

# COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOU

## *THE CAMPUS CONNECTION*

*February 2, 2016*

### *PRESIDENT'S OFFICE*

January has been a very busy time for us. We had Planning Day on the 14<sup>th</sup> with updates on the recently released FY 2016-2017 State Budget from the Governor, Facilities Master Plan, Institutional Master Plan, our Ellucian Project (to update our Banner Operating System), along with training for all employees serving on Employee Screening Committees and training for all full-time faculty and other employees on serving as an EEO on our Employee Screening Committees.

During my comments at Planning Day, I also shared with everyone that our goal as an institution this year is to grow another four percent, so that we can take advantage of growth funds that are available to the Community College System this year. This much growth may not be available in future years, so we need to do everything possible to grow and take advantage of this opportunity. I have been hearing that classes are "fuller." So, hopefully, we are well on our way to accomplishing our goal of growing this year.

Spring is the "normal" time period for employee searches and we expect to have additional searches carried out in the next couple of months. Searches for a Director of Nursing and two more full-time Nursing Faculty should begin soon. Also, at this time, we are expecting to have over ten more employee searches this semester. I will not be surprised if we end up hiring close to 30 new employees this year.

On Saturday, January 16, ten people from COS attended a fundraiser in Montague for the Habitat for Humanity efforts to build four houses in Weed. Trustee Bob Rice, Trustee Barry Ohlund with his wife Annie, Sharie and I, Bob Taylor and his friend Ruth Ann, Melissa Green and spouse Nelson, and Greg South attended, and we all had a great time.

I was the guest speaker at the Yreka Chamber of Commerce meeting last Wednesday. I also attended the Resilience Weed Leaders meeting last Friday morning.

COS Board of Trustee President, Greg Hanna, and I attended the Annual Effective Trusteeship Workshop last weekend in Sacramento. I then attended the Community College League of California annual Legislative Conference this past Sunday and Monday.

This Friday, I will be leading an Institutional Effectiveness Team of six people from other colleges, to Lassen College. This will be the first of three visits to Lassen College. Dr. Todd Scott and I are working on submitting a request for an Institutional Effectiveness Team to visit COS. This is an opportunity to receive some insight on some of our opportunities for improvement from some of our peers and to receive up to \$150,000 from the State Chancellors Office to implement some improvements here at COS.

We continue to monitor developments relative to Accreditation. The ACCJC (our Accreditation Commission) has been notified by the Federal Department of Education that they are still out of compliance in two standards:

1. Acceptance of the agency by its stakeholders, and
2. Having adequate procedures and policies to ensure that "academics" are represented throughout the accreditation process. The ACCJC has 12 months to come into compliance with these standards. The first standard relates to a lot of the dissatisfaction that we have been hearing over the last couple of years with the ACCJC. Concerns relative to the second standard, I am sure, is why half of the members on the COS Visiting Accreditation Team are faculty. This is a good enhancement. We have been advocating for more faculty to be on Accreditation Teams for many years.

California Community Colleges (CCC) Chancellor, Dr. Brice Harris, will be making a recommendation to the Board of Governors relative to Accreditation for the CCC's in March. Dr. Harris has previously shared that if we decide to change Accreditation Commissions this would be a long and involved process and would take many years. We look forward to hearing Dr. Harris's recommendation.

## **FOUNDATION/PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Well...we did it!!! We made it through the first month of another brand-new semester at COS!! January was certainly a busy month. We started out the month with our first Planning Day meeting of the semester. Lots of information about the Campus (budget update, facilities planning, etc.); what you need to know when serving on a hiring committee (then more training for those who serve as EEO's); and, a great active shooter training.

There were also lots of meetings: Banner Training, College Council, Foundation meetings, Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee meetings, etc. Then we had one day (Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday) to regroup, reenergize, rest, and relax, before hitting the ground running for the first day of the 2016 Spring Semester!! Way to go everyone!!! We made it!!

### **Public Relations**

#### **COS Sports Update**

If you have not been to a home basketball game yet, please try to come out this month and support our Men's and Women's Basketball Teams. Both Teams are fun to watch and the games keep getting more and more exciting. There are only two home games left – Thursday, February 11, and Wednesday, February 17. Game times are at 5:30 p.m. (men) and 7:30 p.m. (women). There may even be a home playoff game for the ladies...

Baseball and Softball season just started this past week as well. Our Baseball Team opened their season at Porterville, losing in the first game and then splitting the double-header. Baseball will play at Taft College this Thursday, February 4, and Friday, February 5. Their first home game of the season is scheduled for February 13 (weather permitting).

The Softball Team opened the 2016 season against Santa Rosa, losing a very close game (9-8). The game was followed by a match against Hartnell College, also a loss (7-2). The Softball Team will be at Gavilan College for a double header this Saturday, February 6. The Lady Eagles Softball Team won't have a home game until March 18 against Shasta College.

It's also Track & Field season!! The COS Track & Field Team will open competition this Friday, February 5, and Saturday, February 6, at the Hartnell Invitational.

#### **COS Speakers Series Presentation**

How do gemologists identify the precious stones that people bring to them? What can they observe—without damaging a stone—to learn if it is natural or synthetic, if it has been treated to enhance its appearance, or if it is simply a “fake” made of glass? Danielle Signor, GIA Graduate Gemologist, and Dr. Bill Hirt, COS Geology Instructor, will address these and other questions as they describe and demonstrate a variety of the common techniques that gemologists use when the College of the Siskiyous Speaker Series hosts “*Gem Identification*,” a free public presentation on Thursday, February 18, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The presentation will be held at the COS Weed Campus in the Science Building, room 210. The presentation is open to the public and free of charge. The Speaker Series is presented by COS staff as a public service. To learn more visit <http://www.siskiyous.edu/speakerseries/index.htm> or call (530) 938-5373.

## **Foundation**

### **2016 Siskiyou County High School Graduates Eligible to Receive Siskiyou Promise Scholarship Award**

That's right!!! The COS Foundation is taking on a HUGE project!! Any 2016 Siskiyou County Office of Education high school graduate meeting Promise criteria who attends College of the Siskiyou during FY 2016-2017 will have their tuition and certain fees paid by the new Promise Award (fall/spring). There are many details still to be worked out. However, the Siskiyou Promise Scholarship is intended to be a "middle-dollar" scholarship used to cover tuition and some other fees not covered by federal or state grant sources. The scholarship will not replace federal or state grants or scholarships. The Promise Award is not designed to replace scholarship awards received from private sources. All Siskiyou County high school students must first apply for federal and state grants with individual scholarship awards varying according to the total cost of tuition and fees and the amount of federal and state grant awards identified prior to Siskiyou Promise Scholarship Award determination. Over the next several months and longer, the COS Foundation will be meeting with local service organizations, businesses, and more to promote the Promise Award and Fundraiser. Any and all support will be solicited and is very much appreciated.

### **2016/2017 Foundation Scholarship Applications Now Available**

Scholarship applications for FY 2016-2017 are now available for Siskiyou County high school seniors (graduating June 2016) and current COS students who plan to attend COS during the FY 2016-2017. Scholarships range from \$250 to \$3,000. Applications are due March 10. Students interested in applying for a scholarship may download an application from the College Foundation's website - [www.siskiyou.edu/ia/foundation/scholarships.htm](http://www.siskiyou.edu/ia/foundation/scholarships.htm).

## **February Events:**

Here's what's coming up in February:

- February 2: COS Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting, Closed Session at 5 p.m./Open Public Session at 6 p.m. COS Board Room
- February 11: Men's and Women's Basketball vs. College of the Redwoods – 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Gym
- February 12: Campuses Closed for Lincoln Day Holiday
- February 13: Baseball vs. Ohlone College – 1 p.m., Baseball Field
- February 15: Campuses Closed for Washington Day Holiday
- February 17: Men's and Women's Basketball vs. Feather River College – 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Gym
- February 18: Baseball vs. Mendocino College – 1 p.m., Baseball Field
- February 18: COS Speakers Series Presents *Gem Identification* – 7:30 p.m., Science Building, Room 210
- February 19: Baseball vs. Mendocino College – 11 a.m., Baseball Field (double-header)
- February 26: Baseball vs. Shasta College – 2 p.m., Baseball Field

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

January has started the year out well with lots going on and looking forward to a great 2016. We have finished the hiring process for our Director of Maintenance, Operations, and Transportation and our Custodial Supervisor. The Director will begin with us on February 29. Eric Rulofson is coming to us from S. Dakota with over 20 years' experience in California Community Colleges. Our new Custodial Supervisor will be Maria Ferrasci. She has been serving as our Interim Supervisor recently and we look forward to training her up to this next level as a permanent hire.

The State Budget workshop on January 20 did not reveal a lot more than we already knew. A couple of things that I learned were that some of the detail on implementation of the funding lives in the trailer bills. I also learned that the work on these trailer bills goes on even before the May revise. I always thought those came along after the final budget was approved in June. There was also a good discussion about how they might

consider allocating more funding in an unrestricted manner to enable the Districts to put the funding where they most need it.

We have scheduled budget development training for later this week allowing managers to begin work on the 2016-2017 budgets. The process takes several months of development, review, changes, more review then on to the Board for approval of the Tentative Budget by June's Board meeting.

Our Food Service bid opening resulted in no companies responding to the Request for Proposal. We have now gone to plan B and expanded the number of companies to be included. We will know more on that later this month.

### **Maintenance**

Maintenance is busy keeping up with the day to day needs. Most of the Student Center was painted and the balance of the walls will be done in the near future. With new employees starting, there have been lots of office moves and prep which is exciting.

### **Business Office**

The Business Office has completed year-end processes of W-2's, 1099's and 1098-T's. It is always a nice feeling when those tasks are completed each year. Kent will be working with us to begin the budget development process and we look forward to working with everyone as questions come up.

### **Technology**

Technology is working on the final stages of CCC Apply which they hope to go live on Wednesday of this week. We have received the action plan from Ellucian. It is a huge proposal and we will be going through it to determine what we can do and in what areas we will need their help. We are looking for grants and other resources to help fund this project as it will be a three-year project which we will need to commit to completing. It is so needed in every area of our operation.

### **Bookstore**

The Bookstore has just come through one of their busiest times with the semester beginning again. They are breathing a bit easier having completed their rush. Stop by and check out their clothing and other products showing our school pride.

## **INSTRUCTION**

Since there has been only 12 working days since the last report, the activities of the Office of Instruction is short. There has been much activity centered on the class waitlists and our processes for notifying students and making every class space available. I attended the San Francisco Police Academy Graduation on January 15 at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center with ADJ staff members, Jeremiah LaRue and Michelle Korkowski. This is always a great event with hundreds of individuals attending including the Police Chiefs of San Francisco and Oakland. This academy was unique as there were three recruits from the Oakland Police Department in the police academy. The mayor of Oakland was on hand to speak to the recruits.

On January 20, Bob Taylor and I hosted three Deputy Sector Navigators (DSNs) and the Dean of CTE from Shasta College to discuss the opportunities for COS in Agriculture, Small Business, and Advanced Manufacturing. They toured the Yreka Center and Weed Campus. The DSNs serve as in-region contact for a sector, working with the region's colleges and employers to create alignment around, and deliver on workforce training and career pathways.

On Friday, January 22, Cora Brownell, Bob Taylor, and I attended a discernment meeting at Redding Mercy Medical Center in regard to our clinical placement of Nursing Students. The College was notified in July that the Medical Center was not renewing our clinical contract after it expires in June 2016. The discernment process purpose is to hear points of view from all sides and constituencies. Unfortunately, Mercy Medical Center has decided to not renew our clinical contract. We fought very hard to keep this contract but the final decision rests with Mercy and we don't have any option but to search elsewhere.

We updated the website to notify students of our late-start class offerings. We will likely add a few more high-demand classes to start in mid-March.

### **Athletics**

The Women's Basketball Team is currently 21-1 on the season and 6-0 in Golden Valley Conference. We are currently ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in northern California and 5<sup>th</sup> in the state!

Former COS student and football player Myke Tavarres just finished his collegiate playing career at Incarnate Wood University. He was a two time all conference linebacker and in 2015 he was honored as the Southland Conference Newcomer of the Year. He just finished playing in the NFLPA 2016 Bowl game, which is an invite only game for a select few senior football players all over the nation. Myke is now training for the 2016 NFL Draft.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**

### **Vice President Student Services**

January flew by as all of us in Student Services focused on helping students get into classes and be ready for the spring semester.

January activities included:

- All Student Services staff wore "Ask Me" buttons in an effort to identify ourselves as someone who students can approach for assistance.
- Staff made phone calls to students on waitlists over the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday to inform them of the opportunity to register.
- I attended the Lodges Welcome/Welcome Back dinner and orientation for the residents. I enjoyed meeting the new students.
- Student Services remained open as permanent staff attended Planning Day.
- President Thomason, Vice President Funk, and I had lunch with the new R.A.'s prior to "Move-In Day." This was a wonderful opportunity to meet them and hear their ideas on how we can make the Lodges a great place to live.

Student Services has lots of good things coming this semester!

### **Admissions and Records/Financial Aid**

It's been a flurry of activity in Admissions and Records/Financial Aid! The windows have been busy and phones ringing off the hook!! The Enrollment Services staff has been registering students, assisting with financial aid questions and processing financial aid files. We had our windows open until 6 p.m. the first week of school and assisted quite a few students before they headed off to their evening classes. As of the second week of school, we have awarded \$513,002 in Pell Grants to 505 students! Thank you to the Enrollment Services staff for your hard work and dedication!

Remember, now is the time for students to start completing the 2016-2017 FAFSA. California residents who have completed their FAFSA by March 2 will be considered for a Cal Grant. Students can continue to complete the FAFSA after the March 2 Cal Grant deadline. These students will be considered for the September 2 competitive Cal Grants. And remember, any student who receives the Cal Grant B and is enrolled in 12 or more units will receive the new Full-Time Student Success Grant! This is an additional \$600 grant!

The automated SAP (Satisfactory Academic Progress) process has been a great success! We are able to monitor our students on prior Satisfactory Academic Progress appeals in a more efficient manner. We have changed the SAP terminology so it has been a bit confusing for students and staff. But it seems that we are all learning the new process and the students are adjusting as well.

We are off to a great spring 2016 semester!!!

### **Student Life**

Week of Welcome Activities were a hit (except Ice Skating because it rained really hard on Friday). This activity is being rescheduled.

Eighty-five percent of Lodge residents attended the Spring Semester Orientation on January 18. The few residents who were unable to attend met with Lodge staff in person to review the expectations for behavior on Campus, in the Lodges, and in the community.

The District Behavior Intervention Team (BIT) is made up of Counselors (Academic & personal), Lodge, DSPS, and Conduct office staff and others when appropriate who review reports of students in or near crisis. The BIT is creating a link on the Counseling web page to allow faculty and staff to submit their observations/concerns directly to the B.I.T. The Team will review the concern and coordinate with the appropriate resources on and off Campus to support the student through the crisis situation.

### **Student Success and Counseling**

#### **Counseling and Advising**

We've been busy assisting last minute new and returning students get a full load of classes, as well as assisting Weed High School students with enrollment in Dual Enrollment courses. We've also assisted with a decent number of financial aid appeals and class "switching."

Preparation for high school SOAR sessions for summer and fall terms is already in the works. Local high schools and charter schools, as well as schools we've been invited to work with outside our local area (Modoc, for example), will be contacted in the next few weeks to determine interest for an on-site SOAR.

#### **EOPS**

The EOPS staff welcomed 230 students to the program for spring; 70 of those students are new to the EOPS program. EOPS is now closed for spring, but will start accepting applications for fall semester in April once registration begins. We're happy to have Shannon Eller back from maternity leave, and sincerely appreciate Jennifer Reynolds for doing eligibility checking and processing of all the new EOPS applications in Shannon's absence.

#### **Student Support Services (SSS)**

The SSS program is continuing to accept applications for spring. Pat Kushwara has held several orientations, and we look forward to more students joining the program.

#### **CalWORKs**

Our continued collaboration with the County Human Services CalWORKs office has resulted in 24 students participating in our CalWORKs program through College of the Siskiyous. Six of these students are on work study and have been placed on the Weed or Yreka Campus.

### **Foster Youth**

The Foster Youth Program is growing. Slowly, but it's growing. We're excited to have the support of Student Equity funds for this important program.

### **Staffing**

We are so happy to have Marlena Shaffer and Becky Hobbs as part of the Eddy Hall Team! Marlena supports the EOPS, SSS, CalWORKs, and counseling area functions. Becky works in the DSPS office supporting DSPS students and also assisting new and continuing students in access to the placement/assessment test.

## **ACADEMIC SENATE**

**Reflections:** In few other jobs do people have the opportunity to start fresh. One of the joys of being a community college faculty member is the bright new start at the beginning of every semester. New students, a new take on the classroom material, and renewed energy! This is also a time to reflect on the Eagles who have flown on: One who just earned her Ph.D. in Sociology, another who has a thriving ophthalmology practice, one who opened a fitness center, and the many local nurses, EMTs, and police officers, just to name a few. COS truly changes lives!

**Appreciation:** The new, full-time faculty members are already making an impact! We appreciate the administrative and Board support for new faculty positions and we look forward to more successful hiring searches this semester. The new hires have been meeting regularly with Dr. South for ongoing mentoring.

**Senate Goals** for the remainder of the year are focused on updating our constitution, formalizing policies, and contributing to the scheduling process.

**Softball and Baseball** seasons just got underway! **Men's and Women's Basketball** Teams are providing exciting games! While the Men's Team has lost a couple of heart-breakers, the Women's Team continues to dominate and is—of this writing—19-1. Two of our women are in the Top Ten scoring for the state, and one of those players also placing in the statewide Top Ten for steals.

**The Distance Ed Committee** is busy working on a smooth transition from the Etudes to the Canvas Learning Management System.

**Curriculum Committee:** Has begun Tech reviews for spring and faculty are making progress on the three-year course review cycle.

**Program Review:** Has begun working on several projects: (1) seeking input from full-time and part-time faculty to create a FAQ page for the PR website; (2) taking an inventory of pages in CurricUNET that need links to Help pages; (3) creating those missing Help pages; (4) creating online training or tutorials for assessment and for PR; and (5) compiling all that help info into a PR Handbook.

**Budget:** Vice President Funk sent out preliminary info to committee members, including budget assumptions for 2016-2017; this in preparation for the next meeting when they will begin discussions to create next year's budget.

**COS Speakers Series Presents:** Gem Identification by Danielle Signor, GIA Graduate Gemologist and Bill Hirt, COS Geology Instructor Thursday, February 18, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the Science Building, Room 210, on the Weed Campus. Gem Identification is open to the public and free of charge. It is part of the 2015-2016 season of the COS Speakers Series, which is presented as a public service by the COS staff. To learn more contact 530.938.5373 or visit <http://www.siskiyous.edu/speakersseries/index.htm>.

## **CLASSIFIED STAFF**

### **Classified Spotlight: Denise Broomfield**



Denise Broomfield, DSPS department employee at College of the Siskiyous, is celebrating after earning her M.B.A! The Liberty University degree program took six full semesters (including summer semesters). Denise started the program in the spring semester of 2014 and completed the degree in the fall semester in December of 2015.

The M.B.A degree was awarded after Denise previously earned her bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership at Simpson University and two associate degrees at College of the Siskiyous.

On her accomplishment, Denise says, "When I went back to school in 2007, my goal was to complete office courses and gain valuable office skills, so that I might possibly be hired at College of the Siskiyous. I was overjoyed at accomplishing that goal, when I was hired in the Human Resources/President's Office at COS in February of 2008. Having completed that personal goal, I set a few more such as earning a bachelor's degree and a master's degree."

"I love College of the Siskiyous, and I am enjoying my position as Administrative Assistant II in the Disabled Student Services

Department. I am very blessed to be employed at College of the Siskiyous because it is a wonderful family of coworkers who are striving to assist students and better our community. I am grateful to everyone who has supported and encouraged me during my educational journey, and I appreciate the training and assistance they provided to help me grow as an employee."

### **HUGE CONGRATULATIONS, DENISE!**

From your CSEA peers

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