

COD Faculty Association Newsletter

September 2015



College of the Desert
Faculty Association



*Dedicated educators of
College of the Desert*

CODFA Board & Team
President: Denise Diamond
VP/Sec: Jose Simo
Treasurer: Karen Tabor
At Large: Heather Benes and Wendy Ansley
Bargaining Team: Geoff Hagopian,
Fred Sangiorgio, Dustin Culhan

Welcome New Faculty



Matt Neves—
Theatre. I am
excited and
daunted by taking
over such a public
and well-known
program as

Theatre at College of the Desert. I'm excited to add my own personal touch to the tradition of high quality teaching and production.



Brian Fotinakes—
English. Brian was
raised in San Luis
Obispo by a family of
educators, and he
always knew he
would be a teacher.

He spent the last six years in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where he earned his doctorate in English Composition and TESOL while also teaching full-time at a community college. Aside from his academic pursuits, Brian enjoys baseball, boxing, running, hiking, reading, and watching way too much television.



Veronica Daut-
DSPS & SSSP
Counselor



Corbyn Voyu—
English. Corbyn
has loved her time
living in the desert.
Some of her
favorite pastimes
include exploring
new restaurants, reading, Netflix,
and learning about dinosaurs.



Jake Kevari —
Economics "It's
great to be part
of the COD
family."



Eliu
Benavides
and
Oceana
Collins-
History



Ramiro Galicia--
HVAC

During Ramiro's 20-year career span he has worked with manufacturers, consulting firms, emergency energy response firms, engineering and commissioning firms. Mr. Galicia is a former Mesa Student and is currently in the MBA program for a second Master's Degree.



Matt Neves, Eliu Benavides, Ahmed Elshafie, Robert Guinn, Brian Fotinakes, Ramiro Galicia, Jake Kevari, Maria Elena Diaz, Oceana Collins, Christine Melton, Coybin Voyu, Lisa Kinsey-

Negotiation Updates:

Initial PROPOSAL was discussed on September 24th.

ARTICLE 8 COMPENSATION

Given the current status of the State budget and the favorable economic projections, the Association expects to make proposals re on-schedule compensation that will allow the District to attract and retain the highest quality unit members.

ARTICLE 10 HEALTH AND WELFARE BENEFITS

Health and welfare benefits continue to be a nationwide concern. The recent trend is for costs to escalate at a rate higher than the general cost of living each year. The Association has continuously sought ways to control the escalating costs of medical insurance. College of the Desert is uniquely structured to provide comprehensive health and welfare benefits to all its employees through the use super-composite plans. As costs have continued to escalate, the Association will propose appropriate levels of cost sharing.

ARTICLE 12 HOURS OF SERVICE

The Association will seek to clarify definitions, language, and duties within this article.

ARTICLE 13 RELEASED/REASSIGNED TIME AND STIPENDS

Association will seek to bring currency and relevance to this article and Appendix J. The Association will make proposals clarifying the processes of reassigned time and stipends.

Pizza Welcome for New Faculty By Association Board



A few Reminders~

Faculty who need to update their address information Must do so on the College of the Desert Portal.

For online contract, By-laws, and links to Sacramento, go to:
www.codfa.net

* All faculty Union Meetings are every third Tuesday of the month.
* Our next meeting is October 20th, Upstairs Cravens Center, Room 237, from 12:00 pm to 1:30pm. All are welcomed to attend. A light lunch is served.

CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

CTA Member Benefits nea Member Benefit

Visit www.CTAMemberBenefits.org

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Special enrollment opportunity for newly hired CTA members through The Standard - Go to CTAMemberBenefits.org/TheStandard for more details

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CTA Group Legal Services Program (GLSP) and Educators Employment Liability (EEL) Insurance included with membership

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