

President's Report, November 17, 2021
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Everything that is getting done feels slightly miraculous—that we are able to do the volume of work we're doing under such extraordinary circumstances.

Speaking of miracles: Monica Ohkubo welcomed her baby on Saturday, November 13. Congratulations to Monica.

We are also welcoming Tara Jacobson into her role as Vice President while Monica is on leave. Welcome, Tara! And Vince Bertsch has been appointed to the Area 4 vacancy, effective today through the 2022-2023 academic year. Vince brings prior experience as a Senator, as a department chair, as a Community of Practice facilitator, and from numerous service projects at the College. Welcome, Vince.

Six of your Senate colleagues attended Plenary on November 4, 5, and 6. The general and breakout sessions were all wonderful, interesting, challenging, and transformative. ASCCC recognizes that many more faculty members are able to attend remotely—due to the reduced cost and convenience. Many of the resolutions passed on the Saturday will further DEIA work throughout the system. I encourage you to review the resolutions, available on the ASCCC website, so that you are aware of the good work that is being done in the CCC system.

On Monday, Stephanie Curry from ASCCC conducted a training session on DEIA and Curriculum for approximately twenty to twenty-five attendees. We learned a lot, and I look forward to the work that we may do as a Senate and also the work of the Curriculum Review Committee as DEIA principles increasingly inform the decisions we make regarding our course and class curriculum and teaching. Professor Curry's PowerPoint presentation will be posted on our website.

Strategic Planning—We had an initial kick-off meeting last Friday. There was strong attendance and a good conversation about the College's Strategic Planning process. Dr. Jeremy Smotherman and I are co-chairing, and with the support of the President's Cabinet we have decided that we will do a reset and restart the process in early Spring, with a new timeline and new schedule of Town Hall meetings and plenty of advance notice for all who wish to participate. There will be opportunities to attend and contribute virtually (or, one day, in person!), and there will also be opportunities to provide ideas and feedback via surveys posted on the Strategic Planning website, for those who can't attend the Town Halls. Vice President Stover will be joining me on the SP coordinating committee, which will be responsible for scheduling Town Hall meetings and facilitating the work based on community input.

Before her leave began, Monica Ohkubo had reached out to ASCCC to schedule the Senate's annual DEIA training. ASCCC is a bit backed up with requests and asked that we look at dates in spring, which we will do. Please watch for more information.

Guided Pathways work is in motion! Today we will vote on two Consent items—one for the Website Redesign project and one for the Program Mapping project. These Consent items are

an opportunity for the Senate to formally acknowledge the steps being taken and disbursement of Guided Pathways funds in support of the GP recommendations that the Senate approved in Fall 2020. The Academic Supports workgroup has asked to report to the Senate on December 1, and the FYE Interdisciplinary Course workgroup has surveyed all faculty members for ideas for the course outline of record that the workgroup will be writing. The workgroups have also requested—and Vice President Saldana-Talley has approved—periodic all-workgroup meetings so that workgroups can share their progress and identify points of connection. Thanks to Senator Johnson for being the driving force behind making the need known so that these meetings could be funded and scheduled. Thanks also to Byron Reaves, John Stover, and Nancy Persons for stepping in at a moment's notice to provide leadership when needed.

The Job Announcement Task Force is also making progress, and we may hear some initial ideas from that task force in December.

Credit for Prior Learning—I hope to have that on the December 1 agenda.

I'd also like to acknowledge the really supportive approach that our administration has nurtured over the past few years. It feels like this supportive, collaborative approach is becoming the "new normal." When faculty members make me or Exec aware of issues, I'm able to quietly reach out to a VP, dean, or other director, explain the issue, and get help with solving the problem. Recently, I've received immediate and responsive help from Serafin Fernandez, Sr Director of Capital Projects, all of the VPs, Dr. Chong, Deans Josh Adams, Robert Holcomb, and Victor Tam. This is a partial list—apologies for anyone left out! I am grateful.

Planning & Budget Council had its first meeting on Monday, November 8. We are moving toward planning and budget allocation that is shaped by our values, as expressed in our Mission, Vision, and Values. If this is something that you care about, I encourage you to participate in the Strategic Planning Process so that you may contribute to the M, V, and V.

The final deadline for applying to Spring 2022 CoPs is Monday, November 22.

The draft of the ISER has been made available to the College community. Please read it—or sections of it—as you are able, and provide feedback. This has been a huge lift, with many hands contributing. We owe them our thanks.

Finally, I thank you for your hard work and that you are doing that work with love, kindness, integrity. I also appreciate that you are taking care of yourselves and stepping back when you need to. As people have become overwhelmed, others have stepped up. I appreciate you all.