



**Faculty Council**

# NEWS + UPDATES

**October 2023 Newsletter**

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# Note from the FC President...

Can you believe we are already past midterm? I hope that everyone's semester is going well and that you found the inaugural FC Newsletter helpful. Remember that we love hearing about your accomplishments, so send them our way.

I wanted to let you know that I shared misinformation at our August meeting. The complaint link that we demonstrated during the meeting was actually a student link, not an employee link.

As with previous Faculty Council Presidents, anyone who wishes, may email me at my personal email address. Vice-President Rebecca Orr has provided hers too. The sub-committees and task forces are all hard at work. Many will be giving updates at our next meeting so tune in and find out what we are accomplishing. It is an honor to work with all of you and to have the opportunity to serve as your FC President. Here are our personal email addresses: Kimberly Harris, [kimberlyh.ph.d@gmail.com](mailto:kimberlyh.ph.d@gmail.com) and Rebecca Orr, [dr\\_orr@att.net](mailto:dr_orr@att.net).

# Faculty Accolades...

- Congratulations to Dr. LaToya Watkins, iCollin English Professor! Her new book, "Holler, Child," is up for the [National Book Award For Fiction!](#)
- Congratulations to Dr. Leslie Richardson, Plano English Teacher! Her poem, "The Leftovers," was published as the "[Poem of the Day](#)" in The Paris Review on Aug. 14.
- Dr. Rachel Gunter, Professor of History in Plano, has been awarded the 2023 Higher Education Teacher Award by the East Texas Historical Association (ETHA).
- Congratulations to Professors Jenny Warren and Dr. Kerry Loinette (Plano, Speech) for their work representing Collin College at the Eastern Communication Association. Professor Warren is the G.I.F.T.S. (Great Ideas for Teaching Students) Program Planner and Professor Loinette is the current Community College Interest Group Chairperson.



# Did you know?

**Online Courses for Campus (non-iCollin) Faculty:** Campus faculty may teach a portion of their load online if campus needs for staffing face-to-face and dual credit classes are met. Our [compensation procedures](#) permit campus faculty to teach up to 60% of their regular load online if 1) online sections are available and 2) they are not needed to teach face-to-face or dual credit courses (see p. 15). The District acknowledges that many campus faculty have extensive experience developing and teaching online courses in their discipline, and it has been clarified that:

- Although five sections of face-to-face courses are not required by the compensation procedures before an online course can be assigned to FT campus, regular load for faculty may, from time to time, have only face-to-face sections if campus needs require it.
- Faculty and staff are requested to collaborate and engage as a team in this process.
- Online courses are not restricted to “overloads” only.

The priority for assigning classes has been updated for both long semesters and the summer! Changes include prioritizing allowing FT faculty to teach up to 12 hours for faculty in the summer and clarifying how fall and spring semester assignments are made. Log in to CougarWeb and click on [Guidelines for Teaching Assignments](#) to find out more about how Full-time faculty class assignments are prioritized. It is under My WorkPlace, and at the middle of the page near the bottom under “Inside Collin” and titled “Guidelines and Priority Order for Teaching Assignment.

We encourage you to be familiar with these compensation guidelines, updated 09/15/2023, and verify that your faculty load is calculated correctly.

## Faculty Accolades, cont.

- Professor Robert Arnoff, Professor of Speech, was recently featured in an article called [\*\*\*The Art of Connection\*\*\*](#) in the Frisco STYLE Magazine. He also arranged for Coach Johnny Dawkins to come to the Frisco Campus to talk about Leadership and Success on Oct 4 at the Frisco Campus.

## Save the Date

The next Faculty Council meeting will be held on Friday, October 27, 2023 in CHEC 107. Lunch will be served at 12:30pm and the meeting will begin at 1:00pm. Topics of discussion will include academic freedom, the status of dual-credit, shared governance, board policies that affect faculty, and more.



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

*Please email [rorr@collin.edu](mailto:rorr@collin.edu) so that we can include more faculty accolades or answer your questions in this monthly newsletter!*

## In other news...

- The [\*\*\*2024 Team-Based Learning Collaborative Annual Meeting\*\*\*](#) will be held here at Collin College, March 2-5, 2024! This is a wonderful opportunity to get your TBL certification, or just learn more about incorporating more active learning into your classroom.
- Virtual Reality Public Speaking practice is now available for Collin students and faculty! Visit the Plano or Frisco library to check out an Oculus headset and a study room and practice your next presentation with VirtualSpeech! The program virtually places you in front of an audience and scores you on your public speaking attempt. This is a great way to gain confidence and public speaking skills in a cool, virtual environment. Email Whitani Pisani at [wpisani@collin.edu](mailto:wpisani@collin.edu) for details or stop by the Plano or Frisco library to try it out and encourage your students as well!
- The [\*\*\*Collin College Annual All Services Military Appreciation Ball\*\*\*](#) will be here before you know it. This event is open to all staff, faculty, and students. Encourage your students to attend!
- Check out our updated [\*\*\*Faculty Council Website\*\*\*](#) (must be logged in to CougarWeb) for our meeting schedule, list of FC Reps, Committees and Taskforce minutes, copies of previous newsletters, and more!