

ZOMBIES, VAMPIRES, GIANT LIZARDISH MONSTERS



IT'S THE 2012 YEAR IN REVIEW



Sept: Because we are faced with the biggest crisis since Dixie Lee Ray accidentally nuked the entire state budget, the colleges are going to focus on only the critical issues: Making employees fill out survey forms instead of working.

Sept: Staff and Faculty return to fine pre-issued parking tickets on their desks. Parking committee: We know you're going to park on a line, forget your parking pass and/or park in the wrong place so we are issuing you a \$500 fine in advance. Our motto: "Your \$70 Parking Fee at Work."

Sept: However, if you have a guest speaker in your classroom, secretaries can issue free parking passes for them.

Sept This just in. If you schedule a guest speaker and get them a "free" pass, money will be taken from your department's budget to pay for the "free" pass. Who gets the money?

Sept The Big Fat Parking Mafia. Next. If you pay the parking people a reasonable fee, they will guarantee that no big, thuggish "consultant" named Guido will "borrow" your car for a short trip to the crusher machine.

Sept The state of Washington has even less money than it thought it had. It's kind of like you and your family budget except the state of Washington has to scream at you instead of its kids.

Sept Not only that, the state predicts that the next time it predicts how much money it will have, it will have less.

Sept SFCC plans for the budget calamity by hiring someone to help it figure out what to do about the budget calamity. Another dean would be nice, just to balance things out.

Sept Besides, there's a dean over in SFCC building 19 who we can't find for some reason, so let's hire another dean to find him.

Sept This is from an official report: " Responding to new accreditation standards created by the blah blah blah, SCC and SFCC have submitted blah blah blah reaffirmation of mission statements blah blah blah to manifest essential elements of [their] mission and collectively encompass (sic) [their] mission."

Sept The Yir copied the previous huge collection of academic drivel (with editorial shortcuts) just to show that the author misspelled the word "encompass." Okay, maybe they actually meant encompass which may mean to include language designed to obfuscate

Sept Breaking News: Administrators arrested for manifesting their essential elements in public.

Sept Announcement: Do you feel overwhelmed as a supervisor or manager? Perhaps you have had little or no training in how to be a successful manager (Or to manifest your element). Maybe you want a refresher course on management covering all the latest information on essential management strategies.

Sept Here are just a few of the questions we have addressed in recent programs: “How do you...”
manage people who think you have sold your soul to Satan?

Sept *Or, manage people who make cats seem like lemmings?*

Sept *Or, manage people who make narcoleptics seem like over-caffeinated meth junkies.*

Sept CCS is offering a dynamic management program.

Sept From Foster’s Guide To Recognizing B.S. The word “dynamic” means “we know what we are doing is TOTAL B.S., but we’ve got to snooker suckers into signing up.”

Sept Go to the seminar and find out.

Sept New trustee: a former SCHOOL SUPERINTENDANT.

Sept Could have been worse. Could have been an overthrown Mideast despot.

Sept I know. It’s an insult to Mideast despots. (Due to budget cuts, we have to run old jokes. Wait. Didn’t we run old jokes before the budget cuts?)

Sept Trick question. There have ALWAYS been budget cuts.

Sept E-mail: A tragedy happened yesterday regarding a person who may or may not be a student and who may or may not have been connected with this tragedy which we can’t tell you about at this time due to respect for rumors and innuendo. However, if a person of studentish nature happens to come to you needing grief counseling relating to what may or may not have been this incident, send them to a counselor.

Sept Counseling session” Counselor- “I am not allowed to discuss any details of this with you but since you are here I am assuming you may be needing advice on how to handle vague situations which we cannot discuss.” Student: “Uh, I want to know if an opening came up in a class where this student . . .

Counselor: “Stop. No details. So how do you feel about taking advantage of a tragedy?” Student: “Uh, I just need to graduate on time.” Counselor: “I believe you are in the fifth stage of grief-pillaging. Which is fine. Just sign this form.”

Oct The worst crisis in the history of the community colleges erupts when alert politicians discover that not everyone who enrolls at community colleges end up completing something.

Oct We know what’s at stake here. Education!

Oct Wrong. Politicians think it’s a waste of money to let someone go to college only to find out they don’t want to go to college.

Oct SOLUTION: Make sure whoever enters NEVER LEAVES! (Cue dramatic organ music, the kind where it sounds like someone with a big butt accidentally sat on the keyboard.)

Oct The NLTL (Never Let The Learners Leave-well, up to a point but NLTLLUTAP was more acronym than even the acronymphomaniacs could handle) committee is formed.

Oct **What does it cost to enroll at CCS?** Some obnoxious faculty member had the temerity to ask what a student who takes 15 credits actually pays. Here is one answer: The amount of \$1,165.65 is strictly tuition only. There is a \$6.00 registration fee, a technology fee of \$4.00 multiplied by the number of credits the student is taking (\$40.00 maximum charged). There may also be a class fee as well depending on what classes they’re taking.

Oct So the answer is? Well, depends.

Oct or, another answer: “ I have been ballparking it at about \$1200 per qtr the first ten credits are \$95.73 per credit. Ten credits = \$957.30 + \$55 fees= \$1012.30 I think there are \$15 reg and S&A fee plus 4 per credit for first 10 credits for Technology fee.”

Oct Is that clear? If not, we got a real deal on a money manager who is on work release from prison. Bernie Madealot or something like that ... he'll help us get it straight.

Oct Or the student can enroll in pre-calc and figure it out using the lessons learned in that class.

Oct (Angry note from pre-calc). “What do you think we teach? ARITHMETIC? Pre-calc teaches highly evolved mathematical concepts that cannot possibly be used in calculating tuition.

Oct Or anything else that is useful.

Oct Notice from Headquarters: On Thursday, Oct. 6, between 8 a.m. and noon, we will conduct the fall quarter test of our two emergency notification systems.

Oct Wouldn't a test work better if we weren't notified in advance. For example, if a terrorist, we'll call him Sheik Bonahead Boner, were to carry out an attack, would he let us know in advance? Maybe his message would look something like this: “Dear Corrupt Infidel Academics and Lackey Support Staff. We of the Budgetcutadeen plan to attack your infidel establishment by blocking any input of filthy Fed Created Dollars between 8 a.m. and noon, on Thursday, Oct. 6. Please do not call us with annoying whining about why we cannot be more specific about the time. Our loyal anti-infidel operators can only schedule attacks in sequential order and we have no way of knowing how long an attack prior to yours will take. So be patient. “

Oct “And if you do not happen to be on the premises at the time, we will have to reschedule our attack which will, of course, mean additional service charges.”

Oct Please do not clog up our HELP lines with whining about service charges. Like your dentist and unlike you, our time is valuable, so if you fail to be on premises during our attacks, the rescheduling costs must be passed along to you.”

Oct “Please call 1-800-Budgetcutaddeen for further directions or complaints. Also, Please leave your infidel budget sucking mailing address so we can stay ‘in touch.’ ”

Oct And please mark the little box so we can put you on our “SuperCustomers Notification Service System.”

Oct “Apologies to fellow jihadists for comparing you to dentists.”

Oct The Budgetcutadeen would like to applaud your Achieving the Dream mission especially since we have cut your funding to shreds. TO SHREDS! It is a good life lesson. And sorry about recycling the dentist joke. We too have our own budget problems.

Oct Winter and spring cuts are announced.

Oct What is that sound? Yikes. Something hitting the fan?

Oct In a fierce battle, the journalism program is pitted in a mud-wrestling contest with the Planetarium advocates for a whopping huge pot of student money and manages to walk away with enough bucks to help improve the journalism lab.

Oct A shrieking cry of contempt erupts from the Committee to Build the Coolest Planetarium on the, um, Planet. This noise will henceforth be known as the Brady Curse.

Oct In an Achieving the Dream focus group, the moderator talked more than the people in the focus group. This is true. A YIR reporter witnessed it. And tried to interrupt, but was told to hush.

Oct What does a focus group know anyway? It was just a bunch of employees.

Oct Educational bureaucratic rule number one: Never make educational policy based on what educators think.

Oct Early notification deadline approaching for tenured academic employees. If an employee wants the \$6000 buyout then notify immediately. If you want to talk to bitter employees who did this last year and missed out on a \$25,000 bonus, please call 1-800-IAMSERIOUSLYPISSSED.

Oct Notice on CCS job openings site: artists' model needed. Now, can't one of our regular employees volunteer for this position and save us a few bucks. Take off your clothes, step in front of a mirror and . . . AAAACCKKKK.

Oct Sudden surge of heart attacks among CCS employees.

Oct Mumbblings heard as employees mutter to themselves: "Who was that big fat person in the mirror. Sheeeesh."

Oct Fitness center suddenly jam packed.

Oct Headline. Record number of CCS employees arrested for going out on Halloween naked. However, they win "scariest costume of the decade" award.

Oct Good news. The six person online and continuing ed task force has two faculty people on the committee.

Oct Bad news. The six person online and continuing ed task force has ONLY two faculty people on the committee.

Oct AND another task force is formed to come up with "innovative approaches to new revenue generation."

Oct What about the suggestions we made last year?

Oct And the year before that?

Oct And the YEARS before that?

Oct Okay, the suggestion to capture Idaho and sell it to Moamar Quadafi won't fly any more, but come on. There are other rich dictator jerks out there who would want their own U.S. state.

Oct Is Idaho still a state? If so, why do we need a passport to go there?

Oct Official message from district: "In addition to your current e-mail address – for example, jbieber@ccs.spokane.edu – there is a new secondary e-mail address now added to your Exchange Mailbox. It reads – Justin.Bieber@ccs.spokane.edu."

Oct News Report: Justin Bieber hospitalized. Neuron damaging boredom overload due to strange mass email diversion is blamed. Bieber (high-pitched frightened voice): "I keep getting emails from someone named Pam who starts by saying she's leaving then it goes on and on and on and on and ..."

Oct Why change the e-mail address you've come to know and love and, most important, remember?

Oct Official answer: "Washington's Information Services Board is standardizing e-mail addresses across all state agencies "to provide an integrated end-user experience for agency employees and ensure citizens and business can interact seamlessly with multiple federal, state and local agencies."

Oct If they want to be efficient, why don't they just, as is suggested in the latest writing texts, cut the crap.

Oct Instead, the official crap having been cut answer would be: because we have no lives and screwing with computer users is fun.

Oct Note to new revenue task force. Capture these dopes on the Washington Information Services board and sell them to Somali pirates. First, it raises revenue (Somali pirates don't have to cut budgets). Second, their absurd nitpicking suggestions will drive the Pirates insane.

Oct Note from Somali.pirate@eyepatch.com: Please. Even we have standards.

Oct Another IT email change: special designations like PhD will be dropped.

Oct Fortunately, “special” designations like PhD don’t mean much in the academic world. Not only do we no longer educate (we get them to learn stuff), we can dump the higher degrees.

Oct So why are you PhDs complaining? It’s not as if having one will make you any more money.

Oct Good news. “Special” designations like “dude” are still okay. So sign your email Fedup.With.Idiots.Dude@ccs.spokane.edu.

Oct Memo from SFCC President Pam: “You know I’m not going to be here next year.” Okay, the rest is way too long to include here. To get a sense of the message, pick up a used *World Book Encyclopedia of Ennui* and read it for...oh...several hours.

Nov How bad is the budget crisis? The Chancellor is going to have lunch with the peasants, er, faculty and staff. Menu: gruel.

Nov With chilled gruel for dessert.

Nov It’s an opportunity to ask questions on any topic, share good news, talk about concerns and celebrate student successes. Note how concerns are tucked in between “good news” and “celebrate student successes.”

Nov Suggested practice question: “How excited are you about offering more online classes?”

Nov Open course library is unveiled. This offers cheap book-like products to students. By cheap, we mean the authors were offered ridiculously puny stipends and about a year to write the cheap texts.

Nov We will find out WHY textbooks are expensive.

Nov The NLTL (Never Let The Learners Leave) committee runs a test on its “Send their mothers after them” approach. Students who quit are captured and sat down at a kitchen table with a matronly woman sitting across from them crying.

Nov Student reaction. “I gotta quit taking those pink pills.” Unfortunately, test subjects went out and bought blue pills and we never saw them again.

Nov Instead of local Information Technology (computer crap etc.), the state may force us to join a state Information Technology system. The advantages: forces faculty to keep materials in a file cabinet for when the computer system crashes. Knowing that calling HELP will not get you a person in India. No, it will get you a person in South Dakota (“Sorry, hon, but I thank you’re screwed.”)

Nov A huge scaly creature is seen eyeballing the SFCC campus. It looks hungry.

Nov Proposal for a new film leaks out of Hollywood: Gullickzilla. This is what happen when you let administrators get too close to failing nuclear reactors.

Nov Ignoring the fact that the space shuttle program is defunct, CCS is encouraging veterans to “connect” with a CCS aerospace outreach program. We in Washington State finally get to send monkeys into space!

Nov Can’t afford monkeys. Let’s see. We might have to RIF some faculty. Want to go on a long trip, anyone?

Nov What happens in case of a weather disaster? The chancellor is the ONLY person with the authority to cancel CCS activities. In consultation with campus presidents. So, if some weather “event” occurs, they will have a meeting.

Nov Somewhere.

Nov Somehow.

Nov And the decision will be something like this: “We cannot make a decision until we have further infor ...”

Nov Sorry, announcement interrupted by a tornadoish blizzardy hurricane type thing.

Nov Please. Because the entire community college system may be sold off to China, we need everyone to fill out the Online Education Task Force Survey.

Nov Please take the Year In Review “Do I Give A Crap” Survey. Question 1. What is more important, preparing for class or completing another stinking survey?

Nov Question 2. Has anyone, ANYONE, ever told you what the results of the stupid ass survey were? Question 2, part A: And has anybody anywhere ever hinted at all that these surveys are used to do anything important?

Nov Question 2, part b: Or do anything UNIMPORTANT?

Nov Notice: Faculty must be evaluated once a year.

Nov What if we’re too busy filling out surveys?

Nov Notice: Fill out a self-evaluation form.

Nov Yes, we fully expect some instructor to self-evaluate in a frank and honest fashion: I suck. I didn’t realize it until now, but I do suck. And it’s too late to change careers, so that sucks too. Here’s how bad I suck. I don’t even know what not sucking is like so how could I possibly do anything but suck.

Nov The following actually appeared on the form just a few days after a notice that all funding for mini-grants will be frozen (frozen is a clever administrative word for “kiss it goodbye forever, suckers.”): List activities such as conferences, workshops, training, professional organization activities, leadership positions/ committees, travel, readings, text review, etc..

Nov Reasonable answer to this item: I wanted to take the course, How Not To Suck, but it’s expensive as hell and it’s in Tahiti. I was especially intrigued by the breakout session on How To Not Suck While Naked.

Nov Soon, we see rising from the new science building something sort of round. It’s a mosque! (uh oh) No, wait. It’s a Russian Orthodox church. Nooooo. It’s THE PLANETARIUM! (Motto: Not a dime of state money. And we don’t consider student funds state money.)

Nov Oops. Some naughty contractor installed seats that don’t lean back in the Planetarium.

Nov So here is the “science” of Planetariums. The images of the sky and stuff are projected onto the ceiling, so to see it, the viewer has to be able to lean back or bend the head back in the famous “Give All Your Money to a Chiropractor” position.

Nov The Calendar Committee has a summer plan for faculty and anyone else who has anything to do with those people who keep clogging up our campuses, what are they called? Oh yeah, students: Bend time. Because of a rip in the space-time continuum, Summer quarter lasts too long. So we must complete the eight week summer then jam all the students into a time machine and move them back a week.

Nov That, my colleagues, is how you jam an eight week course into seven weeks of time.

Nov Dialogue released from proposed film, “Gullickzilla”: As a large scaly creature rises from the sea and plucks an innocent bystander and begins eating the bystander, the bystander screams for mercy. Gullickzilla, with eyes half closed as often happens to diners who come across an especially tasty dish, says: “If you don’t like it, you can leave.” Script note: Gullickzilla has no sense of irony.

Nov Chancellor Christine Johnson comes to the campuses and lets faculty know that we are a system with a chancellor and college “presidents”. Specifics? Not on my watch.

Nov Administrators ran across the SCC campus screaming, “THE FREEWAY IS COMING, THE FREEWAY IS COMING!” This is the same freeway that frightened former chancellor and money disappearer Charles “I’ve never been to Liberia in my life” Taylor. That was twelve years ago.

Nov If you stand at the edge of the SCC campus and look north, what are the odds you will probably die of old age before you see a freeway?

Nov Not much. You will get run over first, but if you were lucky to avoid that fate, how long would you wait before a freeway ran over you?

Nov Makes no difference. Joe Dunlap and Scott Morgan claim the impending North-South freeway will destroy buildings sending students, faculty and staff scattering to spend the rest of their academic experience in bomb shelters.

Nov Cue “Psycho ominous foreshadowing squeaky violin music.” Joe Dunlap. Remember him?

Nov So the proposal is to build a big new addition not by getting it on the capital projects list but by borrowing money using our exemplary credit rating.

Nov Because, take note, the economy and state budget are in such dire straits that it would be impossible to get a building approved for a capital project. Wait. If budgets are so bad who would loan us money?

Nov Anyone notice that the real estate bubble has already burst? Hmm.

Nov Side note. Joe Paterno is fired because one of his assistants raped a ten year old boy in the showers at Penn state. And was caught by a witness. Who didn’t do anything to stop it.

Nov New CCS motto. We Are Not Penn State!

Nov Long memo from SFCC Prez Pam begins: “I am going to be leaving soon ...”

Nov Joe Dunlap: “Not me!” What’s with that scary music?

Nov Kyla Bates gets a new job at the IEL because, among other things, she is a certified proctor for Kryterion. Yes. That’s the way highly educated people spelled it.

Nov Now we need a certified proctor to get people to come up with words that are spelled correctly.

Nov Title: Proktoorr in charge of Cumm-ooni-Tee Kollejess uv Spow-Kannn spulling reevoo prawsays.

Nov Gas shutdown threatens classes on Saturday. Will showering workout artists in the gym freeze? Prez Pam to the rescue with this item in her email: “great catch Marie, thanks; SFCC serves all the people all of the time, and thus, shutdowns are bought. Hope something can be worked out and am sure they will be. “

Nov Shutdowns are bought? And what did Marie catch.

Nov Due out next year: The Pam Praeger translation guide.

Nov In case you missed it, I’ll be leaving next year.

Nov The legislature is back in special session. This time they will solve the budget problem.

Unfortunately, that means offering up Eastern Washington as a Nuclear Waste Dump for the old Soviet Union. Double unfortunately, the state will be paid in rubles.

Nov Beats being paid in Euros.

Nov Or Drachmas. Don’t you wish the Euro Union would dump Greece just so one country in the world would have Drachmas. It’s so fun to say. Drachma. Worthless, useless Drachmas.

Dec SFCC is shut down because police have a perp trapped in his apartment which is within a mile or so of SFCC. The perp pointed a rifle at a cop, pulled the trigger, but luckily, the gun didn’t fire. (See. This is what happens when you drop out of school. You don’t learn basic logic. Load the gun before pointing it at a cop).

Dec Wait. Why shut down SFCC?

Dec Because the apartment is nearby. We can't have perps with empty guns pointing them in the direction of a college where, since it is a faculty work day, no one will be around anyway.

Dec Fortunately, at 11 p.m. cops surrounded the apartment.

Dec Double fortunately, they called out their swat teams with the big armored vehicles to also surround the place.

Dec Triple fortunately, SFCC was alerted early the next morning because the apartment was still surrounded by, oh, a billion or so local police and SWAT persons.

Dec Oops. Turns out the perp had sneaked out (nod to Nelliemay here ... editor caught that egregious "snuck"), oh, around ten thirty the previous evening and no one was in the apartment.

Dec But it was still surrounded. And the apartment did not harm anyone. Not even the SFCC people who weren't there.

Dec Yes, I know. Other people than faculty work at SFCC and they could have been harmed.

Dec By the guy who wasn't there.

Dec The legislature is still working on the budget.

Dec What this means is they aren't doing anything to fix the budget.

Dec Speaking of budgets, you know what we need around here—a PROVOST.

Dec What's a provost?

Dec Well, we hope it's not a scaly creature who rises from the swamps of Colorado.

Dec Whitworth says it won't accept any student classes in which the student earned less than a C.

Dec What the hell is a C?

Dec Do they mean 2.0? Ah, Whitworth, college of the 19th century.

Dec The state legislature, in a very expensive special session, voted to go home.

Jan (Grammar reminder from a previous page. The past tense of sneak is not snuck, and don't feaking forget it). The feaking state legislature voted to come back. New year. New budget crisis. We're ready.

Jan Okay okay. It's the same old feaking budget crisis.

Jan Who will be the god of information technology? The IT task force was supposed to figure this out. In a hotly contested vote, they decided that they could not decide.

Jan Wait! The IT task force has narrowed their choice to two models: The McDonalds Model (this is true). The YIR analysis of the McDonalds model shows that committee members will stuff their mouths full of French Fries and Big Macs, then vote orally (I vote mmmfff spootth) showering their fellow committee members with Mcdetritus. Yum.

Jan The other model is the Integrated model in which committee members will sneak into the community at large disguised as average human beings and find out what the riffraff is thinking.

Jan Ah. The McDonalds model means that standards are established by "corporate" (Big Brother) and shoved down the throats of "franchises" (prols).

Jan The integrated model reorganizes IT into five functional areas (and fifty or sixty dysfunctional areas): One of which is customer service. Hmm. Ah, yes and Academic Systems is one "functional" area. Ho ho.

Jan So, customer service works like this. We have one really really good IT "user service technician" – call center guy. We add two others who may or not be any good and then you have one chance in three of getting hold of the really really good service technician in case you wake up and find your computer is accidentally logging into porn sites. And you actually want it to stop.

Jan So what else do you have up your sleeve IT task force?

Jan "Mmmfff spotth."

Jan The IEL sends a request to faculty for donations of professional clothing for some kind of fashion show.

Jan Faculty. Professional clothing? Better idea-ask those people standing by the freeway entrances, the ones with cardboard signs.

Jan a. They dress better. b. They're more style conscious.

Jan Important notice. You can get updates about CCS operations by phone, web and more!

Jan So if a natural disaster occurs, like a blizzard or Gullickzilla starts eating your campus, you can get alerts, but only after the Chancellor and presidents are able to agree that a disaster is occurring.

Jan So you call and this is the message: *If you want to know if a disaster is closing campus, push 1 for administrative meeting schedule. Push 2 if you want to be told to come to campus anyway. Push 3 if you are a litigious bastard and will sue us if you try to get to work and are, say, eaten by a large lizard.*

Jan By the way, you have to SUBSCRIBE for this service. Once you've signed up, you'll receive a barrage of e-mail and/or text messages regarding CCS emergency operations as they are generated. Messages like this: *Run for your LIVES! A giant lizard is ... AAAAAhhhhhhhhhhh.*

Jan: I promise you *Gullickzilla* will be a blockbuster. The cool thing about watching people get eaten alive is that no one is bothered if the people are teachers. Rated PG because violence is offset by some great recipes.

January We discover that the program to train pilots in conjunction with a University of North Dakota program costs too much. The program crashes and burns.

January DON'T USE CRASHES AND BURNS IN THE SAME PARAGRAPH AS "TRAINS PILOTS!"

January Yes, the pilot training program costs students \$80,000 to get a job making \$30,000 a year. But that pays off after, oh, 75 years or so after you deduct living expenses.

January SFCC Prez Pam offers to send consolation cards for anyone. Tiny script at bottom will reveal that she's leaving soon.

January She'll even provide the stamps.

January Thank the gods someone is helping out the postal service.

January Cost cutting is done by taking administrative jobs from the college units and moving them to district.

January At district, they use a different kind of currency than at the colleges, so a dollar there doesn't cost as much as a dollar at the college.

January A quick look at the list of administrators on the CCS website shows that Gary Livingstone is our chancellor.

January Maybe his salary should be used instead of the one that was increased \$20,000 plus.

January The state legislature invites State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) president Charley Earl to share his thoughts about community college issues then moon him.

January My god those people have big butts.

Feb Just as the state legislature lays Charley Earl onto a slab and raises the knife to sacrifice him in hopes that the gods will pay in cash for a human sacrifice, word comes down that revenue projections are up and costs for welfare are down. Looks like that program to ship welfare recipients off to Syria are working out.

Feb As Charley Earl is untied and allowed to crawl off the slab, he is heard muttering something about retiring.

Feb Well, if you can't stand the heat ...

Feb SFCC presidential-candidate-to-be Janet Gullickson meets at SFCC to explain to faculty why we have to track down and capture missing students and lock them in cages. Because the democrats are the same kind of bastards as republicans, so to speak.

Feb Oh, by the way. That odd little sentence in the proposed change to the Board of Trustees policy manual. The one that says faculty must inform students of their grades at mid-quarter? That is NOT what the meeting is about.

Feb Okay. If you're going to have a meeting with SFCC faculty in which includes ancient, unable to retire because of the feaking economic crisis faculty members who have in ancient times tasted the blood of bosses, you ought to find out what THEIR agenda is. Then hide somewhere. These are people who don't ordinarily only go to these kinds of meeting if raw flesh is served.

Feb Yes, at least half of them are vegans, but they still scream for blood.

Feb Flashback. In a similar meeting at SCC, the faculty hid under their chairs and with good reason. The words "If you don't like it, you can leave" really hits home when you've never liked ANYTHING!

Feb What? We're supposed to leave the planet?

Feb The flesh hungry faculty at SFCC were sent into a feeding frenzy by tips from SCC what was up. This brings up the question of whether SFCC faculty are Zombies. If not, why is their skin falling off their bodies?

Feb Hey, no one warned us back in the last century that getting all tanned up would kill of that glue stuff that holds our skin to our bodies. But if Zombies are in, we'll just call it a fashion statement.

Feb Back at SFCC. After 40 minutes, the agenda shifts. Oh yeah, that part about the grades at mid-quarter? Didn't I mention that has been struck out. Ouch. Will you stop biting my ankle!

Feb Ankle? Tasted like chicken to me. Except it's kind of scaly.

Feb Hollywood: What if Gullickzilla is taken down by zombies? Zombies who have to work until they are three thousand years old because their TIAA CREF accounts SUCK!

Feb Nice ankle by the way.



Nicely tailored outfit. Wait. Haven't we seen that before?



Feb Oh yeah. An INSTRUCTOR is criticizing a wardrobe. An SFCC instructor who also happens to be the editor of the Year in Review parked his car near the McDonalds by the freeway, and when he got out a person in a car driving by threw change at him. (Driver: "I think some of these street-corner people are faking it, but the way that guy was dressed, he really does need the money.")

Feb You thinking what I'm thinking? Another great way to solve the budget crisis. Hordes of faculty dressed the way they do for class wandering the streets begging for money.

Feb The NLTL (Never Let The Learners Leave) propose the Angry Dad technique to keep students from dropping out. A test subject is put in a room with a fat guy in a flannel shirt and jeans who is holding a beer can. "You know what kind of world it is out there for someone without a degree? They're gonna chew you up and spit you out like so much dog meat." Student steals beer and disappears.

Feb NLTL: Maybe we ought to rethink the beer part.

Feb A camel from the SFCC library, it is discovered, has stuck his nose in the SFCC social science tent.

Feb Inklings of the new organization plan are beginning to leak out. The idea is to move all administrative functions to district so the chancellor is in total control and can move on to conquering Europe. (Oops. Did we say that out loud?)

Feb No, no. The purpose is to save money. It's just a coincidence that it puts total power in the hands of nice, congenial, forward seeking district "personnel".

Feb One thing for sure is that we're going to make sure we give students more opportunity to learn online.

Feb And we're going to make sure we support online teachers. First step, make sure students at SFCC, for example, can easily take tests in the testing center.

Feb Which is going to be moved.

Feb Wait? Where the hell are they going to move the testing center?

Feb We'll tell you right after we change personnel at the testing center.

Feb What? Who is going to do what in the testing centers?

Feb We'll tell you that as soon as we change the hours of the testing center.

Feb It's nice to know that Joe Dunlap is a rock solid figure at SCC, a figure of solidarity in changing times where employees are left otherwise in a veil of uncertainty. Right, Joe?

Feb Joe?

Feb Joe? Say something, Joe.

Feb The list is out naming the SFCC presidential candidates. And if you don't like them, you can leave.

Feb Meanwhile, a task force is hired to find out what a provost is.

March The state legislator suggests that the big state universities use logarithms to determine future tuition.

March The World Bank discovers that student loans have all been underwritten by Greek government bonds. Gulp.

March In a side note, German chancellor Angela Merkel (kind of echoes the name of the president in the great film *Dr. Strangelove* -Merkin Muffley) authorizes the European Union to choke Greece to death.

March It's kind of an economic final solution.

March A couple of republican Washington state legislators fall madly in love with Angela Merkel.

March "Ohhh I vant to rub yourrrr neck.

March "Don't touch me du Amerikan Svein."



She even looks a little like Dr. Strangelove.

March Legislators: I guess we'll just have to admire Angela from afar. She has such lovely spreadsheets. If we could only do to King county what she is doing to Greece.

March Turns out conservatives do admire Greece's tax collection policy.

March What tax collection policy?

March Legislators: "Heh heh heh."



March State college system history lesson. Many years ago someone discovered we weren't coordinated. The gods saw that wasn't good. They created the Higher Education Coordinating board. Baccalaureate college representatives were forced screaming and kicking to sit in the same room with community college representatives. It's like in high school when cool, beautiful Lana was forced to go to the prom with dorky, nerdy, pimply Willy. And had to talk to him. Yuck.

March The gods saw that it was good. Well, they saw that it was sort of acceptable. They called it the HEC Board.

March And now, the HEC board is dead. A wooden stake is thrust through its heart.

March But like Dracula, it rises again. It is now the Washington Student Achievement Council. The WSAC council. Like What a SAC. Hmm.

March The point is that until now, no one at any college gave a rip whether students achieved.

March The NLTL (Never Let The Learners Leave) Committee comes up with a new plan to capture disgruntled escaped students: the free grade plan. Why do students leave? Because it's too hard to get a passing grade, right? So let's just give them a passing grade. So the NLTL (Never Let The Learners Leave) Committee captures escaped students and puts them in a room with several "grade-light" community college teachers. The teachers however each are distracted when their cell phones ring. After they hang up, they notice that the classroom is empty.

March NLTL Committee: "We would call that one a win win. Class times are shorter so we can still say the students showed up. And they got a passing grade.

March And that my friends is what we call SUCCESS!

March And the state awards the colleges \$50.

March Each?

March State: Please. Do you think we're made of money.

April Secret report: The former head of student services has been "Zombieished".

April Zombieish: a state of not quite being the walking dead. More like the "sitting at one's desk wondering what one should do" dead. They are shunned by real, self-respecting Zombies.

April Secret report: Somebody high up at CCS has cut a deal with Pepsi so all Coke machines will be replaced with Pepsi machines.

April What will the college do with the money it makes by substituting that swill called Pepsi for the delicious Coca Cola?

April Get that Coke? Please send plug money to the Year In Review at 1 Obnoxious Square Spokane WA and throw in a case of Mountain Dew.

April Oh, about the money. It will be used to, of course, benefit students.

April If you mean by benefiting students, helping buff up the old slush fund, then yes.

April If you mean it benefits students in the way making them pay the technology fee instead of having the state do it as would happen in a civilized community college system, then yes.

April Will the new Pepsi deal mean lower prices on pop (or as they say in the East, soda...or as they say in the South, Coke. Even if it's Pepsi, they say Coke. Ah that lazy, hazy confusing culture)?

April Pardon us while we join "The Greedy Basterds" in a good laugh.

April Don't you people realize we are in the middle of the BIGGEST BUDGET CRISIS since the state auditor decided to convert state dollars to Greek Drachmas? And in Greek, budget crisis is loosely translated as thus: Find another way to screw the students.

April Speaking of screwing students, a program called Higher One which “manages” student financial aid is considered for approval at SFCC. Higher One is famous for big profit margins and complaints from students and student advocates.

April Listen up Commie naysayers: these cool debit cards to access financial aid money are all part of the great Free Market System which lives by the golden rule which says: Treat the little people like they are little or they might get uppity.

April If the Higher One debit machine runs out of money, the student can still use the card at a different ATM, but the student must pay a “foreign ATM” fee.

April In an innovative approach to “helping” students “gain access” to their cash, Higher One can charge a \$19 inactive service fee.

April What better free market is there than this. Charge students if they use the service and charge way more if they don’t use it.

April Thank the gods that CCS thinks too much of students to use a system like Higher One.

April CCS: We are installing the Higher One system in July.

April Notice to students. You have two months to kiss your cash goodbye.

April CCS: Soon to be former SCC president Joe Dunlap allows NIC to hire him.

April NIC: Hey, we got him on sale.

April Back at CCS- What is a Provost? That question isn’t answered yet, but we have learned that the Provost won’t just be a Provost. The Provost will also be the Chief Learning Officer.

April We wonder if Harvard has a Chief Learning Officer. If so, it would only be to give them someone to haze.

April And in case you missed it over the past few years, Greg Stevens is now Chief Administration Officer. You can’t be an administrator without being able to be promoted to something, so they made up this position.

April What academic credentials does one have to have to be a Chief Administration Officer at a college?

April What do you mean, credentials?

May Online students come to campus to take a proctored test. They go to the testing center.

May Notice: testing center was moved as part of the CCS efforts to enhance the online learning experience.

May Where is the testing center?

May How should we know? It moved.

May In the continuing saga of the camel in the history tent at SFCC, a different camel, er, librarian, resigns.

May Note from historians to library: “Good. You can have your stinking, drooling camel back.”

May AHE: re: camel issue. Our contracts clearly state that when party A donates camel to party B, party B cannot return camel to party A because ... uh ... because when the other camel, er, librarian resigned it just means the library saves more money.

May AHE: You see, it has been pointed out that we don’t need any librarians. Librarians have themselves proven to students that anything and everything can be found on the internet via the magic word Google. Face it librarians. You have Googled yourself. And take this bucket of camel drool OUT OF HERE!

May It's just a sad situation that innocent bystanders like historians have inadvertently found themselves Googled by the librarians.

May Petroleum Jelly anyone?

May We are stunned to learn that JANET GULLICKSON will be the new SFCC president. Who would have guessed?

May I mean, it was a nationwide search.

May Nationwide: Looking east from Spokane, the nation appears like this: Idaho looks like a big tree then we can see a bunch of microdot sized states except for Colorado which is HUGE (that big red swollen bump is a Provost)and then nothing because that's where the flat earth ends, just on the other side of Colorado.

May SFCC vice-president of learning Jim Minkler is to become SFCC vice-president of learning.

May More administrator news at SFCC: "Ohmigod we're losing our Wenger."

May I'd see a urologist about that.

May BREAKING NEWS: SCC STEALS RAY!

May You can let Pam leave. You can make the VP of Student Services disappear (where the heck did he go anyway?) and you can lose our Wenger, but you can't take the ONLY PERSON IN THE WORLD who can figure out why my computer caused the printer to print the entire *World Book Encyclopedia of Ennui* twice. You might as well just sell our brains to the WSU useless neurological studies program.

May No. We wanted to sell your brains to the WSU new and tasty dog food development program, but they rejected our offer. Not enough protein.

May Clarification. SCC did not steal Ray. CCS stole Ray and are hiding him at SCC. Next. We'll come to our offices and find out our computers have been replaced with iPhones.

May Just try to type out your syllabus on that tiny virtual keyboard. It isn't even any good for typing swear words.

May But Larry Massey would teach you how to use voice commands to deliver text messages but only about what's for lunch at nearby restaurants.

May Why are our syllabi so confusing yet so tasty?

May Except Larry hates the ground Steve Jobs is buried in. (Steve Jobs is buried, isn't he? Maybe they compacted his ashes and made them into a one-of-a-kind iPhone case.)

May The big three-percent pay cut is looming except that faculty aren't getting a pay cut because no one can figure out how to have faculty work three percent less. This is TRUE!

May And we wonder why the staff hates faculty. But they hide it well.

May Someone in Human Services picks up the book *The Hunger Games*.

June So this fall, all the faculty will be flown off to this foresty place where they will play the exciting game of Hunger. No animals will be eaten in the production of this game.

June The hope is that faculty will figure out how to craft primitive weapons and use them to accidentally scratch themselves and die of infections. Another possibility is that one dominant faculty member will wipe out all the others and return to become an Alpha faculty person.

June Alpha? Okay, everyone has ten minutes to laugh and laugh and then get back to important things.

June The Fox network has already purchased the rights except they're afraid all the faculty combatants will get lost in the woods and won't be able to "complete" the game. If only they would at least scratch themselves and get a big, photographically compelling pus filled injury.

June Combatant: “Where the hell is that hamburger tree?”

June It’s kind of like Stone Age Survival except we want everyone to fill out a survey so we can determine . . . uh. . . something.

June And the testing center is located in Building ... wait ... it moved.

The end.