wolde-Ab Isaac, left, and President of the Board of Trustees Mary Figueroa listen to faculty concerns about the closure of all Riverside Community College District campuses. The special Board meeting, held March 14, discusses the next steps in the transition to online instruction and attempts to communicate clearly with shareholders.

ERIK GALICIA

NEWS EDITOR

With the Riverside Community College District seemingly stuck in limbo due to sudden COVID-19 regulations, a March 14 special session of the Board of Trustees presented the district's plans to handle the pandemic.

"We have been very carefully monitoring the guidelines from the CDC on a daily basis," said Chancellor Wolde-Ab Isaac. "We place safety as number one."

A RAVE message on March 15 announced that all three campuses are closed to students and instructors up until April 3 at the earliest. All classes that were originally online will continue as scheduled, but face-to-face lecture classes are suspended until they are launched online on March 23.

The new regulations are

in accordance with Riverside County Public Health Officer Cameron Kaiser's order for all schools in Riverside County to close by March 16 in an attempt to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

According to Isaac, lab classes are not allowed by the public health order and are suspended indefinitely. The district is considering rescheduling lab courses to the summer.

Isaac assured attendees that the district's objective is not to end instruction, rather to ensure a smooth transition to online instruction.

"We are racing against time to complete and prepare every faculty member to be able to have the capacity to be online," Isaac said.

The district has created three task forces to deal with communication, impacts on personnel and the strategy for the online transition.

According to a report by Sheila Pisa, interim dean of Distance Education, 352 faculty members districtwide were still untrained in Canvas as of March 14.

The upcoming week's suspension of all on-campus instruction is meant to give instructors the time they need to train for online instruction without the worry of fulfilling their usual duties.

"What we've provided so far are Canvas shells with enrolled students for all RCCD courses," Pisa said. "They are waiting, in some cases, for faculty to be trained."

Upon completion of training, instructors will receive their own Canvas course template to add material to.

The district has also purchased new software that allows instructors to create instructional videos for Canvas. There is also a new text messaging application that will allow direct contact

between faculty and students as well as group texts between students.

Modules have been added to aid instructors in getting started on the Zoom video conferencing application and to train students in the basics of online instruction, such as submitting assignments.

On March 15, the district worked to identify which classified staff will be deemed essential to the campuses. Staff were told not to report to work on March 16 and that essential workers would be called in once those positions were determined.

The administration urged that students and faculty turn the clutter feature off in their emails to ensure that they get all district messages.

"We're working to ensure that all employees and staff receive these messages," said Rebecca Goldware, vice chancellor of Institutional Advancement and Economic Development. "If you have opted out of RCCD-All at

this moment in time, send me an email. I will make sure that you are added."

Isaac assured that food pantry and shower services for homeless and food challenged students will remain functional through the campus closures. The chancellor said conversations about disadvantaged students are at the center of discussions.

"We must see how many students don't have access to a computer," he said. "We are not interested in leaving anyone behind."

Darius Haghghat, vice president of the RCC Faculty Association, urged patience with the district's communications, as the nature of the COVID-19 situation is rapidly changing and requires the administration to adapt accordingly.

"Come Monday, this conversation might be completely obsolete," Haghghat said.

March 17 meeting discusses staff

Virtual board meeting lays out districtwide essential staff and services

LEO CABRAL

MANAGING EDITOR

In the midst of all the precautions to prevent COVID-19 from spreading, the Board of Trustees live streamed their meeting and canceled presentations and unnecessary reports to get on with more pressing matters.

Monica Green was appointed Norco College's fourth president in a unanimous vote. Her length of employment is two years.

The Board also laid out an updated list of essential personnel required to be on district campuses. Classified staff have been placed into four categories.

Category one: These staff are deemed essential to campus

functions and are to work onsite. Workers will be paid overtime to compensate for the heightened risk of the coronavirus. Some personnel in this category are police officers, mechanics, lab technicians, custodians and grounds persons.

Category two: These are employees that can work from home but may be required to be onsite as needed.

Category three: Those who work remotely that may need their computers upgraded with software or who need a Virtual Private Network to work with District files are in this category.

Category four: These are non essential personnel that have been put on standby because their work has slowed due to the recent changes. Some of the positions in this category

are community service aides, food service workers, outreach and recruitment specialists and learning center assistants.

The list is subject to change due to concerns and regulations pertaining to the pandemic. Some classified staff are trying to convince the Board to further decrease the number of essential employees.

"We are continuously refining this," said Chancellor Wolde-Ab Isaac about the needed flexibility in times of uncertainty.

The Board also said that anyone 65 and older must stay home and work remotely. Authorized personnel will have special stickers to affix to their vehicles approving their presence.

Food pantries will continue to operate in grab and go fashion

near the edge of campus to prevent non essential persons from being on the premises. All perishable food from campus cafeterias and the Culinary Arts Building will be donated to a local food bank.

Student workers will still be paid and those who use the school as their address can pick up their paychecks near the food distribution. According to Isaac, this is also where students can receive necessary equipment for online classes like laptops or iPads. A set location for these services has yet to be designated.

"We have this one week before classes go online to make sure that we finish all that preparation," said Isaac.

Student Trustee Jorge Zavala addressed concerns that students may not know about the services

that are being offered to them during this transition period and urged that faculty and staff tell their students about the available resources. He also addressed student veterans concerns about the G.I. Bill covering online classes but Isaac said that the Board would get waivers for student veterans.

Board of Trustees President Mary Figueroa addressed Public Health Officer Cameron Kaiser's announcement that all Riverside County schools should remain closed until Apr. 30.

"We are now looking at the entire month of April as not being functioning on a person-to-person basis," Figueroa said. "We are in uncharted territory. We want to thank everybody for hanging in there with us."



LEO CABRAL | VIEWPOINTS

The RCC Tiger Pantry hands out free food to students in grab-and-go fashion with the help of members of ASRCC, RCC Athletics, Student Services and more on March 18. A total of 545 bags were prepared with canned and fresh foods.

Pantry continues aid

Students given food grab-and-go style

ERIK GALICIA

NEWS EDITOR

As the world crisis empties grocery store shelves and cuts work hours, the fear of not getting enough to eat grows.

The Riverside City College Office of Student Life gave away hundreds of bags of food to students on March 18 in an effort to cut the mounting stress of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“In tough times like these when students are in need of food, this is what Hungry Tigers was made for,” said ASRCC

President Angel Contreras. “To help students that have food insecurity, those that are homeless.”

The Hungry Tigers Program service, put on by ASRCC, the Athletics Department and several student volunteers, was “grab-and-go” style. Students drove through the parking lot near the tennis courts, flashed their college IDs and were handed a bag with canned food, potato chips and other supplies.

“We’re trying our best to put our resources out there for the students,” Contreras said. “But more resources are still to come.”

A March 18 district email said the distribution of food bags will continue the following week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. until supplies run out. RCC students will also be able to check out laptops on March

20 and 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Charles A. Kane Building.

As of now, facilities that usually allow homeless students to take showers on campus are closed, according to the email. Thomas Cruz-Soto, dean of Student Services, said a plan to re-open those facilities is in the works.

“Chancellor (Wolde-Ab) Isaac is committed to making sure that, due to the closures, we don’t stop caring for students in need,” Cruz-Soto said. “That’s why we’re doing this. That’s why the showers are gonna remain open and I believe folks are gonna be able to wash their clothes as well.”

Students driving through for food expressed appreciation for the college’s efforts in making sure they have the bare necessities during this difficult time.

“This is when people need help the most,” said RCC student Daniel Navarrete. “It feels good to know I go to a school that offers these services.”

Darla Masel, a student with four children, also expressed gratitude for the aid.

“This pandemic is pretty scary,” Masel said. “This is the time that we really get to shine and come together as a community. I’m so grateful to be a student at RCC because this is the only resource I have available that I’m able to bring home to my family right now.”

Moreno Valley College will distribute bags of food Mondays through Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Portable 17. Norco College students must contact campus police to set an appointment for a pick up.

Study abroad students brought home

Barcelona trip cut short as COVID-19 cases increase in Europe

ERIK GALICIA

NEWS EDITOR

As coronavirus infections surged in Spain and the United States weighed a possible European travel ban, the Riverside Community College District began scrambling to ensure that all Study Abroad Program students in Barcelona were brought home safely.

According to Nassef Girgis, the RCCD Study Abroad director, the group was brought home March 17, just 15 days after arriving in Barcelona.

One student was carrying a Mexican passport, which would keep her from re-entering the United States under the new travel restrictions.

“We made sure she came back immediately,” Girgis said.

The district’s goal was to bring the rest of the group back together, according to Girgis.

“It was quite an adventure but we were able to find a flight from Barcelona to London and from London to LAX,” he said.

Girgis reported that all students returning from Spain were screened at the airport and placed on a two week self-quarantine upon arrival. He said that all students seemed to be in good health.

Peggy Campo, a kinesiology instructor at Norco College, was among the 22 in the returning group.

“Like everyone else, I am deeply concerned for my students, [my] other colleague that traveled abroad with me, in addition to my own family and friends,” Campo said via email. “I am just treading water, trying to adjust to our ‘new normal.’”

According to Girgis, the Summer Study Abroad trip to Germany and Austria has been cancelled. The trip to Italy in the Fall has been put on hold until further notice.

The Study Abroad Program requires commitments to airlines and hosts in receiving countries to be made well ahead of time. Girgis said that although great interest has been shown in this year’s previously planned trips, the program cannot recruit students at this time due to the uncertainty that the coronavirus pandemic is causing.

“We will continue to monitor the situation and possibly make a decision in April,” Girgis said about the upcoming trip to Italy.

District appoints new president

ANGEL PENA

EDITOR IN CHIEF

After a unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees on March 17, Interim Norco College President Monica Green was awarded a full-time contract.

The college has been without an official president since Bryan Reece was put on leave in June.

Green served as vice president of planning and development at Riverside City College as well as dean and vice president of student services at Norco for 10 years before serving as interim president,

“I’ve been with the district now for over 18 years,” Green said. “I think it helped to equip me to be prepared to hit the ground running in terms of addressing the issues that needed to be addressed. To ensure that we maintain the continuity of instruction and support services for students as we go through this crisis together.”

Green was appointed during a district wide shutdown affecting Norco, Riverside City College and Moreno Valley College due to the global coronavirus

outbreak.

“One of the things that is critical during this time is communication,” Green said. “We have been working hard to make sure that we ensure continuous communication not only with our students, but through the district emails and college specific emails. Also with our college community, faculty, staff and management team.”

Even though Measure A and Proposition 13 did not pass, Green and Norco have a goal for a new educational master plan that takes them out to 2030. This plan includes the vision of a second Norco campus to help better serve the surrounding communities.

“We serve not only Norco but Corona, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley and Temescal Valley,” Green said. “So what we are looking at is continuing efforts to determine where a secondary site will be to better serve our area. We are doing environmental scans right now. So as soon as things begin to calm down, we will start to work forward on the plan for the secondary site.”

Green has several goals for the future, such as another bond

proposal in the coming years, but before any of these plans come to fruition, Green said that the priority of Norco is the continuity of classes.

Norco hopes to achieve greater academic and athletic success by building a second site, according to Green. She said her hope is to offer more programs and athletics with the college’s expansion.

“We know that for us to become a more comprehensive college, we’ve got to expand out academic programs, athletics and courses that are available for our students,” Green said.

Green’s predecessor, Reece, was well liked by the community and Norco College. Green believes that her tenure in the district and good standing relationships has proven that she is a part of the community.

“I’ve been a part of norco college for the past 10 years, so I have built up those relationships,” Green said. “I have regular meetings with faculty. My background is from the student services area. I have always worked very closely with students, making sure that personal contact and lines of



IMAGE COURTESY OF RCCD

Monica Green, an 18 year employee of the district, will be Norco’s fourth president.

communication are there.”

Norco’s new president is confident in her goals and the future of the college, ensuring that everyone is moving in the same direction.

Green’s plans for the future include transforming Norco College into a Guided Pathways institution and switching the narrative from helping students graduate to making the college student-ready.



SAIDA MAALIN | VIEWPOINTS

Staff, faculty, clubs come together

RCCD provides resources for students during quarantine

SAIDA MAALIN

LIFE EDITOR

Class of 2020 graduation may be postponed according to Riverside City College President Gregory Anderson.

“We’re still hoping to graduate the vast majority of students who would’ve been able to graduate,” Anderson said. “If there are still some labs that students need to make up because we were unable to put them online then it may delay their graduation.”

Faculty and staff have been working around the clock to keep students updated with real time information surrounding COVID-19.

“We want to instill a sense of calm into our students, that we are here for you,” said Kristine Dimemmo, interim vice president of Planning and Development at RCC. “Our goal is to make sure you’re successful and [have] every tool in place to make sure you are.”

Many departments have already begun using Zoom to hold meetings and lectures since all in person lectures, labs and meetings have been suspended.

The Zoom app is free for students and can be downloaded using the App store or Google Play Store and can be used on phones, tablets and computers.

Garth Schultz, chair of the RCC Counseling Department, said he wants students to know that faculty care about each and every one and their individual circumstances during this challenging time.

“For students without access to a computer, we have plans to use Google Voice and can use the Zoom audio-only option,” Schultz said. “Email always works too and we can respond to specific questions as they come in.”

According to Shultz, support from counselors, faculty, staff and educational advisers will be available to answer any questions via email.

“The student experience should be the same starting next week,” Schultz said. “It’s just that the environment that the experience occurs in will be a virtual one.”

The counseling department will allow students to schedule appointments using the online system beginning the week of March 23.

RCC student Lydia Lynn Bomar said faculty has done everything they can to keep her well informed.

“Personally, I’m a little worried about not having that one on one time with my professors and not getting the resources that

are provided on campus,” Bomar said. “But my counselor Jermery Johnson has personally reached out to all of his student to make sure we have the resources we need to succeed such as laptops and WiFi”

Other student programs such as EOPS, NextUp and CARE will allow their students to schedule appointments with counselors and will contact their students via telephone or email the same week. UJIMA counselors will begin reaching out to their students to obtain academic progress individually.

“RCC is working together across programs and disciplines like I have never seen before,” said Schultz.

Resources for student’s success are being offered throughout the

school.

Ujima is offering their students access to a laptop computer as a first come first serve basis to help those who don’t have access to one at home.

Online tutoring is accessible to students and appointments can be set up online <https://riverside.mywconline.com/> although the support may be limited due to campus closure.

“We have with purpose and intentionality made sure that all of our tutors are actually in the virtual classrooms that they’ve connected with the faculty and students,” Dimemmo said.

For homeless students food services are available as well as possible shelter.

“I have been offered many resources to make sure I’m capable

of doing my part” Bomar said.

RCCD is also offering three free self care webinars to help students with their emotional wellbeing during these testing times on an online platform <https://www.activeminds.org/get-involved/special-events/>.

The College has been doing great at keeping everyone updated since the end of February with essential information and guidelines to prevent the spread and exposure of the virus.

“Students need to understand they have all the skill and ability. They just need the knowledge and if they try to reach out they’re gonna have all the support that they need,” said Anderson.

To ensure success students are being told to stay on top of school emails, canvas and maintain contact with professors as often as possible.

Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order that went into effect March 19 requiring Californians to stay home. According to the RCC COVID-19 updated website the Riverside County Public Health Officer has requested the campus to remain closed for in-person meetings, events, lectures and labs through April 30.

Updates are provided on the RCC website www.rccd.edu/covid19.

“ Personally, I’m a little worried about not having that one on one time with my professors and not getting the resources that are provided on campus.

- Lydia Lynn Bomar

”

CCCAA cancels spring sports

Basketball playoff run falls victim to pandemic

JAIR RAMIREZ

STAFF REPORTER

The California Community College Athletic Association Board of Directors voted unanimously to cancel the spring sports season for the nearly 9,500 student-athletes in the state.

This caused the Riverside City College athletics department to cancel all sports related activities through June 30 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"It's important that we look out for the well-being of our student-athletes," said Keith Curry, Chair of the Board of Directors at the CCCAA board of directors meeting.

Face-to-face recruiting and recruiting-related travel is being prohibited immediately until Apr. 15, when the CCCAA will review and decide to continue the ban or not. The NCAA, NAIA and other collegiate governing bodies are working with the CCCAA to help student-athletes who wish to eventually transfer.

"We regret the effect this has on our outstanding student-athletes and the hard work and dedication they've invested in their seasons," said

Jennifer Cardone, CCCAA Interim Executive Director in a statement.

This is unfortunate timing for the RCC men's basketball team, which was in the middle of a playoff run after winning the Orange Empire Conference title. RCC defeated Santa Monica College 77-68 in the Southern California Regional Final on Mar. 7.

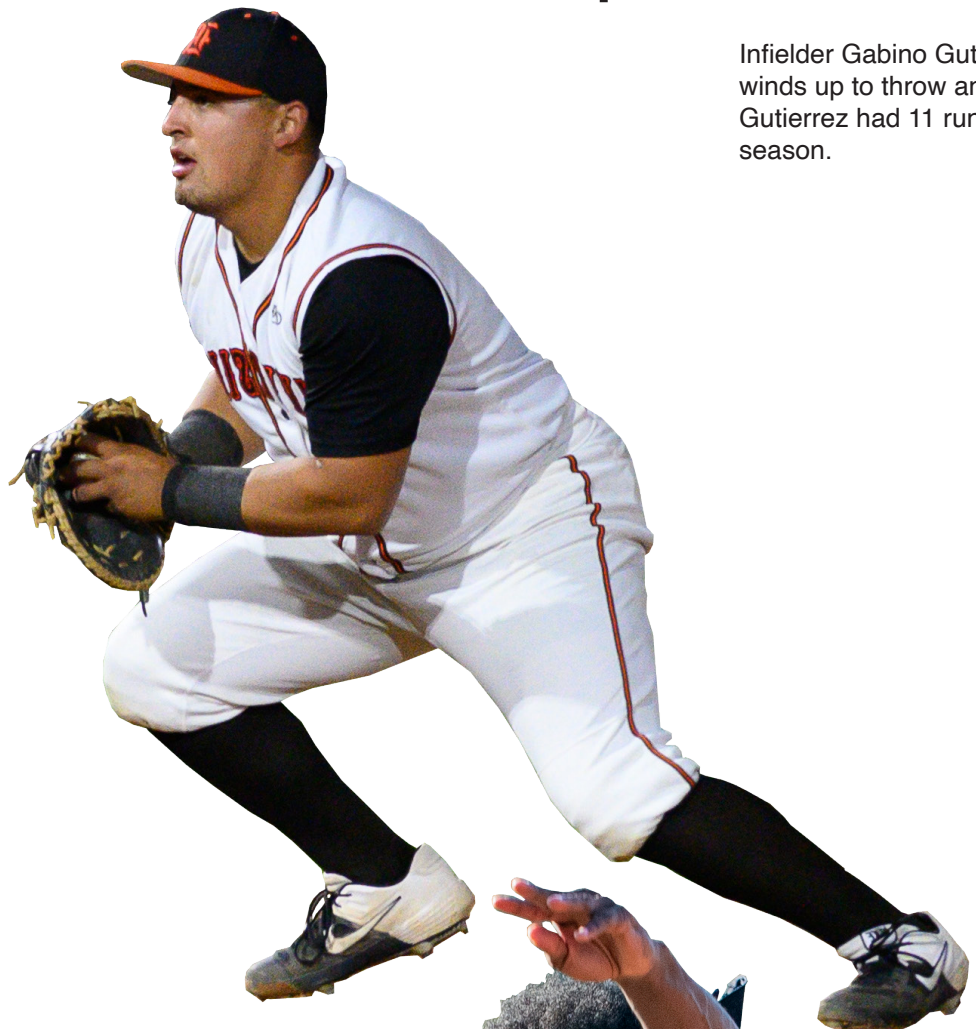
They were on their way to face top-seeded and undefeated City College of San Francisco in the quarterfinals of the CCCAA Championship at a crowdless West Hills Lemoore College with only teams and event staff allowed. This was RCC's first CCCAA State Championship tournament appearance since 2009.

The baseball team finished the season a strong 16-6 behind sophomore pitcher Marques Johnson. Johnson led the OEC with 43 strikeouts and was third in ERA (2.18) with a 2-1 record.

The softball team finished the season 8-13, cutting short the great season of freshman infielder Annabelle Salas. Salas was leading the OEC with five home runs and was fourth in both batting average (.469) and RBIs (20).

The CCCAA stated that the spring seasons will be restored and that they will be extending

Infielder Gabino Gutierrez winds up to throw an out. Gutierrez had 11 runs this season.



Freshman long jumper Jalen Gray participates in the RCC invitational on March 6.



Second basemen Natalie Del Monte keeps her foot on the base as a runner slides to avoid an out. Del Monte has a .438 batting average in the conference.

Review: ‘Animal Crossing: New Horizons’

Video game connects friends during quarantine

STEPHANIE ARENAS
STAFF REPORTER

Nintendo finally released “Animal Crossing: New Horizons” on March 20 following the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing its players to interact with one another without having to leave their homes.

“Animal Crossing: New Horizons” is a real time life simulation game developed and published for the Nintendo Switch.

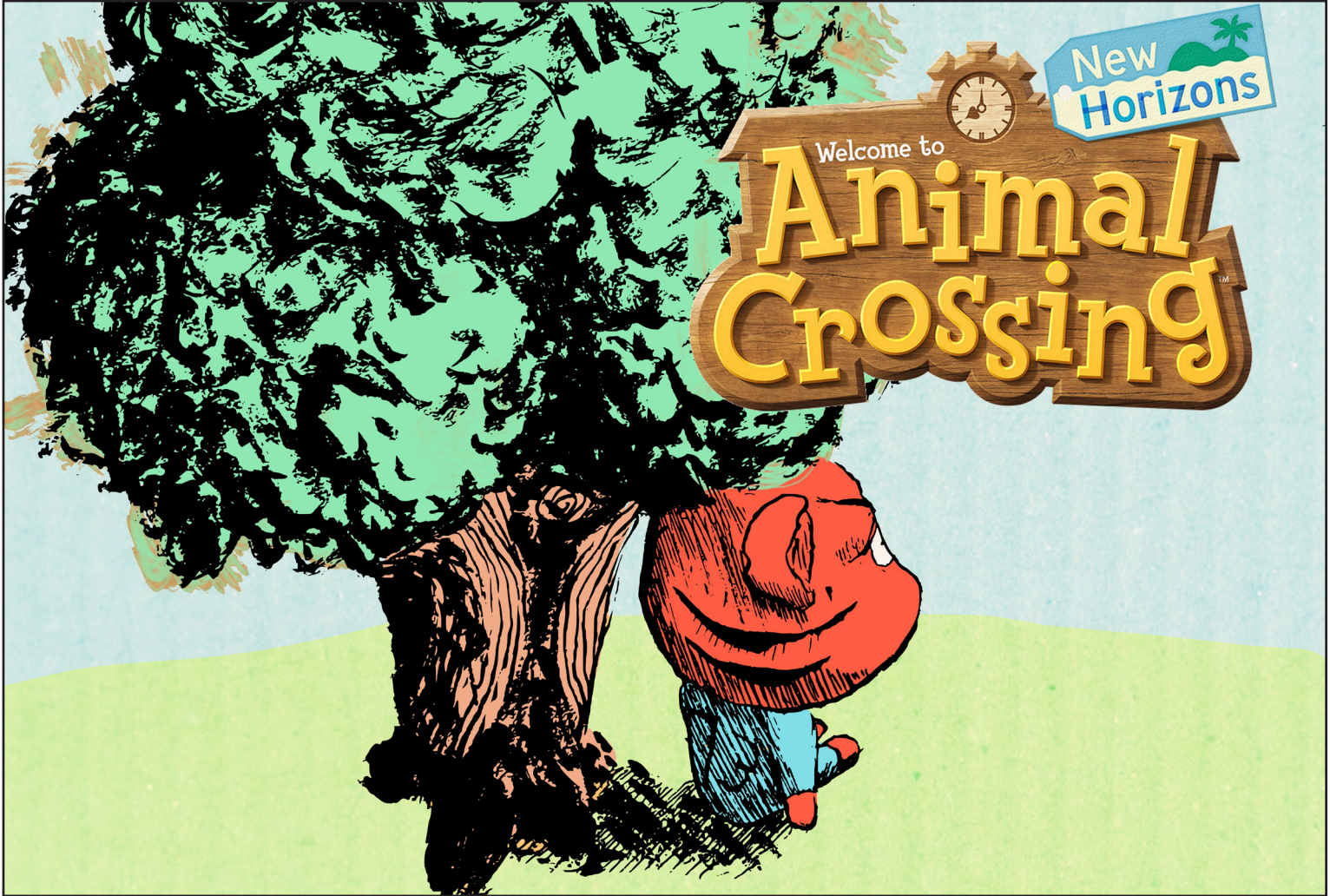
Fans of the game have said they are immensely satisfied with the finished product. While there have been a few changes to the game’s formula, many have come to agree that “New Horizons” still has the same old charm “Animal Crossing” is known for.

The game, the fifth one in the series, allows players to create a custom-made character who is invited to a deserted island getaway. They are soon tasked as the island’s resident representatives with building, maintaining and shaping the island however they see fit.

The game play hinges on the progress one makes by either expanding their home, donating to the local museum or buying products locally.

As a means to earn money, the player can either catch bugs or fish and resell them to either Tommy or Timmy, the shop owners. By doing this, the player is able to upgrade and buy items such as furniture, tools and wallpaper for their house.

However, if one wanted to



JULIAN NAVARRO | VIEWPOINTS

catch certain bugs and fish, those bugs and fish would only be able to come out at certain times of the day. “Animal Crossing” runs in real time which means that if it is night outside in real life, it will be night outside in the game.

Many fans of the game prefer not to wait hours for certain things to pop up, so they have the ability to change the time in order to fit their needs. This feature is called time traveling.

Another big aspect of the

game is its multiplayer option. The player will have the option to open the travel gate to their island and let other people on their friends list travel there in order to explore, gather resources and marvel at the structures.

This aspect of the game could not have come at a more perfect time as many people around the world are quarantined due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With this feature, the public is able to communicate and spend time

with each other via chat without having to leave the comfort of their homes.

“Animal Crossing is probably the one thing I look forward to each day,” gaming YouTuber Markie Levinsky said. “Even if I know something bad is or has happened, I can always feel a little bit better seeing all my villagers happy to see me or when a friend asks me to come to their place. I’ve always been a fan and this game makes me happy.”

Overall, a majority of the fanbase seems to be exceedingly satisfied and overjoyed with the final product of the game.

“Animal Crossing,” professional gamer Emily Utterback said. “More like Animal Fun.”

Since its release, “Animal Crossing: New Horizons” has smashed record sales all over the world, marking it as one of Nintendo’s most successful launches.

Review: Jhené Aiko drops long-awaited ‘Chilombo’

SILDA MARTINEZ
STAFF REPORTER

After teasing listeners for months by dropping short songs like “None of Your Concern” and “Pu\$\$y Fairy,” Jhené Aiko finally released her new album March 6. The painful wait was well worth it.

The new album, “Chilombo,” starts off with the intro track “Lotus.” Boy did this set the perfect vision for the album. The track makes it clear that Aiko will be creating a story within her songs. The way she delivered it was artistic and lyrical all in one.

In lyrics like “There was a woman born from a lotus / Her heart was golden,” Aiko is clearly referencing herself, painting the illusion to the audience.

Prior to the album release,

Aiko made multiple posts stating she wanted her audience to see the type of zenful lyrics she incorporated within the album. She pushed for the message of self evaluation and self love to be taken from “Chilombo.”

Songs like “LOVE” and “Define Me” have such blissful harmonies that it’s hard not to feel the meditating outlook Jhene enforced.

“Nothing bothers me at all / I am more than my emotions / I know I am control when I am living in the moment -dedicated and devoted -praying often staying open To more love, love.” Lyrical skills like these send such a powerful message to the listeners.

Aiko got the response she wanted from her audience, which was for them to really see her artistic side. A response from Melissa Guillen, a young college

student, was nothing but positive comments about the album.

“The ‘Chilombo’ Album was amazing,” Guillen said. “I listened to it thousands of times and everytime it got better. I was really able to see her artistic side through each song. There’s nothing the new album lacked.”

However, Aiko could not

reach all listeners. There were also responses on the negative side, believing the album was too emotional and not artistic enough.

Felix Soria, a young college athlete, was disappointed in the new album.

“I felt like the album was too dull,” Soria said. “She kept putting out the same tone in each

song. It felt too repetitive for me and it lost my attention quickly.”

I can see where, at times, the album got repetitive. Songs like “Triggered,” “None of Your Concern” and “One Way St.” all had similar beats and lyrics. They meshed up too much and made you feel like you listened to the same song more than once.

But you need to remember there was a message Aiko was trying to get across to the audience and, well, a little repetition never hurt anybody.

The repetition of lyrics and beats is not enough to take away the title of masterpiece for this album. Jhené Aiko’s lyricism is too strong to dull down this album.

“Chilombo” made me so excited for not only new music to come from Aiko, but to see more of her artistic side and how far she can take her music with it.



CHARITO YAP

Jhené Aiko at the High Road Summer Tour in 2016.

EDITORIAL

Crisis brings out the worst

Spring break, grocery stores show selfishness

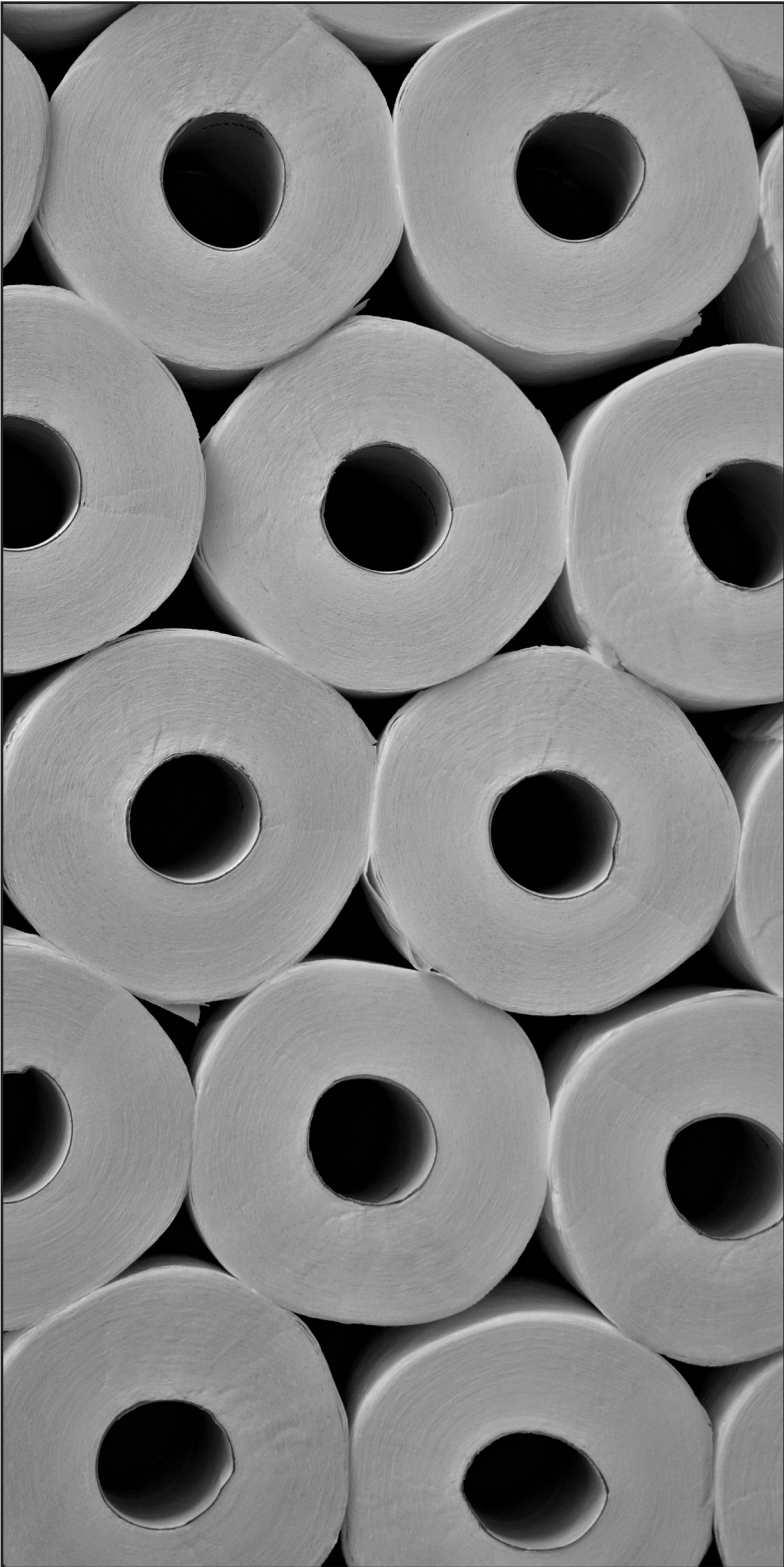


IMAGE COURTESY OF PIXABAY

“If I get corona, I get corona,” entitled Spring-breaker Brady Sluder told CBS News in Miami. “At the end of the day, I’m not gonna let it stop me from partying.”

Meanwhile, COVID-19 is killing hundreds of people every day in Italy. Known Riverside County infections went from around 10 to around 50 in a matter of one week. And the virus continues to spread worldwide.

The responses from governments across the globe have been questionable, ill-advised and slow. Medical systems have been overwhelmed, economies are falling and people are in panic mode, stockpiling essential supplies without regard for the needs of their fellow human beings.

At this point, our only real hope for slowing the spread of the coronavirus is to be socially responsible and ethical. Health professionals on the front lines have asked us to substantially limit our contact with others and grocery stores have regulated our shopping to ensure that our parents and grandparents can get in and get what they need.

Seeing thousands of young people swarming the beaches of Miami and tossing all precautions out the window for the sake of partying while the world suffers its worst viral outbreak in a century is simply pathetic. It is pathetic that one selfish child would be willing to risk infection for a one week ecstasy binge on the beaches of Florida. What is even worse is the reality that that child may infect dozens of others who may actually end up dying from the virus, while he goes on unscathed.

The idiocy and entitlement of these Spring-breakers is an insult to those of us who are at home, abiding by our civic duty to do what we can to keep others from contracting the virus and dying. It is a slap in the face to our elderly and immunocompromised loved ones, who are most vulnerable to the suffocating effects of the Novel Coronavirus.

Scurrying about a grocery store and clearing the shelves while an elderly woman slowly makes her way through the aisle, struggling to find essential supplies, is nothing short of sociopathy. Society is proving itself to be a panicky, unreasonable mob. But it does not have to be this way.

It is understandable that one would like to enjoy a vacation after intensive studies and work. It is also understandable that people would want to do what is necessary to ensure their families do not go without.

But we are living through a type of crisis that no living person has seen before. We must all make sacrifices and show some decency by allowing our neighbors equal opportunity in the supermarket. We must all understand that irresponsible behavior at this moment could result in dire consequences for the people we love.

We are all dealing with fear and mental health issues in isolation right now. But we must do this rationally by practicing social distancing and discipline. The ridiculous behavior of selfish mobs, whether on the beaches of Florida or in the aisles of your local supermarket, will only ensure that this crisis continues.

Viewpoints’ editorials represent the majority opinion of and are written by the Viewpoints’ student editorial board.

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Letters to the editor should be kept to 250 words or less and include contact information. Deliver letters to the Viewpoints office in the room behind the Assessment Building. An electronic copy is required. Viewpoints reserves the right to edit letters for space and to reject libelous or obscene letters. Letters to the editor and columns represent the opinions of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the entire Viewpoints staff, Viewpoints faculty advisers, student government, faculty, administration nor the Board of Trustees.

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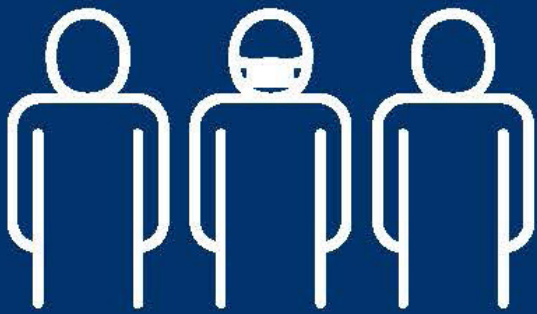
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California School
Employees Association

Coronavirus

Preventative Measures



Avoid close contact with
people who are sick.



Avoid touching eyes,
nose or mouth.



Use a tissue to cover
coughs and sneezes, then
dispose of the tissue.



Wash your hands
with soap and
water frequently.



Eat well, stay hydrated,
and get plenty of sleep.



If you become sick,
stay away from work,
school and other people.

For more information, visit csea.com/coronavirus.