

## **Student Engagement = Student Success**

## Greetings Foothill,

"CC makes me feel welcomed. Like I have purpose and that my voice in the community actually matters."

One of our students posted this last week on Twitter and I wanted to share it with you all. The first week of school can be hectic, but when you see something like this, it makes it all worth it.

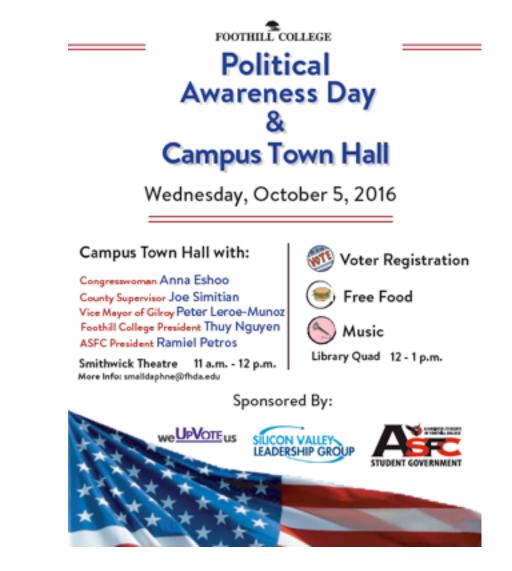
I am enjoying being on Twitter and the connections I have made with some of our students. Over the summer I liked a tweet by one of our students, Alan, whom I then met in person at Welcome Wednesday. It was so fun to make that in-person connection and we snapped a selfie. As luck would have it, I ran into him again last week and he declared how much he loved all of his professors and named all four of them without missing a beat.

It has been an absolute joy meeting our students. The Associated Students (and staff members **Daphne Small, Erin Ortiz, Thom Shepard, Kamara Tramble,** and **Katherine Fortune**) deserve praise for putting on an exciting set of welcome-back activities such as a dunk booth, ice cream, snow cones, popcorn, and free lunches – not to mention doing a voter registration drive.



ASFC President Ramiel Petros – willing to be dunked first. Now that is leadership!

ASFC is also organizing the Campus Town Hall with distinguished elected officials tomorrow at 11:00AM. This is one of many efforts to promote civic engagement on campus. After the Town Hall, ASFC will continue its voter registration drive at noon, with free food and music! **Please encourage your students to attend or bring your class to the event. Join the festivities also.** 





The "The First" pins are here! The first batch went so quickly that we put out a second batch. Faculty, staff, and administrators who are the first in their family to go to college: please come by the President's Office to pick up your pins/magnets. Please show your pins/magnets to connect with our students.

Anthropology professor **Kathryn Maurer** is using a digital image of the pin to respond to her online students when they share with her that they are the first in the family to attend college. "First-Gen" students constituted 27% of the student population at Foothill last year.

Studies show that students are more likely to succeed academically if they are engaged with and feel connected to the college. Such student engagement could be civically, socially, or emotionally – and thanks to you and our student leaders (in addition to the engagement in the classrooms), our students are prime for academic success.

*Student Engagement* = Student Success.

Of Service,

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Sincerely, Thuy

*Thuy Thi Nguyen* President Foothill College

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