

## SuperbOWL weekend

Greetings Foothill,

Hope you are enjoying Superb-OWL weekend (and not reading this email)!

This weekend has been a fun one so far – just what is needed after several weeks of intense budget talks. My family celebrated Tết - Lunar New Year, and I passed out good-luck “lì xì” envelopes.

Lunar New Year is this Tuesday, so drop by anytime between 11 am to 1 pm to enjoy the cultural activities that the student clubs and Foothill employees of the Asian Pacific American Network have for you. I’m also passing out the “lì xì” envelopes!

Would it be too much to wish that this Year of the Pig would bring more revenue to our college’s piggy bank?!

We are getting some really good feedback on the budget reductions. Please know that I review all your feedback, and they are also shared with the Advisory Council for its deliberation.

I am starting to notice an increasing number of the feedback in the exploratory and acceptance stages (versus the denial and anger stages) in the four (natural) stages of change. Some of the ideas are quite good, including a virtual Instructional Hub. One faculty suggested that we should also better convey what we saved: programs and jobs.

The reductions have been hardest on students with class cancellations and changes in tutoring services, for instance. One student submitted this online, and I think it would be safe to say that it expresses the sentiments of many – including me.

College Role: student

Comments:

Yeah, I've seen your budget  
Begrudge it and I judge it  
Won't trudge the drudge  
Might nudge your fudge  
Just so your sludge will smudge it.

(no plagiarism please)

Love this! Although we can't quite smudge it due to our fiduciary duty to be fiscally healthy, we are grateful to the comments that people appreciate that the college is using a scalpel (versus a sledge hammer) approach in the reductions.

I am tempted to write my own poetry, but will leave that to our talented students. And there's an opportunity for that. This month, as you know, is also Black History Month and Foothill's BSU is calling for student poetry at its Poetry Slam.

Black History Month will open with a free performance on Friday evening. Email **April Henderson** <[hendersonapril@fhda.edu](mailto:hendersonapril@fhda.edu)> for more info.

Recently learned that our Central Services colleagues also read my communiques. They have been on the hunt for boba tea on campus as a result. With such high demand, the students are now delivering using this QR code. Impressive! (Email me for the code.)

Last Thursday's Thoughts brought Foothill President Emeritus **Bernadine Fong** to campus as she dropped some knowledge while moderating. Professors **Nicole Gray, Karen Erickson, Dokesha Meacham** talked about their NCORE experience, and **Lisa Ly, Chris Chavez, and Craig Gawlick** shared their thoughts on our college's run of Black Minds Matter series. Reflecting on their sage reflections:

- How can our college facilities (classrooms, offices, buildings, etc.) be made to be more welcoming for and reflective of the diversity of students on campus (versus the sometimes stale feeling we get when we walk into a classroom, for instance)?
- How do we judge intelligence, especially for Black male students, in the way we react and speak about their intelligence?
- How can we honor the Ohlone tribe in which the land we sit on?
- How can the personal transformation that faculty and staff experience from conferences such as NCORE be replicated on campus?

Look forward to Equity Plan 2.0 to address many (if not all) of these issues. I am excited about engaging in the development of Equity Plan 2.0 with the college community!

Next Saturday, I will be speaking at the State Chancellor's Office inaugural Diversity Summit. I was specifically asked to be on a panel to talk about how I came up with the idea of revising the state's Equal Employment Opportunity funding regulations and how I got it through the system so quickly. The short answer: intentionally and collaboratively.

One of the individuals I collaborated closely with in Sacramento is **Jonathan Lightman** who recently retired as executive director of the Faculty Association of California's Community Colleges (FACCC), an organization that represents approximately 10,000 community college faculty such as Foothill's.

I've invited **Jonathan** to be the "celebrity" guest host for our next Thursday's Thoughts on February 21. Come join us for lunch, meet **Jonathan**, and hear from colleagues about their impression of **Tim Wise's** "White Like Me" talk a couple of years ago and **Laura Redon's** Validation Theory last year.

In an effort to listen more, I have been trying not to be too quick to answer when people ask questions. Nevertheless, I do want to be responsive. Thus, I am hosting high tea to answer questions in person and online, including going through the comments online and at the public fora.

### **High Tea with the College President**

"Let's talk budget"

President's Office & via Zoom

Tuesday, February 5

2 pm – 3 pm

Thanks **Kevin Metcalf**, our Central Services colleague, for tweeting "SuperbOwl" to me.

Superb-OWL time!

Of Service,

Thuy

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