

**From:** [Gribbons, Barry C](#)  
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Good afternoon Monarchs,

While I don't want to include too many items in this campus update given that it's Spring Break, I do want to share a couple of items.

First, I want to announce that Dean Jermain Pipkins has accepted a position in Texas. While I'm saddened by the change, I know that Jermain will continue to do amazing work with new professional challenges. Jermain has provided support and leadership for several important areas, including Communication Studies, Kinesiology, Foreign Languages, English, Music, Theater, Puente, Counseling (Instructional), Athletics, catalog production, curriculum, and dual enrollment. With dual enrollment, he has worked with many academic departments and Student Services to help build a strong foundation and grow this important program that can have dramatic impacts on our local students' confidence in pursuing college. Jermain, we are grateful for all of your leadership and service to the College, we appreciate you, and we will miss you!

The second announcement is the selection of the Vice President of Administrative Services. I am delighted to announce that Sarah Song has been selected to take the helm of Administrative Services. As everyone knows, Sarah has been serving as the Associate Vice President and demonstrated skilled and dedicated stewardship. I know that she will do a terrific job providing leadership for this important area. Please join me in congratulating Sarah!

Lastly, I want to share that we have been discussing how to encourage our classified staff to engage in professional development (sometimes also referred to as in-service training). While I know that it can be a challenge to manage work that needs to be completed in offices across the College in ensuring our students are welcomed and supported, it is important to take time for our professional growth. To help accomplish this, I would encourage all classified staff to participate in an average of 2 hours of professional development per month. Of course, classified staff may decide to do more hours in one month and fewer in another. They also need to work with their supervisors in scheduling the time and determining which trainings will be helpful. That said, I do want to encourage participation in the excellent training opportunities provided by our Professional Development department, especially the cultural inclusiveness training opportunities. Please take a minute to visit the [Professional Development website](#).

Have a great rest of the week. Please let me know if there is any support I can provide, and I hope you are able to enjoy some time during Spring Break to actually take a break.

Stay safe and be well!

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