

Dean's Message

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year 2017.

Thanks to all who contributed to a successful academic year. Many of you touched my heart and confirmed why we all love teaching. I share my thoughts with you as I do every December. My words are much the same as last year and worth repeating, as my feelings about this special season have not altered!



December is another special time of the year personally for me as I hope it is for you. I have many good memories of family and special events throughout my life. Professionally, I have always considered the holiday season one of the busiest and when I was engaged with my own businesses, I often found myself kissing my loved one good bye just before Thanksgiving and saying "I'll see you again shortly after the New Year". I may be stretching the truth a bit but we managed to carve out a little special time for the family.

I hope you do this on a frequent basis and not just during the holiday season. I especially take time to revisit some of the traditions that have been passed to me and many that are unique to my family. It has been rewarding to see my children continue the use of several traditions I established with and for them while they also create different ones unique for their surroundings. The key is that we take time to create memories. Not just for ourselves but for others as well; especially for those among us who, for whatever reason, may be less fortunate than ourselves.

In today's world deadlines are shorter, and technology is transforming the nature and pace of education and work. Throughout my working career and educational path, I have experienced these changes and strongly believe that a degree will give you the necessary tools to better understand today's fast-paced life. The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less, we buy more, but enjoy less. We have bigger houses and smaller families, more conveniences, but less time. We have more degrees but less sense, more knowledge, but less judgment, more experts, yet more problems.

We may not agree at times, but that's life. We may not see the whole picture at times, but that's life. Always keep in mind that all of us only have our students best at heart, we see the benefit not today, but in the long run.

I hope this message finds you and your loved ones in great health and good spirits. My warmest thoughts and best wishes for you and those close to you. Have a wonderful holiday and a new year of peace and happiness. I wish you each a very prosperous and healthy holiday season, one full of the righteous desires of our hearts. Let's make what we do count, let's be happy and keep the child next to you a little closer. For you and your family I wish you good health and peace of mind.

Warmest regards to all,
Klaus



Welcome Becca McCurdy – Child Development Specialist

Becca McCurdy first learned about Columbia College as a Child Development student. She was spurred toward this field by the joys of leading tours for young people at the Angels Camp Museum and working with students in school gardens. Earlier, she studied History and Spanish at the University of Virginia. After graduating from UVA, she became an AmeriCorps member and worked with high school students as a program coordinator and case manager at a youth development organization in Boston, Massachusetts. Although she loved the work and biking to the office, the winters were hard and she left the East Coast to join her brother and extended family in California.

Becca met her husband while working on a market farm in Carpentry, CA and they moved to the foothills to grow food and start a life together. After studying at Columbia College, she earned her Multiple Subject Teaching Credential at California State University, Stanislaus and went on to teach first and second grade at Jenny Lind Elementary School in Calaveras County. She is excited to join the Columbia College community and to bring her love of gardening and the outdoors to her work with students of all ages.



One of CTE's newest
classified employees,
Becca!

Important Dates to Remember

As we approach the end of the semester, it's a good time to be reminded of your flex obligation. Full-time faculty should be about halfway done with their 28 hour commitment.

The only hard and fast rule is that this obligation needs to be met by **June 30, 2018**.

The following Spring 2018 Canvas trainings and courses with Melissa Colón may be good options to add to your flex hours: EDUC 50 (3194) - Online Course Development and EDUC 52 (3451) - Universal Design for Online Course Development. Additionally, @ONE Self-paced Canvas Training - Introduction to Teaching with Canvas has continuous open enrollment.



Hospitality Management
Apprenticeship Advisory
Board, Nov. 2017

Apprenticeship Update

The apprenticeship team has been busy! They will be adding the third and final cohort to the Hospitality Management Apprenticeship Program and launching the first cohort of Child Development apprentices in Spring 2018. Orientation and spring registration will take place on Monday, December 18, 2017.

Congratulations to the Fire Science Department, who received funding to launch a Pre-Apprenticeship in Fire Science!

Stay tuned for more details to come.

