

## AS President Report to Academic Senate

March 1, 2023

N. Persons

### Spring PDA Day:

I hope everyone was able to get what they needed from PDA day, and encourage you all to fill out the post-PDA Day survey and include your suggestions for future professional development. I want to acknowledge the inspiring and illuminating Tauzer Lecture given by our own Dr. Sellu. I learned a great deal from his lecture about how to honor the wisdom our students bring to our learning environments and how it is possible for them to teach us, as well as for us to provide instruction that is responsive to our students and recognizes what they bring to the table.

### Committee Appointments:

We have appointed Dave Harden (Computer Studies) to serve on the District Online Committee (DOC) – thank you, Dave! Monica Ohkubo will finish out the semester vacancy on the Planning and Budget Council (PBC) – thank you, Dr. Ohkubo!

The Curriculum Review Committee still needs 3 faculty members to fill vacancies this semester. These faculty members are urgently needed to help with the primary role of faculty. These individuals are needed for CRC as well as to participate in area Cluster Tech Review committees. Please convey this need to your constituents and encourage colleagues to step forward. The CRC currently has no faculty from the CANNIT, KAD, PSOA, LRET or WFD Clusters. They also have only one CRC member from the LAFF cluster and one from the AH and BSS cluster.

### Constitution and Bylaws Revision

I am very pleased to announce that the Constitution and Bylaws Revision committee has been formed. Some faculty members previously involved did not want to continue, so the group will now be led by our own exec committee members Dr. Monica Ohkubo (AS Vice President) and Dr. John Stover (AS Secretary), and also includes Tara Johnson (TJ), Tara Jacobson, myself, and our Administrative Assistant Natalia Haworth. We hope to have documents ready for your review sometime in April. This work is needed in order to address several issues, including the need to incorporate our expanded Academic Senate Exec Committee (ASEC) members (at-large, associate, and equity positions), update Academic Senate (AS) subcommittees, and clean up some discrepancies between the Constitution and Bylaws.

### ASCCC Coaching Program

I am currently in conversation with the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) regarding participation in their brand-new Coaching Program. This program is intended local academic senates that feel they would benefit from ongoing regular consultation with the ASCCC, Community College League (CCL), possibly also the California Community College Independents (the organization serving CCCs with independent collective bargaining agent groups as we do at SRJC). In order to be eligible a local senate must have already had its district participate in a Collegiality in Action (CIA) workshop as we did on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Local senates work together with ASCCC leadership (and others) to develop a plan for regular coaching from

an ASCCC faculty member, based on the perceived needs of the local senate. The program comes with a cost associated that depends upon the length of time and frequency of coaching sessions. I have already broached the topic with Dr. Chong and VP of Finance Kate Jolley. We have the full support of the District – we’re just waiting to find out how much what we propose to do might cost the District. My intention in engaging in this work with the ASCCC is to continue developing a plan for working together collegially and professionally with our faculty union colleagues to develop agreements and procedures for working effectively in areas of overlap, and to help all of us work effectively with our administrative colleagues.

#### Planning and Budget Council (PBC)

The PBC met on 2/27/2023, at which time we discussed our response to the College Council Committee/Council Survey, heard an update on the current round of Strategic Planning, the Perkins V funding, the Planning and Budget framework, and an update from the Educational Planning and Coordinating Council. Several of these topics are addressed elsewhere in this report.

#### Strategic Plan Coordinating Committee (SPCC)

The SPCC met on Tuesday, 2/28/2023. At this meeting we wrapped up our conversations regarding the Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives. Goals and objectives were developed through the Town Hall process in the fall 2022 semester, presented on PDA day during the current Spring 2023 semester, and refined through the collaboration of the SPCC. You can see most Strategic Planning information on the [Institutional Planning website](#). The Goals and Objectives are tentatively scheduled to be shared with the Academic Senate at its March 15, 2023 meeting.

#### Faculty Equivalency Committee (FEC)

The FEC met on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. We did not have any cases to review, so we discussed a document for internal use describing the process for managing faculty equivalency cases. The committee has almost completed this work. This document is independent of any Board Policy and Procedure, and incorporates the committee’s use of MS Teams for organizing and hosting case materials and communications. The FEC is considering how we can advocate for equitable practices while also attempting to make processes efficient and streamlined. Committee members agreed at this meeting to commit to keeping every Friday afternoon during regular semesters open in the event that a request for Equivalency Review should come up. Committee members are committed to being responsive to the needs of departments to get cases reviewed in a timely manner so that faculty hiring may proceed with the broadest array of eligible applicants for consideration. We also discussed offering a PDA session in the fall to review the Equivalency Process and foster a positive disposition toward equivalency requests. I want to encourage all departments to consider sending equivalency requests forward and assure you that the committee is invested in making the equivalency review process a positive experience.

#### Program Review, Evaluation, Revitalization, and Discontinuance (3.6)

The 3.6 committee has determined which programs it feels should be considered vital, in need of revitalization or other actions. All SRJC academic programs (certificates and majors) are reviewed on a cyclical basis as described in Board Procedure 3.6. We are currently in the process

of meeting with program faculty and deans for those which we feel require some exploratory conversation. Those meetings are almost done. To date we have met with faculty and sometimes administrators for the following programs: Art History ADT, Wastewater Treatment Operations certificate and major, Wastewater Operator Certificate, Water Utility Operations Certificate, Water Distribution Certificate, Water Treatment Certificate, Latin American Studies AA degree (SRJC local degree), Sociate Justice ADT (Associate Degree for Transfer), Spanish AA, and Spanish ADT. The committee still needs to meet regarding the Biology major and a handful of other programs. For all programs already reviewed, the committee has made recommendations and next steps depend upon the determination of the committee as well as other factors including the type of program and actions recommended.

#### College Council

The College Council did not meet on February 16 due to PDA Day, but meets again tomorrow. On the agenda for tomorrow's meeting are the following: Discussion of Guidelines for Dialogue at College Council, Initiation of Committee and Council Survey review, and then review of proposed committees/changes to committees including a proposal for an Institutional Effectiveness Committee, and an update to the FEC Committee Charge to officially reflect that members keep all Friday afternoons 1:00-3:00 open during regular semesters for potential review of cases with 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays still recognized as the official regular meeting day/time.

In closing I would like to remind the SRJC community that the Academic Senate Executive Committee (ASEC) meets every Thursday morning from 8:30-10:00 via Zoom, and anyone is welcome to join us as a guest. Please contact us via the information on the Academic Senate webpage if you wish to join us so that we can provide you with the Zoom link. If you have an issue you would like to have discussed at the meeting, please let us know a week in advance when possible so that we can plan the agenda around your need.