



College of the Siskiyous

The Campus Connection

October 2021

Office of the President

Submitted by Dr. Char Perlas, Interim Superintendent/President

October is Filipino American History Month:

Filipino American History Month celebrates Filipino Heritage and the contributions of Filipino Americans. It also commemorates the first recorded presence of Filipinos in the continental United States.

According to the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS), on October 18, 1587, the Manila Galleon Nuestra Señora de Buena Esperanza (Our Lady of Hope) landed in now-Morro Bay, California from Macao, China. The landing party included indigenous Filipino men, or Luzones Indios, who worked as sailors on board the Spanish trading ship.

According to the Pew Research Center, more than four (4) million Filipinos live in the United States. Filipino Americans are the second-largest Asian American group in the nation and the third-largest ethnic group in California after Latinos and African Americans.



Fernando Family, Dec 2019, San Bruno, CA



A little bit about me... I am a proud Filipina American. My parents immigrated from Plaridel in the province of Bulacan, Philippines to San Francisco, California in 1967. I was raised in the Bay Area where my Mother's entire family, the Fernandos (five sisters and three brothers) also immigrated. My Father's family of seven decided to remain in the Philippines where, pre-COVID, we used to visit bi-annually. My Father, Eddie Perlas, is the oldest of four brothers and three sisters and, unfortunately, he lost his last two brothers during the COVID pandemic. One of my Father's sisters, Estella Perlas-Bernabe, serves as a Supreme Court Justice and considers herself a judicial activist. She looks at the societal impacts of rulings and considers those impacts when making her decisions. Her advocacy has been particularly challenging during Philippine President Duterte's term. She has been my role model and I am blessed to have learned from her leadership style. Fun-fact: my last name is in the first chorus of the Philippine National Anthem.

Perlas Family, Feb 2020, Manila Philippines. Eddie Perlas with his sisters and brothers. Sitting in the center, Eddie Perlas and second from the left - Estella Perlas-Bernabe

Welcome to our COVID Mitigation Team Members:

The College, with the help of the SMART Workforce Center and Personnel Preference, have recently welcomed six COVID Mitigation Team members:

- Kendall Anderson-Moser – Contact Tracer and Tracker
- Laura Garon – Contact Tracer and Tracker
- Sharon LoMonaco - Contact Tracer and Tracker
- Leslie Ruiz – Contact Tracer and Tracker
- Selena Johnson – COVID Protocol Monitor and Testing
- Joshua Wright – COVID Protocol Monitor and Testing

You may see Selena and Joshua walking around campus. They are identifiable by their blue COS Employee Vests. Please give them a warm welcome when you see them!

The Truth Initiative: Tobacco/Vape-Free College Program Survey: The Truth Initiative Tobacco/Vape-Free College Program is offering grants of up to \$20,000 to community colleges and minority-serving institutions to advocate for, adopt and implement a 100% tobacco/vape-free policy. To help combat tobacco use and the vaping epidemic, Truth Initiative's grant program presents colleges with a set of activities to build support for policy adoption. At the heart of the grant is student engagement, inspiring students to use their creativity and social influence to spread the truth about tobacco and vaping, thereby driving culture and policy change. Please tell us if you are in support of this initiative or not by completing this very short survey: <https://forms.office.com/r/4PpeK57JvK>. Data from the survey will help inform our decision to pursue or not pursue this initiative. Thanks in advance!

Athletics:

We Want You at Our Games! Masks will be required at all indoor contests. Check the [Athletics webpage](#) for current schedule, scores, and photos from the events.

Public Relations & College Foundation:

Finish Line Scholarships & Emergency Aid Grants for Students: The goal of the COS Foundation and Finish Line Scholars Program is to support students to ensure they stay on track with their education and complete a degree, certificate, or transfer to a four year college or university. The program is intended to help eliminate regional educational gaps through distribution of emergency financial aid to students facing unexpected hardships and scholarships to students who are well on their way toward a finish line goal of transferring to a college or university or completing a certificate or degree. Finish Line Scholars Program Scholarships and Emergency Aid Grants for students are available. More information or apply for a Finish Line Scholarship visit: https://www.siskiyous.edu/foundation/finishline_scholarship.htm

Finish Line Scholarship Criteria/Eligibility: To be considered for a Finish Line Scholarship, students must:

- Receive a tuition fee waiver under the California College Promise Grant (CCPG, also known formerly as BOGW).
- Have a goal of completion of a certificate or degree program, or transfer to a four-year college or university.

- Take at least 12 units or maintain an alternate full-time equivalent status during all terms in which the scholarship is active.
- Make progress toward your goal as indicated by having completed approximately half of the credits required for your program and have a realistic plan to finish the remainder of your goal in under two (2) academic years.
- In addition, if you are pursuing a degree or transfer, you must also meet two of these three criteria:
 - Have completed a transfer level English course
 - Have completed a transfer level math course
 - Have a GPA of 2.5 or higher

Students in fields that are regional workforce priorities, such as nursing and STEM, will be given preference. Depending on funding available, applications may be submitted weekly by 5:00 pm on Friday, will be reviewed by Wednesday and, if approved, notification of awards will be made and funds will be disbursed to the student by mail the following Friday. Awarding of scholarships will continue until funds have all been expended, or no later than March 31, 2022. Students will be notified via email regarding approval or denial. Therefore, it is important that a current email address is included on the applications and the mailing address is also noted correctly.

Finish Line Student Emergency Aid Grants: To be eligible for an emergency aid grant:

- Students must be enrolled at College of the Siskiyous during the 2021/2022 academic year.
- Students must be enrolled as a full time student – 12 units or more. (Late start classes are not considered "enrolled" until the start date.) Students enrolled in less than 12 units may be considered on a case by case basis due to circumstances prohibiting full-time enrollment.
- Students cannot be dual-enrolled high school students.
- Student was enrolled at College of the Siskiyous during the previous semester.
- Supply evidence of hardship beyond the student's control (i.e. documentation of expense).

Students should apply online at https://www.siskiyous.edu/foundation/finishline_grant.htm

Wildfire Relief Grants for Students & Employees: Thousands of California community college students, faculty, and staff have been impacted by devastating fires burning across our state. Our thoughts remain with all those affected by wildfires, now and over the past few years. We know to recover and rebuild takes significant time and resources. Recipients of this grant support will be able to use funds to relocate and to replace laptops, supplies, transportation, clothes, and food lost or destroyed in hasty evacuations.

Funding for the Siskiyous Wildfire Relief Fund is provided by the COS Foundation through a grant received from the Foundation for California Community Colleges and is intended to help affected community college students and staff recover from the 2021 California wildfires. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until funding available is expended. (COS Employees– all permanent employees of the Siskiyou Joint Community College District are eligible to apply and receive grant award.)

To be considered for a Wildfire Relief Grant students/employees must:

- Be a student who is actively enrolled during the Fall 2021 semester in 6+ units at College of the Siskiyous
 - Or, be a currently employed permanent employee at College of the Siskiyous
- Be a US Citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Submit a 'Statement of Need' describing hardship due to recent CA Wildfires.

Contact the COS Foundation Office for an application or if you have questions. Information will also be posted on the Foundation website soon.

Holiday Craft Fair: The 24th Annual COS Holiday Craft Fair will be held on one day only on Saturday, December 4 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) at the COS Weed Campus in the gym. This Craft Fair celebrates the finest of hand-crafted products produced by local and regional artisans and crafters. Vendor registrations are currently being accepted, however spaces are filling quickly. For more information or to request a registration packet, call (530) 938-5373.

Stay Connected: Now that the weather has started to change, it's important to make sure you are signed up for the college's communication system, "COS Connect" powered by Everbridge. This is a free system used to notify students and staff of emergency situations, campus closures, or general information. To sign up click on the COS Connect button located on the COS homepage and follow the directions to get sign up.

Come Join Our Team: The Foundation is looking for new volunteers to join the Eagle's Nest team. Volunteers work three to four hour shifts per week, or more. Volunteers work as cashiers, screen items as they come in, price merchandise, repair items, research antiques. etc.; there is never a dull moment at the Nest. If you know of anyone who may be interested in volunteering have them call 938-4663 or stop by the Eagle's Nest to talk with Lexie, Interim Shop Supervisor.

North State Giving Tuesday: Now, more than ever, the COS Foundation needs your support. On Tuesday, November 30, our community will come together for #NorthStateGivingTuesday and we need YOU to join us. From 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. you can give where you live. Support the College of the Siskiyous Foundation and our Siskiyous students by making a tax-deductible donation at www.northstategives.org.

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

- October 18: Last Day to Register to Vote
- October 19: COS Art Department Presents "Botanica – A Collection of Watercolor Paintings from the Mt Shasta Region", LRC Student Art Gallery (the show will run for 3 weeks)
- October 20: COS Preview Day, 9am – Campus
- October 20: Volleyball vs. Lassen College, 6PM – Gym
- October 23: Football vs. Shasta College, 1PM – Stadium
- October 29: Soccer vs. Redwoods, 2PM (Women) and 4PM (Men) – Stadium
- October 29: Last Day to Drop without a Grade
- November 5: Men's Soccer vs. Lassen, 12PM – Stadium
- November 5: Volleyball vs. Feather River, 6PM – Gym
- November 6: Football vs. Butte College, 1PM – Stadium

- November 8: Winter Session / Spring Semester Registration Priority Level I Begins
- November 10: Volleyball vs. Redwoods, 6PM – Gym
- November 8: Winter Session / Spring Semester Registration Priority Level II Begins
- November 12: Veteran’s Day Holiday (Campus Closed)
- November 15: Winter Session / Spring Semester Open Registration Begins
- November 22: Winter Session / Spring Semester Registration for K-12 Begins
- November 22: Fall Break (No Classes)
- November 23: Fall Break (No Classes)
- November 24: Fall Break (No Classes)
- November 25: Thanksgiving Holiday (Campus Closed)
- November 26: Thanksgiving Holiday (Campus Closed)
- November 30: North State Giving Tuesday – Online Giving Event, 6am to 8pm

Administrative Services

Facilities:

The new Fire Tower is being erected this month. Delays due to incorrectly prefabricated parts has been remedied quickly, new parts are being shipped and will arrive early next week keeping the project moving forward with very little adjustment to the final schedule.

COS recently welcomed visitors from Lionakis Architect group and their engineering support team to assess the Theater and McCloud Hall for a full project re-scope.

The new practice field / NCAA Soccer field is complete and the college’s men’s and women’s soccer teams are currently holding practice on the new lab space. Fencing and scoreboard are in the project design phase and will be searching for a funding source soon.



Winter is coming please be safe while driving and walking in icy conditions. Sign up for COS Connect to receive weather alert messages regarding campus closures, late starts, and more.

Fiscal Services:

- Fiscal Year End - With the fiscal reporting completed for last year, the District will be moving ahead with the financial portion of the 2020-2021 annual audit. District staff worked with the auditors during the summer to look at many of the compliance requirements for the audit including the CCFS-320 Report (Student FTES reporting), financial aid, Student Access Services (previously DSPS) and several other areas. This fiscal portion of the audit entails reviewing the CCFS-311 Annual Fiscal report, the District’s internal controls, and the activities of the District, Grants, Enterprise accounts and the Foundation. The final audit report will then go to the December board meeting for approval by the Board of Trustees.

- Calendar Year End - As we approach the end of the calendar year, it is a good time to review your federal and state payroll withholdings and determine if a change to your payroll withholdings for the upcoming year might be needed. Forms to change your withholdings are available on your mySiskiyou employee page under the “Pay” tab.

Consider receiving your 2021 W-2 electronically through your mySiskiyou account. Contact Nancy Coughlin or Desiree Kaae to make this simple election to be able to retrieve your W-2 from on-line instead of waiting for it to arrive in the mail.

Human Resources (HR):

In partnership with our PIO, Dawnie Slabaugh, the Human Resources has started up again the practice of advertising our job opportunities in the local newspapers every couple of weeks.

Technology Services:

Technology Services has successfully completed the first phase of the upgrade of the virtualized server environment. The second phase as well as an upgrade of the Exchange email system will take place before the end of the calendar year.

The department has drafted the Technology Master Plan for 2021-2025 and is currently taking it through the review process. It is expected that it will be published mid-November.

Student Services

Submitted by Dr. Patrick Walton, Vice President of Student Services

Student Services continues to be busy and is currently focusing on a number of projects in addition to “everyday” jobs. Service Area Outcomes are being developed and the department is beginning conversations to create mandatory student orientation and eliminating barriers to enrollment. Later this month, pending board approval, the Student Services Team will be joined by the College’s new Director of Financial Aid. This position is vital to many key areas for student access and success. We are grateful for Meghan Witherell for doing such a remarkable as our Interim Director of Enrollment Services and wish to express our appreciation to her for what she has done.

The College recently held another COVID Vaccine Clinic on campus and had success again in helping students, staff, and public in being inoculated against COVID-19. We express our appreciation for all those that helped make the clinic possible and a big thank you to Janice Porterfield for running the vaccine gift card booth during both clinics.

Two possible solutions to meeting our legal mandate to provide a lactation space on campus have been identified. A survey is being developed to allow those who wish to have input to choose between these two choices.

We are excited that we will be hosting COS Preview Day this year. It will be on October 20 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. This event is a fantastic opportunity to show local high school students all that COS has to offer and why we are an excellent institution of higher education that can meet their needs. We invite all to attend, volunteer, and participate in this fantastic event.

Basecamp HQ:

It has been a busy month at Basecamp and the Ambassadors have been working diligently to keep Basecamp organized and sanitized as more students are on campus and utilizing services provided.

Spirit Week was held the week of September 13-18, and Basecamp hosted the Fall Student Resource Fair as well as a Movie Night. The Resource Fair had an amazing turnout with 22 community partners participating. For movie night, Basecamp provided pizza, soda, candy and popcorn and showed the movie *Ferris Buller's Day Off* on the grass. The movie night was a very well attended and hopefully the first of many events. Basecamp staff participated in most of the dress up days during Spirit Week and we were happy to see most students participating as well. It is nice to see students back on campus and holding these events made us all feel a small sense of normalcy.

Halloween is coming up fast and Basecamp will be hosting a costume contest and other fun activities. More details will be coming soon. And finally, our ambassadors conducted a big CalFresh application push and in less than a week we were able to process 17 applications!! We are happy to be able to connect eligible students with CalFresh benefits and will continue our outreach efforts in the coming months.

Enrollment Services:

Admissions for fall 2022 opened October 1. FASFA, which is the application to all financial aid, also opened on October 1 for the 2022-2023 academic year.

We are excited to have a new Financial Aid Student Services Specialist, Patricia Bird.

The Siskiyou Law Enforcement Academy was approved for federal aid starting Winter / Spring 2022.

We are currently setting up for Priority registration which will start on November 8. In partnership with the Business Office we will be submitting the 317 report to the Chancellor's Office November 1.

We continue working with on-going strategies to combat fraud with the Chancellor's office.

EOPS/CalWORKs:

EOPS students and staff just wrapped up the First Progress Check-in with 92% completing this requirement. Way to go EOPS students! Students also received another \$25 gas voucher for transportation assistance. Students who were receiving an unsatisfactory grade at census met with an EOPS counselor or the EOPS coordinator to figure out an "Academic Success Plan" to get them back on track.

The EOPS counselors have been busy meeting with students for their first Counselor contact where they create or update their Education plans, as well as address any other academic needs/questions that the students have. Students have until October 15 to meet with their EOPS counselor for the first Counselor contact. With a little over a week to go, we are happy to report 90% of students have already met with their Counselor. EOPS and CalWORKs staff would like to thank Ryan Galbraith for all of his help with shipping students their EOPS and CalWORKs backpacks and student supplies. Our students were very thankful to have this option available to them!

CalWORKs students are continuing to be accepted as Siskiyou County Health and Human Services refers them to us. These students receive \$50 per month in transportation assistance, as well as school supplies and a book voucher to cover their textbooks and supplies for classes.

Student Access Services (SAS):

Student Access Services has awarded a certificate of achievement this month to Buffy Dulac. Buffy has been nominated for membership into the National Society for Leadership and Success as well as Phi Theta Kappa. Buffy is visually impaired, and through the assistance of technology and her sheer determination, she is a straight A student. Buffy is also working with the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) to support her educational and vocational goals. DOR is a strong support system for individuals with disabilities and applications can be obtained from Student Access Services (SAS). There are still openings for paid Peer Mentor positions. As a student worker, you would be assisting another student with study sessions and other general support for student success. SAS will provide training so that peer mentors will be well-informed as to their responsibilities. This commitment may only be one to two hours per week, so if you feel that you have the time and desire to help please contact SAS by emailing SAS@siskiyous.edu.

Academic Affairs

Submitted by Mark Klever, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs

As the District works through the process of setting up policies and procedures to guide our College into the near future, the Office of Academic Affairs is developing a spring schedule balancing the ongoing safety concerns of all as well as the push to come back face-to-face. Please take a moment and realize that this is not a simple process in a normal year, let alone during a pandemic that is completely unpredictable. Hours of anguish, conversations weighing out the risks and trying to appease complete opposite ends of a spectrum that are not ready to meet in the middle, are what the Deans and Directors are grappling with to try to “make a plan”. The implementation is in three and a half months from now but could have resounding affects for years to come. “Just make people come back to teach face to face!” or “How can you ensure our safety?” are the real struggles that play into these decisions. This is all much easier said than done.

With all that said, the Office of Academic Affairs is making plans for the spring semester schedule. The daily work continues while these nearly impossible plans are being scrutinized. I am proud of this team and their dedication to doing the best for as many as possible, especially our students. Please take a moment and thank those who are working hard and for what they are accomplishing with such a monumental task in front of them. Each of us play critical roles at this College. It is time to come together and work toward a common goal, our students.

Library, Academic Success Center (ASC), and Basecamp:

The Library, Basecamp, and the ASC have partnered this semester to help students get set up with their textbooks early in the semester. Jude, Regina, and Maggie hosted six ASC EdTALKs, “Textbook Connection,” in the first few weeks of classes and visited every section of EDUC 0670 to share the same information. In addition to receiving on-the-spot help for any textbooks they lacked, students learned about textbook financial assistance programs, library reserve textbooks and eBooks, and the [Zero Textbook Cost \(ZTC\) class list](#).

Career and Technical Education Department

Submitted by Christina Van Alfen, Interim CTE Dean

Please join us in welcoming Thad Wallace, our new Welding and Advanced Manufacturing faculty member. Thad has worked for the College for many years as a part-time instructor in Welding and as a collaborative partner in our Career Pathways project (while in his previous teaching role at Mount Shasta High School). Welcome Thad!

Abbi Nowdesha has joined the CTE Department in a permanent position as the CTE Program Coordinator in the Administration of Justice Program. We are so excited to have Abbi in her *newish* role on campus. Keep an eye out for more social media marketing for the CTE programs (one of Abbi’s specialties).

The Police Academy just started Module I, the final of the three Modules of the Academy. We are anticipating 19 cadets will be graduating on December 18. In the home stretch...

The Paramedic Program just began its cohort of 27 students on October 12. They will be completing their program in next year after completing their field internships.

We are eagerly anticipating the completion of the new Fire Tower in December, prior to the beginning of the Fire Fighter I Academy in January 2022. We have experienced a few hiccups, as happens with most construction projects, but Ronnie Rivera and Mike Wilson have been diligently working with the engineering and construction firms to keep the project moving forward. Thank you both for your hard work on this project.

We are looking for part-time instructors for our Computer and Business programs, specifically in Computer Information Systems and Accounting. If you know anyone interested in joining the CTE team, please refer them to the specific job links *Business* or *Computer Temporary Part-time Instructor* in the [Faculty](#) section on the [Human Resources page](#) of the College website. Thank you!

Academic Senate

The Academic Senate is continuing its work on its goals for the 2021-2022 school year. The Faculty Handbook is complete and can now be accessed on the COS website at: [Faculty Handbook \(siskiyous.edu\)](#). Proposals for new faculty positions have been submitted to better serve our students and community, a DEI rubric is being developed for senate operations, and work is being done to clarify and solidify procedures surrounding Credit for Prior Learning.

Additionally, faculty are finishing up mid-term exams, eight-week courses that began in August are ending, and new eight-week courses are starting. We are accomplishing this all while trying to determine how best to safely and effectively serve our students in the upcoming spring semester amidst an ongoing Pandemic.

Lastly, the following Senate Committees are now fully immersed in their projects for the year:

- **Distance Learning**—The Distance Learning Committee has approved their goal for the AY 21-22 and are working on an online evaluation process for Faculty. Something that will need to be bargained with the Faculty Association. Additionally, they are visiting AP 4150 to consider and integrate updated Title V language.
- **Curriculum**—The Curriculum Committee is currently reaching out to faculty about the course review cycle. This process is tied to the Program Review cycle now and faculty are being provided documents to help guide their discussions on what needs revising. The committee is also reviewing the Tech Review process and creating a guide to make sure everyone is following the same protocol.
- **Flex**—The Flex Committee is approving proposals and analyses for Flex submissions, and are working toward accommodating faculty with atypical contracts. There is an upcoming optional Flex day on October 23. Some mandatory Flex activities will be recorded for those who can't attend. They noted that signatures were needed for those who were being recorded as California is a two-party consent state.
- **Equivalency**—Equivalency Chair, Andrea Craddock, wanted to thank all those faculty on the committee and those who reviewed equivalencies for VERTO in late August. She also thanked Nancy Miller and Val Roberts for working over the weekend to make sure the equivalencies were processed.
- **SLO**- The SLO Committee has invited DL Coordinator, Maria Fernandez, to their next meeting to discuss the integration of SLOs into Canvas. The Committee is in the process of learning about the mapping feature and anticipate that they will be able to pilot SLO assessment in Canvas in the spring.
- **SJEDI**—the Social Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion committee is planning a late Fall / Winter session retreat / training. The COS community is invited to attend the trainings. The Committee is currently working on making the links more available on the SJEDI website.
- **OER**—OER Liaison Jude Baldwin reported that we are going to be set up for Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) designation in the schedule for Winter / Spring sessions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Ronald Slabbinck
Academic Senate President

No other reports submitted.