



President's Communiqué

FROM THE DESK OF THUY THI NGUYEN

Local, State, and Federal

Greetings Foothill,

Faculty members have commented to me that they have noticed how active and engaged our students are. This is in large part due to the leadership of our Associated Students.

Leadership matters, and ASFC is looking for new leaders! Applications for 2017-18 President, Student Trustee, VP of Finance, VP of Senate, VP of Administration, VP of Activities, VP of the Inter Club Council and senators are available beginning Monday, March 6. We know that sometimes good leaders need to be tapped. Please encourage students you think could bring a unique perspective to student government, especially students with a strong sense of servant leadership and student equity in light of our focused efforts next year. For more information, drop in or email asfcpres@foothill.edu.

Accreditation

As some of you may know, the embroiled ACCJC has made some major changes lately including the departure of its long-time president and the affirmation of both City College of San Francisco and Compton Community College.

At the CEO Symposium last weekend, we unanimously agreed that the changes that have been occurring are in the positive direction, and more improvements are needed; yet nevertheless, we also voted to continue exploring the recommendation to a single accreditor that encompasses all segments of higher education for the Western region — that is, most likely WASC Senior College and University Commission. The path to a new accreditor will take years, possibly a decade. Thus, it is even more critical that Foothill stay focused on meeting the standards set by its current accreditor (ACCJC) and achieve full reaffirmation for another seven years to weather any possible transition.

The Federal Scene

In mid February, a large California delegation descended on Capitol Hill as part of ACCT Legislative Conference. The general consensus was D.C. was (and may still be) chaotic. With request from new State Chancellor **Eloy Oakley**, the Community College League of California will explore a permanent, full-time advocacy presence in D.C. to serve as a watchdog for California community colleges.



California delegation (or the ones who could make it into the photo)

During both the Foothill delegation visits to our congressional offices in D.C. and the CEO Symposium, it became even more obvious that our chancellor, Dr. **Judy Miner**, will have a critical role to play in D.C. as she will take the board chairship next week for the American Council on Education which represents all colleges and universities in the country. This is, of course, not the first time our chancellor or former chancellor takes on a prominent national role to advocate for students.



Chancellor Miner, me, former Chancellor Kanter, Trustee Casas, and Trustee Wong

Enrollment & Budget

The CEO Symposium also had a discussion on enrollment growth and generated ideas for CEOs on possible areas for growth. One CEO presented a strong case for how his college grew after several years of declining enrollment by focusing on dual enrollment; such focus also resulted in diversifying his college and closing achievement gaps. We are proud to report that this winter, Foothill's dual enrollment grew by 20% from last winter! I cannot thank the deans, faculty, and student services for bucking the trend this winter (after decrease in enrollment summer and fall) and exceeding last winter's enrollment by nearly 1%.

Foothill's Administrative Council & PaRC will participate in a half-day workshop on enrollment management by Omid Pourzanjani, an expert who has been conducting statewide workshops on enrollment management for the State Chancellor's Office IEPI program. If you are interested, please join us on Thursday, April 13 from 1:30 PM - 5:00 PM in the President's Conference Room (1901).

Thank you to all those who attended the two budget fora last week. Some of the suggestions we heard were:

- Establish a full-time degree or certificate pathway for students attending classes at Sunnyvale Center.
- Provide general education or noncredit courses for students who did not pass certain apprenticeship placement exams
- Look at students on waitlists and immediately open up courses or reroute them to other courses.
- Focus on encouraging students to continue between quarters, thereby increasing persistence and closing achievement gaps.
- Simplify the enrollment process.
- Provide greater "customer service" during registration process.

These and many other great suggestions will be posted by the District Office at Yammer. If you also wish to provide more ideas, you could post them on Yammer. More information to come from the District Office (probably after the De Anza budget forum).

I am excited to announce a few events taking place on campus next week:

Wednesday, March 8

"Global Warning" (Climate Change)

Four outstanding professors from four divisions

Thursday, March 9

President's Office Hour

PSME (Rm 4402) to meet students & answer questions about the Science March

Lastly, this Saturday, our women's basketball team will play against Sierra College in the Nor Cal Regional Finals in Rocklin. Let's wish them success. Go Lady Owls!

Of Service,



Thuy Thi Nguyen
President
Foothill College