

Columbia College

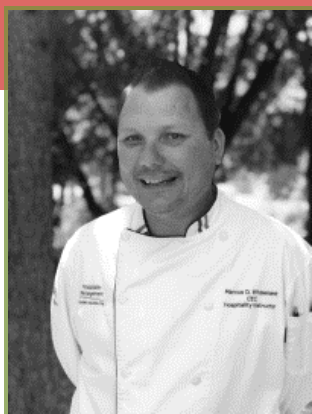
Academic Senate

Newsletter

March 2024 



President's Report



Wow, time has really moved fast this Academic Year. I would like to start off by thanking the Executive Team for the guidance and discussions throughout the year. Lahna, Erik, Pam, Shannon, Alicia, and Vanessa you have been great teammates.

I would also like to thank the Senate as a whole. We have a unique situation at Columbia College in which all full-time faculty are voting members. I would like to encourage all full-time faculty to get involved. I appreciate

all of you for jumping on committees and helping out when called upon. I appreciate our talks, texts, phone calls, emails from many of you, your encouragement and guidance has been appreciated and necessary to understand everyone's perspective. I would like to thank Jeri, who has gone above and beyond to make sure that I'm always prepared for the tasks at hand. You dedicate a lot of time to the Senate and we appreciate that.

Thank you to the Dean team; Raelene, Sean, Mike, and Brandon for always having an open-door policy with me in which we can communicate effectively. Tiffany, Abbey, Kyle, Brook, and Shelly thank you for letting me bug you and for always helping convey information between departments.

Kacey and Kelsie, I cannot express how much respect and gratitude I have for you two. Thank you for your continual professionalism and help throughout my first term.

One of my favorite daily experiences of being a professor at this great institution is when I go upstairs and see all of the departments working with our students. I truly believe that we place our students on a higher pedestal than any other college. It is why we do what we do.

I love yapping with Matt about data, dropping in on Elissa to see what curriculum issues Hospitality Management might or might not have...(lol) Don will get that one, and getting curriculum information as it pertains to 10+1.... saying hi to Amanda and Amy as we discuss Foundation events.

I would like to thank Sandra and Dillion as well as the entire classified senate for our collaborations and I look forward to our combined retreat. We as a faculty value and appreciate you all!

Thank you to Brian, who has truly been the best president of YFA that I have ever experienced. Thank you to Derek as well for stepping into the role as a YFA officer.

As I am wrapping up my seventh-year teaching here, I want to say how honored I am to be a part of the family and community here at Columbia College. The culture and togetherness between the staff, faculty, and students has truly been a rewarding experience to be a part of, and I want to continue to create cultivating a positive problem-solving environment on campus.

My first year as Academic Senate President has been educational, frustrating, yet also very rewarding. I look forward to continuing to help make Columbia College the best it can be for the next academic year.

Marcus Whisenant

Academic Senate Executive Team

President

Marcus Whisenant

Vice President/President Elect

Erik Andal

Past President

Lahna Von Epps

Curriculum Chair

Alicia Kolstad

Representative-at-Large for College Council

Vanessa Muro-Marai

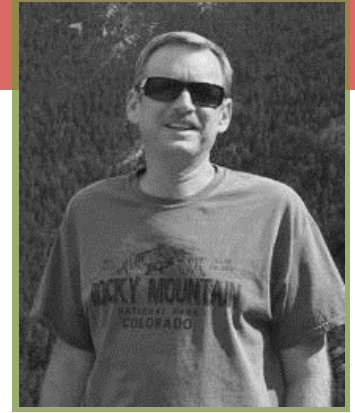
Part Time Faculty Representative

Shannon Van Zant

YFA Member-at-Large/College Council Representative

Pam Guerra-Schmidt

Vice President's Report



As we finish the year's finish line, I'm sure that we all share the same/routine end-of-year rush hour. We seem to go from 100 mph in April to nearly zero in May, very quickly.

District Fiscal Advisory Committee (DFAC):

The DFAC is a districtwide committee with broad representation. As the name implies, it's not a decision-making committee. But in my short tenure on the committee I realize that committee member input is valued concerning potential budget decisions at the district and Board levels.

The last meeting was on March 21st. A few interesting items to report are the Resource Allocation Model (RAM) and the Columbia College Housing plans.

The RAM was a continuing discussion item. This was brought to the Academic Senate in February, where feedback was sought. In essence, the RAM includes how the district and colleges' budgets will be reduced, if that becomes necessary. Note: there is no official plan to reduce the budgets at this time.

MJC, CC, and Central Services have uniform budgeting formulas in the RAM that would become the basis of budget reductions. In short, CC and Central Services budgets would be reduced before MJC, because MJC is considered unbudgeted. However, CC's budget cuts would not be greater than ½ of the budget that CC receives over the student-centered funding formula.

Also discussed was the future of CC's student housing. The housing was built by a 3rd party in 1984. The agreement between the vendor and YCCD was that the vendor pays for the construction and in return would have a 40-year lease. That 40-year lease is up this summer. So this summer the *keys will be handed over* to the district.

A need for financial planning concerns the facility's need to modernization. Particularly the long-term maintenance and repair needs, and also the ADA accessibility requirements. An "Immediate" and "Long Term" budgeting plan was presented to DFAC. The "Immediate" budget needs are \$642, 100. And the "Long Term" budgeting needs (11-20 years) are \$7,210.800.

Academic Senate President Elect:

It's time to start thinking of running for participatory governance positions for next year. I am selfishly interested in seeing a candidate(s) for the president-elect position (2025-2026 AY). Remember, the elections now take place early in the year (fall). I encourage everyone to consider this position. Best wishes to everyone and a successful end to the year!

Submitted by,
Erik Andal



Curriculum Chair Report



At the beginning of the year, the Curriculum Committee faced a daunting list of tasks related to operationalizing legislative mandates, assisting in the development of our submission of the Baccalaureate Degree Proposal for Cooperative Land Stewardship, as well as processing the first full cycle of the Sunset list. The 2023-2024 Sunset list has been processed and only a handful of courses will be administratively deactivated. This work was done with full transparency and with consultation between faculty and division deans.

Two things cause a course to be placed on the Sunset List.

- Curriculum past due for review (a faculty responsibility)
- Courses that have not been offered in a 2-year cycle (a discipline dean & faculty responsibility)

The Curriculum Committee has worked with division deans to publish a student facing 2-year course offering projection which will be available on our college website in July. Division deans have agreed to use this 2-year plan as they build the schedule each term. This should reduce the number of courses on the Sunset list each year. The Sunset List should not be the way we are managing curriculum. The five-year course review tracker should be utilized to maintain our curriculum and program review should guide curriculum development. This allows us to have meaningful conversations about where we are, where we want to be, and what is necessary to move forward.

The 2024-2025 draft Sunset List is being developed currently. When it is shared, **please don't panic**. You will have a full year to work on bringing your curriculum into compliance. While workflows in eLumen will be open in the Spring term for submissions, we strongly encourage you to do your curriculum planning in fall.

Curriculum is central to our work at Columbia and deserves focused attention and planning. I have proposed a staff development training and dean collaboration focus for In-Service and Flex Day this coming fall.

Curriculum prioritization is required next year to accommodate legislative mandates. Click on [proposed timeline and prioritization](#) to see the document that was approved at the last meeting Academic Senate meeting.

There is a Faculty Intern position open on the Curriculum Committee. This is a non-voting position and while it does not include compensation, it is an opportunity to learn about our curriculum process at Columbia College. Contact Stephanie Beaver-Guzman if you are interested.

Organizational stability at Columbia College comes from the faculty. Leadership at Columbia is ever changing. Please engage in our curriculum and program review processes, advocate for your programs and work with your division deans to chart a path forward. It has been my honor to serve the Curriculum Committee this year.

Submitted by,
Alicia Kolstad





Our Teaching & Learning Summit with Dr. Saundra McGuire was a huge success with over 150 participants! We hope this fuels future conversation, learning for us and our students, and maybe another summit!

Comments on the event survey included feedback such as:

- Wow what an amazing gathering! Dr. McGuire provides solutions to problems we as educators face daily. Every individual has a unique ability to learn. We as educators need to tap into and ignite that learning process among each of our students.
- Simple strategies can be readily implemented with powerful outcomes.
- Motivation Activities were so helpful and applicable! Dr. McGuire's material is so accessible and easy to apply.
- Great to have this opportunity on campus. Loved having high school educators and colleagues from other campuses here.

This spring, TLC has hosted a few Wellness Workshops in partnership with Marlyn Lieder and our mental health team that have been really well attended and received.

Behind the scenes, TLC has been working toward getting an retrieve form and workflow process for Professional Development requests.

Thanks to hard work from our previous TLC team and Academic Senate, there is promise of dedicated funding for TLC for next year, and hoping that will become a permanent line item in the budget somewhere.

As we wrap up this year, we start planning for the next... if you participated in a TTKL or POP this academic year, please expect an invitation to contribute your write up, attend one of our meetings, as well as possibly participating in fall's professional development activities.

Submitted by,
Kirsten Miller

Teaching, Learning, and Community



When you think of professional development... think TLC!

Institutional Effectiveness Committee, Finance Committee, and Cultural Enrichment Committee



Institutional Effectiveness Committee (IEC)

The IEC met twice since my last Academic Senate newsletter blurb. The final IEC meeting of the semester took place on 4/1. Effectiveness is increasing in a variety of areas!

- Program Planning and Evaluation (formerly known as Program Review) is moving ahead with 5 programs piloting the newly developed form. Stay tuned for process details and timelines for Program Planning and Review.
- The constituent group portion of the Participatory Governance Handbook was updated with feedback from the leaders of the groups in that section. A workgroup will develop proposed edits to the core of the document and present them to the IEC for the first meeting of the fall.
- The IEC is looking for a staff survey that encompasses the existing Governance Structure survey and collects more comprehensive information about campus climate and staff satisfaction. Matt brought a sample to the meeting to review but the group decided to keep looking for a survey that better fits our needs.
- The IEC reviewed the Cyclic Review Plan and moved plans that don't exist yet to a separate section of the plan. Adrienne will be working with College Council to propose changes to the cycle for affirming/revising mission, vision, and values statements.
- A workgroup will be proposing an IEC master calendar (what needs to take place each month) to the incoming Vice President of Instruction (VPI) when they arrive and the IEC in the fall.
- Enrollment Management conversations have been tabled until the new VPI is in place.
- The IEC is thinking about how to hold a "Dreaming with Data" day to support programs in using data to inform and realize their goals. The group also talked about changing the IEC meeting schedule.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee has not met since 2/23. Those who submitted one-time funding requests have been contacted to inform them that their projects are funded. The April meeting was cancelled and has not been rescheduled.

Cultural Enrichment Committee

The Cultural Enrichment Committee (CEC) has some great stuff cooking for spring semester! The CEC is highlighting foster care experiences for the month of April and displays will be going up around campus. The group is working on reconnecting with our local tribes to envision how we can utilize the recreated Mi-Wuk cultural site on campus. The group was awarded \$25,000 in one-time funds to support its activities next year. Check out the [CEC website](#) for current events. Everyone is invited to the CEC meetings happening the last Wednesday of the month, 3-4 pm in Buckeye 104. Each meeting starts with a cultural ice breaker activity. Great ideas that can be used in classes or programs with students. Hope to see you there!

Submitted by
Adrienne Seegers



Distance Education Committee



The Distance Education Committee will have the last meeting of the semester on April 19th. Below are items we've been working on and discussing during meetings.

- The committee is reviewing three documents, the DE Plan, DE Faculty Handbook, and Regular and Substantive Interaction Practice. We'll continue to revise these documents at our April meeting.
- The committee discussed the new Title 5 requirement to communicate technology requirements to students at the time of enrollment.
- With the OEI Proctoring Networking having been discontinued, we are working on finding alternative options for proctoring exams in online courses.
- A Spring-Summer 2024 cohort of Online Instruction Training began April 1st. Fall 2024 training is tentatively scheduled for August 30th-October 27th and Spring 2025 January 17th-March 16th
- Daniel Barsotti is the new Instructional Support Specialist for DE! Daniel has already created a new playlist of videos for students [Canvas Navigation Videos](#). These videos are available on our [Online Learning webpage](#) under Learn to Navigate Canvas and Zoom! Please share with students!
- Reminder that the Canvas Discussion and Announcement Redesign will be live in Canvas courses after spring courses end and before summer courses begin on May 3rd. To prepare for this change, join the monthly overview session on April 12th at 11 am. Check the Vision Resource Center for details and to register for Flex! Email Ashli Bumgardner bumgardnera@yosemite.edu with any questions or to schedule a different time to chat about the update.



Submitted by,
Ashli Bumgardner



* Happy St. Patrick's Day *

Part-time Faculty Representative Report

No report this month



Technology Committee



Media Updates

Classrooms on campus that need AV upgrades were identified. Redbud has the largest need due to the Nursing Program. Some other concerns were noted with problems of glare in Buckeye 103/104, and a question of continued need of upgraded equipment in Maple where the hy-flex classes had been taught.



IT Updates

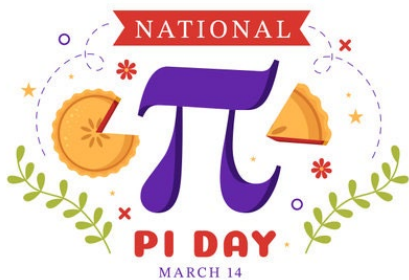
- CVC-OEI work is completed to set up Columbia College as a teaching college. It will go live in this month.
- Joe Maclin requested a review of software annual licenses and support contracts to determine software no longer being used.

Committee review of the Technology Committee section of the Governance Handbook occurred. Recommendations for edits followed from attendees.

A Computer Replacement Plan was unveiled and discussed. Some language changes were agreed upon. The document will be edited and brought back to the Committee for review.

Submitted by,
Kath Christensen

Foundation Faculty Advisor



No report this month



Academic Senate Representative at-Large Report

No report this month





April 12
 April 18
 April 24
 May 2
 May 3

Academic Senate Meeting (Cedar 101)
 Foundation Scholarship Celebration
 Cram Night
 CSLO Assessment Help
 End of the Year Celebration, Staff Recognition and Graduation
 Faculty and Classified Retreat (TBD/Baker Station)

August 16 & 17

Faculty Birthdays

Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Pam 4/9	Derrick 5/1	Andy 6/16	Dan 7/1	Kimberley P-T. 8/20
Juan Pablo 4/25	Matt 5/15		Katryn 7/7	Stephanie 8/30
Kimberley R. 4/26	Vanessa 5/28		Rob 7/12	
			Lindsay 7/14	
			Anca 7/23	
			Lahna 7/23	
			Spencer 7/30	
			Kath 7/31	
			Mike 7/31	

