



Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport

Greetings Foothill College,

The Script's Fall Edition is available! Take a look at the cover article on homelessness.

You may also notice my column on voting. Don't forget to encourage students to register to vote!



Foothill President
@FoothillPrez

Passed by the post office where I had fed-exed my voting ballot in college. Check out my article in [@foothillscript](#).

Students: don't forget to register yourself, friends, and family! The deadline to register is tomorrow (Monday, October 22): registertovote.ca.gov



10/21/18, 7:07 PM

Yes, that's the post office in New Haven, CT. I am at my alma mater this weekend; a group of college friends and I (noticeably, all First-Gens) are celebrating our 25th "friend-anniversary." We thought about starting our own secret society for financial aid students after I declined joining one of the secret societies. Yes, we were a quirky group of college kids!

Do you have that recurring dream where you did not finish college because you missed some units or a final exam? I still remember being overwhelmed by college, and I think about our students and how overwhelmed some of them must be feeling.

This weekend, it was a joy to see a brand new residential college, "Pauli Murray College" named after the first African American to receive a J.D.S. from Yale Law School, and Calhoun College that was recently renamed from an avid slave proponent to now "Grace Hopper College" after the legendary computer scientist. Both are women, and Pauli Murray College broke Yale's tradition of naming colleges after white men.

As we look at Equity Plan 2.0, I have mentioned to several people at Foothill about looking at our facilities and how to make it more inclusive, including building names. What do you think?

Tomorrow, I am connecting with a representative from Yale's Admissions Office to learn more about the experience of transfer students and explore partnerships. I am so proud that Foothill accepts the top 100%! The democratizing of higher education thanks to community colleges makes me proud to represent Foothill College.

Much is in the news right now about college admissions policy due to the lawsuit against Harvard for its policy allegedly discriminating against Asian American applicants. Yale recently received an investigation inquiry by the Department of Education and Department of Justice for its own admissions policy.

The lawsuit against Harvard is essentially about anti-Asian stereotypes – a reality that I have personally witnessed as an Asian American and thus, find deeply troubling. As a former desegregation lawyer, I have also expressed my support for admissions policies that promote diversity, including racial diversity. Diversity benefits ALL students, the institutions, and our country.



An Oversight Hearing of the
Assembly Committee on Higher Education

"Faculty Diversification at the University of California"

Tuesday, 23 October 2018
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

State Capitol
Room 447

AGENDA

Welcome and Opening Comments

- o Assembly Member Jose Medina, Chair, Assembly Higher Education Committee

Overview of the Importance of Faculty Diversity and Legal Landscape

- o Thuy Thi Nguyen, J.D., President, Foothill College
- o Sara Arce, Senior Policy and Advocacy Director, The Campaign for College Opportunity

UCOP Update – What has the System Accomplished Since the Hearing October 2016?

- o Michael T. Brown, Provost and Executive Vice President, University of California (UC) Office of the President
- o Susan Carlson, Vice Provost for Academic Personnel and Programs, UC Office of the President

Campus Based Efforts to Improve Faculty Diversity

- o Aneae M. Walker, Vice Provost for Academic Personnel, UC Riverside
- o Douglas M. Haynes, Vice Provost for Academic Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion, UC Irvine
- o Raquel E. Aldana, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Diversity, UC Davis

On the Ground Perspectives

- o Lok Siu, Chair, UC Affirmative Action, Diversity, and Equity Committee
- o Caroline Siegel-Singh, President, UC Student Association

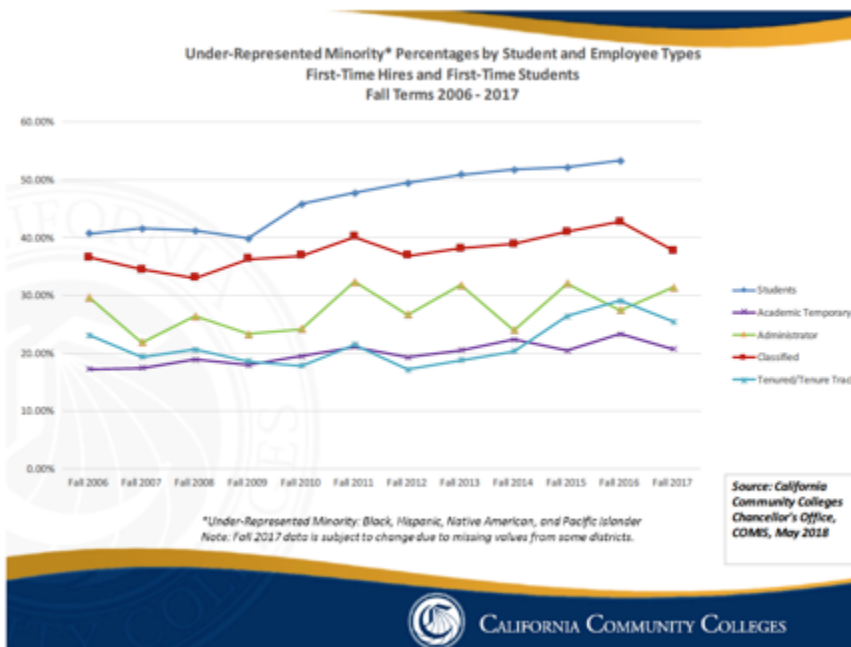
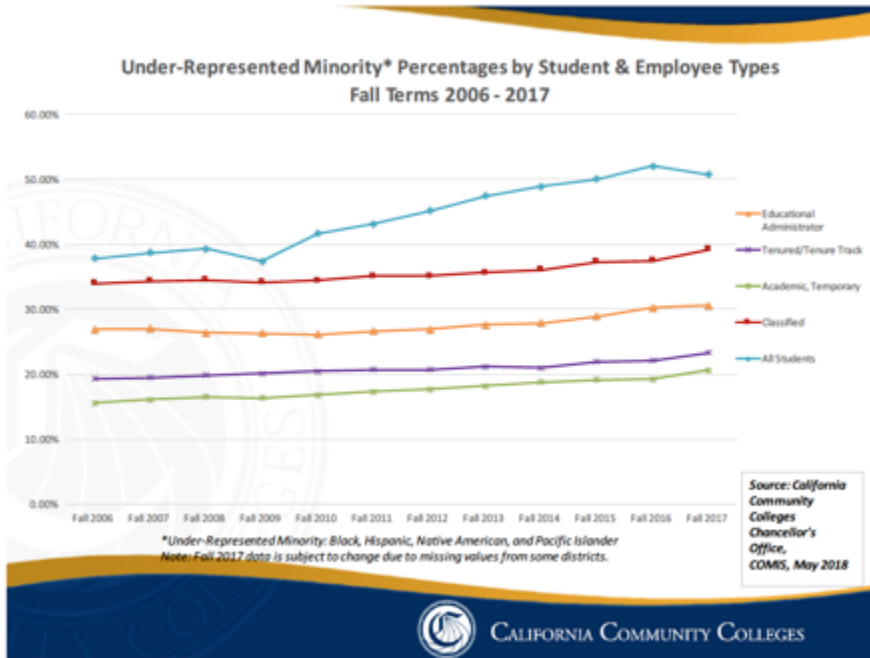
Public Comments

Closing Comments

On Tuesday, I will be back in California to provide expert testimony at a [hearing](#) by the Assembly Committee on Higher Education on the legal landscape and educational value of faculty diversity. Though I declined, I was also recently invited by the API students at the University of Michigan Law School to talk about race and college admissions.

In light of outside requests for me to provide commentary on issues of race and equity, I have admittedly not shared my “expertise” extensively with the college. The President’s Cabinet recently encouraged me to share more readily and widely my opinions on such issues with Foothill College, and they are right.

In the upcoming President’s Communiqués, I plan to present a series of Foothill data related to equity (in collaboration with the Institutional Research team) and comment on what the data means especially as our college develops Equity Plan 2.0. In the meantime, take a look at the following charts that I will be showing to the legislators on Tuesday:



This is the second time the committee has invited me to speak on faculty diversity, as the State Legislature has been more recently focused on faculty diversity in higher education through increased EEO funding.

With the November elections approaching, we will soon have a new governor who will most likely to have a significant interest in higher education, including community colleges.

Elections matter, and I think about our Immigration Teach-In last week and the more than 300 students at Foothill College who are undocumented and cannot vote. Yet some of them recently started a chapter of “Define American” at Foothill College to have a voice.



Foothill President
@FoothillPrez

One of the most recognized faces for Undocumented communities, Pulitzer Prize Winning author (and local kid) [@joseiswriting](#) at our Immigration Teach-In. TY for encouraging students to join Foothill College's budding [@DefineAmerican](#) chapter!
[#UndocumentedStudentActionWeek](#)



10/17/18, 7:59 PM

 View Tweet activity

11 Retweets 46 Likes



Jose Antonio Vargas  @joseiswr... · 4d 

Replying to @FoothillPrez and
@DefineAmerican

Thank you so much, maraming salamat,
for having me.



Hats off to Professor **Scott Lankford**, ASFC, and the many partnering organizations for putting on an outstanding teach-in!

Thank you also to ASFC and Prof. **Daphne Small** for organizing Political Action Day a couple of weeks ago in partnership with the League of Women Voters & Silicon Valley Leadership Group.




This is a photo tweeted out by **Dean Sean Bogle** of the ASFC student leaders heading to the statewide student conference last Friday. Due to the delayed plane landing, the students could not join via Zoom to the governance committee meeting. The students had made an effort to time their landing to participate in the governance meetings!

By now, all four governance committees have met. For more information about governance, check out <https://foothill.edu/gov/>. Be on the lookout for the redesign of the “Fusion” e-newsletter to now the “Parliament” which will cover news from the participatory governance committees. For instance, The Council voted to suspend program review this year and authorized the development of a new program review template! (Note: “parliament” means a group of owls, and is quite apt as a title to cover governance news, don’t you think?)

The Council will host the budget town hall this Wednesday to get feedback. <https://foothill.edu/president/updates.html>

I also look forward to seeing you on Thursday. As part of a yearlong effort to bring lessons back to the college, my office will be organizing a series of monthly luncheons to highlight colleagues who have participated in meaningful equity professional development. If you have participated in a professional development activity that has changed you personally and professionally in your approach to equity at Foothill, please let me know.



**THURSDAY
THOUGHTS**
on Equity Professional Development

Come learn from colleagues and help draw lessons and themes for Equity Plan 2.0 with presentations from:

FTLA
Patrick Morriss, Anand Venkataraman,
Rosa Nguyen and Sam White

NCORE
Mayra Aguilera, Lakshmi Auroprem,
and Ouida Mathis

Thursday, October 25
12:30–1:30 PM | Toyon Room 2020

*Lunch provided by Pacific Dining,
thanks to private donations.*

Thank you to all those who responded to my question posed in the last communiqué. Please continue to email me and let me know why you personally care about equity.

Of Service,



Thuy

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