PRESS RELEASE

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College of the Siskiyous Confers Emeritus Faculty Status to James Gilmore and Dr. William Hirt

Weed / COS – During the March 15, 2022 regular meeting of the Siskiyou Joint Community College District, Trustees took personnel action and conferred Emeritus Faculty status for retired faculty, James Gilmore and William Hirt. Recognition of this achievement and honor will be presented during the 63rd Commencement Ceremony to be held on Friday, May 20, 2022.

James ‘Jim’ Gilmore was hired in August 2000 and taught Art History, Photography, and Digital Art classes. Mr. Gilmore was active in campus life, generously offering his professional talents and skills to faculty and staff. He served on a wide variety of Academic Senate committees and was an active participant in the local, state, and national art community; with many exhibitions, grants and awards, publications and periodicals to his credit. Prior to COS, Mr. Gilmore taught courses in western and non-western art at Shasta College and gave lectures on art history in notable places such as the Harvard University Anthropology Program and the National Association of Museum Exhibitors Conference in San Francisco. Mr. Gilmore has been a juror and curator for many exhibitions over the last twenty years and has been represented in collections from Portland, Oregon to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to various museum and gallery exhibitions at places such as Turtle Bay Museum and Arboretum and the Redding Museum of Art and History in Redding, California. Gilmore retired from the College in June 2019 after 19 years of service.

Dr. William ‘Bill’ Hirt was hired in August 1991 as a Geological/Physical Science Instructor. In addition to his teaching duties, Dr. Hirt served as Vice President of the Academic Senate, academic advisor, accreditation self-study committee member, and was part of accreditation visiting teams. Before coming to teach at COS, Dr. Hirt was a Geologist with the Idaho Geological Survey, a Lecturer at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and an Instructor at the University of Arizona. During his tenure at COS, Dr. Hirt has conducted Numerical Modeling and a Field Study of the Mount Whitney Intrusive Suite in Sierra Nevada, California, and has worked with the Geology Department at UC Davis to do analytical work on the electron microprobe. Dr. Hirt has spent extensive time with USGS studying our own nearby mountain, Mount Shasta, and has developed several short courses that focus on both Mount Lassen and Shasta and the geology of our surrounding areas. Dr. Hirt retired from the College in December 2018 after 27 years of service. Dr. Hirt remains an active and generous
community member. He has served on the board of the Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District since 2005 and has contributed his time and knowledge to the Siskiyou County Museum, to fellow college faculty in his Chautauqua Style Short courses, and to the community at large in countless workshops and presentations.