

Emeritus Applications

Mary Beth Cunha

Email: mbc7001@humboldt.edu

Lecturer, Department of Geography

Dear Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to nominate Mary Beth Cunha for Emeritus status at California Polytechnic University, Humboldt. I was a colleague of Mary Beth's in the Department of Geography at [then] Humboldt State University for the entirety of her twenty years of service to the university, and on two occasions (1999-2001, 2009-2011) I served as Chair of the Geography Department, making me her direct supervisor at that time. Mary Beth was instrumental in bringing HSU onto the scene as a geospatial powerhouse. She was with the famous Kosmos cartography lab from the beginning, setting up its physical plant as well as instituting the complex procedures necessary to facilitate student learning as well as map production. As a member of the HSU Geospatial Task Force, she helped design the architecture for Cal. Poly. Humboldt's outstanding geospatial programs. During her time at HSU, Mary Beth taught astonishing numbers of students, both at introductory and advanced levels. Her introductory course, GSP 101: Geospatial Concepts, had huge enrollments – often well over 150 students. She thus provided the groundwork for a huge cadre of students to advance into geospatial studies here at Humboldt and into productive careers in the emerging geospatial field. Her advanced courses were legendary. Many of her students went on to win state and national awards in the field of cartography and geospatial science. Under her tutelage, HSU cartographers became famous for winning national competitions at the annual NACIS (North American Cartographic Information Society) meetings – sometimes sweeping the field. This is a remarkable achievement, since HSU was competing with national cartographic powerhouses such as Harvard and the University of Pennsylvania. In this respect, Mary Beth literally put HSU “on the map.” During her tenure, Humboldt State placed our cartography graduates in important and prestigious positions, including at the National Geographic Society, the Washington Post, and Apple. I think HSU was fortunate indeed to have Mary Beth in a position to help midwife its renowned Geospatial Sciences program. I will add that she was an excellent colleague, friendly, energetic, professional, and an indispensable member of the Geography Department and Humboldt State University at large. I give her my enthusiastic and unqualified endorsement.

Nominator: Paul W. Blank

Patrick J. Hyland

Email: pjh7001@humboldt.edu

Associate Head Coach and Lecturer and Associate Director of the Human Performance Laboratory

It is my honor to nominate Patrick J. Hyland for Emeritus Status. He was an outstanding coach, colleague, student advocate, and faculty member. Patrick was the Associate Head Coach of the Women's Rowing Team for the Department of Athletics, from Fall 1996 – January 2024, Serving one Year as the Interim Head Coach. During his tenure at Humboldt, he helped the program achieve a 93% graduation rate by mentoring student-athletes each week. The team won four conference championships and the WIRA championships five times. They graduated 29 Academic and Athletic All Americans. The team made 9 total appearances at the NCAA National Championships, and were finalists four times. As well as winning the NCAA National Championships three times! Patrick was recognized as NCAA National Assistant Coaching Staff of the Year twice, as well as conference Assistant Coaching Staff of the Year. Patrick was also a Lecturer who taught graduate and undergraduate classes and the Assistant Director of the Human Performance Laboratory; Department of Physical Education and Recreation Administration, for 14 years, two of which were as Interim Director. He was published with ground breaking research "Sodium Bicarbonate as a Ergogenic Aid". He participated in many faculty and graduate student research projects as the Assistant Director in the Human Performance Laboratory as well as sitting on graduate thesis committees. Here are a few of those.

- Silva – "Relationship between Olympic distance triathlon times and laboratory VO2max in female recreational triathletes".
- McMartin – "Effects of creatine supplementation on fatigue during repeated bouts of maximal intense sprints in soccer players".
- Murphy – "Body composition assessment of athletes using measured vs. predicted thoracic gas volume".
- Thompson – "An investigation of the goal setting practices of female collegiate rowers".
- Newcomer – "Aerobic capacity of Humboldt County male surfers".
- Francek – "Influence of menstrual cycles on body composition determined by air displacement plethysmography (Bod Pod)".
- Hogan – "Dietary intake, body composition and performance in female intercollegiate lightweight rowers during a competitive season".
- Botzler – "Weight patterns in collegiate women and the relationship to physical activity".
- Grisso – "Anxiety following various training loads in collegiate cross country runners".
- Peabody – "A comparison of strength and power vs. endurance weight training on rowing ergometer performance time trial".
- Meiggs – "The Affects of Rapid Weight Loss on a Rowing Performance Time Trial".
- Munoz – "The Affects of Creatine Monohydrate as a Ergogenic Aid".
- Kwon – "Creating and Raising the Fitness Bar." "Firefighters get a unique opportunity to live fire training". "Humboldt conducts fitness study to develop new training programs". "Fitter for duty".

He was active in the Humboldt Chapter of the California Faculty Association for 8 years, serving 4 years as Treasurer and 4 years as Lecturer Representative. He sat on the Collegiate Coaches Rowing



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Association Board of Directors for three years. He was the coach representative on the NCAA Division II Rowing Committee for as well as the Great Northern Athletic Conference. He also coached the club rowing program from 1991 – 1995, and sat on the HBRA Board of Directors for 8 years. Patrick J. Hyland excelled as a coach, colleague, student advocate and faculty member. He deserves to be awarded emeritus status!

Nominator: Robin A. Meiggs

Laura Hahn

Email: laura.hahn@humboldt.edu

Professor and Department Chair, Department of Communication

Dr. Laura Hahn was an excellent faculty member and leader at Humboldt State and Cal Poly Humboldt. I recommend Dr. Hahn to be admitted into the Emeritus Retired Faculty and Staff Association (ERFSA) and be granted the status of Emeritus. Dr. Hahn was an accomplished faculty member in the Department of Communication. She taught in areas of Gender, Food Studies, Public Discourse and led the department as a department chair. She also developed curriculum and taught many of the upper division Communication major courses. As a scholar, Dr. Hahn published several significant texts on education, food studies and gender studies. Significantly I'll note the open source (OER) textbook Survey of Communication Study co-authored with Dr. Paynton - a unique text which was co-authored with the work of many senior communication majors. In the area of service, Dr. Hahn excelled, working at some of the highest parts of the university. She chaired two departments, was the interim Vice-President for Faculty Affairs, an ombudsperson and served on numerous campus committees. She contributed to the university and helped to support students with leadership and experienced guidance. In all areas, Dr. Hahn was a vital part of the Humboldt State/ Cal Poly Humboldt community. She demonstrated her communication skills - doing what she taught and using advocacy, persuasion, leadership and rhetoric to make the university a better place for students, staff and faculty. I wholeheartedly recommend that she be given the status of professor Emeritus.

Nominator: Maxwell Schnurer, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Communication and Chair, Department of Critical, Race, and Gender Studies at Cal Poly Humboldt

Tim Lauck

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Lecturer, Department of Mathematics

Tim Lauck has taught nearly 20 years for us in the math department, including algebra, precalculus and trigonometry, statistics, Math as a Liberal Art, Calculus for the Biosciences and Natural resources both I and II, as well as Calculus I, II and III. He, along with Math Professor Ken Owens and students, developed the current Campus Supercomputer, a unique asset among CSU campuses. He has co authored several research publications with both students, faculty and outside collaborators while at Cal Poly Humboldt (HSU):

- Lauck, Tim & Clark, Colin & Mangel, Marc & Munro, Gordon. (2020). Implementing the Precautionary Principle in Fisheries Management Through Marine Reserves. 10.4324/9780429288500-12.
- Hall, Matt; Robins, Canyon & Owens, Ken, & Nowatzke, Jacob & Lauck, Tim & Smith, Laurel E. (2017). High Performance Supercomputing on a Budget. Journal of Computing Sciences in Colleges. 32:4. 86-92. 10.5555/3055338.3055354.
- Lamberson, Roland & McKelvey, Steven & Carroll, Joseph & Lauck, Tim & Hankin, David. (2007).
- Maintaining diversity in an artificially propagated population. Journal of biological dynamics. 1.87-93. 10.1080/17513750601049806.
- Carroll, Joseph & Lauck, Tim & Lamberson, Roland. (2005). A Perron Theorem for positive componentwise bilinear maps. Linear Algebra and Its Applications - LINEAR ALGEBRA APPL. 396. 259-272. 10.1016/j.laa.2004.09.021.

In addition, Tim Lauck continues to be active in research and teaching. He is currently actively collaborating on a volunteer basis with Dr. Ken Owens developing the new Accelerated Computing elective in computer science being taught Spring 2024. He is engaged in ongoing discussions with several new faculty about future research and teaching projects to make learning easier and more effective for current students in math and computer science. He would like to continue to develop the supercomputing resources on campus for teaching and research. In general, Tim Lauck is a well respected colleague who continues to care deeply about the university, students, learning, and the Arcata community.

Nominator: Mark Rizzardi, Professor and Department Chair, Mathematics at Cal Poly Humboldt

TallChief A. Comet

Email: tallchiefcomet@gmail.com

Sustainability Coordinator, July 2007-April 2011; Director, Office of Sustainability, April 2011-December 2020; Volunteer Faculty, Environmental Science (concurrent duties), August 2011-December 2016; Grounds Manager (concurrent duties), July 2014-December 2020 Energy Manager (concurrent duties), February 2016-December 2020; Interim Associate Vice President, Facilities Management (concurrent duties), August 2017-June 2018

It is an honor to nominate TallChief A. Comet for emeritus status. As TallChief wrote in his Emeritus Status Template to me throughout his tenure at Humboldt he held a guiding vision of the work he was involved in, personal interaction or changes, from the time he was a student at the campus (Wildlife Management, 1989) to his retirement, was to enhance the student experience and make it a place students would get a sense of knowledge awakening and they were “seen” and “heard” by those of us representing the University.

Sustainability Coordinator

TallChief accepted the inaugural Sustainability Coordinator position in 2007, but after three years of building program capacity and visibility, he successfully lobbied the division VP to establish the Office of Sustainability and was appointed the Director. In 2007 he joined the founding committee of the Humboldt Energy Independence Fund (HEIF), remaining on that committee in various capacities until his retirement in 2020. The committee designated nearly \$750k in funding for campus energy efficiency and sustainability projects by 2020. He started advising student clubs/organizations, such as Green Campus (GC) and the Campus Recycling Program (CRP) (later to become the Waste-Reduction and Resource Awareness Program, (WRRAP), both of whom successfully nominated him for advisor of the year in 2009. He also was designated as the Facilities Liaison to the Campus Center for Appropriate Technology (CCAT) to ensure their facility projects/work was appropriately coordinated with campus administration/oversight, in addition to being a CCAT Steering Committee Member. In 2009 TallChief successfully proposed creation of and became the chair of the President’s Advisory Committee on Sustainability (PACS), initiating a campus-wide representation body to discuss and advise on related subjects for the campus and this group approved his proposal to initiate a campus sustainability tracking system.

Director, Office of Sustainability

TallChief successfully lobbied to increase the staffing of the office, eventually adding the first Climate Change Analyst in the CSU, creating ongoing climate change planning for the campus. During 2011, as a key component of campus resource reduction, he obtained funding for the University’s first professional solid waste audit, which led to establishing the single largest food waste diversion program in Humboldt County. This campus program was awarded 2012 and 2017 California State University system-wide Sustainability Best Practices Awards and was still operating when he retired, while collaborating with county entities to create a larger community diversion system. He initiated and established the Zipcar car-share service for campus in 2011, providing another way the campus could lessen parking availability



issues and make resources on demand an alternative for student transportation. This service still exists on campus. He served as an appointed member of the Planning Advisory Committee of the Humboldt Waste Management Authority Strategic Planning process, October 2012-May 2013. Using the PACS approval of a sustainability tracking system he initiated and performed the first campus report of the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Reporting System (STARS), the premiere higher education rating system for sustainability efforts, achieving a silver rating (2013). Subsequent STARS reports achieved two gold ratings before he retired (2017, 2020). To fulfill STARS data gathering needs he developed an innovative distributed data collection model to invest multiple levels of the campus organization in the awareness and functions of the rating system. He was an active member of the University Space and Facilities Advisory Committee (USFAC) (formerly the Facilities Working Group) from 2015 until his retirement, which serves as the space and facilities advisory body to the University

Resource and Planning Committee.

He continued to participate in CCAT and GC until 2018, at times he also assumed the role of direct advisor for CCAT for approximately 6 years. When the external campus support for GC was terminated at the end of 2015, he successfully lobbied for making it a student program of the Office of Sustainability to continue providing empirical experience for students and further energy reduction and sustainability projects for the campus. TallChief served as an invited member of the Zero Waste Task Force of the City of Arcata, voted chairperson, January-December 2019. He continued his participation on the HEIF committee, acting as the designated oversight and fiscal officer from 2016-2020, as delegated by the Facilities Mgmt. AVP (or directly during 2017-18).

Volunteer Faculty, Environmental Science

TallChief was lead instructor for sections of ENVS-482 (now ESM-482) internships, focused on sustainability relevant projects. He developed the Sustainability Projects Database that is a compiled archive of final projects from students in the Environmental Studies and Environmental Science and Management capstone courses.

Grounds Manager

TallChief initiated and led the campus Landscape Committee reviews of the annual tree maintenance and hazards assessment priorities, broadening the understanding and input of campus entities on campus landscapes. He collaborated with numerous campus entities to establish the first formal student Community Garden, near CCAT, providing a location for students to learn gardening and better understand human relationships to their food and production of such.

Energy Manager

He successfully lobbied to establish an Energy Analyst position, focused on improving energy efficiency of campus buildings and functions.

Interim Associate Vice President, Facilities Management



TallChief accepted the position of Interim Associate Vice President, Facilities Management as invited by VP Joyce Lopes. He co-led the merger of Housing Facilities into Facilities Management with the Director of Housing, necessitating various re-organization of FM logistics, positions, and structure. There are numerous other university, CSU and Humboldt County committees and activities that TallChief was involved with, but not enough space to mention them all. In summary TallChief A. Comet has exceeded expectations for meritorious contributions to teaching, scholarship, and service to Cal Poly Humboldt, the CSU and Humboldt County and is deserving of emeritus status.

Nominator: Marshelle Thobaben, Humboldt ERFSA President

Michelle Dostal

Email: michelledostal@att.net

(1998 - 2010): Hazardous Materials Technician and Senior Stockroom Technician, Department of Chemistry and the College of Natural Resource and Science. 2010-2023 IST II, Senior Stockroom Technician (Chemistry Stockroom Manager)

1998-2010 IST II, CNRS Hazardous Materials Technician

Prior to regulatory inspections, made it a priority to inspect all CNRS laboratories for hazardous waste compliance and take care of any problems to avoid possible citations and regulatory fines. With the downsizing of the campus Environmental Health and Occupational Safety (EH&OS) department, I had more of collaborative relationship with EH&OS. I was the backup/on call health and safety person when EH&OS personnel were out of town. Was an active member of the Emergency Operations Committee (EOC) and completed the testing and requirements to become NIMS/SEMS emergency management trained and certified. Regularly updated and submitted the S.A.F.E. Plan for Science A to University Police. Implemented EH&OS campus Illness and Injury Prevention Plan (IIPP) electronic and hard copy format and made it into an electronically flexible and usable document. Wrote the Chemistry departmental IIPP and met with interested CNRS representatives to help them create their department IIPP from my template. Attended workshops and classes including workshops for Professional Development and Diversity. Promoted HSU and the CNRS, by volunteering and presenting Chemistry workshops for middle school girls in the Expanding Your Horizons program. Was the contact person and performed "lab cleanouts" of chemicals from several laboratories. Hundreds of chemicals were organized, characterized and labeled as hazardous waste. Assisted University Police by printing and posting Evacuation Plan signage for Science A, B, C, D and E, Natural Resources, Wildlife/Fisheries, Forestry and ancillary buildings. Organized the biology chemical inventory for electronic submission to County Environmental Health's required Business Plan. Received a HSU Staff Recognition Award in 2005. Independently used judgment to make the CNRS and Humboldt State University a more safe and regulatory compliant area.

2010-2023 IST II, Senior Stockroom Technician (Chemistry Stockroom Manager)

Leadership roles:



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Regularly assisted the Department Chair with projections and justifications in budget planning. Assisted faculty and staff from other departments with research projects and class laboratory experiments with chemicals and glassware. Led initiative to physically acquire valuable research instrumentation donated by Genentech in Vacaville, CA. Maintained 40 hour HAZWOPER certification currently by attending annual off-campus 8 hour refresher training. Consulted with and assisted research students from other CNRS departments by providing glassware, equipment and instrumentation appropriate to their projects.

Ability to adapt/absorb new work during the pandemic:

Assisted and coordinated with the department chair and CNRS budget analyst on large CARES/HEERF pandemic purchases of necessary laboratory supplies, equipment and instrumentation. Performed emergency purchasing for Biology and other CNRS departments as assigned by the CNRS Dean and as necessary, due to other staff overload after the campus shut-down. Was an essential employee during the pandemic and came to campus weekly to perform the critical liquid nitrogen fill of the NMR and make sure all was well with the Chemistry stockroom area.

Expanded Duties in Chemistry:

Supervised and trained two to three stockroom student assistants per year (student assistants require continuous training and mentoring tasks as they typically work only 1-2 years before graduating). Mentored students in applying for scholarships and internships. Provided support and purchasing for new tenure track faculty with start-up funding and faculty grant awards. Assisted new faculty in setting up and troubleshooting new teaching lab experiments. Coordinated with Facilities Management in upkeep of an old and failing building. Was the primary contact from the Chemistry Department for preventative maintenance and emergency notifications for the whole of Science A. Participated in, and occasionally chaired committees including the Chemistry Department Safety Committee, Biosafety Committee and various hiring committees. Oversaw and coordinate all laboratory class preparations in both chemistry stockrooms when persons were on family medical leave. Promoted sustainability for the Chemistry Department and Cal Poly Humboldt as a whole by initiating a program with the Sustainability Office for collecting and re-using larger containers from dining services for containerizing hazardous waste. Served as department expert and reference in safety matters. Was also a contact for faculty and staff from all areas of the University to If EH&S personnel were not easily reachable. Was always up to date on all University required training. Was accessible to department members as a resource for the Concur travel process after completing training, acquisition of a Concur credit card, and successful travel expense reimbursement. Received above satisfactory ratings on all performance evaluations during 25 year tenure. Even after retirement, I remain available to the Chemistry Department to answer questions and help with any other items of institutional knowledge I have.

Nominator: Joshua Smith Professor and Chair, Department of Chemistry

Sharon Kay Ferrett

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Dean of Extended Education and Summer Session, Director of Student Success, Director of Liberal Studies, Director of Interdisciplinary Studies and Senior Academic Advisor

While Dr. Sharon Kay Ferrett was Dean of Extended Education and Summer Session for ten years, she was part of a team that expanded extended education from a small listing of classes to offerings in all departments and offering more extended education classes. She and her team created a new partnership with hospitals and offered many programs for doctors, nurses, and veterinarians. They started The Business Leader's Breakfast series which grew to, close to, 100 business participating-it resulted in a larger pool of adjunct faculty and local leaders returning to college. They created the English as a Second Language Program and brought in students from around the world. She traveled to Japan to recruit students, and this continues to be a successful program and expanded to exchange programs. They opened centers for off-campus classes in Eureka, McKinleyville and Crescent City. One of the most successful programs they began was the Summer Science Program and Elderhostel which brought in hundreds of people from many states and ran for many years. As Director of Student Success, Sharon worked on programs for re-entry students, including veterans. She had a strong commitment to working with students who were non-traditional, dropped out of college, lacked confidence, skills or simply learned in different ways. She created a program for retention and student success which became her lifelong commitment to helping students succeed. During this period, Dr. Ferrett began a publishing career with McGraw-Hill on publishing student success topics including: Peak Performance: Success in College and Beyond (12th edition), How to Get and Keep the Job You Want (2nd edition), Positive Attitudes at Work, and Connections. After retirement, Dr. Ferrett has continued to write and give workshops for students and faculty on student success, including the First Year Experience Conference and TASS (Annual Teaching Academic Survival and Success Conferences) after retiring. She has been the keynote speaker at both conferences. As Director of Liberal Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies she worked closely with faculty and deans across colleges to make certain these programs were of high quality and to prevent students who would have dropped out of college if they had not had a more non-traditional path. As part of her work as Senior Academic Advisor, she worked closely with the Academic Advising office and continued to direct both the Liberal Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies Programs. She published several articles in the Journal for Academic Advising and put on workshops at national conferences and at HSU to train faculty on academic advising. She also put on workshops for students who were undeclared, and this became my focus as I built this program and made it an acceptable major. When Humboldt State University started the OLLI Program about 15 years ago, she became actively involved and continues to teach a class each semester and serve on the curriculum committee. Dr. Sharon Ferrett is deserving of Emeritus Status. She was successful in creating many programs that have proven to be successful in recruiting and retaining students and for the community to continue lifelong learning.

Nominator: Marshelle Thobaben, Humboldt-ERFSA President



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Mary Greta Gratopp

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Assistant to the Chief of Staff, Office of the President Administrative Support Coordinator, Academic Senate Office Department Secretary, Education Department Clerical Assistant and Work Study Student, Psychology Department Clerical Assistant, Teacher Education Office It is an honor to nominate Mary “Greta” Gratopp for emeritus status. Greta excelled in her over 30-year employment at Cal Poly Humboldt. She ended her career as Assistant to the Chief of Staff, Office of the President, and began it by assisting students interested in acquiring one of the teaching credentials and tracking students’ progress through the complex requirements for a credential as a Clerical Assistant in the Teacher Education Office. Greta worked with graduate students in the Psychology Department who were admitted to the MA Counseling, MA Research, and the Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) programs verifying students’ completion of the required course and internship requirements; assisting with their field placements and working with the coordinators of the graduate programs to ensure that all requirements of the graduate programs were met. She also served as liaison between students and the MFCC licensing office. When Greta was Department Secretary, Education Department, she provided support to eleven full-time faculty members and numerous lecturers. Her responsibilities included prioritizing and preparing all required university reports; establishing class schedules; preparing budget reports; assisting faculty with their RTP files and working with students in the MA and the Learning Handicapped programs. Most importantly she was able to troubleshoot problems with students and faculty. Greta was an Administrative Support Coordinator for Academic Senate (AS) Office, which included besides the AS, the General Faculty Association (GFA), the University Faculty Personnel Committee (UFPC) and the Emeritus and Retired Faculty and Staff Association) (ERFSA). Besides the amount of work entailed in this position, which included activities such as compiling and distributing senate agenda material and minutes; attending standing committee meetings; maintaining the budget; serving as confidential custodian of RTP files, hiring, mentoring, and supervising student workers and conducting faculty elections, Greta kept these organizations running smoothly. At the time, the ASC worked in a solo office with faculty leaders who changed yearly. She was amazing at providing confidential support to AS, GFA, ERFSA and UFPC leaders. She was highly organized, efficient, motivational, and communicated what needed to get done to faculty new to their positions and responsibilities. Greta ended her career working for administration as Assistant to the Chief of Staff, Office of the President, a highly confidential position that required someone who understood how the university and Chancellor’s Office functioned. Her previous positions working with students and faculty, including knowing the interworking of the academic senate made her perfect for the position. She had a personal style of diplomacy and tact; the ability to maintain confidentiality and exercise discretion and skilled professional judgment; she was flexible in prioritizing, coordinating, and completing many different tasks and interpreting and applying a variety of complex academic and organizational policies and procedures. Greta did an excellent job of establishing and maintaining cooperative working relationships with members of the campus community, the Chancellor's Office, and the public. Greta’s responsibilities as Assistant to the Chief of Staff, Office of the President were too numerous to list but included oversight for staff and faculty grievances, developing, tracking and distributing executive memoranda and university management letters; serving on search committees for administrative positions; writing, editing, and preparing routine and detailed correspondence, apprising President of academic senate actions and tracking deadlines that required his attention; payroll attendance clerk for all units reporting to the President’s Office; managing and reconciling all trust and



grant accounts; making budgeting recommendations; developing itineraries and making all travel arrangements for the President's Office personnel and for visitors to campus; and coordinating and overseeing the Native American Scholarship Program. I strongly recommend Mary Greta Gratopp for emeritus status. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this award.

Nominator: Marshelle Thobaben, Humboldt-ERFSA President

Dr. Sheila Rocker Heppe

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Director of Extended Education, January 2012 - November 2023; Director of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), August 2010 - November 2023; Secondary Education Program Coordinator, August 1996 - August 2010; Lecturer - School of Education, 1996-2010, 2014

During Dr. Rocker Heppe's long service to CPH, she played a central role in the growth and success of the OLLI program. In addition, she provided effective leadership to the CPH Extended Education Program and service to a number of areas to the campus and community. After 6 years of work as a middle school teacher, Sheila came to CPH as a lecturer in Education eventually assuming greater and greater responsibility in the School of Education until beginning her work with Extended Education and the OLLI program. Dr. Sheila Rocker Heppe earned bachelor's degrees in English and Psychology from UC Davis, an M.A. in counseling psychology from the University of San Francisco, and a doctorate in educational leadership from UC Davis, with a focus in higher education administration. Her scholarship focuses on crisis leadership practices of women leaders in higher education. Sheila is a California credentialed multiple subjects and single subject (English) teacher who holds a language development specialist certificate and a Pupil Personnel Services credential.

Here are the details:

In her role (2012 - 2023) as the Director of Extended Education and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) in the College of Extended Education & Global Engagement (CEEAGE), she managed programs and led division-wide efforts in CEEAGE. She supervised the program coordinators, the student success team, and the communications and marketing staff in Extended Education, and she managed the promotion and outreach efforts for all academic and community programs offered through CEEAGE. The two programs of which Sheila is most proud are the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) and her work with the Leadership Studies degree completion program which enables working adults the opportunity to earn a degree from Cal Poly Humboldt while continuing to live and work in their communities. I had the pleasure of working extensively with Sheila during her tenure with OLLI and witnessed first hand her effectiveness in that role. During her first 14 years at Humboldt State University/Cal Poly Humboldt, Sheila served in the School of Education as the secondary education (SED) program coordinator and taught seven distinct SED courses over 13 years as a lecturer. During these years, in my own administrative role I often had the opportunity to collaborate with Sheila. Sheila demonstrated her commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion through her intentional efforts to continue to develop her understanding and impact.



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Some examples of Sheila's work to assist in creating a campus where all people are welcome and celebrated include her participation in the formation of the HSU Bias Response Team and 10 years of service on the President's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council. During her long career at Cal Poly Humboldt Sheila served on many committees and contributed to the campus community through her work on the OAA Leadership Team, the Integrated Curriculum Committee, the steering committee for the Redwood Coast K16 Collaborative, the integrated assessment planning working group, and the nursing community advisory board at Cal Poly Humboldt. She served on the CSU Commission on the Extended University Student Success Committee and the CSU Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) Consortium. In sum, Sheila's commitment and true dedication to community relationships and deep collaboration is her most notable contribution to Cal Poly Humboldt. During her 27 year career, she taught pre-service teachers, served as the campus liaison to local schools, nurtured and built a thriving lifelong learning institute and created certificates and degree completion programs to provide non-traditional students the opportunity to benefit from a Cal Poly Humboldt education. She is a most deserving of Emeritus Status!

Nominator: Dr. Rees Hughes