

## President's Report

October 4, 2017

### *The Retreat and New Goals*

We had a pleasant, meaningful and well attended retreat last Friday. Thanks for all who came. We missed the few of you who couldn't make it. Thanks to Dr. Chong for having lunch with us and answering some questions. New Goal Suggestions:

- The assertion of faculty/senate purview in curriculum, re: the usurpation of discipline and department functions both by non-credit programs like Adult Education and for-profit vendors to whom we rent facilities like ELS.
- Establish a direct relationship between the Senate and the Board of Trustees
- Renegotiate with the Board of Trustees primacy and mutual agreement for the 10 plus 1
- Assert faculty/senate primacy in the area of Distance Education
- Faculty Safety re: lack of police presence in Petaluma

We will soon have an online ballot for senators to choose our goals for this year, so stay tuned for that. Our custom has been to take last year's goals, combine them with new goals and elect the top ten for this year's goals. Last year's goals can be found on our senate website.

### *Guided Pathways*

- Seminar—October 23. A team from SRJC will attend a seminar on Guided Pathways sponsored by the Chancellor's Office on October 23. The team will be 10 individuals, five of which will be faculty.
- Open Letter in Opposition to the "Vision for Success" Many of you read the open letter on Guided Pathways by myself and Alexa Forrester published to the faculty yesterday. Our intention is to influence the way this latest initiative is going to play out by stressing some strong objections to parts of the Chancellor's Vision that we think will be detrimental to our system. In response to a flood of positive feedback, Alexa and I are planning to set up an online petition for people to sign, thereby signifying their support for our arguments and cause. There are plans to publish the letter in several statewide venues.

### *Continuing Education and Research Grant*

A donation was received by the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign specified for "Faculty Continuing Education and Research." The total sum is \$37,000 which will be divided into 2 years, approximately \$18,000 for 2018, \$18,000 for 2019. This is an open-ended fund raising campaign, and more money may be coming in for this. Oversight for the distribution of the funds will be shared by the Academic Senate and Academic Affairs, with the primary oversight being

the Senate's wing of the Professional Development Committee. The Screening and Selection subcommittee will consist of the Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs, the Academic Senate President, and the Faculty Coordinators of the Professional Development Committee. Applications are now online. The deadline to apply is November 10.

*Area B—October 13*

The regional Area B meeting of the state Academic Senate will be held on our own Petaluma campus this semester in just a week and a half. We have asked for interested parties. Given its proximity, any senator is encouraged to take the opportunity to check it out. Food is involved so let Jessica know if you are planning to attend.

*Plenary—November 2-4*

We only have the AS budget to send one person to Plenary this fall. We have been sending faculty members to Plenary representing CTE and Petaluma from other budgets, and so far, although we have asked several people, no one is available to go. We continue the search within the limits we have, but time is getting late and the deadline to register is now past. We are open to suggestions. At present, only the president (myself) is going.

Eric Thompson