

**COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOU**

**THE CAMPUS CONNECTION**

*July 7, 2015*

**PRESIDENT'S OFFICE**

It is amazing how fast the state budget was approved this year. It seems like "life" in general is moving very fast. We have sure been busy at COS, as you can see in this Campus Connection.

Work on our Accreditation Self Study is continuing and progressing "basically" in compliance with our anticipated timelines. We continue to look forward to having a "final draft" in October.

We will be working very hard this month on efforts to develop the Final Budget for FY 2015-2016. VP of Administrative Services, Nancy Funk, is leading this effort and reviewing the "Resource Needs" list that we have been maintaining for several years now and Nancy is requesting suggestions on the most important items that we might want to spend some of the increased "one time" revenues on. Everyone here has done a great job of being careful in our expenditures and not even asking for some items to be addressed because we recognized that we have been going through very tough times financially for many years. Please communicate any ideas that you have relative to things that you believe are getting critical or that we should deal with soon to enhance COS with the Administrative Services Office.

We are moving forward with many hiring committees and as we fill some of the positions, current employees are moving to new jobs within COS which then results in our seeking temporary workers and announcing their vacated positions. This is all very positive for COS and we are excited about filling vacant and interim positions with permanent employees.

I want to thank everyone who has been serving on the screening committees this summer. We really appreciate everyone stepping up to move this forward as quickly as possible.

We held public forums for the VP of Student Services and the VP of Instruction and received a lot of good input. We are hoping to have the Board approve these hires at the August board meeting. The four full-time faculty searches are all progressing well. Hopefully, we will complete these searches in the next month also.

I hope that everyone is also fitting in time this summer to rest, relax, and spend some quality time with friends and family. The fall semester will be here before you know it!

## **FOUNDATION / PUBLIC RELATIONS**

### **Public Relations**

This summer, after many years of not having a presence in the Mt. Shasta Fourth of July Parade event, COS entered a float in the Fourth of July Parade. Much like the Siskiyou Golden Fair, this event is attended by several thousand people (both local and non-local) who spend the weekend in Siskiyou County celebrating our Country's Independence. This year's Fourth of July Parade theme was "Community." As Siskiyou County's very own "Community College" we felt it was important to participate in this community event. A small group of COS employees and students volunteered to create the float and participate in the parade. July 4 was a really hot day, but we marched down Mt. Shasta Boulevard handing out COS lollipops and had a lot of fun in the process. Next up, the Weed Carnevale Parade scheduled for Wednesday, July 8...come check out our float. See you on Main Street! ☺



**Visit us at the Fair** - COS will have a booth at the Siskiyou Golden Fair, August 12-16. This is a great recruitment /marketing opportunity for the College. Thousands of people attend the Siskiyou Golden Fair each year to see what Siskiyou County has to offer, spend time with their family, and support agriculture and the arts (and have fun!).

### **July Events**

- Summer Session is Ongoing
- Campuses Closed on Fridays – Ending July 31
- Upward Bound Program Ends / Closing Ceremony – July 23 at 6:30 p.m. (Theater)
- Camp Broadway Presents: *Peter Pan Jr.* – July 31 and August 1 at 7 p.m., August 2 at 2 p.m. (Theater)
- Next Monthly COS Board of Trustees Meeting – August 4
- Summer Session Ends – August 6
- Staff Orientation – August 13
- Fall Semester Begins – August 17

### **Foundation**

**Foundation Vitality Workshop** – On June 26, the COS Foundation Board of Directors held a "Pre-Retreat" Planning meeting to create and discuss development of COS Foundation Vitality and a Business Plan. During the morning workshop, the Board discussed how the Foundation is connected to the College and what is vital to a successful foundation and college. The Foundation Board plans to hold a full-day retreat in the fall that will be focused towards strengthening the Foundation while building a business plan for the future.

**Swing into Action, COS Golf Tournament is July 11** – The COS Foundation and Athletic Department will host the "Swing into Action" Golf Tournament on Saturday, July 11, at the Lake Shastina Golf Resort. Approximately 23 teams of 4 are already signed up (our limit is 36 teams). Cost to participate is \$75 per player or \$300 for a team of 4. Funds raised will support the purchase of new uniforms for Men's and Women's Soccer. Contact Dawnie if you would like to play in the tournament.

**COS Extension Program:** Fifty kids, ages 8 to 16, are enrolled in this summer's Camp Broadway at COS. Camp Broadway began July 6 and is ending August 3. Camp Broadway meets Monday thru Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. During camp, the kids have the wonderful opportunity to work on their singing, dancing, and acting skills. The four-week camp ends with a fantastic public performance. This summer's production will be *Peter Pan Jr.* Emmy award-winning Broadway performer, Wendy James, is the Camp Director. James most recently was the director of the recent smash COS hit musical, *Rent*, as well as the spring 2014 production of *The Producers*. At the end of Camp Broadway, three public performances will be held for the community, July 31 at 7 p.m., August 1 at 7 p.m., and August 2 at 2 p.m. in the COS Theater. Save the Date!! You don't want to miss this show!

**Scholarship Dinner** – Save the Date... The 2015 Scholarship Fundraising Dinner will be held Saturday, September 19, at the Weed Sons' of Italy Memorial Hall. More information about this event will be provided as we get closer to the event. Tickets will go on sale beginning August 1 - \$25 per person.

**Come Join Our Team!** –Angel Fisher, Manager for the Shops, is looking for new volunteers to join the Eagle's Nest team (volunteers must be at least 17 years of age). Volunteers work three to four 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.

## **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Closing out the 2014/2015 school year reveals that things are improving. Final enrollment numbers show that on ground enrollment grew by eight percent last year. This is a significant turnaround. This combined with enhanced scheduling efficiencies that led to 50 percent fewer class cancellations, an increase in the average class size to near 20, and the institution reaching its' enrollment maximum cap of a little over 2600 full-time equivalent students (FTES) reveal an institution that is rebounding. Summer 2015 enrollment is up by a similar or larger amount; however, fall 2015 enrollment compared to this point in time a year ago is down by about 60 students.

This year has seen an unprecedented number of new student success initiatives coming from the Chancellor's Office. This includes a new level of support for student success and a tremendous increase in resources flowing into that critical mission element. Associate Dean Val Roberts provides a detailed description in her report that follows.

### **Counseling and Student Support Programs Area**

#### **SOAR (Siskiyou Orientation, Assessment, and Registration)**

##### ***Local High School SOARs:***

Dialog started back in March with the local county high schools to begin establishing dates and times to deliver SOAR orientations at the local high school locations in preparation for summer and fall semesters. We sent out fliers and registration information via email and snail mail. By mid-march we had most of our dates set for April to visit the local high schools who expressed an interest in having a team of advisors visit their campus. In total, we were able to advise 67 students for full-time enrollment for fall 2015.

Our outreach and coordinating did not stop there. A flier was developed and sent out to all the local high schools in order to catch any students that missed us while we were visiting their high school. The flier provided the step by step process of what the student(s) needed to do if they wanted to attend this coming year.

High School	Expected # HS Grads in Spring 2015	# of SOAR Attendees to Start COS Fall 2015
DHS	13	7
HCHS	9	0
MSHS	57	6
WHS	34	11
YHS	134	32
Golden Eagle	23	4
BVHS	17	1
THS	31	0
EHS	37	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>67</b>

We are currently working on an Argos report to pull high school information from student accounts that have registered for fall 2015. This will give us a clear number of total Siskiyou County graduating seniors that we will be enrolling for fall 2015. As of June 3, 2015, the local high schools are figuring 355 total Siskiyou County high school graduates. This is down from the initial number estimated in fall - 385 graduating seniors.

*On Campus and online SOARs:*

Between the end of spring semester and the beginning of August, 20 SOAR sessions have been or will be offered for students who will be new for fall 2015. This includes both the Yreka and Weed campuses, and five Saturday sessions.

We also have students from out of the area completing our online SOAR and then calling in for a phone advising appointment. Regardless of how they are completing their orientation, we have been seeing a steady stream of students who will be new for fall.

EOPS Program Highlights from Spring 2015:

- EOPS had 210 participants in the spring 2015 semester.
- 69 percent of students were retained from fall 2014 to spring 2015.
- 73 percent were in good academic standing at the end of spring semester.
- 91 percent met with a counselor at least once, and 73 percent met with a counselor at least twice during spring semester.
- 96 percent met with an EOPS staff member (counselor or coordinator) during spring semester.
- 94 percent of the students were eligible for, and used, a \$400 book voucher.

EOPS and SSS Programs

One hundred percent of students responding to the end-of-semester check in for EOPS and SSS programs responded that the programs helped contribute to their academic success.

EOPS and SSS are both accepting applications for fall semester. Fall orientations for these programs are scheduled and the information is posted.

### Foster Youth Program

COS now has an official program (and coordinator) for Foster Youth students attending COS. A portion of Shannon Eller's time is now designated to Foster Youth, and she recently met with partners in Siskiyou County who share the responsibility to support and guide these students. We will be sending applications for the program to all students who self-report Foster Youth or Ward of the Court or Orphan status on the COS application. We will verify their eligibility for the program. Should verified students choose not to participate in the program; Shannon will still be available to help them as needed. Program support will include assistance with completion of FAFSA and other forms, books and transportation expenses, employment placement assistance, referrals to state and federal resources available specific to this population, advising and counseling, and a case management approach to their success and goal achievement.

### Upward Bound

The UB students started summer program a few weeks ago, and departed for their college tour last Friday. The tour includes educational and cultural stops around the Southern California/Los Angeles area. See last month's Campus Connection for more details on the College Tour portion of the UB program.

### Student Success and Support Program (SSSP) Plan

We received notice from the Chancellor's Office that the SSSP Plan was approved, and comments were positive! We are anticipating an increase in funding for the upcoming fiscal year.

A decent chunk of this year's funding was spent to upgrade and improve Degree Works (the student education planning system). The new version will roll out for student use in time for the fall semester. Overview of the system will be covered in SOAR sessions prior to fall Semester and in several Student Success Seminars over the course of the fall semester.

### DSPS

In the 2014-15 year, DSPS funds have provided the opportunity for various staff and faculty to attend professional development trainings that will assist them in working with all students, with and without disabilities.

We are happy to have Denise Broomfield as part of our team in the Administrative Specialist role.

### Veterans

We had a representative from the Concrete Preservation Institute (CPI) contact us at the end of spring semester about an opportunity for our Veterans.

"While CPI teams are usually inclusive of military veterans, university students, and local high school graduates, this special session is dedicated to the growth of the CPI program's focus on providing veterans with a once-in-a-lifetime training, education, and personal growth experience. The Institute's mission, the NPS Marin Headlands housing location, and the Alcatraz worksite provide an environment well suited to veteran acclimatization to civilian life and the concrete construction industry workforce. Their 12 weeks working full-time on the Island, where they will learn from CPI staff, academic experts, the NPS, and leading industry experts, will result in the preservation of an important historic landmark structure while providing the foundation, skills, and connections for alumni to move directly into jobs in the skilled construction trades or application to college programs, such as Concrete Industry Management, leading to management careers in concrete and construction-related fields." Denis Hagarty contacted CPI, and then contacted one of our veteran students to facilitate and encourage him to apply for the opportunity. Not only is it a great opportunity for experience, but CPI pays for housing, meals, and a stipend for the students. Our student was hired and is currently on Alcatraz working in the program and loving it. And more importantly, CPI has called Denis back and they want more students like the student we sent them! Our student is representing COS well.

### Student Equity Plan

We received notice from the Chancellor's Office that revisions to our Student Equity Plan are needed. Comments were helpful. Most other colleges are required to make revisions to their plans as well. Plan revisions are due in November. A revised template will be used for the next submission of this plan. We are anticipating an increase in funding for the upcoming fiscal year for efforts outlined in this plan as well.

### Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT)

We were requested to make very minor revisions to the narrative and degree total sections of our most recently submitted ADTs in History, Geology, Sociology, and Music. Feedback on our submissions was positive for all. We are now waiting on notification of approval.

Preparation work for a new batch of ADTs is underway with a timeline of August for submission. These degrees will be in areas with all required coursework regularly offered and available faculty in the area.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

After such a busy month last month, June has been a time of take a deep breath and catch up. I did attend our annual JPA meeting for NCCCSIA where we receive our new workers' comp and property and liability rates for 2015/2016, had some excellent training on Title IX issues, and we received great information on what our insurance coverage includes and excludes with regards to property and liability.

The State budget has now been signed. It is a great budget for Community Colleges. We are gathering information to look at ways we will adjust the tentative budget to final. I have asked departments and the budget committee to compile lists of proposed projects for the new one-time funding the College will receive in 2015/2016 (possibly \$1.3M). We will also be looking at the list from a couple of years ago to see what may still be on that list that has not yet been accomplished. In addition to the one-time funding we will receive, there is an increase in on-going funds. Some of that funding the Chancellor's Office is still trying to determine how it will be allocated out to the Districts. We anxiously await our Advance Apportionment Report to confirm what we are anticipating for our District. I will be attending the State Budget Workshop on July 28 and am hopeful that by that time those considerations will be determined.

The Business Office will be working on closing the books for the fiscal year and preparing the 2015/2016 year for use. Please be getting all 2015 invoices into them for payment this month. I will be working with them to get the 2015/2016 budget into Banner as soon as possible so folks will know what their budgets look like and be able to begin using the system. We are going to be making a change to move our student payroll to the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. More information will be forth coming on that. We are targeting the August 10 payroll for that to begin for the 2015/2016 fiscal year.

The NOLS groups are still on campus and staying in the lodges. We have also had our Upward Bound students in and out of the Lodges in June and will be here for another week or so in July.

Technology and Maintenance are consistently busy getting the summer projects completed by the time the students return in August.

## **ACADEMIC SENATE**

**Summer School** is well underway! Our fabulous Faculty are on campus and online with about 70 classes plus ISAs.

**The Yreka Campus** Faculty and Staff gathered to say goodbye to Steve Reynolds as the campus director. Having a director on-site made a huge difference to their functioning productively. One faculty member counted the 7(!) different directors the campus has had during her tenure.

**The Curriculum Committee** met on June 16.

**Accreditation self-study** work is continuing over the summer.

**Summer hiring committees** are meeting and interviewing. Several faculty members attended the forums for the VPSS candidates.

Faculty, staff, and administrators successfully collaborated on our **Fourth of July Parade Float!**

**Flex activities** have been planned for the week prior to classes.

***No other reports were submitted this month.***