



President's Communiqué

FROM THE DESK OF THUY THI NGUYEN

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Greetings Foothill,

Many thanks to the approximately 250 students and faculty/staff who attended the Banned 7 panel. Appreciation Hall was packed, and I understand some folks were not able to get in. Thank you ASFC and Dean of Student Activities **Thom Sheppard** for organizing it so quickly, and the 3 students who bravely spoke about their personal journey!

Read their stories in the Los Altos Town Crier:

<http://www.losaltosonline.com/news/sections/news/297-news-features/54642-foothill-college-students-share-ways-trump-s-travel-ban-affects-them>



During the panel, a couple of students talked about how they formed a group last week and started a Facebook page to encourage more Foothill students to be civically engaged. One of the students texted me pictures of our students protesting in SF last weekend.



As you know, one of Foothill's *Institutional Student Learning Outcomes* is:

Community / Global Consciousness and Responsibility = Social perceptiveness, including respect, empathy, cultural awareness, and sensitivity, citizenship, ethics, interpersonal skills and personal integrity, community service, self-esteem, interest in and pursuit of lifelong learning.

Civic engagement, along with service learning and community service, are some of the elements discussed last Friday as part of "Service Leadership" – that is, the harnessing of leadership skills through the service of others. A group of 32 college leaders convened to discuss whether the college should embark on a *Service Leadership* initiative to brand the college. Thank you to the following students, faculty, staff, and administrators for your ideas and feedback! The group unanimously voted to embark on such endeavor with some offering advice and caution around sustainability and resources.

STUDENTS: Veronica Bliss, Basil Farooq, Matthew Schurz, Samah Shaiq, Ramiel Petros, Bret Gustafson, Freddy Toscano, Darya Adib

FACULTY: Jose Nava, Kathryn Maurer, Rosa Nguyen, Carolyn Holcroft, Micaela Agyare, Sarah Parikh, Phyllis Spragge, Lisa Eshman, Gillian Schultz, Karen Erickson, Steve Knight, David Huseman, Sam Connell, Daphne Small, Lisa Schultheis

STAFF: Casie Wheat, Justin Schultz

ADMINISTRATORS: Simon Pennington, Kurt Hueg, Romey Paule, Carmen Ponce, Judy Baker, Elaine Kuo, Moaty Fayek



Special shout-out to our proactive BSS faculty who organized another packed room to discuss post-election issues:

Mark Harmon, Organizer and Adjunct Political Science/Business Law instructor

Patricia Gibbs, Sociology Instructor

Keri Ryer, Adjunct Political Science Instructor

Richard Wiepking, Adjunct Political Science Instructor



Their talk was the first of this month's "Teaching Moments" series. Join us this Thursday (Feb 09) for a cybersecurity / hacking discussion and next Thursday (Feb 16) to hear from some of our international students as they share their thoughts on the recent election and how it was perceived in their home countries.

This week, Congress confirmed the appointment of Betsy DeVos as the new Secretary of Education. It is not clear her position on community college education, though she is widely known for her K-12 school choice efforts. Chancellor **Judy Miner**, Board Chair **Laura Casas**, Trustee **Gilbert Wong**, and I will be in Washington D.C. next week to get a better sense of the new administration and advocate for our students and college.

Speaking of Washington D.C., using private donations from the Foundation, I am conducting a competition to select 3 science-major students who are interested in attending the March for Science in D.C. on April 22 (Earth Day). Please pass on the attached flyer to students who may be interested.

At the Mural Commission event on January 20, we ran out of these "UndocuAlly" stickers. There's more now on the President's Corner table by the mailroom in the 1900 Administration Building. The sticker and our First-Gen pin were a hit with our state legislators. Here's State Senator **Jim Beall** wearing them to the senate floor to vote on SR16 condemning President's Trump Muslim ban.



Of Service,

Thuy Thi Nguyen
President
Foothill College