

From: Angela Fairchilds
Sent: Monday, June 11, 2018 3:46 PM
To: _CC Everyone at Columbia
Subject: Campus Update

Dear Colleagues.....I am writing my final campus update in my final week of work before I head off into retirement. WOW, coming to the end of a 38 year career in higher education, that's a tough sentence to write!

Throughout those years, I have worked at only five institutions as a full time employee: one private and one public university and three community colleges. In that time I have worked with some amazing people and I have learned that community colleges are very special places. Columbia College is and will always be a standout in that regard.

This Wednesday, MJC President Jill Stearns and I will give our last report at the YCCD Board meeting and in preparing for the "year in review" we reflected on the accomplishments and work-in-progress at both colleges. The list is long and very impressive in scope. A mere "thank you" and a "well done" are so inadequate to express the significant impact that your efforts have made on who we serve, how we conduct our work, our partnerships and the collective impact on our region and state.

That important work continues and we are also preparing for the transition in leadership. I know that you will embrace Dr. Santanu Bandyopadhyay (or Dr. B as I'm sure he will become fondly known) as your new President. You should know that, even though he does not begin his role here until July 16th, Santanu is already working with Cari on his schedule, organizing his office needs, and setting up meetings with community leaders. He and I have conversed and he is more than ready to hit the ground running.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as the President of Columbia College, this small but mighty college, for the past 4+ years and I am proud and very grateful to have worked with all of you -- such caring and dedicated people who do what you do for the right reasons.....to serve our students, to enrich lives and to help strengthen our communities. I take with me many, many fond memories and will always carry a piece of Columbia College in my heart.

Not goodbye.....farewell with deep gratitude.
Angie



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