

COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOU

THE CAMPUS CONNECTION

June 7, 2016

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

What an amazing year we have had here at COS! Thank you, everyone, for all of your hard work and dedication to our students and the community that we serve. The recent graduation ceremonies have been fantastic and it has been such a blessing to see our students "moving on" after all of their hard work and the encouragement and nurturing each of them received from COS as they worked towards their educational objectives.

We had 30 more students participate in the Graduation Ceremonies in the Gym than last year. Another standing room only crowd; so, we will be making a few adjustments for next year to provide increased seating and an up-to-date sound system for next year's ceremonies. We need to thank Ron Slabbinck for providing the sound system from the Music Department and another wonderful singing performance by our Performing Arts Department!

Our Associate Degree in Nursing and working Nursing Graduation Ceremonies were awesome, as always, and the energy from the crowd was amazing. The Fire Academy Graduation also was great and the video put together by our Fire Students was one of the best that I have seen. I expect that we will have it on the COS website so that everyone can view it.

The End of Year Party on May 18 was a good time for celebrating another successful year. We had around 80 people attend including the Board of Trustees, Foundation Board Members, Administrators, Faculty, and Staff. Deb and Scott Dutcher did an outstanding job, as always, roasting steak and salmon; and, several people brought desserts to complement the macaroni salad and baked beans that Sharie cooked for us all.

We had another excellent Classified Staff Day June 3. Good activities along with learning opportunities – thank you, Dr. Sunny Green and Eric Houck. We also recognized some of our employees for the length of time that they have been with COS: 36 years – Lori Luddon; 30 years – Sheila Grimes and Denise Mannion; 25 years – Jan Keen; 15 years – Pat Kushwara; 10 years – Elaine Eldridge; and 5 years – Josh Collins and Jo Ann Kiefer. We ended the day with some Campus beautification projects – thank you to Richard Giordanengo for your leadership. 😊

We were very busy this past year filling positions and increasing the number of employees at COS. At last count, we projected somewhere around 40 new hires by June 30! A lot of great people have joined the COS Family. 😊

Search Committees are nearing completion of their work and interviews are being scheduled for several positions. We are hoping to complete searches for Associate Vice President in Human Resources, as well as the full-time faculty positions for Administration of Justice, Associate Degree Nursing, Performing Arts, and Welding. We also expect to complete searches soon for the Assistant Athletic Trainer, Director of Public Relations and Foundation, Food Services Supervisor/Cook, and Assistant Grants Manager. The search for a full-time faculty position in Fire was unsuccessful.

Accreditation

Thanks to everyone for all of the work on our Accreditation Self Study. We are looking forward to hearing somewhere near the end of this month from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) as to our accreditation status. We have been working on each of the recommendations from the visiting Accreditation Team's Report that we received after their visit which occurred the first part of March. We are very optimistic that we will deal with each recommendation over the next couple of months.

The Board of Governors (BOG) for California Community Colleges has supported a resolution that could eventually lead to a new model of accreditation for California Community Colleges. They have created two task forces on Accreditation. The first is to seek improvements to the current situation with the ACCJC. The second Task Force is to pursue a path to a new model of accreditation for the California Community Colleges. We are monitoring the progress of both of these Task Forces.

Siskiyou College Promise

COS is one of a small number of California Community Colleges that has implemented a College Promise Program. Each of the graduating High School Seniors in our service area is eligible for this program. The COS Foundation has committed to financially supporting this program, which insures that each participant pays no enrollment fee and receives a \$200 book voucher for each semester. As of last Friday, we had received 96 applications for this program! We are off to a great start and believe that this is an important program for increasing college going rates in our service area.

COS Financial Situation

The State of California continues to experience a positive financial situation. However, Governor Brown cautions that we have exceeded the normal time between recessions by two years and he believes that the next recession will happen in the next year or two. He advises us all to be very conservative with the funding that we are receiving this year and next. The Governor's May Revision to his FY 2016-2017 State Budget assumes that Prop 30 "temporary tax increases" that are set to stop at the end of this calendar year will not be renewed.

Two Initiatives have qualified for the November 2016 Ballot. The first would extend the Prop 30 tax for another 12 years. The Governor has not said that he will oppose this initiative. The second initiative would provide for a State-Wide General Obligation Bond to provide funds for facilities. Governor Brown has said that if this initiative passes, he will decide when the bonds will actually be sold. His stated concern is that this would add to the State's debt, and he does not support increasing the State's debt at this time.

Renovation of the COS Performing Arts Building Project would be in line for funds from the next state Facilities Bond.

COS is one of about a third of the CCC's that experienced growth in enrollment during FY 2015-2016. We are cautiously optimistic that we can be fully funded for our growth from growth funds that were not "earned" by other CCC's. This increase in our FTES "CAP" would provide significant funds to COS for the year just ended as well as the next several years.

FOUNDATION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Foundation

Foundation Scholarships

Presentation of 2016-2017 scholarship awards to Siskiyou County high school students has begun. Scholarship awards for high school seniors are presented at their senior awards night or graduation and COS continuing students were notified by mail. The total scholarship award amount for 2016-2017 is \$30,150. Of the 40 applications received, 33 applicants will be receiving scholarships next year. Pictured is Board President, Greg Hanna, with Abigail Whipple, recipient of the Siskiyou Scholar Award. Special thanks to all our presenters: Greg Hanna, Bart Scott, Greg Messer, Karen Zeigler, Jana Blevins, Ann Kaster, Rennie Cleland, Todd Scott, and Jayne Turk!



Siskiyou Promise

As of May 31, we have 96 applicants for the **Siskiyou Promise Scholarship**. This is great news and is reflective of all the hard work that has been happening to promote and prepare for this new funding opportunity. Our goal is to have at least 150 students apply for the Siskiyou Promise. I'm looking forward to achieving; and, hopefully, surpassing our goal!

One of the most fun and rewarding opportunities I have been able to experience for several semesters has been working with Jayne Turk's Communications classes. Each semester, students in Jayne's COMMS class, are given a final "marketing" project to work on as a small group. The students are given topics to research, plan, and promote. This year's final project was slightly different than in the past. The students all had the same topic to promote, but their target audience was different and specific. This semester's topic was the Siskiyou Promise. The groups focused on five different audiences – high school seniors, parents, businesses, organizations, and the local community served by COS. Over the course of the student's preparation for their final presentations, I provided them with information about the Siskiyou Promise, feedback when requested, as well as graphics. This semester's final presentations were **OUTSTANDING!!** Each group was well spoken, had great visuals, and knew their product. I walked away from the presentations with some great ideas to use in the future for promoting our Siskiyou Promise opportunity.

Save the Date!! Register Today!!

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/ia/foundation/events.htm>.

Student Success Stories

Over the past year, many student success stories have been published by the media. Most recently was the update about two of our former student athletes – Taylor Cox and Myke Tavarres being drafted by the NFL. Last week, another student success story was sent to the media (hopefully to be published soon) about one of our most recent graduates, Maryssa Martin. Here's a brief glimpse at her story...

"COS Graduate is Proud to be a Siskiyous Eagle!"

My name is Maryssa Martin and I have been a proud Siskiyous Eagle for the past two years. Choosing to be involved in various aspects of college life has certainly heightened my experience, to say the least. I was a member of the Women's Volleyball team, a student worker/ambassador, a resident in the dorms, and also involved with the community college honor society Phi Theta Kappa (which has conveniently given me the opportunity to earn scholarship money for the university that I will be transferring to in the fall).

Coming from a small, close-knit community made the transition from high school to college smooth and manageable. One of the most commendable qualities about College of the Siskiyous is...



For the rest of Maryssa's story, read it online at

<http://www.siskiyous.edu/ia/publicrelations/pressreleases/2015-2016/may/183.pdf>

End of the Year Party at the Thomason's! Great Food, Fun, and Company!!



Public Relations

Visit us at the Fair

COS will have a booth at the Siskiyou Golden Fair, August 10 thru 14. We need volunteers to staff the booth. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Dawnie Slabaugh (938-5373 or slabaugh@siskiyous.edu). 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.

Summer Camps

- Unfortunately we've had to cancel the Summer Show Choir and Jazz Camp that was to be held later this month due to a lack of registrations. We are still hoping to offer this great opportunity in the future and we have some ideas for next year.
- Approximately 60 kids have registered to participate in the first 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, and this is a great opportunity to promote our new Men's and Women's Soccer teams.
- 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. Camp will end with three public performances to be held August 5, 6, and 7 in the COS Theater.

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

- **May 29 – June 4:**
 - Open Registration (REG365) for Summer/Fall/Spring Continues
 - May 31 thru June 11: Santa Clara Vanguard Marching Band on Weed Campus
 - June 2: Golden Eagle Charter High School Graduation, 7 p.m. at COS Theater
 - June 3: COS Classified Staff Day, 9 a.m. at various locations at Weed Campus
 - June 3: Siskiyou Dance Company Performance, 6 p.m. at COS Theater
 - June 4: Siskiyou Dance Company Performance, 3 p.m. at COS Theater
- **June 5 – 11:**
 - June 5: Mattole Valley Charter High School Graduation, 3 p.m. at COS Theater
 - June 5: Upward Bound Summer Program Begins
 - June 6: Summer Session Begins
 - June 7: COS Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting – Closed Session at 5 p.m., Open Public Session at 6 p.m., COS Board Room
 - June 10: Campus Closed
 - June 10: Mt. Shasta Children’s Theater/Shasta Studios Dance Performance and Recital, 3 p.m. at COS Theater
 - June 11: Mt. Shasta Children’s Theater/Shasta Studios Dance Performance and Recital, 3 p.m. at COS Theater
- **June 12 - 18:**
 - June 17: Campus Closed
- **June 19 - 25:**
 - June 19 thru 25: Summer Show Choir and Jazz Camp, daily at COS Theater
 - June 20 thru 24: Soccer Camp, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at COS Soccer Field
 - June 24: Campus Closed
- **June 26 – July 2:**
 - July 1: Campus Closed

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The May Revise gave us no great surprises and a few disappointments. The State Budget will be approved by the Legislature on or before June 15 to be given to the Governor to sign by the end of the month. The Tentative Budget was prepared based on the May Revise and more will be unveiled with regards to that at the Board Meeting and during the study session prior to the Board Meeting. We did have the COLA reduced to zero but an additional \$75M was added to the base funding system wide which will be a bit of help in offsetting the non-COLA.

Food Services

Food Services has hired an interim Supervisor/Cook in Rose Sanchez, and we are working on getting other temporary help for the summer and doing the permanent hiring for fall and going forward. Vendors are being set up, and we are getting ready to roll with a full summer schedule of providing services for Upward Bound, NOLS, West Valley High School Football Camp, and a few other small groups in between. It is going to be a busy summer with lots to do before school begins again in August.

We will be posting menus as they are prepared. Faculty, staff, and students will be able to purchase a meal ticket at the Business Office and come get lunch with the groups who are being fed through the catering events.

Maintenance

Maintenance is going gang busters over the 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

Early work has begun on the Ellucian Action Plan in IT. We are starting the key process of moving to the cloud via Ellucian's Application Hosting Services (AHS) for our Banner systems. We have been working with our partners on the Ellucian AHS migration team to identify the details around our current environment so that we can create a plan. The first of our consulting will begin later this month and will be the start of lots of meetings, fact finding, and resolutions. The first will be our accounts receivable and student services. We are gearing up and excited to see what all we are going to accomplish.

There are several summer projects going on with IT in refreshing computers, set ups for new staffing, and general clean up as well.

Eagle's Nest

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

May is the best month at the College as you get the opportunity to see students graduate and celebrate their accomplishments. It is through the hard work of the faculty and staff that help to make those accomplishments happen.

We have started to clarify the areas in which we would like the assistance of other professionals in the California Community College system. The Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative offers a Partnership Resource Team to visit the College and meet with faculty and staff to help us resolve issues that we feel may assist us in increasing our effectiveness. We have chosen data resources and Student Learning Outcomes as our areas of focus. We have picked a few dates in October and November for team visits. It should be emphasized, that this team visit is a chance to learn some best practices from community colleges across the state and is advisory only and not punitive. It's a chance to meet colleagues from across the state and have conversations about our areas of focus.

The Curriculum and Program Review Committees had a phone conference this month with representatives from Governet to discuss our issues with CurricUNET in an effort to resolve some of our problems with the system. Hopefully, this starts us down the path to make the curriculum and program review process more user friendly.

I have begun to explore the development of more non-credit offerings to meet the needs of our community. Dr. Taylor, Larry Glenn and I visited the YMCA to explore partnerships. We had a consultant with the Ford Family Foundation visit Campus to discuss workforce needs. Members of the College also attended State of the Workforce workshops in Yreka and Mt. Shasta.

Dr. Taylor, Blaine Smith and I attended the scholarship night at Modoc High School to present a student with a Foundation Scholarship. This led to the idea of offering the Siskiyou Promise to students from Modoc County. The audience was really excited to hear about this opportunity. Mailers have gone out to all Modoc County seniors.

Many educators from Siskiyou and Butte counties attended a three-day workshop on Campus. This On-Course workshop was intended to educate participants to present and model engaging learner-centered educational practices and strategies. These strategies empower students to become active, responsible learners improving student academic success and retention.

STUDENT SERVICES

May is a bittersweet time of year as we begin welcoming our new students; and, concurrently, say good-bye to those who graduated. June is now here and we look forward to what is yet to come!

Vice President of Student Services

The Siskiyou Promise continues to gain momentum, and we are happy to report that we have 96 applications as of May 31, 2016. Part of receiving this scholarship includes applying for financial aid and completing the SOAR process. Each applicant is monitored and contacted to assist these new students through each step.

I had the wonderful opportunity to visit Jayne Turk's Communication class to see presentations on the Siskiyou Promise. I was incredibly impressed with the students' ideas, enthusiasm, and professionalism. Good job, Jayne, and good job students!

Over the 2015-16 academic year, we had 32 recruitment events and 7 more "Cash for College" (financial aid) events for a total of 39 outreach events and will continue these efforts throughout the summer.

On May 20, 103 of the 163 candidates for graduation participated in Commencement. Our Student Trustee, Dylan Paoli, was the Student Speaker and the two new Emeritus Faculty, Dennis Freeman and Bruce Friend, were introduced. There was standing room only for the approximately one-hour ceremony which was followed by a cake reception in the Student Center.

Counseling and Student Success

SOAR

To date, we have completed 9 High School SOAR sessions, including one video/Zoom to Modoc. Approximately 87 students have been served and over 80 have registered – some for both fall and spring semesters.

To date we have completed 6 on-Campus SOAR sessions with over 35 students served and all have registered. Another 7 SOAR sessions have been scheduled throughout the summer.

Veterans

Applicants for G.I. Benefits have doubled for this year due to the approval through the Veteran's Administration of the academy as part of our ADJ Associate degree.

EOPS/SSS/CalWORKs

We recently held a celebration reception for the graduates and honors/high honors students from the EOPS, SSS, and CalWORKs programs. It was well attended and the students expressed appreciation for the acknowledgement of their hard work.

SSS

39 are graduating this spring
10 earned a High Honors Award
14 earned an Honors Award

We have received 47 SSS applications for the fall semester so far thanks to the SOAR Team.

EOPS

12 High Honors – 3.5 or greater
25 Honors – 3.0 or greater
16 graduates

EOPS has received 68 applications, most from SOAR sessions at this point. We added "first generation college student" to the eligibility criteria, and that has helped increase the number of applications. We hope to accept 150 students into the Fall 2016 semester. That would bring our program to about 300 students (currently, we have 210 students).

EOPS hopes to be awarding grants at the end of Spring 2016 semester to eligible students. This will be the first time in several years that student grants will be part of the EOPS Program benefits thanks to an increase in state allocation.

Foster Youth

Shannon Eller and Val Roberts will be visiting Modoc Stronghold Court School in mid-June. The students attending Stronghold cannot leave campus; and, according to our contact at their school, most of them have never been provided information about college.

We are being proactive in getting our Foster Youth (FY) students to apply for the Chafee grant (up to \$5,000 in an academic year) which most FY students don't know about.

David Gault and Shannon have been using the foster youth reports from CCCApply to contact students who self-identify as a FY. Shannon is sending letters to these students introducing herself, the FY program, and explaining what the next steps that they need to take to get enrolled (SOAR, FAFSA, Chafee, EOPS and FYSP - Foster Youth Success Program).

Upward Bound

The Upward Bound staff is preparing for their big annual event – the Summer Program. RAs and other summer staff hiring is being finalized as are plans for the academic component of the program.

DSPS

DSPS held a meeting of its Advisory Committee, which consists of members from the Department of Rehab, resource specialists from local high schools, and other community entities, as well as special program folks from COS. It was an informative and productive meeting in terms of resource and idea sharing.

DSPS in the process of purchasing a couple of exciting software packages. One is the Accessibility Information Management (AIM) software, which will help us move away from paper in tracking, documenting, and notifying instructors of approved accommodations. This should increase our efficiency and timeliness in providing accommodations. The second is a program which provides research-based training for improving students' short term memory skills. This is an area of deficit for many of our students with learning disabilities and brain injuries.

During the summer, DSPS will be working on getting better stats on our students and their transfer and graduation rates.

Congratulations to Sunny!

Sunny is now Dr. Sunny Greene! She will be attending her commencement ceremony in July and will officially be finished effective the end of May. Please congratulate her!

Assessment

A part of the Math Acceleration Project and in preparation for the implementation of the Common Assessment, the use of multiple measures for placement has been increased. In order to collect required and useful data on the impacts of the use of multiple measures, a Multiple Measures Data Collection sheet and process were established. The measures used were determined based on best practices around the state, from the Research and Planning Group, and from discussion with our Math faculty and counselors.

Counseling and Advising

The Counselors and Advisors are actively promoting registration for the summer, fall, and spring terms. Having access to a yearlong schedule is beneficial when scheduling students' courses because adjustments can be made according to what is offered both primary terms (fall and spring).

Admissions and Records

Registration continues. Grades were submitted in record time. We were able to process over 50 transcripts on Wednesday. Degrees are being posted as we speak for 818 Applicants for the fall.

Financial Aid

We are in the process of awarding summer Pell grants to any students with remaining eligibility from the 2015-2016 school year. Summer Pell will be disbursed June 17. Students who received summer Pell grants were allowed to contact the Financial Aid Office to request a book voucher the week before summer classes began.

We are moving right along getting students awarded for the 2016-2017 school year. We currently have awarded Pell grants to 211 students and have awarded a total of 1,043 BOGWs (Board of Governors Fee Waiver) so far!

The Federal Direct Loan application is now available on our financial aid website. We have made the loan application available two months earlier this year in order for our students to have a more accurate view of their financial aid package.

Student Life/Lodges

The Santa Clara Vanguard Drum and Bugle Corps arrived on May 29 and began using the Weed Campus for summer training camp. Band members enrolled in a COS community band class. The staff is staying in the Lodges for the two weeks they are on Campus.

On May 9, our end of the semester Monte Carlo night was held in the Lodges. During the semester, our Lodge residents earned incentive points for conducting themselves as positive members of the community. The incentive points earned were totaled and then used to purchase food, household items, and prizes. The Lodge Student House Council funded and awarded the top five incentive point recipients \$1,000 in scholarships.

On May 12, Associated Student Board hosted a club fair/end of the semester event. This event included an inflatable obstacle course and BBQ lunch served by Chartwells; that helped our students end the term with flair. Twelve student clubs and organizations were represented and provided information to currently enrolled students.

As of June 1, 2016, we have 58 Lodges' applications, which is in line with the number of applications received this time last year.

We recently hired 6 Resident Assistants for the fall that will start training on August 1.

Finally, thanks to Nancy Funk, Eric Rulofson, and our Maintenance Department for the remodel of the Lodges' rooms that are in progress. We presently have one completed room that has been repainted and textured; has new blinds, a chair rail, new carpet, and renovated closet space. Please give us a call and we'll be happy to show you around!

Wishing you a wonderful June from your Friends and Colleagues from Student Services.

"Summertime is always the best of what might be." – Charles Bowden



ACADEMIC SENATE

It has been a pleasure to sit at the table this year. Our new Senate officers are:

- President: Chris Vancil
- Vice President: Bill Hirt
- Secretary: Andrea Craddock
- At Large: Mike Graves and Sean Kenny

I will continue to serve as ex-officio officer.

We concluded the final Academic Senate Meeting of the year with the awarding of superhero socks, tiaras, magic wands, and more! I want to thank the truly amazing faculty for a collegial and productive year. I know Chris will be a fabulous leader and welcome him into this position.

Conferences:

- Many faculty members will be attending the Curriculum Institute this summer.
- Dr. Scott has asked for volunteers for a Summer Honors Conference TBD.

Faculty Negotiations are now more than a year behind schedule.

Hiring Committees are making progress on the Nursing and ADJ positions. The FIRE search was cancelled.

Graduations are complete for a while! It is exciting to see how far so many of our students have come!

No other reports were submitted this month.