



May 1, 2017

President's Waypoint: A "Really Big" Retirement Party!

While we don't usually have College-wide retirement parties, last Friday, we did. It was a "Really Big" Retirement Party, honoring 71 retirees. I just couldn't see having that many people leave the College without a big sendoff. They represented the spectrum of employees from administrators to classified staff and faculty. Each retiree in his or her own way has contributed to the College in making it a great place and number one out of 1,100 colleges in the nation! For that, we are certainly grateful.

As a cohort, this group of retirees has seen and made many changes at the College. For the faculty, they have taught literally tens of thousands of students over their time here. I'm happy for those of you who are retiring, but it's also bitter/sweet for us. The collective loss of institutional memory and history is tremendous, and SBCC will sincerely miss you in profound ways.

We added the collective years of service that the retirees represent. Collectively, the 10 administrators retiring represent 213 years of service. That represents significant leadership experience leaving the College. The collective 23 faculty members retiring represent an additional 587 years of service leaving the institution. That represents a huge community of scholars leaving the College. Finally, the 38 classified staff retiring total a whopping 850 years of service to this College! That represents an extraordinary front line and foundation that will be leaving the College. Altogether, the total years of service for all 71 retirees represents 1,650 years of service to SBCC!

There were lots of great things said at the party about each of the retirees. I know the Campus Center is very loud, but Dean Kenley Neufeld recently sent the comments out via an "all-campus" email. I hope you get a chance to read the comments. It was fun to celebrate Donna Cobb's 52 years of service, which I think is a state record! I know "Elvis Presley," who was in the house and singing up a storm, was very impressed with Donna's dancing!

Thank you, again, to all you retirees, and we wish you all the best as you enter this wonderful next phase of life. Please stay connected! Thank you for your service!!

Together forward,