



Foothill College is a Pot of Gold.



Picture courtesy of **Lisa Delapo** from KCI



Picture courtesy of interim Dean **Janet Weber**

Greetings Foothill,

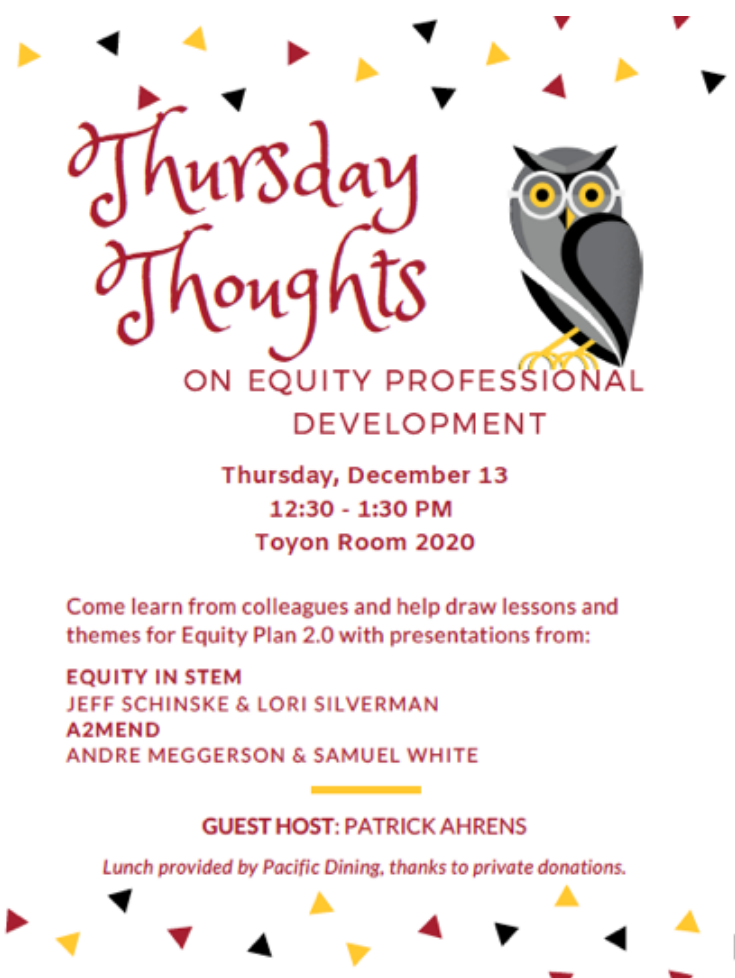
Last Friday night, approximately 200 students, faculty, and staff were in the Dining Hall for the *Foothill's Got Talent* show. Impressive turnout to end International Education Week and raise funds for the Enactus Club's Service Leadership projects. Heard they are deciding between Malaysia or back to the Philippines next summer.

Thank you to the approximately fifty people who attended last week's Thursday Thoughts with guest host **Pat Hyland**!



Umoja presenters **Lauren Valasco**, **Tracee Cunningham**, **Ben Stefonik**, and **Andre Maggerson** inspire.

Join us next Thursday and meet our new trustee, **Patrick Ahrens** as he guest hosts a conversation on two STEM grants by a biology professor and the SLI Director, along the A2MEN conference attendees. See flyer below. (Sneak peak: former Foothill President **Bernadine Fong** will be the guest host for the January 13 Thursday Thoughts!)

The flyer features a decorative border of colorful triangles (yellow, black, red) at the top and bottom. In the center, the text "Thursday Thoughts" is written in a large, red, cursive font. To the right of this text is a stylized owl wearing glasses. Below the title, the text "ON EQUITY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT" is written in a smaller, red, sans-serif font. Further down, the date and time "Thursday, December 13 12:30 - 1:30 PM" and the location "Toyon Room 2020" are listed in red. Below this, a paragraph in red text invites attendees to learn from colleagues and help draw lessons and themes for Equity Plan 2.0, listing speakers: "EQUITY IN STEM JEFF SCHINSKE & LORI SILVERMAN A2MEND ANDRE MEGGERSON & SAMUEL WHITE". A yellow horizontal line separates this from the guest host information: "GUEST HOST: PATRICK AHRENS". At the bottom, a line of red text states "Lunch provided by Pacific Dining, thanks to private donations.".

Thursday Thoughts

ON EQUITY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Thursday, December 13
12:30 - 1:30 PM
Toyon Room 2020

Come learn from colleagues and help draw lessons and themes for Equity Plan 2.0 with presentations from:

EQUITY IN STEM
JEFF SCHINSKE & LORI SILVERMAN
A2MEND
ANDRE MEGGERSON & SAMUEL WHITE

GUEST HOST: PATRICK AHRENS

Lunch provided by Pacific Dining, thanks to private donations.

At last week's Thursday Thoughts...

- For Equity Plan 2.0, consider following the 18 Umoja practices that include *Mattering* (everyone's voice matters) & *Ethic of Love*. (In the past, we have done *Porch Talk*.) <https://umojacommunity.org/umoja-practices>
- Know that African American students' experiences require us to have "*Awareness of Connected To African Diaspora*", and the Umjoa statewide conference had an activity that enacted the experience of slave captivity. (The activity reminded me of the movie "Black Panther" when **Erik Killmonger** whom my daughter refers to as anti-hero talked about slaves who stayed on the boat while others threw themselves over board as they rather die instead.)
- The immigration experience for Asian Americans requires storytelling, and storytelling is powerful in understanding faculty/staff's experience.

APAN's storytelling exercises with APA employees last year were so personal and powerfully moving! Thank you **Debbie** and **Voltaire** for sharing yours.

Another group of faculty who shared some funny and inspiring personal stories was the panel for the First-Gen Summit. Thank you **Tiffany Rideaux, Simon Pennington, Debbie Lee, Che Meneses, and Laurence Lew** - and thank you **Voltaire Villanueva & Carlos Pacheco Miranda** for moderating!



Faculty panel at First-Gen Summit

Approximately 100 people attended the First-Gen Summit! BIG shout-out to the Family Engagement Institute (**Betsy Nikolchev, Pauline Brown, Carlos Pacheco Miranda, Carmen Ponce**, et al.), Honors Institute (**Debbie Lee** and **Voltaire Villanueva**), Counseling team (**Lety Serna, Cleve Freeman, and Lan Truong**), and President's Office (**Veronica Casas**).

Students expressed how they really appreciated hearing so many First-Gen stories. We learned a lot from organizing this first summit, including having the event on National First-Gen Day instead and maybe shortening the time next year.



ASFC posted the final score: Students team won!



Student Players: Tinotenda Manyau, Oscar Lopez, Benjami Hernandez-Castillo. Brianna Reynolds, Miriam Rico, Ariel Kass, Bryan Kim, Aajon Johnson, Darius Thomas, Dion Leonard, and Marcial Ramos.

Faculty/Staff Players: Sean Bogle, Anthony Cervantes, Vanessa Smith, Mark Darrah, Jackie Lauese, Benjamin Schwartzman, Chris Chavez, Jimmy Herrera, Pauline Brown, and (Coach) Andre Meggerson

Referee: Counselor **Dokeshia Meacham** (former basketball player when she was a student at Foothill!)

National Anthem singer: **April Henderson**



The awesome Office of Student Affairs & Activities team that organized the game!

What a game that was! Fourteen 3-pointers were made.

MVP: Coach James (“Jimmy”) Herrera(faculty/staff team) who made four 3-pointers which raised \$800 in just one hour!

Best Play: Admissions & Records Supervisor **Anthony Cervantes** who, while falling to the ground, managed to still make the basket!



Thank you to the donors who joined me in the 3-pointer challenge - totaling \$200 per 3-pointer:

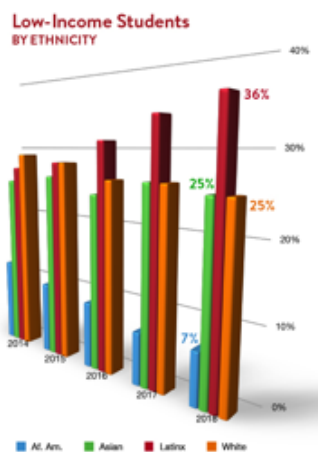
- * Kathy Armstrong
- * Gay Krause
- * Tatsiana Maskalevich
- * Judy Miner
- * Che Meneses
- * Sean Bogle
- * Simon Pennington
- * Mary Vanatta
- * Melissa Cervantes

Yesterday, I had a meeting with a phenomenal, very active student on campus who became homeless and is currently living in a car with another Foothill student. She expressed immense gratitude for the food pantry.

“Low-Income Students” are those whose household income is less than \$25,000 per year – i.e., living below the federal poverty line. The fact that nearly 1 in 4 students at Foothill are living below the poverty line is alarming, especially considering the wealth in Silicon Valley.

- The proportion of low-income students has increased from 17% in 2014 to 24% in 2018. The largest ethnic groups are Latinx, followed by White and Asian.
- The number of low-income Latinx students has consistently increased year over year.
- In 2017-18, 40% of African American and 35% of Latinx students reported they are from low-income households, compared to 21% of Asians and 18% of Whites.

Note: the majority of students of color at Foothill are NOT low-income. The fact that there is a racial gap in student success is not due to poverty as some may believe. Something worth noting as we engage in Equity Plan 2.0.



Source: Thank you to the amazing, dedicated **Lisa Ly** and FHDA IRP for the data.

We are still counting the total money raised for the food pantry, though we know every dollar counts.

The idea for the 3-pointer challenge came from a community member who donated \$200 in honor of his mother:

“She told me how hard it was to study and work while she was hungry, without enough to eat. She used to go by the bakery and try to fill up on the smells! She worked one day a week cleaning the office of her congressman, because it was the one day a week she could eat in the congressional dining hall.”

The donor contacted me via Twitter with the 3-pointer idea!

Speaking of Twitter, I posted a "meme" tweet three days ago that has gone "viral" as my 10-year old son calls it.



Foothill President
@FoothillPrez

Ladies, if he:

- increases your life earnings by \$400,000 on average
- transforms your life and helps you grow
- supports you with financial aid and services
- accepts you unconditionally

He's not your man. He's a California community college!

12/2/18, 4:57 PM

||| [View Tweet activity](#)

679 Retweets 3,574 Likes

Although the numbers of "likes" and "retweets" took me aback, it was actually the comments and responses that are incredibly heartwarming. They included current and former Foothill students expressing their appreciation for what you all have done for them. Thank you!

During the basketball game, folks asked me what I said to the students as their "coach" when I called a few time-outs. Half-time, the students team was trailing by one point. I told the students during the second half of the game that finals are coming up. We may mess around during the beginning of the quarter term, but the term is coming to an end and we need to buckle down.

With finals next week, let's buckle down and get the job done! And then come to the Holiday Party on Friday, Dec. 14th to enjoy some holiday fun (this time, at the Krause Center for Innovation, not Hearthside Lounge).



**Put on your best (worst) holiday sweater and join us for an afternoon of fun at the KCI!
Eat great food, make a holiday craft in the new Makerspace, and participate in the Ugly Sweater Contest. First place gets a prize!**

Of Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Thuy'.

Thuy

Thuy Thi Nguyen
President
Foothill College

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