



<https://www.palomar.edu/pacra/>

Hi Everyone—your PACRA Board hopes you are enjoying the beginning of Fall (I am happy to see that Summer finally gave up!)

This email is being sent as a Bcc to active PACRA members for whom we have email addresses; feel free to forward to others!

PACRA BOARD RESIGNATIONS

At its August 18, 2022, Board meeting it was MSC to regretfully accept the resignations of Co-Presidents June Rady and Bob Larson. In summary, June will be more actively involved on a regional/state level to advocate for Social Security and improved/protected Medicare health benefits as well as in the upcoming November 8 midterm elections. Bob and Ruth wish to devote the time necessary to take care of one another without external responsibilities, stresses, and distractions.

The Board members value the input that both Bob and June demonstrated with their many years of experience on the PACRA Board and the wisdom with which they lead. Although we will miss them on the Board, we know as PACRA members, they will gladly guide us along when we need it!! Bob will continue as website manager—which the Board GREATLY appreciates!

The Board also accepted the requests of members Judy Cater and Jim Cooper to become active participants on the PACRA Board—we will look forward to working with new ideas and perspectives from them. Here is the current makeup of the July 2022–June 2023 Board:

Becky McCluskey has moved from Vice-President to President

Judy Dolan remains Secretary

Tom Humphrey remains Treasurer

Jayne Conway and Cynthia Poole remain as Members-At-Large

Judy Cater and Jim Cooper

If anyone else is interested on serving on the PACRA Board, please email Becky and let her know: beckymc@cox.net

MEMBER GEORGE BOGGS DISCUSSION AND BOOK SIGNING

The CCLEAD Alumni Group is pleased to invite you to a special discussion and book signing with George Boggs, Leslie Salas, Carlos Turner-Cortez, and Larry Galizio, the authors of ***A College for All Californians: A History of the California Community Colleges***. This dynamic discussion will be a hybrid event that will also be available via Zoom!

Wednesday, October 12, 2022 | 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM | SD Mesa College Room MC 211 A/B

Attached is the flyer with more detailed registration information.

RECENT RESIGNATIONS FROM THE COLLEGE

From: Rivera-Lacey, Star <sriveralacey@palomar.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2022 8:33 PM

Subject: Executive Leadership Updates

Bcc: All Employees

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to inform you that I have accepted the resignation of Dr. Vikash Lakhani, Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Student Services and Mr. David Montoya, Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Human Resource Services. Official Governing Board ratification of the resignation agreements is expected to take place Tuesday, September 20, 2022.

I have met with the Executive Team, all direct reports, and key campus leaders to inform them of this change. My highest priority is to assure normal operations. To this end, Dr. Leslie Salas-Dean of Student Success, Equity, and Counseling Services is the designated leader for the Student Services Division, and Christine Winterle-Director of Human Resources will lead the Human Resource Services Division through Wednesday, October 5, 2022.

It is expected that formal interim replacements will be named at the Tuesday, October 4 Board Meeting. Please rest assured that a longer-range plan will be shared with the campus community. We thank Dr. Lakhani and Mr. Montoya for their service and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

If you have any concerns, or questions, please contact me directly.

Star Rivera Lacey, Ph.D. | Superintendent/President

Palomar Community College District

1140 West Mission Rd. | San Marcos, CA 92069

(760) 744-1150, Ext. 2106 | sriveralacey@palomar.edu

Your PACRA representatives to the Benefits Committee (Becky, Jayne, Judy) have worked with Christine and are happy to continue doing so until a new HR-VP is hired. We don't anticipate any concerns to our benefits for the following reason...

BENEFITS COMMITTEE REPORT: Jayne and Judy attended the Sept 3 BC meeting on Zoom (Becky was traveling); the Agenda 3. Information/Discussion items consisted of

- A. Review of medical and vision rate changes (for active and part-time employees)
- B. Provide the FCMAT recommendations of % of comp/ben and where we actually are effective October 1
- C. Set goals for the fiscal year (tabled)
- D. Review of updates to Faculty Benefits
- E. PACRA Board of Directors Update

Next meeting—February 1, 2023

Of note--PACRA is now listed as a specific Agenda item 3-E; we are VERY pleased as we now have official recognition to report concerns! We thanked HR for the recognition; and, our usual question was asked: is there any discussion anywhere

on campus affecting Retiree benefits—and, if so—where, so that we could be part of the discussion?(PACRA is concerned that we may not be in the loop because there are only three scheduled BC meetings for 2022-2023) Christine stated that there is no discussion about retiree benefits at this time.

Of course, we will remain diligent in seeking information and meeting with College administrators and GB members where appropriate!



WE REMEMBER MEGAN (DUNBAR) O'BRIEN..



From: Rivera-Lacey, Star <sriveralacey@palomar.edu>
Sent: Sunday, September 18, 2022 11:04:07 PM
To: Rivera-Lacey, Star <sriveralacey@palomar.edu>
Subject: Passing of Megan (Dunbar) O'Brien- Psychology Dept.
(Bcc: All Employees and All Emeritus Employees)

Dear Colleagues,

It is with profound sadness and a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Megan (Dunbar) O'Brien, one of our exceptional part-time instructors in psychology. Megan passed away on September 2, 2022 after a nearly 3-year battle with breast cancer. She was incredibly strong in her fight. Megan is survived by her husband, Matt O'Brien (a full-time psychology professor at Palomar College), and their 2 beautiful children.

Megan began teaching psychology at Palomar College in 2013. She was a proud alumna of Palomar College and loved that she could impact the lives of students where her own academic journey began. She also taught upper-division psychology courses in industrial organization and group dynamics at California State University, San Marcos. At both institutions, she developed a reputation as a passionate, dedicated, and caring instructor. She mentored her students and helped them develop the skills necessary to succeed not just in her class but in future courses and in life as well. It was evident that her students loved her, describing Megan as patient, friendly, easy to approach, and always willing to help," "an amazing teacher," "has a passion for what she's teaching," "so kind," "fun," and that they "love learning from her. They, and we, were incredibly lucky to have her as part of our Palomar family.

Beyond being an exemplary educator, Megan was a devoted wife, mother, sister, colleague, and friend. She was strong, resilient, a bright light, filled with grace, and a role model to her kids and to all on how to live, love, and face insurmountable challenges. She had an infectious smile and was always there for whomever needed her, even while undergoing treatment. She loved spending time with her children and they loved being with her—crafting, going to the zoo and Sea World, gardening, baking, the list goes on and on. She was also a compassionate and supportive wife to Matt, spending their days talking about their kids, discussing teaching, watching true crime shows, traveling, and trying new restaurants. She was a loyal friend and listener to anyone who needed it. She was a giver of her time, knowledge, and love. Her absence leaves a void in all who knew her.

Her colleagues shared the following:

Megan truly exuded kindness and compassion. She was the kind of person who is so special, that it is hard to put into words. She will leave an everlasting legacy in the lives of those who were lucky enough to know her." – Sarah Kirk

“It was obvious that Megan loved teaching. From even a brief observation of her course it was clear that Megan connected really well with students and demonstrated great passion not only for what was being taught but also who was being taught.” – Mike Dudley

“Megan was remarkable both in and outside of the classroom. She was a passionate instructor who brought out the best in students and a wonderful colleague to all of us. She was kind, giving, and the epitome of grace. We are all better for having known her and her loss will be felt by many.” – Netta Schroer

Kind Regards,

Star Rivera-Lacey, Ph.D. | Superintendent/President
Palomar Community College District
Twitter: @palomardrstar | Instagram: @palomardrstar

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

From: **Miller, Kelly A.** <kmillier4@palomar.edu>
Date: Mon, Sep 19, 2022, 10:11 AM
Subject: Governing Board - Meeting Materials (9/20/22)

All,

The agenda and supporting materials for the September 20, 2022, Special Governing Board meeting are posted in [BoardDocs](#). Thank you,

Kelly Miller, MBA | Senior Executive Assistant
Palomar College | President & Governing Board
1140 W Mission Road | San Marcos, CA 92069 | (760) 744-1150 x7509

Attachment: George Boggs Recognition (see next page)

Judy Dolan, Secretary (on behalf of the PACRA Board)
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