

**March
2019**

ACADEMIC SENATE NEWSLETTER



Council Officers

President
Nathan Rien

President-Elect
Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Curriculum Committee Chair
Kathy Schultz

Representative-at-Large
Craig Johnston

Past President
Maryl Landess representing Erin Naegle

Adjunct Faculty Representative
Marina Koorkoff
Donald Smith

YFA VP
Erik Andar

Administrative Support
Jessica Anselmi

President's Message

By: Nathan Rien

PROGRAM REVIEW, FACULTY CELEBRATION, & CRAM NIGHT- FINISHING STRONG!

Dear Colleagues, As we close out March, we are getting closer to completing another academic year in which a lot has been accomplished!

First, Academic Senate Elections have closed and I would like to congratulate our next Academic Senate President-Elect, Lahna VonEpps, as well as, our next Curriculum Chair, Michael Torok, and our Representative to College Council, Marcus Whisenant. You are all to be commended on stepping up and I would like to wish you all the best next year!

The Faculty Hiring Prioritization Committee recommended full-time faculty positions in Spanish and Chemistry for next year. President Bandyopadhyay evaluated this recommendation and requested two temporary full-time faculty positions in these areas for the 2019-20 academic year. Anyone wishing to serve on these committees should contact me as soon as the call for volunteers goes out. Thanks to everyone who participated in this collaborative effort!

Reminders: It is time to update your Program Review. Annual updates are imperative and help each department plan for requesting resources from the following sources:

- 1) IELM funds: Instructional Equipment and Library Materials-these are for big ticket items
- 2) Funds 11/12: Instructional supplies, including lottery funds.

Also, please be sure that you are logging your FLEX hours for Faculty and Staff Development.

Please save the date of Friday, April 19, 2019 to attend the First Annual End of the Year Faculty Celebration! YFA will host this event from 4:30 to 7:30 PM at the Gene Bianchi Community Center, 110 S. Second Avenue, in Oakdale. YFA would appreciate an RSVP no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, April 17. Please complete the RSVP form to YFA so they know you are coming, how many people are in your party, and what dish/snack item you will bring to share! Let's encourage

Future Meetings

Student Success Council

Friday,
April 12th
9:00 am
MCR 243

Curriculum Committee

Tuesday,
April 2nd
2:40-4:30
Buckeye 4

Institutional Effectiveness Council

Thursday
April 4th
1:30-3:30
MCR

Academic Senate

Friday
April 19th
12:00-1:30
MCR 243

College Council

Friday
April 19th
9:00-11:00
MCR 243

Senate Council

Friday
September 6th
1:30-3:30
Tamarack 119

all faculty to attend the First Annual End of the Year Faculty Celebration on Friday, April 19!

The ASCC has decided to hold its end-of-the-semester CRAM NIGHT on April 25th from 6 PM-9 PM in the Columbia College Library at Tamarack Hall. Please encourage all students to come out the week before Final Examinations to enhance your comprehensive understanding of all course materials.

Finally, congratulations to the Columbia College Men's Basketball team! The Claim Jumpers finished 21-8 and earned a CCCAA playoff berth as the #10 seed in Northern California. Ultimately, the Claim Jumpers lost to Yuba College in the second round of playoffs, but they team made us proud all season. Best of luck to all our student-athletes as they transfer on to the four-year level.

Very truly yours, Nathan Rien, Academic Senate President

PAST PRESIDENT/ELECTION'S CHAIR REPORT

By: Maryl Landess representing Erin Naegle



The Columbia College Academic Senate Election Policies and Procedures have been modernized and clarified with additional detail. They were approved at the March 8 Academic Senate meeting and can be accessed from the Columbia College Academic Senate website under Local Guidelines and Procedures.

The election of new senate officers went smoothly. The use of Survey Monkey saved countless trees and hours of work, thank you Jessica!

Effective May 1, your new officers are:

- Vice-President/President-Elect: Lahna VonEpps
- Curriculum Committee Chair: Michael Torok
- Representative-at-large: Marcus Whisenant

In addition, Pam Guerra-Schmidt will become our President while Nate Rien will slide into the Past President position. Congratulations to all and thank you for serving!

Thanks also to Kathy Schultz for her years of service as Curriculum Committee Chair and to Matthew Fox for serving as Representative-at-Large this last year.

Maryl Landess, Acting Past President

Senate Reports

President's Report

Nathan Rien

President Elect

Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Accreditation

Nathan Rien

Adjunct Faculty Senate Council Representatives

Marina Koorkoff

Don Smith

College Council

Matthew Fox

College Services Committee

Laureen Campana, Brian
Greene, Joe Manlove, Jim
Retemeyer

Curriculum Committee

Kathy Schultz

Distance Education

Melissa Colón

Institutional Effectiveness Council

Jeff Tolhurst

Student Learning Outcomes

Joe Manlove

Student Success Council

Marcus Whisenant

Teaching, Learning & Community (TLC)

Lindsay Laney

Adrienne Seegers

Technology

Melissa Colon

Brian Greene



PRESIDENT-ELECT'S REPORT

By: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Dear Valued Faculty Colleagues,

Spring Plenary: A group of current and future Senate Council members will be attending the Spring Plenary in Millbrae on April 11-13; thank you to our administrators for helping to provide funds for a larger than typical group to attend!

The Academic Senate for California Community College will be celebrating their 50 Year Anniversary at the spring plenary! The program will have numerous breakout sessions such as *In Sync with Title 5 and AB 705* and *Prison Education*, giving us a chance to pause from our daily teaching routines to focus on topics that continue to have great importance for our college.

Recognition: I want to send a huge thank you to **Marina Koorkoff** for her work this year as the Academic Senate Adjunct Representative! She has been strongly advocating for the recognition of the adjunct faculty by our college and district! While progress has been slow, I think there is some positive movement in this direction!

Invite: Please consider personally contacting and **inviting the adjunct faculty** in your program to attend the *First Annual End of the Year Faculty Celebration*, hosted by YFA on Friday, April 19 from 4:30 to 7:30 PM at the Gene Bianchi Community Center, 110 South Second Avenue, in Oakdale. Please respond to the email from Geri Wend to RSVP no later than Wed., April 17.

Fund Raiser: Cheers to everyone that supported the Child Development 3rd Annual Tea Party Fundraiser! It truly was a collaboration of many including the Child Development-Future Educator's and Culinary Arts clubs along with lots of students, staff, musicians, **Adrienne Seegers** (violin) and **Doreen Bass** (flute), and the guidance of our **chefs, Marcus and Don**.

Academic Senate Meeting: As a member of Academic Senate, you hold power in sharing your thoughts and giving careful consideration to the votes that you place. Please consider joining us for the final meeting this academic year! Due to spring plenary event, the Academic Senate meeting has been changed to Friday, April 19, 12:00-1:30 PM.

"By voting, we add our voice to the chorus, that forms opinions and the basis for actions."

—Jens Stoltenberg

Spring has arrived! Pam

TEACHING, LEARNING and COMMUNITY (TLC) REPORT

By: Adrienne Seegers and Lindsay Laney

Here is our TLC update:

If you missed the TLC Annual “Plus” Report you can find it here: [TLC Annual “Plus” Report](#)

Teaching Learning and Community (TLC) is rolling right along! Remember the *Mindshift* activities that took place during the Spring 2019 In-Service? During In-Service, you all discussed the “opportunities” on the horizon for you this semester. From those opportunities, you brainstormed the *preparation and action* you need to take advantage of the opportunity. In order to be lucky you need 3 things:

- Opportunity
- Preparation
- Action

“Opportunities never arise looking like opportunities. They always come disguised as problems.” Adam Khoo (in Oakley, 2017, p. 109)

"If you don't jump in, you never get lucky!" -Adam Khoo in Barbara Oakley (2017, p. 109)

Please remember that we are always interested in your “lucky” ideas about what you’d like to participate in or lead in the area of professional development!

Email Lindsay Laney <mailto:laneyl@yosemite.edu> or Adrienne Seegers <mailto:seegersa@yosemite.edu>



COLLEGE COUNCIL REPORT

By Matt Fox



Colleagues:

The Vision for Columbia's Future! Our day-to-date responsibilities often consume the majority of our time and efforts. But, it's equally important to remember that long-range planning is happening at both the state and local level. Both due to changing student needs and new expectations from the State, our college will continue to evolve. The Vision for Success (chart below, including specific Columbia College goals) illustrates the needed growth & changes to meet the Vision for Success goals including increasing graduation by 20%, UC/CSU transfer by 35%, unit completion, workforce and equity. The goals are ambitious and elements of the Vision for Success are included in the new funding model. It will truly be a campus-wide effort including the Institutional Effectiveness Council, the Student Success Council, CCAP classes, prison partnerships, MEOC, Oakdale classes, online classes, AB 705 and support courses (and many others!) to reach these goals.

Goals to achieve by 2021-22		MJC Baseline Figures 2016-17	Needed to Meet Goal by 2022	Columbia Baseline Figures 2016-17	Needed to Meet Goal by 2022
1	Completion (increase by 20%: earned a degree, certificate, or apprenticeship)	1,821	365 add'l students complete annually	281	56 add'l students complete annually
2	Transfer (increase by 35%: transfer to a CSU or UC)	915 (2015-16)	320 add'l students transfer annually	79 (2015-16)	28 add'l students transfer annually
3	Unit Accumulation (decrease to 79 units)	82	3 Fewer units per completer	79	0 Fewer units per completer
4	Workforce (76% employed in the field of study)	73% (2015-16)	+4%	55% (2015-16)	+21%
5	Equity (Reduce gaps 40%) (This is internal data. It will be available on LaunchBoard in spring.)	7 point gap A.A. males	4.2 point reduction	5 point gap Hispanic Course Success	2 point reduction
		4 point gap Hispanic males	1.5 point reduction	24 point gap Foster Youth Course Success	10 point reduction

Safety on Campus: Thank you for your earlier feedback via SurveyMonkey sharing your thoughts on campus safety. While our location and campus are likely one of the safest places in the state, it is our responsibility to remain engaged and prepared for emergency events. In Fall 2019, a campus wide fire drill is planned for October 10th (date is subject to change). More information will be shared in advance to best ensure minimal disruption to learning while still providing a realistic experience. Additionally, "lock blocks" (allowing you to secure your door from the inside) are being implemented. This is a quick and inexpensive option to increase safety while additional options are being explored for the future.

Graduation: Your feedback on the topic of non-faculty members walking with students at graduation is requested. Please complete the 1-minute survey monkey below to share your vote and thoughts. In brief, since there is no regulation (to my knowledge) to prohibit a non-faculty member to walk with a student, it depends on us to decide if we want to go along this route and open up any staff member (faculty, classified, manager) to walk with a student during graduation. Please let me know if you are in support of allowing any staff member to walk with a student during graduation.

Please cast your vote by Friday, April 5th so I can share our feedback with Dr. B.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Columbia_Yosemite

Sincerely, Matt

STUDENT SUCCESS COUNCIL REPORT

By: Marcus Whisenant



This month's heartwarming student success story comes from Alia Katz. Alia had gaps in her education due to her parents traveling around for missionary work. She was also not encouraged to attend college so she never perused the opportunity of higher education.

When Alia graduated high school, she became a massage therapist but did not enjoy her new profession. Alia's husband was involved in a motorcycle accident in which she decided to stay at home and take care of him. Alia also volunteered at her children's classroom at Sonora Elementary and Head Start. It was with guidance from Head Start that Alia researched classes to increase her education on working with children. Alia would like to give a shout out to Anneka Rodgers Whitmer, Courtney Castle and the TRIO program who helped with priority registration, an education plan and many other facets that can overwhelm a student and lead them to give up.

Alia was awarded the Osher Scholarship and graduated Columbia College and went on to obtain her Bachelor's degree from National University. She now teaches 7th grade Science and English and she teaches Mad About Science during summer at Columbia.

The Student Success Council is always looking for former students who would like to share their success stories. Please contact Melissa Raby, Brandon Price, or myself, if you know of any prospects. Thank you, Colleen, for the solid meeting notes.

Marcus

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

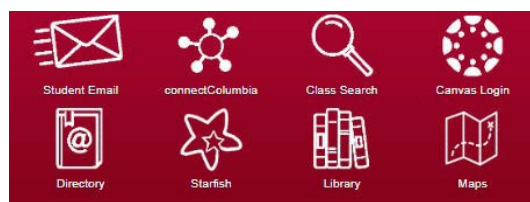
By: Melissa Colón & Brian Greene

Did you know the files on your computer aren't automatically saved? IT is slowly configuring OneDrive to automatically save your documents on your computer to the Cloud. Several people on campus are already using it and apparently, it's pretty seamless.

We had a discussion about ways District IT can improve communication surrounding processes (trouble-shooting, etc.) and IT decision-making. Some possibilities include adding Said (IT work order system) to our Faculty & Staff page and starting a newsletter. In the meantime, the Technology Committee is a good place to bring your questions and concerns.



Please send items that you would like brought forward to the committee to Melissa or Brian.



CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

By: Kathy Schultz



Exciting News! Congratulations to Michael Torok, who has been elected as our next Curriculum Chair effective May 6th! Thank you, Mike, for your willingness to serve faculty in this critical position!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Spring Curriculum Workshop in Early March! For many of you, your Curriculum proposals will be coming up on one of our remaining meeting agendas. Be sure to follow the progress of your proposals, respond to comments and questions as needed in CurricUNET and move your proposals forward!

Our remaining Curriculum meetings are April 2, Full Committee, April 9, Exec Committee, and April 16, Full Committee.

I understand that for numerous departments, there is still a substantial amount of Guided Pathways work going on. If you have major changes to programs coming through, give Jessica or me a heads up if you can so we may assist where needed with the CurricUNET work.

Kathy Schultz, schultzk@yosemite.edu x5364
Jessica Anselmi, anselmij@yosemite.edu x5381

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS COUNCIL REPORT

By: Jeff Tolhurst

The Institutional Effectiveness Council was canceled in March.

Thanks, Jeff



COLLEGE SERVICES COMMITTEE

By: Lauren Campana, Brian Green, Jim Retemeyer, Joe Manlove

The College Services had a sub-committee meet this month. Welcome to Joe Manlove as he recently joined this committee.

Please contact one of us with questions, suggestions, or concerns



ADJUNCT FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES TO ACADEMIC SENATE REPORT

By: Don Smith

Subject: Check your Adjunct sick leave

One of our few benefits as adjunct instructors is sick leave. We accrue sick leave for every class we teach, and can use this sick time for sickness, personal necessity or save it for retirement (CalSTRS credits it as extra time in service). As an example, for a 3 hour/week lecture class, we earn 2.625 hours of sick leave. The calculation works like this: $(3 * 17.5) * 0.05 = 2.625$. If you teach a class with both lecture and lab, you earn sick leave for both parts.

I recently studied how my adjunct sick leave was being credited. I found quite a few missing entries for classes that I had taught over the last few years and reported it to Human Resources. The good news is that one of our YCCD Benefits Specialists studied the issue and worked with I.T. (Information Technology) staff to figure it out. Here's a quote from her response: "I.T. determined where the glitch was, and they have taken steps to correct the program. (There was a code that DataTel recognized which our Adjunct/Overload Leave system did not.)".

I suspect that they will update any missed sick leave for everyone in the next few months. Here is how to check yours:

Go to gocolumbia.edu, click the 'Connect Columbia' icon and select 'Faculty'. Click 'Log In' on the bar at the bottom of the page and enter your login and password. This should be the same as your email login, but in some cases (mine), it may be different. If your login doesn't work, call the help desk. Once logged in, select the link 'Adjunct/Overload Sick Leave' under Employee Profile and login again.

Employee Profile

[Position Summary](#)
[Leave Plan Summary](#)
[Adjunct/Overload Sick Leave](#)
[My Stipends](#)
[Total Compensation](#)
[W-2 Statements - 2009 & Earlier](#)
[W-2 Statements - 2010 & Later](#)

Here is an example of recent entries from my report:

Start Date	End Date	Worked	Earned	Taken	Term	Reference
01/14/2019	05/04/2019	35.00	1.750		2019CSP	124057 CCCTSS 11
01/14/2019	05/04/2019	52.50	2.625		2019CSP	124055 CCCTPG 24
01/14/2019	05/04/2019	52.50	2.625		2019CSP	124057 CCCTSS 11

Note that CCTSS 11 is a 2-hour lecture, 3-hour lab course so it shows two entries.

Donald W. Smith

DISTANCE EDUCATION REPORT

By: Melissa Colón

What's New?

I'm the Liaison for Open Educational Resources at Columbia College and will be looking into setting up a webinar for those of you who are interested in exploring textbooks and materials to offer students as "no to low cost" in your discipline.

Although support and training for online course development is not new, we are working on a plan to provide additional support for instructors in regard to accessibility and universal design with their online and digital content. We are also in the process of onboarding Turnitin (anti-plagiarism tool) this summer to our Canvas courses, as Vericite has been purchased by Turnitin. Stay Tuned for more information.

Learn & Earn Flex

Friday, April 5th, 10-Noon - Blended Series on Humanizing Your Online Presence with Shannon Van Zant, Library Demo Room or online at: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/795872266>

- Friday, April 26th, 10-1:00 - Online Educational Resources presented by Suzanne Wakim, OERI Regional Liaison, Library Demo Room or online at: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/my/wakimsu>
- Ongoing CVC/OEO Training & Workshops - Learn about the [Online Course Design Academy](#).
- Ongoing - Drop-in Appointments, ITC in Juniper 102, call 209.588.5092 or email <mailto:colonm@yosemite.edu> for an appointment. Virtual Training Appointments Available.

GIFTS "Good Ideas for Teaching Students"

Good design and accessibility are good for all students when implemented within content using simple techniques. As we continue to add more content to our Canvas courses whether fully online, hybrid or enhancements, it's good to "design smart from the start." Kim Pippa-Tonnesen has created a [Checklist for Accessible Canvas Pages](#) to guide us through important accessible principles when creating Pages, Assignments, Discussions and Quizzes. These principles can apply to external documents such as word processing documents and slideshow formats.

https://www.gocolumbia.edu/online_learning/Accessible_Canvas_Page_Checklist.php

If you're looking to join a college committee, consider the DE Committee. We are a fun, informative and energetic group!! We meet once or twice a month on Fridays, from 10-11:30. The Next DE Committee Meeting is Friday, April 5th, 10-11:30 in the Library Demo Room for the Blended Series.

Melissa Colón
Distance Education Coordinator
Office: 209-588-5092
Email: colonm@yosemite.edu



PAST PRESIDENT/SABBATICAL UPDATE

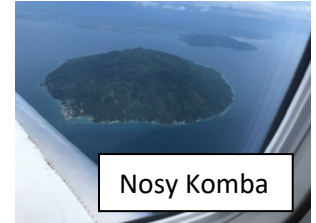
By: Erin Naegle



Mbolotsara! (A warm Malagasy hello).

I hope your Spring semester is fabulous, though I hear it has been a bit damp. I just wanted to say hello and check in with my Columbia family and share a couple of highlights from my sabbatical. The theme of my sabbatical is learning about how areas of high biodiversity are managing conservation efforts and tourism. We (my wife Lisa Murphy, also an adjunct for FNR, is traveling with me) just finished our 6 weeks as volunteers with the Madagascar Research

Conservation Institute. We were located on Nosy Komba, a small island on the northern end of Madagascar.



It was turtle nesting season, and one of the conservation projects we worked on was the monitoring of hawksbill turtle nests. Incredibly sea turtles lay over 100 eggs per nest, and females will often make several nests per season. On Nosy Komba there are several beaches that hawksbill turtles use for nesting, one was a 10-minute walk from our camp. There we helped to monitor 9 turtle nests. One of the issues faced by turtles is the disappearance of nestable beaches. Sand is lost due to erosion from agriculture and beach-side construction. In

our 6 weeks in Madagascar we watched the construction of four small hotels along the stretch between our camp and 'Turtle Beach'.

With the erosion of the sand, the high tide line has become higher with little sand above the high tide line that isn't covered by buildings or grass (the root mass is too difficult for the turtles to dig through). Consequently, some turtles end up digging/laying a new nest below the high tide line. These eggs would not survive the inundation of water during the high tide. We helped monitor the beach for turtles laying new nests. If the eggs were laid below the high tide line, the eggs were gently transferred to a safe nesting site. When the eggs are moved to a new nesting site, they are placed in a plastic bucket with sand. This is a new project for the conservation group this year and they are learning how to best move the nests and help increase the emergence rates of the hatchlings.

The young girl lives in a house near the nests. Her family watches the nests and helps prevent poaching of the eggs. We built a few sand turtles together!



There is a concern that the hatchlings will have difficulty climbing out of a plastic bucket.

The eggs have an incubation period of 60 days. At day 55, nests are watched 24/7 for emerging turtles, which includes sleeping on the beach under palm trees, a dreamy way to spend a night. This was also how we learned that flying foxes (large fruit-eating bats with a wing span of 3-4 feet) visit the island at night and seem to quite enjoy mangos. Fifty-eight days after the nest was laid, on a rainy late afternoon, small began to dig their way out from the nest. They are about 4.5 centimeters long and one of the sweetest things I have ever seen. Eighty turtles emerged from the nest and took their first swim in the ocean. Further good news is that the practice of eating turtles on Nosy Komba and other nearby islands is decreasing as people are learning that tourism (and a growing percentage of their livelihood) improves as the sea turtle population increases.

I have so many stories I look forward to sharing with you upon my return to campus! Presently we are getting our gear ready for a six-day backpacking adventure in Tasmania on the Overland Track. We are looking forward to seeing wallabies and parrots!

I miss you and look forward to rejoining campus in the Fall semester! Enjoy your spring while I welcome Fall in the Southern Hemisphere, Erin.