

## COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOU

### *THE CAMPUS CONNECTION*

*May 3, 2016*

#### *PRESIDENT'S OFFICE*

We received the Final Report of the Accreditation Visiting Team. Not much changed from the "draft" that we received from the Team. They did incorporate some of our "corrections of facts." We have eight recommendations to meet the standards and six recommendations for improvement. We are continuing to address all of these recommendations and intend to provide an update to the Accreditation Commission by May 5 for their consideration when they meet in June to decide our Accreditation Status. We expect to make swift progress on all of the recommendations that we received, since we were already working to make improvements in all of the areas listed.

Dialogue continues on the Governor's FY 2016-2017 State Budget Proposal and we are all looking forward to the Governor's May Revision of next year's budget, which is expected to be released by Friday May 13.

State Revenues for the month of April may be down compared to projections and this would probably put us about even with state revenues for the year. Last year, State revenues through April were significantly higher than projections and this allowed the Governor to increase his Budget proposal above what he had projected in January. We continue to be optimistic that the State will continue to receive strong revenues this year and that the State will be able to produce a budget very similar to the Governor's January proposal.

Dr. Brice Harris has retired from his position of Chancellor of the California Community Colleges. The top three financial people at the State Chancellor's Office have also left. We are paying close attention to the happenings at the State Chancellor's Office. Nancy Funk attended a Northern California Chief Business Officials (CBO's) meeting at the State Chancellor's Office this past Friday; so we will look forward to hearing the latest budget information and other information at the Board meeting.

The Governor has approved an increase to the Minimum Wage in California of 50 cents per hour effective January 1, 2017, and annual increases for the next several years until the minimum wage in California will be \$15 per hour.

The State Legislature continues to work on legislation and we continue to monitor activity relative to numerous Bills that would impact California Community Colleges. Several Bills are seeking to increase Cal Grant Funding for Community College Students. Surveys continue to indicate strong support for extending Prop 30 Taxes as well as the State-Wide Facility Bond initiatives.

We continue to be busy with employee searches this semester. We have finally succeeded in hiring a Director of Nursing and we just interviewed two full-time Nursing Faculty position finalists. We have also recently filled several classified positions.

Dr. Todd Scott and I held a telephone conference call to schedule the Institutional Effectiveness visit to COS that will be occurring during the fall semester. This should lead to COS receiving \$150,000 for activities that will strengthen our Institutional Effectiveness and Student Learning Outcome efforts.

REG 365 - year round registration - has started at COS! Our students are currently registering for the Summer 2016, Fall 2016, and Spring 2017 Semesters! This is a significant change and improvement to our operations.

COS is one of about a third of the 113 California Community Colleges that are experiencing enrollment growth this year. We submitted our Annual 320 Enrollment Report to the State Chancellor's Office last week. We reported that our expected FTES for this year will be 2,894 this year rather than the 2,590 that we have included in this years' (FY 2015-2016) COS Budget. We are expecting that the increase of about 300 FTES will be funded (that we will be paid for this increase) from growth funds that other California Community Colleges do not "earn" and return to the State Chancellor's Office this year. We do not know for sure that all of this enrollment increase will be "funded" yet. We are expecting to learn more about this possibility in June; however, we will probably not have the final answer until October.

## FOUNDATION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

### Foundation

#### **Siskiyou Promise**

Please help the College and the Foundation to spread the word in the community about the Siskiyou Promise opportunity for Siskiyou County high school students who are graduating next month (June 2016). Information on how to apply can be found online at

[www.siskiyous.edu/promise/](http://www.siskiyous.edu/promise/). It's very important to

encourage the high school seniors to also apply for the

FAFSA (financial aid) to be an eligible candidate to receive the Siskiyou Promise. Many parents I've talked with have said to me that their child did not submit a FAFSA as they "probably" wouldn't qualify for financial aid.

That's when I remind them it's not about receiving federal financial aid, but to qualify for the Siskiyou Promise; it is one of the steps that need be taken in order to determine award funding.



*Supporting Siskiyou County Students - Investing in the Future!*

#### **Broadcast Advertising (REG365)**

The College is back "on the air" May 2 thru June 6. I have been in contact and working with advertising agents from Southern Oregon's KDRV Channel 12 (ABC), KTVL Channel 10 (CBS), and KOB Channel 5 (NBC) television stations to produce a promotional commercial for COS and our new REG365 opportunity (registration for summer, fall, and spring classes). In addition to the TV advertising, we will also have a digital marketing campaign running during the same time period.



A new commercial will be developed to run July 1 – August 15 promoting the fall semester as well as an opportunity to register for spring semester classes. We have some great footage shot on Campus in April and I'm really excited about our new REG365 process! A new REG365 website is under construction but is expected to be ready soon.

#### **Summer Camps**

Holy Cow!! It's almost summer time! This summer, we are offering youth summer camp options:

[www.siskiyous.edu/camps/](http://www.siskiyous.edu/camps/) - forms and more information online.

- Back after a taking a break, the **Summer Show Choir and Jazz Camp**. COS Music Instructor, Ron Slabbinck, will be the Camp Coordinator/Director. This camp will be held at the Weed Campus in the Theater, June 19 thru 25. Students can register for camp as a Resident or Day Camper.
- Ed Kephart, new Head Soccer Coach, is holding a **Soccer Camp** at the Weed Campus, June 20 thru 24. The camp will run from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. during the week. This is the first time COS has offered a Soccer Camp.
- Back this summer is the 4<sup>th</sup> annual **Camp Broadway!** This year's Camp Broadway production will be Willy Wonka Jr.; Wendy James is the Director. Camp Broadway will be held July 11 thru August 7. The camp will meet Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the COS Theater.

### **Foundation Scholarships**

The COS Foundation Scholarship Readers Task Force met in April to select recipients for 2016-2017 awards. Representatives on the task force included: 1 - COS Foundation member, 2 - COS staff members, 2 - Community members, 1 - retired COS faculty member. The task force read 40 applications and were very impressed with the quality of the application packets received from Siskiyou County graduating high school seniors and current COS students who plan to attend COS in fall 2016/spring 2017. Now that the recipient selection is completed, high school principals and counselors will be notified, as will the COS continuing students. Scholarship awards for high school seniors are presented at their senior awards night or graduation and COS continuing students are notified by mail or in person. The total scholarship award amount for 2016-2017 is \$30,150. Of the 40 applications received, 33 applicants will be receiving scholarships next year.

### **Save the Date!!**

The COS Foundation and Athletic Department will host the “*Swing into Action*” Golf Tournament on Saturday, July 9, at the Lake Shastina Golf Resort. Tournament registration is open. Cost to participate is \$75 per player or \$300 for a team of four. 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 or download the registration form:

<http://www.siskiyous.edu/ja/foundation/events.htm>.

### **Public Relations**

**May Events:** Listed are events scheduled to be held during the month of May. Be sure to update your calendars.

- **May 1 – 7:**
  - May 2: Open Registration (REG365) for Summer/Fall/Spring Begins
  - May 3: COS Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting – Closed Session at 5 p.m., Open Public Session at 6 p.m., COS Board Room
  - May 5: Opening Reception for COS Photo Alliance Show “Agitate” – 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at COS Art Gallery in LRC. The show will be on display through May 19
  - May 7: Jazz Band & Vocal Jazz Ensemble Concert, 7 p.m. at COS Theater
- **May 8 – 14:**
  - May 12: Kindergarten Day at COS, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Weed Campus
- **May 15 – 21:**
  - May 15: COS Choral Concert – Vaughn Williams Mass in G Minor featuring Organist Sally Johansson as well as featured soloists, 3 p.m. at COS Theater
  - May 16: COS Choral Concert – Vaughn Williams Mass in G Minor featuring Organist Sally Johansson as well as featured soloists, 7 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Yreka
  - May 17: COS Service Club Film Showing “Home” at 6 p.m. in COS Theater
  - May 18: End of Year BBQ at Scotty & Sharie’s House, 5 p.m. in Lake Shastina (details to be emailed soon)
  - May 19: Graduation Practice, 3 p.m. at COS Gym
  - May 20: COS Registered Nurse Graduation/Pinning Ceremony, 5 p.m. at COS Theater
  - May 20: COS Graduation, 8 p.m. at COS Gym (reception to follow in Student Center)
  - May 21: COS Fire Academy Graduation, 1 p.m. at COS Theater
- **May 22 – 28:**
  - May 23 – 26: Finals Week
  - May 24: Retirement Reception for COS Employees, 3:30 p.m. at Science Building Foyer
  - May 26: COS Vocational Nurse (LVN) Graduation/Pinning Ceremony, 5 p.m. at COS Theater
  - May 26: Spring Semester Ends
  - May 26: COS Chamber Music Ensemble, 5 p.m. at Seventh Day Adventist Church in Mt. Shasta

- **May 29 – June 4:**
  - May 29 – June 11: Santa Clara Vanguard Drum Corps Spring Training at COS
  - May 30: Campus Closed for Memorial Day Holiday
  - June 3: Classified Employee Day (tentative)

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

We are still not hearing much about the state budget so far except our huge .47 percent COLA is now **zero**. There are still ongoing discussions regarding trying to get some additional base funding, especially in lieu of not having any COLA. The state revenues are remaining stable but they are not seeing the growth they had hoped for, which will effect 2016-2017 budgets. The May Revise is due on May 15 (a weekend) so it is expect by May 13 or a few days earlier.

On Wednesday, April 20, at 11:30 a.m., employees and students participated in a lockdown drill on both Weed and Yreka Campuses. The event planning began in December with the Safety Committee and culminated in an organization-wide event that included assistance from our City police officers and Administration of Justice instructors and student volunteers.

Objectives of the drill were to:

- 1) Test our emergency broadcast systems (telephone intercoms, Everbridge text notifications, and e-mail);
- 2) Test the electronic lockdown process on equipped buildings, and;
- 3) Foster individual thought processes that should occur during a lockdown situation.

At noon, Campus debriefings were held. Numerous employees provided feedback, and the law enforcement personnel gave invaluable information on their observations. They also provided some recommendations to consider that we will be sharing with the Campus. Safety Committee met (with videoconference to Yreka) to discuss the drill and the information we received during the debriefing. There will be some suggestions and recommendations that will be shared with Executive Cabinet.

We are in the process of creating job descriptions for the food service workers and will be opening those positions soon in preparation for bringing our food services in house. Lots to do there and we are working fast and furiously on it.

### **Maintenance**

Maintenance is going gang busters over the spring and summer with so much on the list to do before school starts up again in the fall. There will be roofing, remodeling, grounds, and parking lot work being done over the next few months.

### **Technology**

Technology has a lot on their plate as well. Here are a few of the highlights from Eric.

#### **Ellucian Action Plan Update**

We have begun some early work for the Ellucian Action Plan in IT by starting the key process of moving to the cloud via Ellucian's Application Hosting Services (AHS) for our Banner systems and have been working with our partners on the Ellucian AHS migration team to identify the details around our current environment to plan for. Our assigned project manager will be on-site this week, May 3 thru 5, meeting with IT Director, Eric Houck, to begin refining priorities, establishing some early timelines, and exploring potential obstacles and opportunities.

#### **Ransomware Incident**

COS has experienced its first exposure to the latest in malicious virus software that is spreading rapidly and in greater frequency across the internet landscape these days. Once installed, the ransomware viruses work by encrypting a user's files and then locking them out from using their systems or files until a ransom is paid via

untraceable online currency using Bitcoin. Thankfully, the impact this time was minimal and limited to an individual user and machine that had adequate backups in place and did not spread to the COS network of devices. The IT Department is taking precautionary steps to prevent similar entry methods this particular virus used and is reviewing and expanding our backup policies and processes to recover from future malicious encryption. Users who suspect they may have been exposed to viruses of this kind (or other types) are encouraged to contact IT staff as soon as they can to help minimize impact and to remind them to not open any email attachments asking permission to run or install something or click on links embedded within emails that have an unfamiliar or unknown origin.

### **Microsoft Office 2016**

At the request of faculty and approved/forwarded on by Instruction Council, the Technology Council is exploring the possibility of migrating to the latest version of the Microsoft Office Suite of software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, etc.) for use by students in our on-campus computer labs starting this Fall 2016 semester. The IT Department is researching the proposed version of the software to ensure that such a migration is appropriate and manageable in terms of support readiness for both students and technology, with an intent to ultimately roll out installation to all faculty and staff also. Findings and a recommendation from IT for this proposal will be delivered back to Technology Council for consideration during its next scheduled meeting on May 24, 2016.

### **Eagle's Nest**

The Eagle's Nest has gained some new volunteers and we are excited about having the additional help. Sales are continuing to build as well; so come on by and see what might be there for you!

## **INSTRUCTION**

We have been working hard on developing a year-long schedule. I met with all of the faculty and put together the schedule for summer, fall, and spring. With our new REG365 in place, students can now enroll in all three semesters at the same time. We also moved to a block schedule in which most classes now take place on Monday and Wednesday or Tuesday and Thursday. We will have some Friday only classes as well. Thanks to Meghan Witherell for her hard work in making sure REG365 is operational. Thanks to Elaine Eldridge for putting the time in to produce this schedule.

Professor Jim Gilmore is actively working on the 2016-2017 Catalog which should be ready for print any day. Dawnie Slabaugh and Megan Witherell have been working on the [Siskiyou Promise](#) as well, to ensure students have all the information they need to take advantage of this opportunity. I made Promise presentations at the Weed Rotary and the Siskiyou County Department of Education County-Wide Principals meeting.

I submitted a basic skills supplement grant with the help of Karen Tedsen, Blaine Smith, and Carly Zeller. The intent of the grant was to support our Math and English acceleration projects. Unfortunately, we were not funded, but according to the Chancellor's Office there may be more funding dedicated to this effort that we may be eligible for.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**

### **Vice President of Student Services**

Melissa attended two conferences this month. The first was American Association of Community Colleges conference in Chicago, Illinois. Some of the topics covered in the Student Services sessions addressed collaborating with county agencies to increase services for under-resourced students; the increased use of text and other messaging systems to communicate with students, and Title IX updates. The following week was the Aligning Partnerships for Student Success Conference in Sacramento, California. This conference included Academic Senate Leaders, Chief Instructional Officers, Chief Student Services Officers, and members from the

Community College Association for Occupational Education. The focus on this conference was career pathways and collaboration among all of the constituents for student success.

Melissa and Val attended Supervisor Training: Exercising Your Management Rights hosted by Human Resources and learned about union contracts.

The Student Advisory Board met on April 14. Students discussed their experiences with College technology and services and plans for next academic year were made.

### **Admissions and Records**

Priority Registration for special programs, such as EOPS and Veterans, started Monday, April 28, and registration for all students, also known as “Open Registration,” will start May 2. As of Friday, April 29, there were 44 students who registered for summer, 76 for fall, and 32 for spring, 2017.

Letters went sent to K12 “Special Admits” students who are currently registered to explain our “Reg365” (yearlong registration) and promote our summer opportunities, such as summer general education courses, community education classes (i.e. the Drone Academy) and summer camps. These camps include the Soccer Camp, Camp Broadway, and Summer Show Choir & Jazz Camp.

### **Counseling and Support Services**

In support of changing curriculum, we’ve been working the Multiple Measures Data Sheet and the associated override process. We’ve also been meeting with students and disseminated a list of courses for which they can register for all three terms.

Josh and Val attended a Degree Works (Student Education Plan software) forum in Denver, Colorado. It was exciting to see all of the opportunities that are available through Degree Works that can benefit students and staff, and we look forward to improving our system.

DSPS hosted DSPS Advisory Committee meeting on April 27. It was well attended and included representatives from the Department of Rehabilitation and local High School Resource Center Counselors, as well as many of our College of the Siskiyous staff and faculty. We plan on hosting another meeting in the fall and sincerely appreciate their feedback and ideas.

### **Financial Aid**



On April 20, the Financial Aid Office held an outreach event, Wacky Wednesday!! Karen Chandler and Lauren Bellone held the event from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and assisted a total of 13 students. They provided on the hour training to assist current and potential students to sign up with CCCapply, FAFSA renewals, FSA user names and passwords, and Navigator navigation! Each guest received an ICanAffordCollege backpack that they used to fill up with whatever school supplies they needed.

We will post at least one Financial Aid event on the ICanAffordCollege.com website which will take place between March 3 and May 15. This will help us to qualify for the release of a \$5,000 allocation outreach materials.

This was the first year we held this event in a classroom setting with computers. Even though, we didn’t quite get the crowds we were hoping for, it was still a success as each person went away with their questions and concerns answered and ready to begin the new academic year!

We are now processing financial aid files for 2016-2017. At this time, we have awarded 818 BOGW's (Board of Governors Fee Waiver) and packaged Pell for 122 students. We will be providing the Direct Loan application at the end of April instead of July as in prior years. This will allow our non-residents and Lodge students to have an accurate financial aid award amount when considering the cost of tuition and lodging to attend COS.

*In closing...*

FYI: Events for May:

- May 12 – Kindergarten Day by College Options
- May 12 – ASB College of the Siskiyous Day
- May 20 – Graduation!!



## HUMAN RESOURCES

### Classified Staff Day

Classified Staff Day will be held on Friday, June 3, 2016. The day will include workshops (Growth vs. Fixed Mindset and The Fruit Salad of Management), service awards, lunch, and Campus beautification.

We will be recognizing the following CSEA/ASM employees for their years of service:

- 30 Years: Sheila Grimes & Denise Mannion
- 25 Years: Jan Keen
- 10 Years: Elaine Eldridge
- 5 Years: Josh Collins & Jo Ann Kiefer

### Retirement Reception

On Tuesday, May 24, 2016, at 3:30 p.m. we will be honoring the following retirees at a reception:

- Phil Alvarado, Assistant Director – Maintenance, Operations & Transportation;
- Ann Delgado, Custodian
- Cindy Smith, Administrative Specialist – Student Success Programs
- Sharon Swingle, Instructional Support Specialist – Theater & Art
- Dennis Weathers, Dean - Liberal Arts & Sciences

Please join us to celebrate.

### AFLAC Representative

An AFLAC representative will be here May 9 thru 13 to meet with benefitted employees. AFLAC provides employees with a Section 125 Plan which is a tax deferred option for paying for employee cost share for health and welfare benefits and dependent day care. In addition, AFLAC offers other supplemental insurance policies that benefitted employees may purchase on a voluntary basis.

### Recruitments

As of April 29, 2016, we have opened 34 positions this fiscal year. The number of positions opened is more than double the number of positions opened in 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 (which was 15 each of those years). The number of positions opened in 2014-2015 was 26. I estimate that the number 2015-2016 recruitments will increase by at least 40 percent over 2014-2015 level.

The breakdown of recruitments from 7/1/15-4/29/16 and their status for 2015-16 is as follows:

Employee Type	Opened	Filled	Canceled or Extended	In Progress
Administrator	2	1	0	1
ASM	10	6	0	4
CSEA	12	8	0	4
Faculty	11	4	2	5
TOTAL	34	18	2	14

A special thank you to Brynn Fogerty for coordinating the applicant and committee paperwork, committees' logistics, scheduling of interviews, and communication with applicants. It has been a balancing act to keep the large number of searches going while we continue to open additional positions.

Also, a shout out to all employees who have served on search committees; and, of course, our faithful Equal Employment Officers that serve on each of the committees. Without the commitment of all, we couldn't have kept the hiring processing going. The time and effort you have contributed are much appreciated.

## **ACADEMIC SENATE**

### **Conferences:**

- New full-time faculty members Shirley Louie, Dr. Andrea Craddock, and Wenli Chang, along with Dr. Todd Scott and Neil Carpentier-Alting attended an assessment workshop and brought back lots of great ideas. They plan to host a flex day in the fall to share this information.
- Dr. Mike Tischler and I attended the 2016 Western Regional Honors Conference and will be meeting with Dr. Scott to work on our own Honors Program here at COS. Work is already underway to collaborate with SOU's honor program.
- Dr. Steve Reynolds and I attended the Academic Senate Spring Plenary. This was a combined conference and was also attended by Melissa Green, Dr. Scott, Dr. Taylor, Kim Greene, and Blaine Smith. This was a terrific opportunity for information sharing and collaboration. We also learned about AB 2017, which would direct money to colleges to respond to mental health issues. That bill cites the following statistics:
  - Students, faculty, health practitioners, and college administrators are reporting increased rates of mental health needs by students attending public colleges in California.
  - One in four students has a diagnosable mental illness and 40 percent of students do not seek mental health assistance when they need it.
  - Eight out of 10 people who experience psychosis have their first episode between 15 and 30 years of age.
  - The demand for mental health services by public college students far outpaces the ability of colleges to provide them. California public college campuses and higher education systems do not meet national staffing standards for psychiatric services and other mental health professionals.
  - The lack of services directly impacts college students' success and academic performance as well as their ability to develop socially as productive members of society.
  - The effects of untreated mental health needs are long lasting and can include college students dropping out of school, experiencing homelessness, and dying of suicide.
  - One in 10 college students has considered suicide and suicide is the second leading cause of death among college students, claiming more than 1,100 lives every year nationally.
  - Research shows that for each dollar invested in student prevention and early intervention mental health services, California will see a return of at least six dollars (\$6) and up to eleven dollars (\$11) as a result of more students graduating.

### **Academic Senate**

The Academic Senate is currently holding elections with results to be announced tomorrow. We unanimously support Dennis Freeman and Bruce Friend to be this year's Emeritus Faculty. The Curriculum Committee elected Mike Graves as the Chair for the next two years and the Program Review Committee elected Steve Reynolds as their Chair for the next two years.

### **Poetry:**

Faculty poets Maria Elena Fernandez, Jacalyn McNamara, Charlie Unkefer, Samantha Worthington, and Jed Wyman performed at the Poetry Aloud event hosted by the Library on April 28.



**Presentations**

Bill Hirt gave presentations on the geology of Siskiyou County to two of Rebekah Sluss' environmental science classes at Weed High School on April 12. In a new joint venture with the California Conservation Corps and John Muir Charter School, and with LOTS of help from Dr. Scott, Melissa Greene, Blaine Smith, and JoAnn Kiefer (and others) I taught a mini course to a group from the CCC.

**Sports**

Softball finished their season at 10-5; Baseball finished their season with a 9-16 record. The Men's and Women's Track and Field teams will compete in the Golden Valley Conference Championships at Yuba College this Saturday, April 30.

**Faculty Negotiations**

Faculty Negotiations continue to progress.

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