

# Annual report to the College and Happy Halloween!



As many of you know, Halloween is one of my favorite celebrations and here are some remembrances from the past. Guess who is posing with me. (I made the Snow White costume the night before). I hope that you are engaging in similar activities today and visiting the offices that have been decorated for the occasion. Please experience Halloween with the Fine Arts and Communication Division Office (1701); the Haunted Forest in the Administration Building (1931) and trick or treat yourself to candy!; Student Activities (2000)); the Welcome Center

(2016); the Library (3500); STEM Division Office (4118); and Counseling (8302)! Students will be judging the best decorations.

I am so very sorry that I am not here with you on Halloween, but am on my annual horse retreat at a cattle ranch (the one I was visiting when I was “announced” as your president at the Chancellor’s Town Hall, last Nov. 1). We make our reservations a year in advance, so little did I suspect that I would be still be at Foothill a year later! This is now my 38th year at Foothill and I want to give you a one year report.



Here is probably an incomplete list of what we have accomplished in the last 12 months:

## NEW INITIATIVES LAUNCHING OR IN PROGRESS

1. **Global Experiential Learning** (aka Campus Abroad)
  - a. New campus sites for Spring 2023 (Florence) and Fall 2023 (London)
  - b. Integrating all travel student programs under one umbrella
2. **Metaverse Institute**
  - a. Close to 30 faculty and staff trained or receiving training in the use of VR
  - b. Website and users group set up
  - c. Astronomy course launching use of VR this quarter for selected class sessions
  - d. EMT program at our Sunnyvale Center launching use of VR this quarter
  - e. On campus VR lab being set up in the STEM Center
  - f. On campus VR lab being identified in the Fine Arts and Communications area
  - g. Moving to exploring AR (augmented reality) programs without headsets and use of phones and laptops
3. **ELIIS: Experiential Learning Institute for International Students**
  - a. Two quarter (W/Sp) online courses offered to international high school students in their home countries with capstone in person week at Foothill at the end of the

spring quarter, focused on experiential learning and field trips. The longer term objective is to rebuild international student enrollment.

- b. Led by Language Arts division and LRC with respect to programming courses and including RSLS (Research and Service Leadership Symposium)
4. **Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities** partnership to assist us in assuring cognitive accessibility in
  - a. assisting with our overall college web design and marketing materials etc. (We are struck by Jim's comments about paying attention to the number of words in a sentence and number of sentences in a paragraph...)
  - b. clarifying our Canvas sites so they are more student friendly and cognitively accessible for all
  - c. professional development for faculty and staff to enhance awareness of how to address and work with neurodiverse students
  - d. assisting in how to make VR being more accessible and user friendly
  - e. our horticulture therapy program which has been dormant (no pun intended)
5. \$6 million fundraising campaign beginning Dec. 1st for **Magical Bridge Playground** that is all inclusive, as well accessible, to serve
  - a. People of all ages and abilities
  - b. As a laboratory or field site for our programs in:
    - i. Child development
    - ii. Adaptive learning
    - iii. Older adult physical fitness
    - iv. Horticulture and landscaping
    - v. Design
6. **Dream Power** equine assisted therapy to provide hands on experiences for students in:
  - a. Veterinary Technology
  - b. the Disability Resource Center
  - c. Tools for Transition and Work program
7. Restoration of the **Japanese Cultural Center, Bamboo Garden and Azumaya**
8. Initiating the **Foothill Mentor Mindset Institute**
  - a. Over 20 faculty and staff members have signed up to work with David Yeager and his colleagues
  - b. Growth mindset coaching sessions being designed and set up and led by Mindset researchers and postdocs
  - c. Building a community of community college scholars in the field
  - d. Possibly develop a prototype from which Foothill can become a hub for professional development resources for other community colleges
9. Under discussion: **Wine Studies** program for restaurants and tasting room employees
  - a. In discussion with Santa Rose JC's Wine Studies program
  - b. Establishing an advisory committee
  - c. Initiating first course(s) through Community Education to test the market
10. **Latinx/BIPOC/DREAM Center** being designed to serve students of greatest need
  - a. Integrating programs serving similar groups of students under one central umbrella
  - b. Elevating these programs to the vice president's level to assure visibility and viability

- c. Offering students and the community a central point of contact for services and benefits
- 11. Reactivating our **Older Adult Care certificate program** to:
  - a. Provide potential employees for the older adult care facilities and home health care for people of any age
  - b. Provide students who face language and financial barriers with living wage employment after two quarters
  - c. Better serve our older adult community which, demographically, is increasing at a faster rate than our birthrates
- 12. Final approval for **Foothill's second baccalaureate degree, in Respiratory Therapy!** We are only one of two colleges in the state's 116 colleges that now offers two baccalaureate degrees
- 13. To heighten Foothill's focus on experiential learning, we have received multiple grants and funding in our CTE and workforce areas. We are focusing on the **New Collar**(as opposed to the blue collar or white collar) worker
- 14. **Institutional transformation**
  - a. Office of Equity launched the "**13-55**" **task forces**— moving from rhetoric to action on the 13 issues and 55 goals in the **Strategic Vision for Equity** plan
  - b. Each task force is co-led by an administrator and faculty and/or staff member
  - c. In conjunction with the task forces and the appropriate departments and the Academic Senate, the Office has developed a comprehensive and **updated Equity Plan** which addresses the key initiatives that support student equity at Foothill, including: increasing and broadening access to our Honors Institute; development of new guidelines for Course Outlines of Record to assure they are race-conscious and specific action plans are developed that are linked to our Strategic Vision for Equity; improving and increasing student services for our online students; development of plans for a teaching and learning center to coordinate these initiatives through professional development strategies; and increase the conversion rate of student applications to registration
- 15. Augmenting the **tenure review process** with a **mentor-the-mentors component** to provide intentional support and assure our tenure process is a formative one for our tenure candidates (more on this to come)
- 16. Initiating a **Buildings and Grounds Committee** of volunteers to assure the architectural integrity of the campus is fostered and maintained
- 17. Restored the previously combined Fine Arts and Communication and Kinesiology and Athletics to two divisions
- 18. Our **governance group, MIP-C (Mission I'm Possible Council)**, is formed and operational with a website.
  - a. Launched a task force to review our Mission Statement as part of our Self Study
  - b. Launching a task force to develop our guiding principles for allocation of educational resources: human, financial, physical
  - c. Upcoming, review of our Educational Master Plan and conversion to an **Educational Equity Master Plan**

And this list only highlights what's new, and I most certainly have missed some. To add to this is all the ongoing work with our **Self-Study for Accreditation and Reaffirmation, ISER**

**(Institutional Self-Evaluation Reports), QFE (Quality Focused Essays),** as well as all our day-to-day work!

Whew!

Best regards,

Bernadine

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