



## Faculty Council

# NEWS + UPDATES

**February 2024 Newsletter**

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## Note from the FC President...

The Faculty Council has been hard at work to provide faculty input on a variety of procedures. On Friday, Feb 16, FC voted to provide input on a standard operating procedure for faculty absences, update recommendations for faculty overload assignments, and voted to recommend to allow a temporary grade of "0" to be assigned for assignments that have been referred to the DOS for academic dishonesty. For full details, please contact your FC rep or review the FC website for the minutes when approved and posted in early April.

Faculty Council representation was also reviewed and approved to expand to 29 FT reps (representation based on the number of Full-Time faculty in each of the Academic and Workforce divisions) and 6 Adjunct Faculty reps (1 each from Plano, McKinney, and Frisco; 1 at large, 2 Workforce) for 2024/25.

Please consider donating to the FT or Adjunct Faculty scholarship fund! Last year, the Full-Time Faculty scholarship fund awarded four full scholarships of \$1,500 plus three book scholarships of \$500 for a total of \$8,000 awarded! The Adjunct Faculty scholarship fund awarded one full scholarship of \$1,500. The current balance of the FT scholarship fund is \$7,724.34 and the current balance of the adjunct scholarship fund is \$1,318.83. As you can see, we need YOUR help to be able to award scholarships this spring to our students! Please use the QR codes at the end of this newsletter to donate today. Any donation amount is appreciated - everything helps!

If you have an idea you would like explored or a problem you need help solving, we would like to help! Please don't hesitate to contact me at [fc@collin.edu](mailto:fc@collin.edu) or at my personal email address ([Rebecca Orr](mailto:Rebecca.Orr@collin.edu)). I look forward to a great semester and to hearing from and seeing you!

Best,

Rebecca

# Did you know?

- Each spring there are limited campus transfer opportunities. This spring, the following opportunities have been announced. Please consider the opportunities below and inform your Associate Dean/Director and the receiving Associate Dean/Director of your interest in transferring by 5:00 pm, February 26, clearly indicating your discipline and the primary transfer campus preference.

DISCIPLINE	PRIMARY OR PREDOMINANT LOAD LOCATION	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
ARTS	Wylie Campus	1
BIOL (General BIO and A&P)	Celina, Wylie (One for each campus)	2
COSC	Allen Technical Campus	1
ENGL	Wylie - Farmersville - Rockwall	3
ENGL	Plano ISD/Lovejoy ISD	2
ENGL	Prosper ISD - Celina ISD	2
ENGL	Frisco ISD	2
GEOL	iCollin	1
INRW	Wylie	1
MATH	Plano ISD	1
MATH	Prosper ISD	1
MATH	Frisco ISD - Lewisville ISD	1
MATH	Allen Technical Campus	1
PHYS	iCollin	1
PSYC	iCollin	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>

If you are interested in transferring to a new campus and wonder if you are eligible or what the process looks like, please review these [Full-Time Faculty Transfer Procedures](#).

- Adjunct faculty are eligible for some sick leave. Adjunct Sick Leave Benefit details ([found on page 30-31 in the Faculty Compensation Guidelines](#)) include:
  - Adjunct faculty are eligible to use sick leave to cover up to the equivalent of one week of classes per semester. The amount of sick leave an adjunct is allotted each semester is determined by how many contact hours they have that semester. This amount will be on the Faculty Load report under the column LE/LB/Both hours total.
  - Available sick leave will be used for absences reported by the Associate Dean's office. The Associate Dean/Director will work with the Adjunct faculty to complete a Leave Request Form indicating the reason for missing class time. If the reason checked is sick leave, Human Resources (HR) will deduct the appropriate amount of sick leave from the allocated hours.
  - Once the Adjunct has used all sick leave, leave without pay will be initiated for further absences.
  - Sick leave does not accumulate from one semester to the next semester. The college does not pay out unused sick leave at the end of a semester.

# In Other News...

- Questions about the Title IX process? See the process flowchart on page 44 of the [Title IX process document](#).
- Questions about summer load? 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 prior to making other instructional assignments. 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."
- Reminder: 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).
- COE Professional Development/Travel funds are low...submit your Spend Authorization in Workday for travel this academic year soon. Details on what is required to request funds is on the COE website in the Faculty tab of CougarWeb.
- Need Student Support? Enjoy a show or concert and serve as an usher for Theater and Music productions at the Plano Campus. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A48A8AB23A0F49-47487088-agentlemans>
- Hybrid Course Class Visit Committee Opportunity...There are inherent differences in the way faculty conduct a hybrid course as compared to a traditional lecture course, but administrators and directors use the same course observation form for both modalities. As a result, faculty have been asked to provide input in the creation of a separate and distinct course observation form for hybrid courses taught throughout the district. The Faculty Council has created an ad hoc task force to facilitate this request. If you are interested in serving on this task force, especially if you have a lot of experience teaching hybrid courses, please contact [Matt Hamilton](#).
- Check out our updated [Faculty Council Website](#) (must be logged in to CougarWeb) for our meeting schedule, list of FC Reps, Committees and Task Force minutes, copies of previous newsletters, and more!

## Updates for All Faculty...

- **An Update from Craig Leverette regarding Dual Credit/Districtwide Scheduling:**

Launching the new P12 Partnerships and Districtwide Scheduling Department has brought all components of dual credit under one umbrella. Additionally, we have begun assembling the staff and resources for the district wide scheduling component.

We are maintaining four primary goals throughout our Development: communication, efficiency, consistency, and a reduction in issues. With the growth of the college and our partnerships, we see this department as a vital piece in the overall experience for our students, staff, and faculty. With the onset of HB 8, the timing could not be better.

Collaboration with all stakeholders will be imperative as we progress to create buy-in and foster transparency. We value faculty input and will continue to meet with faculty and include faculty in all relevant committees and discussions. We cannot fail at this and need everyone's assistance to succeed.

- **An Update from Garry Evans about the Faculty Handbook:**

The Faculty Handbook Committee meets multiple times throughout an academic year, and its membership includes faculty recommended by the Faculty Council. While the committee does not make or change policies or procedures, there are updates to the handbook to reflect current, accurate, and clear information. The Faculty Handbook can be accessed inside CougarWeb on the Faculty tab under the Faculty Links section.

Recent changes to the Faculty Handbook included:

- Corrected broken links resulting from our move to a new website
- Updated personnel listings (e.g., Human Resources, P-12 Partnerships, administration, etc.)
- Reorganized and/or updated old content (e.g., Auxiliary/Support Programs and Services)
- Expanded or clarified content (e.g., added information from the Council on Excellence about faculty evaluation and the multi-year contract process)
- Grammatical or minor edits for clarity

## Faculty Accolades...

- Professor Jim Sigona (*Kinesiology, Plano Campus*) recently earned his 700th career head coaching win on the road on Jan. 10 against Ranger College. He has coached at Collin since the men's basketball program's inception.
- Congratulations to **Professor Kim Jordan-Washington** (*Nursing, McKinney Campus*) who completed her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Chamberlain University, with a concentration in Educational Leadership.

## Upcoming Events...

- **Go Red for Heart Health** at the Courtyard Center (first floor) on February 23 from 9-noon
- **Celebrate our redesigned Plano Makerspace with an Open House**, complete with food and prizes on February 29th, 11am-1pm, <https://collin.campuslabs.com/engage/event/9851893>
- **Lone Star Legacy: A Texas Independence Celebration** with keynote speaker Paul Sturdevant, March 6, 12-1 p.m., Farmersville Campus Library
- **Auteur Film Series: "Little Women,"** March 6 at 7 pm, Frisco Campus Conference Center
- **Theatre and Music production: "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder,"** March 6-9 at 7:30 pm, John Anthony Theatre ([www.collin.edu/finearts/#Events](http://www.collin.edu/finearts/#Events))
- **Auteur Film Series presents Little Women**, Frisco Campus Conference Center, March 6, 2024, 7:00 PM
- **Book-in-Common, Telling Your Story: Workshop and Reading**, March 7, 2024 at 1:00-7:00 pm, Plano Conference Center
- **Theatre and Music production: "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder,"** March 9-10 at 2:30 pm, John Anthony Theatre ([www.collin.edu/finearts/#Events](http://www.collin.edu/finearts/#Events))
- **Health and Safety Fair**, held at the McKinney Campus on March 22, 9 am to 2 pm
- **Science Under the Stars, March 22, 7:00-9:00** at the Plano Campus (event grounds- parking lot on the west side of the library)
- **Jazz Festival: Opening concert**, March 22 at 7 pm, John Anthony Theatre, ([www.collin.edu/finearts/#Events](http://www.collin.edu/finearts/#Events))
- **Movie Night on the Lawn**, March 23, 7-10 p.m., Farmersville Campus Courtyard

**The next Faculty Council meeting will be held on Friday, April 5, 2024 in CHEC 107 and by Zoom. Lunch will be served at 12:30pm and the meeting will begin at 1:00pm. Other topics of discussion will include academic freedom, 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!

**Please donate to the FT faculty scholarship fund using the QR code below!**



**Please donate to the Adjunct faculty scholarship fund using the QR code below!**

