

SJCEA San Juan College

Educational Association Update

July 2020

SJCEA has been working hard for its stakeholders and is here to serve you. Union officers and the collective bargaining team are putting in 10-20 hours a week advocating for union members and meeting with administrators. Since our June newsletter, SJCEA has met with administration three times, met with various faculty members who are affected by these issues, and is actively advocating for some union members to address punitive administrative actions.



Photo Credit: Gerald Williams

Collective Bargaining Team Meets with Administration

The collective bargaining team and representatives from administration have met three times to discuss issues outside of regular contract bargaining. These are issues that impact our working conditions, but are not directly related to contracts (impact bargaining). We have discussed refilling the full-time positions left by retiring faculty in Communications and Economics. Administration and SJCEA agree that these positions will be retained but will be filled with adjuncts during the pandemic crisis. We have an MOU in place with the intent to protect these positions for full-time faculty. We have also discussed plans for a new Welding building, and SJCEA has expressed strong support for faculty involvement in the planning and execution of this building. The building is 75% funded by the State and 25% funded by local bond elections, and we think the funding for this won't be available for some time. SJCEA expressed our concern about allocation of funds and making sure we prioritize people over buildings.

Lastly, SJCEA and administration have discussed the proposed reorganization of

the School of Business/Information Technology and Humanities. We have given our reasoning for how this change would affect working conditions of faculty in these schools. We have also presented actions that the administration could take that would be supported by SJCEA and address the problems raised by administration. SJCEA urges administration to discuss reorganization with the affected parties and reach consensus. We only support moving departments who are willing to relocate to another school. A decision and/or agreement has not been reached between SJCEA and administration yet.

The group has also discussed ground rules for contract negotiations, especially in these times of Zoom. The impact bargaining sessions have produced results. These sessions have also shown that the collective bargaining team is working well together and more than ready to begin contract negotiations.

NM-NEA Rep Supports CB Team



Ewa Krakowska is the NM-NEA representative who supports SJCEA union members and collective bargaining efforts. Ewa has worked with numerous NEA chapters in the area to form collective bargaining agreements. She attends SJCEA meetings and provides feedback and guidance as SJCEA navigates the process of negotiating a contract. This support is provided as a result of your union dues.

SJCEA Collective Bargaining Contract Negotiations Dates

The collective bargaining team will begin negotiations on forming a collective bargaining agreement August 7 and meet again with administration on August 28. held August 28.

Announcements

NEA-NM Resources

The [NEA New Mexico website](#) is full of resources for school opening protocols, COVID-safe practices, and member benefits. Life insurance and long-term health insurance area also available are reasonable costs for NEA members. Check it out!

Renewal Time/Rebate for New Members

Want to Join NEA?

Benefits include union protection, affordable life insurance, legal protection, access to attorneys, and many others. If you pay for your SJCEA membership in one annual check, it is time to renew membership. If you pay by credit card or have fees deducted monthly, you are automatically renewed.

There is a \$50 rebate available now for new members who join by September 15. The application form is attached to the email with this newsletter. Union membership is confidential and not shared with anyone but SJCEA officers unless you choose to share this information..

Contact Gerald Williams, president, for more information:
williams@sanjuancollege.edu

Lewis Gets Answers from Pandemic Team

In responses to concerns about COVID-safety protocols, SJCEA advocated to SJC administration to have a faculty representative on the Pandemic Assessment and Coordination Team (PACT). SJC administration did not allow a faculty member on the team, but agreed to have a few faculty members meet with representatives of PACT periodically and offer feedback and ask questions. Kathy Elliott from School of Business, Dawn Myers from School of Humanities, and Jennifer Lewis, from School of Math and Science and also a member of the collective bargaining team have met with members of PACT. SJCEA continues to advocate for the appointment of a faculty member on PACT or to at least allow a faculty member attend meetings regularly.



Jennifer brought several questions to a recent meeting with PACT members. She has many remaining questions and is working on continuing to get clarification and more answers, which she will share with us in an upcoming newsletter. If you have questions you'd like Jennifer to bring PACT members, please contact her: lewisj@sanjuancollege.edu.

SJCEA Fills Vacant Bargaining Team Position



Lori Cheney, MSN, RN will be filling the recently vacated position of Health Sciences representative for CB. Lori is an assistant professor within the ADN/BSN nursing program. She is level four faculty and recently accepted the position of clinical coordinator within the nursing program. She has been with SJC for 6 years.

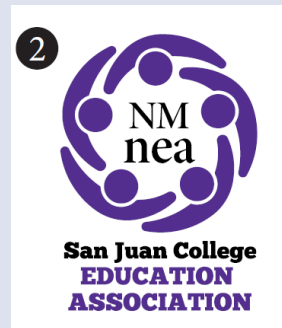
A life-long resident of Farmington, Lori graduated from the ADN program at SJC in 1993. She finished her BSN in 2012 and her MSN in nursing education in 2015 from ENMU. During her 27-year nursing career she has been involved in acute care, clinic/office, and perioperative nursing.

During her time at SJC, Lori has been involved in Faculty Association. Over the last 2 years she has been the recording secretary. In addition, she joined the Assessment Team last fall and is a member of several committees within the nursing department. Lori has been married for 37 Years to Phil Cheney. They have 2 sons, a grand boy-Ben and grand girl-Nora. Lori has a passion for organic, sustainable gardening, spending time in the mountains, listening to any kind of music and reading.

Of her new position on the CB team, she hopes to bring forth concerns for the health-sciences departments. Overall, she wants to see a move toward faculty and employee ownership within the college. Lori hopes that this can be accomplished through fair, equitable practices fostered through active listening and understanding. Her email is cheneyl@sanjuancollege.edu.

SJCEA Looking for a Logo

The SJCEA team is contemplating several potential logos, and we're looking for feedback. Below are some of the mock-ups. Let us know what you like and what you'd like to see changed for these options. We will then modify the logos and present them in our August newsletter for SJCEA members to vote on.



Send your feedback to Sherri Cummins at cummins@sanjuancollege.edu by August 15 so we have time to modify the logos and get them ready for our next newsletter.

Your SJCEA Officers

President: Gerald Williams

Vice President: Alicia O'Brien

Treasurer: Gordon DeSpain

Secretary: Danielle Sullivan

At-large Members: Kris Kraly, Rachael Dworsky

Your CB Team

Eric Bateman, Jared Blood, Lori Cheney, Andrea Cooper, Sherri Cummins, Gordon DeSpain, Carrie Elledge, John Hoff, Mark Johnson, Jennifer Lewis, Kelly Robison, Gerald Williams