

## COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOU

### THE CAMPUS CONNECTION

*November 1, 2016*

#### PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

The Annual COS Foundation Scholarship Dinner that was held Saturday, October 15, at the Sons of Italy Hall was a great success. Several of our Board Members were able to attend – Greg Hanna, Carol Cupp, Barry Ohlund, and Bob Rice. We sold 192 tickets for this event, significantly up from previous years: 115 in 2014 and 150 in 2015.

Dr. Todd Scott and I served on an Accreditation Team that visited Monterey Peninsula College October 10 thru October 13. It was a very rewarding experience. All of the California Community Colleges have similar types of challenges in resources, enrollment, technology, staffing, etc. I know Todd agrees with me when I say that we are sure glad that we are here at COS and appreciate where we are as a college compared to other institutions. ☺

Assembly Member Brian Dahle was in Weed for a brief visit and I was one of a handful of folks invited to meet with him. We received a good update from the Assemblyman, and I was able to update him on what is going on at COS.

Last week, COS Board Trustee Bob Rice and I attended an annual breakfast with Senator Ted Gaines in Redding. We were able to share a significant amount of information about concerns within the county relative to our natural resources as well as an update on COS – our enrollment grew ten percent last year, our newly implemented College Promise program, CTE expansion efforts, and the cooperative effort that COS is involved in for Advanced Manufacturing with other Community Colleges here in Northern California.

Food Services is doing well and continues to evolve. We are still receiving very positive comments about the quality and quantity. COS is in the process of hiring some additional food service workers so that we can adequately staff our operations. We are monitoring the eating needs of our students in the Lodges over the weekends and making adjustments.

The new furniture for our Human Resources Office has arrived. We will also be adding a couple of doors in that area to improve confidentiality.

Due to Reg365, we already have over 350 FTES of enrollment for the 2017 spring semester. Dr. Todd Scott is already refining the semester class offerings in consideration of some classes already being full. ☺

The Institutional Effectiveness Initiative RPT team visited our campus last Friday. Dr. Scott is leading this effort for us. We expect to receive \$200,000 in funds from the State Chancellor's Office for this effort. A second of a total of three visits by the RPT team will occur the first week of December. We expect to receive the \$200,000 sometime during the first part of the spring 2017 semester.

The two ballot propositions that the California Community Colleges are most interested in are Proposition 51 – State Wide Facilities Bonds and Proposition 55, which would extend “temporary State taxes.” The latest polls show support for Proposition 51 below 50 percent and Proposition 55 above 50 percent. The Facilities Project that COS stands to receive funding for if Proposition 51 passes is the \$22 million renovation of our Performing Arts Center. If Proposition 51 passes, we estimate receiving \$20 million towards this project in 2019.

Sharie and I will be going to Cancun, Mexico, for a vacation from November 5 thru November 15. We are looking forward to some rest and relaxation. When I return, I will be immediately heading to the CCLC Annual Conference in Riverside from November 16 thru November 19. Then towards the end of the month, we have the Thanksgiving Holidays. November is going to pass very fast for me. ☺

## **FOUNDATION/PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Wow! Where has the semester gone? The fall semester seems to just be “flying by,” especially the month of October.

Lots of activities and events occurred during the month, which meant a lot of promotion. The Foundation held its annual Scholarship Fundraising Dinner (more about the event below); Ron Slabbinck and the COS Choirs presented a tribute concert to honour Lloyd Elliott, COS Adjunct Faculty and Orchestra Conductor, who passed away this summer (a scholarship has been established with the COS Foundation in memory of Lloyd Elliott); the COS Speakers Series hosted a presentation by Dr. Bill Hirt; last weekend; the COS Senior Theatre group presented their fall showing of *Larceny and Lunatics* in the Black Box Theatre with sold-out showings; and the Football, Volleyball, Soccer, and Cross Country teams continued their seasons with excellent competition and successful outcomes. Coming up this weekend is the opening for the musical “The Wizard of Oz.” *Wizard* will show November 4, 5, 11, and 12 at 7 p.m. and November 6 and 13 at 3 p.m. in the COS Theatre.

I was recently asked to join the Weed Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors as the College Liaison. This is a great opportunity to share information about the College, learn about what is going on in the community, and network with local community business people and residents.

Last week, I was asked to be the guest speaker at the Dunsmuir City Council meeting. One of our newest members on the Foundation Board of Directors, Bruce Deutsch, asked me to talk about the Promise Scholarship and the COS Foundations’ participation in North State Giving Tuesday. I was also asked to be the guest speaker at the Weed Rotary meeting held October 27 to also talk about the Promise Scholarship. Word is out...the community is hearing about our Promise Scholarship Program and the community is excited!!!

### **Spring Registration is Open**

Just a quick reminder; open registration for the 2017 spring semester is open. Remind students to register early to get the classes they want and need. The spring schedule is available online.

### **Mark Your Calendars!! -- Christmas Party at the Thomasons’**

**Thursday, December 15, at Scotty and Sharie’s House located in Lake Shastina. (Details Coming Soon)**

### **Holiday Craft Fair**

The COS Holiday Craft Fair will be held on Friday evening, December 2 (5 p.m. to 8 p.m.) and Saturday, December 3 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) at the COS Weed Campus in the Gym. This Craft Fair celebrates the finest of hand-crafted products produced by local and regional artisans and crafters.

### **Eagle’s Nest Shop**

On October 15, the Eagles Nest Volunteers held a Meet and Greet event at the Shop. Approximately 60 people from the community attended the event and nine of our volunteers were able to “show off” what they do for us. Bruce Deutsch, Foundation Board member, was one of the people who attended the Meet and Greet and it was his very first time at the Shop. He was given a tour by long-time volunteer, Wes Dutt, who invited him to come back to the Shop during a regular business day to spend the afternoon and see what goes on during the day. Bruce is looking forward to his next visit. Thank you to everyone from the College who was able to stop by.

The Eagles Nest has partnered with Shasta Sanctuary to help their non-profit animal rescue. On October 29, Eagles Nest held an event for the community at the Shop to collect donated cat food, litter, toys, blankets, etc. Individuals who came during the day and donated to Shasta Sanctuary received a special discount coupon. To add to the fun, those who wore a crazy cat sweater or t-shirt were entered into a grand prize drawing for a Holiday Dinner (the dinner is being donated by Edgewood Custom Interiors and Rich and Cheri Young).

Other upcoming Eagle's Next Shop events or sales include:

- November 15 – Holiday Extravaganza Sale
- November 19 – International Men's Day – All men will receive 10 percent off their Eagle's Nest purchase that day.
- November 15 – 30 – ASM Food Basket Drive – Support ASM with student food boxes by collecting donations.
- December 16 – Ugly Sweater Day – Wear an ugly sweater and receive 50 percent off your purchase of Christmas Décor.

### **Scholarship Dinner**

The annual COS Foundation Scholarship Dinner was held Saturday, October 15, and if you weren't there, you definitely missed out!! I thought last years' event was pretty awesome!! But this year, by far, was the **BEST** attended dinner we have had in many years. Everyone had a lot of fun, the food was delicious, the COS Vocal Jazz group was excellent, and my personal favorite part of the evening was the Coat Auction! WOW!!! Fun times...Chris Vancil did an amazing job as our Auctioneer. We also had two student scholarship recipients (Alyssa Clark and Madison Green) who gave incredible speeches. If you know them, please compliment them for being excellent representatives for the College of the Siskiyous.

The highlight of the evening is always the auction of the Coat of Many Colors and Mongolian Fur Hat. The 2016 lucky recipient who will wear the coat to all Foundation meetings for the next year is our Foundation Board President, Dawna Cozzalio! This year's event has so far raised \$9,000 to support our scholarship program.

*North State*  
**GI**  **ING TUESDAY**  
Join us November 29th - Give where you live!  
[www.northstategives.org](http://www.northstategives.org)

### **Siskiyou Promise and North State Giving Tuesday**

On November 29, our community will come together for #NorthStateGivingTuesday, and we need YOU to join us. From 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. you can give where you live. Support the College of the Siskiyous Foundation and our Siskiyou Promise Scholarship Program by making a tax-deductible donation at [www.northstategives.org](http://www.northstategives.org).

*"Without the Siskiyou Promise Scholarship, I don't think I would have been able to afford going to College. I have two jobs, live on my own, and go to school fulltime. I would have had to take out loans to go to school. Now, I don't have the worry of having to work so hard to make ends meet."*

*Madison Green, 2016 Mt. Shasta High School Graduate*

As education costs rise, more and more middle-income families find themselves stretched to pay for college, just missing the threshold for federal financial aid. At the same time, being able to focus on their studies full-time has been shown to significantly benefit a student's ability to succeed in college.

In January 2016, the COS Foundation along with the College of the Siskiyous developed a new scholarship called the "Siskiyou Promise" for graduates of Siskiyou and Modoc County high schools. The Siskiyou Promise Scholarship is offered to every Siskiyou County and Modoc County high school graduate who enrolls at COS the fall semester immediately following their high school graduation. (First eligible to apply for the Siskiyou Promise was Class of 2016.)

The Siskiyou Promise Scholarship is intended to be a "middle dollar" scholarship used to cover tuition and other mandatory fees not covered by federal or state grant sources. The Siskiyou Promise Scholarship helps address these issues by offering a two-year scholarship so that students can focus on their education – rather than their finances!

What does the Siskiyou Promise pay for?

- First Year Experience (term immediately following high school graduation)—Tuition and fees for fall and spring semesters (Student must register as full-time student and maintain full-time status for both terms.
- Second Year Continuation (term immediately following first year at COS—Tuition and fees for fall and spring semesters (Student must register as full-time student and maintain full-time status for both terms.)
- \$200 Book Voucher—for both the fall and spring semesters

#### **November Events**

- November 1: COS Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting, Closed Session at 5 p.m./Open Public Session at 6 p.m., Weed Campus Science Building, Room 110
- November 1: Women's and Men's Soccer vs. Redwoods at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., Baseball/Soccer Field
- November 4: Volleyball vs. Butte at 6 p.m., Gym
- November 4, 5, and 6: COS Fall Play – The Wizard of Oz, Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m.; Sunday at 3 p.m. in the COS Theater (advance tickets on sale at the COS Weed Campus Bookstore - \$15 general/\$10 students & seniors)
- November 5: Football vs. Sierra, 1 p.m. at COS Stadium (Last Home Football Game of 2016 Season)
- November 11: Campus Closed for Veteran's Day Holiday
- November 18: Women's Basketball vs. Chabot College at 5 p.m., Gym
- November 19: Women's Basketball vs. American River College at 2 p.m., Gym
- November 23: No Evening Classes
- November 24 and 25: Campus Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

I just got home from three days of conference for Chief Business Officers. I always learn something new, realize there is more to do, and anticipate coming changes at the end of these conferences. I will share more on that later. I did have a delay in San Francisco awaiting the final leg of the trip home. One of our passengers was stuck in an elevator at the airport so they held the plane while maintenance extracted the woman from the elevator. We were 40 minutes late taking off but only 15 minutes late arriving in Redding.

One thing we did learn at the conference was that the Chancellor's Office, the League, and School Services all agreed that revenues for the State are lagging behind projections. That is a bit concerning for next year and quite possibly this year. For this year, it could mean there would be a deficit factor applied to our

apportionment from the State. For next year, it would like mean little one-time money. That is often where our Scheduled Maintenance/Instructional Materials funding comes from. It is still early in the process though and we still have time for things to turn around a bit. California revenue is very dependent on the stock market so we will see where the next few months take us. More on that as it develops...

The Ellucian project is really getting under way and I am hearing so many positive comments about how it is going. I want to share just a few that have been shared with me.

Elaine Eldridge shared, "I am very excited about the Ellucian Project. In just one short meeting, Antonio showed me how we can generate more FTE's!! I look forward to working more with the Ellucian consultants to make Banner and myself more efficient and productive for the college." This has to do with the way we have coded some of our classes in Banner.

Kristine Michelin said, "The Ellucian Project is going to make the accounts receivable processes much more efficient and effective. The third-party billing on student accounts, invoicing, refund processes, and aging reports will be so much more efficient just to name a few. I am excited to put the processes in place and begin to use the system as it is intended."

Jan Harris said, "The Financial Aid staff spent three days with an Ellucian consultant. It was a great learning experience even though we were only supposed to explain our current Banner processes! We learned new ways to provide improved communications to our students which we hope will increase the completion of financial aid files in a more timely manner. We are excited about the opportunity to work with Sandra again in November when she returns so that we can put these new processes in place. The Ellucian project is coming to us at just the right time for Financial Aid! We not only have two new staff to train, but the 2017-2018 FAFSA is available to students now!"

Val Roberts shared, "I am very excited about the ease of use and information flow for students once the portal is improved."

Eric and his team are ready to move our storage to the Cloud. We are in the final testing phase now and will likely be there in the next 60 days. I have heard more comments from those who are not only excited about the improvements we are making and where we are going but how this will make their work life much easier on so many levels.

## **Bookstore**

On October 6, the Bookstore held its first annual Fashion Show in the Theater. Twelve students volunteered to model Bookstore clothing in this fun event. There were roughly 30-40 people in attendance. Thank you to all of the models and photographers who helped with the event and Nick Fabio for being the Fashion Show DJ. All volunteers received a free clothing item as a thank you for walking the Fashion Show Runway. If you missed the Fashion Show, check out the Bookstore's Facebook page (@SiskiyousBookstore) to view a video of the Fashion Show that was filmed and edited by one of our students, Keyoni McNair. Thank you to everyone who came out to see the show!





The Bookstore just started carrying custom Disc Golf discs from Innova. Thank you to Shondi Farris for creating this awesome logo! We have four different discs styles (Aviar, Roc, Shark, & Leopard) available for \$10 each. Check out these discs at the Bookstore and the Disc Golf course along the Bear Trail on the Weed Campus!

The Bookstore is currently working on ordering textbooks for the spring 2017 semester. We will be holding a Textbook Buyback Event December 12 thru December 16.

### **Business Office**

The auditors have been on campus all this week. The work is going well and we are keeping a step ahead of them at least. We always look forward to the audit being finalized but there are still financial statements to complete once they are back at their office.

### **Food Services**

We have now in place our first round of permanent staff. Welcome Reid Hirt as our newest member of the staff. We have realized now that we are still in need of additional staffing and are looking to add two to three more part-time food service assistants. If you know of anyone looking for a fun, part-time job, please have them check out the postings on the Human Resource website.

As we review the student surveys that came in from the Lodges to determine what our true need is, we are having the cafeteria open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. for grab and go type items for our students. A few are availing themselves of that opportunity. As we gain additional staffing and determine the true need, we will adjust as needed and prudent. Grab and go type items are also available on Fridays and many are doing their purchasing then.

I am thankful for the numerous comments from so many about the quality of the food. I know that all of those cooking really appreciate your positive comments as well. Thank you Cindy, Rose, Maria, and Reid for the wonderful quality you are putting out there for us.

Lastly for all of you.... Don't forget that you too can purchase a meal card for use in the cafeteria. It is reloadable and makes grabbing lunch very easy. Need goodies for a meeting? They usually have something awesome.

### **Maintenance**

Facilities is in the final stages of updating the State Space Inventory. You may see the staff measuring buildings. With the recent high winds, be aware of falling limbs and obstructions on walkways. The Maintenance team inspects the walks and trees daily, but watch for debris on walks and limbs falling during windy days. Also, we are implementing a trial of landscaping with pine needles as a natural weed control measure. You will see needles being placed in strategic areas throughout the Campus to reduce future weed grow. Other schools with conifer trees have found this program reduces herbicide use, maintenance labor, and is esthetically pleasing. Facilities project report: the orchestra pit cover replacement is scheduled to begin mid-December; the classroom raised floor installation in Yreka has begun; and the Ponderosa, Juniper, and LRC heating plant replacement drawings are in final design. Do not forget the old Maintenance Request Program is no longer working. Please use the SchoolDude Requests Program found on the COS webpage.

## **Technology**

Here are a few projects they are working on....

- Optimization work for Banner Student has begun. Admissions & Records and Instruction staff already worked with our Ellucian consultant to fix several issues and gain insights into additional ways to harness Banner more effectively. Several more weeks of work are scheduled between now and the end of the year to continue making improvements within the Student Module.
- Banner in the cloud is up and being tested by both the Information Technology and staff. We are looking to switch over before the end of the year depending on how well the testing goes.
- With the help of Ellucian consulting, a lot of work on the analysis and redesign of our Luminis portal (aka Navigator) was done by representative staff including focus groups with students this month. A launch of the new portal is being targeted for spring 2017.

## **INSTRUCTION**

During the month of October, I served as part of an accreditation team at Monterey Peninsula College and as a member of an Institutional Effectiveness Program Initiative (IEPI) team at College of the Redwoods. I believe these were important and valuable visits for me as I was exposed to the challenges and successes of other community colleges and how I might employ the successful programs and avoid potential pitfalls at COS. We had our own IEPI visit on Friday, October 28. The team was on campus and had discussions with many members of the campus community focusing on Data Extraction and SLO Assessment. These two topics were the focus of our Quality Focused Essays on our accreditation self-study.

The program review process is about wrapped up, the resource requests are being finalized and we'll begin the prioritization process.

I visited a company in Dunsmuir and had a discussion concerning a possible apprenticeship grant opportunity. I am collecting some data related to this to determine if it makes sense for us to apply for funding.

On October 26, I along with several other COS employees attended "Industry Night" at Yreka High School. This event was to connect the industry sector and the K-14 education sectors to identify employer needs in the county to help education identify skills gaps and then determine ways to close those gaps.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**

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

Applications for the fall 2017 semester are being accepted through CCCApply. We are in full swing with recruitment. Additionally, we have been attending various College Fairs and visiting high schools. Our attended and planned events so far:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
8/12/16	Sovereign's Day (Hoopa)	10/28/16	STEM Career Day Shasta Fair Grounds
8/24/16	Modoc High School	11/3/16	Mattole High School
9/21/16	College Fair, Redding	2/18/17	National College Resource Foundation (Oakland)
9/22/16	Modoc High School	4/12/17	Mazama High School (Klamath Falls)
10/7/16	Corning High School Career Fair		

This past month, we hosted the following tours:

- Two individual tours which included prospective students accompanied by their families. One prospective student was interested in Chemistry and the other in the Fire Academy and Football.
- Four group tours.
- AVID students from Lakeview, Oregon, brought 15 students. They attended a Financial Aid and Counseling Presentation.
- Another group tour consisted of California Conservation Corp students. Their interests included the Welding Program, Fire Program, and Administration of Justice.
- Weed High School toured the campus and the Haunted Chemistry Lab.



**Eagle cookies** created by Mount Shasta Ray's, shared with the AVID group.

Other recruitment related activities included a review of our communication plan, information pieces, and websites.

We modified our Oregon student tuition discounts to be the "Oregon Advantage." This is the umbrella term for the Oregon Exchange and the Oregon Good Neighbor tuition discounts. To qualify for either program, students must request the Oregon Exchange from Southern Oregon University or the Oregon Institute of Technology. This modification to the Oregon Advantage was shared with the Student Services staff at our All Student Services Team meeting. We are also working on a webpage that will explain these discounts and eligibility as well as link it to our Prospective Student page as a promotional resource. If you'd like more information, I'd be happy to send you an outline or answer any questions.

The Diversity Committee welcomes Calvin Wagner our ASB representative. Presently, this committee is looking at the feasibility of a Campus Climate Survey as well as training opportunities for faculty, staff, and students. You can keep track of our progress on our website <http://www.siskiyous.edu/committees/diversity/>.

We had three searches that met this month for the following positions: Assistant Director of Student Housing, Student Equity Specialist, and Executive Assistant for Student Services. I'm confident that we will be making new hire announcements soon! The last position, the Executive Assistant for Student Services, will replace our beloved Jan Keen, who will be retiring at the end of this calendar year. Of course, we all know – no one can replace Jan!

It is time to update our Student Equity Plan. I will be requesting volunteers to help in this process via email.

We had our second meeting with the Director of the Family Resource Center (FRC), who was accompanied by the Director of First Five. Our primary objective is to provide community services on the Weed Campus in order to provide more effective referrals for students who need these services. These agencies will soon announce on-campus office hours, and they will be located between the Admissions and Records/Financial Aid Office and the Associated Student Board Office in the Student Center Building. These services will join the Siskiyou Domestic Violence representative, who has been providing office hours for this past month. Look for our Resources display in the Student Center display case early November.

Admissions and Records, Counseling and Support Services, Financial Aid, and Student Life completed program reviews based on the goals and assessments of 2015-2016. Results will be shared at the Student Services Council with an eye toward presenting resource requests in November. Additionally, discussions are beginning with FRC regarding creating a Non-Traditional Prospective Student Event. During this event, the FRC offered to provide childcare on campus which would allow parents to fill out financial aid forms, college applications, etc.

### **Admissions and Records**

In an effort to help our students obtain their goals, Admissions and Records have been collaborating with Counseling Services to increase our AAS completions for the 2016-2017 year. We will identify near completers and work toward helping them cross the finish line!

We are pleased to announce that we have five new Student Ambassadors who have already represented the College at the Scholarship Dinner in October. These Ambassadors will have some office hours in the Welcome Center and will be representing us at various community and campus functions. They are also undergoing the Student Ambassador Training Program in October and November.

In the Admissions role, we have been busy updating our recruitment information which includes websites, tour information and requests, and communication to applicants. Our goal is to increase the number of applications over fall 2016 and increase the “yield” rate of applicants to registered students.



Thank you Mary Mericle for the fantastic Halloween decorations!!  
They are BOOO-tiful!

Also, as part of our recruitment of Oregon students, we have been updating our Oregon Exchange process, which we now call the Oregon Advantage. Look for a new webpage and updated communication about the program.

More opportunities to enroll at College of the Siskiyous include Dual/Concurrent Enrollment. Admissions and Records have been collaborating with Christina Van Alfen and Stephanie Wroten on the Dual/Concurrent Enrollment process. More to come as we pool our resources and brain power to create a more streamlined process for this student group

### **Counseling and Student Success**

Spring SOAR sessions are scheduled for both the Weed and Yreka Campuses. Additional sessions will be added as needed or requested.

Beckie Hobbs, the newest COS Advisor, started on November 1. We are very excited to have Beckie, a former COS student. She has passion for students and is committed to the College. Beckie will be leaving a position in the DSPS office.

Program Review for 2016-2017 has been completed for the “Counseling” area. Goals include formalizing a distance counseling and advising program for students to increase service regardless of location, increased knowledge of career counseling and advising and program requirements for counseling/advising staff through professional development, and expanding mental health counseling and support.

The local high school counselors agreed to assist students with the COS application and to answer questions about our programs and services. We have received several invitations to visit high schools and those visits will be scheduled for the next month.

October and November are CSU and UC application months. This year seven Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) applications were submitted to University of California campuses from our students. The TAGs were due on September 30 and the students will be notified in November about their status. If denied, students can still apply and be admitted under standard criteria, but the approved TAG means they are guaranteed admission.

Dialog statewide continues regarding COMPASS schools' next steps in the delay of the CCCAssess (the Common Assessment). The Chancellor's Office has been very proactive and helpful in providing as much information on as many options as may be feasible for various campuses. COMPASS will cease to exist after November 30, so we are encouraging future students to take the COMPASS on or before that date. After, it is most likely that multiple measures assessment will be used for placement, with emphasis on high school transcript information. The approach of using multiple measures for math placement was implemented as part of the acceleration changes last fall and is based on the research findings of the Multiple Measures Assessment Project Pilot. Valerie will meet with the full-time English faculty to determine the process after November 30 in English course placement.

### **DSPS**

The DSPS Advisory Committee met October 26. It was very well attended with people from COS as well as county agencies and school personnel. This meeting gave the community stakeholders a chance to provide input into the DSPS program as well as learn what the program is doing to support college students with disabilities.

### **EOPS/CARE**

Second Progress Check-in for students was October 24 thru October 28. As an incentive to make contact, students were given gas vouchers or a gas voucher plus a meal card. Students continually express their gratitude for the support, and they are very complimentary of the food in Food Services.

The CARE program was awarded a COS Foundation Mini-Grant on Planning Day. This grant will be used to provide resume and interviewing success workshops and an "outfit" to CARE students. Because CARE funds cannot be used to provide clothing to students, the students will be styled for work appropriate clothes, compliments of the Eagle's Nest, after completing a workshop series which will include workshops on: resume writing, interviewing techniques, a mock interview, and shining at your new job.

### **Foster Youth**

Shannon Eller visited Stronghold Court School for the second time this year. Presentations were made to two groups of 10 to 12 students each. Shannon discussed opportunities for Foster Youth in college, and specifically highlighted the programs and services at College of the Siskiyous. Stronghold students cannot leave their campus and have very limited access to presenters. So, the staff and students are extremely appreciative of our visits. One of the teachers at Stronghold is the sister of one of our former students, Taylor Dunn, who went on the Eastern Illinois University on a scholarship and now is a Green Beret!

### **TRiO - SSS (Student Support Services) and Upward Bound**

On Saturday, October 22, the SSS and Upward Bound programs visited Chico State in their first "joint" venture. A total of 45 students attended. Students toured the campus, visited several different departments and the dorms, met folks from campus clubs, and had questions answered about programs and services.

Second Progress Check-in for students was October 24 thru October 28. SSS hosted an "Open House" on Friday, October 28, for students and staff. This event provided an opportunity for folks to see the SSS Program's new space.

The Upward Bound grant renewal competition is open for the opportunity for another 5 years of funding. The applications are due November 28, but ours will be submitted on November 20 due to the short week of Thanksgiving. Karen Tedsen, Stephanie Wroten, and Valerie Roberts along with the help of Tyler Morrison and Alysia Garcia are preparing information and writing for submission. Fingers crossed! This program has had a very positive impact on so many Siskiyou County high school students over the past 16 years, many of which have continued their educational goals at College of the Siskiyous.

### **Financial Aid**

Another busy month in the world of Financial Aid! October 1 was the new date students could complete their 2017-2018 FAFSA!! Moving the FAFSA filing date from January 1 every year to October 1 will provide students and their families with more time to plan and evaluate their choices regarding applying to colleges. However, the 2017-2018 FAFSA will ask for the same 2015 tax information used on the 2016-2017 FAFSA application. This can create conflicting information that will result in students who have completed their 2016-2017 FAFSA to submit additional documentation to the Financial Aid Office in order to continue receiving their financial aid.

The Financial Aid staff strongly encourages our returning and prospective students to utilize the IRS Data Retrieval Tool when completing their FAFSA in order to reduce the risk of providing conflicting information. We have currently 189 students in our system that have completed the 2017-2018 FAFSA!

Our new staff, Julie Williams and Amanda Alvarez, spent four days at Sierra College learning Banner and financial aid processes. They reported that they not only had a great time with the Sierra College financial aid staff, they were excited about all that they learned. The time spent at Sierra College allowed them a jump start in learning their new financial aid duties!

Karen Chandler and Jan Harris spent three days with an Ellucian consultant who went over our current Banner financial aid processes. This will allow her to evaluate and make recommendations to improve our current processes. Karen and Jan both learned a lot and are excited about working with Ellucian!

Our second major Pell disbursement went smoothly and we have now awarded a total of \$1,409,366 Pell Grants to 637 students! We will continue to award newly eligible students every two weeks until the end of the fall semester.

### **Student Life/Lodges**

We are in the midterm stretch and the students are busy. Lodges had some great programs this month and some of the programming included the following topics/events:

- Winter Safe Driving Tips
- Twister Ball (a pool hall game with multiple players)
- Are you smarter than a 5<sup>th</sup> grader?
- Popcorn Night
- Game Night with D and D and All Madden
- "Relationships" - Lauri Hunner
- Pumpkin Carving
- Hall Decorating Contest
- Birthday Party for all October Birthdays (including Karaoke)

Lodge students are looking forward to our "little trick-or-treaters" and will provide (trick or) treats for the children from the care center here on campus.

The House Counsel has a robust group this year and is working to create budgets for programming and activities for Lodge residents.

In November, Lodge residents not able to get home for the holiday will have a traditional Thanksgiving meal together cooked by Ty Speck and Cindy Martel, with donations provided by the Western Service Workers and our COS staff and faculty.

ASB and student clubs are alive and active! The COS Service Club had its first meeting and future meetings will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday. The club is looking forward to providing service both locally and internationally. More details after the next meeting.

Club Spectrum now meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday and will be presenting a display at the end of November to recognize Transgender Day of Remembrance.

ASB has some great things going on as well. In addition to assisting with the Halloween party, they have written a resolution supporting the Native American people of North Dakota in their resistance to the proposed pipeline. They are also working with the COS Service Club to revitalize the student discount program in our community.

***From all of us in Student Services  
Happy November everyone!  
The Holiday Season Has Begun!***



## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

October 14 was spent as a 'decluttering day' in our office. We archived 15 boxes and filled up two shred bins and there is more to do! New desks have been purchased, delivered, and installed. Next, we will have several walls painted and some doors installed for security and confidentiality purposes. Thank you to all for your patience while we go through this process.



*The Human Resource Team at the Keenan & Associates Dinner.*

sessions were led by various Human Resource professionals and lawyers from respected law firms. Nancy Miller graduated from the Human Resource Academy at this event and fun was had by all!

The Human Resource Department was able to attend the ACHRO Convention in Sacramento on October 18 thru October 21. All staff members were able to attend and participate in sessions regarding the various facets of human resources. These



*Congratulations to Nancy!*

Another successful Flu Shot Clinic occurred on October 27! Siskiyou Union High School Staff joined us for the second year and together we had over 75 participants!

The Human Resource Staff had its PIA with the Ellucian Consultant and participated in three days of intense discussion and planning. There is a long list of immediate to-do's and the staff is excited to implement the changes.

<b>Recruitment</b>	
<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>
Academic Advisor, General	Job Offer Accepted: Beckie Hobbs
Assistant Director, Student Housing	Job Offer Accepted: Jonathan Junpradub
Academic Advisor, Athletics	Failed Search
Administrative Assistant II, Technology	Interviews Scheduled
Student Equity Specialist	Reference Checking
Program Grant Manager, Basic Skills	Reference Checking
Executive Assistant I, Student Services	Interviews Scheduled
Electrician/HVAC Technician	Initial Meeting 11/2/2016
Instructional Support Specialist, Fine Arts	First Review 11/4/2016
Instructional Support Specialist, Performing Arts	First Review 11/4/2016
Interim Distance Learning Coordinator	Interviews Scheduled
Food Services Assistant (up to 3 positions)	First Review 11/7/2016
Custodian	First Review 11/7/2016

## **ACADEMIC SENATE**

The Senate accomplished one of its major goals for the academic year - realigning the COS General Education program. The faculty met from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Planning Day and worked through more than ten drafts of the General Education (GE) Program. The completed product will now make its way through the remainder of the participatory governance process. The faculty feel like they created a much more streamlined GE Program which students will be able to complete in a two-year period. Just as important, the program learning outcomes were reworked/condensed in order to make a program review for General Education workable for next academic year. The new GE program also includes a faculty approval list to determine which classes will be approved for GE as well as criteria to consider when approving courses for inclusion in the GE Program.

The Academic Calendar was approved by everyone and sent into the Chancellor's Office. No word from them yet, but we expect to hear soon so we can begin planning course schedules for 2017-2018.

Program Reviews are complete and the Program Review Committee will be forwarding the resource requests soon to Instruction Council.

The Distance Learning Committee, chaired by Maria Fernandez, has been incredibly busy and will continue to help transition faculty into Canvas over the next several months. Specifically, Ms. Fernandez has been training faculty in the Canvas system, fielding many questions about Canvas, and working with the committee to create a distance learning handbook that will include guidelines and best practices for faculty teaching online, hybrid, and video-conference courses. This is a monumental task and the Distance Learning Committee is to be commended for tackling it. I am told they should have a draft to the Senate soon.

Mike Graves and Elaine Eldridge attended a curriculum training held by the Chancellor's Office this month. This is part of the Curriculum Committee's efforts to create a comprehensive curriculum handbook and align our practices with others across the State. The Curriculum Committee recently sent a draft of the new Curriculum Handbook, which included more than 80 pages of processes, procedures, and guides related COS Curriculum, to the Senate for discussion. The Curriculum Handbook should go before the Senate for approval by January, 2017. Please thank the following people for making this happen:

Mike Graves, Curriculum Chair, Faculty  
Dave Clarke, Faculty  
Dr. Sunny Greene, Faculty  
Michele Korkowski, Faculty  
Charlie Roche, Faculty  
Jodi Dawson, Curriculum Secretary  
Elaine Eldridge, Coding Reviewer  
Maria Fernandez, Distance Learning Committee  
Dennis Roberts, Associate Dean, Instruction/Director, Athletics  
Valerie Roberts, Articulation Officer  
Dr. Robert Taylor, Dean of Career & Technical Education  
Dr. Gregory South, Dean of Student Learning  
Dr. Todd Scott, Vice President, Instruction

A special thanks to Mike Graves who personally labored over the handbook for months.

Many of our fall sports are winding down while sports like Basketball are in full swing. I hope that everyone can get out to watch a game or two. Also, the *Wizard of Oz*, a COS Theatre production, will be playing at COS over the next couple weeks. Purchase your tickets now if you have not already done so.

*No other reports were submitted this month.*