



President's Communiqué

FROM THE DESK OF THUY THI NGUYEN

The Community College Professor

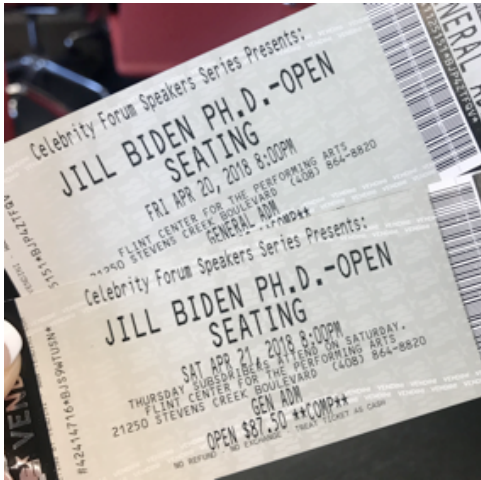
Greetings Foothill,

It's Friday, and Spring Break is almost here!

Good luck to all our faculty with grading exams. My favorite routine was sitting on a sofa with the stack of papers nearby, a familiar movie in the background for noise, and a cup of tea. What is your favorite grading routine?



One famous community college professor who was the force behind community colleges getting center stage during the Obama administration was Prof. **Jill Biden** (wife of former Veep **Joe Biden**). The first 5 people to email me their favorite grading routine will get 2 free tickets to hear Professor **Biden** on Friday/Saturday, April 20/21 at Foothill's Celebrity Forum. For non-teaching employees, email your favorite college professor story for a chance to get these free tickets.



<http://www.celebrityforum.net/>

I had a chance to pass out candies and wish students good luck on their finals this week. Many have successfully registered for spring classes, though there were some students who had not done so yet. Don't worry: I encouraged them to hurry up and register for classes.

One student asked me what process we use to cancel classes. I explained that the college is paid by the state based on the number of students taking classes. If the class does not have a sufficient number of students to pay for the cost of the class, then the class may be cancelled. Nevertheless, students are encouraged to speak to a counselor to help them find other classes and many are able to enroll. The student seemed satisfied with the answer.

As you know, for several years now, we have been running classes at lower seat counts and using the district's "stability fund" in part to cover the difference. Unfortunately, that fund is depleting and our two colleges combined have not been able to restore the enrollment decline.

As we honor phenomenal labor leader **César Chavez's** birthday tomorrow, we also need to keep in mind the labor corps of adjunct faculty who have been providing incredible teaching at Foothill and may be affected by cancelled classes. One of the 8 "Guiding Principles" that PaRC and the Administrative Council team have developed to guide our budget reduction is shared pain & the need to demonstrate kindness and empathy as we go into these tough times.

Another "Guiding Principle" when looking at our expenditures is to make an exception for students who are in need of a class to earn a degree to transfer. In fact, the Counseling team has been proactively reviewing the most popular ADTs (associates degrees for transfer) and working with the Instruction Division to ensure that courses are available this spring for students to finish.

Thus, please encourage students to contact their counselors to help them get the right classes to finish. Counseling and A&R are open next week during spring break to help students enroll. [Click here for [Counseling website](#).] We will also send out a notice to students to encourage them to contact Counseling. Based on feedback from the counselors, Cabinet and I will make decisions accordingly to honor this principle of seeing our students to the finish line.

Thank you for a great winter quarter. Look forward to giving out some free tickets.

Have a great weekend.

Of Service,



Thuy

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