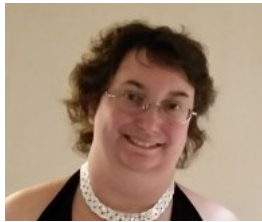




President's Message



Greetings!

It's October, and the school year is well under way. There's lots of exciting things happening on campus, including the establishment of a Welcome Center in Lesher, and the renovation of the cafeteria. Keep an eye out!

November is fast approaching, and with it, elections. Remember, there are several important issues on the ballot. Prop 51, the school bond measure, and Prop 55, the extension of the tax to fund K-12 schools and community college, will be voted on. These have a direct impact on Merced College.

In addition, three Merced College Board of Trustees seats are up for election: Area 2 (Gary Arzamendi) (Atwater and surrounding areas), Area 3 (Wayne Hicks) (extends along Highway 59 towards Snelling), and Area 6 (Jean Upton) (extends into Madera and Fresno Counties). Don't forget to vote if you are in one of these areas! This is your chance to have your say in the governance of the college!

Enjoy the fall weather while it lasts!

President Andrea



Welcome: New Classified Professionals

Adrian Hernandez—Shipping and Receiving Clerk
David Rodriguez—Electrician, Maintenance

Our apologies to anyone we missed.

Inside this issue

Around Campus 2

Professional Development Resources 2

State News 2

Classified Senate Information
Merced College Classified Senate Officers
 President: Andrea Hall-Cuccia
 Vice President: Gabriela Garcia
 Secretary/Treasurer: Jeanne Bernardi

News Letter:
 Rosa Hernandez
 LaDenta Smith

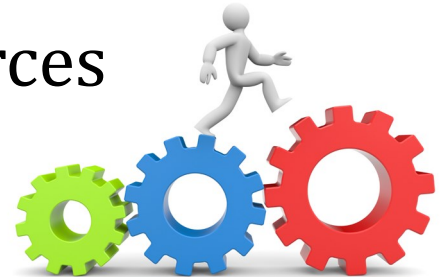
Meetings
 Third Thursday of every month from 2-3 pm in the Administrative Conference Room unless otherwise specified. Video Conferencing for Los Banos available upon request.

Website:
<https://mc4me.mccd.edu/organizations/class-senate/default.aspx>

Around Campus

The cafeteria renovation is scheduled for completion approximately November 14. The plan includes renovations to the staff dining room. The cafeteria will be closed for two weeks to complete work. During that time, food service will be available in the quad, or in the gym foyer in case of bad weather.

Professional Development Resources



IEPI Website

The Chancellor's Office has launched a website for the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative, a collaborative effort to advance the effective practices of California Community Colleges. Merced College is a participant in this initiative. The website includes a section specifically for Classified Professionals (<http://iepi.cccco.edu/classified-staff>). This section includes professional development resources and a FAQ on the IEPI indicators. Check out the site!

State News

State Legislative Update:



AB 1594 (McCarty) Prohibition of Smoking and Vaping on Campus. AB 1594 prohibits smoking tobacco products or the use of e-cigarettes on California State University and community college campuses. The bill authorizes a fine of up to \$100 with the proceeds to go to support educational operations of the campus, education of the policy implemented by the bill, and tobacco treatment options for students. AB 1594 was **vetoed** by the Governor. The Governor's veto message included the following statement: *The governing boards of our public colleges and universities already have the authority and are fully capable of setting smoking policies on their campuses.*

Merced College BP3570, banning all tobacco products on campus, including e-cigarettes and chew, **was passed by the Board of Trustees at the October Board Meeting** .

SB 1038 (Allen) Community Colleges: Employees. SB 1038 eliminates the tuberculosis test requirement for community college employees. Instead, employees will take a risk assessment for tuberculosis and if found to be at risk, the employee is then required to take the tuberculosis test. This conforms to how tuberculosis screening is done in K-12 districts. SB 1038 was signed into law by the Governor.

Book Review

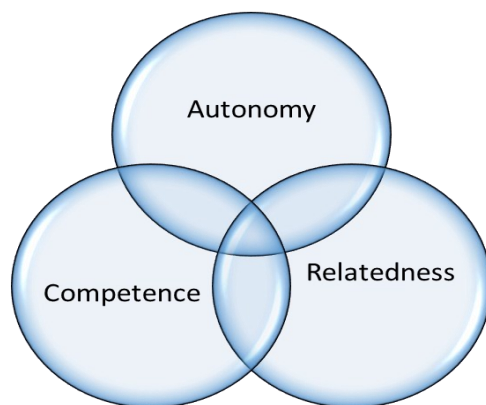
Written By: Melinda Cornwell

Liss, Miriam, and Holly H. Schiffrin.

Balancing the Big Stuff: Finding Happiness in Work, Family, and Life.
2014.

Autonomy, competency, and relatedness: memorize that trio, say authors Liss, Schiffrin and Rizzo, because happiness lies where they meet. I opened this book less than enthusiastically, expecting yet another guide to getting your in-box to zero. But the book is part scientific study, part self-help, and has been cited seven times in peer-reviewed journals.

First, let's define some terms. Autonomy is independence, freedom of action or thought. Competency is having enough skill or knowledge to do something. Relatedness is association or connection. The authors make a good case that modern life reduces all three drastically. We have to take action to get them back. Society makes balance difficult by glorifying false standards in all three of the crucial areas. Independence can easily become narcissism. Competency can morph into arrogance. And relatedness, as we've all seen, can equal the most followers on Twitter or the most likes on Facebook. This is the mind-set we are up against, say the authors, in our search for genuine lives.



Not to mention genuine and meaningful lives for our children, which is surely what we all want. Schiffrin found that helicopter parenting depressed college students by undermining their need to feel autonomous and competent. Her video on "The Competitive Mom Syndrome" is worth watching, and can be found on YouTube.

I smile, though grimly, at her conclusions. As Betty Friedan had warned in *The Feminine Mystique* in 1963: "Without serious interests outside the home, and with housework routinized by modern appliances, women could devote themselves almost exclusively to the cult of the child from cradle to . . . college."

Friedan felt this enmeshment would be disastrous for society.

Has nothing changed? Was the whole women's movement a useless blip on the cultural radar? Only history will tell. In the meantime, taking back our lives from societal "shoulds" is the big takeaway from this book.

Employee Spotlight

Seng Lee

Classified Professional of the Year

Job Title: Custodian II

Department: Operations

Years with College: 26

Seng Lee was born in Laos and moved to Merced in 1982. He graduated from Merced High School and received an Associate Degree in Electronic Science from Merced College. He also received the Electronic Technician certificate of completion. Seng is in charge of cleaning the library and maintaining the hardwood floor in the gym. He makes minor electrical repairs such as changing light bulbs and maintains equipment in the proper condition.

Seng assists with in-service training. He is also in charge of overseeing evacuation in the building in emergency.

Say hello to Seng next time you see him!

New Collaborative Venture between Merced College and Valley State Prison

Merced College (MC) and Valley State Prison (VSP) have been collaborating to start up a new educational program for VSP students.

Dean Shelly Conner started conversations with the VSP Education Department last year to hold credit classes at VSP for inmates to attend. The ultimate goal would be to have a program where students at VSP would be able to earn an Associate's Degree. MC will receive FTES for these students but no other State funding to help facilitate this program.

The first classes were held during the spring 2016 semester with two GUID-48 classes taught by Professor Akajan. MC received rave reviews from the VSP students and the Education Department. These classes were made possible because the Office of Instruction and Area 6 were willing to expend funds from their budgets to purchase a classroom set of textbooks for these students.

The MC President and Board of Trustees received several letters from the students stating how appreciative they were of our classes, how much they enjoyed the face to face instruction, and the difference the classes were making in their lives.

Merced College has since held a KINE-34 class with Professor Botsford, and we are currently holding nine classes which are two PSYC-01A with Professor Williamson, two GUID-30 with Professor Gonzales, two GUID-48 with Professor Akajan, two KINE classes with Professor Botsford, and one Noncredit ENG with Professor McBride.

With many thanks to MC Administrators and the Budget Committee, Area 6 received one-time funding to purchase classroom sets of textbook, KINE equipment, and other instructional supplies that are needed to make this endeavor a success.

Our Student Services (Admissions & Records, Financial Aid, and Student Fees) have been very helpful in working out different issues for our VSP students. Their helpfulness and knowledge has reduced the barriers and increased the potential of these students.

Our MC Bookstore is currently creating a web-page specifically for the families of our VSP students to order supplies for their VSP family members.

VSP has been very supportive of our classes. The work of the Education Department especially Ms. Zaninovich and Mr. Welch to make these classes a success is very much appreciated. The VSP Education Department sends us notes like this one "These new instructors are all sooooo good! Our student are loving thisJ" to let us know how much our presence is appreciated at VSP.

Area 6 recently received a letter from the VSP students with the following comment "Devotion such as yours allows us students to be leaders in rehabilitation and education. Your efforts contribute to higher learning and that, as you know, means we are heading in the right direction to change." Sincerely, Merced student at Valley State Prison.

Respectively submitted by
Charlene Reed, Secretary Area 6