



College of the Siskiyous

The Campus Connection

September 2021

Office of the President

Submitted by Dr. Char Perlas, Interim Superintendent/President

National Hispanic Heritage Month September 15th – October 15th:

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. Individuals such as Juan Felipe Herrera, Judge Sonia Sotomayor and Cesar Chavez are recognized and celebrated.

The Glide Center for Social Justice is offering a free, virtual event which focusses on the Latinx Community's Role in Advancing Social Justice. Panelist include Alicia Bustos Sandoval, Olga Talamante and Roberto Hernandez. The event is scheduled to be held Thursday, September 23 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Click [here](#) to register!

Proposed COVID Requirement: In consultation with our constituent leaders, the College is proposing the following COVID requirement:

- Students must show proof of vaccination or commence weekly COVID testing by **November 15, 2021**.
- Employees must show proof of vaccination or commence weekly COVID testing by **January 3, 2022**.

Administrative Procedures (AP) and Board Policies (BP) are currently being revised and developed to reflect this new requirement. The revised and new APs and BPs will be vetted through the participatory governance process. This new requirement is not official until it is Board Approved. Once approved, the requirement will be shared widely via COS Connect, website and social media.

Updated COVID Prevention Plan: Throughout the Pandemic, the College's COVID-19 protocols have been in alignment with guidance set forth from Siskiyou County Public Health, California Department of Public Health, Center for Disease Control, and CalOSHA. There have been some recent changes in guidance and it is now reflected in the College's September 2021 COVID Prevention Plan. The Plan contains useful information regarding on-campus check-in procedures, mask and campus closure guidelines, guidance on isolation and quarantine, proposed COVID requirement and self-care during

COVID. The plan can be accessed on the College's COVID-19 webpage and by clicking [here](#). Stay safe everyone!

Join the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Siskiyou County Branch!

AAUW Siskiyou County is welcoming new members! The AAUW Siskiyou County Branch is focused on supporting underrepresented students, from K-12 through college, in their pursuit towards a higher education. Fundraising

efforts allow the branch to raise funds for student scholarships as well as to send students to Tech Trek, a one-week Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) summer camp hosted at a University Campus. To learn more, visit emaze.me/aauwsiskiyou or attend our virtual information session on Tuesday, Oct. 5th from 3:30p – 4:30p. To register, click [here](#).



Athletics:

We Want You at Our Games! Masks will be required at all indoor contests. Check the [Athletics webpage](#) for current schedule.

Public Relations & College Foundation:

Happy Anniversary! The COS Foundation was established in 1991 to support the growth and development of the College and its students, foster community relations, and raise financial support to enable the College to provide excellence in education, cultural enrichment and service to our diverse rural community. So we have decided that we need to celebrate the Foundation and its long-time support (30 Years) of the District and our students. We invite the campus community to come and celebrate with us on Thursday, September 23 from 1 to 2 pm in the Weed Campus Student Center. We hope to see you at the Party!



Holiday Craft Fair: The 24th Annual COS Holiday Craft Fair will be held on one day only on Saturday, December 4 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) at the COS Weed Campus in the gym. This Craft Fair celebrates the finest of hand-crafted products produced by local and regional artisans and crafters. Vendor registrations are currently being accepted, however spaces are filling quickly. For more information or to request a registration packet, call (530) 938-5373.

Stay Connected: Now that school has started, it's a great time to sign up for the college's communication system, "COS Connect" powered by Everbridge. This is a free system used to notify students and staff of emergency situations, campus closures, or general information. To sign up click on the COS Connect button located on the COS homepage and follow the directions to get sign up.

Come Join Our Team: The Foundation is looking for new volunteers to join the Eagle's Nest team. Volunteers work 3 to 4 hour shifts per week, or more. Volunteers work as cashiers, screen items as they come in, price merchandise, repair items, research antiques. etc.; there is never a dull moment at the Nest. If you know of anyone who may be interested in volunteering have them call 938-4663 or stop by the Eagle's Nest to talk with Lexie, Interim Shop Supervisor.

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

- September 20-25: Eagle Spirit Week (Homecoming Week – Various Activities/Dress Up Days)
 - Monday: Pajama Day or Dress Up Comfy
 - Tuesday: Super Hero Day, Free Pancake Breakfast at the Cafeteria, includes pancakes, breakfast meat side, and small coffee*
 - Wednesday: Favorite Sports Team Day, Resource Fair
 - Thursday: Crazy Hair Day, COS Foundation 30th Anniversary Party
 - Friday: Decorative Mask Day & Siskiyou Spirit Wear Day, Soccer home games
 - Saturday: Homecoming Pre-Game Football Party at the Stadium, 12PM
- September 21: Board of Trustees Regular Monthly Meeting
- September 24: Soccer vs. Feather River, 2PM (Women) & 4PM (Men) - Stadium
- September 25: Football vs. Sacramento City College (Homecoming), 1PM – Stadium
- September 27: Application for COS Vocational Nursing Program is open through October 8. Info online at www.siskiyous.edu/cte/nurs/
- September 28: National Voter Registration Day
- September 28: Soccer vs. Lake Tahoe, 2PM (Men) & 4PM (Women) – Stadium
- September 29: COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic for COS Students & Employees (2nd Dose), 10AM to 1PM – Theater (Sign up online - www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4FA9A62CA1FBC61-covid19 or call (530) 841-2134
- October 2: Football vs. West Hills, 1PM – Stadium
- October 13: Volleyball vs. Butte College, 6PM – Gym
- October 15: Soccer vs. Butte College, 2PM (Women) and 4PM (Men) - Stadium
- October 15: Volleyball vs. Feather River College, 6PM – Gym
- October 16: COS Cross Country to Host “COS Twilight Invitational”, 8:30AM – Weed Campus
- October 18: Last Day to Register to Vote
- October 20: Volleyball vs. Lassen College, 6PM - Gym
- October 23: Football vs. Shasta College, 1PM – Stadium
- October 29: Soccer vs. Redwoods, 2PM (Women) and 4PM (Men) – Stadium



Administrative Services

Facilities:

The Theater Project has new life and this is a wonderful new opportunity for us to rehabilitate two, fifty year old buildings on campus. The District has entered into an agreement with Alma Strategies which has been approved by the Board of Trustees to help the District re-scope the project for presentation to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and the Department of Finance.

The sod in the soccer field is growing tall and thick. The scoreboard is in DSA approval process and many other parts of the project still remain in the design phase. Clearing and clean up continue to be the maintenance crew's main focus as this has been a collaborative project with outside vendors. Fire tower prop project structure will be delivered on September 28th. This project is still on schedule to be completed in late December.

The Facility Master Plan Final Draft is going through the governance process this month with the Final Draft being presented to the Board on September 21st then taken back for action at the October Board meeting.

Fiscal Services:

The 2021-22 Final Budget was approved by the Board of Trustees on September 14th. The Final budget will be posted in Banner shortly.

Housekeeping...Fiscal Year 2021-22: The purchasing process and approval routing has not changed. Everyone is doing a great job!

Some reminders...Please use the **Purchase Request process** for pre-approval of any purchases, and make sure to obtain all approvals before submitting invoices to the Business Office. (Email approvals are acceptable; please make sure to attach when submitting for payment.)

- **All Purchase Requests, regardless of amount**, must be approved by Darlene Melby before submitting to the Business Office.
- If you need to use a **Payment Voucher**, any invoices over \$250 must have pre-approval from Darlene.
- For **Cal-Card/District Credit Card purchases**, any purchases over \$250 must have pre-approval from Darlene (please attach any email pre-approvals to your Cal-Card Statement).
All Cal-Card Statements must be signed by your immediate supervisor and Darlene.
- **All Travel Requests** must be pre-approved by Darlene.

If you have any questions about purchasing, please contact Desiree or Courtney.

Food Services:

The National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) arrived on campus in early September. The students are attending a four-week course to earn a certification in Wilderness Emergency Medicine. A second fall course will begin in November. NOLS rents facilities at the COS campus for this program and they hold five of these courses each year. Food Services staff support their dietary needs, which are often different from our current residents and staff, but the partnership has been very strong and positive for several years.

Human Resources (HR):

Human Resources (HR) welcomes Amy Howell to Administrative Services. Amy will be assuming the role of Executive Administrative Assistant I with her work station located in the Human Resource Department. Please stop by and say hello to Amy if you are in the area.

Residence Life and Housing:

The State Legislature has passed Senate Bill/Assembly Bill 169, which commits funding to address college student housing challenges. This is an exciting development for College of the Siskiyous and the District will be pursuing a grant in order to seek funding for additional student housing. Fall 2021 occupancy remains high and Lodge staff are continuing to focus on helping students stay up to date on payments for tuition and fees and retention of students as the semester gets into full swing.

Technology Services:

As part of our continuing efforts to keep the College's infrastructure current, the department will be upgrading its virtualized server environment as well as the Exchange email system before the end of the calendar year.

The department has launched the Enterprise Application Steering Committee. They have responsibility for software applications that support the College's business processes such as Banner and Degree Works. This committee has produced a shared production calendar that will be used to plan regular maintenance and upgrades to enterprise applications.

The department is currently finalizing the Technology Master Plan for 2021-2025. This plan will be presented to several governing bodies for review and input. It is expected that it will be published at the end of October or beginning of November.

Student Services

Submitted by Dr. Patrick Walton, Vice President of Student Services

The fall 2021 semester has begun and our students have returned to campus. The lodges are full, classes have begun, and staff and faculty are busy helping students to meet their goals. We are elated to be back on campus and see our students on a daily basis.

On September 1, a COVID Vaccine Clinic occurred on campus and was co-sponsored by College of the Siskiyous and Siskiyou County Public Health. The event was also open to the public. During the event, forty-one individuals received their COVID shot. On September 29, the Vaccine Clinic will return to allow individuals to receive their second shot. Those COS students or employees that received their COVID shot received a “thank you” appreciation gift card to the COS Bookstore or Café. Staff and students that had previously been vaccinated were also eligible to receive the “thank you” appreciation gift card. Our gratitude goes out to Siskiyou County Public Health, volunteers, COS employees, and those who chose to get vaccinated. We will continue to explore other opportunities to offer more clinics.

Work continues on researching options to purchase a “lactation pod.” The College is required to provide a space that is private and safe for breastfeeding mothers. This can include students, employees, or anyone visiting the campus. This project and its completion are much needed to be compliant with the law and help provide a private space. Options for funding are being identified and staff are working hard with those that have a vested interest to make this happen.

Finally, a thank you to the Student Services staff and faculty for their hard work, dedication, and continuous support of our students. I am continuously amazed by what you all do and the way you carry yourselves in your efforts to serve students. The Student Services Staff ROCKS!!!

Basecamp HQ:

Basecamp has been very busy with the onboarding of new Eagle Ambassadors and preparing for a full schedule of events to take place during the fall semester. Coming up is the Eagle Student Resource Fair scheduled for Wednesday, September 22. We are excited to welcome our community partners and local employers to the campus so they can provide information on valuable resources and job opportunities to our students.

Now that our new Eagle Ambassadors are on-boarded, we are excited to launch a new program. The *Ambassadors for Multi-Purpose Program* will allow faculty, staff, and community members to request the assistance of our ambassadors for community events, campus activities, or even general office tasks that require help. More details will be made available in the coming weeks!

Student Access Services (SAS):

This month Student Access Services, SAS (formerly DSPS) is giving special recognition to Grace Root, who has overcome various barriers and is successfully transferring to a university after this semester. Grace has been awarded a Certificate of Achievement and had these words to share with us.

"Thank you to all the professors and students at COS who have helped accommodate me throughout the last two years. Also, thanks to the SAS office for helping provide my needs."

Speaking of overcoming barriers, SAS would like to share more information about our Peer Mentoring program. SAS is offering Peer Mentoring for SAS students in need of more intensive additional support for their classroom success. In order to be eligible for paid services as a student worker, the peer mentor must complete an application through Human Resources as a Student Worker, and must be enrolled for at least six units of classes. Eligible students will complete an orientation/training and receive a peer mentoring handbook. We will provide peer mentors with training on evidence-based

study techniques. When mentors study with their peers, their own learning is reinforced, so this is a win-win intervention!

Please note that peer mentoring is not the same as tutoring services offered by the Academic Success Center. A SAS peer mentor offers support to a fellow SAS classmate by sending reminders of important dates, offering to study with the student, and providing peer-based support and encouragement. Peer mentoring is an evidence-based intervention that can improve retention. For more information on this service, please email sas@siskiyous.edu or call (530) 938-5297.

Academic Affairs



The Office of Academic Affairs has been under construction while trying to begin the fall semester. We have been extremely busy focusing on the tasks at hand and have limited information to report out this month. Please forgive us as we get established in our new roles and a new semester.

We are excited to announce Christina Van Alfen has been selected for and has accepted the position of Interim Dean of Career and Technical Education. Please join us in congratulating Christina!

Christina Van Alfen, Interim Dean of Career and Technical Education

Christina Van Alfen holds her Master's Degree from Humboldt State University in Sociology and a Bachelor's Degree in Anthropology from New Mexico State University. She also holds a Certificate in Mediation from the Institute for the Study of Alternative Dispute Resolution.

She began her work at COS with the management of the California Career Pathways Trust (CCPT) Grant. She has been a SiskiyouWorks Steering Committee member since inception and is the Chair of the Career Exploration sub-committee. Christina was recently appointed Chair of Cradle to Careers for Siskiyous (C2C4S), the Siskiyou County collective impact partnership that is part of North State Together—a regional network of cross-sector partners who have come together to strengthen educational outcomes for Northern California.

Prior to her position as a CTE Grant Manager and as an adjunct Sociology instructor for the College of the Siskiyous, she was a consultant for the Associate of Oregon Centers for Independent Living, the Executive Director for SPOKES Unlimited, Director of Programs at Area 1 Agency on Aging, and the Project Serve Advisor for Eureka City Schools.

Congratulations Christina!

Associated Student Board (ASB) Academic Senate

Submitted by Miranda Connelly, Student Trustee

Please share this information with students:

Are you interested in becoming a Student Leader? Do you have ideas on how to improve student life and/or the campus environment? Are you interested in special leadership and scholarship opportunities?



Look no further, because your Associated Student Board (ASB) is looking for student Senators! ASB is a great way to improve communication and networking skills, ramp up your resume, and to make a lasting impact on your school and community.

Be a voice for not only yourself, but also your fellow students. Our students need representation, and ASB needs you. Join now; no prior student government experience needed, only a willingness to work with others to achieve common goals.

Meetings are held on a weekly basis and normally do not exceed one hour. The only other time commitment would be on a volunteer basis to help with events and projects discussed during meetings. Contact Austin Toney, Assistant Director of Student Housing and Co-Advisor to ASB (email atoney2@siskiyous.edu) for more information on how to join!

Academic Senate

It has been a busy start to the semester for the College of the Siskiyous Academic Senate. Following the first Senate Meeting, senators generated a list of projects to be prioritized and completed this year. The list of tasks and priorities (unranked) is as follows:

- Promote the use of Open Educational Resources (OER) on campus
- Publish the Faculty Handbook as needed on the college website
- Create a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Guiding Document/Rubric through which we will focus decisions and actions throughout the year
- Address the topic of Department Chairs
- Create an Academic Integrity Statement and Plagiarism processes
- Student Survey– identify modality that students prefer moving forward (online/hybrid/F2F); how about faculty?
- Utilize CARES act funding to help faculty meet Accessibility requirements
- Codify SLO/eLumen integration process
- Complete Program Review/Annual Update Cycle
- Continue working on and supporting Credit for Prior Learning
- Put forward faculty requests to replace faculty vacancies and add faculty to grow and develop programs
- Create, assess, and finalize a faculty orientation process
- Finalize the Program Approval Process
- Support the Nursing Program

In addition to creating a list of priorities and goals, in our September Academic Senate Meeting, our standing committees provided reports to the full senate.

The Distance Learning Committee Chair Maria Fernandez reported that the committee has met and members are finishing up projects from last year. Additionally, the committee is focusing its efforts on accessibility and equity in our online courses, utilizing OER, and identifying Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) courses.

Curriculum Committee Chair Neil Carpentier-Alting reported that the committee continues to meet weekly. They will be reviewing curriculum that is up for review in the curriculum review cycle. Faculty whose courses need review will be notified by the committee, and the committee will assist instructors through the process if needed.

Flex Committee Chair Patrice Thatcher Stephens reported that Flex committee members are working collaboratively with administration. The Flex Committee discussed the number of required Flex days in our current calendar, and the amount of professional development and course/curriculum/outcome work that needs to be done. An optional Zoom Flex Day is scheduled for October 23rd 10-1:00. There will be a choice of 3 different three-hour blocks: Curriculum and Student Learning Outcomes, Canvas, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Equivalency Committee Chair Andrea Craddock reported that the Equivalency Committee met to review minimum qualifications for adjunct instructors who will be teaching COS Courses in partnership with VERTO. The committee recommends a review of AP 7211 - Faculty Service Areas, Minimum Qualifications, and Equivalencies, in the near future.

SLO Committee Chair Neil Carpentier-Alting reported that the SLO committee is meeting weekly and members are preparing for the eLumen module configuration. There is an initialization period planned for the spring semester. Members of the SLO committee have volunteered to run their courses through the SLO assessment process. Any other faculty member who would like to do the same is welcome. Our OER liaison Jude Baldwin is pursuing the addition of the notation ZTC (zero textbook cost) to courses that use OER in the schedule. This is being mandated by the state. She noted that there is \$115 million in funding for California Community Colleges to use for ZTC projects provided they are in compliance with the mandate. She noted that we are not currently in compliance.

Lastly, we are committed to manifesting our Equity, Social Justice, and Anti-Racism Resolution in all of our work this year. Furthermore, we are committed to supporting the Board of Trustees in their efforts toward Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as articulated in their resolution this past spring, and in their goals for the 2021-2022 school year. It is our hope that efforts toward creating instruction, curriculum, and classrooms that embody the spirit of our resolution and are observable and evident. We further hope that they contribute to a campus culture that embodies and embraces the tenets of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Ronald Slabbinck
Academic Senate President

No other reports submitted.