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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COS Board of Trustees Meeting – January 9, 2018

Weed / COS – In his staff report to the Board Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker – Superintendent / President provided a brief summary regarding highlights of what has been happening on campus and interactions in the community. Dr. Schoonmaker also reported he and Samantha Worthington were in Bakersfield on December 14 to attend and speak at a press conference announcing a \$1.3M grant received by the Farmworkers Institute for Education and Leadership Development (FIELD) in which College of the Siskiyous will be one of several college and university. Following the press conference, Dr. Schoonmaker and Ms. Worthington toured FIELD headquarters in Tehachapi and visited multiple FIELD classes before ending the day at CSU-Bakersfield at a community forum and a viewing of a new documentary entitled, *American Migrant Stories*.

According to Melissa Green – Vice President of Student Services, the college has received 504 applications from perspective students for spring 2018 semester, and the office is working with those students to complete their FASFA or Financial Aid file, orientation and registration process. She also reported 349 students are registered for the Winter Intersession (January 2 – 27) and 1,416 for the spring term beginning January 30.

Dr. Todd Scott shared with the Trustees, COS will be offering an Introduction to Entrepreneurship course this spring as part of a Self-Employment Pathways in the Gig Economy grant. The college will be developing two small business start-up incubators which will be located one on each campus to help entrepreneur students start new businesses. COS is partnering with the Small Business Development Center, JEDI and other local agencies to provide coaching and other support to students in this class who plan to start a business. He also reported the Academic Success Center (ASC) is gearing up to begin offering student success workshops during the spring semester. Topics which support student academic and career success will be offered. Faculty may wish to require attendance or offer extra credit for participation in these workshops. The schedule will be announced as workshop dates are confirmed. Dr. Scott also announced Cooperative Work Experience classes are available for

students who need or want extra units. Students can earn college credit for working in a paid or volunteer job. Units are transferrable and work experience looks good on a student's resume.

Vice President Melby reported she and Dr. Schoonmaker will be traveling to Sacramento later in January to attend the annual Governor's Budget Workshop where the Governor will announce his proposed budget for 2018/2019 fiscal year. Budgeting for the 2018/2019 year will begin at the end of January. Information received at the Governor's workshop will be shared with the many different college committees which resume their meetings in February.

Theresa Richmond, Associate Vice President of Human Resources, reported three COS employees received a semi-annual Professional Growth Award (PGA) in December. The goals of the PGA program are intended to improve job-related skills, provide an atmosphere of growth and vitality, and encourage ongoing participation in formal education and training. The employees who received a Professional Growth Award were Tina Schoffstoll (Human Resources), Regina Weston (Student Services – Equity/Promise), and Jonathan Junpradub (Student Services – Lodges). Employees may receive only one award during a twelve month period.

The Trustees approved the Sabbatical Leave Request for Dave Clarke for the 2018 spring semester. All full-time instructors are eligible to apply for periodic sabbatical leaves approximately every eight years. The District will replace Clarke during the sabbatical with part-time faculty. During his sabbatical, Clarke will develop an online version of anatomy and physiology.

Vice President Green presented the Board with the newly written 2017/2019 Basic Skills Initiative, Student Equity, and Student Success and Support Programs Integrated Plan. Basic Skills Initiative, Student Equity, and Student Success and Support Programs (SSSP) are three of the California Community College Chancellor's Office categorical programs which seek to provide services for students. The grant-funded Basic Skills Initiative (BSI) began in 2006 with the goals of improving student access and success for students assessing into basic skills level courses in math and English as well as courses in ESL. To address these concerns, colleges receive an annual allocation for use within four general categories: administrative oversight and organizational planning, professional development, assessment and placement, and instructional practices. COS implemented its first Student Equity Plan in 2014/2015, which focused on: increasing access, course completion, ESL and basic skills completion, degrees, certificates, and transfer for disadvantaged populations that have been "disproportionally impacted." Since its inception, Student Equity has focused and funded direct services to students. These services include, but are not limited to, book vouchers (Siskiyou Promise eligible and "time out" EOPS and CalWORKs students), outreach to identified populations, and staff who provide services to the Student Equity Program. In 2014/2015, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office attached funding to efforts formerly known as matriculation, and called the new initiative Student Success and Support Programs (SSSP). The overall goal of SSSP is to increase support for students and decrease the amount of time it takes

a student to complete their educational goal. All students who declare a goal of earning a certification and/or Associate degree and/or transfer are required to participate in the SSSP core services.

Until 2016/2017, each initiative/program was required to submit an annual program plan, mid-year expenditure report, and year-end report to the Chancellor's Office. These individual plans showed that partnerships existed between the initiatives on many campuses including College of the Siskiyous. In 2016, the Chancellor's Office determined an Integrated Plan was the best way to ensure colleges were collaborating in the implementation of their BSI, Student Equity, and SSSP efforts. The development of the 2017/2019 Integrated Plan allowed staff time to collect and report data, reflect on previous goal attainment, and develop future goals for which collaboration between the three initiatives will ensure increased support to students. The Plan has been vetted through various councils and groups on campus for information sharing, feedback, and input. Trustees approved the 2017/2019 Basic Skills Initiative, Student Equity, and Student Success and Support Programs Integrated Plan.

Other Significant Board Action

- Approved the Consent Agenda (Reading of the Minutes; Disbursement Summary; 2018/2019 Academic Calendar; Presentation of January 2018 Personnel List; Excused Absence of Governing Board Member; 2018 Baseball and Softball Schedules; and, Dates of Upcoming Board Meetings).
- Reviewed Board Policy from Chapter 4 – Academic Affairs (4010) as a first reading.
- Approved adoption of Board Policy: Chapter 6: Business and Fiscal Affairs (6307) as a second and final reading.
- Approved Revisions to Board Policies from Chapter 2 – Board of Trustees (2015, 2105, and 2725) as a second and final reading.
- Approved the nonresident tuition fee at the reduced rate of \$258 per semester unit and maintain a \$35 processing fee for nonresident international students for the 2018/2019 fiscal year.
- Approved the revised job description and salary range for the Payroll Specialist classification.
- Appointed Board representatives as primary contacts for various state and local organizations.
- Approved the Retiree Health Actuarial Study report.
- Approved the addition of the Advanced Manufacturing Advisory Committee to the list of Career & Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Committees for 2017/2018.

The next regular COS Board of Trustees meeting will be held February 6, 2018 at the Weed Campus in the Board Room. Closed session will begin at 5 p.m. followed by the public open session beginning at 6 p.m.