

October 2024

ECCFA NEWS

The Sentinel: Elgin Community College Faculty Association Newsletter

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www.eccfaculty.org



The Sentinel is BACK!

The Sentinel is the official ECCFA Newsletter as it is the voice of the ECC Faculty Association. This year will be sent out to all current ECCFA members so if there is something you would like to see in our next Sentinel Newsletter, or you have any suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact the Sentinel Editor [Deyana Matt](#).

Negotiations Committee

ECCFA needs you to negotiate a fair contract. ECCFA needs you to represent the interests of your employee group and department. ECCFA needs you to step up and contribute to this essential union duty.

In the spring, ECCFA membership will elect a new negotiations committee to negotiate a new contract. The current contract expires in December 2025.

- Full-time members from each division
- Unit Adjunct 2 members from any division
- Unit Adjunct 1 members from any division



After the election of a new committee, Senate will elect a new Chief Negotiator since Ryan Kerr's term will expire and he will not be continuing in the role.

If interested in being either a member of the negotiations committee or the Chief negotiator, feel free to reach out to [Ryan Kerr](#) or another member of the committee for further information.

ECCFA Membership Minute By Kim Tarver, ECCFA Membership Chair

Hi! I'm new to the role of Membership Chair and I am on a huge learning curve! I have a new appreciation for those who have done work this before me. I had an idea, but I had no idea! Based on what I've learned so far, we need to talk about how to become a member of ECCFA so please [click here](#) for a tutorial with step by step instructions and links!

Newly Signed ECCFA Members

New Full-Time Faculty:

Adyson Totten: Respiratory Care

Anthony Bellavia: IMT / CIM

Pina Thakkar: Phlebotomy

Rhey Anthony Ayende: Basic Nurse Assistant

Rita Braun: Human Services

New Unit Adjunct II Faculty:

Curtis Walker: Mathematics

Kieran Stout: Emergency Services

Ray Ortiz: Histotechnology

Susan Espeland: Nursing

New Unit Adjunct I Faculty:

Carter Chen: Mathematics

Kelly Olsen-Guyant: Mathematics

Muhammed Saadiq: English

Shepherd Kirk: ABE

Suzanne Onbargi: English as Second Language

Member Benefits

Remember that your membership, through ECCFA, in the American Federation of Teachers brings some perks.

These include discounts on: Car rentals, hotels,

credit cards, identity theft, insurance, dental care, magazines, office supplies, and a lot more [Click here](#) to see the full list of AFT Benefits!



New Member Feature: Ady Totten

What do you/did you love the most about your career? I am truly passionate about respiratory care. I love working with patients and being able to improve their overall quality of life or, at the very least, their current level of comfort. Respiratory therapists have to be flexible and dynamic; we work in all types of settings and with all patient populations. I am so excited to share that excitement and passion with the next generation of RTs at ECC and help them find which area of respiratory care excites them.

What's your go-to comfort food? Anything chocolate. Or cheese in almost any form.



What would be the theme song of your life right now? [Everything is Awesome](#) by Tegan and Sara - it's fun and chaotic and makes me want to dance!

Instructor of Respiratory Care



What career advice do you live by and who gave it to you? I am so fortunate to have had a string of amazing mentors throughout all steps of my career path, and I feel like they all dropped these valuable little nuggets of advice at different times. The one common thread that stands out is to not limit myself. I can always grow as much and achieve as much as I want to, no matter where I am right now. That mindset has led me to being open to different challenges and experiences and is probably why I've ended up at ECC.

Student Learning Assessment and Advisory Committee

The Student Learning Assessment and Advisory Committee (SLAAC) oversees matters relevant to institutional-level [general education assessment](#) at Elgin Community College. The SLAAC Committee ensures that institutional level assessment reflects the current general education goals of the college.

Additionally, SLAAC was recently restructured to take on responsibilities of the college's Assessment Strategy Team,

including supporting the [Advancing Equity Through the Assessment of Student Learning](#) assessment cohorts, which is intended to support faculty in using outcomes assessment to study and close equity gaps in courses and other questions of interest for faculty. SLAAC will now oversee the selection of courses and the Cohort Lead selection process.

This change for SLAAC is intended to help SLAAC further make connections among academic divisions and between faculty and administrators in assessment work. Additionally, SLAAC has committed to regularly reviewing [assessment work documented in the Learning Improvement Reports](#) (LIRs). The idea is to continue a new culture, which ECC has been encouraged to do by the Higher Learning Commission, in which people are seeing that the work they're doing in assessing and submitting their work is actually paying off, that others are caring, looking at it, and doing something about it.

Committee Chairs

COPE:

[Antonio Ramirez](#)

Curriculum:

[Marc Beth](#)

Faculty Development:

[Jessica Carpenter](#)

Grievance:

[Peter Han](#), [Laura Haske](#)

Honors:

[Jason Kane](#)

Membership:

[Kim Tarver](#)

Negotiations:

[Ryan Kerr](#)

Sick Bank:

[Joe Rosenfeld](#)

SLAAC:

[Angelika Stachnik](#)