

President's Report

November 6, 2019

Emergencies, Academic Senate, and Faculty Leadership Generally

- We had, in the month of October
 - 3 days of closure for PG&E Fire-prevention power outages (9th, 10th, 11th)
 - 2 hours of lockdown for an active shooter (22nd)
 - 1 week of closure for the Kincade fire (26th-Nov 2nd)
- We learned some things. One thing I think we learned, is that we need locks on the inside of every door. We need to insure that in future crises, no one is locked into a room from the outside and can't get out. We learned, or were reminded that first responders have difficult jobs, and I have a fresh appreciation for them. If the procedure had been for Kincade as it had been for Tubbs I certainly would have lost everything I own to the fire. In any case, there are a lot of things we can talk about going forward, about how the college responded to these crises, and how we can improve our preparation and response.
- To that end we are planning a faculty forum to discuss fire closures, shooters, etc. We have a tentative date of **December 2nd** in the afternoon.
- Faculty Leadership involvement during the crises: Jane Saldaña-Talley found the FAQ for faculty that was composed for the 2017 fires and shared it with the faculty leadership who composed it, suggesting that we update it. I was consulted by Dr. Chong on the phone immediately prior to the first closure in October and also talked to him shortly after the shooting incident. When the Kincade fire started, and evacuations began, I had no contact with anyone except a few text messages checking in with everyone's safety. I myself evacuated first to Spring Lake Campground in an Airstream trailer, then elsewhere near Spring Lake in front of friends' houses. For most of the evacuation I had no internet and very spotty cellular service.
- On October 31, now back home but still without gas and hence any heat, I got an invitation to a roundtable discussion at the College Police Department where I gathered with about 20 others, including faculty colleagues in leadership for the first time to discuss conditions of our reopening. There we edited the FAQ and sent it out Friday afternoon at 4:00.

It is absolutely clear that this kind of thing needs to be incorporated into our planning better. PG & E handled it, Police and Fire handled it much better this time and we were better prepared, but there are still many flaws in our planning and response. We need to have a serious conversation about how to plan for future wildfires, what are faculty leadership roles in an emergency, and what are faculty responsibilities in such events.

Please try to come to our forum to discuss these things.

Student Housing

The Student Housing Workgroup met yesterday (November 5, 2019) with updated plans. Factors affecting the plans include the developing plans of the City of Santa Rosa for the bike/pedestrian bridge over 101, landing onto Elliott Avenue, which is now projected to be complete in five to ten years; also, input from the Workgroup is incorporated into each iteration of the design. We are still on target to have the student housing structure open in 2022.

ASCCC Plenary

- Jen and I go tonight. Plenary starts Thursday morning and goes all day Thursday, Friday, and most of Saturday. Note that new resolutions are accepted no later than Thursday at 3:00, and Amendments to existing resolutions no later than 3:00 on Friday. The Resolution Packet is issued anew with changes Friday morning and Saturday morning. We debate them and vote on Saturday.
- Please look at the Resolutions Packet, and share with constituents. If you have any comments or questions about the resolutions, or opinions about how I should vote, email either Jen or myself, or text us if you have our number.

Note 3.01 with is about the spending of the **SEA grant**, which we have talked much about; 3.02-3.05 all deal with **Equity and Diversity**, and one acknowledges the contributions of **EOPS**.

Note 6.01 reverses an earlier Senate position on **baccalaureate degrees** in community colleges, and 6.02 advocates for their expansion in our system.

Note 19.01 Deals with **Minimum Qualifications in CE disciplines**.

Eric Thompson