



President's Communiqué

FROM THE DESK OF THUY THI NGUYEN

You are not stuck in traffic.

Greetings Foothill,

As I was getting ready to send out a Communiqué today, a development occurred in our 1900 building. What a day! We evacuated the building, and even had a robot on campus to investigate a suspicious package in the men's bathroom. Thankfully, nothing hazardous was found and I greatly appreciate the quick response of our campus police.



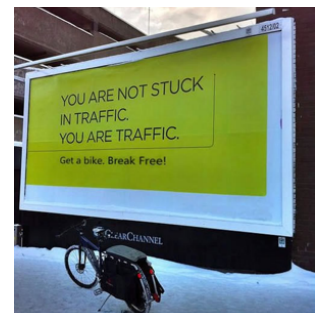
Well ... tomorrow is **Club Day**, and I look forward to joining the 60 clubs on the Library Quad at noon. Thank you to all the faculty/staff who are club advisors! Because of your dedication, students have a sense of belonging on campus and can explore their passion.

This leads me to inquire whether there are formal or informal employee "clubs" or associations where colleagues could find a sense of belonging and explore common interests. I understand there are a few groups. Email me.

Next week (Wednesday, October 19) is **Transfer Day**, with a college fair in the small gym from 10 am – 1 pm. **Cleve Freeman**, our Transfer Center Director, is encouraging staff, faculty, and administrators to wear something from your alma mater(s) on Transfer Day. How about also posting a sign on your classroom door/office cubicle with your degree/major and college/university?

Also on October 19, ASFC is exploring hosting a Presidential Debate-watching event starting at 6 pm. We may even have a mechanism where attendees can text their reactions to the debate live! The question is, "*Will students and employees attend?*" Please let me know your thoughts.

One of the challenges I have heard from colleagues (and also expressed by students) is how many employees do not stay on campus to engage in activities in the afternoon or evening. It is challenging with the costs of housing and the long commute. I am experiencing it firsthand! Throughout the Bay Area, we see billboards like this:



Last week, ASFC sponsored a Town Hall with several elected officials. Thank you to the faculty who brought their classes to the forum last week - **Tess Hansen, Mark Harmon, Bill Ziegenhorn, Becky Urrutria-Lopez, Tom Gough, Cheyanne Cortez, and John Wolf**. Special thanks to Trustees **Pearl Cheng** and **Betsy Betchtel**, along with our Chancellor **Judy Miner**, for attending.

At the forum of approximately 250 attendees, Congresswoman **Anna Eshoo**, Supervisor **Joe Simitian**, Councilman **Peter Leroe-Munoz**, ASFC President **Ramiel Petros**, and I discussed traffic/transportation and housing, in addition to the *long* 17 state ballot initiatives and the *not-sure-how-to-describe-it-in-one-word* presidential election.

I kept playing in my own head how much transportation and housing deeply affect Foothill employees, but did not express it as I did not want to highlight to the students that some employees understandably cannot afford to stick around campus. So for now, many of the student activities on campus are concentrated around noon-time. I wonder if there are other solutions so we can have more robust student activities. Email me if you have ideas.

Students whom I spoke with afterwards expressed how much they enjoyed the forum and how neat it was to meet a congresswoman. I know the feeling; I was so touched when she reached out to me a few months ago to congratulate me on my historic appointment. Did you know Congresswoman Eschoo is a new American and graduate of community college?

Of Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thuy', written in a cursive style.

Thuy Thi Nguyen
President
Foothill College

650.949.7200
Twitter: @FoothillPrez
12345 El Monte Road
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022