

## YCCD BOARD MEETING

April 14, 2021

5:30 PM-7:45 PM

Columbia College – Academic Senate Report

Senate President: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Greetings to Chair Bulkin, Trustees, Chancellor Yong, student leaders, and all attending this evening!

Columbia College Academic Senate is proud to share:

- At our last District Council meeting the topic of OER/ZTC, Online Educational Resources and Zero Textbook Cost was on the agenda. Out of 734 active sessions offered at Columbia College for summer and fall 2020 and spring 2021, we had 126 active sections or 17% of the sections that had the ZTC label. CC and MJC are working collaborative to offer stipends to faculty that are willing to complete the ZTC training **and** develop a ZTC course to be taught Fall 2021. On behalf of faculty, we are thankful for these opportunities. We heard that you, the Trustees, are interested in hearing a ZTC presentation and we are working with faculty to present at a future meeting.
- Lahna Von Epps, the new CC AS President will begin in May! She is going to be so effective in this position – engaging, fun, competent, and dedicated to her faculty colleagues in regards to 10+1! Wishing her the absolute best in her new role!
- Tonight, is my last Board report as the Academic Senate President! The two years in this position have been a meaningful and significant part of my work journey here at YCCD!
- My journey for this position started about three years ago in spring when a sticky note was left on my office door, the start of the recruitment process for the next Academic Senate President Elect. I read the note, went home that evening, and promptly shared with my husband that I understood the need to share the faculty leadership responsibilities, but regardless of what they say, I am going to respectfully decline. After all, I grew up knowing I wanted to be a teacher. As a child, I spent hours playing school with my siblings and 100% of the time I was the teacher, and they were the students; it was simply non-negotiable for them to ever think of stepping in to be the teacher! I didn't grow up thinking, someday I want to be the Academic Senate President and represent my faculty colleagues as one of their advocates.

So fast forward to the day I met with Erin Naegle, Past AS President and Biology Professor, my recruiter. Even after being with the district for 20 years, I wrote out my list of concerns (didn't want to miss any) and all the reasons why there surely must be another faculty member that would be a better fit. Erin patiently and thoroughly responded to every single concern I had, and it came down to this . . . just about every faculty member that is recruited had or has the same concerns as me. By the end of the conversation, I began to reflect on my past experiences in participatory governance and began to feel a sense of adventure and excitement as I began to ponder how I might contribute as a faculty leader at our small campus. I obviously said yes!

I have had two years of getting to better know my colleagues at CC, MJC and Central Services along with entering a world that I had only heard about thru others. This other world included attending and sharing information on behalf of faculty at these Board meetings, Policy and Procedures Committee (led by fun and efficient Kimberly Carter), District Fiscal Advisory Council, and College and District Councils.

My goal was to represent well my faculty colleagues on the issues related to 10+1. Was I terrified at my first Board Presentation and my first meeting that I facilitated for Academic Senate yes! But what was reaffirmed for me is that not only my faculty colleagues, but every other constituent group was equally supportive every step of the way along with the reassurance and information I received from Graciela to help me at the Board meetings. Thank you Graciela!

With each meeting, I encountered committed, knowledgeable colleagues that always had the best interests of students at hand. I'm leaving this position as a more knowledgeable faculty member and hope that I can now mentor others that decide to take on a leadership role.

- Tonight, I dedicate my motivational thought to my dad, who grew up in family with little income, with Spanish as his first language, and eventually became his family's first college graduate at CSU Chico and when I was in kindergarten, he went on to earn his master's degree at Stanford University! He was a high school and community college Spanish teacher, and coach for football, track, and basketball!
- My Dad often referenced Roosevelt's widely quoted speech called, "The Man in the Arena." Teddy Roosevelt, 26<sup>th</sup> President and in 1906 the first American awarded a Nobel Peace Prize for his work in the treaty of Portsmouth. It is fairly long (below), so here is a summary:

“The speech is about acknowledging the person who dares greatly. Those vulnerable willing to scale new heights and put their reputation on the line. This is an ode to the individual who enters the **arena** and though they may stumble and fall, they know there is no greater service than to follow their passion and purpose.”

So, while becoming Academic Senate President was not on my list of career “must dos,” I am happy to report that I have absolutely felt passionate about the role and took the work seriously. And the times I stumbled and fell, I will be forever grateful for those that were there to help me back up and help me move forward.

This concludes my final report on behalf of Columbia College Academic Senate. Are there any questions? Thank you.

Man in the Arena (Teddy Roosevelt)

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

## YCCD BOARD MEETING

March 10, 2021

5:30 PM-7:45 PM

Columbia College – Academic Senate Report

Senate President: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Greetings to Chair Bulkin, Trustees, Chancellor Yong, student leaders, and all attending this evening!

- Thank you to our new trustee Jenny Nicolau for attending our Academic Senate Exec meeting this last week! It was wonderful to have you present. I hope to see you at future events and wish you well in your new role!
- In response to the faculty reduction in force several years ago, the Academic Senates at both colleges created and approved, in 2018, a document called the Program Viability, Revitalization, and Discontinuance Procedures. Because the needs of our students and our community change, our administrative team asked the Senate to decide whether there was sufficient evidence to review two programs for viability; the Senate did vote to move forward on reviewing the programs.

It has been one of the more difficult tasks to oversee as faculty are passionate and committed to their programs, so there is an emotional element to these decisions despite the evidence of the data. Much has been learned from utilizing this document for the very first time. Most importantly, faculty didn't just sit at the table but had a voice in the decision-making process.

Our 10-member committee did reach consensus on one of the two programs and our Trustees will see this on a future board agenda. Many thanks to the committee members!

- Another important project currently in process is the review of the Faculty Hiring Document. Chad Redwing, MJC's Academic Senate

President started a taskforce led by Shelley Circle, Vice President of Academic Senate and Professor of English. Faculty from Columbia College and MJC have spent weeks working together on this document to revise it and ensure a focus on equity including some recommendations for recruitment.

This work on this document is important as we acknowledge that college faculty have become more racially and ethnically diverse but remain far less so than students.

Research has found that underrepresented students who have educators of the same race or ethnicity are more likely to look to those teachers as role models and put forth greater effort toward their college goals. We have some work to do in this area to close this gap.

One of the joys of my position has been the collaboration between our two colleges and this is yet another example. Next steps, Chad and I will be reviewing the document with Kathren Pritchard, Senior Director of Human Resources and eventually it will move to the two Senates for review.

- Like others this evening, it is important to note we are nearing the one-year anniversary of going to remote operations, I'm grateful that we have endured to do the important work of serving our students. Recognizing the stress and fears associated with the pandemic, I find solace in the words of humorist Erma Bombeck, "*Worry is like a rocking chair: It gives you something to do but never gets you anywhere.*"

I will be sharing one more report in April and then in May, our new Academic Senate President, Lahna VonEpps and Professor of Math will be stepping into this leadership role!

This concludes my report on behalf of Columbia College Academic Senate. Are there any questions? Thank you.

## YCCD BOARD MEETING

February 10, 2021

5:30 PM-8:00 PM

Columbia College – Academic Senate Report

Senate President: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Greetings to Chair Bulkin, Trustees, Chancellor Yong, student leaders, and all attending this evening!

- Congrats to Trustee Hinton on her new position as Board Policy Committee Chair.
- The DEI (Diversity Equity and Inclusion) committee continues to meet with representation from all constituent groups including some very engaged students! With one of the goals focused on a welcoming and inclusive campus, we are slowly seeing changes discussed and embraced. Most recently we have begun the discussion of having tri-chairs as a more inclusive approach for our councils and for the DEI committee; this would mean adding a Classified Professional in addition to an administrator and faculty member. Many thanks to Dean Kirsten Frye for her valuable leadership on this committee.
- For the last two days, a topic that is entering into every Zoom meeting involves the COVID vaccine! Laureen Campana, faculty member and Coordinator of Health Services has been working tirelessly the last few months, acting as a liaison with our campus leaders and Tuolumne County Public Health. Last week, we received exciting news as our entire campus community was invited to fill out a vaccine interest form and this week, many of us, including myself, were privileged to receive the vaccine!

At the vaccine site, Laureen and Silvia Watterson, Professor of Emergency Medical Services were part of the team giving vaccines! It was beautifully organized, and I was there about 30 minutes, quite different from some of the other experiences I've heard and read about. Except for a very sore arm, this is a small price to pay for good

health and hope for moving forward.

We all have stressors in our life, but I firmly believe that Laureen, her counterpart at MJC, Amy Yribarren, and all our health care professionals have an added layer of stress, with the extreme challenges they balance, and the ever-changing information that is received from our public health experts. What a heavy burden they hold, as they work to navigate the recommendations from our public health experts, the divisiveness that has been a part of the pandemic, and as they strive to build trust within our campus communities. Their recommendations are not always what some are hoping to hear, yet they remain committed to following their oath to keep us all safe and healthy. Laureen and Amy are deserving of our gratitude and recognition. They have been our guiding light thru these very uncertain times.

- I end with a quote for Laureen and Amy, our two faculty colleagues, authored by Jean Watson, an American nurse theorist and nursing professor: *“Nurses are a unique kind. They have this insatiable need to care for others, which is both their greatest strength and fatal flaw.”* Thank you Laureen, Amy, and all in our district for helping to keep us safe and healthy!

This concludes my report on behalf of Columbia College Academic Senate. Are there any questions? Thank you.

## YCCD BOARD MEETING

January 13, 2021

5:30 PM-8:00 PM

Columbia College – Academic Senate Report

Senate President: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Greetings to Chair Bulkin, Trustees, Chancellor Yong, student leaders, a warm welcome to the new CSEA President Roberto Reyes, and all attending this evening!

- To start, despite all that is going on in our world, it has been a wonderful first few days of the semester! As a young child, I loved school and was so excited to return after summer break each year. In fact, that excitement was so great, I could barely sleep. As an instructor for the last 22 years, I still feel that same excitement each semester. And I still don't sleep well! Our students trust that we will provide meaningful and relevant learning experiences and I see how diligently faculty are working to do just that along with humanizing the online learning process. I feel such gratitude for my faculty colleagues.
- The week before classes begin is a time where many events bring our campus community together. From our Inservice led by our President, Dr. B (a thank you to Chancellor Yong for his welcoming presentation); the Part-Time Faculty Orientation with almost 50 participants was guided by VPI, Dr. Sanders, Division Meetings were skillfully led by Deans Juarez, Frye, and Amador, and finally Flex Day Event where Chef Marcus and Professor Robinson, the Co-Facilitators for Teaching Learning and Community stationed themselves in the culinary kitchen, made Southwestern corn and tomato soup while facilitating presentations focused on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion by Professor Osborn, how to cope with Zoom fatigue by Mental Health Coordinator, Dr. Oxford and finally we participated in yoga with Professor Newman! They know how to multi-task and put on a meaningful event! My only regret . . . we didn't get



to taste the soup!

- Board Policy 4235, Credit for Prior Learning, approved by our District in December is in the next phase including the development of a form outlining our internal process allowing students to request previous learning to be assessed. Once again, our two colleges are working collaboratively on this next step. Faculty are tasked with making assessments available, and I will report back once we award credit to a student or students!
- Change is in the air . . . January finds us in the process of recruiting for new leadership for Academic Senate and in April, I will be introducing Lahna VonEpps as the incoming Academic Senate President. She has served two years in the role as Vice President and is well-prepared and is ready to step into the President role! We look forward to welcoming three Part-Time Faculty Representatives; currently Rebekah Sandlin, Counselor and Shannon VanZant, History Professor are serving in this capacity and are engaged and valued contributors; I hope they will consider a nomination for the next academic year. The other position is Representative-at-Large for College Council; Chef Marcus has served in this capacity for two years and will be stepping away from this role as he focuses on teaching and continuing as a TLC (Teaching Learning and Community) Co-Facilitator.
- Our college observes the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday this Monday. In honor of Dr. King who understood the value of a college education, here is one of his quotes, *"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education."*
- Wishing trustee DeMartini well as she moves forward in the next phase of her life's journey. It has been a pleasure and honor to work with you! In addition, wishing Jim Houpis well.

This concludes my report on behalf of Columbia College Academic Senate.  
Are there any questions? Thank you.

## YCCD BOARD MEETING

December 11, 2020

5:30 PM-7:45 PM

Columbia College – Academic Senate Report

Senate President: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Greetings to the new Chair Bulkin, Trustees including Jair, Student Trustee, Chancellor Yong, student leaders, Ricki, and Jennifer and all attending this evening! A special welcome to our newest Trustee Dr. Richards,

Columbia College Academic Senate is proud to share the following:

- As I look back over the semester, we got a lot done and of course we have a lot more work as we move into the new year! One of the greatest accomplishments is the level of collaboration that has occurred between the two colleges and Central Services! From the guidance and leadership of Laureen Campana and Amy Yribarren, Coordinators of Health Services, the constituents that participate on the District Fiscal Advisory Council, after the sad passing of the loved and respected Coni Chavez, we have our new leadership on the Policy and Procedure Committee with Kimberly Carter (Thank you Kimberly), the Credit for Prior Learning Taskforce that moved forward and met the due date under the leadership of Chad Redwing and with valuable input from our Articulation Officers Elizabeth Pflieger and Letitia Senechal combined with the recommendations from our District Board Policy and Procedure Committee lead by Trustee DeMartini, to the never-ending work by our Curriculum Committee with the DE Addendums and transitioning to elumen, and so much more! Thank you to the Board Policy and Procedure Committee for the questions that helped to add clarity to the policy.
- Our faculty are also to be commended, especially for those that were teaching online courses for the very first-time last spring and this fall! The preparation takes hours and hours and hours! We are being encouraged to unplug and take time for self-care and to spend time

with our families (in our family pod). While many will be doing just that, some faculty will spend most of their winter break, once again preparing courses that they have never taught online before. Thank you to all the faculty! And thank you to the support we received from our hard-working Classified Professionals and our equally hard-working Administrative team including Chancellor Yong. all our Trustees including our just retired Trustee, Abe Rojas, and of course our highly effective and respected leader, President B! It truly does take a village!

- So, a little about my day. The first half of my day was spent working with students to help them successfully finish the semester. While this is not at all unusual, it is uncommon to have students report they contracted COVID and other students reporting the sad and untimely deaths of family and friends due to COVID. I just want to weep with them all! As I always work to find the silver lining, I want to report the three students in my classes that reported having COVID passed successfully! I am simply in awe of all of them and if I were able, I would be giving them a standing ovation! I hope that Ricki and Jennifer will help to share our appreciation and admiration of what the students accomplished, incredible determination!
- Thank you to Tiffnie Versola who has served as CSEA President! Tiffnie, I have admired your leadership and advocacy on behalf of our honored Classified Professionals. It has been an honor to serve with you Tiffnie and you will definitely be missed!
- To balance the stress and sadness with the joys we all experience, I am ending with some questions from Ella Griffin, a writer from Ireland and if you happen to have some young ones in your life, they might enjoy these too:
  - What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? Frostbite.
  - What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus? Claustrophobic.

- Why did Santa go into therapy? Because he suffered from low self-esteem.”
- May you find the holiday celebrations that are important to you to be filled with loving, healthy, and peaceful moments. For those of you that celebrate Christmas, Merry Christmas! And for all may the blessings of life surround each of you!

This concludes my report. Are there any questions? Thank you.

## YCCD BOARD MEETING

November 4, 2020

5:30 PM-7:45 PM

Columbia College – Academic Senate Report

Senate President: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Greetings to Chair Rojas, Trustees including Jair, Student Trustee, Chancellor Yong, the Presidents, and all attending this evening!

Columbia College Academic Senate is proud to share the following:

- I am always in awe of our Student Leaders and the work they do! Thank you to Jennifer, Riki, and Jair.
- With the anticipated Trustee election results upon us, I think about the courage it takes when a person runs for public office. On behalf of our faculty, we want to thank our Trustees Gharat, Beggs and Aguilar for their willingness to put their names back on this current ballot. It is a demonstration of their deep commitment to their role and responsibilities and to the success of our students. Thank you!

Our students are also thinking about the election during this overly complex and uncertain year. After conferring with one of our faculty members, VPI, Dr. Sanders sent an email stating, “Whatever happens this week, it will certainly be felt in our classroom.” The email left me feeling intrigued and I decided to acknowledge the election in my online courses. Students were reminded that if they wanted to mention the name of a candidate, only respectful comments were allowed. Teaching Child Development courses, I also encouraged them to think about what issues might impact children, families, and education in general. Good news! Students remained respectful and the most joyful moments occurred when three young students shared, they were voting for the very first time. I think we all felt their excitement, and the students once again left me feeling hopeful that we can have civil conversations.

- In other news, the CC and MJC taskforce for Credit for Prior Learning Policy and Procedure, met again this week to address the questions presented by our Board; thank you for helping us to add clarity to our draft. We still have a lot of work to do, and I feel encouraged that our two colleges will continue to work collaboratively as we outline the procedure that will be carried out when a student applies for Credit for Prior Learning.
- Stay tuned for future information about whether instructors can require the use of web cameras for some courses during our Zoom sessions in our online courses,

A quote for the election: Louis Brandeis, Former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, *"The most important office, and the one which all of us can and should fill, is that of private citizen."*

This concludes my report. Are there any questions? Thank you.

## YCCD BOARD MEETING

October 14, 2020

5:30 PM-7:45 PM

Columbia College – Academic Senate Report

Senate President: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Greetings to Chair Rojas, Trustees, Chancellor Yong, Student Trustee, the Presidents, and all attending this evening!

Columbia College Academic Senate is proud to share the following events:

- Everyone is settling into the new routine with remote learning and operations. Overall, we are doing well but there are definitely some challenges that are presented! When there is an issue, our campus community has been quick to problem solve! Thank you to our leadership team for their ongoing efforts!
- At our fall In-Service, we recognized three faculty members including Matt Fox, Faculty-of-the-Year; Shannon Van Zant, Part-Time Teacher-of-the-Year, and Rick Rivera for Instructor-of-the-Year! All well-deserved honors, and it was fun and interesting to learn more about each of them through the colleagues that admire and respect the work they do to support our students and our college campus!
- The taskforce for Credit for Prior Learning Policy and Procedure, Policy 4235, formerly referred to as Credit by Examination was submitted by the Academic Senates to College Council. In terms of support to carry out this task, there have been webinars, lots of information thru emails, and even a Toolkit was developed but our key contributors are the two Articulation Officers from each college. A huge thank you to Letitica Senechal and Elizabeth Pflieger for their contributions; their knowledge and expertise enhanced the process, and they are the reason we moved this forward to meet our goal date; what a joy for our two colleges to work collaboratively on yet another project! Our many non-traditional students who gain skills through



military, workplace, and civic experiences are going to benefit from this policy. The next step is to work on the local procedure for each individual college.

- Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Taskforce led by Dean Frye, and the Cultural Enrichment Committee led by Mike Igoe, Director, Access, Retention & Support Services continue to meet and are defining goals and creating events, professional growth opportunities, and identifying places to hold the difficult and many times uncomfortable conversations. We are seeing the work beginning to weave into our campus culture such as the Zoom background honoring LGBTQ+ History month in October created by the Cultural Enrichment Committee and the welcome statement created by Erin Naegle, Biology Professor and Past President of Academic Senate that reads as follows:



Many thanks to Molly Hart, Graphics and Media Coordinator for her work on the graphics!

The following land acknowledgement statement is read by Dean Frye at our DEI (Diversity Equity and Inclusion) meetings: *“On behalf of Columbia College, I acknowledge the land on which we stand today as the traditional home of the Central Sierra Peoples. Without them, we would not have access to this gathering and to this dialogue. I take this opportunity to thank the original caretakers of this land who are still here.”*

We are committed to moving forward with this important work on behalf of our college, district, and our students.

- I want to share thanks to Trustee DeMartini for attending our virtual Inservice event and Trustees Beggs and Bulkin for attending our annual Faculty Retreat. Our Trustees are an integral part of the success of our District, and it means a lot to have you present - so thank you to each of our Trustees!
- At a time when we are grappling with the pandemic here is quote from Marie Curie, first woman to receive a noble prize and it feels appropriate for the challenges we are facing including supporting the mental health of all: *“Nothing in life is to be feared; it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.”*

This concludes my report with the hope that Chad’s goats will be fed soon!  
Are there any questions? Thank you.

## YCCD BOARD MEETING

August 12, 2020

5:30 PM-7:45 PM

Columbia College – Academic Senate Report

Senate President: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Greetings to Chair Rojas, Trustees, Chancellor Yong, Student Trustee, Graciela, the Presidents and all this evening!

Columbia College Academic Senate is proud to share the following events:

Welcome to Jennifer and Ricki as the new Student President, Congrats, and thank you for the CC report.

- In July, our Academic Senate teamed up with our Classified Senate and we put on a virtual Luau! It was a lot of fun with games and judges from all constituent groups! Our group came dressed for a Hawaiian luau with their favorite fruity drink! We heard some remarkably interesting facts about our colleagues; we sang Pearly Shells while doing the hula, and a guest musician sang and played the ukulele! Zoom backgrounds were created as part of the gathering. The picture you see in my zoom background is Dr. B. He has disputed that he is a surfer but maybe this will inspire him to try something new. Many thanks to Chancellor Yong and Kathryn Pritchard from Human Resources for joining the festivities.
- Other events include:
  - The Fall In-Service Event combines presentations from administrators, Melissa Raby, Trevor Stewart, and Brian Sanders on topics such as Serving Students Remotely, What's Different in Administrative Services, and Fall Instruction. And the other part of In-service is incorporating our presentations from our annual Spring picnic that was cancelled. Our deans will honor 6 (six) faculty receiving tenure:
    - Stephanie Beaver – Presented by Kirsten Frye

- Don Dickinson – Presented by Steve Amador
  - Anca Husher – Presented by Raelene Juarez
  - Tamara Oxford – Presented by Melissa Raby
  - Colin Thomas – Presented by Raelene Juarez
  - Andy (Van Hug Mode) VanHoogmoed – Presented by Steve Amador
- Our New Employee Welcome Event hosted by past TLC (Teaching Learning and Community) Co Facilitators, Lindsay Laney and Adrienne Seegers includes three new faculty members, Katryn Weston, Mathematics, Daniel Gretch/Chemistry, and Vanessa Muro-Marai, Counselor and DSPS (Disabled Student Programs & Services) Coordinator. And my new dean, Steve Amador from MJC is a welcome addition too!
- Finally, I hope the Trustees and the Chancellor will join us for our Columbia College annual Faculty Retreat this Friday, August 14, 9:00 AM. I will send the invite and hope that you might consider joining, even just for the welcome and introduction part of the event! Kirsten Frye, Dean of Student Services and one of her colleagues from Motlow State Community College in Tennessee, Dr. Phyliss Adams will be our guest speakers at this event! They will be focusing on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in response to the Call to Action from our State Chancellor's Office. And as you may have noticed the theme throughout to include fun and learning, so Lahna VonEpps will lead our morning Salsa Dance Party.

As you can image, there are many members of the college community, including our Classified Staff, that work to put together all these events to kick off our fall semester! Many thanks to each one of them and thank you to Chancellor Yong for your leadership!

That concludes my report. Are there any questions? Thank you.

## YCCD BOARD MEETING

July 8, 2020

5:30 PM-7:45 PM

Columbia College – Academic Senate Report

Senate President: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Greetings to Chair Rojas, Trustees, Chancellor Yong, Student Trustee, Graciela, the Presidents and all this evening!

Summer continues to be productive and Columbia College Academic Senate is proud to share the following:

- Once again, our Curriculum Committee, led by Mike Torok, Curriculum Chair, is in the spotlight! As you know, this committee has been working diligently for the last 10 weeks of our summer session to complete the DE Addendums! Good news! Brian Sanders, VPI, received a congratulatory email from Aisha Lowe, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services sharing, “[Columbia College has been excused from the requirement to submit a Distance Education Addendum for fall 2020!](#)” This is due to the work of so many from our college with thanks to this committee, our VPI, Brian, all the faculty that submitted the forms, and of course the work was heavily supported by Elissa Creighton, Curriculum Process Specialist, and Jessica Anselmi, Administrative Secretary!
- Melissa Raby, VP of Student Services and Dean Frye have been working diligently to keep our students informed about the current situation with the global pandemic as it relates to our college campus. They are reaching out to the campus community asking for input about the topics along with hosting a weekly student forum. The students have shared their gratitude about the communications and forum, and I also consistently see classified professionals, administrators, and faculty attending the student forums!
- Another task that the two Senates are moving forward is developing an approach that is consistent for all students in our district for the Credit for Prior Learning, formerly referred to as Credit by Examination. This task force has met once with a goal of early August to have a draft in place.
- Last month, I referenced an email sent college wide by our admired and respected President Santanu where he was responding to the Call to Action from Chancellor’s Office. In this email, he challenged us all to take action as we work, in his words, “integrate the values of diversity, equity, and being inclusive of people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized.” We are moving into the next steps as our President has sent out a call for our campus community to

join the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) task force. We have important work to do, and it is going to be uncomfortable at times which is typical when one embarks on an anti-racism, anti-bias, multi-cultural journey. In the words of a student in my summer diversity course, “When a person feels that they belong, they are more willing to take risks, show initiative, and to be resilient in the face of challenges. To foster resilience, we must first begin with creating an environment and relationships that are socially and emotionally safe for all. Diversity and equity are connected to resilience, social belonging, and social emotional awareness throughout the classroom.” I have gratitude for this student and all our students that are committed to joining this journey with all of us.

- Finally, I hope the Trustees and the Chancellor will join us for our Columbia College virtual Luau on Wednesday, July 15 at 10 AM. This event, hosted by Classified Senate and Academic Senate, will be sending the invite this week!

That concludes my report. Are there any questions? Thank you.

## YCCD BOARD MEETING

June 10, 2020

5:30 PM-7:45 PM

Columbia College – Academic Senate Report  
Academic Senate President: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Greetings to Chair Rojas, Trustees, Chancellor Yong, the new Student Trustee, Graciela, the Presidents and all this evening!

Columbia College Academic Senate is proud to share the following:

- As a follow-up to last month, our Curriculum Committee, led by Mike Torok, Curriculum Chair, met on June 2 to review the first 50 DE Addendums representing over 200 of our courses, with another batch of 50 Addendums slated for the curriculum meeting next week. The summer work is in response to the COVID-19 crisis, but also overlaps with the transition to the new curriculum management system, eLumen. In one of Mike's emails he stated, "None of this would have been possible without a lot of faculty taking the time to make their thoughtful submissions and the tireless efforts of Elissa Creighton and Jessica Anselmi to keep us all on track." Incredible efforts on the part of so many!
- Another group met for the first time this week representing the Course Calendar Alternative(s) Study Workgroup met this week. Under the leadership of Curtis Martin, MJC Past President for AS this group is tasked with exploring potential alternatives to the existing calendar, review data that aligns with how to best support the learning needs of our students, with a goal of producing a document that will be shared with the various constituent groups at our colleges for review and input this fall.
- Finally, as I have watched the events unfold around George Floyd's death, I have been deeply moved with feelings of incredible sadness, anger, and always coming back to hope. Our President, Santanu, sent out an email today (see email below) and he included the statement, "We will take action to integrate the values of diversity, equity, and being inclusive of people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized." I feel great pride to know that one of the leaders that I look to as a role model invited everyone on campus to be part of the journey

Each one of us contributes in different ways when we make an intentional decision to be part of the anti-bias, multi-cultural journey. For the last 21 years including this summer I have had the privilege of teaching a child development course called Teaching in a Diverse Society. The course explores culturally relevant anti-bias approaches to supporting children, their families, teachers, and

their communities. We want teachers to have a solid foundation for how to support the formation of positive self-identity in children along with helping them to recognize what is unfair and unjust in our world and that it is the responsibility of each one of us to act. Yes, our 3, 4 and 5 year-olds are learning to speak up and take action instead of walking away and ignoring injustices. I think all of you would have been proud to have heard the comments this week from the students enrolled in diversity course. Along with tears being shed, our students are committed to the values that our President acknowledged in his email. There is hope!

I stand in solidarity with Black Lives Matter. That concludes my report. Are there any questions?

### **Email from President B to college community:**

As an institution of higher learning, we value equity, diversity, and inclusion. We are responsible institutionally and personally to inculcate these core values of our institution to our students, and model these values that we stand for. Remaining silent and not taking any action is not the need of this hour. We have a responsibility to have a civil conversation about the conflicts we are witnessing in society. As an institution, we remain committed to uphold these values.

I want to make it clear that racism has no place in Columbia College. Both personally, and on behalf of Columbia College, we will do whatever we can to stand up for our core values of inclusivity, diversity, and equity. We will take action to integrate these values in our educational programs, our interactions among each other, and our interactions with our communities. We will do it together. I personally invite each and every one of you to be part of this journey. Let us begin with a discourse where we talk about specific actions that we want to take as an institution and as individuals. In the next few days, I will set up a forum for all of us to come together and start developing a concrete course of action. If you have any specific thought, please reach out to me.

Looking forward to a better tomorrow!

Santanu Bandyopadhyay



## YCCD BOARD MEETING

May 13, 2020

5:30 PM-8:00 PM

Columbia College – Academic Senate Report

Senate President: Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Greetings to the Trustees, Chancellor Yong, Graciela, the Presidents and all this evening!

Columbia College Academic Senate is proud to share the following:

- Despite all that is going on with the pandemic, summer semester is here! Per Brian Sanders, VPI, our college has 93 online sections for summer! It is important to note that only 31 of the 93 sections were originally scheduled to be taught online. This means that 62 sections were either converted to online or correspondence courses, or added to replace courses when it was decided that a course would not work well online. Brian's example, a Walking Fitness class was added to replace the cancelled Cross Training class.
- Our Curriculum Committee, led by Mike Torok, Curriculum Chair, has agreed to work this summer to add Distance Education Modalities to the majority of our courses with the goal to have 100% of the courses done by this fall. No easy task but very willing committee members! Faculty are busy completing the addendums with the May 31 due date quickly approaching! Also, the Distance Education Blanket Approval request for Summer 2020, due by May 15, is completed. All of this is in preparation for future events that might prevent us from teaching our courses face-to-face in the traditional classroom setting.
- To keep up with the online training needs of faculty, Kathy Schultz, DE Coordinator and Kim Pippa-Tonnesen, English Professor and Mentor to those teaching online, are teaching one course each this summer. EDUC 50, Online Course Development, and EDUC 52, Universal Design for Online Course Development. Earning units for pay column advancement or receiving a stipend are in place for faculty enrolling in one or both courses this summer. Two more courses will be offered this fall to keep up with the demand for training! Thank you to Kathy and Kim for their willingness to teach during the summer session when it was not originally scheduled.
- Feel good story about faculty! I began two summer online courses this last week and had the most joyful conversation with one of our students. She is taking her first fully online course with me, and she shared about feeling tentative and remarked that she has tried to stay away from online courses. She credited her willingness to try an online course to one of our adjunct faculty art instructors, Marta Magistrali.

This student was enrolled in Marta's spring Art 71, Introduction to Ceramic Sculpture class which has a lab component. Of course, it was moved to remote teaching due to the shelter-in-place. Marta went above and beyond when she delivered clay to a student in Soulsbyville and picked up dried clay sculptures from two of her students so she could fire them in her kiln.

I talked to Marta this afternoon, because I wanted her to know that she had inspired one of our students, and after talking to her, I am sure that she has inspired many more! Marta communicated that she wanted the students to have a meaningful experience that allowed them to acquire the skills noted for her course. Marta added that picking up dried clay

sculptures which can easily break was quite the experience! Our student was so taken with Marta's encouragement and assistance, that she thought there were other instructors out there that might be just as supportive. This student is in her second week of her first online course doing well and thriving! Thank you to Marta and her colleague, Art Instructor Sifu Berchtold who shared in the responsibilities of firing the clay sculptures!

- Thank you to Trustee Margie Bulkin for attending our very first virtual online but last Academic Senate meeting of the year to hear VP Trevor Stewart's presentation on the Resource Allocation Model, Ram 2! Our senate did pass the first reading for the Values, Steps and RAM2 with a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading scheduled to happen at our first fall meeting. Since there were not any concerns and all questions were addressed by Trevor in April and Kathy Blackwood, Consultant in January, faculty did agree to moving forward the RAM2 as a pilot.

A huge thank you of appreciation for every single person in our district, including our Trustees, President Dr. B and Chancellor Yong, that are working diligently so that our students will continue to have quality educational experiences! This work is done by every single constituent group! Finally, heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Coni Chavez, one of our valued and respected colleagues.

That concludes my report. Are there any questions? Thank you.