

Lunch with the Vice Chancellor (see my fuller notes in Appendix 1)

- We will not be required to decide about the next segment of the Guided Pathways grant program until next May.
- AB 1809, the New Funding Formula Legislation, required that each governing board “certify” by January 1, 2019, that the college’s mission aligns with the Vision for Success. Vice Chancellor Hope assured us that the date would be moved down to the end of the school year (May 2019).

The Senate Retreat

About 16 came to the Senate retreat at Shone Farm on Friday, September 28, from noon to 4:00. We had a marvelous lunch, and . . .

- A discussion of what it means to represent constituents as a senator
- A report and discussion, led by Nora Wheeler and Jessica Melvin, on Brown Act law and Roberts Rules of Order
- A discussion of executive offices on the senate, the role of adjunct faculty; the need of two senate subcommittees was discussed—one to study the structure of senate representation, the other to amend our Constitution and By-Laws to a) include adjunct representation on the executive committee, and expand the exec to include additional offices such as Parliamentarian and Legislative Liaison, and b) bring our constitution and by-laws into conformity with law and desired practice
- An exposition by Eric, and ensuing discussion about the new funding formula
- A discussion of last year’s goals

Academic Senate Goals

We will vote for our goals for this year shortly. As is our custom, we discuss our goals at the fall retreat, and vote either then or electronically afterward. The vote is a way of both selecting goals and ranking them in order of priority. Last year’s goals, with annotation, appear in Appendix II in this report.

Area B

The state is divided by the senate (ASCCC) into four Areas: A, B, C, D. We are in Area B, which is more or less the greater Bay Area. An Area meeting precedes the Plenary every semester, and is for the purpose of preparing for the Plenary. This semester it will be held on October 12th at DeAnza College. We will drive there, leaving at about 7:30 am for a meeting that

goes from 10:00-2:00. So we'll be back at about 4:00 depending on traffic. All are welcome to come. Let Jessica know if you want to go. It is very informative.

Eric

Appendix I: My Conversation with Laura Hope

I was invited to Lunch at the Burdo Culinary Café along with Dr. Chong, Jane Saldaña-Talley, and Pedro Avila, to meet with Vice Chancellor Laura Hope on Thursday, September 27, 2018. Lunch lasted an hour and a half, from 12:00-1:30. Jane and Frank left earlier, Pedro and I talked to Laura until we all left about 1:30. Laura Hope was in Santa Rosa on the occasion of a state-wide assessment/placement meeting.

Here are some highlights of the conversation in no particular order.

Guided Pathways: I asked, and Laura clarified about the procedure for Guided Pathways. Contrary to what I had been told by an administrator, we do not need to sign the Self-Assessment and Work Plan for GP until next May. Laura stressed that it is a dynamic work in progress, and that we can change it on the Chancellor's website anytime.

AB 1809 and the required alignment of our college's mission with the Vision for Success to be certified by the Board of Trustees by January 1, 2019: Laura said they have already talked to the legislature about moving the deadline. The deadline will be May or perhaps later.

We talked briefly about the OEI and the Course Exchange. She emphasized that students are already getting required classes that they want to take online elsewhere, especially math classes. That will happen, she said, whether we participate or not. We talked about the rich course offerings at SRJC, some of which are unique in the state; if some of them were offered in the Course Exchange it would help our enrollments.

Laura Hope talked about her son, who has decided to be a philosophy major (!!!!). She related that her advice to him is concentrate on the school work and not to worry about what job he might get. So many possibilities, she said, that we can't anticipate now.

Laura repeated something I have heard her say several times before. She taught English at a CCC for 20 years. She now thinks that her 20 years of teaching was a failure. She thinks of the whole enterprise as not giving the students what they need after all is said and done, although the intentions were good at the time. This is connected in her thinking to the completion statistics that are the basis for Guided Pathways style reform—only 46 % complete a degree or certificate in 6 years, etc.

I gave an exposition to Laura about what I see as a conundrum in the funding formula. In my program, and it is quite like other programs in the liberal arts and sciences, my completers do not transfer, and my transfers do not complete. The new funding formula assigns 4 points for an AD-T, 3 points for an AA/AS, and 1.5 points for a transfer. In fields like mine, the associate's degree is meaningless for a 20-year-old transfer student, who is pursuing a career in the field. For her, the

bachelor’s degree is the entrance, the minimum qualification, to career possibilities and usually a graduate degree is required. It is no surprise then, the majority of my completers over the last ten years are over the age of 58. The majority of my completers—those who complete the associate’s degree-- are retired persons—“lifelong learners”, Laura interjected—who are returning to school in their financially comfortable later years, having made a good living and acquired roots and status, who are not going anywhere distant for a higher degree. They missed going to college in youth because they were busy making money, and they have always wanted to return to acquire knowledge and understanding for its own sake. For them the AA is meaningful as an accomplishment, a destination. So the irony is that under the new funding formula, we will get twice as much money for the retired AA recipient who has not need or interest in a job or career, than we get for the 20 year old transferring to a UC.

I pointed out, further, that the funding formula privileges CSU transfers over UC transfers by funding ADTs at a higher rate than the AA/AS. Her response to all this, was a bit of confusion about the first point. She seemed to think that transfers were funded at the same as associate’s degrees, but we all corrected her. She was then unsure how to answer. On the second point, she said that the development of ADTs for UCs was assumed as a certain eventuality.

The conversation was cordial, ended in a friendly way, and as Laura said she would be attending the ASCCC Plenary, I expressed a desire to talk to her more then.

Appendix II: Goals

Our last year’s goals (15 of them listed in order of priority according to senator voting) are on the left, with notes about their status on the right. We have always considered it desirable to have ten attainable goals, but we had 15 last year. If there is anything not on this list, and in the purview of the Senate’s 10 + 1, please forward it to me.

Goal	Progress
Assertion of Faculty/Senate Purview in Curriculum regarding 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.	Underway Related Senate Action taken 9/19/18 Ongoing and needs more work
Full-time Faculty Hiring Towards 75/25: The AS will continue to advocate for full-time hires, the senate will vigilantly remind the institution of 75/25 goal.	Advocacy on-going; current budget an obstacle The administration has announced that it will fund failed hires (faculty who leave within the first two years of tenure review) and categorical and mandated positions, but otherwise will not replace full time retirements this year

Goal	Progress
<p>Waitlist/Class Size Task Forces: The AS will carefully shepherd these projects so that the outcome is imbued with the best pedagogical approach.</p>	<p>On hold for Contract Negotiations</p>
<p>Faculty Hiring Process: The AS will advocate that the procedure for hiring faculty be made more transparent.</p>	<p>Hiring Policy Revised, will come back for final read this year; process good. We may be able to take this off the list as accomplished.</p>
<p>Assert Faculty/Senate Primacy in Distance Education</p>	<p>Ongoing, and big things up-coming. New developments on the OEI and Course Exchange will come to the senate soon.</p>
<p>Enrollment Management: The AS will advise that the institution's approaches to enrollment management - scheduling, recruitment, and retention - be informed by faculty expertise.</p>	<p>Ongoing; Senate appointed faculty now participate in Enrollment Management Work Group; this is now going better in my judgement.</p>
<p>Budget Awareness and Transparency: The AS will undertake to educate itself and the faculty about the district's budget, and lend its voice firmly from an informed standpoint.</p>	<p>Change of leadership; 100 % increase in faculty involvement in BAC; Education on Budget in the planning stages and will be coming soon.</p>
<p>Relationship Between the Senate and Board: establish a direct relationship and renegotiate areas of senate primacy.</p>	<p>Some progress, need more urgently in light of AB 1809; It is urgent we continue to pursue this.</p>
<p>Professional Development: The AS will continue to exercise its purview in guiding policies for PD activities.</p>	<p>Ongoing discussion</p>

Goal	Progress
AFA/Senate Relations: The AS will converse regularly with AFA to solve problems of common interest and effectively collaborate on issue of overlapping purview.	Very greatly improved and continuing. Although we could possible take this off the list as accomplished, it would be good to formally acknowledge it in writing and institutionalize the changes we've instituted such as a seat for AFA president on Exec
Repeatability Restrictions: The AS will advocate for the repeal of repeatability restrictions to the administration and the state senate (ASCCC) leadership.	Advocacy continuing (even by President Chong at lunch with Vice Chancellor 9/27/18); this is to no avail. The Chancellor, Legislature and Board of Governors are firmly against it; it remains of interest and value to us, but is futile as far ass I can tell
Facilities Master Plan: The AS will endeavor to imbue the FMP process with faculty perspective.	Ongoing and the need will always be there, but it seems improved and not nearly as urgent
Faculty Safety: lack of police presence in Petaluma.	This is emerging as a big issue, and will come to the senate this fall. This may warrant a higher place in the list of goals.
Student Equity Planning: The AS will work to ensure that faculty participation is effective and ongoing in the forming and implementation of SSSP and SE plans.	The SSSP and SE and BSI committees have been merged into one, and is in dialogue with the Guided Pathways Work Group. The need for this as a senate goal hasn't disappeared, but perhaps it has waned.
Assert Faculty Purview in the Decision About SIS.	Ongoing. We are continuing with our SIS at present and there is progress to fix problems it has posed in the past. The need to watch this is ongoing, but should it be a goal this year?