

## **President's Report November 3, 2021**

Thanks to Senator Jacobson, who will be serving as Vice President while VP Ohkubo is on leave. Also, welcome to Phyllis Usina, from the LIR Department, who has stepped forward to fill the short-term Area 6 vacancy, and Aylin Atilgan Relyea, who has been appointed to the Adjunct Senator seat formerly held by Lauren Mitchell Nahas. I would also like to recognize Canon Crawford for his service as he steps back from the Senate. Shawn Brumbaugh in the Biological Sciences Department has been appointed to one of the Spring 2022 vacancies. Thank you to all of you who have stepped up to fill these roles.

Regarding the Senator vacancies, which you have seen announced in emails, I would like to note that most of these are due to sabbatical and other leaves. We will continue to solicit interest and make appointments until all seats have been filled.

Regarding progress on the Ethnic Studies Department, I would like to express my deep thanks to our faculty colleagues who have developed new courses in Native American Studies, African American Studies, Latinx Studies, and Asian-American Studies. These courses were reviewed and approved at the October 11 and October 25 Curriculum Committee meetings. Additionally, several courses have been approved for cross-listing. The call for the acting Department Chair has gone out from Dr. Saldana-Talley's office, and, as announced at a previous Senate meeting, the Administration has prioritized the hiring of five new Ethnic Studies contract faculty members and allocated an additional 2.5 FTEF for part-time faculty hiring in the new department.

EPCC had its second meeting on October 28. We reviewed policies and procedures on accreditation and athletics programs. The drafts are in very good shape, the Council asked for some minor edits, and the policies and procedures will return to EPCC for a final review and will then be placed on the Consent agenda at an upcoming Senate meeting. The documents are also simultaneously being forwarded to the Board. There will be some overlap in this expedited process. Please remember that policies and procedures are living documents, and the Senate is encouraged to consider which of them it may approve on Consent but wish to return to soon, for further work.

Please join us if you are able for a workshop on Curriculum and DEIA with Stephanie Curry from the statewide Academic Senate. November 15, 3 to 5 p.m. Flex credit has been approved.

The team headed to Plenary includes Senators Aspinall, Cavales Doolan, Romagnoli, and Schmidt, President-Elect Persons, and myself. As a reminder, Senators have received a link to the final drafts of resolutions. If you have an opportunity to review the packet and wish to share your thoughts, please email the Plenary team. Plenary starts tomorrow, and voting takes place on Saturday.

On Friday, the Faculty Staffing Committee completed its annual process of created a ranked list departments' requests for contract faculty positions. Faculty Staffing is advisory to the President, and we anticipate an announcement of positions released for recruitment soon.

The first meeting of the new Planning & Budget Council will be next Monday, November 8. The Senate appointees are Eve Miller from LIR, Salvador Rico from Math, Roam Romagnoli from English, and John Stover from Behavioral Sciences. The Senate President serves by position and is one of the tri-chairs. The final draft the Council's charge will be approved at College Council on Thursday. Once approved, that document will be available to the college community. Better integrating our planning and budget processes—two items enumerated in the Senate's 10 + 1—into a single council is an important change for the College. I would like to thank the

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administrative tri-chairs of PBC, Dr. Jeremy Smotherman and Kate Jolley, and Dr. Jane Saldana-Talley for their recognition of the Academic Senate's appropriate role on this new council.

The Program Review Committee has completed its review of documents provided by the programs that are up for review this cycle, and we are now meeting with the chairs and deans of identified programs.

We will be inviting the Guided Pathways workgroups to provide short reports to the Senate between now and the end of the fall semester, so that they can share with us where they are in their process. We will schedule another round of short reports in early spring, with the goal of final presentations of the completed projects by the end of the spring semester, for Senate consideration and approval. Also please note that all faculty members have received an invitation to provide input on the interdisciplinary First Year Experience course that is being developed.