

President's Office

As we are writing this month's entry for our monthly campus-wide communication, the last week of classes is winding down, and then we all head into finals week. A momentous accomplishment by everyone to see the College through this semester with priorities of health and safety as our focus. Few students remain in our lodges. We successfully transitioned at Thanksgiving break to distance education modalities, as planned, for those in-person classes being offered, with the exception of some CTE offerings requiring continued hands-on education. Congratulations one and all. Well done.



Deb Goltz would like to express her appreciation for those who have jumped with both feet into using the Board Docs meeting management platform! Currently, the Foundation Board, Councils, Senates, and other groups are utilizing its functions, in addition to the Board of Trustees. We are already realizing improvements in the District's practices in three areas:

- 1) Meeting management - A total of seven Committees, Councils, Senates, and the Board of Trustees are becoming familiar with accessing meeting materials online, as well as participating in online voting. For many, this has been a bit out of their comfort zone, but we don't think they found the water too bad once they got in. In addition to providing voting transparency, the meeting control panel creates editable minutes quickly, saving hours of valuable labor resources, and empowering consistent processes District-wide.
- 2) Information storage – Once entering, uploading, and creating information, policies, goals, etc., into BoardDocs, we quickly see the benefits through the ease of tagging agenda items to different regulatory reports (i.e., accreditation standards, program review, etc.), and improving College and public access through maintaining indexable and searchable meeting materials. The customizable Library menu provides a dropdown menu area for each group to store information about important events and projects, strategic goals, membership, etc. This information is also searchable and available for easier public access. The Library is still under development, and we have much more to do in order to fully deploy and leverage this important archive, but the potential is great.
- 3) Policy & Procedures - The Board Policy (BP) and Administrative Procedure (AP) review and revision process is also now utilizing BoardDocs. Currently we are adding active BP/APs as they complete the participatory governance process; eventually, as time allows, ALL of our policies and procedures will find their home in BoardDocs. This will result in a more streamlined, timely, accurate, and efficient repository for the District's BPs and APs, and make the review cycle and semiannual updates process more effective.

Those of us using BoardDocs regularly – and already find a savings in time and effort of our finite resources – say THANK YOU to everyone for, if not embracing, at least giving it a shot. Grazie mille!

Listed are a few highlights of what has been happening on campus and interactions in the community for the past month:

- President Schoonmaker’s work with the CEO Affordability, Food and Housing Access group continues. On December 4, the CEO work group sponsored a Basic Needs Summit – Fostering Resiliency During a Pandemic, with several hundred students, staff, faculty, and administrators attending virtually. This is a time many of our students are in more need than ever before.
- We wish to send out appreciation for some special events that have been able to occur despite the global pandemic. The “Best of Shakespeare” Zoom productions were a testament to our Theatre program’s innovation and creativity. And while the day started out promising for the all outdoors Foundation Craft Fair, winds forced us to close down early. These remain excellent events we were pleased to attend, participate in, and enjoy. Thanks to all who made these happen!
- Work continues collaboratively on the documents necessary to proceed with the College’s soccer field project in spring 2021. Work also progresses on the Performing and Fine Arts renovation and expansion project, and the Student Housing project.
- On a personal note, we are – like so many others who enjoy holiday gatherings at this time of year – disappointed not to hold the 4th annual Holiday Party hosted by the Schoonmaker’s. We contemplated a virtual gathering but opted to “go dark” this year and not hold any event out of respect to all at the College who spend so much of every day already attending virtual meetings, classes, appointments, work session, and social events too. Despite not being able to host the College community, so share good food, fine spirits, festive music, and a few gifts, we sincerely wish everyone a safe and healthy holiday season.

Let’s look to have some fun in 2021! 😊

Quote of the Month:

This comment, more than a quote, seemed particularly fitting as we put 2020 behind us, and welcome a new year into our midst. So much changed in the past year – not all bad, but much of it was significant. Our hope is that these words encourage you during our break, the holiday season, and the first days of a new year.

“A lot of things have happened this year, and you have had to bear more than you ever thought you would. But I just hope you know, through the difficult and the good, you have also been brave, in a beautiful, honest way. And no matter the progress you feel that you have not made, you are still growing here.”

-- Morgan Harper Nichols, writer, artist, musician



Public Relations & Foundation: Just in case you missed them, here are some of the recent articles / feature stories published by our local media:

- [Crystal Geyser Donates \\$100,000 for Local Students](#)
- [College of the Siskiyous wants to be as Inclusive as Possible](#)
- [Giving Tuesday Results](#)
- [The Best of the Bard: COS Performs Shakespeare Online](#)
- [North State Giving Tuesday: 45 Siskiyou County Nonprofits to Support](#)

December/January Activities & Events: Event dates, times, and locations based on information available at the time of publication and are subject to change.

- December 14-17: Finals Week
- December 17: Fall Semester Ends
- December 24-January 1: Campus Closed
- January 4: Winter Session Begins
- January 18: Campus Closed (Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday)
- January 28: Winter Session Ends
- February 1: Spring Semester Begins

Community Business Supports Scholarships:

Several months of work and relationship-building by Dr. Schoonmaker and Dawnie Slabaugh was rewarded last month when the COS Foundation received a \$60,000 donation from Crystal Geyser - \$50,000 towards the Siskiyou Promise Program and \$10,000 for two (2) \$5,000 pass-through scholarships for Siskiyous students who will be transferring to four-year institutions next fall. The cultivation of this relationship has been a long-time coming, and the College and Foundation are grateful to the owners and employees of Crystal Geyser – not only for this generous donation, but for their willingness to continue to mutually cultivate this relationship in support of the College and our students in the years ahead. We are already at work developing our next proposal for donor support with them.



On November 25, an article was published in the news announcing the donation and how Crystal Geyer is investing in the Siskiyou County community by providing access to higher education. In addition to the donation to COS, they also provide scholarship assistance to Weed High School seniors.

North State Giving Tuesday: December 1st was “Giving Tuesday” and the North State Giving Tuesday online giving event hosted by the Shasta Regional Community Foundation. The COS Foundation was one of more than 170 non-profit organizations to participate in the event, and our mission was to raise funds to support the Siskiyou Promise Scholarship Program fund.

DRUM ROLL PLEASE... Online donations for the day totaled approximately \$4,601 from 33 donors!!!! This year was also the first year the COS Foundation was chosen as an hourly prize winner... I am so proud of our community for their support and the love they are showing for our local kids. Every dollar we received on Giving Tuesday is helping to transform the life of a COS student!!

Together We Make A Difference: Giving Tuesday has come and gone, but the work doesn't stop there. It's that time of year again when we "kick off" the campus Payroll Contribution Campaign. The amount of monthly contribution is not as important as the fact that you participate. Donations range from as low as \$5 to as much as \$50 or more, and all donations are tax-deductible. I hope you'll consider participating. To participate in our Employee Payroll Deduction Program [click here](#).

Virtual Alumni Reunion: Approximately 16 Siskiyou Alumni participated in our Alumni Zoom event. The majority of alumni in attendance were from various classes during the 1970's and participated in the Performing Arts and Football programs. The Foundation plans to host regular alumni reunions virtually starting in 2021.

Holiday Craft Fair: Well, what can we say... just like this year (2020), the Holiday Craft Fair is one that will go down in history. The original plan was to hold the Craft Fair inside the Gym, with a reduced number of vendors and customers in attendance. However, due to the surge of positive COVID-19 cases within our community we decided (on November 30) to move the event outside rather than cancel the event. All of the vendors were notified of the change and were given the option to withdraw from the event or to continue participating.

We checked the weather continuously over the course of the week... sunny skies, high temp of low to mid-50's little to no winds forecasted, and we were set and ready to go. The day started out well (a little chilly, but if you kept moving it wasn't too much of a problem – except for those of us wearing glasses that kept fogging up due to the wearing of face masks).

All of the vendors arrived and were set up and ready to start selling their items by 10 am. The community came out to support us (bundled up and masked up) and from 10 to 11:30 am the Craft Fair was going great. Unfortunately, this is also when the wind decided to pick up and gusts of wind began to wreak havoc on our Craft Fair. In order to keep our vendors and customers safe from flying objects, we made the decision to 'call it' and close the Craft Fair at noon. This was the right call as the wind became even more powerful and it got colder as we began the pack up and clean up stage.

But here's the bright side... we held an event! It was great to see members of our community come out and support our Crafters and it gave us just a 'bit of normalcy' in a very abnormal year. Everyone wore a face covering... sure there were a few people who grumbled, but they still wore a covering and happily visited



each and every booth. People, in general, had a good time. Lastly, we raised almost \$500 in cash (from the entry fee donations) that will be used to help re-stock our Student Food Pantry.

Eagle's Nest: The Eagle's Nest Shop is not just a store... it's also a training ground for our students. Students learn skills in retail management, accounting, and customer service (to name a few...) Over the years we've had many, many Siskiyous students work and volunteer in the Shop. Many of those students have gone on to become successful business people living and working in our community – some in retail. We recently received this message from a patron to our Shop and wanted to share it with the campus community. It's always great to hear from our patrons and have them share with us their experience at the Eagle's Nest.

Hello. You don't know me because I am not from the area. However, I did want to drop you a line and let you know about the wonderful service that I received from the cashier at Eagles Nest this morning. The nice young woman was extremely helpful and courteous to me. And made my experience with the business so wonderful today.

I wish that there was something that I could do for her. But I wanted the person in charge to be made aware of the extra effort this young woman put forth on my behalf. It's rare in this day and age to be treated with dignity and a polite attitude to boot. But the employee at the cash register did most certainly go above and beyond in effort for assisting me.

I would like for it to be known that in the future as she branches out into her life and livelihood, that she should be commended on her attention to listening and acting on what she witnessed in detail. Please see to it that she is made aware of my compliment and if at all possible allow any future employers also know that this individual truly is a one of a kind! Thank you very much. – Patti M.

The cashier referred to in the message is currently one of our first-year students, a Siskiyou Promise and COS Foundation scholarship recipient, and we are so very proud of her! Angel Keen, The Eagles Nest Shop Supervisor works with the staff (Volunteers and Students) and trains them to treat each person as an individual not just as a “customer”. Customer service has become a lost art and is at the top of our list when it comes to training. The Eagle's Nest just celebrated its 23rd anniversary... it's no wonder we have made it this far! Please stop by the Eagle's Nest when you have time and say Hi to our staff. We could not do what we do to support our students without the wonderful Volunteers and student workers.

Thank you all for your support! We look forward to 2021!

Administrative Services

All of us in Administrative services would like to wish each of you a very happy holiday season!

Facilities:

- Construction:
 - Theater-Arts Building Renovation and Expansion Project - The contract for construction management services for the Theatre-Arts Building Renovation and Expansion Project has been awarded to Trover Construction Project Management and ALMA Strategies. The college is currently in the 'Design and Preliminary Planning' stage of this project. Many committee and

architect meetings have occurred over the last several weeks providing for a collaborative building design approach.

- Fire Tower Prop Project - Finished plans are currently being reviewed by the Department of State Architects (DSA) and will go through a Board approval process in December to move forward with the bidding and construction phase of this project.
- The Facility Master Plan is in the editing stage and the first draft will go through the governance process in December with a second review to be held in early February 2021. The final draft copy will be presented to the Board of Trustees during the February Board meeting.
- The Timber Harvest Plan is complete and will be submitted for Cal Fire review before the end of December.
- The Timber Conversion Permit is complete and will be submitted after the acceptance of the Timber Harvest Plan.
- The CEQA document is under review by the Lead agency and will be available for community review and comments within the next 30 days.

Fiscal Services: Happy Holidays from the Business Office! We hope that you and your family have a wonderful and safe holiday!

The Annual CCFS-311 Report was approved by the Board of Trustees during the November meeting and has been submitted. The staff are now preparing for the annual Audit. Much work has gone into maintaining and submitting reports as required for the CARES Act funding as well as the other COVID-19 funding provided through the State.

Online purchase order training is still in the works. Training with the Budget Managers for the approval process was held December 3 and 4. Many staff were not able to attend, so there will be additional trainings scheduled, in order for all appropriate staff to receive the training. Once future dates are determined, please find a time that will work in order for all Budget Managers and their appropriate staff to receive the training. After the training is completed, this new approval feature will be live in early 2021. Stay tuned for more information regarding the timing of this. Thank you to all for your patience during this process.

Some housekeeping and reminders:

- Employees may now pick up their paycheck from the Human Resources Office on pay days.
- It is mid-year – please check budgets to make sure you are on track. If you have any budget adjustments or expense reclassifications, fill out the form on mySiskiyous, receive approvals and submit to the Business Office.
- Employees will again have the opportunity to receive their W-2's electronically instead of receiving a paper copy. The 2020 W-2's will be ready January 31. Employees who elect to have their W-2 received electronically can go into their mySiskiyous account. On the Employee tab choose the 'Pay' icon and clicking on the 'Employee Electronic W2 Consent' link under the Tax Information block and follow the instructions. If you have already designated your W-2 to be received electronically, no further action is needed.
- Purchase Orders are now being scanned into their numbered folders on the W: drive and the requester is being notified by email. Original PO's will be delivered to campus mailbox after they are signed. If you do not have access to the W: drive contact Jeannine and she will request access for you.

Food Services:

- The Eagle Dining Hall will be closed December 17 - 23 for scheduled maintenance in the dining area and kitchen.
- The Eagle Dining Hall will be closed December 24 - January 3, 2021 for the Winter Break.
- The Cafeteria will re-open for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner on January 4, 2021 using the current Limited Menu for January 4 - 8. The rotating menu will resume January 11, 2021 starting in Week #1.
- The Cafeteria will re-open for the weekends on January 9 for grab and go options available from 10am to 2pm.

Human Resources (HR): HR is busy recruiting for six Classified and five Faculty positions and thanks the campus community for their participation on the many hiring committees. HR is also happy to announce a new Tentative Agreement with CSEA will be presented at the December 15 Board of Trustees meeting. Huge 'shout out' to the CSEA team for making this a very collaborative effort, and also to Kelly Groppi and Desiree Kaae for doing a phenomenal job at getting the final documents ready.

Information Technology (IT): The College is continuing its migration to a new firewall. For those using Virtual Private Networking (VPNs), this will require uninstalling your existing Cisco VPN software and installing a new Palo Alto VPN. IT will be reaching out to VPN users to assist them in completing this change.

New procedures for setting up user accounts for both employees and students will be implemented during the weekend of December 18. This will have no impact on the users ability to utilize COS technology resources. The new procedures will allow student accounts to exist continually in harmony with the College's "Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle" philosophy while making more efficient use of licenses.

Student Services

Submitted by Melissa Green, Vice President of Student Services

This has been the most unusual fall semester due to all of the obvious reasons. Shout-out to all of the Student Services team which has done some extraordinary work in extraordinary times. The team has continued to bring more services in virtual formats (Advising and Financial Aid Zoom waiting rooms); creatively gave students supplies (EOPS drive-thru starter kit pick-up and Upward Bound supplies delivered to the students' homes) and taught me how to use SharePoint (thank you Janice Gonzalez and Gabbi Aston!) I am very grateful to all of you and am thank you for the outstanding work you have done in 2020. If you'd like more information, I'd be happy to share the PowerPoint presented at the November Board of Trustees Study Session.

That said, I also recognize and give a 'shout out' to all of our faculty and staff who have taught and served our community through these very challenging times. Thank you all so very much. It is a blessing to work with such wonderful people.

Moreover, speaking of people, we are happy to announce that Austin Torey has accepted the position of Assistant Director of Residence Halls. Austin comes to us from the Bay area and brings with him a lot of residence life experience.

During the fall break there were four students who spent Thanksgiving in the Lodges. Thank you to everyone who participated in making goodie bags, signing cards and bringing a hot turkey dinner to these students. (Darlene Melby, Regina Weston, Stephanie Wroten, Alysia Garcia, Thomas Keim, Doug Haugen, Janice Gonzalez) We will keep an eye out to take care of those who will remain in the Lodges during the winter break to be sure they are cared for during the holiday season. If interested in participating contact Student Services.

We are all looking forward to our upcoming winter break and wish everyone health, safety, peace, and prosperity.

“May and October, the best-smelling months? I’ll make a case for December: evergreen, frost, wood smoke, cinnamon.”

– Lisa Kleypas, Love in the Afternoon



December Multicultural Observances

2020 Diversity Holidays. (n.d.). Retrieved December 07, 2020, from <https://www.diversitybestpractices.com/2020-diversity-holidays>

- **December 1:** World AIDS Day, commemorating those who have died of AIDS.
- **December 3:** International Day of Disabled Persons, designed to raise awareness in regards to persons with disabilities.
- **December 8:** the Feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrates the solemn celebration of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- **December 10:** International Human Rights Day, established by the United Nations in 1948.
- **December 10-18:** Hanukkah, a Jewish celebrates the victory of the Maccabees, or Israelites, over the Greek-Syrian ruler, Antiochus, approximately 2,200 years ago.
- **December 12:** Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe commemorating the appearance of the Virgin Mary near Mexico City in 1531.
- **December 13:** St. Lucia’s Day, a religious festival of light in Scandinavia and Italy commemorating the martyrdom of St. Lucia, in 304 C.E. She secretly brought food to persecuted Christians in Rome while wearing a wreath of candles on her head so both her hands would be free.
- **December 16-24:** Las Posadas, a nine-day celebration in Mexico commemorating the trials Mary and Joseph endured during their journey to Bethlehem.
- **December 21:** Yule Winter Solstice, celebrated by Pagans and Wiccans. The shortest day of the year represents a celebration focusing on rebirth, renewal and new beginnings as the sun makes its way back to the Earth.
- **December 25:** Christmas Day, the day that many Christians associate with Jesus’ birth.
- **December 26:** Boxing Day, a secular holiday celebrated in the U.K., Canada, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and South Africa.
- **December 26-January 1:** Kwanzaa, an African-American holiday started by Maulana Karenga in 1966 to celebrate universal African-American heritage.
- **December 26:** Zartosht No-Diso (Death of Prophet Zarathushtra), a day of remembrance in the Zoroastrian religion.
- **December 26:** St. Stephen’s Day, a day to commemorate St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr.

- **December 27:** St. John's Day, Apostle and Evangelist, feast day for St. John celebrated by Christian denominations.
- **December 27:** Feast of the Holy Family, a liturgical celebration in the Catholic Church in honor of Jesus, his mother and his foster father, St. Joseph as a family.
- **December 28:** Feast of the Holy Innocents, a Christian feast in remembrance of the massacre of young children in Bethlehem by King Herod the Great in his attempt to kill the infant Jesus.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS): It has been a busy month for DSPS as the staff have been helping students prepare for winter and spring sessions. DSPS would like to remind students that if they make an appointment with the DSPS Counselor to keep their status current, they are eligible for priority registration. Please help DSPS by sharing this information with students and remind them to schedule an appointment if needed.



The DSPS staff and students would also like to thank Donna Ruiz-Farris for the many years she has served DSPS with her knowledge and expertise in Alternate Media, Learning Disability testing, and many other areas. Donna is retiring at the end of the fall semester and she will be greatly missed.

EOPS/CalWORKs: The EOPS office is happy to announce during the fall semester, the Program was able to provide \$100 Grocery Outlet gift cards to our EOPS students! As of the writing of this campus connection, 87 students have responded and requested a gift card. Staff are still actively reaching out to the ones who haven't contacted the office. The students have been extremely grateful and one student sent an email which stated, *"The gift card from Grocery Outlet made for a wonderful holiday dinner at my house that would not have been possible otherwise. Thank you to everyone who made that happen, from all of us here. Happy Holidays."*

The counselors, staff, and students are also busy with second counselor contacts and end-of-semester progress check-ins which are being completed through Zoom, phone, and PDF fillable forms. The EOPS/CARE Joint Advisory Committee meeting was held via Zoom on December 8 and was well attended. The Committee was given an update on what EOPS has been providing to students, and information was shared about other programs on campus such as Basecamp, DSPS, and TRIO. In addition, updates were given from the members about anything new happening in their agencies / organizations. The Committee discussed ways to collaborate in order to best serve the students and the EOPS staff was asked by UC Davis Upward Bound to give a presentation to their Yreka and Etna high school students on the services that EOPS can provide if they attend College of the Siskiyous.

EOPS is accepting applications for the spring 2021 semester and students can apply through the [Application for Student Support Programs](#) located on the [EOPS webpage](#).

The CalWORKs program continues to provide \$50 per month in gas vouchers to program participants and works with Siskiyou County Human Services on a monthly basis to coordinate services for these students.

Academic Affairs

Submitted by Dr. Char Perlas, Vice President of Academic Affairs:

Academic Affairs Retirements: It is with a heavy heart that we bid adieu to three of our long-term employees: Shawn Abbott, Vickie Donaldson and Elaine Eldridge:

- *Shawn Abbott* - Shawn started at COS in 1999 after almost 15 years in the private sector. She has taught in multiple disciplines (economics, accounting, business) every single semester over the last 20+ years. Over the years, she has served on seven accreditation teams and a variety of campus committees. On December 18, Shawn will officially retire from College of the Siskiyous.
- *Vickie Donaldson* - Vickie worked in the Instruction area during her entire career at COS, which began in February 1989. She started in a part-time position, reporting to the Fire Instructor/Business & Technical (B&T) Area Director, as an Office Secretary. The position morphed into a full-time position, reporting solely to the B&T Area Director. Vickie earned her AS degree at COS in December 1992 and in April 1997, Vickie completed her Bachelor's degree in Business/Human Resources Management. In August 1999, she advanced to the Administrative Assistant to the Vice President – Instruction position. On December 18, Vickie will officially retire from College of the Siskiyous.
- *Elaine Eldridge* - Elaine came to work at College of the Siskiyous in 2005 in the Instruction Office as an Administrative Specialist. In 2006 she worked full-time in the Instruction Office until 2013 when her position was split between Human Resources and Instruction. In 2016, Elaine was again full-time in the Instruction Office as an Academic Programs Analyst. On December 31, Elaine will officially retire from College of the Siskiyous.



Thank you ladies for your years of service and dedication to the College. All of you will be sorely missed. Now, enjoy the fruits of your labor... Cheers to a happy and healthy retirement!

Guided Pathways (GP) Updates!

GP Vision – The Pillar Teams and Steering Committee have finalized the [GP Vision](#):

‘College of the Siskiyous will create a holistic, student centered experience with streamlined processes and pathways, optimal learning environments and tailored support services.’

GP Scale of Adoption Assessment (SOAA) - The Guided Pathways SOAA serves as a point-in-time, cumulative documentation of colleges’ progress and learning. All colleges have been provided the following schedule which indicates SOAA due dates as well as allocation schedule:

YEAR 4 (2020-2021)

- Allocation of Year 4 funds (\$50,000)- July 2020
- Training on Scale of Adoption and Review of Previous Year- Sept/Oct 2020
- Scale of Adoption Assessments due - March 1, 2021

YEAR 5 (2021-2022)

- Allocation of Year 5 funds (\$50,000)- July 2021
- Training on Scale of Adoption and Review of Previous Year- Sept/Oct 2021
- Scale of Adoption Assessments due - March 1, 2022

The 2021 GP SOAA can be accessed [here](#): There are nine highlighted areas indicating where the College has made progress.

GP Student Survey – Calling all students! Help us name our Categories and Pathways! Guided Pathways provide students with clear, educationally coherent categories & pathways that include specific course sequences, progress milestones, and program learning outcomes. College of the Siskiyous wants YOU to help us name these categories and pathway program! Fill out this [survey](#) and make your voices heard!

Submitted by Mark Klever, Dean of Career Technical Education

Fire Academy: At the end of the semester we will have nine successful completions of our Fire Academy. Two other students will need to finish in the winter and spring terms due to personal circumstances. The Program congratulates this class of extremely needed future fire fighters. Fall semester has been one of the most challenging ever faced, and yet College of the Siskiyous continues to prepare individuals to gain employment that benefits and protects our local, regional, and state communities. Great job not only to our students but all the faculty and staff that persevered and overcame the challenge.

Paramedic Program: Our Paramedic Program spans over the course of a year. Students that began in October of 2019 are now completing and fulfilling all their obligations. Due to the past year's challenges, some individuals have been delayed in their completion. We are proud of the five successful students that passed the National Registry and are now licensed paramedics in the state of California. Congratulations and thank you for what you do. You have worked hard, endured the unthinkable and are now in a career that only benefits individuals in our community every day. Thank you so much!

Submitted by Val Roberts, Interim Dean of Liberal Arts and Student Success

MyPath – An Onboarding System for Students: The Guided Pathways Pillar 2 Onboarding/Orientation subcommittee has been working on the personalization and preparation for implementation of MyPath. MyPath is an onboarding platform that provides directed information and resources to incoming students based on how they answer questions on the CCCApply application. Students are guided through a series of steps to complete processes such as orientation, FAFSA, meeting with a counselor or advisor, and taking a career exploration assessment. Students are also connected with programs and services based on their unique needs. After a customizable period of time, the system will send reminders to students if they have not completed the next step in a process. This [platform](#) is free for California Community Colleges through the Chancellor's Office. A big "thank you" goes out to Meghan, Charlie, Josh, and the MyPath team for their work on this project.

Work Experience Expands: Through the outreach efforts of our Cooperative Work Experience Education (CWEE) Coordinator, Tanja Ramming, COS is offering Work Experience in Siskiyou, Modoc, and Shasta counties. We currently have 25 students in work experience – 24 general and 1 occupational, and the program will be growing. Tanja has also established a partnership with Siskiyou Works to serve students in internships and subsidized employment with college credit, as well as to refer students to them for services and paid work-based learning experiences. In addition, the CTE Advisors in the Siskiyou County

High Schools are all making a push to help their students earn credit through CWEE for their paid work and internships. A student could potentially access an internship, earn college credit, and then qualify for subsidized employment the following semester. These activities all come with support services to help them explore and develop the career goals! Tanja says she is inspired by the shift she sees in the attitude of students enrolled in CWEE as their first college class. “They go from, ‘I’m not college material’ to ‘Wow, I CAN do this!’.”

AB 705 Implementation – Regional Assistance and Information Sharing: Sunny Greene, former COS DSPS Director/Counselor and current CCCCCO North/Far North Guided Pathways Regional Coordinator, contacted Shirley Louie, Liz Carlyle, and Val Roberts to request a presentation for Butte College’s AB 705 Implementation Team. Butte College asked for Sunny’s assistance in obtaining ideas and resources to address some of the challenges in the implementation of AB 705. Given our early adoption and success, Sunny thought of Siskiyou as a resource for Butte’s team! Our presentation was shared in a meeting with Butte’s team in mid-November. Subsequent meetings and collaborations are likely to happen.

Shakespeare’s Greatest Hits Impresses! The Theatre and Music students, faculty, and staff deserve a huge shout-out for their incredible work on the College’s first-ever zoom production! It was definitely a success and quite an accomplishment! It was a fantastic show, and so fun to watch. The cues (music played between acts) were developed from student Riley Witherell’s project-based learning composition for her second year Music Theory class. Through the work of David Blink and the Concert Band and Jazz Band, the cues were created to bridge the emotions of one act to the next. Although the performance itself was incredible, it could be argued that the best part was the end when the cast talked about what it meant to them to work on and perform in the production. The feeling of joy and satisfaction they expressed was contagious!



Celebrating Emkay’s Achievement: Speaking of major accomplishments, Emkay Sikora, our Tutoring Services Coordinator, will be graduating with her Bachelor of Arts degree in Organizational Leadership from Simpson University on December 19. She earned “highest honors” and will be graduating with that distinction. In addition, she was recently inducted into the Kappa Eta chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda, which is an honor society for adult students in higher education. Emkay says she has enjoyed applying information she’s learned in her classes to her work as our Tutoring Services Coordinator, and she looks forward to continuing to serve COS students. Emkay is an incredible asset to the ASC and to COS in general, and her commitment to continued personal and professional development is inspiring. Congratulations, Emkay!!

Submitted by Rhonda Brown, Interim Director of Nursing:

Nursing Program Update: Our LVN students have embraced the ever-evolving changes in their training program due to the impacts of COVID-19. Our protocols have been stringent. They took their responsibility to keep themselves and the community safe seriously and professionally. The students worked very hard to complete all of their clinical and lab hours early in the semester to assure completion before the next COVID-19 surge. The class will be a welcome addition to the nursing profession. The instructors worked equally hard to successfully complete the semester. Schedule

changes, creativity, and flexibility to accommodate the race to beat the potential virus surge really made this all possible. A heartfelt thank you to Kim Parham and Hallie Coppi. Our adjunct clinical and lab instructors worked with us graciously and generously. A big thank you to Kathy Durrett, Jen Turner, Kelly Moser, Abi McClain, and Nicki Campbell.

We are currently onboarding two of our RN graduates to assist with lab and clinical duties for the next semester. We are proud to welcome Aaron Redelsperger and Gabie Ellison, as colleagues! We greatly appreciate our clinical partners and nurse leaders with all of their support to help us and our students. Our partners include: Fairchild Medical Center, Dignity Health-Mt. Shasta, Shasta View Estates, and Shasta-Cascade clinics.

COVID Contact Tracing Efforts: In order to support our college community and Siskiyou County Public Health, Hallie Coppi and Rhonda Brown have been working collaboratively to conduct contact tracing and COVID-19 support to Siskiyou students and staff. We have been advocates for safety, provided education and research findings to help create policy, practice, and procedures during the evolving pandemic.

Submitted by Suzie Clark, Director of Noncredit, Contract and Community Education

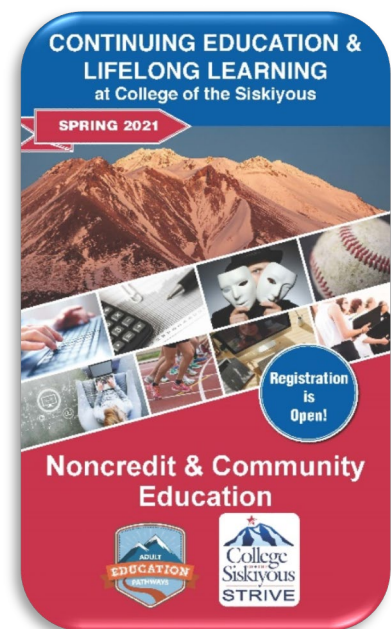
Spring 2021 Noncredit Schedule is now available! Look for your copy in your home mailbox or view online - [Noncredit Spring Schedule](#).

Spring 2021 Construction Course: Noncredit/Adult Education is partnering with ORE-CAL Resource Conservation and Development, Siskiyou Works, and Habitat for Humanity to offer a Construction course in Spring 2021. The project will be to build a tiny house while preparing individuals to work on the rebuild following the fires. There will be classroom instruction and then the hands-on portion of the program should start in April. Contact Suzanne Clark @ 530-841-5834 for more information.

Community Education: Community Education now has long-term and short-term courses [online](#). There are Career Training courses to prepare you for a new career, Professional Development courses to expand or sharpen your skills, and Continuing Ed to develop knowledge in a specific area. If you have any questions, contact Suzanne Clark at 530-841-5834 or send an email to lclark6@siskiyous.edu.

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Education: The courses in the flyer shown are sponsored by the Adult Education Pathway and Siskiyou Union Adult School.



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DECEMBER 17TH - ACTIVELY LEARN 2/ED.PUZZLE/KAMI/TURN IT IN

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