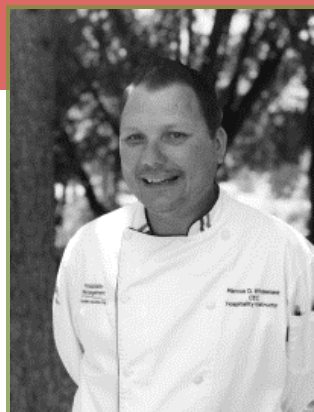Columbia College
Academic Senate

Newsletter

September 2023

President's Report

The Fall 2023 semester has been cruising along as we are approaching week six. I would like to thank everyone who attended the faculty retreat at Baker Station in August. It was nice to catch up with some emeritus faculty and welcome in our new folks to the Columbia family. We had robust conversations on faculty goals for the academic year and I look forward to those conversations in our Senate meetings to come.

I have been settling into my new role as President and it has been exciting, and stressful but mostly rewarding. I would like to give a big shout-out to the executive team for their input and guidance. I have had the pleasure of presenting two board reports now and I look forward to presenting at the next board meeting in October which is going to be held at Columbia on October 18th, I hope everyone can attend this meeting. On a side note, before every board meeting, Brian Greene (YFA President) Gisele Flores (MJC AS President) and myself have met up for lunch to catch up on business and to keep each other in the loop on the activity between the campuses and our district. I have enjoyed these meetings as it is important to get perspective from MJC.

President-Elect/Vice President Eric Andal and I have been meeting with Dr. Tran every other week since the semester started. Our main goal as of right now is to hammer down a grant process in which there is a recognized flow of who needs to be involved in these types of conversations. I look forward to our next meeting and will keep everyone in the loop.

Lastly, I would like to thank Jeri P. for making sure that I'm not dropping the ball on anything, I appreciate all that you do!!

Respectfully,
Marcus Whisenant

Academic Senate Executive Team

President
Marcus Whisenant

Vice President/President Elect
Erik Andal

Past President
Lahna Von Epps

Curriculum Chair
Alicia Kolstad

Representative-at-Large for College Council
Vanessa Muro-Marai

Part Time Faculty Representative
Shannon Van Zant

YFA Member-at-Large/College Council Representative
Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Columbia College Academic Senate Newsletter September 2023
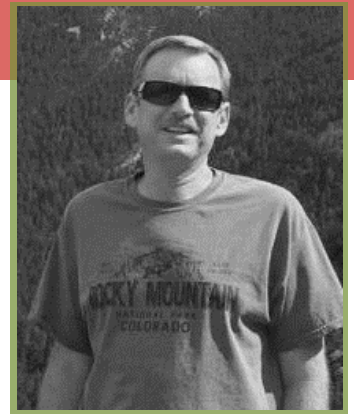
FACULTY RETREAT 2023

Vice President's Report

One issue that is being focused on by the Academic Senate is the process for which grants are sought and eventually applied for. Specifically, the Senate will vote on the 2nd and final reading of *Resolution FA23-A: Shared Governance Participation in Grant Applications for Columbia College* at the next full Senate meeting.

If this resolution passes, Marcus will be directed to negotiate an MOU with Dr. Tran that establishes input and participation from the Senate when non—recurring grants are sought.

In anticipation of the resolution passing its 2nd reading, Marcus has asked me to start solicitating input from faculty as to what should be included in the MOU. Please email me your thoughts on this at andale@yosemite.edu

On the topic of *Shared v. Participatory Governance*, it was noted that the title of the FA23-A resolution should be amended to replace *shared* governance with *participatory* governance. This is a good suggestion, in my opinion. For those of us who served in Senate leadership positions long ago, we recall that shared governance was the term that was routinely used. Perhaps that was never a good term to use in the first place, as it implies that the Senate shares policy and procedure making decisions with the administration and YCCD Board. But as we know, our rights under AB 1725 are to "ensure faculty, staff, and students...the right to *participate* effectively in district and college governance" and, further, to ensure "the right of academic senates to assume primary responsibility for making recommendations in the areas of curriculum and academic standards."
(see https://asccc.org/sites/default/files/Participating_Effectively_200503.pdf, page 2). Whatever term we use, I encourage all faculty to be reverent in expecting our effective participation in the 10+1 issues. If you find that administration is not including faculty in 10+1 issues, please inform the Senate leadership.
By Erik Andal

Curriculum Chair Report

Happy Fall 2023

As I shared in the first Academic Senate meeting on 8/24/23, each of the following resources are available for review from the Curriculum Committee Webpage.
- Course Sunset List
- Curriculum Faculty Responsibility List
- Course Five Year Review Tracker
- Program Five Year Review Tracker

We currently do not have a SLOPR Coordinator on the Curriculum Committee. I began discussions with the VPI to see how the duties for the job might be modified and shared those discussions with the full Academic Senate on 9/15/23. There seemed to be agreement in the Senate meeting that the PR piece of SLOPR be removed. A draft MOU will be presented to the College President by the Academic Senate President and Academic Senate Vice President for 40% faculty release time to support Student Learning Outcomes. Senate leadership will share the results with the full Senate.

2024-2025 Catalog Curriculum Submission Deadline: October 6, 2023 Curriculum changes for 24-25 catalog must be *submitted by* this date.

A Baccalaureate Degree proposal was submitted to the state on 9/5/23 for Cooperative Land Stewardship. This has prompted the Curriculum Committee to develop policy and procedure for upper division courses.

Legislative Changes Impacting Curriculum:

- AB 1111 Common Course Numbering (Fully implemented July 2024) Legislation requires all courses in our Cal/GETC and ADT's to be revised and approved using common course numbering. The ASCCC acknowledges that the timeline is not realistic, none the less, this is our charge.
- AB 928 Cal/GETC & ADT (Fully implemented Fall 2025)
- Title 5 changes to Work Experience Education Regulations Revisions
  Summary of Regulatory Changes
    - The work experience regulations replace the former "cooperative work experience" regulations that were first promulgated decades ago. The new regulations are organized into 5 principle sections: "Purpose and Definition of Work Experience Education" (section 55250), "District Responsibilities" (section 55251), "Work Experience Education Documentation" (section 55252), "College Credit, Attendance Accounting, Course Repetition" (section 55253), and "Records" (section 55254).

Respectfully Submitted,
Alicia Kolstad

Teaching,

Learning, and

Community

I get the pleasure of providing the first post for our Teaching, Learning and Community (TLC) Committee this year! We have a great crew coordinating professional development and community events– Daniel Godsil and I (Kirsten Miller) are the Faculty Co-Chairs, Ellen (Degerman) Corbin (Admissions) is the new Classified Rep, Kelsie Gillen continues to provide support from the Instruction Office, Ashli Bumgardner jumped right in for Distance Education, and we are also excited that Ruth MacNeille (Biology) will be part of the fun as a standing committee member. Daniel and I will be trading off on these reports, but please feel free to reach out to any of us for ideas, updates and questions- links to directory pages are included for contact info!

We sent out an email a couple weeks ago for Teaching Test Kitchen Labs (TTKL) & Peer Observation Pool (POP) applications. Applications and descriptions can be found on the TLC website if you are interested in growing your knowledge and skills in these (compensated $) group activities. The mentoring piece of TLC has been amazing this year with all of our new faculty members, mentors, and the leadership of Lahna VonEpps with SPF (Supporting Probationary Faculty)! Our new classified folks are connected with mentors as well to continue the 'welcome to the family' tradition we have at Columbia. If you need specifics on what the faculty mentor/mentee action items are, check out the website!

We have some great ideas for DE training and general pro dev opportunities, so our next task to actually put them on a calendar and roll them out to you all. We also want to remind you of the opportunity to contribute your thoughts for speakers/workshops funded by our Culturally Responsive Pedagogy Grant through this survey: Speaker Series Survey-TLC 2023. Our book of the year again is Teach Yourself How to Learn by Dr. Saundra McGuire – which is a quick and amazingly helpful read about how to study/learn (and help your students) in alignment with how out brains work (metacognition). We have reached out to Dr. McGuire and are in talks about bringing her to our campus in the spring for student and faculty workshops - she's excited and so are we! She also wrote a teacher version, Teach Students How to Learn, if you are interested. Please let us know if you'd like a free copy of either book and we'll see what we can do!

Instructional Skills Workshop (ISW)

Institutional Effectiveness Committee and Finance Committee

The Institutional Effectiveness Council (IEC) held the first meeting for fall semester on September 11th.

The agenda focused on discussing the data collected to measure the College's progress toward strategic plan goals. At fall in-service, a one-page strategic plan update was distributed. The IEC discussed additional data that would help illuminate progress toward those goals including rate statistics rather than just aggregate numbers. The committee also requested that Matt Connot (Research Analyst) add at least a few notes to describe the context for the data presented. The council discussed what kinds of data could be used to measure goals and opportunities to share the data with constituent groups. Matt identified the need to adjust the floor and target as we continue to make progress toward reaching the goals in the strategic plan.

Matt will be sharing the results of the Governance Survey at the next meeting.

The Council agreed to compile updates to the Participatory Governance Handbook throughout the year and then present them to College Council once a year.

The Council corrected the dates on the Strategic Plan and revised the name of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Committee in the Participatory Governance Handbook.

If that all sounds super fun to you, please join us for our next meeting scheduled for October 9th from 3:00-4:30. If you have questions or concerns about plans, plans for plans, or other such deep topics please reach out to us. Your faculty representatives this year are me, Jim Retemeyer, and Kirsten Miller.

By Adrienne Seegers

Distance Education Coordinator Report

The Distance Education Committee held its first meeting of the 2023-2024 school year on September 22nd. Our meeting dates for the year are as follows:

- October 20th
- November 17th
- December 8th
- January 26th
- February 16th
- March 15th
- April 19th

Below are highlights of what we discussed during this first meeting!

- Progress on the Online Student Handbook, Distance Education Handbook, and the Distance Education Plan. All of these need to be updated. We have a goal of getting these updated by the end of the academic year. We've created small teams of committee members to focus on each document.
- Update on Simple Syllabus: We are piloting the tool with "Sandbox Sessions" that faculty volunteered to participate in. Faculty join a Zoom meeting with the representative and remote control the screen to try out the tool, and there's time for Q & A.
- Idea of continuing something like 5 for $500 and/or focusing efforts on Accessibility for professional development.
- Title V changes and potential impacts to Distance Education. I am coordinating with MJC to align expectations due to these changes.
- Faculty Website alternatives such as Google Sites and the opportunity for workshops on creating such sites.
- Locating/adding Syllabus Statements such as the DSPS Course Accessibility Statement directly to the Faculty Hub.
- New tools that faculty are interested in: Canva and VoiceThread. We are looking into the cost of Canva and funding options. We are considering a pilot of licensed VoiceThread.

By Ashli Bumgardner

Academic Senate Representative at-Large Report

Hello fellow Columbia College friends!

It is an honor to serve as the Faculty Representative at Columbia College for the 2023-2024 school year and I thank you all for allowing me to serve in this role. Also, I would like to mention that the work I do on this campus as Faculty Coordinator and Academic Counselor for the EOPS/CARE and Dream Resource Center services are impactful for our students because of the work and support from amazing faculty like you and from our classified superstars. Please see below a list of updates gathered at the first College Council meeting of the semester.

- Educational Master Plan of 2024-2034 is in draft and review.
- President Tran mentioned Director of Marketing position did not work out. However, a call out for a Graphic Designer Position was mentioned and she encouraged anyone to put forward recommendations of people that may be interested in the position.
- Students from the country of Colombia will visit our campus, learn more about the international program, and stay in the campus dorms. A select few of Columbia College employees, including President Tran, will be taking students on a trip to Yosemite National Park near the end of September.
- Following the presentation from Tim Wise, another speaker named Dr. Regina Straut will be presenting at Columbia College on October 13th. Time, topic, and location to be announced.
- Discussion of a campus Master Calendar resurfaced. President Tran delegated the task of creation to VP Raby.
- Lakeside Lounge will have its grand reveal of the Mural Art on October 18th. Mural will consist of photographs of students at Columbia College: The mural was described to be similar to wall art found at Applebee's Restaurants.
- College Store in the form of a vending machine that holds Columbia College Merchandise (t-shirts, hats, sweatshirts, etc.) was announced. Discussion of having fresh food in vending machine for students was resurfaced. Response back was that there was not enough foot traffic to sustain fresh food costs in vending machines.
- Affordable Housing Lease will end on 8/2024. Discussion of what college will do moving forward is still in progress.
- K-16 Grant will cover program areas of Healthcare, Education, and Computer Science/Engineering.
- Apple Partnership and grant to fund Apple Technology for campus was announced and discussed. Recommendation from fellow faculty member to have access to Apple Techs for technology implementation before moving forward.
- October Board Meeting will occur at Columbia College on October 18th, time to be determined. All are invited to attend.
- Reported that an estimated 900 students confirmed to attend Claim Jumper Day

By Vanessa Muro-Marai

Part-time Faculty Representative Report

Hello Colleagues,

Welcome to Fall semester. I am Shannon Van Zant, your part time representative to the Academic Senate Executive Committee and one of your representatives to Academic Senate. Alison Schult and Robert Bannwarth are your other two representations. As such, we hope to represent your interests in the 10+1 items that are the purview of the Academic Senate, which include curriculum, grading policies, degree and certificate requirements, accreditation, professional development, programs, etc. If you have any questions, comments or concerns on any of these matters, please let me, Ali or Robert know.

One thing that is in the works that you should look for in the coming months is the implementation of a two-factor authentication process for Columbia. You will be getting emails from the college with more details in the months to come.

Academic Senate is also currently working on faculty hiring proposals, so if you are working in a department that is understaffed now is the time to bring it to the attention of full-time faculty in the department. If there is no full-time faculty in the department, please contact me or Marcus Whisenant and we will do our best to get a proposal for your area.

Let's have a great semester!

Important Dates for October

October 13, 2023	Accreditation: Final Steps (lunch)
October 18, 2023	Board of Trustees Meeting at Columbia
October 20, 2023	Full Academic Senate Meeting
October 27, 2023	Academic Senate FHP Ranking Meeting
October 28, 2023	Curriculum Deadline

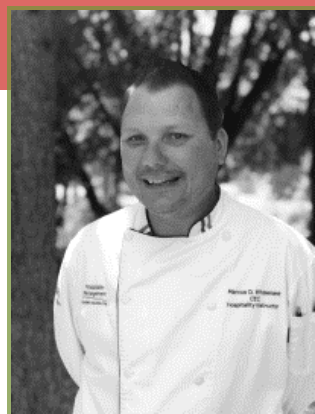# Faulty Getting Involved and Having Fun!

Pancakes with Professors!

Columbia College
Academic Senate

Newsletter

November 2023

President's Report

Greetings Columbia College Family. It has been a busy semester and I can't believe we are approaching finals.

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges held the Spring Plenary on November 16th – 18th. I attended virtually and had the honor of being our faculty voice. 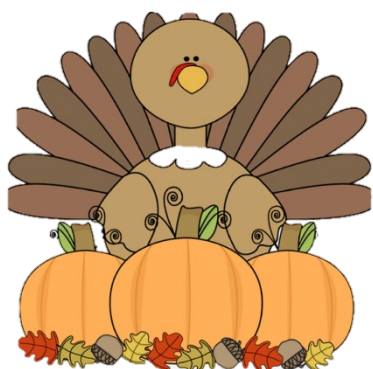Attached are the resolutions that passed the session. I will be highlighting the resolutions at our next Academic Senate meeting on December 8th but in the meantime, I encourage Faculty members to look them over and if something catches your eye, let me know.

Election Chair Lahna VonEpps has sent out ballots for spring positions, please check your email and vote. I would like to encourage all Faculty members to step out of their comfort zone and be a part of the bigger picture. I also encourage Faculty members to attend the Academic Senate meetings in which our business is conducted. You have a voice!!

President-Elect Eric Andal is leading the charge of having the Academic Senate and the Classified Senate work closely together. I'm looking forward to the projects that are in the works.

Happy Holiday!!

Submitted by,
Marcus Whisenant

Academic Senate Executive Team

President
Marcus Whisenant

Vice President/President Elect
Erik Andal

Past President
Lahna Von Epps

Curriculum Chair
Alicia Kolstad

Representative-at-Large for College Council
Vanessa Muro-Marai

Part Time Faculty Representative
Shannon Van Zant

YFA Member-at-Large/College Council Representative
Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Vice President's Report

The Brown Act – Spring, 2024 and Forward
At our last Senate meeting we discussed the Brown Act and the Senate's requirement to hold meetings in person, beginning January 1st. I've since had some questions from faculty concerning these 'new' rules. So, here's a recap:
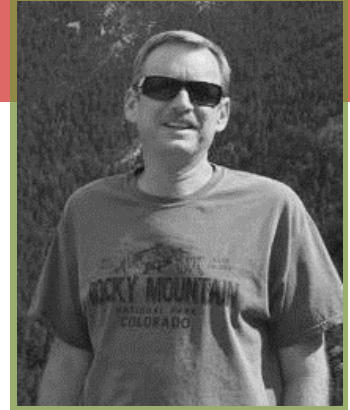
The "Classic" (pre-Covid) Brown Act provision allowed for remote teleconferencing. And because the Classic Brown Act still applies, "A" member can join the meeting remotely so long as 1. That remote location is published in the agenda, 2. The remote location is open for the public to join the meeting, and 3. That member does not join remotely for more than 20% of the meetings in a calendar year.

The only real change, starting in January, is one additional option: if "A" member wants to join remotely and has a justifiable reason (caring for a family member, sick, traveling on district business, etc.), that remote location need not be published in the agenda and that location need not be open to the public. While the Senate meetings will need to be scheduled for in-person, faculty may remotely join those meetings for up to 20% of the calendar meetings.

VPI
Our VPI office has experienced some irregularities in terms of having a VPI. As we know, Brian Sanders is currently our (permanent) VPI. However, he was assigned as MJC's interim VPI and he remains in that position today. To fill his spot, Raelene stepped up as our interim VPI. But Raelene is currently on leave. Dr. Tran chose to fill the VPI vacancy by assigning those tasks to Melissa Raby, as an additional duty. But that doesn't seem like a prudent move, IMO. The VPI on any campus is arguably one of the most important positions. The VPI ensures compliance with many Title V mandates, oversees enrollment management, serves as the district officer for our curriculum issues, and many more very vital tasks. VPI duties can't be effectively accomplished as additional duties.

Brian Sanders is a finalist for the president position at Woodland Community College and also MJC. If he becomes a president at one of those colleges, or does not get one of those positions and decides not to return to Columbia College, we need to work with administration to get the search going for a permanent VPI quickly!

Submitted by,
Erik Andal

Curriculum Chair Report

The Curriculum Committee continues to move forward with implementation and operationalization of multiple legislative modifications to California Educational Code. A big thanks to all the members of the Committee for their commitment to the well-being of the college's curriculum.

- The Academic Senate approved the Columbia College Philosophy and Criteria for Associate in Science and Associate in Arts Degrees and General Education at the November 17, 2023 Academic Senate meeting.
  - Area E will no longer be a part of CCGE
- In addition, our Noncredit Coursework and Certificates of Competency and Completion Requirements for the 2024-2025 Catalog were approved.
- Columbia College's guiding principles for Activity Units were also approved. Activity units at Columbia will be referred to as "Lab with Homework (Activity) Units".
- New courses were assigned to appropriate disciplines in the following areas: Ethnic Studies, Music, Geography and Guidance.
- Columbia's Baccalaureate Degree Proposal in Cooperative Land Stewardship was denied approval by the CCC Chancellors Office on 10/13/23 however, administration plans to resubmit in January.
- In Spring 2024 the Curriculum Committee will be reviewing curriculum developed by MJC faculty working on stipends resulting from a grant award related to Health Career Education. Administration informs us that we will be offering a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Skills Attainment Certificate as well as a Medical Assistant (MA) Certificate of Achievement. Columbia College does not currently employ any qualified discipline faculty in Medical or Health Career Education which is why MJC faculty will develop the curriculum. Administration is going after grants in areas that we do not have fulltime faculty. Full-time faculty were not requested in the College Outlook.
- The Academic Senate approved waiving the Academic Senate bylaws to include all full-time faculty members as eligible to serve as Curriculum Chair for the 2024-2025 academic year.
- SLOPR Coordinator position on Curriculum Committee updated to SLO Coordinator to reflect changes to the SLO MOU .
- Title 5 (55250 et seq) has been updated with regards to Work Experience. This will require modification on all Work Experience classes in all disciplines. The Curriculum Committee is seeking to coordinate with administration on the appropriate course of action for these modifications and alignment with board policy.

Submitted by,
Alicia Kolstad-Curriculum Chair

Columbia College Academic Senate Newsletter November 2023

Teaching, Learning, and Community

As we are starting to get the hang of this TLC thing, we have determined that we need a good process for proposals, especially when it comes to our grant funding and stipends for professional development. We want to be transparent, in line with YFA, and also be able to maximize the faculty, staff, and student benefit from this grant funding while we have it! So, we'll be working on that, but don't let that hinder you from bringing your great ideas forward. Watch for some professional development workshop invitations in the spring, as well as more and different types of speaker series events based on your suggestions. Keep your ideas coming – we have funding for Teaching Test Kitchen Labs (TTKL), Ethnic Studies curriculum development, ZTC (zero/low-cost textbooks), the Culturally Responsive Pedagogy Grant, and maybe others that could be used to fund your ideas for professional development.

We are SOOOO excited to host our first (of more?) TLC Teaching and Learning Summit, Feb 29 & March 1 featuring Dr. Saundra McGuire (renowned speaker and author of Teach Yourself to Learn), as part of our Speaker Series. We will also have some fun lunches book club style in preparation for the Summit, and a possible TTKL opportunity for integrating these strategies into your teaching pedagogy. We have started a planning group (meeting on Monday afternoons if you are interested in joining – let us know), but in the meantime save the date! More details coming soon!

We have a couple faculty members taking advantage of our Peer Observation Pool (POP) this year, so you may get lucky and asked to be observed. Remember, this is not part of our formal evaluation process, but an incentivized way to learn from amazing colleagues that can help you do your work better, in our own disciplines and outside of them. You can POP, too! Learn more and find the application [here](#).

Ashli Bumgardner, DE Coordinator, has been diligently working on bringing us demo opportunities for Simple Syllabus so we all can weigh in on the important decision of whether or not to implement this digital syllabus tool. If we do this… it will be for ALL faculty and class syllabi, so your feedback is important. We have been given the green light on financing, so now it's up to faculty to make a deciding vote before the end of the term (hopefully at our upcoming Senate meeting). Please contact [Ashli](#) if you have any questions.

Thanks to Stephanie Beaver-Guzman for bringing our Native Voices event to campus- it was a powerful evening and well attended- what a great event for our community to come and learn together. We are also in the planning stages of Spring term's Professional Development Day (formerly known as Flex) and hope to see you all there. We'll be sending out an invitation with the agenda once we get it nailed down so you can see how cool it will be 😊. And… I'm excited that Daniel wants to keep going with me on this crazy train for next year – remember to vote for our Academic Senate positions to lock him in, lol!

Submitted by,
Kirsten Miller

When you think of professional development… think TLC!

Institutional Effectiveness Committee, Finance Committee, and Cultural Enrichment Committee

Institutional Effectiveness Committee (IEC)

The November Institutional Effectiveness Committee meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will take place on 12/4 from 3:00-4:30. Topics include updates on Accreditation/ISER, Teaching Learning and Community (TLC), an enrollment snapshot, and a discussion about the findings from the Governance Survey completed during spring 2023. If you have ideas, questions, or concerns about institutional effectiveness, let us know! I am one of the current tri-chairs and Kirsten Miller and Jim Retemeyer also serve as faculty reps on the Council.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee will hold its first meeting of the semester on 12/11 under the leadership of Kristina Godinez who is the new Senior Director of Administrative Services. If you have questions or concerns regarding the College's finances, please share them with me or Dr. Stephanie Beaver-Guzman and we will bring them forward. We'll have more to report after the first meeting!

Cultural Enrichment Committee

The Cultural Enrichment Committee (CEC) has met twice this semester (last Wednesday of the month from 3:00-4:00 Buckeye 104). We are very proud to have supported the 5th Native Voices event on 11/16. Thank you to Dr. Stephanie Beaver-Guzman for her continued leadership in bringing Native issues and voices to the forefront on our campus. We are already holding the date for La Fiesta on 10/5/2024! Thank you to Vanessa Muro-Marai for her leadership of this event.

The group has updated the website to include the new mission statement. We are really pleased to have Ashley Escalera joining us as a student representative. Keep an eye out for cultural enrichment displays and activities around campus and a multi-cultural day in the spring semester. If you have ideas about supporting cultural enrichment on campus, please reach out to me.

Submitted by
Adrienne Seegers

Distance Education Committee

The Distance Education Committee held its third meeting of the 2023-2024 school year on November 17th. Below are some highlights of our current work.

- We've been working on growing the representation on our committee, and we're glad to have representation from faculty, staff, and students!
- Efforts from the DE Committee and TLC have moved us forward to demo sessions for Simple Syllabus. We're hosting these open sessions for faculty, staff, deans, and management to try out Simple Syllabus and give feedback. These open sessions occurred November 21, 12-1 pm and 3-4 pm, November 28, 10:30-11:30 am, and November 30, 10-11 am. Feedback from these sessions will be taken to the Academic Senate Executive Team December 1st.
- During our workgroup session for the DE Faculty Handbook, we came up with an idea to create a document that includes best practices for regular and substantive interaction as a standalone resource for faculty. A small workgroup of 3 will be creating this document to share back with the committee.
- Thank you to Tamara Oxford for attention to a request for a Mental Health Syllabus Statement! We will be requesting placement of this statement in the Faculty Hub in Canvas.
- We discussed availability of proctoring tools and have decided to look into pricing for Proctorio. This could be a helpful tool for online courses that need proctored exams.
- We started brainstorming ideas for Spring 2023 Professional Development and plan to finalize those plans after our December 8th meeting.

> Submitted by,
> Ashli Bumgardner

Part-time Faculty Representative Report

No report this month

Technology Committee

The Technology Committee met on November 16.

- Some Committee members have shifted since the last meeting in the spring; consequently, all participants were introduced. Brook Crouse, Executive Secretary of Student Services conducted the meeting.
- Jeff Swank reported on the issues with the Oak Pavilion sound system which was installed incorrectly, and now is being assessed and problem solved.
- Martin Kjaer led a discussion about charging students for nonreturn of laptops. Suggested fees would be $150 for old laptops, $450 for new ones, and an undisclosed amount for the high-end laptops.
- Martin encouraged anyone interested in replacing old computers for their department, to get a quote from our IT. Current money for replacement of computers will not be like it was during Covid. Purchasing computers will be a department-by-department decision pending available funding.
- Ryan Brady announced that New Firewalls have been installed across the District providing greater protection for the network. Eventually Columbia sill be getting new desk phones.
- A discussion about MFA (multifactor authentication) took place. All colleges that receive federal money, (like Pell Grants) are required to implement MFAs. There is currently the ability to sign up for MFA via the IT Service Portal for those who wish to participate in a soft roll out.
- Joe Macklin announced that they are now working on the CVC-OEI (California Virtual College-Online Educational Initiative) which will allow Columbia College to become a teaching college for Distance Education. That could occur sometime in the spring semester.

> Submitted by,
> Kath Christensen

Academic Senate Representative at-Large Report

College Council Report:

- College store: vending machines in progress
- Spring Marketing: Marketing will reach to Oakdale, with postcards mailed out. Request to look into adding Waterford area for marketing.
- Holiday Celebration: 12/6: 11:30-1pm, ugly sweater contest for staff and student leaders
- K16: Secured for $18.1 million

I wish you all good health, quality time with loved ones, and joy as we approach the holiday seasons.

Be well friends, see you in the next year!

> Submitted by,
> Vanessa Muro-Marai

Ofrenda

STUDENTS HAVING FUN!

Student Trustee, Alyssa Rae Samaripa being sworn in by Chancellor Young

Faulty Getting Involved and Having Fun!

Child Development Event!

December 6	**Employee Holiday Lunch**
December 7	**Cram Night (4-8pm**
December 8	**Academic Senate Meeting**
January 11	**Academic Senate In-service Meeting**
January 26	**Academic Senate Meeting**

Faculty Birthdays

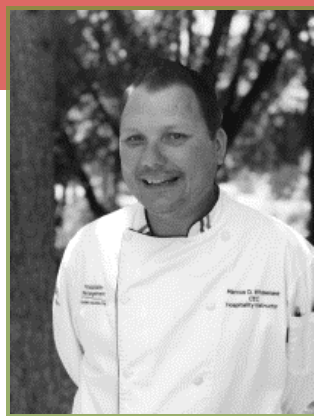|			
Tom Hofstra	December 9	Rebekah Rogers	January 2
Joe Manlove	December 11	Erik Andal	January 5
Ruth Macneille	December 13	Nate Rien	January 11
Tom Johnson	December 17	Don Dickinson	January 19
Adrienne Seegers	December 23		
Colin Thomas	December 26		
Tim Elizondo	December 29		
Jesse Ray	December 29		

Columbia College
Academic Senate

Newsletter

October 2023

President's Report

As Academic Senate President, I have the honor of serving as Columbia College's ASCCC voice at this Falls Plenary session. The Fall plenary will take place on November 16th and will conclude on November 18th. The resolution packets will be available on November 2nd and I will send that packet out for faculty feedback.

I attended the Area A meeting last Friday and it was a great experience to talk with other Area A members and discuss the upcoming resolutions.

Our own Academic Senate is busy wrapping up the FHP process. On November 3rd a team of Faculty members will meet with the administration team to solidify the hiring list that will passed on to Dr. Tran. This process is always tough, as we as Faculty members want the best for our students and our college. I would like to personally thank the Faculty for taking part in these somewhat difficult conversations.

A few notables from the past full AS meeting:
- Professor Colin Thomas presented the ISER for its first reading. The first reading was approved and will make its way back to the Senate floor at our next meeting on November 17th.
- Dean Mike Igoe presented the EMP for its second reading. The second reading was approved and will be sent to the College Council.
- Professor and President-Elect Erik Andal presented the second reading of Resolution FA23-A which establishes a line of communication between the AS President and Columbia Colleges President when it comes to participatory governance and grants. The second reading passed but there are many next steps. Eric and I will be meeting with Dr. Tran on this resolution and soliciting feedback from our colleagues.
- Resolution FA23-B was passed in which the current leadership team to stay in place for a second year bypassing the election process. I would like to thank all Faculty for allowing Lahna, Eric, and myself to continue to serve in our current roles next year.

Respectfully,
Marcus Whisenant

Academic Senate Executive Team

President
Marcus Whisenant

Vice President/President Elect
Erik Andal

Past President
Lahna Von Epps

Curriculum Chair
Alicia Kolstad

Representative-at-Large for College Council
Vanessa Muro-Marai

Part Time Faculty Representative
Shannon Van Zant

YFA Member-at-Large/College Council Representative
Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Vice President's Report

FHP Process

At the time of this writing we look forward to our FHP meeting on Friday, October 27th. We have all been asked to complete a survey that addresses each proposal, which will be compiled as a resource for this meeting. And at this meeting, we will build consensus as to the rankings of each proposal.
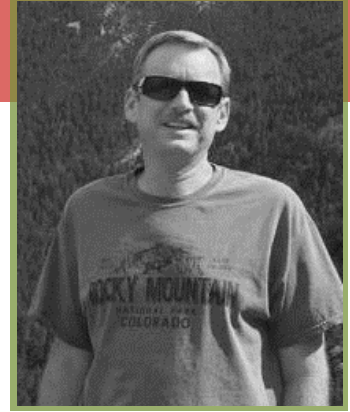
Then, a combined faculty-administration FHP committee will meet to finalize the rankings of the FHP proposals. *Note: the faculty consensus on the ranking may change, based on the discussions during this meeting.* Those rankings will then go to Dr. Tran, for her final determination on which faculty positions are to be filled.

Each year the district authorizes new and replacement positions that Columbia College can fill. Some years we are authorized no new faculty positions. It seems that an average of two or so positions are authorized. However, we've seen many more faculty positions authorized in recent years. Marcus and I met with Dr. Tran on Tuesday, October 24th and she confirmed that the district has not yet authorized new faculty positions. While I have not been involved in Senate leadership for a while, I don't believe that it is unusual for us not to have faculty positions authorized this early in the year. The district uses many metrics to make decisions on new and replacement faculty positions. And so FTES, retirements, and other data for this year may be needed to inform the district their authorizing faculty hiring. From my memory, it seems that late the fall, or early in the spring semester is a more common timeframe for the district to announce new faculty positions.

50% Law

As an FYI, the 50% Law refers to the requirement that all k-12 and community college districts must spend at least 50% of their budget for instruction. And specifically, *direct* instruction. What this boils down to is classroom teachers and classified staff positions that support that direct instruction. So, for examples, positions such as a counselor, administrator, or admissions and records specialist would not be considered direct instruction. The 50% Law is one of many considerations that the district uses to determine new or replacement faculty hiring.

By Erik Andal

Curriculum Chair Report

Hello curriculum friends!

The Curriculum Committee has been busy! In addition to reviewing over 100 courses and their DE/CE Addenda and almost 25 awards this fall (roughly ¼ of our curriculum), the Committee has the following news:

1. **SLO Coordinator MOU:** An MOU has been developed to separate Program Review from Student Learning Outcomes coordination. The Academic Senate is seeking a Student Learning Outcome Coordinator. This position comes with 40% release time. I have included a link to the current MOU, which passed its first reading at the October 20th Academic Senate meeting. We need a name to submit for TBD on the second reading at the November 17th meeting. If you are interested, please contact Marcus Whisenant or Alicia Kolstad. The Curriculum Committee Bylaws will be updated to reflect the SLO Coordinator and remove PR.

2. In preparation for the implementation of Curriculum-Related Initiatives the Curriculum Committee Chair, Curriculum Specialist and the Articulation Officer, began a discussion with acting VPI Melissa Raby to review the following Curriculum Related Initiatives:

   - Resolution Number 04.02
   - CalGETC
   - AB 1460, AB 928, AB 1111 and AB 927
   - Standards, Policies & Procedures for Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum Version 2.3

   These initiatives will require extensive planning and human resources to fully implement. The acting VPI agreed that we should begin planning for our **Articulation officer to receive 100% release time beginning Spring 2024**. As a point of clarification, Melissa Raby did not think we needed to take this through the Academic Senate as a resolution or MOU. She indicated that she would follow up as soon as possible to codify this plan. After sharing this information with Academic Senate leadership, it was decided that we would prepare a Resolution to codify the plan. You should expect to see a first reading at the November Academic Senate meeting.

3. **Elections Curriculum Chair-** Columbia College will need to secure a new Curriculum Chair for 2024-2026 academic years. Based on our current bylaws the following individuals are eligible to be the chair. Currently there is 50% release time for the Curriculum Chair. Discussions have begun with the Acting VPI regarding the appropriateness of this release time amount given the curriculum related initiatives. Additional information will be shared as it develops.

   Curriculum Chair Eligibility:

Erik Andal	Randy Barton	Ashli Bumgardner	Rebekah Rogers
Juan Pablo Sanchez	Don Dickinson	Tom Hofstra	Joe Manlove
Marcus Whisenant	Nate Rien	Lahna VonEpps	Rebecca Slate
			Mike Torok

   Academic Senate Election Procedures

I want to personally thank everyone on the committee for their hard work, time and care on this vital committee that is so important to student success.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Kolstad

Teaching,

Learning, and

Community

Happy Fall from TLC!

This is Daniel Godsil, one of your Faculty Co-Chairs.

We have some exciting news to report: Saundra McGuire, the author of Teach Yourself to Learn (our ongoing TLC Book of the Year), is coming to the Columbia College campus in the coming spring semester!

From February 29 to March 1 2024, Dr. McGuire will be here to give a "Teach Yourself (and Students) to Learn" conference—so save the dates! Stay tuned for more information coming shortly; there will be workshops and presentations for faculty, students, tutors, classified folks, and even community members. Kirsten Miller, my dauntless TLC partner, has been hard at work arranging the details and logistics for this visit (thank you Kirsten!).

We still have ongoing opportunities for Teaching Test Kitchen Labs (TTKL) & Peer Observation Pool (POP) applications. Applications and descriptions can be found on the TLC website if you are interested in these compensated group activities. As a great example, two of our standing committee members, Ashli Bumgardner (Distance Education) and Ruth MacNeille (Biology) have put together a FLEX workshop opportunity called "Welcome Your Students Before Class Begins!" The workshop will be Friday, December 1, 10am-12pm...we hope to see you there!

Also, Lahna VonEpps continues to do awesome work with SPF (Supporting Probationary Faculty), pairing new faculty members with established faculty mentors. If you need specifics on what the faculty mentor/mentee action items are, check out the website!

Thanks to all who submitted ideas for our DEIA speaker series. This is an ongoing process to help the college implement parts of the Culturally Responsive Pedagogy Grant, so please contact either me or Kirsten if you have any other ideas!

We're excited to welcome Jeri Pourchot back as our Classified Representative, and we want to thank Ellen Degerman for her interim work in this role.

Institutional Effectiveness Committee and Finance Committee

Institutional Effectiveness Committee (IEC)

The IEC met on 11/6 and discussed the results of the Governance Survey, the Educational Master Plan (EMP), and the Cyclic Review Process. Matt shared the participation on the governance survey was lower than the previous year and the group discussed how to increase participation in the future. The survey included three new questions. Matt will share the qualitative responses collected on the survey at a future IEC meeting.

The group approved the second reading of the EMP and sent it on its way to College Council. The EMP is a guiding document that will direct the College for the next 10 years. The group also reviewed and approved the Cyclic Review Process which identifies many College plans and the timeline for updating those plans.

Adrienne is a tri-chair for the IEC this year and Jim Retemeyer and Kirsten Miller are also serving. We are need of one additional faculty member. The IEC meets in the afternoon of the first Monday of the month.

The Finance Committee will meet for the first time this semester on December 11th.

By Adrienne Seegers

Distance Education Coordinator Report

The Distance Education Committee held its second meeting of the 2023-2024 school year on October 20th. Below are some highlights of our current work.

- The Committee has broken into small workgroups to work on updating the Handbooks and Distance Education Plan. We have a goal of getting these updated by the end of the Academic year.
- Our 2023-2024 meeting dates and membership can be found on our [DE Committee webpage](#).
- We had a few new members join our second meeting, including representation from District IT.
- We discussed the results of the Simple Syllabus Sandbox sessions and plan to move to Senate for next steps.
- A couple of faculty are interested in a small pilot of VoiceThread as a tool in Canvas.
- We are also looking into licensed Canva accounts.
- We set our goals as a committee for the year:
  - Get the Handbook and Plan updated!
  - Work on a reference document for faculty on methods of Regular and Substantive Interaction.
  - Compile pedagogical resources for online teaching.
  - Gather data on online enrollment.

By Ashli Bumgardner

Academic Senate Representative at-Large Report

Hello friends!

I had the opportunity to attend the college council on 10/6 and gathered a brief snapshot of information for your review. I hope everyone's Fall semester has been going well and that you are enjoying the cozy chill air and warm sweaters!

- Approval to add pronoun additions was provided for the following: Xe, Xem, Xir, Xirs and Xirself.
- Academic Calendar: Moved to approve with the addition of Cesar Chavez Day and Native American Indian Day. President Tran stated that she would discuss acknowledgement of days in Academic Calendar with the Chancellor's Cabinet.

- Colombia Delegation Group: Enjoyed visit, one student interested in attending Columbia College.

- K-16 Eastern Sierra Collaborative grant has been submitted. Notification of funding will be sent in November.

- Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI) Letter of Interest for Arts, Music & Theatre: Lahna VonEpps and Daniel Godsil requested building of Arts, Music and Theatre programs at Columbia College. Letter of intertest for $200,000 sent to Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI) towards efforts. President Tran confirmed that letter of intertest was not a grant request. President Tran stated if granted award, faculty or personnel will be needed to develop program in partnership with IEPI.
- Student Success Council (SSC): Student Success Proposal. Process for new ideas. Staff/faculty/students are encouraged to submit proposals. Data available for review on Columbia College Research and Planning website. https://www.gocolumbia.edu/institutional_research/

- Student Club GSA is changing their name to the Gender Sexuality Alliance.

  Be well, stay warm, and keep being the rockstars for our students that you all are,
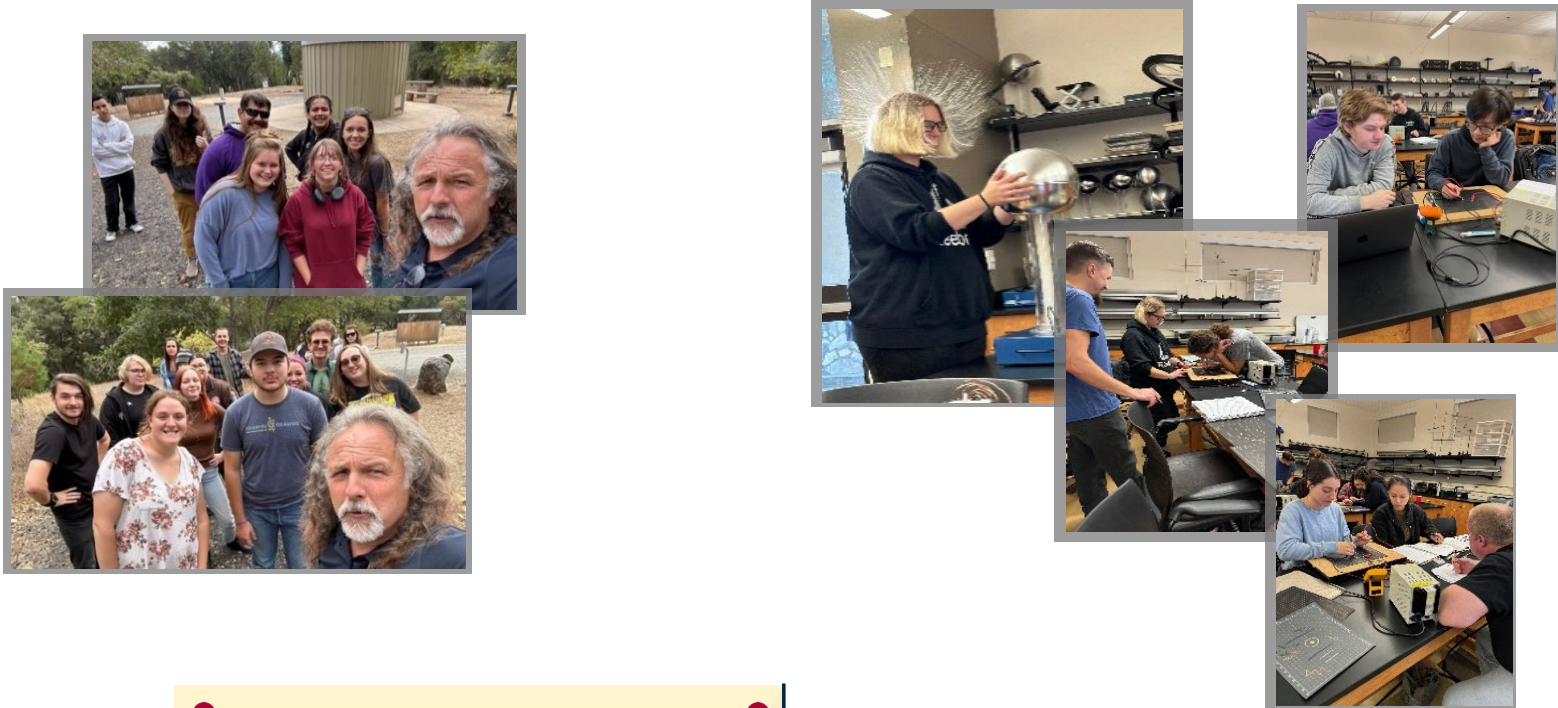
  By Vanessa Muro-Marai

Part-time Faculty Representative Report

No report this month

Columbia College Academic Senate Newsletter October 2023

STUDENTS HAVING FUN!

Faulty Getting Involved and Having Fun!

Grad App Event!

November 1	**Getting Fancy with Finances**
November 17	**Academic Senate Meeting**
November 23 & 24	**Thanksgiving Holiday**

Important Cellar Bistro Dates

October 31st & November 2nd – Regular Service

November 7th & November 9th – Regular Service

November 14th – No Service

November 16th – Harvest Buffet (Details will be sent out) **This is also the last day of service.**