



# Student Services Newsletter October 2020

## **Academic Achievement Center**

Nothing reported.

## **Admissions & Records**

Nothing reported.

## **Articulation**

Nothing reported.

## **Career Transfer Center/Job Placement**

See Outreach, Starfish, and Transfer Day.

## **Calworks**

Nothing to report.

## **GED**

- Testing at Columbia College has been suspended; students will have two options to take tests;
  - Tuolumne County Office of Education for face to face testing
  - Online, through Pearson Vue, [www.ged.com](http://www.ged.com); student must have a “private room”, webcam, microphone and must first pass a GED Ready exam to schedule their “online proctored exam”.
- GED Prep course were cancelled this semester; administration is looking at the most cost effective, efficient way to move forward with SKLDV 700 in the future. Currently, there is no courses on our spring class schedule.
- GED Test Results from 1968-2012 are in the process of being transferred to the California Department of Education for archiving.
- Further questions, please contact Jill Olson @ 588-5148.

## **Counseling**

Nothing reported.

## **EOPS**

Congratulations to our Fall CCCEOPSA Scholarship winner, Kristina Delgadillo, for \$750! She will be graduating this Spring 2021 with an AAT in Psychology and AA in Sociology. Kristina said, "EOPS has given me the opportunity to stay on track through counseling. EOPS has also financially helped me with book vouchers and parking permits. Times are extremely hard right now, and I am so grateful for all the support that is available." We are very proud of her hard work and dedication to her family and schoolwork!

Resources for Spring: Currently, EOPS/CARE is working on identifying what services and support our students need during this difficult time and being online. Traditionally, EOPS has provided students with backpacks and gas cards/parking permits. However, with the change in our current environment, we are exploring options to support our students as they enter another semester online. Any information of potential needs you have seen for students or ideas are highly welcomed!

With our enrollment down this semester, we are seeking your assistance in spreading the word to potential eligible students that may benefit from EOPS/CARE. Outreach flyers will be completed soon and sent out. Please direct any students you feel may qualify for our program and truly benefit from the extra support and resources EOPS and Care give? More information can be found on our website page [www.gocolumbia.edu/eops\\_care/](http://www.gocolumbia.edu/eops_care/). Thank you for your support and dedication to all our students at Columbia!

## **DSPS**

Nothing reported.

## **Financial Aid**

The **2021-2022 FAFSA/Dream Act** application opens October 1, 2020. Please log onto [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) for the FAFSA and <https://dream.csac.ca.gov/> for the Dream Act. For helpful information to complete the application, please view our [FA GUIDE](#).

The Financial Aid Office will be hosting multiple Zoom sessions in October to assist students with Q&A, troubleshooting and to schedule one-on-one appointments. Please view our [FLYER](#) for dates and the Zoom link.

Please reach out to your Financial Aid Technician: last names A-L [nielsenb@yosemite.edu](mailto:nielsenb@yosemite.edu) (209) 588-5105. Last names M-Z [bartelsc@yosemite.edu](mailto:bartelsc@yosemite.edu) (209) 588-5272, if you have questions.

## **Health Services**

Flu Vaccine Clinic at Sonora Senior Center/Library October 13, 9am - 3pm, FREE!

Flu Vaccine available and FREE every Tuesday 8:30-11:30 at the Tuolumne County Public Health Department on Cedar Road.

## **Library**

Reminder that for the fall semester the library is open as a computer lab Monday-Friday, 8-4:30. Limited library services are available in person Mondays through Thursdays during the same time. The vast majority of library resources and services are also available online 24 hours a day.

As of early October, we are out of wifi hotspots but more have been ordered and are on their way. We continue to have plenty of laptops and graphing calculators, as well as textbooks and our usual library materials. Visit our [Covid-19 page for details and tutorials](#) on how to request items and when you can pick them up.

Heads up for spring: we anticipate having approximately 100+ wifi hotspots and 130 new model laptops available for semester loan. Distribution will begin the week before classes start, with students able to reserve items a head of time just like this semester.

Questions? [cclibrary@yosemite.edu](mailto:cclibrary@yosemite.edu)

## **Mental Health Services**

- **QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Suicide Awareness Training** is being offered for no-cost through the services of Calaveras County Behavioral Health with trainer Ken Baldwin. There were 15 slots for this event and they have quickly been filled by our colleagues for an October 30 1.5-hour training. If you are interested, reach out to [kbaldwin57@comcast.net](mailto:kbaldwin57@comcast.net) so see if there is still space available. If you have missed out, we plan other opportunities in the near future.
- **October is *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month*** and our Columbia College Student Health and Wellness Center just recorded a half hour video with the **Center for a Non-Violent Community**, which is our *local Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Human Trafficking crisis agency*. The presenter, Pam Orebaugh, did a wonderful job showcasing the diverse services CNVC offers to the community. In this time of COVID, evidence suggests Domestic Violence issues are rising in both frequency and severity, so this information is more important than ever. The CNVC **recording** provides useful contact information and has value for instructors who are addressing socio-political and cultural issues related to social justice and equity; as well as providing referral information if you want to be involved with CNVC or utilize their services.
- **Wear Purple on Fridays:** This month CNVC is also promoting a **"ON FRIDAYS WE WEAR PURPLE"** October event to show support for survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Selfies showing purple adornment can be posted to Instagram @CNVCsonora or Facebook Center for a Non-Violent Community. For more information you can also contact: Center for a Non-Violent Community's 24 hr. Crisis and Support Line: 209-533-3401.

- **Weeks of Welcome Wednesday Wellness Events:** The Student Health and Wellness Center (Laureen and I) are hosting ongoing *Weeks of Welcome Wednesday Wellness* events (you try to say that three times!) featuring community partners who offer resources and services that benefit all. Unless there are technological glitches we are recording these events and the recordings from previous Wednesday Wellness events can be found on the Mental Health Services current events webpage (constantly being updated). Upcoming in October for WWWW: Intro to QPR and Mental Health in the Job Search in collaboration with Mary Watts.
- **START** is another Suicide Awareness and Prevention training that we will be offering for no-cost to our entire campus community (usually \$30 each). Our community partner, ATCAA, has received funding for this and will be administrating this online, self-paced training (no set date). Contact Tamara Oxford if you are interested. Or learn more at <https://www.livingworks.net/start>.
- **Telehealth in Mental Health Services** continue to be offered for Fall and Spring semester. Students can schedule phone or zoom appointments by contacting Tamara Oxford at 209-588-5346 (regular office line using Cisco Jabber) or emailing [oxfordt@yosemite.edu](mailto:oxfordt@yosemite.edu). [cccconferzoom.org](http://cccconferzoom.org) has provided HIPAA Compliant zoom to increase security and confidentiality for health providers on college campuses. If you know a student who may need services, you can do a “soft handoff” by introducing them via email (with their permission of course).
- **Support Resources and Covid-19 information** are easily accessible on both the Mental Health Services webpage and Health Services webpage. Please refer your students (or yourself). There are lots of links to free support from Free Food to Guided Meditations.
- **Health Journeys Guided Meditations** for Sleep, Anxiety, Depression and more are still available through Student Health and Wellness Services webpages as well. We have renewed our contract to continue to offer these services to our entire campus community.
- **MHWA Conference:** The California Community College Mental Health and Wellness Association is offering its semi-annual conference via zoom on Oct. 22 and 23. I will be attending, which always affords the opportunity to get the most current information about MH services for the college campus.

### **Outreach, Starfish, and Transfer Day**

#### **Access & Outreach Update:**

- The new Applications cycle is underway: On October 7, we hosted our first **Virtual Information Session** for completing Fall 2021 Applications allowing High School Seniors

to accomplish the CCC Application, the Promise Application, and even a MEOC application while connecting to Student Ambassador support for the first time.

### **Starfish Updates:**

- Progress Surveys went out to Instructors teaching 223 sections on October 2, and 17 have already been completed, with 85 flags assigned to Counselors for follow-up support.
- Another Starfish Minicamp was held on October 8 to schedule Counseling availability through the end of 2020 and explore possibilities in Starfish for Student Workers to support departments virtually.

### **Student Leadership Update:**

- Please welcome our newest Student Ambassador, Rianyn Fraser, to our team. Rianyn is a CalWORKs student worker, the ASCC Director of Activities, and recently won a Phi Theta Kappa – Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise \$1,000 Scholarship!
- Student Ambassadors and Leaders have been active participants in Student Forums, Wellness Wednesdays, and Tutor Tuesdays as the Weeks of Welcome events that started the first week of the semester, and continue to help bridge the gaps between on-campus and online services.
- ASCC members participated in the California Community College Student Affairs Association Leadership Conference October 2nd. They learned about parliamentary procedure they can apply to their own meetings, the Brown Act, long-term effects of childhood trauma, and they heard from motivational keynote speakers throughout the day-long virtual conference!

### **Career Services Update:**

- **Virtual Job Fair held on Thursday, October 15, from 5pm-7pm** – Twenty-seven employers registered to attend this event!
- The virtual events have been very successful so far, with up to 12 students and faculty attending some of the events. The career services website has current information on upcoming career events and recordings from previous events: <https://www.gocolumbia.edu/employment/>.
- We launched a new finance internship, with an application deadline of 10/12. We are finalizing the details for the fall IT internship. The marketing internship at the State Parks is running smoothly.

### **Transfer Day:**

Save the date for Transfer Day – Thursday, November 5. Details to be announced soon.

## **TRiO: SSS & MEOC**

Both **Abby Sunday** and **Tira Lawhorn** have been accepted into the **Rising Leaders Institute** through our regional professional organization for all TRiO professionals across the western US- [WESTOP](#). This opportunity is a combination of professional development training (on work time) and their own reflective self-improvement journey of mentorship and coaching with top TRiO professionals in the nation (own time). Their dedication to their craft is being commended and recognized. We are very proud and excited for their future contributions to the TRiO national community.

### **TRiO SSS: (transfer program):**

- After extreme delays to our grant being renewed in August (over due by two months), we have successfully started the first year of a new five-year grant cycle for the SSS program, including new plan of operations, new budget, new hiring of student workers, and overall program improvements called for in the new grant cycle.
- Our Canvas shell has been well developed by Nicole Dorner over the summer and fall; we are thrilled with the increased applicability of all the content she continues to add.
  - SSS Scholars have weekly drop-in zoom sessions available now through ConferNow in the Canvas.
- Daily peer mentoring/tutoring services are being successfully offered online using Confer zoom personal meeting rooms and students scheduling through Starfish appointment links.
- Daily appointments with Anneka, Abby, and Nicole are also successfully offered through Starfish; using the Instructions for appointments listing our personal meeting zoom rooms, all students have been able to log in and conduct all services online. This has dramatically cut down on the need to constantly monitor our schedules and ensure students know how to access the appointments.
- The TRiO SSS website, Starfish flags/messages/notes, Canvas, and the use of TEAMS app have been extremely instrumental in the continued connection to our participants. We are excited to continue to grow/learn new tech to meet the needs of our students.
- Scholarship Workshops, hosted by TRiO SSS and the Foundation continue monthly for the fall. See main scholarship page for all details and upcoming dates.
- TRiO SSS applications are 100% online (since April 2020). We accept applications for services year-round. Thank you for your continued referrals!!!

### **MEOC:**

- Successful community Partners meeting held in August- referrals continue to come in from all five counties of our service area.
- High School Partners meeting held Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> was also a great success! We have many ideas in the works.

- Justice Involved clients in the prison, jails, and probation programs continue to be served through a variety of correspondence and online services once released.
- Tira and Tiffeny continue to serve MEOC clients online, over the phone, and through correspondence; they take referrals 100% online with our PDF Filler app (see website for details).
- Virtual events and workshops have been successfully implemented thru several partners and more are on the horizon.
- MEOC website is growing with additional client resources, videos produced to help clients navigate the services and outcomes of the grant.
- Plans for a hard copy Client Handbook are in development as well as a virtual Client Handbook through Canvas and/or Google Classroom.
- We still have a goal of meeting/serving 1,000 clients yearly. Miraculously we fell just short of that goal for 2019-20, that ended 8/31/20. We will have final counts out soon, but in the meantime- **we are extremely grateful and proud of the extraordinary efforts made by Tiffeny and Tira and Abby over the past 6 months!!!!**
- Finally, we are writing a renewal grant due in early 2021 for another 5-year funding cycle.

In spite of the conditions that we have been experiencing since March 2020, you are all doing an outstanding job of meeting YCCD's mission statement of ensuring our students' success is our number one priority. I can't thank you enough for your dedication, innovation, and determination during these never-seen-before times. You are a team of people who care for ALL PEOPLE, no matter what, and I am very thankful! Keep up the GREAT work!!

***Melissa Raby, Ed.D.***  
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***Columbia College***  
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