

COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOU

THE CAMPUS CONNECTION

February 10, 2015

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Obama Proposal for Free Community Colleges – The President's proposal has generated a lot of debate and we continue to monitor the discussions. Funding a program like this is certainly a difficult challenge in light of the current state of the conversation in Washington. We are expecting more information after the AADCC National Legislative Summit in Washington DC later this month.

State Budget Cautions – In the days that have followed the budget release in January, there has been a great deal of conversation about the Governor's proposal for FY 2015-2016. As the Governor acknowledged in his proposed budget, we have numerous looming demands including STRS and PERS increases, needed additional faculty and staff, restoration of our categorical programs, as well as the overall need to restore at least some of the lost purchasing power that we have experienced due to several years of no Cost of Living Adjustments. It is wonderful to see our budgets beginning to be restored, but how we handle this additional support will be important not only in the coming year, but the coming decade as well. We are not likely to see increases of this level in the foreseeable future, so beginning to solve some of our upcoming financial challenges will be extremely important.

While this appears to have the potential to be the best budget for many years for higher education in California, there are many competing needs and we are continuing to monitor developments and are cautiously optimistic that we will indeed receive the much needed increases to our operating funds next year.

City College of San Francisco – In January the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges took action to allow the college into the new Restoration status, which will provide them additional time to comply with the accreditation standards. I expect that the college will complete their restoration in the coming months.

COS Accreditation Self Study – Our self-study is progressing very well. It is a lot of hard work however working together everything appears to be progressing well. We are finishing the accumulation of the needed evidence and beginning the actual writing of our report. We have identified 5 or 6 areas where we feel additional evidence is needed. We are taking steps to accumulate this additional evidence.

Events – I have been very busy during the past month representing COS in several venues. I attended the North State Economic Forecast Conference in Oroville, and the Effective Trustee Workshop and the CCLC Legislative Conference in Sacramento with COS Board President Barry Ohlund and COS Trustee Carol Cupp. I also attended a U.S. Forestry Open House in Happy Camp along with COS Trustee Alan Dyer, as well as meetings of the Weed Rotary, Weed Kiwanis, Weed Chamber, Siskiyou Community Services Council, Crystal Geyser Advisory Panel, Delta Kappa Gamma, Weed Chamber Annual Chinese Auction fund raiser, and the AB 86 Consortium. Spring is a very busy time period as far as workshops and conferences, and I will be attending several.

Enrollment – It appears that our enrollment has stabilized and we are focusing efforts on increasing our FTES to fully restore the funding that we receive from the State. This has been a concerted effort by the entire COS family and it has been wonderful to see everyone working together for the good of our institution and the community that we serve ☺

FOUNDATION / PUBLIC RELATIONS

Public Relations

February Events

February 16 – Campus Closed President’s Day Holiday

February 19 – COS Speaker’s Series Presents “Letters from Havana” at 7:30PM, Building 3, Room 9

March 5 – 8th Grade Day at COS, 9AM at Weed Campus

March 6 – Baseball vs. Shasta College at 2PM, Baseball Field (subject to change due to weather)

March 10 – COS Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting at 5PM, COS Board Room

COS Speaker’s Series to Present: Lessons from Havana - Last summer, long-time English instructor, Maria Fernandez, led a group of thirteen COS students to Havana, Cuba for an artistic and cultural learning experience. Study Abroad courses, in general, provide unlimited opportunities for students to directly engage a culture different from their home culture. Havana, Cuba proved an ideal classroom. In this visual presentation, Fernandez will share her impressions of this dynamic country, as well as the thoughts and creative expressions of her students. “*Lessons from Havana*” will be presented on Thursday, February 19 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in Building 3, room 9 at the Weed Campus.

Foundation

Turning a Lemon into Lemonade - In case you have not heard, the Eagle’s Nest has sustained significant water damage from the extreme rainfall over the weekend. Unfortunately this means the Eagle’s Nest will be closed for an undetermined amount of time. **Good News...Angel, the volunteers and the student workers have been able to move racks of clothing items (selection of women’s, men’s, and children’s items), shoes, purses, and books to the Vintage Nest.** The Vintage Nest is located across the street from the Eagle’s Nest. It is open Monday – Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please stop by the *newly improved* Vintage Nest and see what it has to offer. *When you support the Eagle’s Nest and the Vintage Nest, you’re also supporting COS students!*

Celebrating Our Donors – Back after a 3-year hiatus, the Foundation will host the 2015 President’s Circle Banquet on Saturday, March 14 in Mt. Shasta at Snow Creek Studios. Members of the Donors Club (annual gifts \$350 and higher), as well as honored award recipients (COS Distinguished Alumni, COS Distinguished Service, and COS Partner of the Year) will be recognized.

2015/2016 Foundation Scholarship Applications Now Available - Scholarship applications for 2015-2016 are now available for Siskiyou County high school seniors (graduating June 2015) and current COS students who plan to attend COS during the 2015-2016 year. Scholarships range from \$250 to \$3,000. Applications are due March 13. Students interested in applying for a scholarship may download an application from the College Foundation’s website - www.siskiyous.edu/ia/foundation/scholarships.htm

Grants

The Grants Office (Karen Tedsen) has been working closely with both the Student Support Services (SSS) Office (Pat Kushwara and Valerie Roberts) and the Career & Technical Education Office (Dr. Bob Taylor and Kim Greene) to complete and submit grant applications. Many, many hours were spent working on both grant applications and all are to be commended for their hard work. Both grant applications were due within one week of each other, and involved a great amount of work.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

After a big push by everyone the Spring semester appears to be off to a good start. This push has resulted in some interesting results. Final Fall 2014 on ground (not including ISA’s) FTES numbers compared to Fall 2013 shows that the school produced nearly the same numbers with a decrease of only 18. Spring 2015 numbers

compared to Spring 2015 show that FTES production has increased slightly. Late start classes have yet to be added into the equation. Hopefully FTES production is stabilizing. This FTES stabilization has occurred in tandem with increased efficiencies. Spring 2015's slight FTES increase has occurred despite offering 86 fewer sections, and 41 fewer active sections. Nearly half as many sections were cancelled and the average class size has increased by about 3. Interestingly, actual enrollments increase from 5362 to 5742. So by most accounts the numbers appear to be moving in the right direction. Late start classes and ISA production will add other dimensions to the equation. To be certain, these numbers can be elusive and are a moving target. But at this snap shop in time the institution appears have stopped the enrollment loss and may be starting to show some slight gains. Everyone's efforts appear to be making a difference.

Through CTE Dean, Dr. Robert Taylor's efforts, the CTE area has seen unprecedented success in securing grant funding for the institution. A brief outline of his current success and grant pursuits follows. Dennis Weathers, the LAS Dean, has worked hard to increase efficiencies and been a strong advocate for new instructional equipment. He details part of those efforts in his report. Under the guidance of Assistant Dean/Director Dennis Roberts, Kinesiology/Athletics is growing. Men's and Women's Cross Country teams were added this year and soccer is in the works for next year. Under his guidance Coach Charlie Roaches' athletes have garnered exceptional levels of scholarship offer to compete at the four year level. An outline of those successes follows:

- 1) Completed CTE Trust Grant \$6 million, February 6, 2015
30 hours of work to submit application, January hours totaled over 300
- 2) CTE Enhancement funds 60% = \$108,625, contract is in the mail form Shasta College
- 3) CTE Enhancement Funds 40% = \$720,000 Split between COS, Yuba, Sierra, and Redwoods, for Advance Manufacturing, contract due in March
- 4) MOU for AB86 Adult Ed. Planning Grant with Shasta College = \$100,000 , In process to receive funds for distribution to partners, COS administrative costs and final planning, Funds must be spent by June 30, 2015
- 5) MOU/contract with Mendocino College for PROP 39 Clean Energy Workforce Grant = \$2,800 For Welding Certifications, funds available as soon as the process is completed
- 6) Business Program Restructuring funds received from Business DSN @ Shasta College = \$5,000, supporting 5 business certificates following Coastline C.C.'s business program
- 7) NCTI Paramedic visitation, excellent letter of evaluation and congratulations
- 8) Agreement from Forest Service for cooperative education of students
- 9) ITech classroom teaching station project, facilities funds will move the project forward
- 10) Agriculture course development, \$10,000 available from Agriculture DSN at Shasta College, final paperwork to be submitted this week requesting funds
- 11) Construction Technology Program Moving forward with Weed High School, Requesting funds from Rotary - \$35,000 plus from other groups – Trying to start training the first 25-30 students in march 2015
- 12) Welding Technology Program, Up-date curriculum in Curricunet and add 6 courses, develop a dual emphasis program: 1) Certification; and 2) Repair program

- 13) Fire Technology – Continue with Madssen Storage Container project for seven portable fire props next to fire tower
- 14) The COS CTE Advanced Manufacturing Program is a year-long introductory course to the world of CS and problem solving and aligns well with many of the CRANE pathways, including: Engineering, Advanced Manufacturing, Health, Agriculture and Information and Communication Technologies. The course aligns with the Standards for Mathematical Practice and the Modeling and Statistics and Probability standards of the Commons Core Standards in Mathematics.

Athletics:

Coach Charlie Roche reports that currently we have 12 football players who signed scholarships to continue their education and athletic careers:

Marcell Frazier University of Missouri	\$116,190
Anthony Ocasio University of New Mexico	\$69,840
AJ Flowers Tennessee State University	\$61,680
John Holland West Virginia State University	\$32,000
Jason Syverson Ferris State University	\$33,832
Marcus McCoy Upper Iowa University	\$32,168
Connor Schrader Southern Illinois University	\$16,830
Elias Mensah Chadron State University	\$19,396
Michael Everett Henderson State University	\$24,660
Terrence Bailey Henderson State University	\$24,660
Sam Williams Northwest Missouri State University	\$28,472
Aaron Williams Sterling College	\$43,400
TOTAL	\$503,128

Students sign a one year renewable scholarship agreement. These totals are based on their scholarship amount for their remaining years of eligibility.

Liberal Arts and Sciences:

The Music Department recently purchased six new keyboards for piano students. The keyboards were graciously funded by the COS Foundation. Many thanks!

Our Theater Instructor Neil Carpentier-Alting was the production coordinator for the Ford Theater play, "One Brief Moment" held the weekend of January 30th and 31st. The unusual production was arranged with the entire audience seated right on the stage with the set and actors. It made for a very intimate experience! The sold out performances featured just two professional actors, Nathan Monks and COS's Wendy James. It was written by Mt. Shasta locals, Allen King and Richard Derwingson.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

What happened to January? One of the things I mentioned briefly last month is that we were looking at some opportunities to make our lives here at the college better. One of those was a product called School Dude. We have entered into an agreement with them to implement the software that will help us manage, track and assign work orders for maintenance and use of facilities. It is a wonderful product and they have already begun scheduling with maintenance for training and installation of the software. We are excited about that. We have another one that is still in the works that I am hoping we will finalize this week. I will keep you posted on that.

We are not hearing much in the way of information on the state budget since the governor's proposal so not sure if that is good news or not.

Over the weekend we had some flooding issues at the Eagle's Nest and at the Discover Childcare Center and both are being dealt with. The new fencing around the Center looks really nice and will be a long lasting improvement.

I have been spending a lot of time getting to know the processes and the systems we have in place and am excited to be learning so much so quickly.

Bookstore:

Things have quieted down at the bookstore and there is a Valentine's sale going on for anything red. You might want to stop by and see what you can get your Valentine. They are just getting ready to do their spring clothing orders so will have some new things arriving soon.

Business Services:

All the year-end reporting was completed on time with W-2's, 1099's, and 1098-T's. A big thank you goes out to Kent and to Nancy Coughlin for all their hard work in getting this done.

Student Life:

We are off to a great start to the semester. There are some vacancies in the Lodges but things are going well.

Eagle's Nest and Vintage Nest:

We had some major water damage to the Eagle's Nest on Friday and Sunday of this past weekend. It was all cleaned up on Saturday and then the water poured in again on Sunday. They are open for business at the Vintage Nest and have moved some clothing and books across the street so that you will still be able to come and shop. We will try to have things available to you as close to "usual" as possible.

HUMAN RESOURCES

CCC Job Fairs

College of the Siskiyous job openings were recently highlighted at the California Community College Job Fair sponsored by the California Community College Registry. The fair is geared to job seekers considering a faculty or administrative position at any of the California Community Colleges. COS shared a booth with other Northern 14 colleges at the job fairs and flyers featuring the college's current job openings were available. The Registry reported that 500 job seekers and 15 college districts participated in the job fair held in San Francisco, and 1,400 job seekers and 23 college districts participated in job fair held in Los Angeles. The CCC Registry website, which hosts job openings for California Community Colleges, received 1.8 million hits during the month of January 2015.

Recruitment

Instructional Support Specialist II, Library	First Review 2/20/2015
Director of Nursing	Minimum Qualification Screening
A.D.N. Nursing Instructor	Opening Soon / First Review: 3/2015 (TBD)
Fire Technology Instructor/Coordinator	Opening Soon / First Review 3/2015 (TBD)

COS Job Board

Please stop by the COS Job Board in the hallway near the Staff Lounge to see new, open positions for faculty, staff and students. The Job Board features local openings as well as openings from other colleges, counties and cities. The board is maintained by Human Resources and is updated weekly.

Classification and Salary Study

The listing of classifications and job descriptions were recently received from the consultant. The next step in the process will be for employees and their supervisors to review their job description and provide feedback.