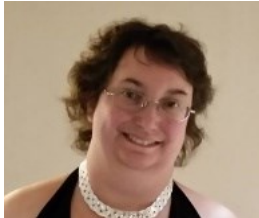


President's Message



Greetings!

The Fall term is underway, and with it, another year for Classified Senate. Don't forget, our 2017-2018 elections will be held at our August 17 meeting. It's not too late to nominate yourself for an office. Contact me if you're interested.

Professional development will continue to be a major focus. For the first time, classified professionals have \$10,000 budgeted for professional development. Classified Senate and CSEA will be establishing guidelines for use of these funds for professional development.

This year, I would love to see increased participation with Classified Senate. This newsletter highlights opportunities for participation on hiring committees. You can also participate by volunteering for Shared Governance committees, serving on the Classified Professional Development Day committee, and attending Classified Senate meetings.

Have a wonderful year, and I look forward to seeing you around!

Welcome: New Classified Professionals

June:
None

July:
Pablo Gutierrez—Career/Transfer Center Assistant
Jennifer Lizarraga—Student Support Coordinator
Hal Watson—Custodian
Marisol Zaragoza—Accountant

August:
None

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Classified Senate Information

Merced College Classified Senate Officers

President: Andrea Hall-Cuccia
Vice President: Gabriela Garcia
Secretary/Treasurer: Jeanne Bernardi

News Letter:

LaDenta Smith

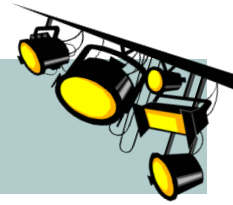
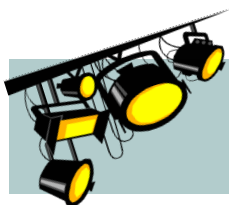
Web Site:

Shannon Gragg.

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/>



Classified Professional of the

Elena Altamirano

Job Title: Student Services Assistant

Department: Admissions and Records (Los Banos)

Years with College: 5 years this year, including Work Study/Hourly

Elena processes registration for students and makes counseling appointments. She also provides assistance to faculty, counselors, and fellow staff members when needed. She has assisted in organizing events at the Los Banos Campus. She says “We wear many hats here in LB and dive into projects whenever needed” Elena is finishing her last semester here at Merced College this coming fall with a degree in Social Sciences. Her faith and family are of the highest priority in her life! She is the proud mother to three children, one of whom attends Merced College, and proud Nana to two beautiful grandbabies. She is marrying her best friend/soulmate this year. She says “I am blessed to work alongside some of the best co-workers ever, and enjoy my job to the fullest.” Say hi to Elena if you see her around!

Get Involved: Hiring Committees

Do you want to participate in the hiring that shapes our campus? Volunteer for a hiring committee! **Any full- or part-time** Classified Professional can volunteer for **any** hiring committee **during their working hours**. You do not need to be in the same area as the position; the hiring committee chair will supply any knowledge you need. Supervisor approval is required; managers are encouraged to allow their staff to participate in this important function.

College policies and procedures state that Classified Senate and CSEA **each** get a representative on **classified** and **management** hiring panels. If we do not get volunteers for these committees, Classified Professionals **will not** have a voice in these decisions.

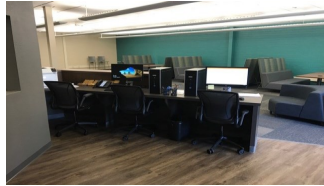
Serving on a classified hiring panel generally requires attendance at two sessions: paper screening and interviews. Attendance is required at **both** sessions. Sessions are typically schedule for 2-3 hours; actual time depends on number of candidates.

Title IV requires colleges to certify diverse hiring committee in terms of both race/ethnicity and gender that is reflective of the college and communities they serve. In order to fulfill this requirement, a diverse pool of volunteers is needed. The more people who volunteer, the better! The hiring committee shapes the candidate’s first impression of Merced College and should reflect the diversity of students and staff. Please consider volunteering for hiring committees when asked. This is a low commitment way to contribute to the impact of Classified Professionals at the College.

Around Campus

Interdisciplinary Literacy Center (ILC)

The ILC is a community space of peers and mentors working together to help students become better readers, writers, and thinkers across all disciplines. Services include small group and individual assistance from faculty and Embedded Peer Mentors, laptop computers, Internet access, and printing services. All are welcome. Stop by and check it out!



Book Review

SICKENED by Julie Gregory

BOOK REVIEW by Melinda Cornwell



Munchausen by proxy is when a person fabricates, exaggerates, or creates mental or physical health problems in someone they care for to get attention or sympathy - not for the patient, but for themselves. Perhaps they want praise for being such a good caregiver. Which they get at first – till medical personnel become suspicious. Victims, often coached or threatened, will corroborate what the caregiver is claiming. A person may be a hypochondriac or a helicopter parent – and these syndromes have their own sets of problems – but Munchausen by proxy always has an intentional component: the intent to create or simulate illness in someone who trusts him or her.

The mother is the perpetrator in 76.5% of the cases, the father in 6.7%. The tip-off for hospital staff is often the unusual reaction of the caregiver. He or she may show distress when told the child is improving. While the child is hospitalized, medical professionals must monitor visits or ban them entirely. If the target child is removed from the home, the abuser might turn to a sibling or other relative.

This book is like a train wreck you can't stop watching. Gregory's mother dragged her to dozens of doctors, trained Julie to act ill, and insisted on increasingly invasive procedures. At home, Mrs. Gregory insisted Julie eat badly, gave the wrong medicines or the wrong doses, and made her basically into a household servant when she wasn't faking illness. She insisted, without medical evidence, that Julie was lactose intolerant and allergic to eggs. She also actively poisoned Julie by telling her matches were lollipops and letting her eat them.

Mrs. Gregory insisted on a catheterization when Julie was urinating normally. She demanded a barium swallow when Julie was digesting her food just fine. She wanted open-heart surgery for a child who had no heart problems. This miserable woman had been molested and abused by her own relatives, but of course there is no excuse for what she put Julie through.

When Gregory was old enough to realize what was happening, she tried telling other adults. They accused her of fabricating and had her go to "imagination counseling." Finally, a social worker got Julie adopted by another family. She was sixteen. Her bravery did not stop there: she was instrumental in removing later foster children from Mrs. Gregory's care, fearing they were already being abused.

This appalling book has a happy ending. Today, as author of 3 bestselling books, Gregory lectures to medical, law enforcement, and child protective services and leads writing workshops for high schools and colleges. Some parts of it are difficult to read, and it's definitely not recommended for YA audiences.