

President's Report

Of Budgets and Finances

by Debi Bolter, YFA President

YFA has a prime interest in the District's financial situation, how it budgets its money, and how it receives its funding. Faculty must understand how numbers of students served affects our overall financial health and stability, but also how the various financial needs of YCCD are identified and met, and the unique funding structure of community colleges. Did you know:

- We get base apportionment on how many FTES and positive attendance students we serve from July 1-June 30. We can count some summer classes either in the previous year or the upcoming year, which is how we've "rolled back" FTES the last few years to meet our base apportionment target. This year we borrowed 578 FTES from last year's classes. At \$4,636 per FTES, it means we borrowed ~\$2.7M. We have to make that up this year, plus serve that many students more, to meet our current target of 16,542 FTES. At this point, the district predicts we are close to hitting this goal.
- The state provides other funds to community colleges. These funds are restricted to specific needs, called categorical funding.
- The 2015-2016 budget year includes an increase in general fund payments. California community colleges are getting \$125M above base apportionment and those funds aren't restricted to any category. However, the formula for YCCD's portion of these "new" monies hasn't yet been finalized.
- We cannot market our courses outside of our district, even online courses. In apparent contradiction, we are always seeking to increase our FTES, or to grow. In order to grow, then, we can only convince people in our District to come to our colleges, or to take more units while they are here.
- Students can no longer repeat courses with new repeatability rules. This limits "life-long learners," and has significantly impacted FTES generation at both colleges. Students must also have particular goals to attend community colleges—an Education Plan with a particular degree/certificate objective.



Debi Bolter

Negotiations Notes

by Iris Carroll, YFA Secretary

Just what has your YFA negotiations team been doing this academic year? First of all, we've been receiving training in both traditional and interest-based bargaining to develop a style that best meets our needs in representing you.

In addition we...

- Bargained to maintain fully-paid (80%) PPO and Kaiser benefit options with two buy-ups.
- Created a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the District and our Counseling faculty for Appendix B.
- Introduced a new Due Process article that establishes faculty rights to a fair and timely process.
- Introduced a new Discipline article that establishes rules for progressive discipline, including communication regarding the alleged act.
- Proposed a Banking Leave article to try to extend banked time from one to two semesters.
- Clarified contract language in Article 10 to have the contract match the practice of cashing our banked leave at the overload hourly rate in effect at the time the hours were banked.
- Introduced a new Part-Time Article that focusses on establishing a department-driven staffing preference process.

We still have an ambitious plan for the spring semester, during which we need to finish negotiating all new articles and begin discussions on maximum class size and Appendix B. This year has been a real growth experience, and I couldn't ask to work with a more dedicated and competent team of negotiators who always have the best interests of our collective faculty in mind.



Iris Carroll

By the Numbers: Spring Enrollments

- 772 FTES at Columbia & 6,061 FTES at MJC as of Feb. 10 for spring classes (not including positive attendance courses, counted at the end of the term)
- 18-minimum # students for regular class to "go" (usually 20 at MJC)
- 15-minimum # for 2nd semester majors course or course with a prereq to "go"



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CONTRACT CORNER:

Leaves of Absence

by Sarah Curl, YFA MJC Vice President and Grievance Officer

Article 11: Leaves of Absence

Everybody knows about sick leave (Article 11.2), sabbatical leave (Article 9) and banked leave (Article 10). But not everyone is aware that YCCD and YFA support faculty through several other types of leave.

11.4 Personal Necessity Leave

Full-time faculty can use up to six days per year of sick leave for reasons of personal necessity. Part-time faculty can also use personal necessity leave at the rate of 1 hour of leave for each 30 hours of paid service.

11.5 Bereavement Leave

Full-time faculty can take a temporary leave of absence, without loss of salary, for up to three consecutive days. If travel of more than 250 miles is required five consecutive days are allowed. Part-time faculty can take one hour for each 60 hours of paid service; or one hour for each 36 hours if travel is required.

11.6 Judicial and Official Appearance Leave

A leave of absence without loss of salary will be given for jury duty or for court appearances required by the District.

11.7 – 11.15 These articles describe Family Medical Leave, Child Rearing Leave, Military Leave, Personal Leave, Community Service Leave, Legislative Leave, Professional Improvement Leave and Retraining Leave.

Article 11 reads like a catalog of major life events. It's comforting to know that the contract is here to support you through whatever lies ahead.



Sarah Curl

Faculty Representative Spotlight

Jill Ramsey teaches classes required in the last semester of the Associate Degree in Nursing program at Modesto Junior College where she has taught since 1999. She is the YFA Representative for Allied Health.



Jill Ramsey

Tell us about your family and where you live. I live in Hickman on five acres overlooking the Tuolumne River and a commercial nursery; it's heaven! We grow walnuts and rescue every cat that comes to our care. We also have a rescued yellow lab and a cockapoo. My husband farms, and we have two children, 18-year-old Christa and 16-year-old Andrew, both of whom were born in Vietnam and gave us the gift of parenthood. I couldn't do what I do without my husband's devotion to cooking and our children.

Where are you from originally? I was born in Woodland, near Davis, as my dad was in vet school and Davis only had a clinic at the time. I grew up with my two older brothers in Modesto and was known only as the Ramsey's sister. My first job was at "Books at Gayle's" on McHenry; I'd ride my bike from Davis High after school to work at an apprentice wage of \$1.10/hr. At 17 I left to live in Brazil for a year as an AFS student and haven't stopped traveling since. I learned to fly at 19 and supported this effort by tutoring students in anatomy and chemistry at MJC.

What's the best part of teaching your subject? The best part of teaching advanced medical-surgical nursing, in particular diseases related to the musculoskeletal and renal systems and burn patients, is telling my students my own patient-related stories that have touched me. This helps them to

grasp the content and learn and to feel the art of nursing along with the science. I also work part time as an Intensive Care Unit nurse so I'm able to provide great, real life "been there and seen that" examples. When I demonstrate or explain a skill and they say, "Oh, I get it!" and the lights go on... nothing like this feeling too.

What originally sparked your interest in your field?

What sparked my interest is my underlying passion for really sick patients. There is nothing like working with a patient with little hope of survival, and watching as the miracles of nursing care and medicine help turn them around. To be a part of such a story is indescribable, and a true blessing. The same thing happens with students who are struggling because of personal circumstances; to be a part of helping them overcome challenges and graduate as successful caregivers is a gift beyond measure.

What do you do for fun? For fun, I love to read. Travel is another passion; I've lived overseas and have been around the world a couple times but there are more countries on my bucket list. I'm committed to volunteering as a camp nurse in the summer months; curing homesickness with Tums is my specialty.

What are you currently reading? "The Invention of Wings" a great novel of historical fiction.