

**Subject:** Re: Hello from COCC  
**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 at 4:51:30 PM Pacific Standard Time  
**From:** Martin Sundberg  
**To:** Venus Nguyen  
**CC:** Lily Raff  
**Attachments:** SUNDBERG\_Signed\_Letter of Support\_ PhotoVideo Certificate at COCC.pages, Sundberg\_125.png

Hello Lily and Venus... Thank you Lily for the introduction, and happy to be connected.

These programs seem like a great addition to the COCC curriculum and I certainly concur with your letter shared. I've attached a signed copy and happy to support in any other way that I can. In addition to being a photographer and video director I have worked in education in various capacities throughout my career; as a licensed educator in the MPLS school district early on as well as with the photography intern programs, graduate and undergraduate levels, at Brooks Institute. We employed/mentored several students while living in Santa Barbara prior to our family moving to Bend.

I'd love to participate in your advisory board so please keep me posted as those dates near and how I can be most helpful to your team.

Lily... unfortunately we are not participating in SYP this year. Boone is giving the Freeride program a try (my vote was nordic!) and we really only have capacity for one program at a time. The MBSEF video we were working on all last winter went live at the Snow Ball event a week ago. If you have not seen it here is a link:  
<https://martinsundberg.com/Motion/thumbs>

Thanks again and please reach out if you need anything further to support your programming.

Best,  
Martin

Dear COCC Academic Affairs,

I am writing in support of Venus Nguyen, Art & Design Program Director, and her proposed Photography/Videography One Year Certificate of Completion . As someone who is passionate about photography as a career pathway and a form of visual communication, I believe that a one-year certificate of completion has the potential to make a real impact in our community.

A problem we face in Central Oregon is an targeted, accessible, educational pathway in higher education for students to get the education they need to be successful as an entry level photographer/videographer. This has a negative impact on our community since talented artists have to leave Central Oregon to get the education they need and often do not return. This issue makes hiring for these positions very challenging that needs attention and action.

Fortunately, Venus has been addressing this issue in our community with the development of the two current one-year certificates in Graphic Design and Illustration and I support the expansion of these creative, high-need pathways with the development of the two additional certificates: Photography/Videography and User Experience and Interface (UX/UI), respectively. The curriculum that she had developed with the help of the Art & Design faculty, industry professionals, and by doing the research to condense a bachelor's level degree into a targeted, industry specific certificate will truly make a real impact in our community.

The potential impact of this project is significant. The statistics show that growth in these careers is up to 15% over the next 10 years. By being on the forefront of this movement, COCC will be fulfilling a need for the state as well as responding to aspiring artists looking to pursue their dream jobs, in a creative field without leaving our community. If we can successfully implement these educational pathways at the community college level, we remove the barrier that some student demographics have in the pursuit of these jobs.

I strongly believe that Venus and the additional certificates being proposed in the Art & Design department is a positive, accessible solution for a need in our community. COCC has a proven track record of success in the implementation of career, technical education in the community and Venus has the experience and expertise to build and support these programs with excellence.

Thank you for considering this certificate proposal. Your support will make a meaningful difference in the lives of our community and the students that want to stay in Central Oregon for their education and career in creative fields.

Martin Sundberg  
Photographer and Video Director

[www.martinsundberg.com](http://www.martinsundberg.com)  
[martin@martinsundberg.com](mailto:martin@martinsundberg.com)  
510-410-2217

**Subject:** Re: Hello from COCC

**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 at 7:34:44 PM Pacific Standard Time

**From:** Rob Kerr

**To:** Venus Nguyen

Here you go! Please consider me for the board advisor position too. Go get it done!

Rob

(541) 460-3789

<https://robkerrphotography.photoshelter.com/index>

Letter of Support\_ PhotoVideo Certificate at COCC.RK.edit

Dear COCC Academic Affairs,

I am writing in support of Venus Nguyen, Art & Design Program Director, and her proposed Photography/Videography One Year Certificate of Completion . As someone who is passionate about photography as a career pathway and a form of visual communication, I believe that a one-year certificate of completion has the potential to make a real impact in our community.

A problem we face in Central Oregon is an targeted, accessible, educational pathway in higher education for students to get the education they need to be successful as an entry level photographer/videographer. This has a negative impact on our community since talented artists have to leave Central Oregon to get the education they need and often do not return. This issue makes hiring for these positions very challenging that needs attention and action.

Fortunately, Venus has been addressing this issue in our community with the development of the two current one-year certificates in Graphic Design and Illustration and I support the expansion of these creative, high-need pathways with the development of the two additional certificates: Photography/Videography and User Experience and Interface (UX/UI), respectively. The curriculum that she had developed with the help of the Art & Design faculty, industry professionals, and by doing the research to condense a bachelor's level degree into a targeted, industry specific certificate will truly make a real impact in our community.

The potential impact of this project is significant. The statistics show that growth in these careers is up to 15% over the next 10 years. By being on the forefront of this movement, COCC will be fulfilling a need for the state as well as responding to aspiring artists looking to pursue their dream jobs, in a creative field without leaving our community. If we can successfully implement these educational pathways at the community college level, we remove the barrier that some student demographics have in the pursuit of these jobs.

I strongly believe that Venus and the additional certificates being proposed in the Art & Design department is a positive, accessible solution for a need in our community. COCC has a proven track record of success in the implementation of career, technical education in the community and Venus has the experience and expertise to build and support these programs with excellence.

Thank you for considering this certificate proposal. Your support will make a meaningful difference in the lives of our community and the students that want to stay in Central Oregon for their education and career in creative fields.

Rob Kerr Photography

[robkerrphotography@gmail.com](mailto:robkerrphotography@gmail.com)

Instagram: @robkerr6

<https://robkerrphotography.photoshelter.com/index>

**Subject:** Re: Urgent Help Needed for Photo/Video Certificate by Monday Morning, November 18  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 at 12:41:36 PM Pacific Standard Time  
**From:** Mindy Mendenhall  
**To:** Venus Nguyen  
**Attachments:** COCC Academic Affairs.pdf

My letter is attached.

Thanks!

Mindy

November 16, 2024

Dear COCC Academic Affairs,

I am writing in support of Venus Nguyen, Art & Design Program Director, and her proposed Photography/Videography One Year Certificate of Completion. As a local photographer, a high school photography teacher, and COCC graphic arts instructor who is passionate about photography as a career pathway and a form of visual communication, I believe that a one-year certificate of completion has the potential to make an impact in our community.

A problem we face in Central Oregon is the lack of a targeted, accessible, educational pathway in higher education for students to get the education they need to be successful as an entry level photographer/videographer. This has a negative impact on our community since talented artists have to leave Central Oregon to get the education they need, and they often do not return. This issue makes hiring for these positions challenging.

Fortunately, Venus has been addressing this issue in our community with the development of the two current one-year certificates in Graphic Design and Illustration, and I support the expansion of these creative, high-need pathways with the addition of two new certificates: Photography/Videography, and User Experience and Interface (UX/UI), respectively. The curriculum she developed with the help of the Art & Design faculty, industry professionals, and by doing the research to condense a bachelor's degree into a targeted, industry specific certificate will truly make an impact in our community.

The potential impact of this project is significant. Statistics show that growth in these careers is up to 15% over the next 10 years. By being on the forefront of this movement, COCC will be fulfilling a need for the state as well as responding to aspiring artists looking to pursue their dream jobs in a creative field without leaving our community. If we can successfully implement these educational pathways at the community college level, we remove the barrier some student demographics have in pursuit of these jobs.

I strongly believe Venus and the additional certificates being proposed in the Art & Design program is a positive, accessible solution for a need in our community. As a COCC Graphic Arts instructor and a high school CTE Graphic Arts and Photography teacher, I am positive I will have students interested in these programs. COCC has a proven track record of success in the implementation of career, technical education in the community, and Venus has the experience and expertise to build and support these programs with excellence.

Thank you for considering this certificate proposal. Your support will make a meaningful difference in the lives of our community and the students who want to stay in Central Oregon for their education and career in creative fields.

Mindy Mendenhall, ART 141 Instructor, Summit High School CTE Graphic Arts & Photography Instructor  
mmendenhall@cocc.edu

**Subject:** Re: Urgent Help Needed for Photo/Video Certificate by Monday Morning,  
November 18

**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 at 3:09:20 PM Pacific Standard Time

**From:** Sai Washburn

**To:** Venus Nguyen

Signed. :)

Sai

VERIFY ORIGIN OF EMAIL BEFORE REPLYING

W. Sai Washburn  
(He/Him)  
Art Dept.  
MFA Visual Studies

Dear COCC Academic Affairs,

I am writing in support of Venus Nguyen, Art & Design Program Director, and her proposed Photography/Videography One Year Certificate of Completion . As someone who is passionate about photography as a career pathway and a form of visual communication, I believe that a one-year certificate of completion has the potential to make a real impact in our community.

A problem we face in Central Oregon is an targeted, accessible, educational pathway in higher education for students to get the education they need to be successful as an entry level photographer/videographer. This has a negative impact on our community since talented artists have to leave Central Oregon to get the education they need and often do not return. This issue makes hiring for these positions very challenging that needs attention and action.

Fortunately, Venus has been addressing this issue in our community with the development of the two current one-year certificates in Graphic Design and Illustration and I support the expansion of these creative, high-need pathways with the development of the two additional certificates: Photography/Videography and User Experience and Interface (UX/UI), respectively. The curriculum that she had developed with the help of the Art & Design faculty, industry professionals, and by doing the research to condense a bachelor's level degree into a targeted, industry specific certificate will truly make a real impact in our community.

The potential impact of this project is significant. The statistics show that growth in these careers is up to 15% over the next 10 years. By being on the forefront of this movement, COCC will be fulfilling a need for the state as well as responding to aspiring artists looking to pursue their dream jobs, in a creative field without leaving our community. If we can successfully implement these educational pathways at the community college level, we remove the barrier that some student demographics have in the pursuit of these jobs.

I strongly believe that Venus and the additional certificates being proposed in the Art & Design department is a positive, accessible solution for a need in our community. COCC has a proven track record of success in the implementation of career, technical education in the community and Venus has the experience and expertise to build and support these programs with excellence.

Thank you for considering this certificate proposal. Your support will make a meaningful difference in the lives of our community and the students that want to stay in Central Oregon for their education and career in creative fields.

W. Sai Washburn, Adjunct Instructor Photography/Videography  
Swashburn2@cocc.edu