



College of the Siskiyous
The Campus Connection
February 5, 2019

Superintendent / President

Welcome to the start of Spring Semester! Both campuses have been especially busy this week with students finalizing schedules, full-time faculty returning to the classroom, and classified and administrative staff hard at work supporting the increased activity. This month, there are three main topics I wish to connect with everyone about: the Chinese Educators visit, Legislative agenda, and campus climate.

Visitors from China: We received confirmation of the final dates for the Chinese Educators' visit after the end of fall semester in mid-December 2018. Though the original plan was to host their visit sometime in September or October of 2018, it came down to a visit mid-January 2019. In the ensuing weeks a small taskforce made up of local officials and college personnel pulled together a schedule of training, community visits, cultural exchanges, photography/videography, catering, media coverage outreach, transportation, home stays, and other logistical details. It was amazing work! Some of the best town-gown cooperation I have had the pleasure of participating in. I am thankful for so many people who pulled together and planned so many events and activities in such a short span of time (including through major holidays and the College closure of 10 days). I will return to giving thanks in a moment! ☺

From strangers to acquaintances trying to overcome communication barriers, to friends not wanting the time to end, the developing relationships, the technology-aided conversations, and the political, scientific, cultural, and educational exchanges abounded during the four days together. When the dust settled and the coach carrying our Chinese visitors back to the Bay Area had left, the College had at least three verbal commitments and additional exploratory conversations about securing programs to help train teachers, providing educational and cultural exchanges for students, and formal partnering in academics and vocational and technical areas. Once we have additional details sufficient to warrant a trip to Qingyuan to formalize and finalize arrangements that come to fruition from these past three visits back and forth, the District will select a team to represent the College, accompanied by local officials as well.

While the majority of the trip was successful, there was an incident that occurred that could have ruined all the good work in planning and execution of the visit. The final morning at the College, one of our visitors had his coat taken – with his passport inside. Without the passport, not only would he be unable to travel back to China – the entire group would be unable to travel also. Zack, Mark, and I quickly conferred and while I facilitated the final session with the group – all anxious about the negative turn of events occurring – Zack and Mark made contact with the Weed Police Department. With the help of other college personnel, a person was identified who might know something about the coat. A huge thank you to Officers Gale and Fahrney who

knew immediately who the individual was and where they lived. In short order the coat – and passport – were returned, saving the day and the entire visit. It was the second time during their visit where law enforcement had come to the aid of our visitors (the first was help on a slippery road during a snowstorm) and as a group they marveled at the helpfulness and protection they felt while being on our campus and in our communities.

Planning for this visit began last summer. Dean Zweigle worked with six faculty who had started the outline and development of the training sessions in August: thank you to Jayne Turk, Mike Tischler, Patrice Thatcher, Wenli Chang, Neil Carpentier-Alting, and Maria Fernandez. Unfortunately, with the visit occurring during Winter Intersession rather than during the Fall Semester, several faculty were unavailable. The major constants for the training element of the Chinese Educators' visit were Zack and Jayne. I cannot adequately convey my appreciation to both of them – most especially Zack who took on several sessions himself, and worked quickly to secure faculty and staff presenters. Thanks to the following who joined Zack, Jayne, and me in sharing information, concepts, and strategies with our Chinese visitors:

- David Blink
- Angeliqne Bouffiou
- Cora Brownell
- Neil Carpentier-Alting
- Maria Fernandez
- Kim Freeze
- Melissa Green
- Dr. Sunny Greene
- Dr. Doug Haugen
- Mark Klever
- Val Roberts
- Regina Weston
- Kathi Williams
- Meghan Witherell

We also had great support from the local community. My special thanks to those in Weed, Mt. Shasta, and Dunsmuir for helped host the Chinese Educators, share the pride and hope for their towns, and offered opportunities for our visitors to learn more about our communities. Thanks to:

- Ron Stock, Weed City Manager
- Ken Palfini, Weed City Mayor
- Barbara Wagner, Mt. Shasta Mayor
- Bruce Pope, Mt. Shasta City Manager
- Jean Nels, Sisson County Museum
- Debbie Derby, Area 2 Trustee
- Mark Brannigan, Dunsmuir City Manager
- Kermith Walters, SCOE Superintendent
- Ray Keller, Dunsmuir High School Principal

One of the transforming elements of the visit was our home stay host families. Finding rooms in homes for 22 people with first notice received just at the holidays was a greater challenge than some first thought. But gratefully we had wonderful people in the community step forward, and from all accounts the time spent with host families was some of the most valuable and cherished times here in Siskiyou County. Besides Zack and Chelsea who took two of our guests, and Tonya and I also hosting two of our Chinese Educators, most sincere thanks go to the following families:

- Carol Cupp and Brian Favero (2)
- Donna and Richard Farris (4)
- Ron and Carol Stock (1)
- Karen and Mike Pautz (1)
- Sue and Scott Tavalero (3)
- Carol Winston (1)
- Donna Costner and Michael Roesch (2)
- Lori and Gary Fleck (4)

There were so many of our employees who organized and prepared meals, cleaned meeting rooms, took photos, set up decorations, and all other logistics. Thanks to these staff who definitely went above and beyond during this intensive week:

- Sheila Grimes
- Dawnie Slabaugh
- Carie Shaffer
- Cindy Martel
- Carra Pava
- Joe Furgason
- Maria Avellano
- Evika Triquet
- Desiree Kaae
- Mikayla Hocker
- Veronica Rivera
- Melinda Garland
- Maria Ferrasci
- Randy Shaffer
- Josh Simas
- Allan Sarti
- Tara Porter
- Josh Raven
- Gino Peruzzi
- Ken Oates
- David Harris
- Richard Giordanengo
- Lupe Dominguez

I also wish to thank Greg Messer, the College Foundation Board President, for not only taking hours of videography, but also allowing us to hold our Mt. Shasta luncheon at Snow Creek Studios.

Additionally, Trustees Kevin Dalton, Debbie Derby, Carol Cupp, and Barry Ohlund were able to attend one or more of the events during the Chinese Educators' visit. Their attendance was appreciated by our visitors, and meant a great deal to me to see their support of these efforts!

In the spirit of our hosting these Chinese Educators last month, and the building relationships and cultural understanding, Happy Chinese New Year! ☺ 拜年 — bài nián

Legislative Agenda: Here are a few of the policy priorities for California Community Colleges during this year's legislative session – several of which were included in the Governor's proposed budget:

Ending the cycle of poverty –

- Extending the College Promise funding established last year through AB19 to a 2nd year – priority will be funding within AB19 guidelines and conditions to receive those funds
- Long term pay-down for STRS/PERS liability, including OPEB – supporting our community colleges in dealing with this liability will enable colleges to provide more support for low-income, at risk students
- \$10M for permanent legal support for undocumented students, staff, etc.
- Financial Aid Reform – based on aid need, on total cost of attendance, and not based on educational goals which biases more funding for degrees and less for certificates; addressing the fiscal health and risk of students by increasing CalGrant access to community college students, especially for students with children

Additional budget amount and focus –

- Overcoming challenges for Guided Pathways
- Ensuring programs are aligned to present and future workforce needs
- Increasing the base funding for community colleges through a 3.46% COLA increase
- State bond program to fund the state's portion of community college facilities approved by voters

Addressing the Basic Needs of Students –

- Workforce Development
- Child Care
- Student Parents
- Funding formula changes continuing to focus on student success while meeting the basic needs of students also

The distribution of Prop 98 funds is a distributional conversation through education, not just with community colleges. There have been changes to the population and where educational funds may be needed proportionately to the educational services provided. The state has paid back the Prop 98 debt from the Great Recession. Going forward, until there is another recession, it is likely to see Prop 98 growth linked to the growth in budget.

Campus Climate: We often use the metaphor of a family when referring to one another here. It is a powerful metaphor, and one that resonates for many of us. Yet recently, there has been a growing concern for me that “our family” is not living up to its ideal. Instead, there are spreading signs of dysfunction that many families also experience. Some of the symptoms I have personally witnessed or have come to me from reliable sources:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| • Disrespect | • Bullying |
| • Talking behind each other’s backs | • Anger |
| • Spreading fear through gossip | • Bigotry |
| • Unwillingness to meet so
communication can be improved | • Prejudice |
| | • Hatred |

As an institution, we do not tolerate bigotry, prejudice, and hatred. When it is observed and documented, it is dealt with swiftly. It is a cancer in any organization, and those who practice it do not belong at College of the Siskiyous. This is where the “family” metaphor fails; because in families we tolerate the extreme behaviors of those family members that embarrass us since we don’t get to choose who is a part of our family. But here, the College and District does get to choose who part of this family is, and we will continue to choose to support employees who do their jobs, and do so in appropriate ways.

Regarding the other behaviors and attitudes I am seeing, they are also unacceptable; when they are observed they need to be noted to the person acting inappropriately and corrective action needs to be explored. This has become a problem here – and in my experience, this kind of behavior and attitude issue ebbs and flows in organizations. Now that it has been recognized, and all of us are now aware that it is occurring, each of us have a choice: you can be a part of the solution, or you are part of the problem. Solutions are definitely of value to me and should be of value to each and every one of you. I am counting on each of you to reflect on how you conduct yourself, and to urge yourself to do better, more consistently, to be supportive and encouraging in your work – and in your interactions with your colleagues and our students. We need to always strive to be the best we can be.

Even though it hasn't been a long time here, I love the family we are – and more importantly, I love the family we have been and can be in our future together. So, I am asking you to please join me in the following steps:

1. On February 21, the College will issue a Campus Climate Survey. Please take the time to complete the survey – including adding to the open ended sections ways we can collectively own our current climate, and work together to improve it.
2. If you were a member of Creative Sparks last year, please let me know your interest in continuing those gatherings. The first ones we had were promising. The next step we attempted was to move the idea generation to an online presence... yet to be completed.
3. The Continuous Quality Improvement Team (formerly known as the Accreditation Task Force) – based on a foundation of external standards via ACCJC, and internal standards of excellence, has been in the forming stage for some time. I will be incorporating the charge of this group into the College Council, and the Council will address this at our first meeting next week.
4. If you love College of the Siskiyous like I do, and value the family we have been for decades, please join me in making an individual commitment to maximize the enjoyment of the work we do for students and our community, and minimize the behaviors infecting the positive environment that is so prevalent here. If you have been stressed, give yourself a moment to reflect on the purpose your work fulfills and all the good work you do. Notice the colleagues around you – especially those who do not have the same type of job you do – and smile, encourage, and offer your support to their work as well. None of us accomplishes anything around here without the collective work of the whole organization. Please appreciate that fact, and appreciate one another.

Vince Lombardi said, "Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." We now have a strong leadership team assembled; we have a strong faculty of educators with some particularly promising additions over the past few years; we have staff who are doing what it takes to support the mission and vision of the College.

We have a lot of hard work ahead of us. I remain confident in our abilities to rise with the occasion, especially if we remain focused on working with one another rather than at cross purposes. It's the best time to be involved in our work, engaged in fulfilling our mission, and committed to serving our students and our community.

Quote of the Month:

"If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor."

Desmond Tutu

Public Relations & College Foundation

Well...we did it!!! We made it through the first month of another brand-new semester at COS!! (Of course the first month was also just two days, but who's counting!!) January was certainly a busy month with lots and lots of promotion! We started out the month with our second Winter Session of classes. Mother Nature has certainly decided to be stubborn this winter. But because of the 'unusual for this time of year' weather, Maintenance has been able to work on more projects outside. There were also lots of meetings to keep everyone busy. And, on the weekends...basketball, basketball, basketball and ESV... ESV... ESV!!

Oh... and we can't forget about CHINA!! The group of 22 educators from China who were here from January 15 – 19 certainly kept us busy! We had a great time interacting with this group and sharing our American culture with them. It was certainly a special time and opportunity for the college.

2019/2020 Foundation Scholarship Applications Now Available - Scholarship applications for academic year 2019/2020 are now available for Siskiyou County high school seniors (graduating spring 2018) and current COS students who plan to attend COS during the 2018/2019 year. Scholarships range from \$250 to \$3,000. Applications are due March 15 and are available online at www.siskiyou.edu/foundation/scholarships.htm.

Eagle's Nest: Each month we hold an informal brown bag lunch with our Volunteers and student workers to brainstorm ideas, talk about upcoming ideas, and discuss any opportunities for improvements. We also review procedures and safety on a monthly basis.

Share the Love for our Siskiyou Promise Students: We are asking customers to buy a heart and donate \$1 (or more) to the Siskiyou Promise. Sharing the love and hope in February reminds our team and customers that the need is GREAT and we can do our part to pay it forward at a time of year when "love is in the air!"

Sweet Heart Super Sale (February 16) - \$20 Bag Sale...all the CLOTHING you can fit in a bag for only \$20!

February Events

- February 1: All Campus Meeting, 8:30 AM - Theater
- February 5: COS Board of Trustees Meeting, 5 PM – Board Room
- February 8: Campus Closed – Lincoln Birthday
- February 9: COS Basketball vs. Lassen, 2 PM (Women) & 4 PM (Men) – Gym
- February 14: "Get Stacked" Pancake Social (sponsored by TRiO), 10AM – TRiO Center
- February 15: Financial Aid Presentation, 2 PM – TRiO Center
- February 18: Campus Closed – Washington Birthday
- February 25 – March 8: SSS Progress Check-In's
- February 28: "Get Stacked" Pancake Social (sponsored by TRiO), 10AM – TRiO Center

Administrative Services

The College will begin its budgeting process for the 2019/2020 year in February continuing through August of 2019. Please be on the lookout for the Budget Development Timeline at Integrated Planning and Budget, All Campus, and College Council meetings.

The Governor's Budget Workshop held annually in January is the starting point for discussions around the next fiscal year budget and funding projections. At this year's workshop there was a lot of talk around the funding formula; the need to step back and evaluate how data is captured; its role in the funding model; and, taking steps as we go forward to refine the availability of information for more timely forecasting.

A few proposals on the table centered around a 3.46% COLA; slowing down growth dollars; holding with the 70/20/10 funding model for a second year; utilizing the Rainy Day funds to help offset STRS and PERS liabilities; and, the formation of an Oversight Committee for continuous review and monitoring of the Student Centered Funding Model.

While the news appears to be positive for the state, we must keep in mind that this is the beginning stages of discussions which will continue to take place over the next five months, possibly resulting in very different outcomes by June. We will continue to share updates as we receive them.

Business Services: The Business and Payroll Offices completed the tax forms for students (Form 1098-T's), vendors (Form 1099's) and employees (W-2's) by the January 31st filing deadlines. While our vendor forms (1099's) are still printed and mailed out the old fashioned way, all of our students and over 20% of our employees receive their tax information electronically which helps reduce the costs to the District. The percentage of employees electing to receive their W-2's electronically has grown steadily since we implemented the option a few years back and we hope more individuals select this method of receiving the tax information in years to come.

By now, budget managers have received reports which detail their associated permanent employees. This is the first step in the budgeting process; whereby, the budget managers confirm and/or adjust the staffing information so the District can then calculate staffing and benefit costs for the upcoming budget year. Additionally, please continue to review your current year budgets to see that we are on track with our spending and to make any necessary adjustments to either your expenses or budgets as we move forward into the remaining months of the fiscal year.

Facilities:

- The soccer field project is scheduled to go out for bid March. Construction is on schedule to begin in May with completion date set at August 1. As a cost saving measure, the Facilities Team will help to clear brush and trees from the project footprint. The clearing is scheduled to start this month and will include the relocation of the athletics storage container to an easily accessible location near the field.

- The in-house replacement of three doors in the gym and installation of electronic FOB operated locks is moving full speed ahead!
- Additional Lock Blocks, funded by a Foundation Mini Grant, are installed and this project is complete.
- The Science Building drain project has made great progress. With “man power” behind the grinding snake, in conjunction with the solvent, we were able to unclog three of five drains. Scheduled repair of the last two drains will take place in two separate stages. The first drain, located in the Chemistry classroom, is scheduled for repair during the first part of February. The second drain, located in the Biology classroom, will be scheduled for unclogging during spring break.
- The RHSI south entry roof is still under temporary repair. Through some great investigative work, we were able to locate documentation stating that the existing roof system was still under warranty. The original installing contractor will repair the roof as soon as the weather permits.
- Temporary repairs were also completed on the Theater roof again this month. The roof is still under warranty and will be permanently repaired as weather permits.
- The Café dining area “spruce up” is complete! The space is now more open and user friendly and the floors look WOW! Shout out to Maria and her crew.
- The two-year Boiler service on the lodges and LRC buildings will commence as soon as parts arrive. No interruption is expected.

Food Services: The Eagle Café Grill will be open Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. beginning January 28. This schedule will run through the end of the semester. Weekend service hours for the spring semester will be 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Dining Hall will resume regular hours beginning January 28, with lunch service from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. and dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Technology Services: Two new student-use computer labs were set up on the Weed Campus in December. They are located in DLC 8 and McCloud 102.

- The Banner production release on February 9 will require Banner to be unavailable on Saturday night and early Sunday morning. The APPs team will be in communication with users and students in regards to the outage.
- Online training through the CCC Vision Resource Center is now available! This online learning platform has access to many instructional materials that can help individuals reach personal or professional goals, such as learning how to use Microsoft Office, sports photography, or personal finance. The courses are broken up into short videos (usually 2-6 minutes) and are organized into chapters so you can enjoy them on your own time and at your own pace. This training can be accessed through the employee tab in mySiskiyou under Professional Development & Training.

Student Services



Welcome to Spring Semester 2019! It was great to see a bustling campus as students found their way during that first day of the semester. We had several students stop by the information table to get their student ID's, as well as make use of "Basecamp," and picked up notebooks and pens. Below is a review of the January's highlights in the Student Services Office.

Economic Forecast Conference: I, along with Dr. Schoonmaker, Zach Zweigle, Doug Haugen, Mark Klever and Dawnie Slabaugh, attended the Economic Forecast Conference in Redding at the Sheraton Hotel. This conference was attended by a variety of northern California community members, including representatives from both public and private sectors. The biggest take-away for me was the Economic Forecast presentation by Dr. Robert Eyler, the Dean of the School of Extended and International Education at Sonoma State University. Dr. Eyler predicted that we would continue to avoid a recession and that property values may increase in Siskiyou County.

Student Services Presentation to Chinese Delegation: Doug Haugen, Val Roberts, Meghan Witherell, Regina Weston and I gave a presentation to the Chinese delegates on Student Services at the Mount Shasta Sisson Museum. Presentation topics included the history and evolution of student services, holistic services, COS Basecamp and the residence halls. They were a very gracious audience and asked great questions.

Chinese Dumplings: The first cultural exchange between the delegates and COS was a presentation on the Chinese culture, that included a delicious Chinese dinner. I had a lot of fun making Chinese dumplings that evening as a lot of us were gathered in the COS kitchen, and several delegates taught us how to fold the dumplings into the appropriate shape. Of course, the best part was eating them – we enjoyed the fruits of our labors later that evening.

Eighth Grade Day Planning: Representatives from College Options and the Siskiyou County Office of education has been meeting on campus to begin planning the annual Eighth Grade Day, which will be April 3rd. Activities at the event includes a *new* STEM challenge (that they are really excited about!) as well as art and essay competitions.

Chinese New Year – Student Center Display: In honor of our Chinese delegation guests, Chinese New Year decorations are on display in the Student Center until the middle of the month. Chinese New Year is February 5. Decorations include banners and paper lanterns, and our very



own Mary Mericle created a lovely display for the case next to the mailroom in the Student Center. Please stop by and check out her handiwork!

Discussions with Asha Sitaram from National Equity Project: Theresa Richmond and I had a discussion with Asha Sitaram from the National Equity Project this past month. As you may recall, the National Equity Project provided Equity training last semester and many faculty, staff and students attended. During our meetings with Asha, we discussed next-steps and keeping the momentum going to promote inclusion and cultural competency.

In closing – **Happy Ground Hog Day!**

*"Away in a meadow all covered with snow
The little old groundhog looks for his shadow
The clouds in the sky determine our fate
If winter will leave us all early or late."
- Don Halley*

February Diversity Holidays/Observances:

- **February is Black History Month in the United States and Canada.**
- **February 1: National Freedom Day**, celebrating the signing of the 13th Amendment that abolished slavery.
- **February 2: Candlemas** – A Christian observance of the presentation of the child Jesus; Jesus' first entry into the temple; and Virgin Mary's purification.
- **February 2: Imbolc**, a Gaelic traditional festival marking the beginning of spring.
- **February 2: St. Brigid of Kildare**, feast day for St. Brigids.
- **February 3: St. Blaise Day** (The Blessing of the Throats).
- **February 3: Setsubun-Sai** (Beginning of Spring), the day before the beginning of spring in Japan.
- **February 5: Lunar New Year (Chinese New Year)** Lunar New Year. Also celebrated at this time in Japan, Korea, Vietnam and Mongolia.

- **February 5-6: Losar**, the Tibetan Buddhist New Year.
- **February 8: Nirvana Day**, the commemoration of Buddha's death. February 15 is an alternative date of observance.
- **February 14: St. Valentine's Day**.
- **February 18: Presidents Day**
- **February 19: Lantern Festival**, the first significant feast after the Chinese New Year.
- **February 19: Magha Puja Day**, a Buddhist holiday when a group of 1,250 enlightened saints, ordained by the Buddha, gathered to pay their respect to him.
- **February 26-March 1: Intercalary Days**, celebrated by people of the Bahá'í faith.

Admissions & Records: Admissions and Records has been very busy with registration for the spring term. We currently have a total of 671 applications with declared majors with 275 of those applicants registering for classes. On February 4, Winter Intersession grades will be available to students.

Week of Welcome was successful offering activities for students including getting their Student IDs, assistance in Financial Aid, information and applications for Support Services, and employment and resources.

We are also in the process of hiring more Student Ambassadors. Interviews will begin next week- if you know a student who would be a great representative of our campus please encourage them to complete the online application.

Counseling and Student Support Programs: On the first day of the spring semester, 89 students came through the Counseling office and were assisted with add/drop, registration, financial aid appeals, and other questions.

Michelle Knudsen created and conducted a probation workshop for the Siskiyou Promise students who are on either academic or progress probation this semester. Topics covered included types of probation, how to get off probation, how to calculate GPA, and strategies for satisfactory academic progress.

Josh Collins, Val Roberts, and Meghan Witherell have started working with a SIG consultant to get DegreeWorks up and running. The first priority will be to give view and print education plan access to students. This is scheduled to happen in the next few weeks.

We have a new counselor! Marcy Demetro will start in her new position at College of the Siskiyous on Monday, February 25. She comes to us from Santa Monica College where she is currently the part-time Veterans counselor and Saddleback College where she is a part-time Learning Disabilities Specialist. She was previously a general counselor at both Moorpark and El Camino College. She completed her counseling internship at Santa Monica College.

- **EOPS/CARE:** EOPS welcomed over 160 students to the spring semester during nine orientation sessions. This spring group is slightly smaller than in fall. A huge "thank you" to Marlena Shaffer for stepping right in to process all the EOPS applications and check

eligibility after a vacancy in the EOPS Coordinator position, and to Michelle Knudsen for helping with the EOPS orientation sessions. The three weeks prior to the start of the semester and the first week of the semester are the busiest for the EOPS program, and our staff has done an amazing job stepping in to cover in Shannon's absence and meet the needs of the students in a timely manner.

- **Foster Youth Success Program:** The Foster Youth Success Program was given five refurbished laptops from the Foundation for California Community College and the Ticket to Dream Foundation. These laptops have and will be distributed to students who have met the requirements for our Foster Youth Success Program, who are currently enrolled in College of the Siskiyous following their education plan, and who are in good standing. The students selected to receive a laptop have also been active participants in the program.

Through the support of the Chancellor's Office (SSSP funding) and in partnership with ThinkEDU, the Foundation for California Community Colleges is offering five free WiFi hotspots to foster youth students who are eligible for the Foster Youth Success Program. These hotspots are prepaid for 12 months of internet service. We will be receiving those soon, and they will be distributed to students who meet the same criteria noted above.

- **TRiO – Student Support Services and Upward Bound:** In partnership with Student Equity, the Historically Black Colleges and Universities college tour orientation was held on January 30. There is a display in the Student Center showcasing the schools our students will have the opportunity to visit during the tour later this spring semester. In other UB news... Siskiyous Upward Bound hosted Saturday school on January 12th and February 2nd.
- **Student Support Services (SSS):** SSS attended SOU Preview day on January 11 with six students participating. One student was accepted during the on the spot admissions session. SSS will be hosting a Financial Aid workshop for students on February 15th (Kory Hayden will be presenting) and Tri-Counties Bank will be providing a personal banking workshop on February 22nd. Workshops will be held in the TRiO Center from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. SSS will continue the student pancake socials starting on January 31st.

Financial Aid: We have been very busy in Financial Aid getting ready for spring 2019. Financial Aid staff continue to contact and work with our students and their families in order to complete their FAFSA's and financial aid files. In addition to this, we are contacting students in order to assist with completing their verification through Inceptia, our third-party service. At this time, 419 students have been verified for 2018/2019. A total of 517 students were verified during the 2017/2018 aid year. Our first Pell disbursement was awarded to a total of 641 students (this includes returning students) on February 2. The total amount of Pell disbursed for 2018/2019 is \$1,851,598.00. Spring 2019 had a total of 76 new students that completed their financial aid files before our first disbursement. We are continually completing files and verifications, and will have make-up disbursements every two weeks. The next disbursement will be February 15 and will include Pell and FSEOG (Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant).

During the Week of Welcome, Haley Pope and Axel Hernandez staffed our financial aid information table with the ever popular "Financial Aid Wheel of Fortune." Students who answered financial aid questions (or attempted to answer!) each won a prize! Haley and Axel also answered many questions regarding financial aid. We are off to a great start. Happy Spring Semester!



Lodges: Lodge occupancy will be at capacity for the number of beds owned by the College (159). Lodge professional-staff have worked with ADJ Coordinator, Jeremiah LaRue, to hold remaining spaces for the Policy Academy that will begin March 4th. In addition to occupancy, residents will enjoy how the Resident Advisors (RAs) have decorated the Lodges for the spring term with new door decorations and informative bulletin boards displays. RAs have also offered several social programs as part of the week of welcome events to help students connect with the new residents. Finally, worn couches and chairs located in the common area have been reupholstered. These repairs further support Allan Sarti's (Lodge Custodian) hard work to make all surfaces sparkle during the winter intersession.

Behavior Intervention Team (BIT): Members of the Districts' Behavior Intervention Team will be meeting weekly during the spring term and are coordinating schedules to be able to attend training opportunities in Northern California. All staff and students are reminded to email BIT@siskiyous.edu about any level of concern had for a student. The eight members of the team will help connect the student with campus and community resources.

Student Equity: Happy New Year from the Student Equity program, and what an exciting new year it is going to be as we begin a soft launch of our Basecamp braided services program for students!! As part of the launch of Basecamp, Regina will be visiting classes during the first few weeks of the semester, along with Carly Zeller from the ASC to let students know about the services available to them. As a reminder, some of these services include: a food pantry, sack lunches, snacks and breakfast items, school supplies, and one-on-one assistance with FAFSA, CCCApply and applying for CalFresh. Students can also receive individualized referrals to other campus programs and to outside agencies throughout Siskiyou County. Basecamp is here to help the students access what they need in order to achieve success both inside and out of the classroom.

Instruction

Dean of Instruction: It is nice to once again have the faculty back on campus following the winter intersession. While we did offer classes during the intersession, many were taught online, so the campus was relatively quiet. A quick note, as you know this was our second-ever winter intersession. And at last check, the enrollment numbers were trending up when compared to winter 2017/2018. Final numbers to follow very soon.

Greetings Dr. Bogue: My entry this month will largely focus on our China visitors; however, I do want to take a moment to welcome Dr. Carole Bogue. The last two weeks have been incredibly informative. Dr. Bogue brings a wealth of knowledge from her years as a faculty member, Dean, Vice President of Instruction, and a Vice Chancellor of Academics for the state. I plan to learn as much as I can from her in the next few months so I can be a better Dean and serve my departments to the best of my ability.

Electro-Magnetic Soul Vehicle: Here is a quick shout-out to the Performing Arts departments (Music and Theatre). They put on an amazing production that brought many from throughout Siskiyou County and the surrounding region to our campus. Each of the three nights saw more than two-thirds of the auditorium full of patrons. Neil Carpentier-Alting believes this may have been one of the largest single weekends in terms of ticket sales in the history of the College. It certainly was a great performance; the music, the movement, and the direction were top-notch – take a bow David Theno, Neil Carpentier-Alting, David Blink, Amy LaMachia, Christian Richards, Nic Fabio, and the rest of the student performers and musicians.

China Visit: Logistically there are so many of our College personnel who worked very hard behind the scenes to make this visit seamless, comfortable, and eventful. I know Dr. Schoonmaker thanked them in his report, but I wish to provide my additional thanks to Maria Fernandez, Jayne Turk, Neil Carpentier-Alting, David Blink, Dr. Sunny Greene, Angelique Bouffiou, Kathi Williams, Melissa Green, Valerie Roberts, Meghan Witherell, Dr. Doug Haugen, Regina Weston, Mark Klever, Kim Freeze, and Dr. Schoonmaker for joining me in providing presentations during our learning sessions. The feedback from our fellow educators from China was quite positive. My greatest take-away from these learning sessions is our common belief in the transformative power of education.

Personally, one of the highlights for me was being one of the hosts for two of our visitors during their stay here in Siskiyou County. Though we had language barriers at times, commonalities within the human condition prevailed. Through rough translation, shared experiences, images, and demonstrations we were able to connect on a personal and meaningful level. We conveyed our devotion to our loved-ones, food pleasures, hobbies, joys, fears etc. – all things we share regardless of culture. By the end of week, we had incredible new friendships.

I cannot express enough how thankful I am for the chance to work with our folks throughout the College to make this visit so successful. This exchange is one component of a larger vision to grow our international exchange opportunities here at the College and for the residents of

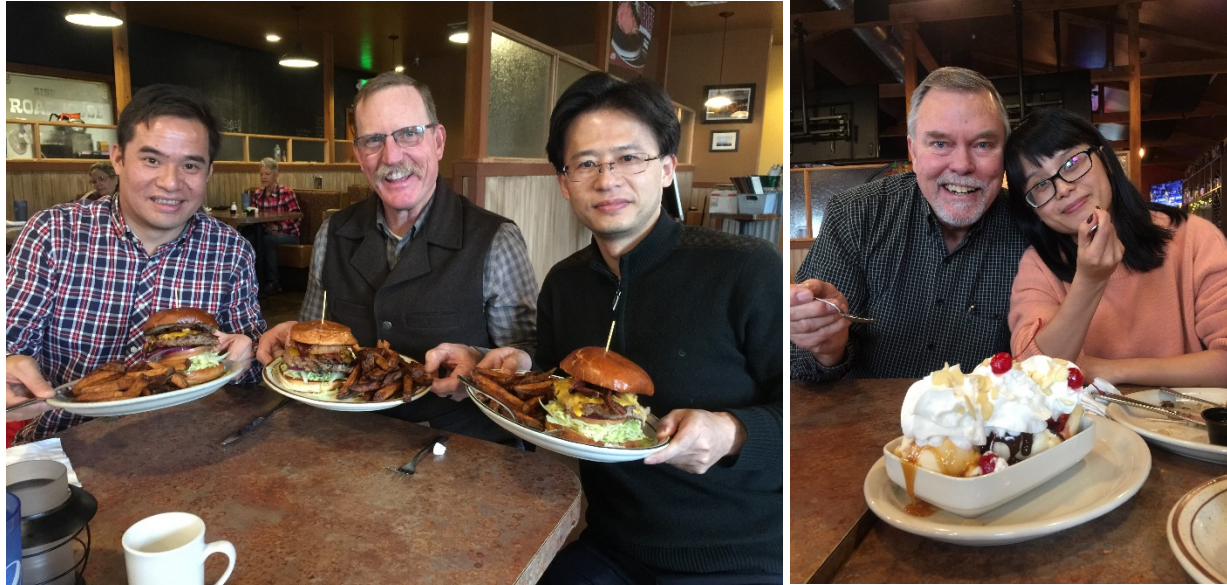
Siskiyou County. I value the relationships made possible from the seeds sewn during Dr. Schoonmaker's visit to China last spring, as well as the exchange this January. In addition to China we will continue efforts to grow our exchange with UNAM in Morelia, Mexico and the University of Hull in England. The education and research opportunities from each of these programs will benefit the students and faculty at all of our institutions.

On a final note with regard to our China exchange, I would like to add my thanks to Officers Fahrney and Gale of the Weed Police Department. As previously mentioned, we followed up on an incident that occurred the last morning of the visit. Both Officers demonstrated the virtues of their service to the public; the delegation was impressed with the kind and expedient service they provided.

Truly this was a large effort on the part of several departments around the college. The four days would not have been successful without the diligence of those listed above, as well as many others throughout our community. Below are a few pictures that I found very meaningful during the four-day visit:



Many of our visitors had never seen snow before in their lives. I cannot begin to express the joy they had during this particular stop between learning sessions.



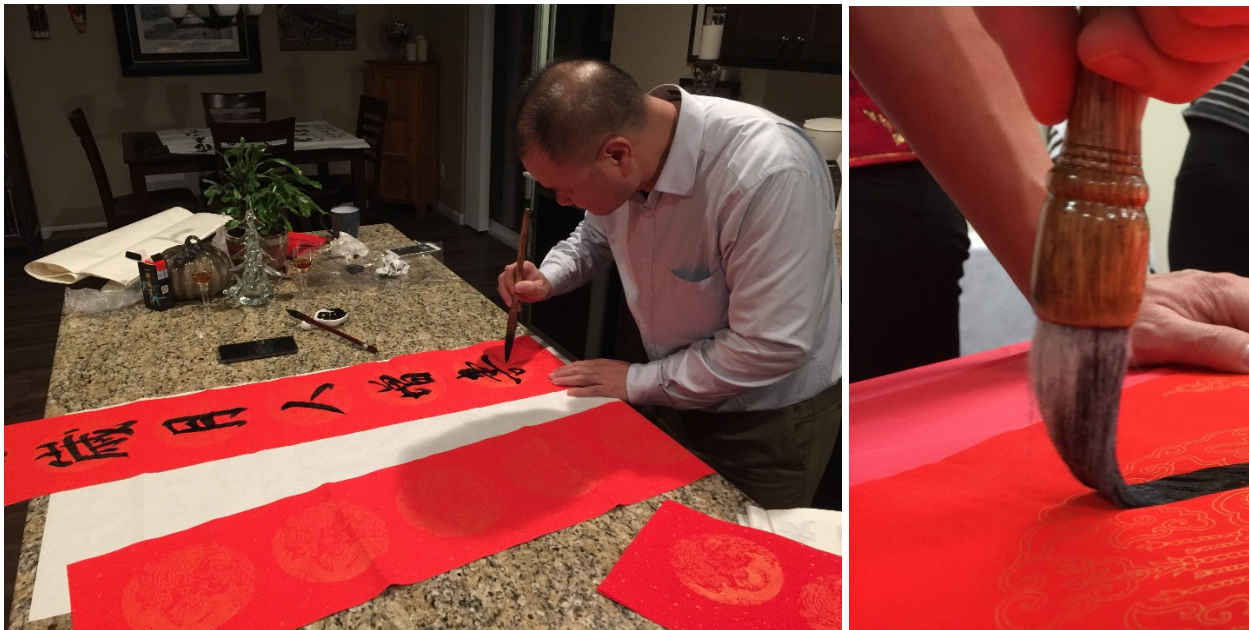
At the Roadhouse in Yreka: "Tony" in the plaid, wanted to be an American Cowboy, I think Mark Klever may have been his favorite person on the whole trip. Trustee Barry Ohlund wanted our visitors to experience an ice cream sundae. I am not sure they even knew how to tackle it.



This was probably one of the best meals I have had in a while. An authentic Chinese dinner from scratch prepared by our guests. Thank you Tonya and Stephen for letting 16 of us invade their kitchen.



Chelsea and I had the pleasure of hosting two of the nicest people you could ever meet. We already have invitations to stay when we visit China – hopefully very soon.



We had the opportunity to learn Chinese calligraphy from Mr. Huang, he was a Chinese culture teacher for many years before becoming a Principal of his high school.

Yreka Campus: We have started off the spring semester with a busy week helping students enroll as well as purchase books and other supplies. The Yreka Campus Room 8 (ASC Lab) has received a new face lift! This room has received new tables, chairs, and laptop computers through the BSOT grant. Along with Room 8, our Meeting Room/Testing area also received new

tables and chairs as part of the grant. This area is an overflow for ASC when Room 8 is scheduled with classes and we have students that need a study space. The tables and chairs from Room 8 were repurposed in Room 4 and RHSI 114 for DSPS testing. This has allowed us to replace furniture in other areas of campus and repurpose furniture that is still in good condition. RHSI 114 will become the new DSPS testing center as well as a study room. This room is located in the RHSI building where we have 60 nursing students taking classes again this semester. This will afford a nice, quiet, atmosphere for studying while on campus. There is a large table in the center of the room for group work as well. It will make a nice place for instructors to meet with a group of students if need be.



In other news, the Advanced Manufacturing program lab is near completion. Just a few more items that have been backordered and we can hopefully begin fall 2019.

Noncredit, Community & Contract Education: Registration in our noncredit offerings is up this semester and we are excited to see so many of our community members enrolling in the classes. It is important to remember that noncredit courses are a bridge to credit courses, serve to offer workforce skills, and provide lifelong learning and life enrichment. The noncredit courses serve as a gateway for many who are first time college students, displaced and incumbent workers, older adults, lifelong learners, and non-traditional students.

A few spring highlights:

- We are offering a Math within industry class that allows individuals to learn, up skill and practice in their math skills in a low stress environment.
- We will be offering a **culinary** course in Weed! This course will be held at the new Weed Community Center. The instructor is long time chef and product entrepreneur, Lou Sauseda. Lou is quite creative in the kitchen and has created over 50+ culinary delights (products) that are sold in stores throughout the world. He roasts his own coffee beans and creates his own seasoning mixes. This is a great opportunity for anyone looking to enhance their own creativity in the kitchen, or looking to acquire skills in the culinary industry.

- We are working on building an integrative health, wellness, enhancing creativity, healthy brain class ... this is a long explanation, but this is an important component of noncredit and healthy aging for all of us. We will offer a brain fitness course, health and wellness courses, and dance classes through community education!
- Brookdale, the assisted living facility located in Yreka, is offering four classes through noncredit this spring. They have 30+ students enrolled! The classes are open to the community and offer such an important opportunity for our lifelong learners.

We continue to offer many workforce related skill building courses, and have developed a wonderful base of noncredit adjunct instructors. Kim Freeze will be attending the AACC Workforce Development Institute and hope to bring back new ways to meet the economic workforce needs and to help individuals to acquire the skills they need to find a job.

NEW Community Education classes:

- The Art of the Brew - teaching basic beer brew techniques.
- Impact with Tom Stienstra

Human Resources

Update on recruitment for open positions:

Recruitment	
Position	Status
Counselor	Complete: Marcy Demetro
Dual Enrollment Coordinator	Canceled Search
Food Services Assistant F/T	Complete: Reid Hirt, Erika Triquet
Coordinator, Tutoring Services	Complete: Brian Rozendal
Food Services Assistant P/T	Reference Checks
Office Assistant II, Counseling	Screening
Grants Development Officer	Screening
Transcript Evaluator	First Review Extended 2/1
Coordinator, Foster and Kinship Care Program	First Review Extended 2/4
Administration of Justice Instructor/Coordinator	First Review 2/6

No other reports were submitted.