

COCC professor earns prestigious award

Central Oregon Community College (COCC) English professor Stacey Donohue, Ph.D., was selected to receive the Modern Language Association's 2020 Francis Andrew March Award, a national postsecondary honor that recognizes distinguished service to the profession of English.

Donohue was to receive the award at a January 9 virtual ceremony.

Named for the nation's first postsecondary English professor, who taught at Lafayette College, the Francis Andrew March Award honors the English scholar and teacher "who accepts responsibility for strengthening the life and work of departments, the field and the English studies community considered as a whole."

Past recipients have included scholars from such institutions as Stanford University and Smith College.

"It is highly unusual for a community college professor to receive the Francis Andrew March Award," said Annemarie Hamlin, Ph.D., instructional dean at COCC. "In the 33-year history of the award, Stacey is only the third recipient from a community college."

The MLA's membership is largely comprised of four-year colleges and universities.

"Stacey shares the roster with eminent scholars and leaders from Ivy League institutions and major public universities, and her work has been every bit as essential to the organization as the



PHOTO PROVIDED

Stacey Donohue of COCC received the Modern Language Association's 2020 Francis Andrew March Award.

work of those luminaries," Hamlin said.

Donohue, a faculty member at COCC since 1995, has served the discipline through leadership, mentorship and participation with organizations such as the MLA — including as a national teaching institute facilitator — for many years.

"She's helped shaped the discipline on the local and national landscapes," said Hamlin.

In 2018, Donohue received the Association for Women in Community Colleges' College Excellence Award and its Carolyn DesJardins Leadership Award.

Commentary... City of Sisters bulletin

By Cory Misley
City Manager

As we welcome 2021, it is important to remember the simple things to be thankful for in life.

Even one of the essential components of both our physical health and economic livelihood can sometimes be overlooked. The City is responsible for the planning, financing, construction, and maintenance of the water system that provides some of the best municipal drinking water anywhere. Everything from homes, schools, businesses, and firefighting require clean, reliable, and adequate water pressure and volume constantly at the tap. We are very fortunate for the quality and quantity of our water natural resource. At the same time, it has taken, and will continue to take, strategic investment and stewardship by the City year after year to sustain this service and resource.

The City Council at the beginning of every calendar year establishes goals and key projects for the upcoming fiscal year (July 1-June 30). The Council continues to prioritize and invest in essential infrastructure, which among other projects currently includes designing, drilling, and constructing the City's fourth municipal

water well (Well 4).

The City has three wells pulling water from aquifers deep below us and serving the system from multiple locations. The City's Public Works Director, Paul Bertagna, has led the way on keeping the water system as one of our top priorities to keep up with demand. In the City's 2017 Water Master Plan, Well 4 was originally anticipated for construction later this decade in fiscal year 2027/28. Due to growth and increasing demand, the City moved Well 4 to this fiscal year to ensure excellent redundancy in the system with an additional 33 percent pumping capacity totaling 4,050 Gallons Per Minute (GPM).

At the January 13 City Council meeting, the Council will review and consider approval of a \$713,317 contract for the construction of Well 4 Phase B. You may have seen a well drilling rig on City property near the Creekside Campground. That work was for Well 4 Phase A that consisted of constructing, developing, and testing a municipal water supply well in the volcaniclastic and basalt formations typical in the Deschutes Basin. The well depth ended at 293-feet with 200-feet of 16-inch casing and 100 feet of 12-inch liner assembly.

This work included drilling, casing, screening, grout seal, developing, and testing as required for a complete 1,500 GPM well. Phase A is successfully complete. The Phase A and Phase B estimate for Well 4 was \$1,200,000 budgeted through the City's Water System Development Charge (SDC) Fund. SDCs are paid when new construction connects to the system so that growth pays for growth. The total cost for Well 4 is contracted to be \$1,200,037 with Phase B construction anticipated to start in February and substantial completion within 150 calendar days.

A heartfelt thank you to Cris Converse, daughter of Dorro Converse Sokol, an icon of the Sisters community, who donated a substantial water right to the City on behalf of her mother. Also, a special thanks to the City's Public Works Department who keep everything flowing 24/7/365: Paul Bertagna, Troy Rayburn, Gus Johnson, Doug McIntosh, Josh Stotts, Tod Milburn, Travis Quimby, Jackson Dumanch, and Robin Bentz (recently retired).

If you would like to learn more about this project you can visit the City's website www.ci.sisters.or.us and view the staff report in the Council meeting packet.



Open 7am-4pm Coffee Roasted Daily 273 W Hood Ave. Sisters, OR

Sisters salutes...

David Poole wrote:

I would like to thank Three Sisters Backcountry, and especially their employee, Johan.

On December 19, 2020, I was out in the Three Creeks area with my son, who was scouting for his late-season elk tag. We ended up on a backroad and got stuck in the snow. We were unable to get free and broke our tire chains in the process.

Johan with Three Sisters Backcountry came to our aid and gave us a ride out to some friends who were waiting for us. It was very kind of Johan to come get us as he took time away from his business to help us.

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