



Faculty Council

NEWS + UPDATES

September 2023 Newsletter



Did you know?

- Compensation rates for lab and lecture sections are now EQUAL across the district for all disciplines!
- Sub pay is available for ALL faculty that substitute for a colleague. Substitute pay is calculated based on the substitute hourly pay rate times the number of actual contact hours subbed.
- All faculty are eligible for the general pay raise UNLESS one of following **conditions exists**:
 - The faculty member has less than 3 months of service as of August 31
 - The faculty member has received a Level 2 warning during the past academic year
 - The faculty member received an overall "Needs Improvement" on the previous year's annual appraisal.

More information on compensation for the 2023/2024 AY can be accessed [here](#).

Faculty Accolades

**Congratulations to the
2023 Outstanding Professor,
Kimberly Gentry, MSN, RN!**

*Professor Gentry is a Professor of
Medical Assisting Advanced Practice
at the Wylie Campus.*

**Congratulations also to the
2023 Outstanding Professor Finalists:**

- Professor Irene Bowen, Professor of Biology, Frisco Campus
- Professor Cathy Donald-Whitney, Professor of Biology, McKinney Campus
- Professor James Michael Latham, Professor of Economics, Plano Campus
- Professor Judi Wohead, Professor of Speech Communications, McKinney Campus

In Other News...

Collin College purchased a 2-year Institutional License with Perusall effective September 1. **Perusall** is a platform that allows students and faculty to annotate and interact with web-based text. This platform facilitates the student-student interaction, instructor-student interaction, and instructor provided content delivery in online, blended, and face-to-face courses.



2023-2024 Faculty Council Executive Committee

Kimberly Harris, President

I hope the semester has started off well for everyone. I teach (and have taught) a variety of music courses over the 25 years that I have been at Collin College. I began as an adjunct in 1998 and became a full-time faculty in 2004. Having taught on most campuses, I am now on the Wylie Campus. I have served on a variety of committees including CoE, OAB, COAT, and Faculty Council. My scholarly interests focus on the impact of war on music and musicians, including music and the Holocaust as well as protest music. I love the fall because football is back! I also enjoy spending time with family, traveling, and going to the movies. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as FC President. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me.

Rebecca Orr, Vice President

Welcome to a new academic year here at Collin! I began teaching biology at Collin as an adjunct in 2002/03 and again in 2006/07, and became a full-time faculty in 2007. I taught at the Plano Campus until 2021 when I transferred to the iCollin Virtual Campus. I became a certified Team-Based Learning Collaborative Trainer Consultant in 2016. I have previously served as a FC Rep for Plano and for iCollin, and served as FC Treasurer last year. In my free time, I enjoy creating perennial gardens and traveling with family. I am looking forward to serving you as FC Vice-President!

Matthew Hamilton, Secretary

I was born and raised in the metroplex in Southlake, Texas. I hold a BA in American history from Texas Tech University and a Ph.D. in American history from the University of North Texas. I am currently beginning my fourth year at Collin College, where I teach American history on the McKinney Campus. Before being employed with Collin College, I was a full-time history professor at Grayson College in Sherman, Texas. My area of historical expertise is the American Civil War and Reconstruction, Nineteenth-Century America, and the Antebellum U.S. South. I currently live in rural Grayson County with my wife and daughter.

Joshua Arduengo, Treasurer

I teach Psychology on the Plano campus and have done so for the last 13 years. I started here as an adjunct in 2010 and became full-time faculty in 2012. My primary scholarly interests include the use of both drug and non-drug interventions to improve mental health. I am also an honorary member of the history department, at least in Plano, and I enjoy learning about our past regardless of the discipline. I prefer to focus my own learning on the intersections between disciplines when I can. In my free time, I enjoy playing music on guitar and piano, and singing along with the greats. I am grateful to represent my colleagues and I thank everyone for their trust in me. Everyone and anyone is welcome to reach out to me if they have a question.

Book-in-Common News!

Each year the committee chooses a book that is interdisciplinary for the college and community to read. Did you know any faculty member can use the book in the classroom? The committee organizes a Teaching Guide every year with many faculty contributions to assist instructors. The committee also hosts many student and community events, like panels, workshops, and guest speakers throughout the year. Did you know the author visits every year to talk with students and the community? Then, the author signs books. Many students are truly inspired after meeting an author and getting their book signed; it's a rare opportunity.

This year, Morgan Talty, author of *Night of the Living Rez*, joins our list. He is a Native American of the Penobscot Nation. His stories include interesting characters who are navigating modern-day reservation life.

If you'd like to know more about the Book-in-Common, please reach out to District Coordinator, Professor Ryan Fletcher, or District Co-Coordinator, Professor David Boozer. Desk copies are limited.

Do you have news or photos to share with your colleagues or questions you would like answered?

Please email rorr@collin.edu so that we can include more faculty accolades or answer your questions in this monthly newsletter!

Save the Date!

Faculty Convocation with Dr. Matkin

**Friday, September 22nd from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
McKinney Conference Center**

Hot topics

- *The continued, unexpected, and tremendous growth of dual credit as well as our ongoing efforts to streamline our multiyear contract processes.*
- *Revisit the full-time faculty role in adjunct faculty qualifications and onboarding as well as share some thoughts on district-wide scheduling efforts.*
- *Alert you to steps we are taking to prepare for the upcoming SACSCOC reaccreditation visits in 2024.*

Light refreshments will be available.