**Admissions & Records Area Update:**
Jennie is continuing to process graduation applications; working on diploma project to get them all indexed and over to the Foundation.

Spring 2016 priority registration began November 16 and ends December 2; open registration begins on December 3. Debbie has been busy processing applications, priority registration appeals, etc.

Carol’s focus has been on implementation of eVerify. As of 11/16/15 MJC and CC Admissions & Records began implementing eVerify (degree verification) through National Student Clearinghouse. The college surcharge of $5 is in addition to the Clearinghouse fee of $12.25. There will be a link from the A&R online form page to request a degree verification.

**Articulation Area Update:**
This month the Articulation Officer’s focus is on curriculum processes and general education:

- November 24th is the deadline for Curriculum Committee approval of new courses and course changes in time to go into the 2016-2017 catalog.
- December 11th is the deadline for submission of new general education courses for CSU General Education Breadth and/or IGETC approval.
- On November 20th, the Academic Senate will vote on a final reading of a resolution to change Columbia College AA/AS general education requirements. If approved, this resolution calls for a significant change in the GE requirements a student must meet to earn an AA or AS degree from Columbia College. Current ASOE degrees will become AS degrees instead. AA-T’s and AS-T’s will not be impacted by this resolution.

**CalWORKS/Job Placement/GED:**

CalWORKs:

- Gained 2 more students for Fall 2015
  - Total number completing Intake – 30
    - Total still participating in courses – 27
- Provided information on scholarships targeted at CalWORKs Students
  - Soroptimist Club: Live Your Dream Scholarship – female head of household.
  - California Community Colleges CalWORKs Association: Portraits of Student Success Scholarship.
- Provided outreach services to Mother Lode Job Training in both Calaveras and Tuolumne County
  - Discussed how to better serve and collaborate with both offices.
  - Provided updated information and news.
- Completed a draft budget for 2015-2016
  - Received a 2% decrease in funding ($2,666.00)
    - Looking at ways to increase participation in CalWORKs program and collaborate with EOPS to better service students.
GED:

- Remaining test dates:
  - Nov. 19th, 2015 (5:30 PM – 10:15 PM)
    - 3 test candidates enrolled; total of 5 tests to be given to date.
  - Dec. 5th, 2015 (8:30 AM – 1:15 PM)
    - 1 test candidate enrolled; total of 1 test to be given to date.
  - Jan. 21st, 2016 (5:30 PM – 10:15 PM)
  - Feb. 6th, 2016 (8:30 AM – 1:15 PM)
  - Mar. 17th, 2016 (5:30 PM – 10:15 PM)
  - Apr. 2nd, 2016 (8:30 AM – 1:15 PM)

- Continue to offer GED Ready and GED test vouchers to eligible students enrolled in GED preparation class.

Counseling Area Update:
Counselors are have been very busy helping students with Ed Plans and assisting them with selecting and registering for spring classes. There have been visits to Sonora High School to work with Middle College students, Google hang-outs with admissions representatives from universities, teaching a multitude of Guidance classes, training Student Ambassadors, hosting orientation sessions, assisting with Transfer Day, etc.

DSPS Area Update:

- Test Facilitation has proctored 206 exams so far. We may need to reserve other rooms for testing, Candice is in the process of gathering exam requests early to get an estimate of how many students will need this accommodation especially during finals week
- DSPS surveys are being distributed to students through HTC and the Front Desk.
- DSPS will host a Day of Tolerance Social this Thursday (11/19) from 2pm-3pm. Come check out our Bulletin Board in the High Tech Center decorated with pictures of people/food/lifestyles/dancing from around the globe.
- DSPS has had over 850 office contacts for FA 15 and has 350 Active DSPS Students for the 2015-2016 Academic Year.
- Karin, Candice, Lisa, Tracey, Brian and Shawn are diligently working on Program Review and SLOs.
- Mobility assistance is in full swing for the fall 2015 semester. Our student workers, Shane, Kimberly, Brian and Tristan are doing a fabulous job with transporting students and dealing with campus roadway changes.
- Shawn is attending the “18th Annual Accessing Higher Ground conference” in Colorado as an invitee with the Assistive Technology CIG. Shawn and colleagues will be learning more about accessible media, the web and technology.
- Karin is teaching CSKLDV-610-2229, Introduction to Computer Access, spring 2016 and is excited to offer this course in the new DSPS High Tech Center (Upper Manzanita Room 220).
- Brian is seeing students for priority registration preparation for DSPS, EOPS, and Veterans. For some Veterans that haven’t been able to get in with me and need their funding, I’ve squeezed them in during prep time. Seeing DSPS students for Ed Plan and updating necessary documents for next semester, as well as updating Veteran Ed Plans and prepping for next semester.
Regarding EOPS, seeing students for their 3rd contact, End of Term and for continuing students, intake for next semester. Also, continuing to see students with stressors and concerns affecting their schooling and helping them to access our supportive programs.

**EOPS Area Update:**

EOPS & CARE students have completed their 2nd appointment (the mid-semester academic performance report) of the semester and students are now coming for their End-of-Term appointments. We have 198 students enrolled and are hoping to enroll another 50 for the spring semester.

We are pleased to share that through a combined effort of TRiO, EOPS and SSSP, a new Special Programs counseling position has been approved with an anticipated start date of midway through the spring semester!

We continue to seek out students for the CARE program. The CARE program is a support service for single parents with children under the age of 14 who are receiving the TANF (county cash aid program). We can provide CARE students with child care reimbursement and additional support for textbooks and supplies. Please refer any single parents to us!

**Financial Aid Area Update:**

**Financial Aid**

- FAFSA processing is now up to date and down to a 2 week processing time for new applications coming in. We are trying to get as many people processed before the winter break so they are ready to be paid on the first disbursement of the spring 2016 semester.
- It’s not too late to submit a FAFSA for the 2015/2016 year to get back paid for fall, please encourage all students to complete a FAFSA or follow up with us if they have not yet received their money.
- We are continuing to prepare for our high school presentation nights that will be starting in January.
- Breanne and Marnie are still doing classroom presentations as well as Student Success Workshops to help inform students about financial aid.

**Veterans Benefits**

- Currently Kelsie is continuing to monitor the enrollment status of all of the 72 veterans who are enrolled this semester to make sure they are paid properly by the VA. She has also started to certify students for the spring 2016 semester so they can be paid on time.
- Kelsie will be attending a 2 day Veteran Services Regional Rep meeting at the Chancellors Office in December as she is California’s Region 5 representative. She hopes to learn a lot from the other 9 California Reps in order to better serve our Veterans here at Columbia.
- Kelsie just got done doing a training with our VA counselors, informing them of new information on VA regulations for the Ed plans they create in order to avoid hang-ups with VA certifying. We are very happy to now have 3 VA counselors on campus (Brian, Elizabeth and Derrick) in order to better serve our Veterans.
- The VA Health Van will be on campus one last time this year Dec 10th from 10-2 in Manzanita study room 201.
Foster Youth

- Our annual Foster Youth night is now booked and will be held January 5th from 4 to 6 pm in the Manzanita Conference room. This will be an informative evening for the foster youth of Tuolumne, Calaveras, and Mariposa Counties. The goal is to inform prospective college students of the services Columbia College has available to them should they choose to pursue higher education. The evening will feature presentations from Financial Aid, EOPS, DSPS, Counseling, and TRiO, and will culminate in the graduating high school seniors completing their financial aid and Chafee applications for the 2016-2017 school year with the guidance of the Financial Aid Staff.

Health Services Area Update:

- Flu Vaccine Remains Available
- Apologies for health office closure times. This has been from meetings / trainings / out of office care of student and faculty emergencies and sometimes just getting the mail or making copies.
- Recently returned from my Integrative Medicine Fellowship residential week. Made some tremendous connections with fellow students and faculty. Full of many ideas for bringing an integrative health care model to our students.
- Representing Health Services Association of California Community Colleges as a State Executive Board Member (President-Elect) at state level conversations regarding the provision of mental health services on our community college campuses. Recent conversation with CCLC / FACCC and State Chancellor’s Office.
- Mental Health (may have own report) very busy with high acuity caseload and CCAT referrals.

Tamara Oxford facilitated a training on Assessment and Management of Suicide Risk (AMSR) on October 30th which was hosted by Columbia College. The training was primarily focused on increasing core competencies in this area for mental health professionals and other licensed clinicians. In this training, half of the attendees were Columbia’s CCAT members and staff/faculty from special programs. The other half of the attendees were mental health and medical professionals from the community. It was a nice outreach and mix of campus and community members.

The subject of suicide risk has been a hot topic in the mental health office and in CCAT. This semester we have had an astonishing number of students at-risk with suicidal thoughts and feelings who are being treated and assisted by the MH counselor and CCAT. Tamara encourages everyone to continue to be aware and sensitive that many of our students are suffering and struggling with these feelings. Don’t hesitate to get involved, ask questions and to refer if you are concerned about a student. If you want to increase your skill-set in dealing with people who may have suicidal thoughts and feelings, please speak to Laureen Campana, Health Services Coordinator, or Tamara Oxford, Mental Health Counselor. There are many trainings, some online, that will help you to be more comfortable with this topic.

Library Area Update:

- Finals Cram Night is scheduled in the Library for Thursday, Dec. 3rd from 6-10 p.m. in conjunction with ASCC and AAC. Food, professors, tutors and prizes!
- Cans for Fines has been particularly successful this year. Students are able to erase $1 fine with one can of food. The food collected will be taken to ACTA’s food bank.
**Outreach/Student Life Area Update:**

**Outreach**

Four private tours of the college campus have been scheduled through end of November and will be given by Student Ambassadors. Doralyn will also be traveling to Byer High School and Johansson High School for outreach activities before month end.

On November 18 and 19 from 10a to 2p, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will be visiting the lower level of Manzanita to sign students up for whatever mentoring they need.

**Student Government**

The ASCC is very active in Region 5. Student Senate staff will be:

- skyping with Fresno City College on November 20 for Region 5 meeting;
- preparing a dinner for students in the dorms on Tuesday, November 17, in partnership with counseling staff, to supply students with a warm holiday meal;
- volunteering time, December 22 – 24, to prepare and serve the Tuolumne County Christmas eve dinner held at the fairgrounds. Dinner to be served on December 24 from 12p to 6p;
- donating blood at the Jordan Reyes blood drive on Tuesday, November 24, 11a to 3p, in Oak Pavilion.

The Annual Christmas Giving Tree will be set up in the Manzanita rotunda on Friday, November 20. Ornaments with children’s names (enrolled in Columbia College’s Child Development Center) will be available to choose from through December 7. Please pick an ornament, purchase an appropriate gift for the child and/or their siblings, and then return a wrapped gift to Student Center office (not under the tree) no later than December 7 at 4:00p.

**TRiO Student Support Services – The Power to Finish Strong!**

TRiO Scholars are busy with transfer applications and polishing up their personal statements for their scholarship applications. Intensive interventions with all our students are ongoing. New students are still being enrolled, so please refer students to our offices or website!

Peer Mentors held a very successful inaugural TRiO Mixer event in October that provided some stress relief from mid-terms, social networking opportunities, and a lot of fun for our students and their families. We also revealed the 5 field trip locations for university tours for the current academic year at the Mixer event: CSU Monterey Bay, Santa Clara University, UC Santa Cruz, SF State, and CSU Sacramento.

The first tour field trip is scheduled for Tuesday Nov 17th to CSU Monterey Bay. We are getting a special personalized tour from Columbia College TRiO SSS Alumni- Lindsay Macon and Dominic Cummins. These two outstanding students are excelling at CSUMB! They are will not only take us on a tour, they will be able to share all their lessons learned in their first year as transfer students! What a treat for us all!

We are extremely excited to start the hiring process for the joint EOPS/TRiO Counselor in the coming months. This position signals yet another streamlining partnership between multiple Special Programs to benefit our students. This position will also allow us to target a population that has needed special attention for some time, former/current foster youth.
Spring 2016 preparations:

Spring Student Success Workshops (all SP) are being planned right now, as well as preparations for the Spring Welcome Week events (AWE- Counseling, Student Life, TRiO). Additionally ideas for a campus-wide Financial Literacy Campaign are also in development (Financial Aid/ TRiO), with a goal of rollout throughout the spring 2016 semester. Please join us at AWE to help us gain the widest contribution to all these student success interventions!!!
