

FCCCC President's Address  
CCC Board of Trustee's Meeting  
Thursday, January 10, 2013

Chairman Wolf, Chancellor Hyman, members of the board, officers of the district, faculty, staff, and all others present, good morning and Happy New Year!

2013 promises to be a busy year with the ongoing work from last semester and new initiatives this semester. I thought it would be good to recap ongoing task force and committee work started in 2012 with a look forward.

1) My bi-weekly meetings with the Provost will begin again next week. I would like to state these meetings, and the Provost's willingness to meet with FC4 and advocate for faculty initiatives and support faculty, have been a good step in improving communications and operations between faculty and the Office of Academic Affairs. If we stay the course, I'm hopeful for the future.

2) I have been introduced to VC of Strategy, Research, and Organizational Effectiveness Rasmus Lynnerup, and he and I have agreed to meet so communication between FC4 and Reinvention will remain open and productive.

3) The communication between FC4 and the Office of Student Services has improved. Associate Vice Chancellor Preston Harden has agreed to start sharing with FC4 data from student services programs. Specifically, he has shared the student survey data from Advising Week, and I have sent this information on to FC4, and local faculty council presidents have been encouraged to share this data with their respective faculty.

Also, I'd like to add a personal note here. AVC Harden is clearly passionate about helping students succeed. We've had good discussions in meetings and email, and FC4 has made some recommendations for improved collaboration between student services--specifically advising--and academic departments and faculty, and he's been open to these ideas. My expectation is these discussions will continue and will be productive.

4) Over break I attended the Student Loan Default Aversion Task Force meeting headed up by Associate Vice Chancellor Cynthia Grunden and Celeste Johnson. The meeting was excellent, frank, and quite sobering. I have briefed FC4 on the new federal student loan default regulations and have told the local council presidents to encourage faculty to turn in their NSW and ADW paperwork on time. I will continue to work with this task force and offer support and ideas as appropriate to faculty responsibilities on this matter. The task force will meet in February, and, of course, I plan to attend, but AVC Cynthia Grunden and I will probably meet in the interim to go over some data I have requested and reshape information and data from the meeting presentation materials for faculty, so they can better understand the processes and policies of student financial aid.

5) Also over break I attended the Data Governance Task Force meeting headed up by Nancy Chaves and Brendan Aldrich. Brendan has been giving his Zygotech presentation at local faculty council meetings, and by all reports these meetings have been good and have given faculty a chance to ask questions and voice concerns. Moreover, Brendan has invited all local council presidents to join the Data Governance Steering Committee, and this is fantastic. It is very important faculty are part of the discussion and anticipated policy making.

The running thread throughout this report which I'd like to highlight is communication--the communication and the openness of administration and faculty to discuss, debate and find solutions of merit to achieve student success. I'd like to also add that the kind of communication we've been working towards is face-to-face communication via the committee model and faculty governance model in an effort to build and improve operations and processes necessary for all of us at City Colleges to achieve student success. Strong communication networks between faculty and administration help facilitate healthy operations and processes. .

Moreover, improved communication will also help build trust between administration and faculty, which is something we must continue to work on as was mentioned, discussed, and agreed to at our last FC4 meeting in late November with the Provost and Scott Martyn in attendance. The foundation of trust is built through time, openness, cooperation, collaboration, discussion, debate, fair mindedness, and good faith. I am hopeful that in the coming year at City Colleges we will have made many steps forward to achieve this goal.

Thank you and Happy New Year!

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Aguila, Assistant Professor  
FC4 President