



2025 Convocation Day Agenda



*Please note: This is an in-person event. There is a Zoom option with closed captioning available for those in need of accommodation. To request additional accommodations, please contact Kristi Wilson, Director of Human Resources, at kwilson26@siskiyous.edu.


Convocation Day August 14, 2025

Session	Time	Location	Title	Presenters
	8:00a to 8:30a	Gym	Lite Breakfast and Superintendent/President's Welcome	Superintendent/President Perlas
Session 1	8:30a – 11:55a	Gym	Difficult Conversations Project Part 1 The Difficult Conversations Project is an initiative to help people engage in the kind of dialogues that can actually heal divisions and strengthen relationships — allowing us to work together on the many challenges of our time. This session is an active, small group workshop.	Kern Beare* Founder of the Difficult Conversations Project
	12:00a – 12:10p	McCloud Lawn	2025 Employee Picture	All
	12:10p – 12:55p	McCloud Lawn	Lunch: BBQ & Ice Cream Truck	All
Session 2	1:00p – 2:30p	Gym	Difficult Conversations Project Part 2 & Next Steps	Kern Beare* Founder of the Difficult Conversations Project
Sessions 3 & 4: Optional for Classified Professionals and ASM				
Session 3	2:45p – 3:45p (Faculty Focused)	DLC 3	New Procedures: Grading and Census	Meghan Witherell
Session 4	4:00p – 4:45p	ESTC 107 Board Room DLC 3 ESTC 113	Division Meetings: CTE Nursing/Health Sciences Liberal Arts Athletics	Interim Dean CTE, Veronica Coots Dean Health Sciences, Coppi Dean Liberal Arts, Roberts President, Perlas
Optional	5:00p – 6:30p	Mt. Shasta Brewery	President's Start of Fall Semester Social & Reception for new Staff & Faculty	

*See last page for Kern Beare's Bio



2025 Faculty Flex Day Agenda

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Faculty Flex Day Friday August 15, 2025

Session	Time	Location	Title	Presenters
Session 1	9:00a – 10:30a	DLC 3	Assessment	Ann Womack and/or Liz Carlyle
Session 2	10:40– 11:20a	DLC 3	Dual Enrollment	Kim Peacemaker
Session 3	11:30a – 1:20p	DLC 3	Working Lunch with ADA Speaker (Sponsored by SAS), Dr. Jane Jarrow Lunch provided by Faculty Association	Dr. Jane Jarrow/ New SAS Counselor
Optional	3:30p – 5:00pm	Building 9	Discovery Child Development Center open house (*see note below)	Early Childhood Education Department

After the last session (Session 3), faculty are expected to be with students, working to prep for classes, or meeting with colleagues/admin. Please work with others in your departments/areas to either attend together for collaboration or attend separately for office coverage.

*** Celebrating our reimagining of Discovery Child Development Center (Building 9) as College of the Siskiyous Model Classroom:**

Because the process of building our new student housing complex makes use of the center to serve children and families impossible, we are taking this opportunity to provide a teaching space for the educators. We will welcome early educators from throughout Siskiyou County, as well as ECE@COS students to an environment illustrating Best Practice in Early Education. The space will be used for Zoom and face-to-face classes and trainings.

Kern Beare



Kern Beare is a former Silicon Valley communications executive who, throughout his professional career, maintained deep roots in the fields of interpersonal communication and conflict resolution. Today he leads non-profit seminars and workshops on how to heal relationships and unleash our capacity for creative collaboration.

Kern's work in this field began in the 1980s, at the height of the Cold War, when he received a two-year fellowship from the Beyond War foundation, a fellowship that led to running educational programs on the obsolescence of war in the nuclear age and the imperative of learning to resolve conflict without violence.

In the 1990s, Beyond War became the Foundation for Global Community, extending its mission to include social and environmental issues. He served on the board of the new organization and helped to develop and expanded offerings of educational workshops.

In the early 2000s, Kern co-founded Global MindShift, a nonprofit enterprise that offered facilitated online workshops on the essential skills we need to survive and thrive in today's interconnected and interdependent world.

In 2017, following the U.S. Presidential election, Kern launched the Difficult Conversations Project, an initiative to help address our national divide.

Kern holds a BA in psychology from the University of California at Los Angeles. He and his wife Amy have two grown sons — Joseph and Will — and live in Mountain View, California.