



# President's Communiqué

FROM THE DESK OF THUY THI NGUYEN

## Why Do You (personally) Care About Equity?

Greetings Foothill College,

What a busy first two weeks of the academic year!



Check out some pictures from Club Day last week. Thank you ASFC for putting on an outstanding two-day event. Enjoyed seeing club advisors such as Ms. **Fountainetta Coleman** (We For She Club), Prof. **Mona Rawal** (Philosophy Club), Profs. **Tiffany Rideaux** and **Scott Lankford** (GSA), Ms. **Pauline Brown** (Polynesian Club), Prof. **Bill Ziegenhorn** (History Club), Prof. **Daphne Small** (ASFC), Prof. **Sam Connell** (Anthropology Club), and Profs. **Ben Stefonik** promoting the Research & Service Leadership Symposium and **Clifton Der Bing** promoting Psychological Services.

Thank you to all the faculty and staff who are serving as club advisors this year. In speaking with students, some are still looking for club advisors. If you are interested, contact Dean **Sean Bogle**.



Love this logo design by the Chinese Students and Scholars Association. They even have their own app to notify members of club activities!



So happy to see Puente out recruiting members.



Don't you like this one – “with a cause”?!

The student veterans club was also out recruiting members at Club Day. Last Friday, the club members connected with alumni of the Vets Club who came back for their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion. Our current student veterans club is trying to restart the club this year, and in honor of the older Foothill student veterans, they said they would officially rename their club to “Vets Club”!



50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary reunion of the “Vets Club”.



Pre-Law!



One of the three “Service Leadership Club of the Year” Awardees

As I mentioned to the We For She Club which started last year, their continuation this year is even more critical, especially in light of the nomination (and now confirmation) of **Brett Kavanaugh** to the U.S. Supreme Court. Our democracy is in crisis. The issues facing our country are too vast to summarize and well beyond the pithy effort of a President’s Communiqué. Yet there is no doubt that the confirmation process has placed many of us in a state of anxiety and anger, with some of us reporting difficulty staying focused at work and in class. The college has revised its message to students to offer assistance, especially for students who have experienced sexual assault and harassment in the past. Please remember that our district also offers free

counseling services for employees through the Employee Assistance Program.

Another student club in the quad last week was the Black Students Union, with an effort to revive the club this year. Seeing BSU and Puente, I am reminded of the question that **Adrienne Hypolite** asked us during our equity discussion at College Opening Day:

***Why do you care / Why does equity matter to you?***

Would you email me and let me know why student equity matters to you (personally)?

This week, there will be at least three equity professional development opportunities on campus. Hopefully, you have received Prof. **Carolyn Holcroft's** PD newsletter with information on all three. I was not able to attend today's Black Minds Matter series, but am looking forward to attending these two equity activities along with Political Awareness Day.

### **Tuesday, October 9**

#### **Continue the Opening Day "Equity" Conversation!**

"Please come to the Hearthside Lounge on Tuesday, October 9 from 12PM to 2PM. We'll share the feedback we received on the opening day handouts, provide you the opportunity to engage in deeper dialog, and tell you about some of the equity-related professional development opportunities coming up this year. Snacks will be served." See attached flyer.

### **Wednesday, October 10**

ASFC is sponsoring **Political Awareness Day** in collaboration with the League of Women Voters and Silicon Valley Leadership Group. See attached flyer.

### **Thursday and Friday, October 11 & 12**

#### **Beyond Diversity**



Join me, the Administrative Council, and members of the Equity & Education Committee!

Foothill College Toyon Room

Register here: <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07efmcit7tb37486ac&llr=pje5aedab>

### **Sneak Peak for Next Week:**

At its recent meeting, the Board of Trustees has declared next week as

**Undocumented Student Week of Action.** Family Engagement Institute will be organizing at least one activity each day of next week on the issue of immigration. Click link for more info: <https://foothill.edu/news/UndocuALLY.html>

Thanks in part to generous funding from CA Humanities, CA 2020, and the Mellon Foundation along with other event co-sponsors such as the Foothill Script, Journalism Club, Environmental Action Club, Honors Connections Club, and the FH Community Ambassadors Program:

### **2018 Foothill Immigration Teach-In**

Wednesday, Oct 17

9 am to 3 pm

Hearthside Lounge

This year's world-class keynote speakers roster includes two Pulitzer-Prize-Winning authors, plus 4 other nationally-prominent authors and activists.

<https://www.facebook.com/fhteachin/>

The Transfer Fair is also on Wednesday, October 17! October 17 will be quite a busy day on campus.

There are so many faculty and staff who care deeply about students and student equity. Shout-out to Prof. **Jeff Schinske** who received a \$1.1 million grant with SFSU to highlight underrepresented scientists in academic textbooks. Congrats to **Betsy Nickolchev**, Executive Director of Family

Engagement Institute for the 2018 Excellence in Parent Engagement Award. Big props to Prof. **Kathy Armstrong** who was awarded the [Teacher-Scholar Award](#) from the American Chemical Society for being an excellent instructor and her involvement with the Chemistry Club that regularly engages in various service leadership projects at area schools.

Have a great week, and email me your thoughts on that question:

Why do you personally care about equity?

Of Service,



Thuy

*Thuy Thi Nguyen*  
President  
Foothill College

650.949.7200  
*Twitter:* @FoothillPrez  
pronounced: <https://name-coach.com/thuythinguyen>  
12345 El Monte Road  
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022