



College of the Siskiyous
The Campus Connection
April 2, 2019

Superintendent / President

Spring is trying to appear! I hope many of you had a restful and rejuvenating Spring Break. Now that we are back from this respite, the rest of the semester awaits us. We have ambitious plans as a College for these next several weeks with budget development and the institutional master plan at the top of the list. Both are governance items that will be addressed by our participatory governance process.

Board of Governors Meeting

I attended the March meeting of the California Community College Board of Governors meeting in Sacramento as our District had an agenda item during this meeting – the new election process for the Board of Trustees, moving from “at large” elections to “by-trustee-area” elections. The Board approved the new plan.

While there I was witness to the final discussion, and ultimate approval, of the regulatory changes pursuant to AB 705 “designed to keep students from inaccurately being placed into remedial courses that don’t count toward certificates or degrees and create roadblocks to success. ‘We are ending remedial education as it has existed for decades,’ Board of Governors President Tom Epstein said.”

I was also able to help congratulate the 2018-2019 Hayward Award for Excellence in Education recipients – faculty recognized first by their local academic senates and then selected by the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges for their commitment to students and profession. I met several of the recipients and their families.

Guided Pathways

I took some vacation days during Spring Break this month and received training as a Guided Pathways coach. It was an honor to spend two days with passionate people from all over the country selected as part of the Achieving the Dream’s Inaugural Pathways Collaborative Coaching program. I gained valuable information on implementation of pathways based on the work done since 2011 – starting with the Completion by Design efforts – and more recently since 2015 through a collaborative of organizations that includes Achieving the Dream (ATD), American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC), Aspen Institute, Center for Community College Student Engagement (CCCSE), Community College Research Center (CCRC), Complete



College America (CCA), Jobs for the Future (JFF), National Center for Inquiry and Improvement (NCII), Public Agenda, etc. One of the powerful things I had reaffirmed through this training is that Guided Pathways isn't a "cookie cutter" approach to Student Success. Each college addresses their own students and their own students' experiences to design pathways that work for our students – as well as our students over time as they may change in outlooks and preparation and needs, etc. I am looking forward to sharing what I learned with others as we continue to develop and implement.

Quote of the Month:

Quote of the Month: "Coach me and I will learn. Challenge me and I will grow. Believe in me and I will succeed." *Unknown*

Public Relations & College Foundation

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!

As a reminder, as we get closer to the start of a new registration period (summer, fall, and spring 2019/2020), 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.

Priority Registration – Level 1 Begins Monday, April 22
Priority Registration – Level 2 Begins Friday, April 26
Open Registration for 2019/2020 Begins Tuesday, April 29

In case you missed it, here are some of the recent articles / feature stories that were published by local media:

- COS Address Student Hunger
<https://www.mtshastanews.com/news/20190321/cos-addresses-student-hunger>
- Three Theater Companies to Give Sampling
<https://www.mtshastanews.com/news/20190314/three-theater-companies-to-give-sampling>
- College of the Siskiyous Theatre Department to Present Antigone
<https://www.mtshastanews.com/news/20190309/college-of-siskiyous-theatre-department-to-present-antigone-in-april>

April Activities & Events: Event dates, times, and locations based on information available at time of publication and are subject to change.

- April 1-25: COS Student Painting Show in the gallery
- April 2: COS Board of Trustees Meeting, 5 PM – Board Room
- April 3: 8th Grade Day, 9 AM – Campus
- April 4: Website Focus Group, 2 PM – ASC Loft

- April 5: All Campus Meeting, 8:30 AM – Theater
- April 5: COS Softball vs Feather River, 12 PM & 2 PM – Softball Field
- April 5: COS Baseball vs Shasta, 2 PM – Baseball Field
- April 5: Theater Performance “Antigone”, 7 PM – Theater
- April 6: Theater Performance “Antigone”, 7 PM – Theater
- April 6: COS Baseball vs Shasta, 11 AM – Baseball Field
- April 6: COS Softball vs Lassen, 12 PM & 2 PM – Softball Field
- April 7: Theater Performance “Antigone”, 3 PM – Theater
- April 10: Website Focus Group, 1:30 PM – Board Room
- April 11: Child Development and Early Education Program “Permit Party”, 6 PM – Weed DLC-3, Yreka RHSI-119
- April 12: COS Softball vs Butte, 12 PM & 2 PM – Softball Field
- April 12: Theater Performance “Antigone”, 7 PM – Theater
- April 13: Theater Performance “Antigone”, 7 PM – Theater
- April 14: Theater Performance “Antigone”, 3 PM – Theater
- April 15: COS Softball vs Lassen, 12 PM & 2 PM – Softball Field
- April 19: Eagle’s Nest Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, 5 PM – Ellie’s
- April 20: TRIO Saturday School
- April 22: Priority – Level 1 Registration
- April 24: COS Baseball vs Feather River, 3 PM – Baseball Field
- April 25: COS Baseball vs Feather River, 1 PM – Baseball Field
- April 25: Poetry Night, 5:15 PM – Library
- April 25: Senior Theater Performance, 7 PM – Theater
- April 26: Priority – Level 2 Registration
- April 26: Senior Theater Spring Variety Show “Aged to Perfection”, 7 PM – Theater
- April 27: Senior Theater Spring Variety Show “Aged to Perfection”, 7 PM – Theater
- April 28: Senior Theater Spring Variety Show “Aged to Perfection”, 2 PM - Theater
- April 29 – Open Registration (excluding K-12)

Administrative Services

Happy April from Business Services! In the month of April, we will be moving to the next step in the budget development process by holding Open Hearings at IPB on April 5th – Presidents Office and Administrative Services, April 12th – Instruction, and April 19th – Student Services. This will allow each area to present CQIPs for both General Fund and Grants/Categorical.

This month I would like to highlight the great work of the Business Department and VPAS staff Courtney, Kristine, Nancy, Jeannine, Kent and Desiree. As we continue with budget development, yearend close out and the annual audit, true to form these areas continue to meet deliverables not only with the state, but also at the college/district level on a year round basis with little or no down time. Job well done!

Facilities -

- The in-house replacement of three doors in the gym and installation of electronic FOB operated locks is almost complete.
- The Science building drains are scheduled for repair during summer break.
- Temporary repairs on the theatre roof seem to be holding we are waiting for complete repairs as soon as the weather permits.
- We are making progress on the 2-Year Boiler Service scheduled maintenance. The Lodges, Science Building, and LRC are complete. RHSI and ESTC are on schedule for completion in the coming week. There will be no interruption of scheduled classes.
- Shout out to all maintenance and custodial staff for working diligently to complete the Police Academy facility on time. Great job!

Technology Services -

- The CCC Vision Resource Center offers free online personal and professional training; it can be accessed through the employee tab in mySiskiyous, under Professional Development & Training.
- The last phase of the Single Sign-On (SSO) project has been funded and work will begin immediately.
- The Atomic Job Scheduling software for Banner has been installed and they will be helping move our current scheduled jobs from crontab to Atomic over the next few months.

Student Services

March began with a workshop on Guided Pathways, Pillar 1. Faculty and a few administrators worked on academic clusters/"meta majors". In this workshop, we also reviewed how other college's Student Services are part of each meta-major cluster in a student case-management model. I'm looking forward to see the progression of this valuable work.

I then attended the California Community Colleges Student Financial Aid Administrators Association (CCCSFAAA) conference in San Diego, with Jan Harris and Haley Pope. They had some great sessions and I attended Sierra College's Path to Guided Pathways, Using Data to Inform Financial Literacy Efforts and Best Practices to Support the New College Funding sessions, among others. A few take away notes: Financial Aid is in all of the Guided Pathways Pillars and Financial Aid needs to be at the table in the program design. Best practices in financial literacy efforts are now focused on inserting budgeting and debt management in existing programs and classes, such as EOPS orientations and First Year Success initiatives. Finally, another best practice is to take financial aid application workshops out to the students via mobile apps. College of the Siskiyous does participate in high school outreach and we can look to include other venues as well, such as the Family Resource Center.

Axel Hernandez, Val Roberts, Regina Weston, Carly Zeller, Nathan Rexford, Janice Gonzalez, Christina Van Alfen, Carole Bogue, Carole, Zach Zweigle and I have been meeting to create the Student Equity and Achievement (SEA) plan this past month. The SEA replaces the SSSP, Student Equity and Basic Skills programs. We will focus on the overall progress of access,

retention, transfer, completion of math and English in the first year and earned certificate or degree, as well as specific, intentional, additional interventions for those student who are disproportionately impacted when compared to the rest of the student body. Once we've completed our draft, we will share our plan with the various councils and the Board of Trustees. This plan will be available on the Student Services webpage when complete.

In closing, "Our spring has come at last with the soft laughter of April suns and shadow of April showers." - Byron Caldwell Smith

April Multicultural Celebrations

- **April 3: Lailat al Miraj**, a Muslim holiday that commemorates the Prophet Muhammad's journey from Mecca to the "Farthest Mosque" in Jerusalem.
- **April 8: Buddha Day (Vesak or Visakha Puja)**, a Buddhist festival that marks Gautama Buddha's birth, enlightenment and death.
- **April 12: The Day of Silence**, A daylong vow of silence to protest the actual silencing of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students due to bias and harassment.
- **April 14: Ram Navami**, a Hindu day of worship and celebration of the seventh avatar of Vishnu (Lord Rama).
- **April 14: Palm Sunday**, a Christian holiday commemorating the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem
- **April 14: Vaisakhi (also known as Baisakhi)**, the celebration of the founding of the Sikh community as the Khalsa and the birth of the Khalsa.
- **April 17: Mahavir Jayanti**, a holiday celebrated by the Jains commemorating the birth of Lord Mahavir.
- **April 18: Holy Thursday (Maundy Thursday)**, commemorating the Last Supper, at which Jesus and the Apostles were together for the last time before His Crucifixion.
- **April 19: Good Friday**, to commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus.
- **April 19-27: Passover**, a Jewish holiday and festival to commemorate of the deliverance of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt.
- **April 19: Lord's Evening Meal**, Jehovah's Witnesses event believed to have occurred on the first night of Passover.
- **April 20: Lazarus Saturday**, Eastern Orthodox Church and Oriental Orthodoxy to commemorate the raising of Lazarus of Bethany.
- **April 20: Lailat al Bara'a**, also known as Barat, or Night of Forgiveness, an Islamic holiday during which Muslims seek forgiveness of their sins.
- **April 20-May 2: The Festival of Ridvan**, Bahá'í faith, commemorating the 12 days when Bahá'u'lláh, announced his mission as God's messenger for this age.
- **April 21: Easter**, a holiday to celebrate Jesus' return from death after the Crucifixion.
- **April 22: Earth Day** promotes world peace and sustainability of the planet.
- **April 24: Armenian Martyrs' Day** recognizes the genocide of over one million Armenians in Turkey.
- **April 25: Gathering of Nations**. Considered the largest pow-wow in the U.S. held annually in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

- **April 28: Orthodox Easter** (also called Pascha), observed by Greek Orthodox and the Russian Orthodox churches (among others), based on the date in the Julian calendar.
- **April 28-29: Ninth Day of Ridvan**, a festival of joy and unity in the Bahá'í faith to commemorate the reunification of Bahá'u'lláh's family.

Admissions & Records: Registration for the 2019/2020 year is happening soon and the office is busy setting up for the new cycle. Here are the important dates to remember:

- Priority 1 Registration- April 22
- Priority 2 Registration – April 26
- Open Registration – April 29
- K-12 Registration – May 6th

We are also processing petitions for Degrees and certificates. As of March 21st we have the following petitions for the 2018/2019 Academic Year:

Year	AA	AAT	AS	AST	COA	Total
18/19	162	20	121	18	76	397

An offer has been made to fill the new Transcript Evaluator position. We hope to have the new person in place by April 15th. We have also been collaborating with Counseling Services on our new *Degrees When Due* program which focuses on completion and equity by increasing degree attainment among the "Some College, No Degree" population. The new Transcript Evaluator will have an essential role in this collaboration.

Counseling and Student Support Programs: Beckie Hobbs has made contact with all the local high schools as well as with Modoc high school. Most all schools have scheduled their SOAR sessions. These will be held during the month of May, and that calendar is looking very full! We are thrilled with the response, as it's clear the high school personnel value this service. And it's very beneficial for the college as well. Beckie and Josh Collins make a great team when doing these intensive and packed SOAR sessions.

Josh and Beckie continue to process (evaluate) what seems to be a record number of graduation and certificate petitions. In addition, Josh recently e-verified the largest number of Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) to CSUs ever. We had 19 total. So exciting!

- **DSPS** - Dr. Sunny Greene, along with the DSPS directors from Coastline and Los Medanos, participated in a zoom meeting with the Chancellor's Office DSPS specialist to discuss our colleges' early transitions to AB 705. These folks will be doing a webinar on April 18th regarding AB 705 transitions and best practices for our DSPS colleagues across the state. There has been a lot of concern regarding how students with disabilities will fare in transfer level math and English. Nathan Rexford has been extremely helpful in pulling data on how

students with disabilities did with our multiple measure placement and changes to MATH 1050 curriculum and embedded support. Sunny is currently analyzing data for the webinar and so far the results are favorable!

Sunny also recently gave a workshop for the Counselors, Advisors, and Regina Weston on PowerPoint accessibility. It's so helpful to have a resident expert on these issues. Sunny is happy to share the information with anyone interested.

On April 25, the DSPS Advisory Committee will meet. This group is a mostly comprised of professionals from the community. Topics for the agenda include COS' approach to math and English placement and results, and overview of Guided Pathways, and updates from other agency and educational members.

- **EOPS/CARE** - EOPS students had their first progress check-in period recently, and 87% of the students completed their check-in. Those students remain eligible for a \$400 end-of-semester grant. The period for completion of their first counselor contact ended March 29. We had a good percentage of students complete it as well. We're still finalizing those numbers, but it looks to be 85 to 88%. These students will remain eligible for a full book voucher (\$400) for next semester.
- **Foster Youth Success Program (FYSP)** - FYSP has their first Monthly Meet Up on March 22. More than half of the students in the program attended, and those who weren't there had to work. The students who came enjoyed a nice lunch with Marlena Shaffer, Beckie Hobbs, Michelle Knudsen, Regina Weston, Marcy Demetro, and Valerie Roberts. One very important aspect of the Foster Youth Success Program is that students know they have a team of people supporting them in accomplishing their goals.

- **TRiO – Student Support Services and Upward Bound Program** - Twelve UB students attended the "Leadership to Action" conference hosted by TRiO programs at Humboldt State on March 1. The students enjoyed themselves and learned a lot.



As has been previously mentioned, the HBCU Tour is currently taking place (March 31- April 5). Five UB students and five COS students are visiting seven Historically Black Colleges and Universities during this trip.

- **Student Support Services** - Tyler Morrison and 21 SSS students toured CSU Sacramento and UC Davis on March 15. There were 24 students in all, and Gear Up provided the bus for the trip. That's great collaboration for the benefit of students!

Speaking of college tours, 17 SSS students are signed up to attend Humboldt State's Preview Day on April 5. Tyler will be accompanying those students.

Tyler and Alicia Garcia recently completed the Annual Performance Report for the Student Support Services grant. These APRs are time consuming and require a LOT of detail. Stephanie Wroten proudly reports that we met 100% of our objectives and received full points towards our next grant competition (this can be extremely important, as these grants are highly competitive). Nice work, SSS team!

- **Veterans** - Marcy Demetro has taken over Veteran counseling. Her knowledge and experience will be a great asset to the college and to the Veteran students we serve.

Finishing touches are being done to, and in, the Veterans' Resource Center. New tables, chairs, desks and computers, a printer, fridge and microwave, and a huge white board. In addition to serving as a study center, the VRC will also house resources for Veteran students. Veteran students will staff the center to ensure access and support will be available there. More to come soon!

Financial Aid: Happy Spring! We have a lot going on in Financial Aid! We have opened the 2019-2020 aid year! We have sent 1,315 potential students Missing Information emails instructing them to view their requirements list in their mySiskiyous student portal. The email also is sent to students who have not applied to College of the Siskiyous but listed COS on their FAFSA and includes a link to our homepage so that they can complete the application process.

We plan to begin packaging financial aid awards sometime in April, we have already awarded 745 California College Promise Grants. The fee waivers will be in place for students when registration begins April 22, 2019.

We continue to process and award 2018-2019 financial aid. We have the second main disbursement coming up, the disbursements will go out April 5th. At this time, we have awarded 731 students \$2,093,779.00 in Pell awards. We have also awarded 1,237 California College Promise Grants to our qualifying students.

The 2018/2019 aid year was the beginning of the Student Success Completion Grant which is an additional grant awarded to Cal Grant B and C students. The Chancellor's Office combined the prior year's Full Time Student Success Grant with The Student Success Completion Grant so that there is only one grant. Students enrolled in 12 – 14 units are awarded \$649 per semester. Students enrolled in 15 or more units are awarded \$2,000 per semester. We received additional funding from the Chancellor's Office due to so many students qualifying for the SSCG. During the fall semester, 29 students were enrolled in 15 or more units and received the \$2,000 SSCG.

Out of the 29 students 18 students passed all of their classes, 5 students completed 12 units which is a total of 23 out of 29 successful students! Because of receiving the additional funding from the Chancellor's Office, we will be able to award the remaining fall 18 eligible students, in addition to the spring 19 eligible students.

In February we received our 2016 Draft Cohort Rate of 19.2%. This percentage comes from the amount of borrowers who entered into repayment on their Federal Direct Loan borrowed while attending College of the Siskiyous. The borrowers entered into repayment during the Fiscal Year 2016 period that includes October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. Due to the increase of the cohort default rates in the California Community College system, the Chancellor's Office has worked to assist colleges in lowering the default rates with the goal of reducing the cohort rate to below 20%. College of the Siskiyous has partnered with ECMC, a third party agency that contacts our borrowers who have gone into repayment. They provide repayment options to prevent them from defaulting on their Direct Loans. Our rate has continued to drop every year and we are now under 20%. The official rate comes out in September.

The Financial Aid Office will hold its annual Financial Aid Event, Cash and Cookies!! It is advertised on the I Can Afford College website and will be held April 10, 2019 from 10 am to 1 pm in the John Mantle Student Center. Stop by for some financial aid fun, cookies AND help with completing a FAFSA!!

Student Equity: As word spreads around campus about the services provided through Basecamp we have seen an influx of students coming to learn more about what we do and what they may be eligible for. Students are most surprised to find out that we have sack lunches, and breakfast items as well as snacks available for anyone in need. They also really like being able to come in and grab a notebook or pen for class. As students come in to learn more about Basecamp we are also screening them for CalFresh eligibility as part of our new CalFresh outreach subcontract.

College of the Siskiyous is one of 40 new CalFresh outreach subcontractors, most of whom are from community colleges and universities throughout the state. These subcontractors receive funding to provide not only outreach but application assistance to students. We are very excited to have this opportunity to offer these services to students, as many of them are eligible for CalFresh. As part of this new partnership Regina Weston was able to attend a CalFresh Outreach Partner Summit in Sacramento on March 5 where she was able to meet other subcontractors from around the state and learn more about what other campuses are doing to combat food insecurity and how they are reaching out to students.

Our official CalFresh kick-off event will take place at our spring Student Resource Fair on April 10th from 11 -1 outside in the quad. Students can also stop by Basecamp during our CalFresh Drop-In/Assist hours, which are Monday and Wednesday from 10-12, or make an individual appointment at a time that works for them.

Housing: Just before spring break the applications for 2019-2020 Resident Assistant positions were posted. All students are encouraged to apply for these important leadership positions. Successful candidates for these paraprofessionals will work hard and learn a lot about themselves and their leadership style. Compensation includes a single room, part of meal plan and small stipend each month.

In March Briana Myers of the Weed Community Center coordinated with Sergio Allen of COS football to connect Lodge residents with activities at the community center. A van on trivia night was available for student transport. We're looking forward to joint activities between Lodges and Community Center.

- **Associated Student Board (ASB):** Senators are energized by the approval of the Student Activities Fee. While those funds are not available to them yet they are planning a mental health awareness activity and a pride event for the spring term. Senators have also formed an elections committee to prepare for ASB senators and student Trustee elections tentatively scheduled for April 24th.

Instruction

Nursing: Prior to the College of the Siskiyous Commencement Ceremony, the Nursing Program will honor the graduates of the LVN to RN Step-up Program with a Pinning Ceremony on May 17 beginning at 4 p.m. in the Kenneth Ford Theatre on the Weed Campus. All are welcome to attend. Graduates are qualified to sit for the NCLEX-RN exam, and those that pass will receive their Registered Nurse license. The 2019 class will be the eleventh to graduate from the COS Associate Degree in Nursing Program, which has already graduated a total of 270 nurses. The Program has infused the community over the years with local RNs, and launched many who have continued their education to become nurse leaders, educators, and advance practitioners in our communities.

Graduates of the COS Associate Degree in Nursing Program and other RNs in our community can apply to the RN to BSN program with California State University, Chico. A roadmap to CSU Chico, showing the path for COS graduates can be found on the COS Nursing website. The Nursing Program is now collaborating with CSU Chico to explore the possibility of a concurrent pathway to allow COS Nursing students to take CSU courses at the same time and to finish their BSN in less a year after graduation from the COS LVN to RN Step-up Program.

Certified Nursing Assistants are now one of the most sought-after professions in healthcare, and College of the Siskiyous is pleased to offer the Certified Nursing Assistant course. The next CNA cohort will start on June 10. Orientation for the class is May 13, at 2 p.m. at the RHSI Building 1, on the Yreka campus. Graduates of the program will be qualified to test for state certification on the Yreka campus on August 12 and 13. The summer schedule is designed to allow persons working part-time and high school students over age 16 to attend. Those interested can

contact the Nursing Office at (530) 841-5929. More information about the Certified Nursing Assistant Program can be found on the College of the Siskiyous website.

The start of the next Vocational Nursing Program has been postponed to begin in January 2020. The date change allows the completion of the current cohort in December, so there will no longer be overlapping cohorts during any semester.

Library: The library services platform (LSP) migration is underway. The LSP project will move the library to a new system that better integrates our many online resources and provides a more user-friendly library catalog. This first phase of the project entails planning how to best map data from our current system to the new one and configuring the staff side of the system to work correctly. By the end of the project (January 2020), 110 California community colleges and the entire CSU system will be using the same LSP, making it much easier for our students to conduct research as they take classes from multiple campuses and transfer.

April is National Poetry Month! Celebrate by coming to the Writers Club Poetry Night in the Library on Thursday, April 25 (doors open at 5:15, readings start at 5:30). The Library received a Foundation Mini-Grant for a sound system so that we could honor requests for movie nights in the Library Lounge. The Psychology Club has a movie planned for Thursday, April 18. Our talented students put a lot of effort into these events so we hope to see you there! Last but not least, April 7-13 is National Library Week—stop by to say hello and check out a great book. We have a lot of new titles on a wide variety of topics.

Noncredit, Community & Contract Education: We will offer a few noncredit classes for summer. Including a mind body health yoga class. Fall will hopefully be the launch of our culinary program with more course offerings, as well as the offering of noncredit courses that are embedded in CDCP certificates. CDCP stands for Career Development College Prep. The certificates are tied to jobs/skills acquisition related to the economic workforce.

We continue to collaborate with community, business and industry partners. We will be offering construction courses, beginning in late May through the summer, in collaboration with Great Northern Corporation and Cal Poly, to build a home that was lost in the Boles fire.

Academic Senate

“Failure is the path of least persistence”- Author unknown

Faculty here at College of the Siskiyous are nothing if not persistent. We researched, surveyed students, and worked for 12 years to achieve a 16-week calendar. Our research showed—and students agreed—that starting later in the year and finishing earlier would allow them to make the most of their careers. Being the first into the job market is a significant advantage. For our students who are also firefighters, being able to work into late August is also a significant advantage. Allowing our students to transition from high school (also about 18 weeks) to the CSU system where most

colleges are on a 15-week schedule or SOU that is on a 12-week quarter system, helps our students to succeed.

Knowing that we would have to completely re-chunk our curriculum to fit into longer class hours in marginally shorter semesters, we persisted. For me, personally, it took me two weeks to rethink and reorganize material the first time I taught in the 16-week terms, and an additional week to fine tune between semesters.

And we willingly invested that time, in part, because it provides us with additional instructional time. One of the significant benefits of blocks and marginally shorter terms is the *hours* of instruction time faculty gain. A MWF class that meets over 18 weeks for 54 hours spends about **9 hours** taking roll, getting settled, and the minutia of class. A MW class meeting over 16 weeks for the same 54 hours only spends 5 ½ hours on that same minutia. Basically, we gain an entire week of productive class time!

While I have heard concerns that the 16-week calendar has limited faculty participation in governance, that simply is not true. On average, Faculty serve on 5 committees, plus hiring committees. Additionally, we are one of the very few colleges that has a Senate of the Whole—all full-time faculty members (and 3 part-time faculty members) are also Senators. I can't remember a single instance when we did not have a quorum for either a regular meeting or a special meeting.

Finally, I think it is important to note that the most frequent scheduling for California Community Colleges is 16 weeks or less, and this is true regardless of size. In fact, the Chancellor's Office told us that no school has gone from 16 back to 18 because the slightly shorter terms are so advantageous for students. As COS continues to discuss upcoming calendars, I hope we keep in mind all of the reasons students benefit in the 16-week schedule.

Respectfully submitted,
Jayne Turk, Academic Senate President

No other reports were submitted.