

Academic Senate President – Report to Senate  
February 15, 2023  
N. Persons

**Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Spring Plenary:**

The ASCCC Spring Plenary is Thursday, Apr 20, 2023, 8am - Saturday, Apr 22, 2023, 5pm – A call for interest in attending virtually went out from the Academic Senate email account, please review and respond if interested. I encourage senators to consider attending Plenary if you are at all interested in stepping up into a leadership position someday - Plenary is an invaluable informational and learning experience.

As a reminder, the ASCCC Area B meeting, where resolutions for Plenaries are first introduced and those coming from area local senates are presented for discussion, is on Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. This is unfortunately during our spring break, but it is held remotely this spring and all are encouraged to listen in. I will send out Zoom link and meeting details when they become available.

**California Community Colleges Distance Education Coordinators Organization (DECO) Open meeting:**

SRJC Distance Ed director Lisa Beach shared the following timely information, which as you'll see is relevant to current issues in front of the Academic Senate:

*Please plan to **join us from noon to 1 pm on Friday, February 17**, for the monthly online meeting of the California Community Colleges Distance Education Coordinators Organization! Please join us!*

*Our meeting program will feature:*

- *Updates from the California Virtual Campus*
- *A presentation on **Addressing Challenges of ChatGPT** by Cynthia Alby, Professor of Teacher Education at Georgia College and author of a [recent FacultyFocus article on ChatGPT](#)*

*DECO meeting Zoom link: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/93525310375>*

*We hope you can join us live, but as always, the meeting will be recorded and archived on the [DECO website](#).*

**College Council (2/2/2023):**

College Council continues to discuss the approach to shared governance reorganization. We're looking forward reviewing responses to the committee survey recently sent out, as well as reviewing any related committee charge work done by College Council during the 2021-2022 academic year and reconcile survey results with that work. We will also continue a mapping exercise we began during the Fall 2022 semester and attempt to place committees conceptually in the appropriate category or under the appropriate parent committee/council. We will also need to determine a reporting order for committees (where do recommendations and work products go) and develop a flow chart that is shared on the web and maintained by CC. This will

help satisfy the need identified in SRJC's Accreditation "Quality Focus Essay" (QFE) tasking College Council with the development of a two-way communication/reporting process.

#### **Faculty Professional Development Coordinator Appointment:**

Last week VPAA Robert Holcomb, AFA President Sean Martin and I met with Alexa Forrester, who we agreed to appoint to fill this coordinator position. Alexa is currently serving in the role, but her appointment concludes this spring, and per current MOU we needed to complete the appointment process for the following 2 academic years. The other coordinator is Anne Donegan, whose term in this position runs through the spring 2024 semester. Congratulations go to Alexa, and appreciation goes to both these individuals for their willingness to step up and serve faculty professional development needs.

A related topic which needs to be addressed is that the current MOU for Faculty Professional Development Coordinator Selection, Job Duties, and Compensation, signed off on in April 2021 and available to read [here](#), is (and was at the time) in conflict with our Academic Senate bylaws, which state in Section 5A "The Faculty Professional Development Coordinator(s) will be appointed by the Senate for two years. ." The MOU states that selection of the coordinators will be by the VPAA, the Academic Senate President, and the AFA President.

#### **Guided Pathways (President's) Work Group:**

The work group called together by President Chong has met twice and holds its final meeting next week. I'll leave the details of this to Academic Senate GP Liaison Dr. John Stover to report to you. I have attended both meetings as a guest and am very appreciative of the hard work and thoughtfulness going into this work. ***Please note there will be a PDA session on this group's work in the session immediately following the Tauzer Lecture tomorrow – please join the facilitators to hear an update and provide input!***

#### **Educational Planning and Coordinating Council (2/9/2023):**

At our most recent EPCC meeting, we reviewed proposals for several new programs: Virtual Production Fundamentals Certificate, Aerial Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry AS degree, Aerial Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry Certificate, Academic Preparedness: English Certificate, and Academic Preparedness: Mathematics Certificate. All proposals were approved by EPCC and presenters have been notified of next steps. EPCC also continues its review of the crosswalk of our current Board Policy Manual to the CCLC policy templates.

#### **Planning and Budget Council (2/13/2023):**

After working with Office of Institutional Effectiveness Jeremy Smotherman and VP of Finance Kate Jolley on the PBC agenda, including drafting a response to the College Council shared governance survey, the 3 of us identified as a problem the fact that the PBC charge includes the following: "7. Reviews outcomes of Program Review process (Policy 3.6/P), including recommendations for program revitalization and discontinuance, and recommends resource adjustments as needed;" We agreed that there is a need to revise wording when it relates to Policy 3.6/P or Program Review in the PBC charge. Such items might come as information (to alert the PBC for example if a program is to be discontinued so that they are aware there will be additional resources

available, or in the event of revitalization determination to give a heads up that resources may be needed. For new academic programs, they might be covered through the PRPP process, and then appear as Information on a PBC agenda. We discussed this briefly at our PBC meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> but did not finish discussing this agenda item.

**Faculty Equivalency Committee:**

FEC did not meet on February 10<sup>th</sup> due to conflict with the CIA Workshop, but we did review a case which was not strictly a question of Equivalency but had to do with a degree conferred by an accrediting agency that is not one of the 6 regional ones identified in Board Policy. The case was referred to us by the AFA, as there is a clause in the Contract that also refers to these regional agencies. I will be discussing the case and FEC's recommendation with Dr. Chong next week.

**First Year Experience Course:**

Last year the Academic Senate had a Guided Pathways workgroup that focused on the development of an FYE interdisciplinary course. Some members of the Academic Senate Exec Committee (ASEC) including myself, John Stover (GP Liaison), and VP Monica Ohkubo, have met a few times with various individuals about this work. Most recently on January 30<sup>th</sup> we met with Ann Foster, Anne Donegan, and dean Josh Adams to hash out ideas. This course envisions an interdisciplinary approach that is different from a course currently offered by the Counseling department. The group discussed models from other colleges including that of Pasadena City College, where the FYE course is only taught via hourly assignment, and all disciplines are listed on the Course Outline of Record (COR). We acknowledged that AFA would need to be consulted to work out issues related to right of assignment. The group discussed possible departments that might house such a course at SRJC, and whether a "special topics" type course approach might work. The course could be designated non-credit and be free to students. Next steps for this project include John Stover and Anne Donegan developing a COR for the course, for the ASEC to reach out to department(s) where the course might be housed, for Dean of Curriculum Josh Adams to meet with Dean Roam Romagnoli depending on where the course might be housed, and for the group to follow up with the Counseling department and others as this project moves further along.