

COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOU

THE CAMPUS CONNECTION

April 4, 2017

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Accreditation Update

We are addressing the recommendations from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) and we intend to have the report that is due to the Commission in October pretty much completed by June 30. We continue to monitor developments that pertain to the ACCJC and the future of accreditation in California Community Colleges.

State Update

At this time, it appears that State funding for COS will be less than it was this year. The California Legislature is very busy working on Bills and we continue to monitor those that have a potential impact on California Community Colleges. Several potential Bills that if passed and signed into law by the Governor, could significantly impact revenues that come to the State of California from the Federal Government.

Federal Update

The Administration is relying on Executive Orders to move some of its initiatives forward. We continue to have a very hostile political environment. The current focus is on passing legislation to keep the Federal Government functioning after April.

Here at COS:

Discussions continue about increasing spending levels for the State budget for FY 2017-2018. The May revise, due out sometime around May 14, is when the Governor will provide updated numbers and details for his proposed State budget for next year. Overall, we continue to expect to have less money in the next year's COS Budget. We will have fairly accurate projections for the number of FTES that we will generate during FY 2016-2017 around April 15. We plan on using these numbers as we finalize our Tentative FY 2017-2018 COS Budget.

We recently updated our Resource Needs List and distributed it to the COS Community and posted it on the COS website in the Budget Advisory Council area. We intend to refer to the items that have not been accomplished or that are expecting to be included in the tentative FY 2017-2018 budget as we proceed with finalizing our tentative and then final budgets for next year.

We have accomplished a great deal this year as well as during the past couple years which will strengthen the ability of the College to be fiscally healthy going forward. The tentative budget will be available for everyone to see in June.

The expected contributions to the STRS and PERS retirement systems will be higher than initially anticipated due to revisions of earnings from investments by both of these systems to lower yields. This will result in higher expenditures in the COS Budget next year.

Summer and fall class schedules are being finalized and registration for summer and fall will be starting up later this month. We will be going to the compressed schedule beginning with the fall semester and we continue to hope to see increased enrollments next year. We are optimistic that the new four-week winter session in January 2018 will be beneficial to our students and also provide increased enrollments.

Classified Staff Development Day will be here soon. Senior staff is working with classified employee representatives to initiate some new special awards.

We are all proud of the COS Women's Basketball team placing second in the State. It seems that everyone who I have talked with since the State Tournament that did not attend watched the games on line! We are planning an event to recognize the team and our coaches. Stay tuned for details. ☺

The Facility Master Plan is close to completion and we will be taking the "draft" through the consultation councils over the next couple of months.

We have another very comprehensive Campus Connection document again this month, so I will keep my section short.

It sure seems like winter is not really interested in leaving us. Hopefully, the snow that fell on the Weed Campus the Friday before last will be the last one for quite a while. ☺

We continue to have an outstanding spring semester and it seems that everyone at COS is going "100 miles per hour." Thank you everyone for your dedication and commitment to making COS the very best that we can be!

FOUNDATION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Happy April! The month of March just flew by! Now that it's April...Spring Break is officially over, and we are on the down-slide to the end of the semester. It's going to go by fast – Get ready graduation...here we come!

In case you missed it, there have been some really great articles in the news over the past several weeks about the College, former and current students, sports, and much more.

- **COS Applied Ag Students Visit Local Ag Operations**
<http://www.siskiyoudaily.com/article/20170328/NEWS/170329620>
- **Memorable Season for COS Ends With a Loss in Title Game**
<http://www.siskiyoudaily.com/article/20170313/NEWS/170319943>
- **COS Tuition-Free Promise Expanding to Second Year**
<http://www.mtshastanews.com/article/20170318/NEWS/170319521/1995>
- **COS (31-2): State Runner-up Winner**
<http://www.mtshastanews.com/photogallery/CA/20170316/PHOTOGALLERY/316009999/PH/1>
- **Dailey Sisters Propel Siskiyous into State Championship Game**
<http://www.mtshastanews.com/article/20170312/SPORTS/170319948/1995>
- **Teacher Kristen Riccomini is 1st COS Athlete Inducted into State Hall of Fame**
Story published March 22, 2017 – Mount Shasta Area Newspapers (link unavailable)

Projects, projects, projects... The College of the Siskiyous/Foundation Annual Report for 2015/2016 was recently completed and has been distributed. It may also be viewed online at www.siskiyous.edu/publicrelations/reportsandforms.htm.

Lots of other projects are also in the works – the Life Long Learning brochure for non-credit/community education classes I mentioned last month has been sent to the designer/printer. Copies of the booklet are expected to hit all mailboxes in the county by May 1. We will also receive extra copies for our own distribution needs.

Promote your Class

As a reminder, as we get closer to the start of a new registration period (Reg365 for summer, fall, and spring 2017/2018), to send information for promotion to the Public Relations Office. We want classes and events to be successful and want to help out as much as we possibly can.

Upcoming Theater Performances

COS Spring Play

The COS Theater Department will present an evening of staged radio dramas, including Louise Fletcher's *Sorry, Wrong Number* and David Mamet's *The Water Engine*, opening Friday, April 14 at 7 p.m. in the COS Kenneth Ford Theater at the Weed Campus. Many remember *Sorry, Wrong Number* as the classic 1948 film starring Barbara Stanwyck and Burt Lancaster. However, it will be performed in its original radio drama form.

Sorry, Wrong Number is a mystery thriller which tells the story of a neurotic invalid, whose only contact with the outside world is her phone, and because of a crossed wire, hears the plans for a murder. This radio classic, originally done by Agnes Moorehead on *Suspense*, was one of radio's ten "bests" and is still being repeated as an outstanding study in suspense. *The Water Engine*, set in 1934 during the Chicago World Fair, tells the story of a young inventor who has found a way to run an engine on distilled water. When he attempts to patent his invention, he is at first ridiculed but then is threatened when he refuses to sell and then decides to go public with his earth shattering discovery. The *New York Times* describes the play as "extraordinary...verbal brilliance" and the *New York Daily News* called it "a vivid theatrical experience."

Performances are scheduled for Friday and Saturday evenings April 14, 15, 21, and 22, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 23, at 3 p.m. in the COS Kenneth Ford Theater. Advance tickets may be purchased from the COS Weed Campus Bookstore, Yreka Campus Business Office, or from Snow Creek Studios in Mt. Shasta. Tickets will also be sold from the Theater Box Office beginning one hour prior to each show. Cost to attend the performance is \$15 general and \$10 students/seniors (60+).

Prior to the performances on Saturday evening (April 15 and April 22) the COS Associated Student Body will be hosting "Dinner Before the Show" in the Weed Campus Student Center. The Dinner will be prepared by COS Food Services. Dinner tickets are \$15 per person and must be purchased in advance. The dinner menu consists of bacon-wrapped pork tenderloin, mixed seasonal vegetables, salad, and dessert. Non-alcoholic drinks are included with the meal. For questions regarding the meal or to reserved dinner tickets, contact Doug Haugen, Director of Student Life, at (530) 938-5295. Tickets for "Dinner Before the Show" may also be purchased from the same ticket outlets as show tickets (Weed Campus Bookstore, Yreka Campus Business Office, and Snow Creek Studios in Mt. Shasta)

Siskiyou Senior Players

Also showing in April, the Siskiyou Senior Players will return for their 11th annual spring variety show *Are We Nuts Yet?* directed by DeLeon Grabowski with material written by the Siskiyou Senior Players. For your enjoyment Freddie and Martha Sue Skidmarker return along with Morton Preston, Wynona Busty, Ethel Murmer, and Missy Steppe. Join us as we present the first annual *Ms. Senior Jefferson Pageant*, and the opportunity to be a guest on *Mornin Siskiyou*, where all of Siskiyou County's latest happenings, news, and gossip are presented before you and the live audience.

Are We Nuts Yet? will show in the Weed Campus Black Box Studio Theater on Friday and Saturday evenings, April 28 and 29 and May 5 and 6 at 7 p.m. Sunday afternoon shows will be held on April 30 and May 7 at 2 p.m. Tickets for the show will be available for purchase beginning April 3 at the following locations: COS Weed Campus Bookstore, COS Yreka Campus Business Office, and in Mt. Shasta at the Fifth Season and Snow Creek Studios. Cost to attend is a suggested donation of \$10. Limited seating is available and the content is for mature audiences.

Foundation

COS Foundation Scholarship applications were due March 15. This years' number of applicants is significantly lower than in years past. I believe the reason is due to us now offering the Siskiyou Promise award. The Scholarship readers will meet at the end of April to review applications and select recipients for the 2017/2018 awards.

Eagle's Nest

Sales at the Eagle's Nest this past month have been outstanding!! The Shop has been receiving lots of high quality furniture donations that have literally been sold as they are put on the sales floor!

April is National Volunteer Appreciation Month. Please stop by the Eagles Nest to say "Hi" and "Thank You" to our many volunteers for giving their personal time in support of the College and our students. The volunteers have really put a lot of effort in providing our community with low-cost, quality items and a relaxed atmosphere in which to shop. The Eagle's Nest is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please stop by and see what the Eagle's Nest has to offer.

April Events:

Here's what's coming up in April:

April 3 - 8

- April 4: Siskiyou County Middle School Choir Festival – 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., COS Theater
- April 4: COS Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting, Closed Session at 4:30 p.m./Open Public Session at 6 p.m., Board Room
- April 6: ASB Movie Night – Showing Pulp Fiction – 7 p.m., COS Theater
- April 8: Softball vs. Butte College – 12 p.m. and 2 p.m., Softball Field

April 9 - 15

- April 14 and 15: COS Theater Department Spring Play "The Water Engine" and "Sorry, Wrong Number" – 7 p.m., COS Theater

April 16 - 22

- April 20: COS Speakers Series Presentation "Molecular Carpentry" – 7 p.m., Science Building Room 210 (Free Community Presentation)
- April 21: Softball vs. Shasta College – 12 p.m. and 2 p.m., Softball Field
- April 21 and 22: COS Theater Department Spring Play "The Water Engine" and "Sorry, Wrong Number" – 7 p.m., COS Theater
- April 22: Softball vs. Feather River College – 12 p.m. and 2 p.m., Softball Field

April 23 - 29

- April 23: COS Theater Department Spring Play "The Water Engine" and "Sorry, Wrong Number" – 3 p.m., COS Theater
- April 24: Priority Registration for Reg365 Opens for Summer/Fall/Spring
- April 25: ASB Elections – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Student Center
- April 25: Public Community Forums "Meet the Final Candidates for COS President/Superintendent" – Time and Location TBA
- April 26: Baseball vs. Feather River College – 12 p.m. and 3 p.m., Baseball Field
- April 28 and 29: Senior Theater Presents "Are We Nuts Yet?" – 7 p.m., Black Box Theater (T4)

April 30 – May 6

- April 30: Senior Theater Presents "Are We Nuts Yet?" – 2 p.m., Black Box Theater (T4)

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The State revenues are still lagging a bit behind where we would like to see them. I am anxious to see if the reports begin to show improvement with corporate taxes coming in during the month of March. There may be some significant capital gains being reported as individual taxes start rolling in as well.

The District is still working on compiling our budget. Using our Banner budget module should make the process go more smoothly, at least when it comes time to upload the budget in July for the new year. We have been receiving positive feedback from those who are utilizing the program this year. Next year, everyone will be using the Banner budget module.

Food Services

Food Services is gearing up for lots of end of the year catering events. This is not only great because it brings in extra revenue but it gets the word out as to how good the food is that is being prepared in our cafeteria. Don't forget that our menu is posted weekly on the website and you too can purchase a meal card. Hope to see you all in our area soon.

Information Technology

Information Technology (IT) is working toward wrapping up the migration to the Cloud environment. The target dates are April 14 through April 16. The various issues that prevented the earlier implementation in February have hopefully been all discovered and addressed.

As you know, the purchasing deadline has been set for April 15. If you have technology requests that need to be reviewed, please make sure you that allow enough time for our analysis and for your request to travel through the approval process before the year-end deadline. Our area can get flooded with requests so the earlier the better. A week to ten days is often needed if you need help in determining exactly what to buy.

Lastly, we want to welcome TJ Baugus to our team. TJ comes to us on a limited engagement with 12 years of experience working with Ellucian. Her primary focus will be helping us with the Ellucian project over the next 18 months. We are excited to have her and look forward to her contribution to the College.

Maintenance

The snow plow attachments are being removed and stored for the season while landscaping and turf equipment is made ready for spring. This year's storms required tons of ice melting compound and road cinders, multiple school closures, and many hours of overtime. Siskiyou County was declared a disaster area. However, COS was very fortunate to have only minor damage and one injury from the record storms.

Project news - The Athletic Training Center and Human Resource remodels are finished. The baseball visitor dugout repair is nearly complete. The pavement rehabilitation project is in design and scheduled to begin in June and continuing throughout the summer. Roughly one-fourth of the campus pavement will be repaired including pavement from the Gym to the Discovery Daycare Center. Traffic and parking will be strategically rerouted to accommodate repairs. Quotes are coming in for the boiler replacement in the LRC and the Lodges; the welding roof should go to bid in April; and the replacement of spalling and cracked concrete in Yreka and Weed are under design.

The revised COS building space inventory has been approved by the Chancellor's Office. This inventory was recently updated by physically measuring every building exterior and room confirming size and use; 288,100 square feet, 68 structures and over 550 rooms were hand measured. These measurements are critical as they are used to calculate the District's annual Scheduled Maintenance and Construction program funding.

INSTRUCTION

With the assistance of Karen Tedsen, Neil Carpentier-Alting, and Nick Fabio, we submitted a grant request to the Shasta Regional Community Foundation for a projector upgrade in the Theater that would allow us to show movies and presentations on a large scale; 3D IMAX capabilities will be next for the theater.

I met with representatives of Great Northern Services to begin discussions concerning partnering with Cal Poly in the development of a construction or construction management program.

The Fire Advisory Committee met on campus on March 22. Fire What? gave a great presentation regarding the use of GIS and drones for public safety agencies. Discussions also surrounded the changes to the Fire curriculum and the potential for dual-enrolled fire courses.

I attended the North Far North CTE Consortium meeting at Yuba College on Friday March 24. I had a chance to tour their manufacturing and welding facilities. I brought back many ideas as we continue to develop our programs. Thanks to Dean Daren Otten for the hospitality and willingness to share his knowledge and ideas.

The College will receive \$345,341.75 as part of a consortium effort to continue to build upon the manufacturing program. This funding comes from the Strong Workforce Regional Consortium Initiative and involves cooperative agreements with Yuba, Butte, Sacramento City, Sierra, American River, College of the Redwoods, and Shasta College.

We will also be looking to fill a grant-funded position for the development of apprenticeships for a Department of Labor grant through American River College. Funding is for three years and will support the development of the manufacturing program as well.

Research and Evaluation

Work has begun or is in process for the following:

- Employee survey about shared governance committees. Seventy-nine employees responded. Survey data has been disaggregated and distributed to chairs of shared governance committees.
- The ACCJC annual data report on students, courses, enrollments, and outcomes.
- Development and/or revision of Institutional Set Standards per accreditation finding.
- Cleaning up data for CTE Outcomes Survey Program allowing for additional data to be collected about our CTE graduates.
- Future ARGOS training to be held on campus at a future date.

STUDENT SERVICES

Vice President of Student Services

This past month, Student Services continued to work on preparing for recruitment, registration, new students, and improving services. Here are a few things that came across my desk in March:

This past month, I attended a southern Siskiyou County poverty discussion, hosted by the Siskiyou Community Services Council and the Ford Foundation, at Lily's restaurant in Mount Shasta. The intention of the discussion was to improve conditions in our community by improving our understanding of poverty. We talked about both generational and situational poverty in our county, and that regardless of the town, each area had its own pocket of impoverished citizens. Participants ranged from representatives from education and government to concerned citizens. It was a good to see so many people with genuine concern for the disadvantaged in our community.

I attended the EOPS Region I meeting that Shannon Eller and Val Roberts hosted this past month. EOPS staff from other Region I colleges shared their ideas and updates regarding their programs. Many of these programs work closely with Student Equity to provide extra support to economically disadvantaged students. For example, one college bought crock pots and held a cooking class on healthy crock pot meals. At the end of the class, students took home a meal for their families and a new crock pot. I enjoyed being part of the discussion and learning more about this outstanding program.

This past month, we began looking at the creation of a Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) plan. A SEM plan is a data-informed plan that looks at both the college and community resources and needs to determine the best strategies to build and/or sustain enrollment. I reached out to three organizations: Ruffalo Noel Levitz, the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Officers, and Interact Communications for possible assistance in the development of the plan. Additionally, Meghan Witherell, Regina Weston, Janice Gonzalez, Dr. Doug Haugen, Jan Keen, and I participated in a free webinar by Ruffalo Noel Levitz, which gave an overview of a SEM plan and also shared their findings on environmental trends. I'm looking forward to the creation of the SEM plan and the assistance it will provide the College as we look toward our future.

Meghan, Doug, Janice, and I continued our training on International Student processes and participated in a "F-1 Student Status Violations" webinar. The big take-aways for me were to make sure we use the correct terminology (for example, there's no such thing as a "VISA status," it is called "Non-Immigrant status"), and that we ensure that the correct timing of processes are in place. Our Admissions and Records Director, Meghan Witherell, will take the lead on International Student applications and registrations. Thanks Meghan!

We are still updating our recruitment materials and recently updated our "information packet," which is mailed to all potential students. This packet now includes a welcome letter and informational pieces on our Academic Programs, Student Services, Lodges, Siskiyou County activities, and Athletic Programs. We are also working with a local graphic designer to create a view-book. More updates to come! I plan to create a "scrap book" of sorts to showcase all of our new materials once it's complete.

Valerie Roberts, Shannon Eller, Tyler Morrison, and I met with Chris LaMarr from UC Davis, whose focus was on the Native American Student Initiative. Chris wants to partner with College of the Siskiyous to reach out to Native Americans and other under-represented populations to promote the community college to university pipeline. Chris has tentatively agreed to be part of our Week of Welcome and also agreed to disseminate College of the Siskiyous information cards at the outreach events he attends. As a result, Meghan and the Admissions and Records staff created a COS to UC Transfer postcard as a marketing piece. We are looking forward to a great partnership!

At this month's President's Advisory Council, Doug provided information and training on our Behavior Intervention Team (BIT), emergency responses, and how we use the National Behavior Intervention Team Association (NaBITA) threat assessment tool. Doug's presentation prompted a lively discussion about assessing risk and response. Please feel free to invite Doug and members from the BIT to a department meeting for a discussion and information sharing on these subjects. We want all of our campus community members to be aware of our resources and how to best address students who may be dysregulated. For additional information, please see our PDF on the Student Services webpage, at http://www.siskiyous.edu/student-services/documents/behavior_intervention_team.pdf.

Lastly, at our last Diversity Committee meeting, Theresa proposed that this group also serve as the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Advisory Committee. This would include such things as review and advising on recruitment efforts, advising on special training and staff development, as well as review and approve the annual EEO Plan. The Committee agreed that the spirit and role of the EEO Advisory Committee is similar to our

student diversity interests and agreed to serve in both capacities. Furthermore, in order to strengthen our focus as a "Diversity Committee," we will take a half a day in April to define our mission and establish goals for the 2017-18 academic year.

In closing, it was a beautiful winter – but I'm glad it's spring. Happy April Everyone!

"Despite the forecast, live like it's spring." - Lilly Pulitzer



Admissions and Records

Along with many Information Technology staff members, Meghan is attending the Banner Conference (CISOA & 3CBG) and we are eager to hear all of the ideas that she will bring back, especially those that will streamline the admissions and registration processes for students—a continued goal for Admissions and Records.

We will be busy preparing for priority registration, as well as responding to information inquiries from potential students and following up with post cards and information packets.

Currently, we have nine international student applications. One student has been issued an I-20 and we are in the process of issuing another student an I-20. The international student application process is lengthy and has a lot of requirements; however, Coach Kephart and our potential students have been in constant contact. These students and their parents have been incredibly patient with the process and diligent about submitting their forms in a timely fashion. We've been doing our best to answer all of their questions and have already scheduled a campus tour and SOAR session for at least one of the students.

The Student Ambassadors recently sat through a presentation on the history of the college. Fun fact: Did you know that Mt. Eddy was named after Olive Eddy, the first woman to climb Mt. Shasta? The Student Ambassadors are now very knowledgeable regarding COS's history and are prepared and ready to give campus tours. Feel free to suggest a tour to any students interested in attending COS. They can call the Recruitment/Student Ambassador Office at 530-938-5847.

Counseling and Student Success

Counseling and Advising

The Counseling and Student Support Programs office staff are preparing for the opening of registration for summer, fall, and spring. Priority registration for EOPS, CalWORKs, Veterans, DSPS, and Foster Youth begins on April 24, and students have already started making appointments with counselors. Advisors have walk-in availability.

Nearly all the local high schools have scheduled their on-site SOAR sessions! Those will be happening mid-May.

We were contacted by Barbara Porteous at Mt. Shasta High School (MSHS) to host a half-day event for their sophomores. The event is scheduled for Friday, April 7. Barbara requested presentations from the areas of Administration of Justice, Fire, Emergency Medical Services, Computer Science, and also a campus tour. The students will be on campus from 8:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Beckie Hobbs and Amanda Greene coordinated the effort, and we appreciate their work to make this event a positive one for the MSHS students.

CalWORKs

Valerie Roberts, Marlena Shaffer, and Shannon Eller attended the CalWORKs Association meeting and the technical training presented by the Chancellor's Office. This annual training ensures directors, coordinators, and other key staff are current on policies, funding formula changes, year-end reporting, audit information, and best practices.

DSPS

Sunny Greene was again selected to participate in the review for bias and sensitivity for the mathematics sections of CCCAssess. Sunny had previously been selected to review the English portion of the assessment.

We are hosting the Region I DSPS Directors' spring meeting on April 21. However, due to the small number of directors (six of us in the region) and the large geographical area of the region, we will have our first Zoom video streaming meeting. We are looking forward to using technology to help the directors support each other within our region.

EOPS/CARE

To date, we have 23 EOPS students who are candidates for graduation. EOPS can pay for the students' cap and gown. We are also preparing for priority registration for the upcoming academic year.

Shannon Eller, Marlena Shaffer, and Valerie Roberts attended the EOPS Association meeting and the EOPS/CARE Technical Training presented by the Chancellor's Office. As with the CalWORKs annual event, this training ensures currency of information for staff working in the program.

The "Interview to Impress" workshop series for CARE students has had 100 percent attendance and the students say they love the series. A "thank you" to those who are presenting these workshops: Shannon Eller, Beckie Hobbs, Michelle Knudsen and an interview panel consisting of Josh Collins, Marlena Shaffer, Shannon Eller, and Valerie Roberts.

Foster Youth Success Program

FYSP Monthly Meet Ups are being attended and those who are in attendance have appreciated the food, conversations and games. They enjoy the relaxation with their "crazy" school and work schedules.

Student Success and Support Programs – SSSP

English faculty requested to include ACCUPLACER (one of the standardized assessments approved by the Chancellor's Office) as one of the multiple measures used for placement in English courses. The ACCUPLACER folks have been contacted, preliminary information has been collected, and the next steps are being determined. The timeline for implementation is not yet set.

Josh Collins, Valerie Roberts, Eric Houck, and David Gault participated in a "Start Up" meeting regarding the implementation of Comevo, an online orientation program.

Counselors are preparing to meet with Siskiyou Promise students who have yet to complete a comprehensive education plan. A list of current Siskiyou Promise students is being updated with "completion" marked for those who have education plans and the students who do not yet have a comprehensive education plan will be contacted to meet with a counselor so one can be developed.

Transfer and Articulation

We have an updated and approved Transfer Center Plan. This current version will be posted online.

Sunny Greene is now the college's Articulation Officer. Sunny will be doing all things related to articulation, including course-to-course agreements, submission of our new and revised courses to the CSUs and UCs for transfer status approval, and submission of our courses for C-ID approval.

Sunny recently attended the Northern California Intersegmental Articulation Council meeting in Sacramento. The purpose of the Council shall be to advocate for and to serve as a forum for Northern California articulation professionals to meet, discuss and resolve transfer, articulation, and curricular issues, and to facilitate the progress of students between and among the segments of postsecondary education in California.

TRiO – Student Support Services (SSS) and Upward Bound

Spring has marked recruitment and summer planning season for TRiO programs. We are looking for college/transfer-bound students to join one of our programs at College of the Siskiyous. Upward Bound (UB) and Student Support Services (SSS) are for motivated students who want to earn a bachelor's degree. Students can qualify for either program by being first generation and/or low income. There is no cost to participate in either program.

Summer dates for TRiO are set. UB's Summer Program (June 18 – July 27) curriculum will be widely derived from "Serial" an investigatory podcast series. Each week will promote different learning strategies in efforts to increase student engagement. SSS and UB will launch our first annual TRiO Summer Bridge (July 16 – July 20). First year college students will be provided with various workshops geared toward orientating into the college setting.

Veterans

Denis Hagarty attended the statewide Veterans Summit in Sacramento this past month. The purpose of the Veterans Summit is to ensure information and effective practices can be shared between faculty, administrators, and staff who work with student veterans on California Community College, California State University, and University of California campuses.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid held an outreach event, "Spring into Action" on March 15. Karen Chandler and Regina Weston spoke to students about applying for financial aid and had a great time letting students spin the Financial Aid Wheel of Fortune to win fabulous prizes!! This event also included letting students know they can still apply for the 2016-2017 school year and provided assistance in applying for the 2017-2018 school year.



Jan Harris is currently attending the Financial Aid Directors Meeting sponsored by the California Community College Student Financial Aid Association (CCCSFAA) which is held in Monterey, California, this year. It was a fast-paced first day that covered not only the upcoming financial aid federal changes, but held discussions regarding Cal Fresh (prior food stamp program) to eligible college students and Strategic Enrollment Management plans. It's exciting to be a part of programs that will promote student success!

We are almost ready to notify students that they can begin submitting their 2017-2018 documents! This will allow students to complete their 2017-2018 files in order to access their financial aid awards posted on their COS Navigator.

Financial Aid had the second major Pell disbursement the week of March 20, 2017. We have awarded 807 students a total of \$2,822,719.00. At this time, 1,149 students who have completed a FAFSA have received a BOGW B and 534 students have received a BOGW C. We have awarded 175 students a Cal Grant B and out of those students, 140 who were enrolled in 12 or more units, received an additional \$600 (\$300 per semester) in the new Full-Time Student Incentive Grant.

Student Equity

Our 2017-2018 Siskiyou Promise Application was available online at the beginning of March, and applications have been coming in daily. Thanks to the success of this first-year Promise Program, word is spreading and we hope to increase our numbers for next school year. A spring check-in letter was sent out to all current Siskiyou Promise students letting them know of the requirements to receive a "Second Year Continuation Promise Scholarship." Current promise students must schedule an appointment with a counselor to complete a comprehensive student education plan before August 1. They must also enroll for the fall 2017 semester as a full-time student (12-15 units or more). Also, they must remain in good academic standing, which is maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.0 and receive credit for at least 67 percent of total units attempted. If students have questions regarding the Siskiyou Promise Program, please refer them to the Campus Resource Center located in the Welcome Center or have them call Regina Weston directly at 938-5367.

Our Pre-S.O.A.R. outreach activities are continuing throughout the county. During these visits, Regina will be meeting with local high school seniors to make sure that they have completed their FAFSA, CCC Apply, and Siskiyou Promise Application, as well as answer any questions that they may have. Regina will also be collecting their transcripts and test scores so that we will have them ready to go before their scheduled S.O.A.R. date. We are hoping that these Pre-S.O.A.R. events will help us be prepared for each school's scheduled S.O.A.R. so that they will run smoothly and efficiently. So far, we have pre-S.O.A.R. events scheduled at Etna High School, Golden Eagle Charter School in Yreka and Mt. Shasta, and Happy Camp High School. We are hoping to schedule dates at other schools in the coming weeks leading up to our on-site S.O.A.R.s scheduled for the first few weeks in May.

Our partnerships between Student Equity, Adult Education Pathways, and the local Community Resource Centers continue to grow. Our first Adult Education Outreach event will take place at the Dunsmuir Community Resource Center on Wednesday, April 19, at 5:30 p.m., during the dinner portion of their parenting education class. We are anxious to see how this works out and if we feel it is successful, we will begin scheduling similar events at other resource centers throughout the county. We also are partnering with the Dunsmuir Resource Center to provide an informational booth at the Dogwood Days festival on Saturday, May 27, in Dunsmuir.

As some of you know, the WIC (Women, Infants and Children) program holds their clinic on campus once a month in the ESTC Building, Room 110. Student Equity is partnering with First 5 Siskiyou to provide age appropriate toys and activities for the children and parents to use while they wait for their appointments. WIC travels throughout the county and creating an inviting space while they are here at the College will be a great benefit to the WIC staff, parents, and children.

In closing, please remember that help is available in the Welcome Center. If students come to you with questions regarding the Siskiyou Promise, Financial Aid, or if they are having issues with transportation, etc., please refer them to Regina for help. They can receive one-on-one attention and get their questions answered.

Student Lodges/Associated Student Board (ASB)

In early March, all Student Services employees and Business Office staff participated in a workshop to learn about assessing and de-escalating crisis situations. The session was presented by Jeremiah LaRue.

The Lodges officially closed for spring break; however, accommodations were coordinated for 35 residents who needed to participate in College programs during the break.

In the month of March, resident advisors and the Lodge Student Government coordinated a spirit week. Students decorated hallways for themes each day, including pajamas day and superhero day. A dodge ball tournament and a tri-tip BBQ were also held during spirit week.

We have received 17 housing applications as of spring break for the 2017-2018 year. ASB Senator and Student Trustee elections are scheduled for April 24 and 25. Resident Advisor (RA) applications are being accepted through April 7 followed by interviews and a final selection process. The six successful RA candidates will be announced the first week of May.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Happy spring? As a new member of the Weed community, I am finding that spring does not necessarily mean spring! Mary Mericle told me that I could begin planting when Black Butte had no snow. Then someone told me that it has snowed in July. Well, that means no plants except for August? Oh well...Here's what's happening in Human Resources:

Recruitment	
Position	Status
Food Services Assistant	Erika Triquet, Julia Fernandez
Administrative Assistant III, Human Resources	Julie Meadows
FIELD Instructional Service Agreement (ISA) Director	Samantha Worthington
Distance Learning Coordinator	Anne-Marie Kuhlemann
Student Services Specialist, A&R	Final Interviews Scheduled
Administrative Assistant II, MOT	Interviews Scheduled
Superintendent/President	Interviews Scheduled
Music Instructor, Instrumental Performance	First Review 4/10/2017
Food Services Assistant	First Review 4/12/2017
Vice President, Administrative Services	First Review 4/24/2017
Political Science Instructor	Committee formed, first meeting scheduled

- HireTouch is expected to be implemented in May; it will save a lot of paper. Job requisitions are online with no paper signatures required, applicants will apply online, and hiring committees will review applications online. Time and paper savings. HireTouch also includes electronic performance reviews. Brynn Fogerty is in testing mode now.
- Board Policies are in review and will go to College Council for review and then to the Board for approval.
- Julie Meadows has joined the Human Resource team as an Administrative Assistant III.
- Nancy Miller and I attended a legal conference – keeping up with the latest in employment law is an additional job!
- The Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) plan as required by the State is in draft form. It's due to the state by June 30, 2017.
- Kelly Groppi and I are working with our Keenan insurance representative, Susan Vogt, to review other medical plans. We just want to see what is out there in case we can get the same or better benefits at a lower cost.
- The Classified Staff Development Committee has proposed the Classified Staff Day's agenda which is being reviewed by Executive Cabinet. It's shaping up to be a very good day!
- The Superintendent/Presidential search is definitely in full swing. Initial interviews are this month.
- Tina Schoffstoll has completed the new Volunteer Policy which will be implemented on April 15. The new policy requires that all volunteers be fingerprinted and have a TB assessment.
 - A negative TB assessment and fingerprinting must be done prior to beginning their duties. The new Volunteer Application is on the HR webpage. Volunteers approved prior to April 15 will have 30 days to turn in a TB test/assessment and Live Scan fingerprinting. All new volunteers are required to have these items completed prior to beginning their duties. College of the Siskiyous will reimburse volunteers (only) for either the TB Skin Test or the TB Risk Assessment and the Live Scan once proof of payment is submitted to Human Resources.

- We are now offering TB assessments and TB skin tests on campus in the Student Health Clinic, in Ponderosa Lodge. Clinic hours are Wednesday's at 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. TB skin test dates are TBA. Guest lecturers will be exempt from the volunteer policy.



ACADEMIC SENATE

The spring is an especially busy time for faculty. In addition to their normal duties, the faculty are serving on several hiring committees, including the one for the new Superintendent/President, the Vice President of Administrative Services, the Political Science and Music Instructors, and numerous others. Over the last year, COS has hired many positions; more than 50. However, less than 5 percent of those positions have been for full-time faculty. While the College has been very careful to maintain the Faculty Obligation Number (FON), most small colleges in California have faculty numbers that exceed the FON, which is a minimum number of full-time faculty needed to sustain a college. The full-time faculty numbers are down 16 percent from their historical high. Running a college with this few faculty is not sustainable, especially since COS is losing the San Francisco Police Academy in June 2017. COS will no longer be able to earn a large chunk of its FTES without full-time faculty. The Academic Senate encourages the COS Board of Trustees to restore the faculty ranks in anticipation of the need to generate more FTES.

- A group of COS Faculty will be attending a reading apprenticeship conference. While there, they will attend a session on how to incorporate reading assistance across curricula and form an apprenticeship team to help implement reading solution for underprepared students.
- The Curriculum Committee continues to prepare for the transition to eLumen and cleared about 50 courses out of the curriculum queue last month. There are about 50 more to go before the transition to eLumen can begin in full.
- All of the untenured faculty members were recommended for new contracts at the last Board meeting. The Senate would like to formally congratulate everyone who made it through the process.
- The Distance Education (DE) Committee continues to work on refining DE processes. Right now, they are working on definitions for distance education modalities and recently recommended that COS adopt Proctorio, an online exam proctoring service.
- The Equivalency Committee is working on the interdisciplinary lists and on updates to the Equivalency Procedure.
- An Ad-Hoc Committee was formed to rework our credit by exam process; they expect to present their work to the Academic Senate in April.
- Senate Exec recently worked with Bart Scott to settle on Intuitional Set Standards for Basic Skills courses, CTE classes as well as others. These recommendations will go to the full Academic Senate in April and should be presented to the Board in May 2017.

No other reports were submitted this month.