



UPDATE

October 12, 2006

• A Publication of the All Faculty Association at Santa Rosa Junior College •

AFA Council Endorses Board of Trustees Candidates Benjamin, Caston, Pelligrini, and Smith

Following presentations made at the last three Executive Council meetings by all of the candidates running for seats on the SRJC Board of Trustees, and a review of the candidate's experience and campaign platforms, the AFA Executive Council voted to endorse the candidacy of Steve Benjamin (Analy), Nick Caston (Santa Rosa), Onita Pelligrini (Petaluma), and Mike Smith (Sonoma Valley).

Of particular interest to AFA was Steve Benjamin's commitment to work for better wages and benefits for adjunct faculty, as well as his experience in the labor movement. He also expressed his concerns about providing fully paid health benefits for regular faculty. He believes that he will represent the working person's voice on the Board.

Nick Caston, former SRJC Student Trustee, showed a clear understanding of the issues facing both students and faculty members. He is committed to increasing student access to classes and programs. He, too, believes strongly that health benefits for faculty should not be

questioned as benefits contribute to the overall effectiveness of faculty.

Onita Pelligrini, incumbent Trustee from Petaluma, showed particular understanding of issues facing faculty at SRJC. Her openness to discussing a wide variety of solutions led the Council to endorse her, even though she is running unopposed.

Mike Smith, incumbent Trustee from Sonoma, is a retired RN and feels equally strongly about solving the health care benefit crisis at SRJC. He also suggested that AFA should have a place on the Board Agenda to systemically communicate their concerns to the Board in a public forum. He believes that recruiting new and qualified faculty, administration, and staff is the most important challenge facing the District.

All four candidates support AFA's idea to create a Restricted Reserve Account to fund future increases in health insurance costs. For the AFA Executive Council, this was the defining issue.

AFA urges all faculty members to vote in the November 7 election.

Attn: All Faculty with Earned Doctorates Fall 2006 Deadline Extended for Movement to Class D

In accordance with the April 2006 Ratified Agreement, which went into effect on July 1, 2006 and included new language in Article 27: Salary Placement, the definition of Class D on all five (Annual Contract and Hourly Assignment) salary schedules has been expanded beyond the Ph.D. to include all doctorate degrees (e.g., M.D., D.D.S, D.V.M.). Adjunct and regular faculty who have earned doctorate degrees are now eligible to be placed in

Class D. (AFA is also in the process of reviewing contract language regarding accrediting standards for both doctorate and masters degrees. Of particular concern is the recognition of degrees earned from foreign universities.)

According to the Memorandum of Understanding signed on October 9, 2006, the deadline to request class movement for the Fall 2006 semester has been extended.

(continued on reverse)

Building community . . .

Join your colleagues
at the new Doyle Library for an
informative, social event.

October 23, 24, 25, & 26, 2006
5 - 8 pm in the Doyle Library
3rd Floor Center for New Media

This is a convivial event designed
for faculty to meet and greet their
colleagues. Take time before or after
class to stop by and get to know your
fellow instructors, have some refresh-
ments and tour the new library.

One hour of Flex credit (pending)

Questions? Contact the AFA office at
527-4731 or afa@santarosa.edu

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Contact the Help Desk at 524-1765 or log onto
www.santarosa.edu/outlook and sign up today!

Doctorate *(continued)*

Eligible, continuing adjunct and regular
faculty will have until 5:00 p.m., Tuesday,
January 17, 2007, to submit the required
verification necessary to complete the Salary
Placement Form to the Human Resources
Department. The Payroll Department will
then issue an adjustment retroactive to
the beginning of the Fall 2006 semester. If you
have any questions, contact Gina Waggoner in
the Human Resources Department at 527-4786

Retirement Workshops

Presentation and Q & A
by Ken Jones, local CalSTRS
Regional Benefits Counselor

Friday, November 3, 2006
in the Doyle Library
Media Teaching Room #2
1 – 2:30 pm (Regular Faculty)
2:30 – 4 pm (Adjunct Faculty)

1½ hours of Flex credit (pending)

Questions? Contact the AFA office at
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